

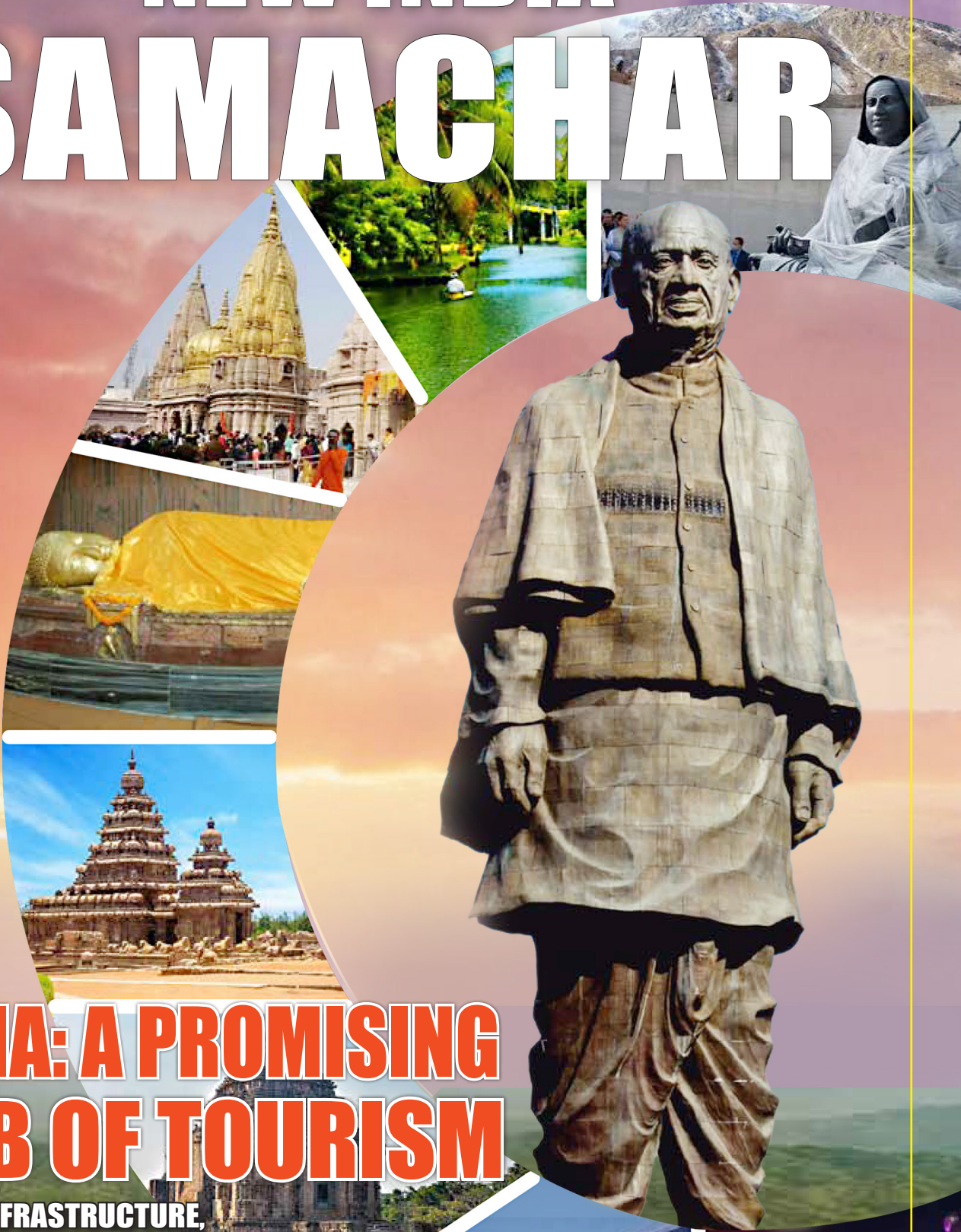
Volume 2, Issue 14

NEW INDIA

January 16-31, 2022

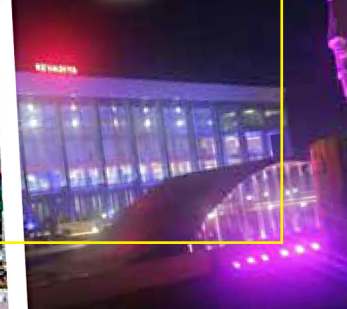
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SAMACHAR



INDIA: A PROMISING HUB OF TOURISM

BETTER INFRASTRUCTURE, CONNECTIVITY, AND RAPID PACE OF VACCINATION HAS MADE INDIA FIRST CHOICE OF WORLD TOURISM, GIVING NEW DIRECTION TO INCLUSIVE GROWTH



MANTRA OF SELF-RELIANT INDIA: "THINK BIG, DREAM BIG AND WORK HARD TO MAKE THEM COME TRUE"



Every individual, every business, sets a New Year's goal to do better in the coming year. Prime Minister Narendra Modi underlined the phenomenal journey of the last seven years in his final 'Mann Ki Baat' of the year-2021, in which the glorious and hard efforts of individuals and society have been recognized. In his 'Mann Ki Baat', the Prime Minister spoke on the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Indian culture, cleanliness, the value of literature in one's life, and the importance of dreaming big and working towards realizing those dreams. Excerpts :

- **COVID AND MANPOWER:** It is the power of manpower that India could fight the biggest epidemic in 100 years. When we compare India's immunization statistics to those of the rest of the world, we can see what a remarkable success it has made.
- **CAUTION:** It's also worth noting that a new Corona variant has arrived. In such a situation, our own awareness and discipline are powerful weapons against this variant. Our combined strength will beat Corona, and it is with this responsibility that we must enter 2022.
- **GROUP CAPTAIN VARUN SINGH:** In the recent tragedy in Tamil Nadu, we lost several heroes, including the country's first CDS General Bipin Rawat. Varun Singh, the Group Captain, was also among them. He had written a letter to his school's principal. In the letter, Varun Singh did not speak of his bravery, but rather of his failings. He discussed how he transformed his flaws into strengths.
- **DISCUSSION ON EXAMS:** Every year, I discuss topics related to dealing with exam stress. This year, I intend to talk with the students before the exam as well. The online competition will also be organized for students, teachers, and parents of classes 9 to 12.
- **BOOKS AND PERSONALITY:** Books not only provide knowledge, but they also help to shape a person's personality and life. At a time when our screen time is increasing, book reading is becoming increasingly popular, and we must all work together to achieve this.
- **ANCIENT CULTURE:** There is a growing interest in learning about Indian culture around the world nowadays. If the people of our country are committed, the desire to adorn, beautify, and maintain our historical arts can become a widespread movement across the country. A simple effort, even a small one, can go a long way toward preserving our rich cultural heritage.
- **BIRD CONSERVATION:** An Airgun Surrender Campaign has been initiated in Arunachal Pradesh to address the fall in forest bird numbers, with over 1600 people in the region surrendering their firearms to reduce bird poaching.
- **CLEANLINESS IN A NEW WAY:** Whether it's institutions or the government, everyone plays a part in the endeavour to keep the environment clean. On a matter like cleanliness, our government departments may be very creative. No one believed it until a few years ago. The junkyard has been turned into a courtyard cafeteria by the Department of Posts. The Ministry of the Environment has turned the unused space into a wellness center. Plastic debris was cleared by NCC cadets as part of the Puneet Sagar Abhiyan. A group of young entrepreneurs has launched a start-up Clean Water.
- **RESOLUTION:** In order to propel the country to new heights of development, we must maximize the utilization of all available resources. This is also the mantra of India's self-sufficiency. Let us reaffirm our commitment to think big, dream big, and do everything we can to make those dreams come true.



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The efforts to boost tourism in the last seven years yield fast results as this sector plays a pivotal role in the development of country

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The relentless Azad Hind Fauz soldiers

Read the biographies of valiant Azad Hind Fauz soldiers who played crucial roles in India's Independence

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FROM EDITOR'S DESK

Sadar Namaskar,

India's Yoga, philosophy, spirituality, and culture have attracted the attention of the whole world. Our new generation has also developed a renewed interest in reconnecting with our roots. The tourism sector in India has grown both nationally and internationally as a result of this. In a short period of time, the options have multiplied.

The efforts to boost tourism are aimed at resurrecting the country's ancient glory with a thrust on overhauling infrastructure. It involves making India a tourism hub by exploiting its vast potential of natural and pristine geographical locations apart from promoting the historical and cultural sites.

Tourism is getting the direct benefit of strong connectivity. Whether it is an endeavour to connect small towns through the UDAN scheme or the rapid construction of road networks, projects such as PRASHAD, Swadesh Darshan, heritage site development, and exceptional success in the health sector are giving Indian tourism a new dimension. India has jumped from 65th place in 2013 to 34th position in the World Tourism Rankings, and its development is accelerating.

Developing tourist amenities, implementing e-visas, and taking steps to beautify cities and villages; through tourism, the common people of the country are not only contributing, but also pushing the country ahead. The tourist sector is becoming an indicator of inclusive prosperity due to its connectivity, hospitality, and facilities. Our cover story this year, on the occasion of National Tourism Day, focuses on the growth and potential of Indian tourism.

On the occasion of anniversary of government's ambitious programme- Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao, you'll also learn how this programme has revolutionised the sex ratio, with the ratio of females to boys growing for the first time in India.

In this issue, you'll read how a business becomes a unicorn and how the youth's contributions to the country's success are gaining traction. The personality section features Field Marshal General K.M. Cariappa, while an inspiring story about the heroes of Azad Hind Fauj from our series of Amrit Mahotsva heroes is the specialty of this issue.

Infrastructure is an important factor in the progress of the nation and at the end of the last year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given many gifts of development, which you will read in this issue.

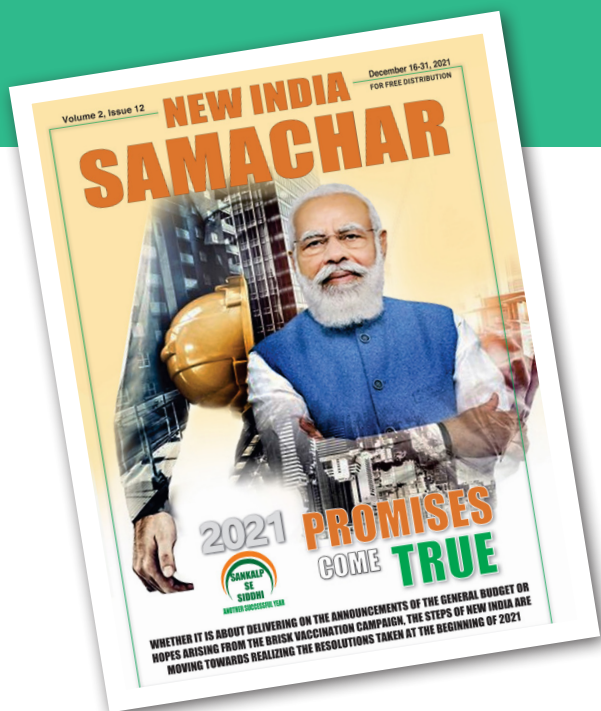
The government has now expanded the Covid vaccination campaign to cover teens aged 15 to 18. In the New Year, the nation's collective strength will undoubtedly spur progress to new heights. However, it is important that you all continue to follow Covid's routine.

Keep following the covid protocol and send your suggestion to us at:

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(Jaideep Bhatnagar)



MAIL BOX



After reading your cover story I felt that India is on the right path to becoming a world guru. This magazine is important for every countryman. It is also useful for students appearing in various competitive exams.

dpmeena1969@gmail.com



Through the New India Samachar magazine, I get a lot of information about government schemes, unsung heroes, and India's transformational journey. I would like to thank the entire team of this magazine for their efforts.

dbrajput8484@gmail.com



This issue of New India Samachar contains useful information on current affairs. Whether it is about the empowerment of women, self-reliance of India in the defense sector, befitting reply to terror, or accelerating the progress of the nation, India is scripting a new growth chapter. Congratulations and best wishes to all the team members of the magazine.



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Your magazine is very informative and useful. We read it regularly. Its easy availability and dynamic content is helping in keeping abreast with the latest development. This is the reason why it is becoming the favorite magazine of the youths.

Pradeep Kumar Nanolia
pknanoliya@gmail.com

By reading the issue of New India Samachar from December 16 to December 31, 2021, I got information about the various schemes being run by various ministries of the Government of India. Implementation of many schemes for health-related services, vaccination, sanitation, and life improvement is a commendable step. National Highways are being constructed focusing on public convenience as well as national security. There has been a revolution in the railways- smoke-free kitchens, the introduction of green energy through the National Hydrogen Mission. Congratulations to Magazine Team

Pawan kumar Bishnoi
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BHUTAN'S HIGHEST CIVILIAN AWARD TO PM MODI; LEADS THE LIST OF WORLD'S MOST LIKED LEADERS

Today the whole world is recognising the leadership qualities that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has shown during the Corona crisis. Neighbouring country Bhutan has honoured Prime Minister Modi with its highest civilian award, Nagdag Pelji Khorlo.

Bhutan's PM Lotay Tshering said that PM Modi has displayed an unconditional friendship. At the same time, he was also called a spiritual person. Thanking Bhutan for giving him the award, Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted, 'Thank you, Prime Minister of Bhutan! I am deeply moved by this warm gesture, and also express my sincere thanks to His Majesty the King of Bhutan.'

With Bhutan's highest civilian honour, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has surpassed US



President Joe Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin in the list of Most Liked People of 2021. Britain's market research company YouGov has prepared this list by surveying 42,000 people in 38 countries. Prime Minister Modi has also been honoured with Saudi Arabia in 2016, Afghanistan, Palestine in 2018, UAE, Russia, Maldives, Bahrain in 2019, and America's Legion of Merit in 2020.

Not only this, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also received Seoul Peace Prize from Seoul Peace Prize Culture Foundation in 2018, United Nations Champions of Earth, Philip Kotler Presidential Award in 2019, Global Goalkeeper Award from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Environment Leader from Cambridge Energy Research Associates in 2021.

KISAN RAIL: BENEFITTING FARMERS AND RAILWAYS ALIKE

It was in the last week of November-2021, when first Kisan Rail departed from Alwar, Rajasthan to Baheta, Assam carrying 216 tonnes of Onions. The fare of 220 tonnes of onion from Alwar to Baheta is about Rs 10 lakh. But due to 50 percent subsidy through Kisan Rail Yojana, farmers were charged only Rs 5 lakh.

In Alwar, farmers were getting onion prices up to Rs.20 per kg, while in Assam, they got more than 26 rupees per kg. Aimed at enabling farmers to utilize the vast railway network to gain access to distant, bigger and more lucrative markets the Kisan Rail was introduced in 2020. It also complemented the government's vision of doubling the farmers' income. Since its introduction on August 7, 2020, perishable farm produce were transported in 1642 trips across the country. The Railways has also earned revenue of about Rs 220 crore from this. Giving this information during the Winter Session of the Lok Sabha, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav



said, "The potential circuits for transportation of vegetables, fruits and other perishable commodities are based on the demand received from farmers and farming community. He said that for perishable goods like vegetables and fruits, the air conditioned containers are being used."

