



**EMBASSY OF INDIA  
HANOI**

# INDIA NEWSLETTER

(BRINGING YOU THE LATEST NEWS ON INDIA AND  
INDIA-VIETNAM RELATIONS)

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### Raisina Dialogue 2021



On 13 April, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi delivered a video address at the Inaugural Session of the Raisina Dialogue in virtual format, along with Chief Guests H.E. Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda and H.E. Mette Frederiksen, Prime Minister of Denmark. Prime Minister Modi observed that the current edition of the Raisina Dialogue was taking place at a watershed moment in human history in the backdrop of COVID-19 pandemic which has been ravaging the world for more than a year. He also elaborated upon India's pandemic response efforts, both domestically as well as in form of assistance to other countries. He called for joint efforts to meet the varied challenges posed by the pandemic and reiterated that India would share its strengths for global good.

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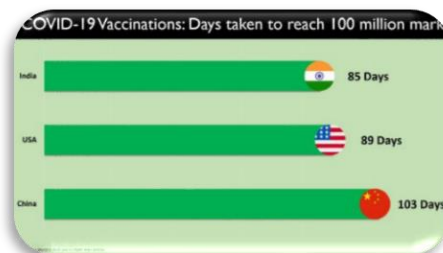
### IMF Projects 12.5 % Growth Rate for India in 2021

Imparting a boost to India's economic sentiments, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) raised its growth forecast in 2021 for India to 12.5% from 11.5% estimated earlier in January. The Washington-based global financial institution, in its annual World Economic Outlook ahead of the annual Spring meeting with the World Bank, said the Indian economy is expected to grow by 6.9 per cent in 2022. On the other hand, China which was the only major economy to have a positive growth rate of 2.3 per cent in 2020, is expected to grow by 8.6 per cent in 2021 and 5.6 per cent in 2022. According to the IMF's World Economic Outlook, after an estimated contraction of -3.3 per cent in 2020, the global economy is projected to grow at 6 per cent in 2021, moderating to 4.4 per cent in 2022.



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### India Fastest Country to Administer 100 Million Doses of COVID-19 Vaccine



India became the fastest country in the world to administer 100 million doses of Covid-19 vaccine. India achieved the feat in 85 days whereas USA took 89 days and China reached the milestone in 103 days. The achievement is also a testimony of the 'whole of society' approach where individuals turned a deaf ear to rumours and propaganda of vested interests, shunned their vaccine hesitancy and strengthened the hand of the administration in curbing COVID-19. The vaccination exercise as a tool to protect the most vulnerable population groups in the country from COVID-19 continues to be regularly reviewed and monitored at the highest level.

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### Pariksha Pe Charcha 2021

In the 4th edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha on 7 April, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi virtually interacted with students, teachers and parents. The interaction, which lasted more than ninety minutes, saw students, teachers and parents seeking guidance on various issues of importance to them from the Prime Minister. This year too, students from across the country, and also Indian students residing abroad, participated in the event. Prime Minister Modi said that Pariksha Pe Charcha is not only a discussion on examination but also an occasion to talk, among family members and friends, in a relaxed atmosphere and create new confidence.

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### 'No one will be Safe till Everyone is Safe': External Affairs Minister



Participating in a session at the Raisina Dialogue that focused on vaccines and global expectations, EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar said India's ability to manufacture Covid-19 vaccines as an example of global cooperation, which is not a "one-way street where we are giving things to other people and somewhere short changing ourselves." He said that equitable access to Covid-19 vaccines is "critically important" as "no one will be safe till everyone is safe." Highlighting that in line with its "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" outlook, India delivered vaccines to a lot of countries.

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### Effective Multilateralism Key to Fighting Challenges in Post-Pandemic World: Foreign Secretary

The key to fighting the common challenges facing the post-pandemic world is genuine solidarity and effective multilateralism and as such it is important to strengthen existing multilateral institutions to ensure that the benefits arising out of such collaborations are equitably shared, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said in his remarks at Raisina Dialogue. He said that India has always believed in engaging with our external partners and interlocutors in the most effective and appropriate formats, be they bilateral, multilateral or plurilateral.



