



**EMBASSY OF INDIA
HANOI**

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

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There is No Substitute to Testing, Tracking and Treatment: Prime Minister



With number of people suffering from Coronavirus increasing very fast across the country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 17 April reviewed the preparedness to handle the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. Various aspects relating to medicines, oxygen, ventilators, and vaccination were discussed. PM expressed his optimism that India, which had defeated Covid-19 last year, would do it again, with the same principles but faster speed and coordination. PM stressed that there is no substitute to testing, tracking and treatment. Early testing and proper tracking remain keys to reduce mortality.

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Prime Minister Chairs a High-Level Meeting to Review the Covid-19 Situation in the Country



On 27 April, Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a meeting with top officials to review the Covid-19 situation in the country. He got an overview regarding oxygen availability, medicines, health infrastructure, etc. The Empowered Group working on boosting oxygen supply briefed the Prime Minister on the efforts being made to ramp up availability and supply of oxygen in the country. They informed PM about increasing allocation of oxygen to states. PM was also briefed about the functioning of the Oxygen Express Railways Service as well as the domestic sorties and international sorties undertaken by Indian Air Force to transport oxygen tankers.

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Leaders of Vietnam Send Messages of Solidarity with India during COVID-19 Pandemic



In their messages of sympathy addressed to leaders of India on 28 April 2021, President of Vietnam H.E. Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Prime Minister H.E. Pham Minh Chinh and Foreign Minister H.E. Bui Thanh Son conveyed Vietnam's solidarity towards India's fight against COVID-19. They expressed their confidence that with its strengths and resources, India will be able to overcome this challenge. They affirmed that Vietnam will always stand by India in the fight against the pandemic.

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Setting Up of 551 PSA Oxygen Generation Plants



In line with Prime Minister's direction of boosting availability of oxygen to hospitals, the PM CARES Fund has given in-principle approval for allocation of funds for installation of 551 dedicated Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Medical Oxygen Generation Plants inside public health facilities in the country. PM has directed that these plants should be made functional as soon as possible. He said that these plants will serve as a major boost to oxygen availability at the district level. The basic aim behind establishing PSA Oxygen Generation Plants at Government hospitals in the district headquarters is to further strengthen the public health system and ensure that each of these hospitals has a captive oxygen generation facility.

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India Administers the Highest Number of COVID Vaccine Doses in the First 100 Days

Keeping in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for 'test, track & treat' strategy against the raging pandemic, India administered the highest number of COVID vaccine doses in 100 days. The cumulative number of COVID19 vaccine doses administered in the country has crossed 141.9 million as part of the world's largest vaccination drive, which completed 100 days on 25 April.



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'For Humanity Sake, Concrete Action against Climate Change is Needed': Prime Minister



On 22 April, while addressing the Leaders' Summit on Climate 2021 at the invitation of US President Joseph Biden, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for concrete action to combat Climate Change. "Humanity is battling a global pandemic right now. And this event is a timely reminder that the grave threat of Climate Change has not disappeared. In fact, Climate Change is a lived reality for millions around the world. Their lives and livelihoods are already facing its adverse consequences," Prime Minister Modi said. To combat Climate Change, Prime Minister said, India has taken action at a high speed, on a large scale and with a global scope.

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- Ambassador Interacts with Senior Scholars of Centre for Strategic Studies and International Development

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'India has Emerged as Good Platform for Global Production': External Affairs Minister



The world today is comfortable to see more production out of India, External Affairs Minister, Dr. S Jaishankar observed while highlighting that Covid-19 has cemented India's place as a good platform for global production. Speaking at the 6th National Leadership Conclave on 19 April, EAM Jaishankar said, "What Covid-19 had done is that it has brought into the global debate, a sense that India is a good platform for global production. The world is comfortable to see more production out of India." "We are a market economy, we are an open society and our mindset is global. By and large the world trusts us. This is the time to step up," he emphasized.

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'World Order is Under Serious Threat': External Affairs Minister at UNSC



"The world order that we built following the Second World War is under serious stress. The nature of threats faced by member states when the United Nations was founded 75 years ago has also changed," External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar remarked on 19 April while speaking at the UNSC Open Debate on Cooperation between the UN and regional and sub-regional organizations, chaired by Vietnam. EAM supported closer engagement with the UN, in line with the UN Charter. Dr. Jaishankar cited ASEAN, BIMSTEC and African Union as three positive Indian experiences. EAM also recognised ASEAN centrality to India's Indo-Pacific vision.

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DRDO Develops SpO2 Based Supplemental Oxygen Delivery System

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed SpO₂ (Blood Oxygen Saturation) supplemental Oxygen Delivery System for soldiers posted at extreme high-altitude areas. Developed by Defence Bio-Engineering & Electro Medical Laboratory (DEBEL), Bengaluru of DRDO, the system delivers supplemental oxygen based on the SpO₂ levels and prevents the person from sinking in to a state of Hypoxia, which is fatal in most cases, if sets in. This automatic system can also prove to be a boon during the current Covid-19 situation as it can be used in the household for moderate Covid patients for Oxygen flow therapy with flow controlled at 2/5/7/10 lpm flow.

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INDIA'S GROWTH STORY

India - A Biotech Growth Catalyst

India is among the top 12 destinations for biotechnology in the world, with approximately 3% share in the global Biotechnology industry, poised for growth as a key contributor of India's \$5 trillion economy target by FY 2024. India also plays a key role in the global vaccine market, as the leader in the global supply of DPT, BCG, and measles vaccines, and is a key contributor of 70% of WHO's vaccines (essential Immunization Schedule). India has the maximum no. of US FDA-approved manufacturing sites outside the US with 33% of total exports being supplied to the USA.