TALLER THAN THE QUTUB MINAR; WORLD'S TALLEST RAILWAY BRIDGE COMING UP IN MANIPUR

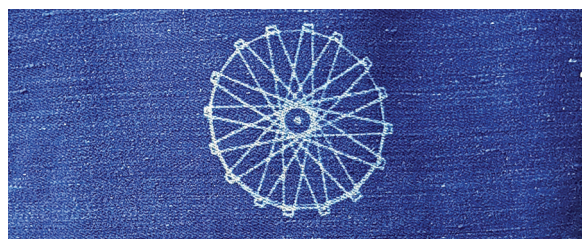


After independence, many states of India, especially the north-eastern states, were left behind in the race of development. Difficult hilly terrains and other topographical situations in the region needed a strong infrastructure to bring them in the mainstream of development. The scene has however changed since 2014 as new infra projects are coming up in these states. The reason for this is the commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who considers the Northeast as the engine of India's development. Construction of the world's tallest bridge pier in Manipur is just another expansion of the commitment of the government for boosting infrastructure in the North east India. The ambitious project in Manipur is part of the 111 km long Jiribam-Imphal railway line to connect the capital of Manipur with the broad-gauge network of the country. The bridge is being made earthquake resistant. It can easily withstand the tremors of an earthquake measuring 8.5 on the Richter scale. With the completion of the project, the 111 km of distance will be covered in 2.5 hours. Presently, the distance between Jiribam-Imphal (NH-37) is 220 km, which takes about 10-12 hours of travelling. After the construction, the bridge crossing Noney valley will become the world's highest pier bridge. The bridge will be completed by December 2023.

DEENDAYAL ANTYODAYA NATIONAL RURAL LIVELIHOOD MISSION AND STARTUP VILLAGE ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM PROVING HELPFUL FOR SELF-RELIANT

Deendayal Antyodaya National Rural Livelihood Mission and Startup Village Entrepreneurship Program were started to address economic disparity. Since the start of Deendayal Antyodaya National Rural Livelihoods Mission, 8.04 crore women have been added to 73.5 lakh self-help groups. Since the beginning of Deendayal Antyodaya National Rural Livelihoods Mission, more than 1 lakh 78 thousand rural industries have been assisted through the Startup Village Entrepreneurship Program launched in 2016. According to the data till November 30, banks have given loans up to Rs 62,848 crore to 27.38 lakh self-help groups, in the current financial year. The overdraft facility has been added now in this mission for women self-help groups.

KHADI GOES GLOBAL AGAIN, US FASHION BRAND 'PATAGONIA' CHOOSES KHADI DENIM FOR ITS APPARELS



As a fashion brand, India's Khadi is becoming the choice of people across the globe. Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself narrated the story of India's Khadi becoming 'Ohaka Khadi' brand in Mexico. US-based world's leading fashion brand, Patagonia, is now using handcrafted Khadi Denim fabric for making Denim apparels. Patagonia, through textile major Arvind Mills, has purchased nearly 30,000 meters of Khadi Denim Fabric worth Rs 1.08 crore from Gujarat. The purchase of Khadi Denim by Patagonia has created additional 1.80 lakh man hours, i.e. 27,720-man days of work for Khadi artisans. Patagonia has procured this Khadi Denim Fabric from Gujarat through India's leading textile mill, Arvind Mills. In July 2017 Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) signed an agreement with Arvind mills Limited, Ahmadabad, to trade Khadi Denim products around the world. ■

BOOSTING DEVELOPMENT WITH EMPHASIS ON AUGMENTING AMENITIES

The state of Uttar Pradesh has been a catalyst of socio-economic-cultural transformation in the country. From its pivotal role in the freedom movement to guiding India's economic transition, it has been scripting the country's successful journey. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says, "When the whole of UP grows together, only then the country progresses." With these words, Prime Minister Modi laid the foundation stone of Ganga Expressway in Shahjahanpur and also started many projects related to farmers, urban development, health, education, road construction, and tourism in Varanasi. Prime Minister inaugurated the Metro project in Kanpur, while at the convocation of IIT, he called upon the youth to participate in efforts to make a self-reliant India.

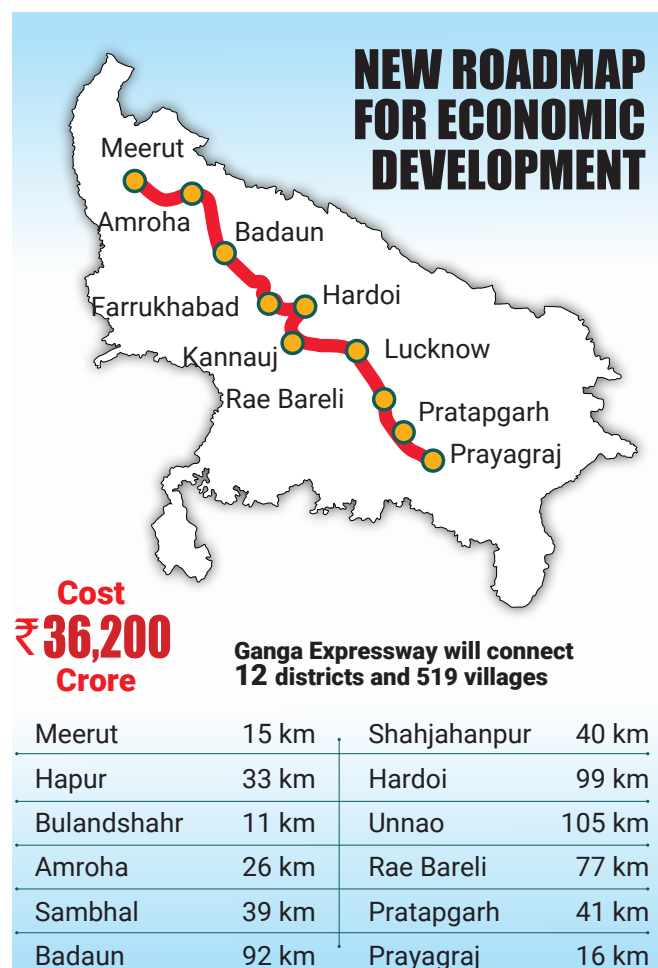
The high-speed connectivity gives impetus to fast transportation on which depends the progress of any economy. This helps not only in reducing prices of commodities but also encourage trade, commerce, and exports. Understanding the need for high connectivity, the Government has worked very fast on developing world-class infrastructure in the last seven years. In this development journey, Uttar Pradesh has emerged as the nerve center for the fast progress of infrastructure. Prime Minister inaugurated the Purvanchal Express on November 15, and after a month, on December 18, laid the foundation stone of the 594-km-long Ganga Expressway. Referring to the need for high-speed connectivity for the





Direct benefit to 12 districts of Uttar Pradesh

- This six-lane expressway will be built at a cost of over Rs 36,200 crore. Starting from near Bijauli village of Meerut, this expressway will extend to Judapur Dandu village of Prayagraj. In the future, it could be converted to 8-lane.
- The expressway will connect 12 districts and 519 villages of Uttar Pradesh. The maximum speed limit for vehicles has been fixed at 120 kmph. It will pass through Meerut, Hapur, Bulandshahr, Amroha, Sambhal, Badaun, Shahjahanpur, Hardoi, Unnao, Rae Bareli, Pratapgarh, and Prayagraj. Once completed, it will become the longest expressway in Uttar Pradesh connecting the western and eastern parts of the state.
- A 3.5 km long runway will also be built on this expressway at Shahjahanpur to assist in emergency take-off and landing of Air Force aircraft. An industrial corridor is also proposed to be built on the sides of this expressway.
- With the construction of the Ganga Expressway project, along with the social and economic development of the nearby areas, agriculture, commerce, tourism, and industry-related activities will get a boost. This expressway will serve as an industrial corridor connecting several production units, development centers, and agricultural production areas with the State Capital.
- This expressway will boost the establishment of handloom industries, food processing units, cold storage, warehousing houses, and milk-based industries, etc.



country's largest state, he said, "Uttar Pradesh is equally big in terms of population as well as area, from one end to the other. This Ganga Expressway, connecting 12 districts of UP, will

not only bring eastern and western UP closer, but in a way, it will also reduce the travel time from Delhi to Bihar. When time is saved, convenience increases, resources are used properly, and

A SLEW OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR VARANASI



A teachers' education center at the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, built at a cost of over

₹07
crore

Virtually distributed rural housing rights record 'Gharauni' under the ownership scheme of Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj to more than

20

lakh residents of Uttar Pradesh.

Projects in the education sector inaugurated by the Prime Minister include the Union Education Ministry's Inter-University Centre for Teachers Education, built at a cost of around

₹107
crore

The Prime Minister digitally transferred the bonus of about Rs 35 crore to the bank accounts of over

1.70

lakh milk producers

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi reached Varanasi on 23 December which was his second visit there within 10 days. During his last visit, while Prime Minister Modi inaugurated the first phase of the Kashi-Viswanath corridor, whereas this time 22 projects worth about Rs 1500 crore were inaugurated or the foundation stone was laid. Even before this, along with the PM Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Scheme, he has started many projects necessary for the development of Varanasi during his previous visits.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for Banas Dairy Complex at Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Authority Food Park, Karkhian, Varanasi. Spread over 30 acres of land, the dairy will be constructed at a cost of around Rs 475 crore and will have the facility to process 5 lakh liters of milk per day.
- The Prime Minister also inaugurated residential flats and staff quarters at BHU and ITI Karaundi.
- Projects related to the construction of a doctors' hostel, a nurse's hostel, and shelter home at Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya Cancer Center at a cost of Rs 130 crore were inaugurated by the Prime Minister in the field of health. Foundation stone was also laid for an Integrated AYUSH Hospital with 50 beds at Bhadrasi and Government Homoeopathic Medical College in Pindra Tehsil under AYUSH Mission at a cost of Rs.49 crore.
- Along with laying the foundation stone of two '4 to 6 lane' road widening projects for Prayagraj and Bhadohi roads, Phase-I of the Tourism Development Project related to Shri Guru Ravidas Ji Mandir, Sant Govardhan, Varanasi was also inaugurated.
- Other projects inaugurated by the Prime Minister include International Rice Research Institute, a speed breeding facility at South Asia Regional Center Varanasi, a Regional Reference Standards Laboratory at village Payakpur and an Advocate Bhawan in Tehsil Pindra.

capacity increases. Be it Purvanchal Expressway or Delhi-Meerut Expressway, Kushinagar International Airport, or important phases of the Dedicated Freight Corridor, many such projects have been dedicated to public service. Today work is going on in full swing on mega projects

like Bundelkhand Expressway, Gorakhpur Link Expressway, Prayagraj Link Expressway, Delhi-Dehradun Expressway, Noida International Airport, Delhi-Meerut Rapid High-Speed Corridor." Investment in the infrastructure not only creates direct employment but also empowers the private





Metro Rail for Kanpur

Kanpur, once known in the world as the 'Manchester of the East', is regarded as the economic capital of Uttar Pradesh. Despite its burgeoning economic prowess, Kanpur has often been associated with dirt, narrow roads, traffic snarls, and a lack of local connectivity. But improving urban mobility has been one of the prime focus areas of Prime Minister Modi. Drive to improve Kanpur's sullied image began in 2019, when work on 32 km long metro project at a cost of Rs 11,000 crore was started.

Inaugurating the first section of this metro project on December 28, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "The complaints of the people of Kanpur regarding traffic jams have been there for years. How much of your time was wasted, how much of your money was wasted. Now with the commencement of this line of 9 km of the first phase, a beginning has been made for the redressal of these complaints. Despite tough challenges of Corona, starting this section within two years is very appreciable in itself."

UTTAR PRADESH BECOMES THE STATE WITH THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF METRO OPERATIONS

- Before 2014, the total length of the metro route in UP was 9 km. Between 2014 and 2017, the length of the metro increased to a total of 18 km. If Kanpur Metro is included then the length of the metro in UP has now exceeded 90 km.
- After the completion of phase one of the Kanpur Metro Rail Project, Uttar Pradesh has become the first state in the country to operate metro rail in the maximum number of cities.
- The Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation started work on this priority corridor on November 15, 2019. Now after exactly two years and 43 days, Metro is ready for passenger services.

PM DEDICATES BINA-PANKI PIPELINE TO THE NATION

- The Prime Minister also inaugurated the Bina-Panki multi-product pipeline project. The capacity of this 356 km long project is about 34.5 lakh metric tonnes per annum.
- The project spanning from Bina Refinery in Madhya Pradesh to Panki in Kanpur was built at a cost of over Rs 1,500 crore. This will help the region to access petroleum products from Bina Refinery.
- Eastern and Central Uttar Pradesh, North Bihar, and Southern Uttarakhand will get its benefit. Transportation of petroleum through pipelines will also protect the environment and reduce carbon emissions.

sector. If the barriers to development are removed through strong infrastructure, then it helps the area to move on the path of economic self-reliance. With an emphasis on multi-purpose and multi-modal connectivity, the road infrastructure being built in Uttar Pradesh will not only reduce

the travel time from one city to another but will also curtail environmental damage caused by traffic jams. By connecting with Metro, Airport, Waterways, and Defense Corridor, business activities will pick up and it will also give a boost to employment. ■



Scan the QR code to
listen the full address
of the Prime Minister



54TH CONVOCATION AT IIT KANPUR

HOW WILL INDIA BE IN 2047, YOU HAVE THE REINS OF IT

In this Amrit Yatra, the role of the youth in shaping the India of 2047 becomes the most important. The success of the technology and innovation-based Digital ecosystem started in the last 7 years for the prosperity of the nation depends on its youth in the course of the next 25 years. Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to these makers of India's future at the 54th convocation of IIT Kanpur, one of the best institutes in the country.

- In this 75th year of independence, we have over 75 unicorns, over 50,000 start-ups. Of these, 10,000 have come only in the last 6 months. India has emerged to be the second biggest startup hub in the world, and this feat has been achieved majorly with the help of students from IITs. According to a recent report, India has become the third-largest unicorn country, leaving behind many developed countries of the world.
- In the last 7 years, programs like Start-up India, Stand-up India have started in the country. The country is creating new avenues for the youth through Atal Innovation Mission, and PM Research Fellowship. The youth is being readied to face bigger challenges more efficiently with the help of the National Education Policy. Ease of doing business improved, policy blockages removed, the results of these efforts are in front of us today in such a short span of time.

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE CREATION OF NEW INDIA

- In this hour of Amrit Mahotsav, when you are leaving with the legacy of IIT, then also take the dreams of India in 2047. In the coming 25 years, you have to take the reins of India's development journey. When you will be completing 50 years of your life, what will be the India of that time, for that you have to work from now on.
- These are not mere responsibilities towards the country for you, but these are the dreams that many of our generations have lived. But, to make those dreams a reality, to build a modern India, you have got that privilege, your generation has got it.

BE IMPATIENT FOR SELF-RELIANT INDIA

You too should be impatient for a self-reliant India. Self-reliant India is the basic form of complete freedom, where we will not be dependent on anyone. Swami Vivekananda had said – If we are not self-reliant, then how will our country fulfill its goals, how will it reach its destination? When the country celebrates 100 years of its independence, your sweat will smell in that success, your hard work will be recognized. you can do this. I trust you.



Scan the QR code to
listen the full address
of the Prime Minister

TIME FOR POLL REFORMS

During the election, you must have read and heard about bogus voting or fake voter ID cards in many places. To address this, the Government has passed the Election Law (Amendment) Bill 2021, which allows the voter card to extract gender information from the Aadhar card. It will transform India's reputation as the world's largest democracy into the world's strongest democracy.

"Whether it's Lok Sabha, Vidhan Sabha, or Panchayat elections, they should all utilise the same voter list." To do so, we must first create a path. Why are we wasting time and money when there is a distinct voter list for each one? Now the age limit of 18 years is fixed for each one. There used to be a difference in age, so it was a little different, but now there isn't."

This statement of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, delivered at a meeting of presiding officers on the occasion of Constitution Day last year, was simply an indication of India's electoral reforms moving forward. Moving on in this approach, both Houses of Parliament approved the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021, during the Winter Session.

Despite the fact that it is voluntary, the linking of the voter ID card with the Aadhaar number is the most important. However, in a large country like India, it may play a role in future elections. Not only will this prevent false voter ID cards, but it will also prevent fake voting.

