



**EMBASSY OF INDIA
HANOI**

INDIA NEWSLETTER



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

JANUARY 2022

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India-Vietnam Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations



The 50th anniversary of the establishment of Diplomatic Relations between India and Vietnam was celebrated in Hanoi on 6 January 2022 by the Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations (VUFO) and the Vietnam-India Friendship Association (VIFA) in partnership with the Embassy of India. The event was graced by the Vice President of Vietnam, Her Excellency Vo Thi Anh Xuan. Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu sent a video message on the occasion. Vietnam's Minister of Information and Communications and Chairman of VIFA, His Excellency Nguyen Manh Hung and Ambassador Pranay Verma also addressed the gathering. The celebrations included a bouquet of cultural performances by Indian and Vietnamese artistes showcasing the long-standing friendship between the two countries.

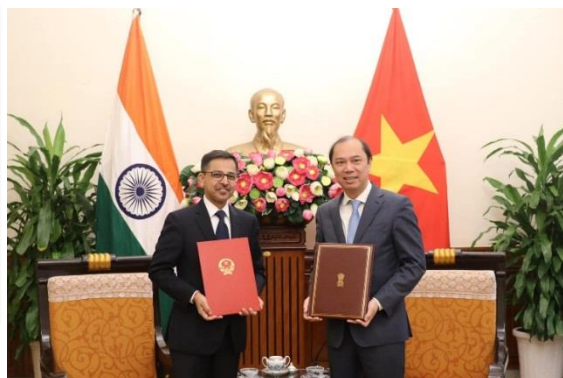


Tôi rất vinh dự được phát biểu trong sự kiện lịch sử đánh dấu kỷ niệm 50 năm thiết lập quan hệ ngoại giao giữa Ấn Độ và Việt Nam vào ngày hôm nay.

India and Vietnam established formal Diplomatic Relations on 7 January 1972, even though friendly relations and close ties between the two countries long preceded that milestone. This important landmark in the year 2022 coincides with #AzaadiKaAmritMahotsav, the 75th anniversary of India's independence, which adds to the significance of the occasion.

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Exchange of Congratulatory Messages between Leaders of India and Vietnam



To mark the 50th anniversary of India-Vietnam Diplomatic Relations on 7 January 2022, Vice Foreign Minister of Vietnam His Excellency Nguyen Quoc Dung and Ambassador Pranay Verma exchanged congratulatory messages sent by the leaders of India and Vietnam, in a simple ceremony at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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- DRDO Successfully Conducts 2nd Flight-Test of Indigenously Developed Surface-to-Surface missile 'Pralay'

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Photo Exhibition Celebrating 50 Years of India-Vietnam Relations Launched



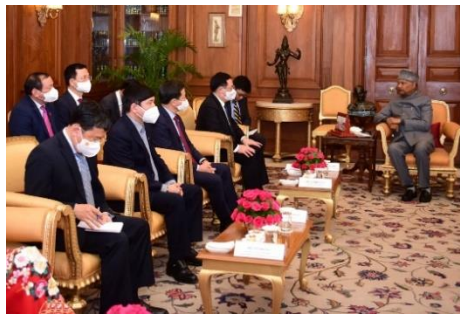
Vietnam News Agency (VNA) launched a digital photo exhibition entitled "Vietnam-India: 50 Years of Cooperation" to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between the two countries on 7 January 2022. The launch ceremony was attended by Ambassador Pranay Verma, General Director of VNA Her Excellency Vu Viet Trang,

President of Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations Her Excellency Nguyen Phuong Nga and other dignitaries from Vietnam. Speaking at the ceremony, Ambassador thanked VNA for sharing some rare pictures from their archives that provided a glimpse of precious historical moments in India-Vietnam contemporary relations capturing the depth of our bilateral ties and close friendship. He noted that the significance of the occasion is further enhanced as India marks the 75th anniversary of her independence as #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav.