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## INDIA'S GROWTH STORY

### Healthcare: Working Towards Building a Healthier India

Healthcare industry in India comprises of hospitals, medical devices, clinical trials, outsourcing, telemedicine, medical tourism, health insurance and medical equipment. The industry is growing at a tremendous pace owing to its strengthening coverage, services and increasing expenditure by public as well as private players. Growing incidence of lifestyle diseases, rising demand for affordable healthcare delivery systems due to the increasing healthcare costs, technological advancements, the emergence of telemedicine, rapid health insurance penetration and government initiatives like e-health together with tax benefits and incentives are driving healthcare market in India.

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## INDIA'S GROWTH STORY

### India: A Premier Healthcare Destination



Over the years, India has grown to become a top-notch destination for medical value travel because it scores high over a range of factors that determines the overall quality of care. Imagine a complex surgical procedure being done in a world class global hospital by acclaimed medical specialists at a fifth to tenth of what it normally takes! That's India. From quality of therapy, range of procedural and treatment options, infrastructure and skilled manpower to perform any medical procedure with zero waiting time, the list of benefits of travelling for medical treatment in India are many.

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## INCREDIBLE INDIA

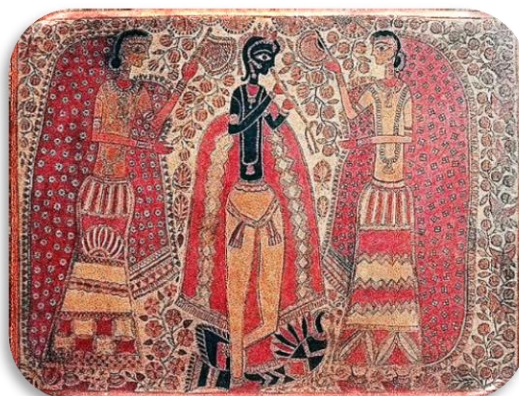
### Jaipur: The Pink City



Founded in AD 1727 by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan is popularly known as the Pink City. With broad avenues and spacious gardens, the city is steeped in history and culture. Here the past comes alive in magnificent forts and palaces, blushed pink, where once lived the maharajas. The bustling bazaars of Jaipur, famous for Rajasthan jewellery, fabric and shoes, possess a timeless quality and are a treasure-trove for the shoppers. The bustling modern city is one of the three corners of the golden triangle that includes Delhi, Agra and Jaipur.

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### Madhubani Painting



Madhubani painting is a rural art form that was developed by the women of the Mithila region of Bihar. Traditionally done with rice paste and twigs, nibs or fingers, today, artists use paper and cloth for the colourful paintings. The paintings mostly depict mythological stories and earlier used to be done by the womenfolk to welcome the gods to their homes. The art form is said to have started at the time of the Ramayana, when King Janak commissioned artists to paint the proceedings of his daughter Sita's wedding to Lord Rama.

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## BILATERAL & EMBASSY'S CORNER

### 2nd India – Vietnam Maritime Security Dialogue

India and Vietnam held their second maritime security dialogue in a virtual format on 6 April. The consultations involved exchanges on developments in the domain of maritime security, regional cooperation activities and opportunities for cooperation between the two countries. Last month, India and Vietnam held bilateral consultations on UN Security Council issues where both sides agreed to work closely together on key issues on the UNSC agenda. In December last year, during a virtual summit, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the then Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc vowed to boost bilateral defense and security cooperation.



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### Embassy Hosts Interaction on India's Economic Development Plan for 2021-22



As part of the series of activities to commemorate the 75th anniversary of India's Independence, the Embassy of India organised an interactive session on India's Annual Budget (Blueprint for Socio-economic Development) for 2021-22 at the Embassy premises on 8 April 2021 to present the socio-economic development priorities of India for the next one year and the opportunities they would create for economic partnership with Vietnam. Addressing the event, Ambassador Pranay Verma

highlighted the many transformative steps taken by the Government of India in the annual economic plan to bring the socio-economic development of India on a rapid growth trajectory after the impact of COVID-19.