Apart from that, fake voter ID is also used for a number of illegal activities. Mobile connections are being taken indiscriminately and ration cards are being made with the use of fake voter ID. In addition, several additional government facilities are being taken. There will be less scope for rigging in elections. This bill is being considered very important from the point of view of electoral reforms, because at present you can add your name in the voter list only once. But following the rule you will get this chance 4 times in a year. ■



Important changes:

- Linking of Voter ID with Aadhaar is voluntary, not mandatory. People will now get a chance to get their names included in the voter list four times a year. January 1 (which is already there), April 1, July 1 and October 1.
- Substitution of the word "wife" with the word "spouse", making the statutes gender-neutral. Service voter status to the husbands of women soldiers.
- The Election Commission may use any premises for conducting elections, for counting of votes, for storing voting machines and voting material, and as accommodation for security forces and personnel.

Benefits of linking Voter ID with Aadhaar-

This will help in preventing bogus voting and bogus votes. It will prevent multiple enrolments of the same person at different places. The election database will be strengthened. Overseas voters will be able to vote from anywhere.

Don't get confused

- Voluntary Linking: The proposed linkage between Aadhaar and the election database is voluntary.
- No risk of deprivation of the right to vote: No application for inclusion of name in the electoral roll will be rejected and no name will be removed from the voter list in the event of any person's inability to furnish or inform the Aadhaar number.



GIRLS BECOMING FACE OF INDIA'S DEVELOPMENT JOURNEY

The plummeting Female to Male ratio remained a grave concern despite several promises made to improve it. The census in the period 1961 to 2011 also painted an equally grim situation. Female foeticide was very rampant in many states. Under this situation, the need of the hour was to raise national consciousness and resolve. The campaign to empower the girl child received an impetus after the 'Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao' campaign was launched from Haryana in 2015. The success of this national-level campaign can be gauged from the fact that due to the relentless efforts of the Government, now for the first time in India the sex ratio tilted in favor of women. As per the fifth round of the National Family Health Survey, the sex ratio of the population (females per 1000 males) for the country was estimated as 1020.

The Prime Minister is begging you to save the lives of the girl child and educate her. Treat daughters as the pride of your family and the honor of the nation. Son and daughter are the two wings, without which there is no possibility of attaining the heights of life.

Exactly seven years ago, these words of Prime Minister Narendra Modi while launching the 'Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao' campaign from the Panipat district of Haryana marked the dawn of a new era. For the first time, a top leader of the country expressed such views without assessing any political

THE BEGINNING OF THE MISSION TO SAVE GIRL CHILD

- The child sex ratio (0 to 6 years) in 1961 was 976 girls per 1000 boys and in 2011 it fell to 918. The root cause of such decline was the strong socio-cultural prejudices in all Indian communities, which were strongly fixated on boys resulting in discrimination against girls. A country where the ancient philosophy of "Yatra Naryastu Pujyante, Ramante Tatra Devta" guided every walk of life, there the reports of female foeticide, disturbed the conscience of the nation.
- Sukanya Samriddhi Account Scheme was announced by the Prime Minister on 22 January 2015 while launching the 'Bet Bachao Beti Padhao' scheme at Panipat, Haryana in the backdrop of increasing incidence of foeticide and the declining level of child sex ratio.
- The objective of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme is to prevent female foeticide, to provide quality education to girls, to provide them security while the Sukanya Samriddhi Account Scheme aims at reducing the expenditure on the education and marriage of daughters.
- Strict implementation of PC and PNDT Act in the first phase. Extensive nationwide awareness, and publicity campaign to discourage female foeticide. Under it, several campaigns were launched for sensitization, awareness, and community mobilization at the grassroots level. It was started as a pilot project under the first phase in 100 districts with a low child sex ratio. After this, it was expanded to 61 additional districts.
- After its successful implementation in 161 districts, it was extended to another 244 districts. Women's toilets have been built in more than 95 percent of the schools in the country. This has resulted in a reduction in the number of girls dropping out midway due to toilets.

Objective...



PREVENTING GENDER-BIASED SEX SELECTION



ENSURING SURVIVAL AND SAFETY OF THE GIRL CHILD



ENSURING THE EDUCATION OF GIRL CHILD

SHAPING THE FUTURE- SUKANYA SAMRIDDHI YOJANA

Under Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana, a Sukanya account for daughters can be opened in any post office or bank. Its minimum monthly amount is Rs 250 and the maximum annual deposit limit is 1.5 lakhs. Compound interest is calculated on it at the rate of 8.40%. A deposit of Rs 10 thousand per month in Sukanya account for 15 years, will fetch about 74 lakh rupees to your daughter after 21 years. The specialty of the account is that the amount deposited under it is exempted from tax. Also, you can withdraw 50% of the amount when the daughter becomes 18 years of age and the rest 50% can be withdrawn at the time of the daughter's marriage as well.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself gave a new direction to the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' campaign by launching campaigns like #selfiewithdaughter and #bharatkilaxmi.

gains and losses, aimed at shaking the parochial view existing in the society. This marked a new beginning for the country as evidenced by the recent data of the National Family Health Survey which highlighted the ameliorating sex ratio tilting in favor of women. In the last survey, the



Scan the QR code to listen the full address of the Prime Minister

EMPOWERING WOMEN...

The life of mothers, sisters, and daughters influences generations and also create generations. The potential of a daughter, her education, and her skills determine the direction of the society and the nation and not only of the family. The central government has taken continuous efforts in this direction. While transferring Rs 1000 crore to the accounts of women self-help groups in Prayagraj on December 21, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "We made plans and campaigns to empower women at every stage in the cycle of life starting from the birth of a daughter."

- Maternity leave has been extended to six months so that the mothers can continue their work without worrying about the initial care of their child after delivery. Maternal health during pregnancy has been a major cause of concern in poor families. Therefore, special attention has been paid to the vaccination of pregnant women, delivery in hospitals, and nutrition during pregnancy.
- Under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, Rs 5000 is deposited in the bank account of women during pregnancy, so that they can take care of proper diet. So far, about Rs 10 thousand crores have been given to more than 2 crore pregnant women.
- Utmost care is being taken for the convenience and health of women at every step from school and college to their career and till their household. The lives of the sisters have become privileged and their dignity enhanced with the construction of crores of toilets under the Swachh Bharat



sex ratio was 991 women per thousand men. The villages fare better than the cities in the sex ratio. In cities, where there are 985 women per 1000 men. In villages, this number is 1037 against 1000. Not only this, the sex ratio at birth which was 919 in 2015-16 has reached 929 girls.

While sharing his views on this accomplishment during a women's empowerment program organized on

December 21 in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "Daughters should not be killed in the womb, they should be born for which we started Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao campaign to raise the consciousness of the society. Today the result is that the number of daughters has increased a lot in many states of the country. We have worked continuously to ensure that daughters can study properly and they do not have to drop out of school in the



Mission, the gas connection facilities to the poorest of the poor under the Ujjwala scheme, and ensuring tap water at home.

- Under the Ayushman Bharat scheme, women have benefited the most from the facility of free treatment up to Rs 5 lakh
- The houses which are being handed over under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana are in the name of women on priority basis. The Mudra Yojana is encouraging new women entrepreneurs from poor families in the villages. About 70 percent of the total loans sanctioned under this scheme have been given to women.
- Women are also being linked with Self-Help Groups and rural organizations across the country through the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana. The assistance given under the National Livelihood Mission has increased by almost 13 times in the last seven years in contrast to period before 2014. Earlier every

Self-Help Group used to get loans up to Rs 10 lakh without guarantee, now this limit has been doubled to Rs. 20 lakh.

- The government ensured free ration during the period of the Corona pandemic. It also eased the rules to enable women to work in night shifts. The government also removed restrictions for women to work in mines.
- The government has opened the doors of Sainik Schools across the country for girls. It has established about 700 fast-track courts across the country for speedy trials of heinous crimes like rape. It also made a law against Triple Talaq to save Muslim women from atrocities.
- Bill which seeks to raise the marriage age of women from 18 to 21 years was introduced in Lok Sabha. At present this bill has been sent to the standing committee of the Parliament.

middle. Under the Sukanya Samridhi Yojana, accounts of about 2.5 crore girls have been opened. The interest rate has also been kept high on this money to fulfill their dreams when they grow up."

When we took the initiative to realize the massive dreams and aspirations of Maa Bharati in 2014, we began by giving new energy to the belief of the daughters of the country. When the slogan of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao

echoed, the thinking changed and daughters got a new opportunity to live. As a result, for the first time in the history of independent India, the number of women exceeded that of men. The daughters today are carving a niche for themselves which has been made possible by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mantra of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, and Sabka Prayas. Now the women are regaining their rightful place. ■

INDIA TURNING HUB OF WORLD TOURISM IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE, IN THE LAND OF GRANDEUR

*Explore the magnificence of
Indian diversity*

Today, tourism is a very fast-growing business sector in the world, and India is making spectacular progress with its stunning cultural and heritage sites. A vast network of modern infrastructure; whether it is rail, road, airways, waterways, alongside other amenities such as hotels and hospitals and robust Internet-mobile connectivity are giving impetus to it. In addition, Government's cleanliness drive has a positive impact on tourism. These aspects are interconnected which not only boost tourism but also provides new employment opportunities. On National Tourism Day which is celebrated on 25 January India seeks to metamorphosise this sector with several innovative initiatives.





Nagendra Bharathi, who covered the distance from Vijayawada to Cuddapah on a flight under the UDAN scheme, says,

“Earlier, the journey from Cuddapah to Vijayawada with family was very difficult. It used to take 8 to 11 hours by road, but now we can travel by flight.” UDAAN flights have made it convenient for me to travel to Kanak Durga Mata with my loved ones. Thanks to the government for this wonderful initiative. ”

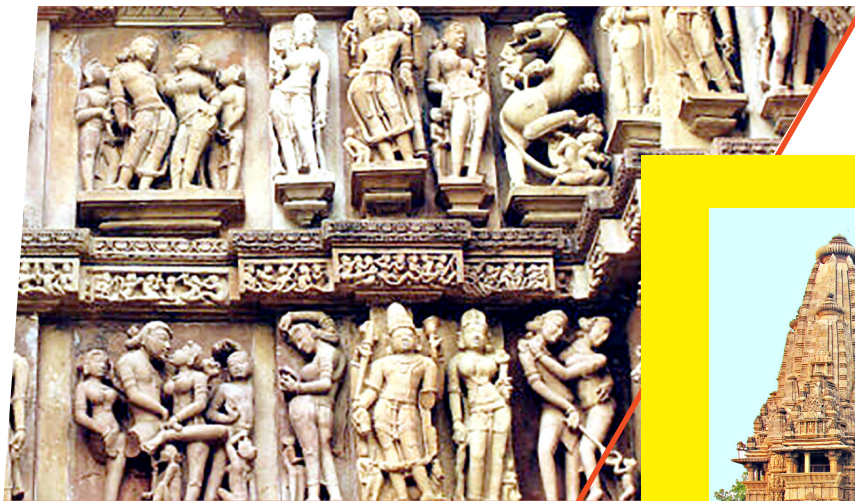


India has a rich history. This is our story of thousands of years. We don't need to give anything else to the world because it is a wonder. These are the things that our forefathers left behind. Just to make a point. No one can stop India's tourism



Pochampally village in Telangana was named the best tourism village by the UN World Tourism Organization at the 24th General Assembly of the UN World Tourism Organization in Madrid, Spain last December. With its unique weaving styles and patterns, Pochampally has developed its own identity and is known as part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mantra of 'Vocal for Local' for a self-reliant India. This year's National Tourism Day will be celebrated on January 25 in this village.





In early December 2021, Wolter Simon Milio, 69, from Chicago, USA, and John, 80, visited India on an 18-day tourist visa for the first time since the Covid lockdown of March 2020. The travelers described tourist spots in India as safe, and they praised India's vaccination program as better than other countries in the world. Regarding traveling at this point in life, he said, "Age is no bar to tourism. As long as you are in good shape, you still have a chance to have an adventure." During the Covid era, Wolter and John came to India as part of an initiative by the Government of India to provide 5 lakh free visas to promote tourism, and they liked the atmosphere so much that they also appealed to other tourists to visit India.

Tourism gives experience and experience gives satisfaction. India's tourism industry, with its modernity added to it, is becoming a testament to its results. The three examples listed show that if the government is willing to do something with better facilities, environment, connectivity, and devotion to the nation than revitalizing tourism, then India will be able to cover the world by building a proud history and creating modern infrastructure. In the Covid pandemic, all walks of life were affected. However, in this era of 'new normal,' India's rapid pace in vaccination is giving new direction and bringing about positive changes in every field, from tourism to economy. As a result of this, modern infrastructure and holistic thinking are giving a boost to India's tourism. Indian tourism has taken a new turn with the introduction of e-Visas for citizens of more than 160 countries around the world.

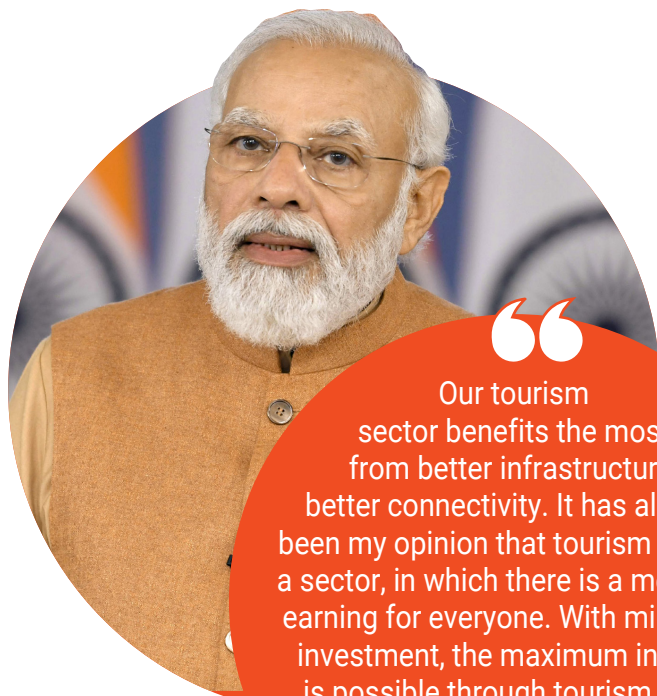
As per various agencies, India's World Tourism Ranking from 2009 to 2013 fluctuated between 62 and 65, but it reached 34th position in just a few years. The Indian economy has become not only the world's

7th largest economy in terms of tourism, but the world's third largest when it comes to health tourism as well. Kevadiya symbolizes the holistic approach to tourist development, which has become an important subject to study in the tourism sector.

Be it faith-spiritual-study tourism or health-wellness tourism, cultural tourism or heritage tourism or eco-tourism, youth tourism or tourism-related to business activities, India is becoming the most attractive tourist destination in the world. The tourist places deserted at the time of covid are now being populated once again due to vaccination and India's unprecedented steps against the epidemic. This sector is rapidly recovering after the global pandemic as the government has given priority to tourism along with the economic-social sectors affected by this epidemic.

In June last year, the Government took steps like free visas to 5 lakh foreign tourists till March 2022 and a loan of up to Rs 10 lakh to the stakeholders related to travel and tourism, with a 100% government guarantee from the Ministry of Tourism. Loans up to Rs 1 lakh have also been provided to registered tourist guides. However, considering the new variant of Covid, increasing the period of free visa is also being considered. The central government, through various initiatives, has indicated its intent to take the tourism sector of the country forward.

