



**EMBASSY OF INDIA
HANOI**

INDIA NEWSLETTER

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



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Celebrations of International Day of Yoga in Vietnam



For the celebration of the 8th International Day of Yoga on 21 June 2022, the Embassy and the Consulate General of India partnered with various cities/provinces of Vietnam to mark this important occasion. The theme for the International Day of Yoga this year was "Yoga for Humanity".

For the past nearly two years, due to the global pandemic situation, the Embassy of India had been mostly promoting Yoga and Yoga-related activities online. This year, as the pandemic situation normalized, the Embassy is shifted back to celebrating the International Day of Yoga in physical mode. Our first "curtain-raiser" event this year under the theme "Yoga for Humanity" was held on 29 May in partnership with the Vietnam Buddhist Sangha at the famous Tam Chuc Pagoda in Ha Nam province. The Embassy then continued organizing the 8th IDY events in eight more cities/provinces of Vietnam, including Hanoi, Da Nang, Vinh Phuc, Thanh Hoa, Quang Ninh, Lao Cai, Thua Thien-Hue and Quang Nam. Many of these included iconic locations of Vietnam. Separately, the Consulate General in HCM City organized IDY events in 15 southern cities/provinces.



(My Son UNESCO World Heritage Site)



(Thua Thien-Hue Province)



(Sapa, Lao Cai Province)



(Tam Chuc Pagoda)



(Yen So Park, Hanoi)

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- **India gets the highest annual FDI inflow of USD 83.57 billion in FY21-22**

Defence Minister of India Visits Vietnam



Defence Minister of India Shri Rajnath Singh paid an official visit to Vietnam from 8 to 10 June at the invitation of Vietnam's Minister of National Defence General Phan Van Giang. During the visit, the leaders held bilateral talks, in which they reviewed the ongoing defence cooperation between the two countries and explore new initiatives to further strengthen the defence engagements. The two Ministers also adopted the "Joint Vision Statement on India-Vietnam Defence Partnership Towards 2030" and

witnessed the signing of the MoU on Mutual Logistics Support. Shri Rajnath Singh also called on the President of Vietnam H.E. Mr. Nguyen Xuan Phuc and Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Pham Minh Chinh.



The Defence Minister also visited the Hong Ha Shipyard in Hai Phong, where he handed over 12 High-Speed Guard Boats constructed under the Government of India's US\$ 100 million Defence Line of Credit to Vietnam. This project is significant in the context of the growing defence industry cooperation with Vietnam and exemplifies Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' and 'Make in India, Make for the World'.



On 10 June, Shri Rajnath Singh visited the training institutions of Vietnam at Nha Trang, including the Telecommunication University where an Army Software Park is being set up. He also handed over a gift of US\$ 1 million on behalf of the Government of India for the establishment of a Foreign Language Training laboratory at the Air Force Officers Training School at Nha Trang, Vietnam.

Launching of Joint Logo for the 50th anniversary of India-Vietnam Diplomatic Relations



On the sidelines of the Special ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi, on 17 June, External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and Foreign Minister of Vietnam H.E. Mr. Bui Thanh Son launched the joint logo for the celebration of 50 years of India-Vietnam Diplomatic Relations.

The commemorative logo has been selected jointly by the two sides through a contest open for nationals of both countries. The image represents the long-standing friendship between India and Vietnam symbolically through a peacock and a crane, the birds of national importance in the two countries respectively. It also includes the numeral fifty to denote the 50 years of diplomatic relations and the national flags of India and Vietnam at its Centre.



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Special ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting



India hosted ASEAN Foreign Ministers and Secretary-General for a Special ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting (SAIFMM) on 16-17 June to commemorate 30 years of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations. The SAIFMM was co-chaired by Dr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of India and Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan, Foreign Minister of Singapore.

The Ministers reviewed the status of ASEAN-India Partnership and set out the path for the coming decade. The discussions included key focus areas of Covid-19 & Health, Trade & Commerce, Connectivity – physical and digital, Education & Capacity Building, as well as implementation of ASEAN-India Joint Statement on Cooperation on the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP). The Ministers also exchanged views on important regional and international developments and post pandemic economic recovery. The Meeting unanimously adopted the [Co-Chairs' Statement](#).

