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(LATEST NEWS ON INDIA AND INDIA-VIETNAM RELATIONS)

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India celebrates 77th Independence Day

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi led the Nation in celebrating the 77th Independence Day from the iconic Red Fort in Delhi on 15 August. He unfurled the National Flag and delivered the customary address to the nation from the ramparts of the historic monument. This year, along with other remarkable achievements, he also talked about how the technological landscape has been completely changed in the last one decade and emphasised the importance of a digitally empowered India.

This year's Independence Day culminated the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations, which were launched by the Prime Minister from Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad, Gujarat on 12 March 2021 and usher the country into 'Amrit Kaal' with renewed vigour to realise PM Modi's dream of making India a developed country by 2047.

Chandrayaan-3's historic landing on Moon

In Hanoi, India's Independence Day 2023 reception was graced by Viet Nam's Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. Bui Thanh Son, Deputy Chief of General Staff of Viet Nam People's Army, Vice Chairman of Viet Nam-India Parliamentary Friendship Group, Chairman of Lao Cai People's Committee, Standing Vice Chairman as well as General Secretary of Viet Nam Buddhist Sangha, senior officials, friends of India and the Indian diaspora.





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India scripted history when Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft touched down successfully near the moon's south pole on 23 August. Chandrayaan-3, a follow-on mission to Chandrayaan-2, was launched onboard India's LVM-3 space launch vehicle on 14 July 2023 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in India.

India became the fourth country ever to accomplish such a feat after the United States, China and the former Soviet Union and the first country to make a successful landing on the south pole of the moon.

Chandrayaan-3 aimed to demonstrate end-to-end capability in safe landing and roving on the lunar surface. Chandrayaan-3 consists of an indigenous

Lander module (LM), Propulsion module (PM) and a Rover with an objective of developing and demonstrating new technologies required for Inter planetary missions. The Lander has capability to soft land at a specified lunar site and deploy the Rover which will carry out in-situ chemical analysis of the lunar surface during the course of its mobility. The Lander and the Rover have scientific payloads to carry out experiments on the lunar surface which will be helpful to the entire world to understand the moon and undertake future Lunar endeavours.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his address from Johannesburg, congratulated the Indian scientist and the entire nation. He remarked that the milestone is not just India's pride but a beacon of human endeavor and perseverance. Our efforts in science and space pave the way for a brighter tomorrow for all.

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Prime Minister participates in the 15th BRICS Summit

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the 15th BRICS Summit held under South Africa's chairship, in Johannesburg on 23 August 2023.

The leaders held productive discussions including on global economic recovery, partnership with Africa and the Global South and reviewed the progress made on the BRICS agenda so far.

During his address, Prime Minister called for a strengthened BRICS that will be:

- B Breaking barriers
- R Revitalising economies
- I Inspiring Innovation
- C Creating opportunities
- S Shaping the future

In his various interventions, Prime Minister highlighted that there should be defined timelines for UNSC reforms, called for reform of Multilateral Financial Institutions and WTO, urged BRICS to send a global message



of unity and not polarization, offered Indian Digital Public Infrastructure to BRICS partners, proposed undertaking skill mapping, skilling and promoting mobility among BRICS countries, proposed joint efforts of BRICS countries for protection of Big Cats under International Big Cat Alliance, proposed establishing a repository of traditional medicine among BRICS countries, and called upon BRICS partners to support AU's permanent membership of the G20.

B20 Summit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the B20 Summit India 2023 in New Delhi on 27 August. B20 Summit India brings policymakers, business leaders and experts from across the world to deliberate and discuss the B20 India Communique. The B20 India Communique includes 54 recommendations and 172 policy actions for submission to G20.

The Business 20 (B20) is the official G20 dialogue forum with the global business community. Established in 2010, B20 is among the most prominent Engagement Groups in G20, with companies and business organizations as participants. The B20 works to deliver concrete actionable policy recommendations to spur economic growth and development.