India is emerging as a shining star on the tourism map of the world. The biggest reason for this is e-Visa, connectivity, schemes like flight, a network of roads, construction of modern infrastructure at tourist places, and the image of Prime Minister Narendra Modi as the most popular leader in the world. He is like a brand ambassador for tourists. It is the result of his image and initiative to promote tourism that the corporate world is not only excited by his 2017 appeal of 'Adopt a Heritage' to adopt heritage sites, that MoUs for 29 heritage sites have been signed and state-of-the-art facilities have also been built at many sites. In his foreign tours, Prime



Our tourism sector benefits the most from better infrastructure, better connectivity. It has always been my opinion that tourism is such a sector, in which there is a means of earning for everyone. With minimum investment, the maximum income is possible through tourism. With this thinking, work is going on at various levels to make the country vocal for local tourism

E-VISA FACILITY, ATTRACTING MORE TOURISTS

- In November 2014, the Government announced e-Visa for citizens of 44 countries in order to make it easier for foreign tourists to visit India. This facility now serves people of 165 countries, up from 44 in 2018. e-Visa is now available at 25 airports and 5 seaports around the country
- A 5-year e-Tourist visa with multiple entrance facilities has been introduced in addition to the one-year e-Tourist visa. Additionally, a one-month e-Tourist visa with dual entry and an e-Conference visa for government and public-sector employees have been introduced. In addition, the visa cost has been waived.

INDIA IS RISING IN GLOBAL RANKINGS

India's ranking in the Global Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index has continually increased over the years as a result of the Government's consistent efforts in the field of tourism. India is ranked 34th out of 140 countries in the World Economic Forum's (WEF) report.

65
2013

52
2015

40
2017

34
2019



STATUE OF
UNITY
एक भारत, शिष्ट भारत.

KEVADIYA A SYMBOL OF UNITY IN DIVERSITY

In Gujarat, Kevadiya was once a small village located in a remote area. It has now become one of the world's most popular tourist destinations. The Statue of Unity, symbol of Kevadiya's development journey, attracts more tourists than the Statue of Liberty. In the five years since it was dedicated, the Statue of Unity has attracted more than 5 million tourists. After being closed during the Covid period, it is now gaining popularity again. Once connectivity improves, it is estimated that Kevadiya will attract around one lakh tourists per day.

- Kevadiya has developed economically and ecologically in a planned manner while protecting the environment. Originally, Kevadiya did not appear to be feasible as a major tourist destination. Looking at the old way of working, there was logic in this doubt. This is because there was no road connectivity at that time, nor were there lights, rail or tourist accommodation along the road.
- The Statue of Unity, Sardar Sarovar, the massive Sardar Patel Zoological Park, Arogya Van, Jungle Safari, and Nutrition Park are some of the attractions here. A glow garden, a unity cruise, and water sports too are present.
- Tribal kids are finding work as a result of such increased tourism, and local residents are benefitting from new amenities. In Ekta Mall, there are new opportunities for local handicraft items. In tribal villages, about 200 rooms are being constructed for home stays.
- The Tribal Art Gallery and Viewing Gallery in the Kevadiya Railway Station are built in such a way that a glimpse of the Statue of Unity can be viewed from there.
- Similarly, Gujarat's Kutch, which was once desolate, is now a key tourist destination in the country and the world. The Kutch festival draws visitors from all around the world. During the Rann Utsav, an estimated 4 to 5 lakh tourists visit to enjoy the white desert and azure skies.

Minister Modi has been addressing people of Indian origin several times and has been calling to inspire at least five non-Indian families to come to India in a year, so that tourism can be promoted.

The world is appreciating the pace at which India has worked while strengthening

the security wheel in the era of Covid. Taking advantage of this, the Government of India has appointed Tourism Officers in more than 20 embassies to promote Brand India. In the year of Amrit Mahotsav, the government has started an initiative to develop 75 tourist destinations according to international standards. To

promote domestic tourism, the Prime Minister, through his Mann Ki Baat program, had appealed to the people to visit 15 places in a year for tourism and create awareness by writing about them. When personalities like Mahatma Gandhi, Lokmanya Tilak, Swami Vivekananda, and former President APJ Abdul Kalam toured across India, they got a new inspiration to see and understand India and to live and die for it. In such a situation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi united the diversity of India by giving the slogan 'Ek Bharat-Shreshtha Bharat'. Generally, the tourism season in India is from October to March. Keeping this in view, the initiatives of the Central Government has been yielding results and now the number of people at tourist places has started increasing.

AS A RESULT OF IMPROVED INFRASTRUCTURE, THE TOURISM BASE IS GROWING.

The tourism sector benefits the most from better infrastructure and better connectivity. This is a sector in which there are means of earning for everyone. With minimum investment, the maximum income is possible through tourism. With this thinking, work is going on at many levels for the country to be vocal for local tourism. When air connectivity increases, tourism flourishes equally. Whether it is the visit of Mata Vaishno Devi or Kedarnath Yatra, after joining the helicopter service, there is a continuous increase in the number of devotees. The recent Noida International Airport initiative is also going to do the same thing.

The efforts made in the last few years have started showing their effect. Due to the development of infrastructure, Uttar Pradesh has come in the top three states of the country in attracting foreign tourists. Along with the necessary facilities for tourists, modern means of connectivity are also being increased in Uttar Pradesh. In the future, Ayodhya airport and Kushinagar international airport will prove to be very useful for domestic and foreign tourists. The positive impact of connectivity on lives and

EMPHASIS ON HIGH SPEED CONNECTIVITY

High-speed connectivity is critical for tourism. And India has made significant progress in this area over the last seven years. Be it road, rail, or airport infrastructure, the development of world-class infrastructure combined with strong connectivity has allowed travellers to visit areas that were previously unimaginable.

13,394

km road built in the financial year 2020-21 despite Covid

Length of National Highway increases to **1,37,625** km from 91,287 km in 2014.

75

new Vande Bharat trains to be run in next two years

India is making a record in the world by constructing

37

km of road per day.

The number of waterways in India has gone up to

111

Till 2014 this number was 5.

National Highways built by NHAI will be expanded to

02

lakh km by the year 2024-25.

Under UDAN, the number of airports, heliports, and water aerodromes would expand to

220

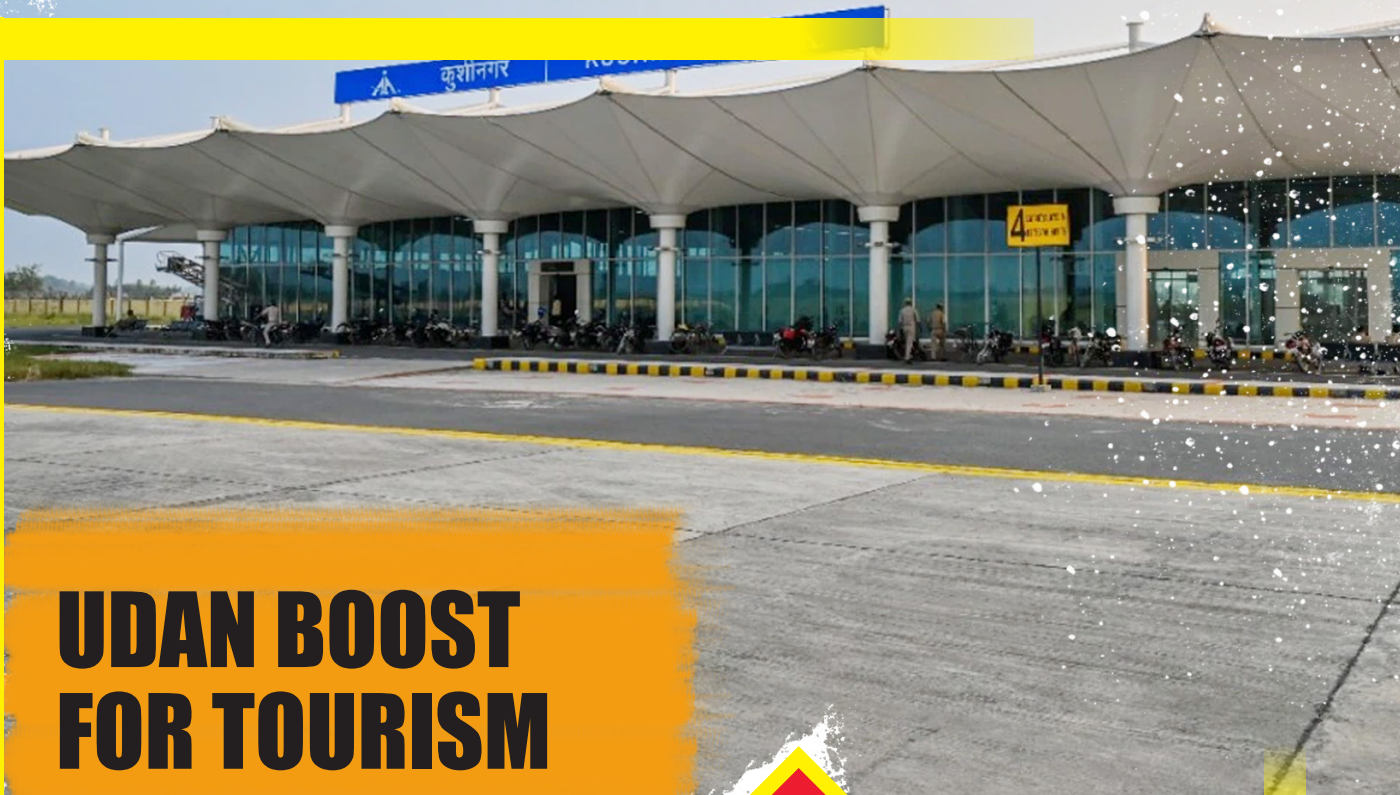
by 2024-25.



Following Palace on Wheels, theme-based trains such as Maharaj Express and Ramayana Circuit are now being operated. The first Vande Bharat train ran between Banaras and Katra, and the second from Katra to Delhi.

livelihoods has been experienced by the country in the times of Covid.

Connectivity, whether it is road or rail, air connectivity or Internet connectivity; are the biggest priorities of the country today. Tourism is also getting the direct benefit of such strong connectivity. Farmers and gardeners producing fruits and vegetables are also getting it naturally. With access to the Internet in



UDAN BOOST FOR TOURISM

- There was a time when just a few select spots in India were mentioned in the context of tourism, but in such a diversified country like India, there are more stunning tourist destinations.
- All of these locations have been neglected for many years. The Government launched the 'UDAN Scheme' with the goal of recognizing these heritage sites and reducing the distance between them and tourists.
- Efforts are being made to reduce the distance between people and all those tourist destinations that tourists are unable to visit due to the discomfort and travel distance.
- Hampi, in Karnataka, is an example of this. It was voted second among the

52 best tourist destinations to visit in 2019. But with the caveat that getting to this UNESCO World Heritage Site is incredibly tough. However, under the UDAN project, the government connected it to the Bellary and Vidyanagar airports. Vidyanagar airport is now only 40 kilometers from Hampi. Pakyong Airport in Sikkim is also an excellent example of this.

- In the third phase of the UDAN scheme, 29 additional air routes were launched, followed by 34 in the fourth phase. Now, tourism has taken off in places like Pantnagar in Uttarakhand, Pithoragarh, Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh, Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh, and Kurnool in Andhra Pradesh.

villages, young talents of Himachal are able to take their culture and new possibilities of tourism to the country and abroad. 71 lighthouses have also been identified in India to promote tourism. According to their capabilities, museum, theatre, cafeteria, children's parks, eco-friendly cottages

are being constructed in all these lighthouses. A target has been set to develop international maritime tourism by 2023 at selected ports of the country.

In order to make Goa's tourism sector attractive, connectivity infrastructure is being

toned up for the convenience of farmers, fishermen, and other people in the state. The greenfield airport being built in 'Mopa' is going to be ready in the next few months. To connect this airport with the national highway, a 6-lane modern connecting highway is being built at a cost of about Rs 12,000 crores. Thousands of crores of rupees have been invested in Goa in the last few years for the construction of National Highways.

Similarly, in 2014, the country had also announced the 'PRASHAD Scheme' (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) for the development of pilgrimage places. Under this scheme, about 40 big pilgrimage centers are being developed in the country, out of which 15 projects have also been completed. In Gujarat also work is going on on 3 projects worth more than 100 crores under the PRASHAD scheme. Special attention is being given to connectivity to connect Somnath and other tourist places and cities in Gujarat. The idea behind this is that when tourists come to visit one place, they should also go to other tourist places.

Similarly, 19 Iconic Tourist Destinations across the country have been identified and being developed. All these projects are set to give new energy to the tourism industry in the coming times. Covering 76 sectors in 15 theme circuits, the government is connecting more than 900 tourist destinations. Of these, work is completed on 35 and 80 percent of work has been done in 15 places.

To promote international tourism, the government has also taken many policy decisions in these seven years, which are benefiting the country today. The country has pushed forward systems such as e-Visa and Visa on Arrival, and has also reduced visa fees. Similarly, the GST charged for hospitality in the tourism sector has also been reduced. Keeping in mind the adventure, the country has also opened 120 mountain peaks for trekking. Guides are also being trained by running programs so that tourists do not have to face inconvenience in the new place. India is constantly doing new things by studying the psychology of tourists



“Increased tourism benefits the poor the most; the lowest of the poor gets work; at the very least, the capital investment provides maximum employment. When tourism grows, foreign tourists flock to the area and spend money. In 2014, the tourist sector brought in 1 lakh 20 thousand crore rupees in foreign exchange for the Indian people. At the same time, the foreign exchange grew to almost Rs 2 lakh crore in 2018-19.”

visiting India and mapping their likes and dislikes. Indian tourism is getting new dimensions with the provision of special signage at tourist places, facility of foreign language guides etc.

CULTURAL-SPIRITUAL TOURISM: THE CARRIER OF INDIAN TRADITION

Today the world is getting attracted to India's yoga, philosophy, spirituality, and culture. There has also been a new awareness in the new generation to connect with their roots. That is why today there are national and international possibilities in the field of cultural and spiritual tourism. To give shape to these possibilities, the country is not only creating modern infrastructure but also reviving its ancient glory.

Touring around the Ramayana Circuit gives one a sense of Lord Rama's majesty, while the Buddha Circuit allows Buddhist adherents from all over the world to visit India. The development of Ayodhya is being envisaged as a spiritual global tourism center and sustainable smart city. In the last few years, all the monuments related

PROMOTION OF CULTURAL TOURISM

Kashi-Viswanath Corridor

₹800 crore Vishwanath Corridor project in Kashi-Viswanath began in 2019.



The first section of the corridor, with a total area of 5 lakh square feet, was inaugurated.



Kashi was given a majestic look, as did 43 other temples.



SOMNATH TEMPLE

03 Important projects were inaugurated by the Prime Minister in August 2021.



RAM MANDIR RECONSTRUCTION

In August 2020, Prime Minister Modi laid the foundation stone of Ram temple. It is expected to be completed by 2025.



SHEETALNATH TEMPLE

The Sheetalnath temple, which opened in February 2021 after 31 years in Kashmir, grabbed news. After the removal of Article 370, the central government started the process of temple's revival.

KEDARNATH DHAM

Prime Minister Modi has visited Kedarnath five times since taking command of the country. This temple's great form, which was extensively damaged by the disaster in 2013, is being restored. Shankaracharya's Samadhi, which is part of the temple has already been built.

SWADESH DARSHAN

AN INITIATIVE TO CONSERVE INDIA'S DIVERSITY

India's diverse cultural, historical, religious, and natural heritage offer enormous opportunities for tourism development and job creation. With this in mind, the Swadesh Darshan Scheme was launched in 2015.

● Buddhist Circuit ● Ramayana Circuit ● Krishna Circuit ● Northeast Circuit ● Himalaya Circuit ● Coastal Circuit ● Desert Circuit ● Tribal Circuit ● Eco Circuit ● Wildlife Circuit ● Rural Circuit ● Spiritual Circuit ● Heritage Circuit ● Tirthankar Circuit and ● Sufi Circuit were among the 15 themed circuits developed in India under this scheme.