The Ministers also called on Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and addressed the 12th edition of Delhi Dialogue, which focused on 30 years of ASEAN-India relations with the theme 'Building Bridges in the Indo-Pacific'. Launched in 2009, Delhi Dialogue is India's premier annual Track 1.5 Dialogue, which aims to strengthen ASEAN-India relations in the context of contemporary global and regional scenario.

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PM Modi Participates in 14th BRICS Summit



BRICS crucial for post-covid recovery

-PM Modi at the 14th BRICS Summit

Our mutual cooperation can make a useful contribution to the **global post-covid recovery**

We have undertaken structural changes in BRICS in the last few years that **increased the influence of this institution**

By increasing connectivity between BRICS Youth Summits, BRICS Sports, our civil society organizations, and think-tanks, we have **strengthened our people-to-people connect**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi led India's participation at the 14th BRICS Summit, convened under the Chairship of President Xi Jinping of China on 23-24 June 2022, in a virtual format.

On 23 June, the leaders held discussions including across various fields and also key issues in the global context. PM Modi called for the strengthening of the BRICS Identity and proposed the establishment of Online Database for BRICS documents, BRICS Railways Research Network, and strengthening cooperation between MSMEs. India will be organizing BRICS Startup event this year to strengthen the connection between Startups in BRICS countries.

On 24 June, PM highlighted India's development partnership with Africa, Central Asia, South East Asia, and from Pacific to Caribbean; India's focus on a free, open, inclusive, and rules-based maritime

space; respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations from the Indian Ocean Region to Pacific Ocean; and reform of multilateral system as large parts of Asia and all of Africa and Latin America have no voice in global decision-making.

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PM Modi Participates in G7 Summit



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Germany at the invitation of German Chancellor Olaf Scholz for the G7 Summit on 26-27 June. During the Summit, Prime Minister addressed two sessions related to Environment, Energy, Climate, Food Security, Health, Gender Equality and Democracy.

At the session on 'Investing in a better Future: Climate, Energy, Health', PM Modi

highlighted India's efforts in ensuring its commitment to the environment: 17% of the world's population resides in India, but the country's contribution of global carbon emissions is only 5%; India has achieved the target of 40% energy-capacity from non-fossil sources 9 years before time; the target of 10% ethanol-blending in petrol has been achieved 5 months before time; India has the world's first fully solar power operated airport and its huge railway system will become net zero in this decade. PM Modi hoped that the countries of G7 will support India's efforts as today a huge market for clean energy technologies is emerging in India.

Earlier, in the Outreach Session of the G7 Summit on 12 June, which focused on global recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and on strengthening resilience against future pandemics, PM Modi highlighted India's 'whole of society' approach to fight the pandemic, synergizing the efforts of all levels of the government, industry and civil society. He also explained India's successful use of open source digital tools for contact-tracing and vaccine management, and conveyed India's willingness to share its experience and expertise with other developing countries. Prime Minister committed India's support for collective endeavours to improve global health governance.



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BILATERAL CORNER

Visit of Indian Naval Ships to Ho Chi Minh City



The Indian Naval Ships SAHYADRI and KADMATT arrived at Nha Rong Port at Ho Chi Minh City on 24 June on a three-day goodwill visit to Vietnam. The visit of the two ships was an important part of the naval exchanges between India and Vietnam and reflected the deepening Defence Partnership between the two countries as they celebrate the 50 years of their diplomatic ties. In the emerging geopolitical and geo-economics landscape in the region and beyond, defence and security partnership between India and Vietnam is an important factor of stability in the Indo-Pacific region. Both nations are committed towards achieving a peaceful, stable, secure, free, open, inclusive and rules-based region. Ship visits by Navy and Coast Guard Ships to each other's countries have now become a regular feature. The current ship visit to Vietnam was part of these ongoing engagements and sought to enhance maritime cooperation

between the two Navies. It also bolstered the strong bonds of friendship between the two countries while contributing to peace, security and stability in the region and the world at large.