The three-day summit was held from 25 to 27 August. Its theme is R.A.I.S.E – Responsible, Accelerated, Innovative, Sustainable and Equitable Businesses and saw participation of over 1,500 delegates from about 55 countries.

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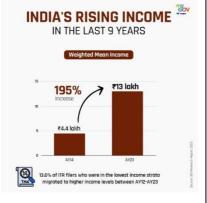


India's rising per capita income to grow sevenfold by FY47

According to SBI Research, the per capita income of Indians as determined by income tax filing is anticipated to rise from US\$ 2,400 in FY23 to US\$ 17900 in FY47, which coincides with the country's 100th years of independence.

According to the Group Chief Economic Adviser at State Bank of India, Ms. Soumya Kanti Ghosh, the increased number of tax filers has contributed to the rising trend.

The Indian population is predicted to grow to 1.6 billion in FY47, up from 1.4 billion in FY23, and the



workforce to 725 million in FY47, up from 530 million in FY23. This would imply increasing the working proportion of the population from 37.9% in FY23 to 45% in FY47.



India reaching for the stars



Union Minister of State Science & Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh said that India's Space sector is fast gaining a preeminent position in the world. Apart from the core functioning of Rocket launching, India's Space Applications have become a big source of livelihood opportunities through 130 odd Start-ups after opening up of the Space Sector by PM Modi in June 2020. Moreover, in Academic field, technical institutes in Trivandrum, Jammu and Agartala have 100% placements for students and about 50% of them go to NASA to pursue higher studies.

Referring to applications of Space Technology to different sectors, he said recently ISRO launched a record 104 satellites aboard PSLV-C37 from Satish

Dhawan Space Center, Sriharikota of which 101 belong to international customers, signifying India's increasing presence in the global space industry.

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INCREDIBLE INDIA

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performs in

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Vietjet starts direct flights to Kochi

Kochi – Queen
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5th India-Vietnam Joint Trade Sub-Commission meeting

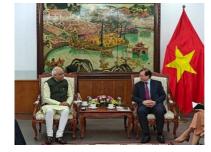


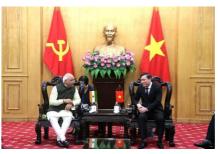
The 5th meeting of India-Vietnam Joint Trade Sub-Commission (JTSC) was held on 8 August 2023 in New Delhi under the co-chair of by Mr. Rajesh Agrawal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Ms. Phan Thi Thang, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade. This meeting was held after a gap of more than four years since 4th JTSC meeting held in January 2019, on account of COVID-19 pandemic and other factors.

Vietnam is the 23rd largest global trade partner of India and the 5th largest among ASEAN countries with bilateral trade of USD 14.70 Bn during 2022-23. Vietnam accounts for 11.2% of India's total trade with ASEAN. Both sides reviewed the progress on bilateral trade and economic cooperation and discussed ways to unlock the vast untapped potential in bilateral trade to enable the business communities from the two sides to benefit from the partnership. Both sides identified potential sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, textiles, footwear, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, fertilizers, machinery and equipment, consumer products, energy and automobile industry, for expanding trade cooperation and agreed to work together to resolve market access issues and technical barriers faced by the exporters through regular and sustained bilateral discussions.

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ICCR President visits Vietnam





President of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe visited Vietnam on 4-5 August 2023. He held talks with Mr. Ta Quang Dong, Deputy Minister of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of Viet Nam as well as met Prof. Le Van Loi, Vice President of the Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics in Hanoi on 4 August.

During the meetings, the two sides recognized the deep people-level affinity and shared heritage between India and Vietnam and discussed areas of cooperation in the fields of culture, arts, academic exchanges, heritage conservation to further strengthen the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.