Since the scheme's commencement, a total of 78 projects worth roughly Rs 5700 crores have been sanctioned for the construction of these circuits. More than Rs 4200 crore has been released from this fund till December 2020.

to history, faith, spirituality, culture are being built across the country, with an aim to promote tourism. Uttar Pradesh is also rich in both tourism and pilgrimage and its potential is also immense. Whether it is the birthplace of Lord Rama or Vrindavan of Krishna, Sarnath of Lord Buddha or Kashi Vishwanath, Maghar Dham of Sant Kabir or modernization of the birthplace of Sant Ravidas in Varanasi, massive work is going on across the state. Ramayana circuit, spiritual circuit, and Buddhist circuit related to the life of Lord Rama, Shri Krishna and Buddha are being developed.

For ages, the Chardham Yatra has been significant in India. The Dwadash Jyotirlinga, the Shaktipeeths, and Ashtavinayak visits have all been regarded as a part of life. This pilgrimage is more than just a tourist attraction; it is a living tradition that connects and enlightens India. With this in mind, the recent development of a Tourist Facilitation Center in Kedarnath Dham in Uttarakhand, a new hospital for the convenience of the inhabitants of this area, and other facilities would become the devotees' channel of service. The Chardham road project is currently in full swing. The process of erecting a cable car to transport pilgrims to Kedarnath ji has commenced. Apart from that, work on a ropeway enabling convenient access to the sacred Hemkund Sahib is underway. Efforts are also being made to establish a rail link between Rishikesh and Karnprayag.

The Samudra Darshan Path, an exhibition and shopping complex in Gujarat's Somnath temple, has recently been added as a tourist hotspot. New prospects and employment avenues will be generated as a result of this, and the places' divinity will be enhanced. A project was launched during the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence to showcase tribal heroism and culture through the creation of 10 tribal museums around the country. In Ranchi, similar museums dedicated to Lord Birsa Munda have recently set up. Gujarat's Rajpipla, Andhra Pradesh's Lambasingi, Chhattisgarh's Raipur, Kerala's Kozhikode, Madhya Pradesh's Chhindwara, Telangana's Hyderabad, and Manipur's Tameng will all soon have such museums.

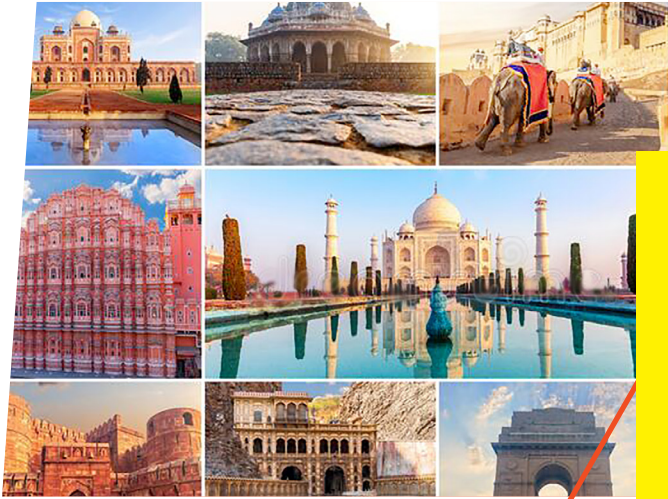
These museums will not only familiarise the



India has a great heritage. This is our story of thousands of years. The world is a wonder, and we do not need to give anything to the world. These are the things that our forefathers left behind. Just to show it. No one can stop India's tourism.

-Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister

country's new generation about the pride of tribal past, but they will also boost tourism in these places. In Uttar Pradesh, a 40-foot bronze statue of Maharaja Suheldev will introduce tourists to his life. The building of numerous amenities at this location will serve as a tourist attraction. All of these measures will not only improve Bahraich's beauty but will also boost the number of tourists.



INDIA'S 19 ICONIC IDENTITIES ON THE WORLD TOURISM MAP

- A country's tourist attractions help to define its international identity. India has been recognized on the international tourism map as a particularly special iconic destination, with 19 such tourist sites.
- The central government's initiative is being implemented with the support of state and local governments.
- From Agra's Taj Mahal to Delhi's Qutub Minar, Maharashtra's Ajanta-Ellora caves are included in these 19 sites, which are planned in a holistic manner with a focus on issues related to destination connectivity, better facilities/experience for tourists on site, skill development and participation of the local community, promotion and branding, and private investment.



If the tourism sector was the most hit during the Covid period, assistance was given from stakeholders to Guides.

NEW DIMENSIONS TO HEALTH-WELLNESS TOURISM

Some people may wonder what a healthcare program has to do with tourism. However, health has a strong link to tourism since a country's integrated, strong health infrastructure has an impact on the tourism business. India accounts for more than 20% of global medical tourism, according to a survey by industry body FICCI. The

primary reason for this is that treatment in India is up to 50% less expensive than in the United States and Europe.

The medical tourism sector has grown by more than 350 percent since 2014, right before Covid, as a result of the central government's continued attention in this regard. The revenue from this was Rs 1.23 lakh crore in 2014, but it climbed to

Rs 2.10 lakh crore in 2019. Places with greater health infrastructure will have better tourism opportunities. Hospitality and hospitalization will work in tandem.

Today, India is one of the three major countries in the world when it comes to health tourism. The primary goal of health-wellness tourism is to treat sickness and promote wellness. Ayurveda and traditional medicine are their most important pillars. The expansion of the entire ecosystem associated with Ayurveda is also boosting tourism-related health and wellbeing in the country. Simply envisioning India's uniqueness, such as detoxing in Kerala's lush green surroundings, practicing yoga on the banks of a lovely river amidst gusts of wind on a mountain in Uttarakhand, or going through the lush green forest of the Northeast, creates a different emotion.

When it comes to health and wellness tourism, Prime Minister Narendra Modi says, "If your life is causing you stress, now is the moment to embrace India's ageless culture. Come to India whenever you want to heal your body or your mind."

To boost tourism in this region, India established the National AYUSH Mission. The World Health Organization's Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014-2023 aligns with India's policy on Ayurveda and other Indian systems of medicine. In addition, the World Health Organization has announced the establishment of a Global Center for Traditional Medicine in India. Students from all over the world are already flocking to India to study Ayurveda and its medical system.

However, the Covid pandemic has had a significant influence on the tourism industry. But, as vaccination rates have gone up, domestic and international tourists have begun to flock to the country. In its immunization drive, India has placed a high priority on states that are involved in the tourism industry. The Government of India prioritized vaccination for this sector, and as a result, the tourism industry appears to be recovering from the worst of the epidemic's effects. Cleanliness and the



INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE PRASHAD SCHEME

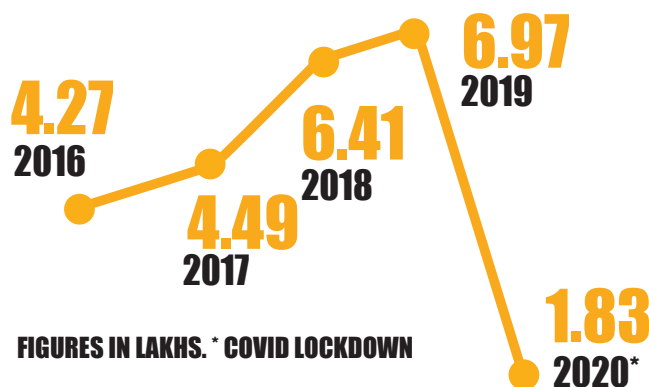
- PRASHAD (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive) is a nationwide mission started by the Ministry of Tourism in 2014-15. This program is entirely sponsored by the union government.
- The program aims to identify and develop pilgrimage sites across the country in order to improve the religious tourist experience. Its main goal is to give a comprehensive religious tourist experience as well as prioritize and long-term development of pilgrimage sites.
- This is used to develop infrastructure such as roads, rail, journey terminals, mobile-Internet-hot-spot access, bathrooms, artisan markets, ATMs, and money exchange counters.



It covers **57** sites in 27 States/Union Territories

As per the data available till January 2021, work has been started on 36 projects worth about Rs 1160 crore in 24 states.

Number of people visiting India for medical tourism from 2016 to 2020



INDIA'S ROLE IN THE GROWING TOURISM MARKET

Prior to Covid, the worldwide tourism sector was rising at a rate of 3.5 percent per year, according to research by the World Tourism and Travel Council. It contributes \$ 8.9 trillion to the global economy and employs 330 million people. It employs 87.5 million people in India and contributes \$194 billion to the country's GDP.

provision of basic infrastructure are crucial for tourists, in addition to protection from Covid.

CLEANLINESS GIVES TOURISM A FRESH LEASE OF LIFE.

If you recall, prior to 2014, only negative talks concerning the cleanliness of our cities were heard. Dirt was seen as a natural part of city life. Apathy toward cleanliness has a negative impact on not just the beauty of cities and visitors visiting them, but it also has a negative impact on the health of city residents. A massive drive was launched under the Desh Swachh Bharat Mission



MOUNTAINEERING PERMIT FOR TREKKING

In August 2019, the government opened 137 mountain peaks to foreigners wishing to obtain a mountaineering visa for trekking. These peaks are located in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim. The maximum number of 51 summits were opened for foreigners in Uttarakhand. 15 mountain peaks of Jammu and Kashmir have also been included in this list. This was a watershed moment in the country's quest to promote adventure tourism.

and the AMRUT Mission to change this scenario. Over the years, over 60 lakh private toilets and over 6 lakh community toilets have been built in cities. Till 7 years ago, where only 18 percent of the waste could be disposed of, it has increased to 70 percent today. Now under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan 2.0, a campaign to remove the mountains of garbage standing in the cities has also been started. LED lighting has also played a significant part in boosting the beauty of cities. The government has replaced more than 90 lakh old street lights in the country with LEDs under a

UNIQUE INITIATIVE THROUGH 'ADOPT A HERITAGE'

On the occasion of World Tourism Day on September 27, 2017, the Ministry of Tourism introduced a unique project called "Adopt a Heritage." It is a tourism promotion initiative undertaken by the Ministry of Tourism, the Department of Archaeological Survey of India, and the State/Union Territories. It has the potential to attract tourists to our rich and diverse heritage monuments. This initiative began in the Archaeological Survey of India's key monuments, and so far 95 monuments across the country have been covered. Private investors will provide basic and modern facilities for these sites, including maintenance. This plan has so far resulted in the signing of 29 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs).

PREPARATIONS FOR 'DEKHO APNA DESH.'

India has long attracted visitors from other countries. Whether it is the magnificent valleys of Kashmir or the famed tea gardens of Darjeeling-Assam, every international visitor is keen to see the mesmerizing vistas here. In addition to this, there is a strong desire to visit religious sites. The government has launched the 'Dekho Apna Desh' program, which aims to connect people to sacred sites by operating special tourist trains. It is a campaign to encourage people to travel extensively inside India and to visit the country's diverse heritage monuments. It is aimed to facilitate the development of domestic tourism amenities and infrastructure in the country's tourist hotspots.

HELPLINE AND INFORMATION

- For the convenience and safety of domestic and international tourists, all tourism-related information is provided 24 hours a day, seven days a week in 12 languages, including Hindi and English, via the toll-free number 1800111363 and the short code 1363.
- A live chat feature has been added to the Ministry of Tourism's website to help travellers with any questions they may have.
- All information about India's tourist destinations may be accessed in virtual form using Google 360 degree walkthrough on Incredible India website. All information such as tour operator, hotel, agent, and guide is available through Incredible India mobile app.
- A dedicated COVID-19 cell was established to handle international visitors. Help was extended to foreign tourists stuck in India during Covid through the 'Stranded in India' portal.



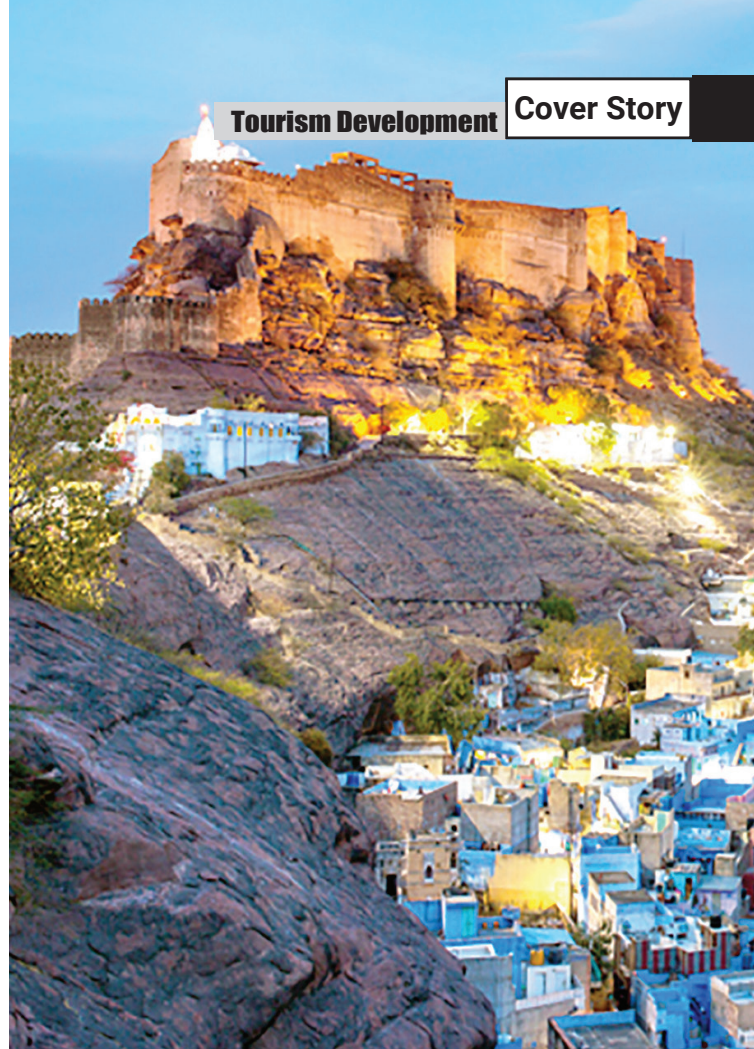
campaign. The country has also called for 'Sabka Prayas' with 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, and Sabka Vishwas' in this 75th year of independence. For cleaning, this spirit of everyone's contribution is equally crucial. Cleanliness is intrinsically linked to happiness and tourism. As Gujarat's Chief Minister, Narendra Modi began to enhance the possibilities of tourism for progress, with particular emphasis on cleanliness. When the Nirmal Gujarat campaign grew into a mass movement, tourism in the state grew as well.

BY PRESERVING ITS LEGACY, INDIA IS BECOMING THE WORLD'S IDENTITY

Tradition and tourism are two topics that are inextricably linked to Indian culture, sentiments, and identity. The Central Government has always strived to keep India's cultural potential in front of the world in a new light so that India develops as a significant global hub for historical tourism. Historical structures are being refurbished and made more appealing in this spirit.

The work has begun in this direction by giving new shapes to heritage sites in Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, and Varanasi. The infrastructure for new galleries, exhibitions, theatres, plays, and music performances is being built in these structures. The government has also decided to build five model museums in accordance with international standards. It all began in the Indian Museum in Kolkata, one of the world's oldest museums. Aside from that, museums in Delhi, Chennai, Hyderabad, and Srinagar are being renovated. The fact that 10 additional sites have been designated as World Heritage sites in the last seven years demonstrates the Indian government's commitment to the development of tourist attractions.

Not only will resources be required to protect, beautify, and beautify the country's legacy, but they will also need to be developed for their care and management. In light of this, the establishment of an "Indian Institute of Heritage Conservation" with Deemed University status is being discussed. Whether working on historical protection and restoration at Dholavira as Gujarat's Chief Minister or now as Prime Minister, efforts are underway



to enhance the number of world heritage sites in India, as well as infrastructure and coordinated development that considers all factors.