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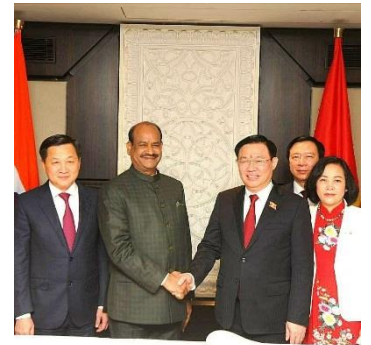
Chairman of the National Assembly Visits India

A Parliamentary delegation from Vietnam led by Mr Vuong Dinh Hue, Chairman of the National Assembly of Vietnam, visited India from 16 to 19 December 2021.



President Kovind stated that economic engagement between India and Vietnam has maintained a positive direction, despite the disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He was also happy to note that defence partnership between India and Vietnam has been growing steadily and strong. He said that India and Vietnam have been working with ASEAN to contribute to free, open, peaceful, prosperous, inclusive and rules-based Indo-Pacific region governed by international law.

Vice President of India and Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu affirmed that India is fully committed to strengthening the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership with Vietnam and thanked Vietnam for the timely support for India during its fight against Covid-19. At the bilateral discussions, Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla stated that Vietnam has an important place in India's Act-East policy and the Indo-Pacific vision. Chairman Vuong Dinh Hue said that Vietnam sees India as a reliable partner and supports India's permanent membership at the UN Security Council. Both sides agreed to enhance bilateral cooperation for mutual benefits. During the visit, India and Vietnam signed a number of cooperation agreements across various fields, including healthcare, vaccine and medicine production, marine science and ecology, etc.



Chairman Hue also delivered an [address](#) at the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) to celebrate the 5th Anniversary of India-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (2016-2021) in New Delhi on 17 December 2021, where he was received by the External Affairs Minister of India (EAM), Dr. S. Jaishankar. EAM stated that India-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership has grown

substantially in the last 5 years and that it has the potential to aspire for a higher set of goals. Both leaders exchanged views on issues of mutual interests, including connectivity, trade, education, and culture. They also discussed the international and regional situation that impels a closer cooperation between India and Vietnam.

EMBASSY'S CORNER

- Embassy holds Photo Exhibition on Delhi-Hanoi Friendship Launched
- Embassy Hosts Annual Media Lunch
- Embassy Celebrates Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas
- Embassy Celebrates Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda



Prime Minister Interacts with Startups



Last year India created 42 Unicorns; I firmly believe that the golden period of startups is just beginning



PM Narendra Modi interacts with Startups

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi interacted with Startups on 15 January via video conferencing. Speaking after the presentations of the startup representatives, the Prime Minister recalled the concept of the current decade as the 'techade' of India. He listed three important aspects of the massive changes that the government is making in this decade to strengthen the innovation, entrepreneurship and start-up ecosystem: (i) liberate entrepreneurship and innovation from the web of government processes, bureaucratic silos; (ii) create an institutional mechanism to promote innovation; (iii) hand-hold young innovators and young enterprises.

Prime Minister Modi informed that startups of India are working with 55 separate industries and the number of startups has increased from less than 500 five years ago to more than 60 thousand today. He noted that last year, 42 unicorns came up in the country. These companies worth thousands of millions of rupees are the hallmark of self-reliant and self-confident India.

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PM Inaugurates 11 Medical Colleges in Tamil Nadu

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated 11 new medical colleges and a new campus of Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT) in Tamil Nadu on 12 January through video conference. Addressing the gathering, PM Modi informed that in 2014, India had 387 medical colleges. In the last seven years only, this number has gone up to 596 medical colleges, an increase of 54%. In 2014, India had around 82 thousand medical Undergraduate and Postgraduate seats. In the last seven years, this number has gone up to around 148 thousand seats, an increase of about 80%. The Prime Minister said the COVID-19 pandemic has reaffirmed the importance of the health sector and that the future will belong to societies that invest in healthcare. Thanks to Ayushman Bharat, the poor have access to top quality and affordable healthcare.

