

HANOI

# INDIA NEWSLETTER



# (LATEST NEWS ON INDIA AND INDIA-VIETNAM RELATIONS)

#### (2023) Volume 05

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**MAY 2023** 

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- India remains a bright spot, likely to grow 6.7% in 2024: UNDESA report





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### India and Vietnam attend G-7 Summit outreach

Japan, as Chair of the Group of Seven (G7), hosted the Leaders' Summit in Hiroshima from 19 to 21 May 2023. The Quad Leaders' Summit, which was the third in-person Summit was also convened on the side-lines of the G7 Summit in Hiroshima on 20 May.

India was one of the eight invited countries by Japan to the G7 Leaders' Summit at Hiroshima. Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke at the sessions on Addressing Multiple Crises, Resilient and Sustainable Planet, and Towards a Peaceful, Stable and Prosperous World. Concrete ideas in his interventions were appreciated by the G7 participants.



On the sidelines, wide-ranging talks between PM Narendra Modi and PM Pham Minh Chinh of Vietnam were held in Hiroshima on 20 May 2023. The two leaders discussed expanding cooperation in the fields of trade and investment, defence, building resilient supply chains, energy, science & technology, human resource development, culture & people to people ties. The talks also covered regional developments as well as ASEAN and cooperation in Indo-Pacific.

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#### **New Parliament House inaugurated**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the new Parliament House to the nation on 28 May. Earlier in the day, the Prime Minister installed the Sengol with Nandi at the top of the new Parliament House. He also lit up the lamp and offered flowers to the Sengol.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister remarked that this is not merely a building but a reflection of the aspirations and dreams of 1.4 billion Indians. The Prime Minister said that this new building is an example of the



coexistence of ancient and modern. He pointed out that the interiors of Lok Sabha are themed on the national bird peacock and Rajya Sabha on the national flower lotus. The Parliament premises have the national tree Banyan. The new building incorporates the specialities of different parts of the country, such as granite from Rajasthan, timber from Maharashtra and carpet by Bhadhoi artisans.

### VIEW MORE



#### India – World's 3rd largest startup ecosystem

India hosts world's 3rd largest startup ecosystem with estimated year-on-year growth of about 15%. Startup India as Government's flagship initiative catalyzes startup culture & strong and inclusive ecosystem for innovation and entrepreneurship in India.



#### India remains a bright spot, likely to grow 6.7% in 2024: UNDESA report

According to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), domestic demand will drive India's economic growth in 2023, while higher interest rates and lower external demand will continue to weigh on investment and exports during the calendar year. In its mid-year update to its World Economic Situation and Prospects report, the UNDESA maintained its growth predictions for India at 5.8% and 6.7% for the calendar years 2023 and 2024, respectively.

Furthermore, the report notes that the Reserve Bank of India's rate-hiking spree, which has resulted in a cumulative increase of 250 basis points in the repo rate since May 2022, will finally bear fruit, as headline inflation is expected to remain well below the central bank's upper tolerance limit of 6% in 2023.

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# **BILATERAL CORNER**

#### **3rd India-Vietnam Maritime Security Dialogue**



The 3rd India-Vietnam Maritime Security Dialogue was held on 31 May in New Delhi to discuss ways to sustain a secure maritime environment conducive for inclusive growth. The two sides also reviewed maritime cooperation initiatives and avenues of reinforcing international and regional mechanisms for comprehensive maritime security. During the visit to India, senior Vietnamese officials met Secretary (East) of Ministry of External Affairs, visited National Maritime Foundation (NMF), Information Fusion Centre - Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) and Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (MPIDSA).

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Two Indian Naval Ships, INS DELHI and INS SATPURA under the command of Rear Admiral Gurcharan Singh made a port call at Da Nang Port from 19 to 22 May 2023.

During the visit, there were professional interaction between personnel of both the navies, official calls and interaction with dignitaries of the Vietnamese Government, guided tours, and sports events. INS Delhi & INS Satpura held PASSEX in sea off the Da Nang coast with Vietnam People's Navy ship on successful completion of their port visit.

#### BILATERAL CORNER

- o 3rd India-Vietnam Maritime Security Dialogue
- Indian naval ships visit Da Nang
- Secretary

   (East) met
   with Deputy
   Foreign
   Minister of
   Vietnam
- Ambassador
   Meets Deputy
   Foreign
   Minister
- India-Vietnam Multi-Sectoral Business Interaction
- Vesak celebration at Tran Quoc Pagoda
- ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise 2023
- Nuclear
   cooperation
   between India
   and Vietnam
   boosted
- Launch of India Corner

#### Secretary (East) met with Deputy Foreign Minister of Vietnam

#### INDIA'S DEFENCE SECTOR

- India's annual defence production crosses 1,000 billion first time ever
- Aircraft Carrier INS Vikrant achieves milestone with historic night landing of MiG-29K and LCA



Secretary (East), Amb. Saurabh Kumar held a meeting with the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam, H.E Mr. Do Hung Viet on 14 May in Dhaka. They expressed satisfaction at the progress in India-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and discussed cooperation in areas of trade, investment, defense and energy.