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INDIA'S DEFENCE SECTOR

Defence Ministry Signs Mega Deal with Bharat Dynamics Limited



In a major boost to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat', the Ministry of Defence of India on 31 May signed a contract with Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) for supply of ASTRA MK-I Beyond Visual Range (BVR) Air-to-Air Missile (AAM) and associated equipment for the Indian Air Force & Indian Navy at a cost of Rs 2,971 crore (~US\$ 375 million).

ASTRA MK-I BVR AAM has been indigenously Designed & Developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) based on the Staff Requirements issued by the Indian Air Force (IAF) catering for Beyond Visual Range as well as Close Combat Engagement reducing the dependency on foreign sources. The Transfer of Technology from DRDO to BDL

for production of ASTRA MK-I missile and all associated systems has been completed and production at BDL is in progress. This project will act as a catalyst for the development of Infrastructure and Testing facilities at BDL. It will also create opportunities for several MSMEs in aerospace technology for a period of at least 25 years.

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Indigenously-developed Laser-Guided ATGM Successfully Tested

Indigenously-developed Laser-Guided Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) was successfully test-fired from Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Army at KK Ranges with support of Armoured Corps Centre & School (ACC&S) Ahmednagar on 28 June. In the test, the ATGM hit the bull's eye with textbook precision and successfully defeated the target at minimum ranges. Telemetry systems recorded the satisfactory flight performance of the missile. With the trial, the ATGM's capability to engage targets from minimum to maximum range has been established. Earlier the trials have been successful for maximum range.



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INDIA'S GROWTH STORY

India's Exports Continues to be on the Rise



India's overall exports (Merchandise and Services combined) in May 2022 are estimated to be over US\$ 62 billion, exhibiting a positive growth of 24% over the same period last year. The merchandise exports in May 2022 were US\$ 39 billion as compared to US\$ 32 billion in May 2021, exhibiting a positive growth of 20.5%. The estimated value of services export for May 2022 is around US\$ 23 billion, exhibiting a positive growth of over 30% vis-a-vis May 2021 (US\$ 17.86 billion).

The overall imports (Merchandise and Services combined) in May 2022 are estimated to be nearly US\$ 78 billion, exhibiting a positive growth of nearly 60% over the same period last year. The overall imports in April-May 2022 are estimated to be more than US\$ 151 billion, exhibiting a positive growth of over 45% over the same period last year.

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India jumps 6 places to 37th rank on IMD's World Competitiveness Index

India has witnessed the sharpest rise among the Asian economies, with a jump from 43rd to 37th rank on the annual World Competitiveness Index compiled by the Institute for Management Development (IMD), largely due to gains in economic performance. After a stable but stagnant five years, the Indian economy's competitiveness improved significantly in 2022, according to IMD, owing mostly to improvements in economic performance (from 37th to 28th). The domestic economy has risen from 30th to 9th place in a year. The labour market, which is a critical sub-factor in the company efficiency parameter, jumped from 15th to 6th place, while management practises and business attitudes and values also improved significantly.

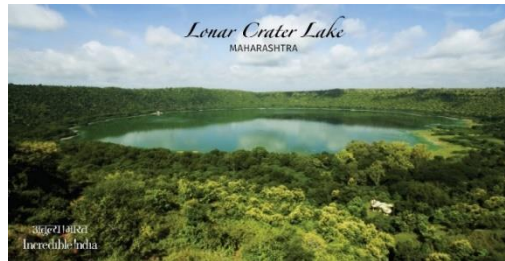


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INCREDIBLE INDIA

Lonar Crater Lake



The Lonar Lake in Maharashtra is among the five largest crater lakes in the world, and is about 2 km wide and 150m deep. Formed nearly 50,000 years ago, the crater is oval in shape and the only natural impact crater in the world in basalt rock. Geologists believe that it was formed by the impact of a meteorite, and must have been more than a million tonnes to have

created such an impact. The fallen debris from the time of the impact is still present around the rim of the crater. Low hills covered in forests surround the water body.