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New India
The Nation of Innovation

200+

Biotech research & teaching institutions

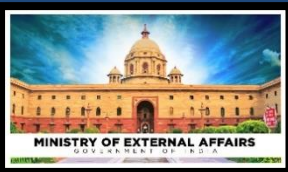
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Medical Devices Industry



India's medical device market is the fourth largest in Asia, following Japan, China, and South Korea. At present, the Indian medical devices sector stands at Rs. 77,539 crore (US\$ 11 billion) and is expected to reach Rs. 352,450 crore (US\$ 50 billion) by 2025. Rising number of medical facilities and introduction of the Medical Devices (Amendment) Rules 2020 will boost the demand for medical devices in the market. India has approved 100% FDIs—under the automatic route for both brownfield and greenfield setups in the sector. This is expected to boost the industry. Strong FDI inflow also reflects confidence among global players on the Indian medical devices market.

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INCREDIBLE INDIA

Mountain Railways of India



This site includes three railways. The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, a UNESCO World Heritage site, was the first, and is still the most outstanding, example of a hill passenger railway. Opened in 1881, its design applies bold and ingenious engineering solutions to the problem of establishing an effective rail link across a mountainous terrain of great beauty. The construction of the Nilgiri Mountain Railway, a 46-km long metre-gauge single-track railway in Tamil Nadu State was first proposed in 1854, but due to the difficulty of the mountainous location the work only started in 1891 and was completed in 1908. This railway, scaling an elevation of 326 m to 2,203 m, represented the latest technology of the time. The Kalka-Shimla Railway, a

96-km long, single track working rail link built in the mid-19th century to provide a service to the highland town of Shimla is emblematic of the technical and material efforts to disenclave mountain populations through the railway.

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INCREDIBLE INDIA

Food and Cuisine: The Flavours of India

Enjoyed in restaurants, streets or at home, Indian food is not about a few culinary delights but about a vast assortment of dishes that makes it truly amazing, and the cooking style varies from region to region. Indian cuisine is known for the art of using the right spices in every dish, not just for its flavor but for its nutritional and medicinal value also. The art of cooking is passed down generations, hence reflects a blend of many cultures and civilizations. Having very long summer days at most times of the year, so four meals a day are cooked. From breakfast, which is slightly lighter, to heavy meals (including desserts) for lunch and dinner, interspersed with high tea in the evening, which also has a helping of snacks and sweetmeats to go with it. Chai, which was normally drunk in villages has become a favourite beverage around the world.

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BILATERAL CORNER

Telephonic Talk between External Affairs Minister of India and Foreign Minister of Vietnam



To further strengthen India-Vietnam relations after the election of the new Government in Vietnam, External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar held a telephonic talk with the new Foreign Minister of Vietnam, H.E. Bui Thanh Son on 16 April 2021. External Affairs Minister congratulated Foreign Minister Son on his appointment as Vietnam's Minister of Foreign Affairs. Both leaders agreed to strengthen closer coordination to implement the Plan of Action for 2021-2023 for their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Foreign Minister Son conveyed Vietnam's support for India's "Act East Policy". Both leaders recognized the convergence of India's Indo-Pacific Initiatives and ASEAN's

Outlook Indo-Pacific. They also discussed bilateral development partnership, economic engagement, health cooperation etc. Minister Son appreciated India's support for Vietnam's sustainable development goals through Quick Impact Projects (QIPs).

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Ambassador Speaks on Contemporary Developments in India and India-Vietnam Relations

As part of Embassy's outreach to mark the 75th anniversary of India's Independence, Ambassador Pranay visited the Vietnam National University (VNU) in Hanoi on 15 April 2021 and spoke to the students on contemporary developments in India and India-Vietnam relations. Ambassador also presented certificates to VNU students who successfully completed the e-ITEC course launched at VNU in partnership with Indian Institute of Technology, Madras in October 2019 in Big Data Analytics and R-programming. Vice President of VNU, Prof. Dr. Pham Bao Son joined Ambassador during the event along with other senior faculty members.

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BILATERAL CORNER

Ambassador's Presentation at HCMNAP on 5 Years of India-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership



Continuing with Embassy's outreach to mark the 75 years of India's Independence, Ambassador Pranay Verma made a presentation on the Five Years of India-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership at the Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics - Vietnam's premier institution for training of senior Party and State officials - on 20 April 2021. Ambassador presented the multifaceted developments in India-Vietnam relations since their elevation to the level of Comprehensive Strategic Partnership during the visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Vietnam in 2016.

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India-Vietnam Defence Industry Webinar

Ambassador Pranay Verma addressed an India-Vietnam Defence Industry Cooperation Webinar organized by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) on 20 April 2021. In his remarks, Ambassador highlighted the growing salience of defence industry cooperation in India-Vietnam Defence Partnership and urged both sides to take advantage of growing interest among the Indian defence industry to partner with Vietnam, as India looked to engage more productively with partner countries as part of the vision for Aatma Nirbhar Bharat.



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Ambassador Interacts with Senior Scholars of Centre for Strategic Studies and International Development

Ambassador Pranay Verma hosted the President and other senior scholars of the Centre for Strategic Studies and International Development (CSSD) of Vietnam on 16 April 2021 and exchanged views on bilateral relations and regional and global issues of common interest. Ambassador also gave them a presentation on key features of India's Foreign Policy in the new context.



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