PM inaugurates 11 NEW MEDICAL COLLEGES IN TAMIL NADU



The future will belong to that society that will invest in healthcare. Thanks to Ayushman Bharat, the poor have access to top quality and affordable healthcare



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India Administered 1.5 million Vaccine Doses



In a landmark achievement, India's COVID-19 vaccination coverage crossed 1.5 billion on 7 January 2022. Congratulating the nation in his tweet on this milestone, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the country started the year 2022 with vaccination for children in the age group of 15 to 18 years. At the same time, in the first week of the first month of the year itself, India has also achieved the historic milestone of 1.5 billion vaccine doses.

Health Minister of India Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya also praised the hard work and determination of the healthcare workers on achieving the historic figure of 1.5 billion vaccinations administered in the country.

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DRDO Successfully Conducts 2nd Flight-Test of Indigenously Developed Surface-to-Surface missile 'Pralay'

India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted the second flight-test of indigenously developed conventional Surface-to-Surface missile 'Pralay' from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha on 23 December 2021. For the first time, two consecutive flight tests of a ballistic missile have been conducted successfully on two consecutive days. The flight test met all the mission objectives. In the 2nd test, the 'Pralay' missile was tested for heavier payload and different range to prove the precision and lethality of the weapon. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh congratulated DRDO and associated teams for this consecutive successful development flight trial.



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INDIA'S GROWTH STORY



India Sets to become the Fastest Growing Economy in 2022

India's National Statistical Office (NSO) has forecasted a 9.2% GDP growth for India in Fiscal Year 2021-22 (April 2021 to March 2022) in its first advance estimate, compared to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) forecast last month of 9.5%. Earlier, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Standard & Poor's (S&P) forecasted 9.5%, while Moody's Investors Service put India's growth outlook at 9.3%. According to Fitch Ratings, the Indian economy will grow by 8.7%. The World Bank has forecasted an 8.3% growth rate, whereas the OECD has forecasted a 9.7% growth rate. As per NSO estimates, GDP in actual terms in 2021-22 will surpass the pre-COVID level of US\$ 2.95 trillion in 2019-20.

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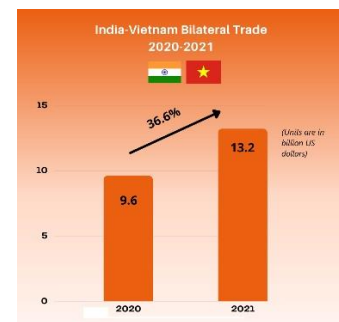
India's Exports Sees Remarkable Rise



India's overall exports (Merchandise and Services combined) in April-December 2021 are estimated to be US\$479.07 billion, exhibiting a positive growth of 36.31% over the same period last year. Overall imports in April-December 2021 are estimated to be US\$547.12 billion, exhibiting a positive growth of 57.33% over the same period last year.

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India-Vietnam Bilateral Trade Witnesses Positive Growth

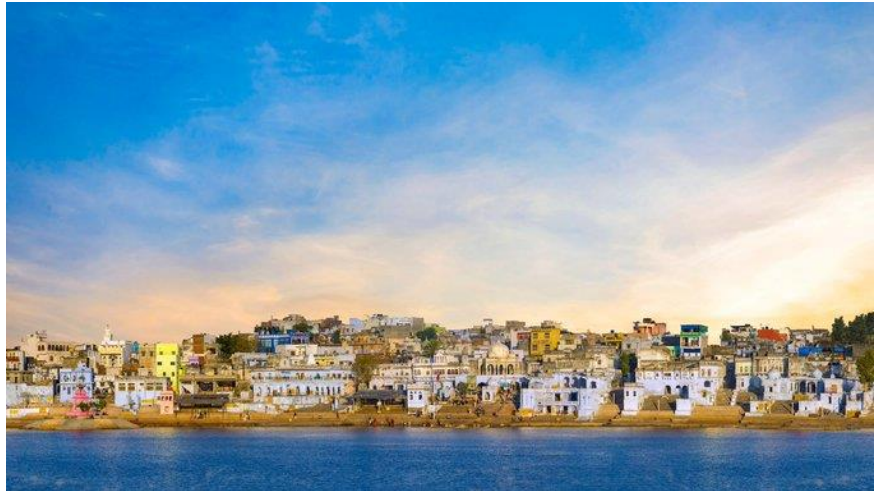


According to General Department of Vietnam Customs, bilateral trade between India and Vietnam in 2021 reached US\$ 13.2 billion, registering an increase of 36.6%. Exports by India reached US\$ 7 billion, up by 56.71% y-o-y while exports by Vietnam reached US\$ 6.2 billion, up by 19.5% y-on-y.