#### **Ambassador Meets Deputy Foreign Minister**

Ambassador and Vietnam's Deputy Foreign Minister Do Hung Viet on 23 May had a productive detailed review of various dimensions of bilateral relations aimed at advancing Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between India & Vietnam.



#### India-Vietnam Multi-Sectoral Business Interaction



The India-Vietnam multi-sectoral business interaction was organized by the Embassy on 25 May with 20 visiting members of PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Indian Business Chamber Hanoi, Hanoi Promotion Agency, Invest Global & over 100 businesspersons from Vietnam.

Representatives of companies in healthcare, renewable energy, infrastructure, electrical power, logistics, food processing discussed trade, investment & business collaboration opportunities between India and Vietnam.

#### Vesak celebration at Tran Quoc Pagoda

Vesak was celebrated at historic Tran Quoc Pagoda in Ha Noi on 25 May jointly by Embassy, Vietnam Buddhist Sangha & HAVIFA, recalling life & learnings from Shakyamuni Buddha, message from VBS Supreme Patriarch His Holiness Thich Tri Quang, shared Buddhist heritage. Most Venerable Thich Thanh Nhieu, Standing Vice President of VBS, Most Venerable Thich Duc Thien, General Secretary of VBS, Ambassador Sandeep Arya, Ambassador of Mongolia, senior monks from India, Mongolia & Bhutan participated.



#### Nuclear cooperation between India and Vietnam boosted

VINATOM and Indian Department of Atomic Energy discussed scientific cooperation domains in peaceful uses of nuclear energy in Hanoi on 25 -26 May. Indian delegation also met Vietnam's Deputy Minister of Science & Technology.



 Rishikesh –
 Yoga capital of the world





#### **ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise 2023**







Indian Naval Ships Satpura and Delhi with Rear Adm Gurcharan Singh, the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet participated in AIME-2023. INS Delhi, India's first indigenously-built guided missile destroyer and INS Satpura, an indigenously-built guided missile stealth frigate were part of Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam and function under the operational command of the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command. The Vietnam Peoples Navy (VPN) also participated in the AIME-2023 with its Ship Tran Hung Dao.

The exercise comprised a shore phase from 02 to 04 May 2023 at RSS Singapura - Changi Naval Base (CNB), followed by a sea phase from 07 to 08 May 2023 in international waters along the transit route to the Philippines, where participants took part in the ASEAN Multilateral Naval Exercise subsequently.





India Corner, a collection of books about Indian economy, polity, culture & foreign policy, hosted at the Centre for International Information and Library (CIIL) at Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences. The India Corner inaugurated by DCM on 30 May will contribute to further study of present-day India in Vietnam. Dr. Phạm Cao Cuong, DDG In-Charge, Vietnam Institute for Indian & South West Asian Studies and Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong Hanh, Director, CIIL, among others participated at the event.



MAKE IN INDIA

### **INDIA'S DEFENCE SECTOR**

#### India's annual defence production crosses 1,000 billion rupees

India's defence exports have reached an all-time high in FY 2022-2023 - a remarkable achievement owing to consistent policy initiatives of the Government and tremendous contribution of the defence industry. The value will go further up once the data is received from the remaining private defence industries. The current value of defence production in FY 2022-23 is a rise of more than 12% over FY 2021-22, when the figure was 950 billion rupees.

The Government is continuously working with defence industries and their associations to remove the challenges and promote defence production in the country. Thanks to that, there is almost a 200% increase in the number of defence licenses issued to the industries in the last 7-8 years by the Government, giving a boost to the defence industrial manufacturing ecosystem in the country and generated tremendous employment opportunities.

# Aircraft Carrier INS Vikrant achieves milestone with historic night landing of MiG-29K and LCA

INS Vikrant, the first Indigenous Aircraft Carrier and the most complex warship ever built in India by M/s Cochin Shipyard Ltd, underwent extensive Sea trials since her maiden sailing on 4 August 2021. Commissioned into the Indian Navy on 2 September 2022 in the presence of the Prime Minister of India, the Carrier is a big boost to the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' vision of the Government of India.

The Carrier is presently undergoing Air Certification and Flight Integration Trials

with Rotary Wing and Fixed Wing aircraft for achieving 'Combat ready' state at the earliest. As part of the trials, maiden day landing of MiG-29K and the indigenous LCA (Navy) was achieved on 6 February 2023. Since then, day and night landing trials of all helicopters in the Naval inventory have been progressed. The Navy has achieved another historic milestone by undertaking maiden night landing of MiG-29K on 24 May.

## **INCREDIBLE INDIA**

#### Rishikesh – Yoga capital of the world

Incredible India

Nestled in the Himalavan foothills, Rishikesh is one of the most sacred cities in northern India. Located in the state of Uttarakhand, Rishikesh is the hub of sages, yoga practitioners and pilgrims, who throng the ghats (stepped banks of a river) and temples. In recent times, it has also become a centre point of adventure sports, offering activities like white water rafting, bungee jumping, canoeing and others. Often called the yoga capital of the world, the tranguil forested slopes on the city's outskirts are dotted with ashrams (places of spirituality and meditation), yoga institutes and luxurious spa resorts.

Rishikesh is also noted for Ayurveda, and is home to several institutes offering education in the same.

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