During the visit, the ICCR President presented ICCR Distinguished Alumni Award for 2022 to Mr. Nguyen Trung Khanh, Chairman of the Viet Nam National Authority of Tourism, in recognition of his significant achievements and outstanding contributions to the promotion of understanding, goodwill and friendship between India and Vietnam. The President also presented the ICCR Award for the Promotion of Buddhist Studies for 2021 to Venerable Bhikkhuni Viditadhamma Lieu Phap (Dr. Duong Thi Thanh Huong) in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the promotion of Buddhist Studies internationally.

It is notable that ICCR scholarships for undergraduate, post-graduate and doctoral studies (https://a2ascholarships.iccr.gov.in) are being utilized productively in Vietnam and there was healthy interest for more exchanges among students, scholars and art forms.

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Visit of NCC delegation

A youth delegation comprising thirteen Cadets of National Cadet Corps (NCC) led by Brigadier Saikat Roy and Major Praveen Kumari visited Vietnam from 21-30 August 2023 on the invitation of Vietnam Youth Federation (VYF) as part of Youth Exchange Programme (YEP) between the two countries. During their visit, the young NCC Cadets interacted with their counterparts from VYF and participated in many joint activities. The delegation also called on Secretary of the Central Youth Union Nguyen Tuong Lam.

The visit was part of vibrant people to people ties between India and Vietnam as compressive strategic partners and contributed to exchanges among youth toward better understanding and appreciation of each other. In January this year, Vietnam's youth delegation participated in the Republic Day festivities and other youth exchanges in India.







Vietnam-India cooperation in food processing industry

Additional Secretary, Indian Ministry of Food Processing Industry discussed with senior officials of Vietnam's Ministries of Agriculture & Investment (MARD, MPI) and interacted with companies on developing food processing eco-system; invited food processing enterprizes to attend World Food India from 3-5 Nov 2023.

International Symposium on Astrology and Ayurveda



An International Symposium on Astrology and Ayurveda was held in Hanoi on 22 August and attended by over 50 astrologers, Ayurveda experts, practitioners and scholars from India. During the symposium, the speakers acknowledged that the knowledge of Traditional medicine & Astrology, Yoga, Mathematics and Science is deep rooted in the Indian scripture and highlighted the need for joint research and study in order to understand traditional knowledge which are widely popular in Indian society and culture since millennia.



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Tetseo Sisters performs in Vietnam



Tetseo Sisters presented a scintillating performance of folk fusion act at Au Co Art Centre, Hanoi on India's Independence Day. The music evening was organized by the Embassy in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Vietnam.

During the visit to Vietnam, they also performed at the Quan Ho Folk Theater in Bac Ninh City, Dinh Le – An Duong Vuong Square area in Lao Cai City, and Provincial Cultural Centre in Hai Duong City.

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INCREDIBLE INDIA

Vietjet starts direct flights to Kochi

Vietjet started direct flights to Kochi in Kerala from 12 August 2023 with frequency of 4 roundtrip flights/week. This will connect prominent, growing cities in Kerala to Vietnam and contribute to tourism growth of the two countries.

Kochi – Queen of the Arabian Sea



A vibrant potpourri of art, culture, food, carnivals and festivals, Kochi, sprawled along a gorgeous estuary in Kerala, is a fascinating tourist destination. Sitting on the Malabar coast, historically, Kochi has been India's connect to the rest of the world. It was here that the Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama first arrived. The city remains steeped in its heritage, which is reflected in various Portuguese, Dutch and British forts, palaces and bungalows that are scattered throughout.

Established around Fort Kochi - the cultural nerve of the city, Kochi remains in a festive mood throughout the year. It turns into an art wonderland during the four-month-long Kochi Biennale, the largest art exhibition in India, where vibrant colours, striking images and eloquent patterns greet you at every turn. It is also an eclectic mix of diverse cultures, where you can sample a bit of everything. Head to the narrow alleys of Jew Town and watch the city race by you as you slowly fall in love with Jewish culture and stock up on rare antiques and exquisite handicrafts.

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