INCREDIBLE INDIA

Pushkar



Pushkar is one of the oldest cities in India. Located to the northwest of Ajmer, the tranquil city of Pushkar is a favoured destination for thousands of tourists and devotees flocking to Rajasthan. Situated at a height of 510 metres, Pushkar is surrounded by hillocks on three sides. The 'Nag Pahar', literally meaning Snake Mountain forms a natural border between Ajmer and Pushkar. Known as 'the rose garden of Rajasthan', the essence of the famous Pushkar rose is exported all over the world. Along with an interesting mythological history, a legacy of timeless architectural heritage makes Pushkar a fascinating city. According to legends, Lord Brahma, believed to be the creator of the Universe dropped a lotus to the ground leading to the immediate creation of a lake. He then decided to name the place after the flower, and thus the name, Pushkar. The city of Pushkar is home to the only temple dedicated to Lord Brahma in the whole world.

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Photo Exhibition on Delhi-Hanoi Friendship Launched



Our celebrations for the #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav began in the New Year with the launch of a photo-exhibition titled - "Delhi-Hanoi : Bridges of Friendship" on 5 January 2022 at the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, organized in partnership with the Vietnam-India Friendship Association of Hanoi (HAVIFA). The event also marked another important milestone - the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and Vietnam. The exhibition captured vibrant images of the two capital cities taken by photographers from India and Vietnam.

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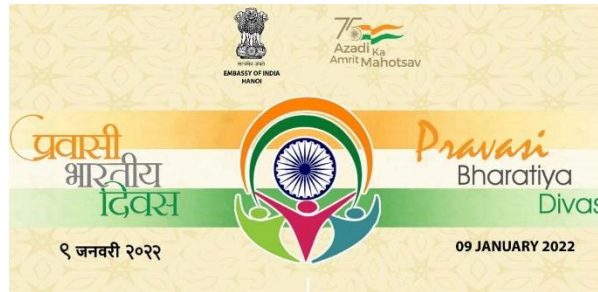
Embassy Hosts Annual Media Lunch

The Embassy hosted its annual lunch for friends from the Vietnamese media on 5 January 2022. Ambassador Pranay Verma briefed them on developments India-Vietnam relations in 2021 and various activities being planned by the Embassy in 2022 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of India's independence #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav and the 50th anniversary of India-Vietnam Diplomatic Relations. During the week, Ambassador also gave special interviews on these themes to three prominent news channels of Vietnam – VTV, VTC and the Vietnam Military Broadcasting TV (QPVN).



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Embassy Celebrates Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas



The Embassy of India celebrated the Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas on 9 January 2022 with the participation of the Indian community members in Vietnam. In his remarks, Ambassador Pranay Verma appreciated the role of the Indian diaspora in promoting India-Vietnam relations and thanked the Indian community members for their active participation in

celebrations for #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav. A presentation was made on various initiative recently launched by the Government of India to facilitate closer engagement with the Indian diaspora and their welfare.

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Embassy Celebrates Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda



The Embassy and the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre in Hanoi paid homage to Swami Vivekananda on his birth anniversary on 12 January 2022 and marked the National Youth Day. Members of Vietnamese academia and thinktanks as well as the Indian diaspora participated.

In his opening remarks, Ambassador Pranay Verma underlined the significance of the occasion as part of celebrations for the #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav and described

Swami Vivekananda's life and vision as a driving force behind modern India's aspirations and achi events. He also urged the participants to join the online celebrations for the National Youth Day being held in India that day. Vietnamese Indologist Dr. Le Thi Hang Nga, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Vietnam Journal for Indian and Asian Studies of Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences gave a scholarly presentation on Swami Vivekananda's spiritual journey and his influence on the global stage. On this occasion, a photo exhibition was also organised and short films were screened on the life and message of Swami Vivekananda.

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