Tourists can enjoy sighting several wildlife species like the peafowl, chinkara and gazelles in this area. The lake also hosts a number of migratory birds in the winters. The distinctive and vibrant colour of the water is also due to the presence of algae and plankton species in the water. Local legends and mysteries abound as supposedly the compass does not work here. Legends give many reasons but geologists believe it is a result of the unique geologic makeup of the region. Some important religious sites around the lake include the Ram Gaya Temple, the Kamalja Devi Temple, and the partially-submerged Shankar Ganesh Temple.

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Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train between India and Nepal Flagged Off

Union Minister of Tourism, Culture, Shri G. Kishan Reddy along with Minister of Railways, Communications, Electronics and Information Technology, Shri Ashwini Vaishnav flagged off the Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train from Delhi Safdarjung Railway Station on 21 June. This is the first tourist train connecting India and Nepal.



Shri Reddy stated that the Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train was starting its first Shri Ramayana Yatra for 18 days. The first trip of the train operating on the Ramayana Circuit will also cover the religious destination of JANAKPUR (in Nepal) for the first time in addition to other popular destinations such as Ayodhya, Nandigram, Sitamarhi, Varanasi, Prayagraj, Chitrakoot, Pancvati (Nasik), Hampi, Rameshwaram and Bhadrachalam. He further noted that the Ministry of Tourism in association with IRCTC and Ministry of Railways has also proposed Bharat Gaurav Tourist Trains for Krishna Circuit, Buddhist Circuit and many others. He added, "Bharat Gaurav trains is an attempt to showcase the rich cultural, spiritual and historical heritage of the country to the people of India".

Branded as Bharat Gaurav Tourist Trains, IRCTC is operating these special comfort category tourist trains to promote theme-based tourism. The coaches of the train have recently undergone refurbishment and the amenities and services have been upgraded.

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EMBASSY'S CORNER

Ambassador Attends International Conference on India-Vietnam 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations



Ambassador Pranay Verma delivered opening remarks at an international conference organized by the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS) and the Vietnam Institute for Indian and Southwest Asian Studies, Hanoi (VIISAS) on 15 June 2022 to mark the the 50th anniversary of India-Vietnam Diploamtic Relations and the 10th anniversary of the founding of VIISAS. The event was also addressed by the President of VASS, Associate Prof. Dr. Bui Nhat Quang. Ambassador conveyed his deep appreciation for the contributions made by VIISAS over the last 10 years to promote research and scholarship on India and India-Vietnam relations and lauded its emergence as a premier institute for India-related studies in Vietnam. The day-long conference was attended by several eminent scholars and strategic experts of India and Vietnam.

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Ambassador Inaugurates New School Project in Lao Cai Province



During his recent visit to Lao Cai Province, Ambassador Pranay Verma inaugurated the Quick Impact Project (QIP) for construction of a new classroom and dining block at Trung Chai Commune Kindergarten in Sa Pa, jointly with the Minister-Chairman of Commission for Ethnic Minority Affairs of Vietnam, H.E. Mr. Hau A Lenh on 23 June.

The project was completed in less than six months with grant assistance of Government of India and creates a valuable infrastructure for children's education at the community level. The new facility is another vivid example of how India's QIPs continue to contribute to Vietnam's Sustainable Development Goals.

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AKAM Celebrations in Vinh Phuc Province

As part of celebrations for Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav in Vietnam and the 50th anniversary celebrations for India-Vietnam Diplomatic Relations, the Embassy organized a colourful cultural programme in partnership with the Vinh Yen Secondary School in Vinh Phuc Province on 2 June. Ambassador Pranay Verma addressed the students of the school and opened a photo exhibition on India. A painting competition on "Buddhist Architecture in India and Vietnam" was also launched. To mark the occasion, Ambassador planted an "India-Vietnam Friendship Tree" in the school campus. In his interaction with the students, Ambassador encouraged them to visit India to understand the country and our shared heritage, and to contribute to the future development of India-Vietnam friendship.



During his visit, Ambassador also visited the production plants of some of the Indian enterprises which have invested in Vinh Phuc. He also met the Standing Vice Chairman of the province, Mr. Vu Viet Van and discussed ways to further promote trade, investment and tourism engagement between India and Vinh Phuc.

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