Circuit trains are connecting tourist destinations, while festivals like International Yoga Day are bringing Indian culture to the rest of the world. In addition, the process of restoring the country's cultural legacy has moved at an unprecedented rate. Between 1976 and 2014, only 13 stolen heritages were returned; nevertheless, between 2014 and 2021, 41 additional heritages were brought back.

Undoubtedly, following Covid, India's tourism sector is swiftly reverting to its prior level. With the provision of free visas to 5 lakh foreign tourists by March 2022, faster vaccination, greater access to health facilities, and improved use of technology Indian tourism is prepared to make a mark in the world. However, recognizing India as the best tourist destination in the world necessitates a concerted effort by all Indians, so that the spirit of Ek Bharat- Shreshtha Bharat can be felt throughout the world. ■



NEW MOMENTUM TO DEVELOPMENT IN HIMACHAL

There was a time when projects were initiated, but not finished for decades. This was the state of affairs across the country. The five-year-old Kollam bypass project in Kerala, Assam's Bogibeel bridge, Uttar Pradesh's four-year-old Saryu canal project, and Himachal Pradesh's three-decade-old Renukaji Dam Project all met the same fate. However, the central government has demonstrated that no project is difficult if the intentions are strong, whether it is spanning wide distances or completing development projects that take decades to finish. In just four years, 48 percent of the Saryu canal project in Uttar Pradesh was built and put into operation, and now the dream of the Renukaji dam project in Himachal Pradesh has come true.

Projects that have been delayed for decades not only increase the cost, but they also deprive the local community and the country, who have been waiting for them for a long time, of the facilities and benefits that they should have received long ago.

On December 27, while inaugurating and laying the foundation stone for four hydropower projects worth Rs 11,000 crore in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi remarked, "Every country has distinct ideas, but today the people of our country are plainly seeing two ideologies."

One ideology promotes delay, while the other promotes development. The procrastinators never cared about the people living in the mountains. Whether it was infrastructure or delivering basic services to the people, the philosophies of delay forced the people of Himachal to wait decades. As a result, the work on the Atal Tunnel was put on hold for years. The Renukaji project was also three decades behind schedule.

In his address, the Prime Minister gave the



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the full address of the
Prime Minister

FOCUS ON GROWTH

India set a target in 2016 to meet 40% of its power generating capacity from non-fossil energy sources by 2030. Every Indian today will be proud of the fact that India attained this target in November of this year. India achieved the 2030 target in 2021. This is the pace of working of today's India.

GIFTS TO HIMACHAL

RENUKAJI DAM PROJECT



The Prime Minister's idea of cooperative federalism enabled this project, which had been in the pipeline for nearly three decades. To make the idea a reality, the Central

Government had to bring six states: Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, and Delhi on board. The cost of constructing this 40 MW project is estimated to be around Rs 7000 crores. It is really beneficial to Delhi. Delhi will receive approximately 500 million cubic metres of water per year as a result of this project.

THE SAVRA-KUDDU HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT



With a capacity of 111 MW, this project has been built at a cost of approximately Rs 2080 crores. This would create more than 380

million units of power each year, and it will help the state earn more than Rs 120 crore in revenue each year.

LUHRI PHASE - I HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT



The 210 MW project will cost about Rs 1800 crore to build. This project will generate over 750 million units of power per year. This new and dependable grid will

also benefit the surrounding states.

THE DHAULASIDDH HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT



This is the first hydroelectric power plant in Hamirpur district. More than Rs 680 crore would be spent on the construction of this 66 MW facility.

More than 300 million units of electricity will be produced per year as a result of this project.

example of tap connection in Himachal Pradesh and said, "In 7 decades of independence, 7 lakh families in Himachal got piped water. Within just 2 years and that too during the Corona period, more than 7 lakh new families have got piped water.

Earlier, our sisters would spend a lot of time preparing wood for cooking. Today, gas cylinders are being delivered door to door. Having toilet facilities has also provided a great deal of relief to the sisters. Decades-delayed decision on One Rank One Pension or whether it is the task of providing modern weapons and bullet proof jackets to the army, to provide necessary resources to reduce the problem in winter or better connectivity for commuting, the efforts of the government are reaching every household in Himachal, the Prime Minister said.

MENTIONS HIMACHAL AS A PHARMA HUB

Himachal Pradesh is one of the most important pharma hubs of the country. Today, if it is called the pharmacy of the world, there is a lot of Himachal behind it. During the global corona outbreak, Himachal Pradesh assisted not just other states, but even foreign countries. Entrepreneurs engaged in Ayush industry and Natural Medicine are also being promoted by the government, in addition to the pharmaceuticals sector.

The boon that Devbhoomi Himachal has got from nature needs to be preserved. Along with tourism, Himachal Pradesh has a lot of potential for industrial development. The state's food processing, and agriculture-organic farming, as well as the pharma business, are receiving special attention from the central government. ■



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address of the
Prime Minister

DEVBHOOMI ON THE PATH OF HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT

The Lakhwar multi-purpose project, which will give the benefit of irrigation to six states of the country, was first conceptualized in 1976 but could not see the light of the day but again there is hope as Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for it on December 30. On the same day, several other projects for health, connectivity, industry, housing, sanitation, and drinking water were also inaugurated.

The Lakhwar Multipurpose Project was first conceptualized in 1976 but it remained stalled for over four decades but now there is a ray of hope. The foundation stone of the Lakhwar Multipurpose Project to be constructed at a cost of about Rs 5747 crore has been laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This project of national importance will facilitate irrigation of about 34,000 hectares of additional land. In addition to 300 MW hydropower generation, six states Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, and Rajasthan will get drinking water facilities from it. Laying the foundation stone of the Lakhwar project, Prime Minister Modi said, "When we go to any historical place, we are told that this place was built so many years ago, this building is so old. For decades, this has been the condition of the country that when it comes to big schemes, it was said – this plan has been stuck for so many years, this project is incomplete for so many decades. The Lakhwar project, which has started here in Uttarakhand today, has the same history. The project was first thought of in 1976. Today after 46

years, our government has laid the foundation stone for its work." Apart from it, Prime Minister Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of road sector projects worth Rs 8,700 crore in the state. These projects will help in realizing PM's vision of improving connectivity for inaccessible, rural, and border areas apart from improving connectivity for Kailash Mansarovar Yatra. Along with this, Prime Minister Modi also laid the foundation stone of AIIMS Rishikesh Satellite Center in Udham Singh Nagar, and Jagjivan Ram Government Medical College in Pithoragarh.

The scope of these projects is being expanded with an aim to provide world class medical facilities in all parts of the country. These two hospitals are being built at a cost of Rs 500 crore and Rs 450 crore respectively. Better medical infrastructure facilities will not only help the people of the Kumaon and Terai regions but also the people of border areas of Uttar Pradesh. On this occasion, the Prime Minister also laid the foundation stone of Aroma Park in Kashipur,



“We all know how many rivers start from Uttarakhand, but since independence people here have witnessed two more streams. One is keeping the mountains away from development, and the other is working day and night for the development of the mountains. New hydro projects being built in Uttarakhand, increasing the industrial capacity of the state will make this decade the decade of Uttarakhand” -**Narendra Modi**, Prime Minister

Projects launched

- Kumaon-Garhwal road connectivity from Nagina to Kashipur.
- 284 crores all-weather road of 32 km Tanakpur-Pithoragarh.
- All-weather road from Belkhet to Champawat on Tanakpur-Pithoragarh worth Rs 267 crore.
- All-weather road project from Tilon to Chuyrani worth Rs 233 crore.
- UJVN's five MW Suringad Hydroelectric Project worth ₹50 crores.
- The sewerage treatment plant at Ramnagar-Nainital under the Namami Gange program worth Rs 50 crore.

FOUNDATION STONE LAID FOR SEVERAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

- 300 MW Lakhwar Multipurpose Project worth **Rs 5,747 crore.**
- 85.30 km Moradabad-Kashipur four-lane road project worth **Rs 4,002 crore.**
- 73 water supply schemes under Jal Jeevan Mission in 13 districts worth **Rs 1250 crore.**
- 133 routes of phase two of PM Gramin Sadak Yojana worth **Rs 627 crore.**
- AIIMS satellite Centre will also be built for **Rs 455 crore.**

- Construction of 151 bridges at a cost of about Rs 450 crores
- Pithoragarh Medical College for Rs 455 crores.
- Rs 205 crore 24 hours, seven-day drinking water supply scheme
- Nine STPs under Namami Gange program for Rs199 crore.
- 1256 units of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban worth - Rs171 crores.
- Aroma Park in Kashipur worth Rs 35 crores
- Rs 78 crores plan for strengthening sewerage system in Nainital district
- Plastic Industrial Park in Sitarganj worth - Rs 66 crores
- Madkota to Haldwani road route worth Rs 58 crores.
- Rs 54 crore Kichha to Pantnagar road
- Rs 53 crore Khatima bypass. Project connecting Nepal through Asian Highway to cost Rs 177 crore

Plastic Industrial Park in Sitarganj, and several projects related to residential, sanitation, and drinking water supply across the state.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 23 projects costing Rs 17,500 crore. This includes six projects, including road widening projects, a hydroelectric project in Pithoragarh, and a sewerage network improvement project in Nainital. The total cost of these projects is Rs 3,400 crore.

These road projects will improve road connectivity in Garhwal, Kumaon, and Terai region. Additionally, connectivity between Uttarakhand and Nepal will also improve which will prove to be strategically important along with boosting tourism, industrial and commercial activities. At the same time, Pithoragarh Medical College along with the satellite center of AIIMS, Rishikesh will play an important role in improving the health infrastructure. ■

Irrigation: Six states will benefit from the Lakhwar Multipurpose Project.

Health Care: AIIMS Rishikesh Satellite Centre, Jagjivan Ram Medical College.

FOUR-TIER BENEFITS TO UTTARAKHAND

Connectivity through Multiple roads network costing Rs 8700 crores.

Inauguration of many initiatives for industry, housing, sanitation, drinking water.

OMICRON: GOVERNMENT ON ALERT

YOUTHS AGED 15 TO 18 BEGIN RECEIVING A VACCINE OF HOPE

The government is not only well prepared, but also on the watch for potential threats in the wake of a surge in Omicron cases around the world. As a result, as the government ramps up its door-to-door vaccination campaign with a focus on immunisation, a push to vaccinate adolescents aged 15 to 18 years old began on January 3 as well. Not only that, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is also keeping a close eye on the situation and chairing high-level meetings to assess the condition of Covid-19, Omicron, and the preparedness of health systems across the country and among the people, recognising the gravity of the situation. He is urging people to be careful and watchful rather than panic...

Infection is on the rise in several nations throughout the world as a result of the new Corona strain Omicron. Many people have been infected with Omicron in India as well, but the Indian government is not only well prepared, but has also kept its preparations updated so that citizens are not impacted. Covid can be avoided with just two methods - One vaccination and the other following the covid protocol.

This is why the government is urging people to take full measures by releasing required instructions in collaboration with the states, in addition to underlining the importance of total immunisation in the country. This is why, in his address to the nation on the night of December 25, Prime Minister Narendra Modi made three



CENTRE SENDING TEAM

The Center is sending teams to places where immunisation rates are low, illnesses are on the rise, and health infrastructure is lacking. In the fourth week of December, Prime minister chaired a high-level meeting to assess the situation, Omicron, and preparedness of health systems across the country in order to guarantee early detection of patients for COVID-19 prevention and treatment. To control the spread of infection, he added, effective contact tracking should be prioritised.

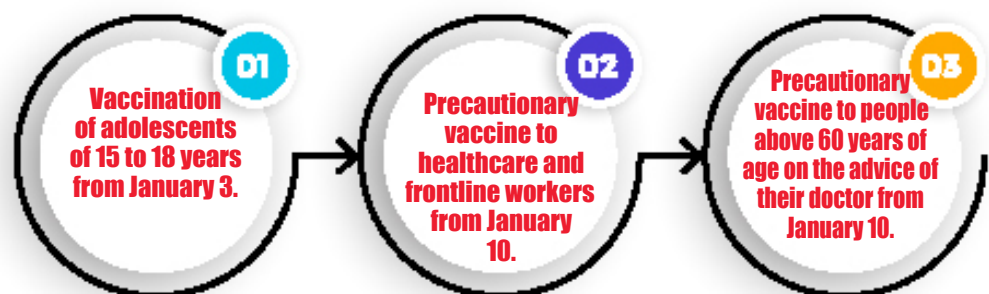
The Prime Minister told officials that the central government should send teams to help alleviate the situation in areas where immunisation rates are low, cases are rising, and health infrastructure is lacking. In addition, the Prime Minister emphasised the importance of building health systems in states, beginning at the district level, at this discussion. The states were encouraged at the meeting to be attentive and monitor the infection, doubling rate, and clusters of new cases in their districts, as well as to take all necessary safeguards and not to relax their vigilance.

TAKE THE NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS



The struggle against Covid, a global pandemic, is far from over. Even now, in such a setting, the need of continuing to follow Covid's safe behaviour is critical. Following all of the instructions at the individual level is a wonderful weapon in combatting Covid, according to the experience of fighting the global epidemic of Covid thus far. When it comes to the new versions, we must be cautious and cautious, and we must make full use of masks. We also don't have to remember to do things like wash our hands every now and then. Yes, we must bear in mind that we should not be alarmed, but we must be cautious and vigilant.

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI MADE THREE MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENTS IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE COUNTRY -



major announcements: adolescents aged 15 to 18 years will be vaccinated beginning January 3. Also, healthcare and frontline workers will be given precautionary dose of vaccine beginning January 10, and 10 million people will be vaccinated by the end of the year. On the suggestion of their doctor, other unwell senior persons over the age of 60 will be given a preventative vaccine beginning in January.

The decision to vaccinate teenagers is likely

to help schools return to normalcy, as well as alleviate the concerns of parents of school-aged children. India began delivering vaccines to its population on January 16, 2021, and it is as a consequence of the country's citizens' united effort and will that India has already exceeded the extraordinary and extremely challenging aim of 148 crore vaccine doses. Not only that, the vaccine has been administered to over 61 percent of India's adult population. Similarly, a

PREPARATION OF THE COUNTRY IN ORDER TO COMPETE WITH COVID

- There are currently 18 lakh isolation beds in the country.
- There are 5 lakh oxygen beds. There are a total of 1,40,000 ICU beds.
- If ICU and non-ICU beds are included, there are 90,000 beds dedicated to children.
- There are already over 3000 PSA oxygen plants in operation across the country.
- Across the country, 4 lakh oxygen cylinders have been distributed.
- States are receiving assistance in preparing buffer doses of necessary medicines, as well as enough testing tools.

NASAL VACCINE - THE COUNTRY WILL SOON DEVELOP A NASAL VACCINE AND THE WORLD'S FIRST DNA VACCINE.



I have a request that all efforts to create rumours, confusion and fear should be avoided. Together all of us countrymen have run the world's largest vaccination campaign so far. In the times to come, we have to accelerate and expand this further. It is the efforts of all of us that will strengthen the country in this fight against Corona"

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister.

CENTER'S MANTRA: STATES SHOULD ADOPT A 5 STEP STRATEGY TO DEAL WITH OMICRON

- Impose night curfew, ban on gatherings, especially in view of the upcoming festivals. Determine the Containment and Buffer Zone as the case of Corona increases.
- Special attention should be given to testing and surveillance. According to the guidelines of ICMR and Ministry of Health, tests should be done. Number of door to door case search and RTPCR tests should be increased.
- Focus should be on increasing beds, ambulances and health equipment in hospitals. A buffer stock of oxygen should be created. Stock up on medicines for 30 days.
- Continuous information should be given so that rumors do not spread, states should hold daily press briefings.
- States should focus on 100% vaccination. Door to door campaign should be conducted to ensure that both doses are given to all adults.