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### Launch and Keel Laying Ceremony for High Speed Guard Boats for Vietnam



As part of ongoing defence industrial cooperation between India and Vietnam, Ambassador Pranay Verma was invited by the General Department of Defence Industry of Vietnam under the Ministry of National Defence to the Hong Ha Shipyard at Hai Phong on 9 April 2021 to launch and lay keel for two out of the seven vessels being manufactured in Vietnam. In his remarks at the event, Ambassador described the project as an icon of India-Vietnam Defence Partnership and reflecting India's commitment towards defence industry cooperation with Vietnam and capacity building of Vietnam's defence forces.

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### Embassy Pays Tribute to Dr. B. R. Ambedkar on His 130<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary

As India marks the 75th year of its Independence, the Embassy family, joined by friends from Vietnam, paid tributes to Dr. B.R Ambedkar on his 130th birth anniversary on 14 April 2021, remembering with gratitude a key architect of India's Constitution and his seminal contributions to the cause of equality, justice and people's empowerment.

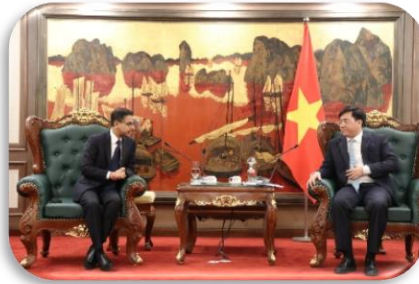


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### Ambassador Meets Vice Minister of Ministry of Planning of Vietnam



Ambassador Pranay Verma met the Deputy Minister His Excellency Tran Duy Dong of Ministry of Planning and Investment of Vietnam on 31 March 2021 and discussed the roadmap for future development of India-Vietnam economic and investment partnership. They underlined the importance of long-term investments in each other's economy and explored new cooperation in areas such as connectivity, energy, IT, healthcare etc. They also agreed to work together to enhance engagement between the SMEs and startups of the two countries.

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### Ambassador Joins Virtual Launch of Branch Offices of Institute of Charter Accountants of India

Ambassador Pranay Verma delivered a keynote address at the virtual launch of the branch offices of the Institute of Charter Accountants of India (ICAI) in Hanoi and HCM City on 2 April 2021. ICAI is one of the premier accounting bodies in the world with presence in 44 countries, contributing to India's engagement with global partners. In his remarks, Ambassador expressed confidence that ICAI's presence in Vietnam will help in reinforcing India's long-term economic partnership with Vietnam by creating and grasping new opportunities from India's vision of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat.



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### Ambassador Meets Minister of Health of Vietnam



Ambassador Pranay Verma met the Minister of Health of Vietnam His Excellency Nguyen Thanh Long on 31 March 2021 and discussed ways to promote India-Vietnam cooperation in healthcare sector. They also exchanged views on the strategies adopted by India and Vietnam in dealing with COVID-19 pandemic.

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### Ambassador Hosts Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam Delegation

Ambassador Pranay Verma hosted a working lunch for the President of Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (DAV), Dr. Pham Lan Dzung and other senior scholars of DAV at the India House on 01 April 2021 to exchange views on regional and global issues of shared interest. DAV is the premier academic institution associated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a leader in strategic studies in Vietnam.



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### Embassy Celebrates 71st Foundation Day of ICCR

Embassy celebrated the 71st Foundation Day of Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) on 9th April 2021. Addressing the event, Ambassador Pranay Verma highlighted the vital role of ICCR in connecting people around the world with Indian culture and especially in Vietnam. Ambassador also inaugurated India-Vietnam Buddhist Linkages webpage and launched "Little Guru", the first game-format app for learning Sanskrit developed by ICCR.

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