TWO VACCINES AND ONE DRUG OF COVID APPROVED

The road has been cleared for two more Covid vaccinations and a new medication to arrive. The 'Serum Institute of India' vaccine Covovax and the Biological E vaccine 'Corbevax' have been licenced for emergency use by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization. Additionally, the regulated use of Covid's pill 'Molnupiravir' in an emergency has been approved. This medication can be administered to people who are at a high risk of contracting the condition. According to Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, the Covovax vaccine would be manufactured in India. Meanwhile, the Center has emphasised that for the third dose, senior adults over the age of 60 do not need to provide a doctor's certificate.

single dose of the vaccine has been administered to almost 90% of the adult population.

Many states, particularly those with significant tourism potential, such as Goa, Uttarakhand, and Himachal Pradesh, have attained the goal of 100% single shot immunisation. Simultaneously, Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in the country to vaccinate 100% of the eligible population.

VACCINATION GAINED TRACTION AS A RESULT OF THE 'HAR GHAR DASTAK' CAMPAIGN.

The government is working quickly to

achieve 100% immunisation under the motto "Vaccination achieved, safety assured." As part of this initiative, a door-to-door 'Har Ghar Dastak' vaccination campaign was carried out to mobilise and vaccinate people, which was successful in motivating people to take the Covid-19 vaccine and thereby increasing vaccine coverage. The outcomes have been encouraging. Every effort has been made for everyone, including jawans, farmers, the elderly, and the differently abled, as part of this campaign, to ensure that the eligible population receives a complete COVID-19 vaccination protection. ■



Natural Farming

EMPOWERING FARMERS WITH NATURAL FARMING TECHNIQUES

In Indian culture, we consider the sacred Earth as our mother. Understanding too well the importance of protecting the earth from the impact of excessive human activities that deplete it of its resources and bountifulness, the natural farming is emerging as a very popular choice. In this form of farming, manure is prepared through natural materials which not only protect plants but also ensure a steady income. The Government's efforts to boost agriculture are bringing a revolutionary change in the lives of 80 crore small farmers of the country.

Satya Devi of Laphughati, Shimla (Himachal Pradesh) has small farmland having 150 apple saplings. She says, "I am now using the natural farming spray for my plants. Earlier, I used to buy the chemical spray from the shops, in which the cost was also high. But the natural farming spray is inexpensive and also gives good farm yield. Earlier the cost would be above Rs 5000 but now not even Rs 500 are spent. I started farming from my garden, others should also try it." Similarly, Manoj Sharma, a farmer, also says that ever since natural farming has been started, the land has become soft.

Phoolkumar from Rohtak (Haryana) says, "I do natural farming. Ever since we started it, five types of crops have been planted in the same field, in a year. I am able to earn from Rs 1.5 lakh to 2.5 lakh in a year." Similarly, Ghanshyam Bhai Vithalbhai Patel, a resident of Kheda in Gujarat, was doing chemical farming which involved more cost and also profit was less. This also had a ruinous impact on land and the environment. This led him to turn to natural farming. Like Patel, Hitesh Jamnadas hails from Kutch in Gujarat. He says, "We do natural farming in 105 acres. I am doing this entire farming with cow dung and urine. This



“We have to take our agriculture out of the lab of chemistry and connect it to the lab of nature. We need not only to re-learn the ancient knowledge of agriculture but also to sharpen it for modern times. In this direction, we have to do research afresh, mould ancient knowledge into the modern scientific frame. India and its farmers are going to lead the global mission for 'Lifestyle for Environment' i.e. LIFE in the 21st-century. In this Amrit Mahotsav, efforts should be made to associate at least one village of every panchayat with natural farming”

-Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

NATURAL FARMING

The traditional form of farming will make the life of common people safe and secure. In such a situation it is important to know various aspects of natural farming:

Natural Farming:

No Cost (Zero Budget) Farming has been identified as a promising means to reduce the dependence of farmers on the procurement of materials and to reduce the cost of agriculture by relying on traditional field-based technologies, thereby promoting improvement in soil health. The dung and urine of indigenous cows play an important role in making natural manure in the farm itself, which provide essential nutrients to the farm. Other traditional practices such as mulching the soil with biomass or covering the soil with green cover throughout the year, even in conditions of very low water availability, are practiced to ensure sustainable productivity from the first year itself.



JEEVAMRUT:

It is made by mixing cow urine, jaggery, flour, and gram flour, etc. with 10 kg of cow dung which improves the quality of the soil.

How to make Jeevamrut: The ingredients required are 10 kg of indigenous cow dung, 8-10 liters of indigenous cow urine, 1.5 to 2 kg of jaggery, 1.5 to 2 kg of gram flour, 180 liters of water, a handful of soil from under the tree. The method of making Jeevamrut with easily available ingredients is so simple that any farmer can make it himself. For preparing it, the farmers should first make a liquid by mixing jaggery, gram flour, and cow dung with water or cow urine in these ingredients. Now put these ingredients in a drum and mix them with a wooden stick. After mixing, properly cover it and keep it in the shade for two to three days. Every day it has to be rotated clockwise for two minutes with a wooden stick. It has to be covered again with a sack.

BENEFITS:

When Jeevamrut is applied in the field with irrigation, the number of bacteria in the soil increases in an incredible way, and the chemical and biological properties of the soil increase. Administer Jeevamrut once or twice a month along with irrigation water at the rate of 200 liters per acre as per the availability. This increases the number of earthworms in the soil, which are considered friends of farmers. Deep tillage is also not required in natural farming. Not only this, but natural farming also increases groundwater. Through this process, allied crops can be grown along with the main crops.

USE OF JEEVAMRUT IN FRUIT TREES:



2 to 5 liters of Jeevamrut per tree should be given once or twice a month in a circular motion near the shade that falls near the fruit trees at 12 noon. This makes the soil healthy and the crop is equally good.

GHAN-JEEVAMRUT:

This is the dried form of Jeevamrut, which is mixed in the soil before sowing the crop. Mix 20 liters of freshly prepared Jeevamrut in 200 kg of sun-dried cow dung and keep it in shade for two days. It is once again dried in the sun and grinded with a stick. This preparation can be used for one acre of land.

is the reason why people and farmers around us come to get natural products from us. This has also increased our profits." Natural farming is infusing new energy in the country as farmers find it more beneficial than chemical farming. In view of this Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call at the National

Conference on Natural Farming on 16th December is very significant as it throws light on the lucrative aspect of natural farming. Lakhs of farmers of the country have popularised this method of farming and the Dang district of Gujarat has been declared as a completely natural farming district. ■

BEEJAMRUT:

An essential basis of natural farming is Beejamrut where it protects the seed from seed-borne diseases and increases its germination capacity. Beejamrut is prepared by mixing 5 kg cow dung, 5 liters of cow urine, 50 grams of slaked lime, and a little soil in 20 liters of water. After keeping it for one night, 10 kg seed is processed in it. After a day the seed is ready for sowing.

COVERAGE TECHNIQUE IN FARMING:

According to it, the entire cultivated land is completely covered with crop residue or with short duration intercrops. The cover retains the moisture in the land and also reduces the water requirement for agriculture by drawing moisture from the atmosphere. Increases the activity of bacteria and earthworms, controls weeds, and finally increases the organic carbon capacity of the soil by preventing carbon emissions from decomposing land.



VAFSA:

It is also an important process in the farming method in which an equal balance of moisture and air is maintained in the soil.

AGNISTRA:

Natural farming method not only increases the productive capacity of the land but also gives effective options for the prevention of pests and diseases. For the prevention of insects and moths' attacks on crops, Agnistra is a cheap input based on local vegetation and made in the farmer's field itself. In this, 5 kg of neem or other local plant leaves which the cow does not eat, 20 liters of desi cow's urine, 500 grams of tobacco powder, 500 grams of green chilies, 50 grams of garlic paste are boiled in low flame, and kept for two days. Mix 6 liters of this solution per 200 liters of water and spray it in one acre.

FARMERS GOT A GIFT ON THE NEW YEAR

On the very first day of the year 2022, the farmers' received the 10th installment of the Prime Minister's Kisan Samman Nidhi. Along with this, an amount of Rs 1.80 lakh crore has been released to the farmers under this scheme so far, which has become the biggest ever assistance given to the farmers directly in the bank account. On January 1st, Prime Minister Narendra Modi directly transferred an amount of more than Rs 20 thousand crores in the bank accounts of more than 10 crore farmers. Along with this, an equity grant of more than Rs 14 crore was also released to 351 Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs) on this occasion, which will directly benefit more than 1.25 lakh farmers. Under the PM-Kisan scheme, an amount of Rs 6000 per year is provided to eligible farmers, payable in three equal installments of Rs 2000 each at 4-month intervals. The funds are directly transferred to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries.

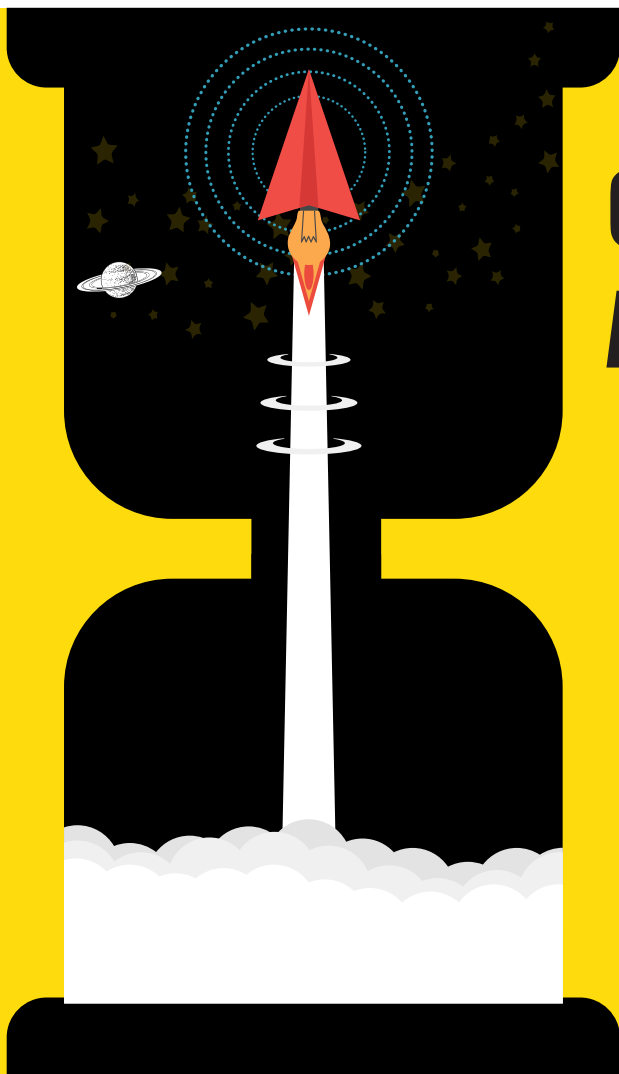


It is my honor to interact with the farmers from across the country on the first day of the New Year. Crores of farmer families of the country, especially small farmers, have received the 10th installment of the Prime Minister's Kisan Samman Nidhi. ₹20,000 crores have been transferred to the bank accounts of farmers."

- **Narendra Modi**, Prime Minister



Scan the QR code to listen the full address of the Prime Minister



STARTUP INDIA GIVING FLIGHT TO THE AMBITIONS OF YOUTH

India has a very promising demographic dividend with 65 per cent of its population below 35 years. The youth today needs only the right direction to achieve their ambitions. With this thinking, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced 'Startup India' from the ramparts of the Red Fort on 15 August 2015. After launching this flagship initiative of the Government in January 2016, he said, "My dream is, the youth of the country should not be a job seeker, but a job giver." Today the success story of more than 60 thousand startups including over 75 unicorns highlights the success of this scheme.

Mayur Patil, a resident of Pune in Maharashtra, was looking for ways to increase the mileage of his motorcycle in 2011 in which he subsequently succeeded. He used this technology which cut down emissions from vehicles by 40 percent in 2017-18 and got it patented in 2021. After receiving a grant of Rs 90 lakh from the Atal New India Challenge, he is now running his own startup along with four of his friends. Similarly, Angad Singh, a resident of Ahmedabad, thought about starting his own venture. He launched an innovative website for transport goods. Impressed by his accomplishments many of his friends left their jobs to join him. Unlike in the past, there is now a shift in attitude as there is an endorsement for



Wherever you look today, go to any family, no matter how rich a family maybe, an educated family, but if you talk to the young man in the family, what does he say? He goes out of his family traditions and says, I will start a startup. That is, his mind is ready to take risks. Today the startup culture is expanding even in small towns and I see signs of a bright future in it"

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

The success journey

- To mark the sixth anniversary of the launch of the Startup India initiative, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is organizing a week-long event "Celebrating Innovation Ecosystem" in January 2022.
- Accredited startups have now expanded to 623 districts. At present, there is at least one startup in each State and Union Territory.
- When the scheme was started, 10,000 startups came into existence in 808 days. In the first year of the scheme in 2016-2017, 743 startups were recognized. In the year 2020-2021 alone, more than 16,000 startups were recognized.
- Food processing, product development, application development, IT consulting, and business support services have the largest number of startups

STARTUPS RECEIVE SEVERAL BENEFITS

- **Providing level field to entrepreneurs** - Easy approvals, simple winding-up process, legal aid, fast-tracking patent applications, and website providing all relevant and useful information.
- **Grants and Incentives**- Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax exemption for eligible startups; Fund of funds and credit guarantee scheme to infuse more capital into the startup ecosystem.
- **Incubation and Industry**- Academia Partnership - Provision of multiple incubators and innovation labs, events, competitions, and support.

Other government benefits for setting up a startup

- Small business loan.
- Easy access to funds.
- Facilitating meetings with other entrepreneurs.
- Crowd funding facility

Unicorns have created a lot of curiosity

A 'unicorn' is a startup whose value is at least 1 billion dollars, that is, more than seven thousand crore rupees. Till 2015, there were hardly nine or ten unicorns in the country. According to a report, India made a rapid stride as in 10 months of 2021, India created a unicorn every 10 days and has added about 40 unicorns in the last 50 weeks. Today there are more than 75 unicorns in India.

60,704

Startup recognized by DPIIT

45%

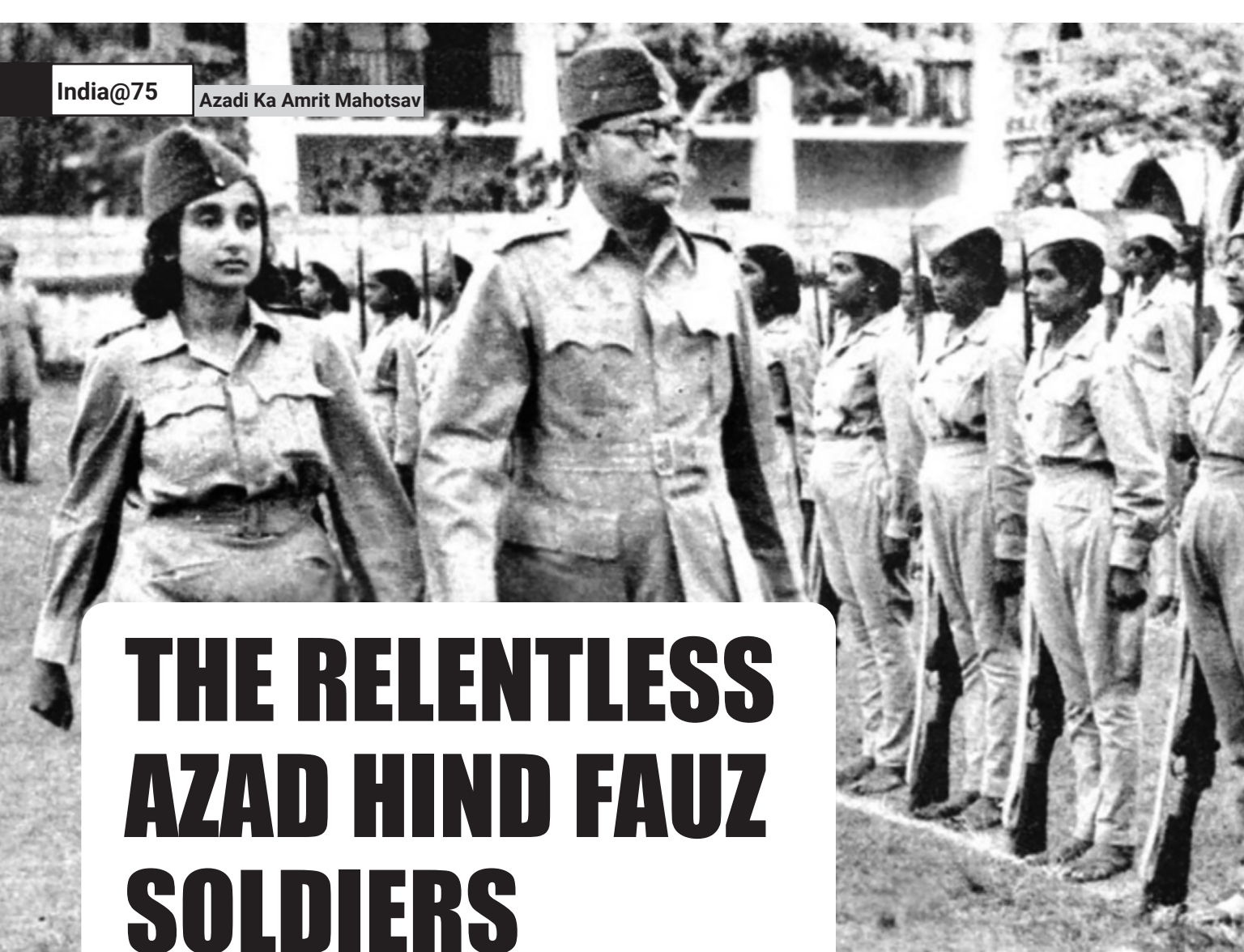
of leadership positions in startups are filled with women professionals

With an average of 11 employees per startup, a total of 48,093 startups have created 5,49,842 jobs in the country. Around 1.7 lakh jobs have been created by recognized startups in the period 2020-2021.

starting business ventures owing to favorable business conditions, instead of an emphasis on finding jobs.

In the regular jobs, definitely, there is more security and guaranteed salary without much hassle. But today when someone makes up his mind to start a business then he is encouraged by others close to him. This scenario has changed due to the Startup India initiative. In common parlance, startup means starting a new company. Today's startups are mostly venturing into new products or services. Mostly the young entrepreneurs are starting such companies on their own or in collaboration with two-three people. According to the Department of Industrial Policy

and Promotion (DIPP), a Central Government Department, "Startup is a company which is registered in India within 5 years and its turnover does not exceed Rs 25 crore in a financial year. Additionally, it is expected that these companies may be working in the field of innovation, development, commercialization of the new product, technology-based service, or intellectual property. The government gives incentives and proper platforms to companies including financial assistance under Startup India. The prospective entrepreneurs may register, share their business ideas or get their queries solved on the www.startupindia.gov site. The cutting-edge business ideas are duly acknowledged and promoted. ■



THE RELENTLESS AZAD HIND FAUZ SOLDIERS

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's slogan- "Give me blood, and I shall give you freedom!" had filled the hearts of every Indian with new vigor and zeal to fight for independence. Bose was one of the leading figures of the Indian freedom struggle under whose stewardship Azad Hind Fauz challenged the mighty British empire. Netaji had also formed the Azad Hind government. Considering its historical significance Prime Minister Narendra Modi had hoisted the tricolor at the Red Fort in 2018 to mark its 75th anniversary. On 23 January 2021, on the occasion of the 125th birth anniversary of Netaji, the Government of India launched year-long celebrations to commemorate it. Also, it was decided to celebrate Parakram Diwas on 23 January, his birth anniversary.

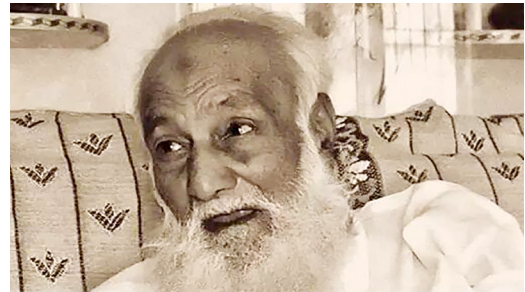
Born on 23 January 1897 in Cuttack, Odisha, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was an astute leader who not only envisioned freeing India from the British but wanted to lay a strong foundation for the nation's progress and make it AatmaNirbhar. He considered poverty, illiteracy, disease, lack of scientific sightedness as the biggest impediment. This is the reason that his Azad Hind government sought to revamp every sector. From its own bank, currency to the radio station, the Azad Hind Government's presence in every field was spectacular. He was a towering personality who united the country by breaking the walls of caste, creed, color, language, and region. His thinking of national unity can be gauged from this incident- the three military officers of the Indian National Army Col. Gubaraksh Singh Dhillon, General Shahnawaz Khan, and Colonel Prem Kumar Sehgal were court-martialed. Akali Dal



proposed to fight the case of Colonel Dhillon while Muslim League, came forward to help General Shahnawaz Khan with the legal case, but these military officers rejected that proposal. And at that time this slogan became very popular- 'the voice came from the Red Fort - Sehgal, Dhillon, Shahnawaz.' The slogan 'Jai Hind' given by Subhash Chandra Bose, whom Gandhiji gave the title of 'Netaji', has become the national slogan today. In this series of Amrit Mahotsav of Azadi, we throw light on the lives of Captain Abbas Ali, Ras Behari Bose, Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon, and Col Nizamuddin, who were close associates of Subhas Chandra Bose, and soldiers of Azad Hind Fauj. They not only fought against the British imperialism but on the Netaji call also sacrificed everything for the Maa Bharati.

Captain Abbas Ali **BRAVEHEART WHO SHOOK THE** **FOUNDATION OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE**

BORN: 3 JANUARY 1920, DEATH: 11 OCTOBER 2014



Captain Abbas Ali was born on 3 January 1920 in a Muslim-Rajput family in Khurja, Bulandshahr district of Uttar Pradesh. He belonged to a family of freedom fighters and his grandfather Rustam Ali Khan was hanged after the first freedom struggle in 1857 in Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh. Abbas Ali was just 11 years old when the British hanged Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh on 23 March 1931. Despite this, he continued to participate in the protests and joined the Naujawan Bharat Sabha, which was founded by Bhagat Singh and his associates. Later, while studying at Aligarh Muslim University, he became a member of the All India Student Federation and in 1939 he joined the British Indian Army with the intention of revolt. Captain Abbas Ali was a commissioned officer in the British Army and in 1940 he was sent to the South-East Asia front to fight Japan. However, when Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose led the armed revolution from Singapore in 1944, Captain Abbas Ali left the job of the British Army and joined the Azad Hind Fauj. Later he fought with the British army in Arakan, the present-day province of Rakhine in Myanmar, but when the Japanese surrendered to the Allied forces, more than 60 thousand soldiers of the Azad Hind Fauj were arrested along with Abbas Ali. Subsequently, he was kept at the Multan fort along with three of his companions and was later put on a trial. Abbas Ali was court-martialed and finally sentenced to death in 1946. Even as he was waiting to be martyred for the cause of the motherland the country became independent on 15 August 1947, after which he was released. He became socially active and engaged in building a new nation post-independence.



RASH BEHARI BOSE | BORN: 25 MAY 1886, DEATH: 21 JANUARY 1945

Founder of the Azad Hind Fauz

When Netaji left the country and went to Germany, Rash Behari Bose had made up his mind to hand over the reins of Azad Hind Fauz to him. Consequently, he invited Netaji to visit Tokyo. On his invitation, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose arrived in Tokyo on June 20, 1943. In his tete-a-tete with Subhash Chandra Bose, the Founder of the Azad Hind Fauz Rash Behari Bose vowed to free the country from the British. The two leaders apart from their surname shared many similarities- both were Bengalis and revolutionary figures. Rash Behari Bose handed over the command of the Azad Hind Fauz in Singapore to Netaji on 5 July and designated himself in the role of advisor. Rash Behari Bose was born on May 25, 1886, in Subhalda village of Bardhaman district of Bengal. From his school days, he was attracted to revolutionary activities and at a very young age, he learnt to make crude bombs. Bankim Chandra's novel 'Anand Math' instilled in him the spirit

BOTH WERE BOSE, BENGALIS, REVOLUTIONARY AS WELL AS ADMIRERS OF EACH OTHER.

Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon

**BORN: 25 MAY 1886
DIED: 06 FEB 2006**

The nation rallied behind him in his noble pursuit



One of Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon's father's friends had advised him to join the army owing to his excellence in academics and burly stature. After which he started preparing for it and finally joined the Indian Army in 1933. After being selected and trained in the 14th Punjab Regiment, he went to Malaysia in 1941 to fight in the Second World War, however, the turning point in his life came when the Japanese army took him as a prisoner of war in 1942. During

GURBAKSH SINGH DHILLON WAS AWARDED THE 'PADMA BHUSHAN' FOR SERVICE TO THE NATION.

his stay in jail, he changed his mind and decided to fight for India against the British army. Under this backdrop when he was released from jail, he joined the Azad Hind Fauz led by Subhas Chandra Bose. Dhillon showed exemplary bravery against the British. After the

Subhash Brigade- Led by Colonel Shahnawaz Khan

Gandhi Brigade- Led by Colonel Inayat Kiyani.

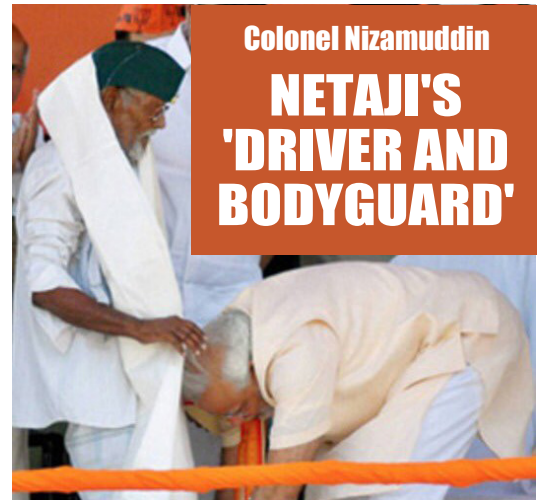
Azad Brigade- Led by Colonel Gulzara Singh.

Nehru Brigade - Led by Lt. Colonel Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon.

Jhansi Ki Rani Regiment - Led by Captain Lakshmi Sehgal. It was a women's brigade.

of revolution and he was also greatly influenced by the nationalist speeches of Swami Vivekananda and Surendranath Banerjee. It is believed that the bomb used by Khudiram Bose and Prafulla Chaki to kill Kingsford, the magistrate of Muzaffarpur was made by Rash Behari Bose. Not only this, but he had also planned to kill the then Viceroy of India Lord Hardinge in 1912 but he failed in this attempt and became active in the Ghadar movement. After being pursued by the British government, he escaped to Japan where he convinced the Japanese government to help India. He had married a native Japanese girl and the Japanese government also honoured Rash Behari Bose with the second-highest award 'Order of the Rising Sun'. His contribution to the cause of the motherland will continue to inspire generations.

surrender of Japan, several soldiers of the Azad Hind Fauj, including Dhillon, were arrested in 1945 and put on a historic trial called the 'Red Fort Trial'. Many eminent lawyers of the country came forward to defend Dhillon's case and vigorously defended him in court. His prosecution by the British became a matter of public angst. Netaji's vision to unite India was becoming a reality as people of every religion and walk of life joined in the campaign to save the soldiers of Azad Hind Fauz. There was popular support in favour of them as people gathered outside Red Fort to protest. The British were forced to release all the soldiers of Azad Hind Fauj including Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon. This trial, which lasted for 57 days from November 5, 1945, to December 31, 1945, was the turning point in the struggle for India's independence. This case proved to strengthen India's unity. In 1998, the Government of India honoured Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon with the 'Padma Bhushan' for his service to the country.



On 9 May 2014 in Varanasi, Narendra Modi, the then Chief Minister of Gujarat, touched the feet of a man on stage. This man was none other than Colonel Nizamuddin who had been a member of the Azad Hind Fauj led by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. It is believed that he used to drive Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's car and was a great shooter along with being proficient in 11 languages. It is said about him that he once shot down a British aircraft on the battlefield. Actually, his first meeting with

COLONEL NIZAMUDDIN FIRST MET NETAJI IN SINGAPORE WHEN RECRUITMENT OF AZAD HIND FAUJ WAS GOING ON THERE

Netaji was in Singapore while recruitment of Azad Hind Fauj was going on there. Born in Dhakwa village of Azamgarh district of Uttar Pradesh, Colonel Nizamuddin was given the title of Colonel by Subhash Chandra Bose. His strong bonding with Netaji is understood by the fact that in the year 2015, Rajyashree Chaudhary, the grand-niece of Subhas Chandra Bose, went to Azamgarh to meet Nizamuddin. It is believed that Nizamuddin was a paratrooper in the British Army but left the army with his Madrasi and Kashmiri comrades to join Subhash Chandra Bose. Colonel Nizamuddin often used to recall about the incident in which he saved Subhash Chandra Bose's life despite being hit with three bullets in his back which was taken out by Dr. Laxmi Sehgal. Nizamuddin died at Mubarakpur in Azamgarh in February 2017. Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed grief over his death and recalled his meeting with him. The Prime Minister had said that we will always remember his patriotism, ideals, and indomitable courage which gave strength to our freedom movement. ■

INDIAN BRAVEHEART WHOM EVEN ENEMY USED TO SALUTE

Field Marshal is the highest rank of the Indian Army. But in the history of independent India, only two persons from the army have successfully occupied this highest military ranking. One is General Sam Manekshaw and the other General Kodandera Madappa Cariappa. Interestingly, January 15 is celebrated as the 'Army Day' as on this day Cariappa took over as the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Army in 1949.



Born: 28 January 1899, Death: 15 May 1993

Indian army is one of the most disciplined and fearless armies in the world. This distinction has been possible because of the untiring efforts of the army Generals who assumed office from time to time. Among these Generals, the name of General KM Cariappa features very high who is even remembered today for his patriotism and gumption. After getting a permanent commission in 1922, he served at the rank of second lieutenant to subsequently emerge as the field marshal, a 5-star rank honor. Born on 28 January 1899 at a place called Shanivarsanthi in Coorg, Karnataka, Field Marshal Cariappa joined British Indian Army at the age of just 20. His father was a revenue officer in Kodandera Madikeri. There are several anecdotes associated with him that throw light on his towering personality.

APPOINTMENT AS THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF

In 1946, Baldev Singh, who was the Defense Minister in the Interim Government, had offered to make Nathu Singh, who was serving in the rank of Brigadier as India's first Commander-in-Chief. But Nathu Singh declined the offer as he believed that Cariappa's claim to the post was stronger due to his seniority. After Nathu Singh, Rajendra Singhji was also offered this post, but he also did not accept that post in honor of Cariappa. Then on December 4, 1948, Cariappa was made the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

PLAYED A CRUCIAL ROLE IN MAKING LEH A PART OF INDIA

In November 1947, Cariappa was posted at Ranchi as the head of the Eastern Command of the Army. But within two months, as the situation in Kashmir worsened, he was made GOC-in-Chief of Delhi and East Punjab in place of Lieutenant General Dudley Russell. Under his stewardship, the Indian Army first captured Nowshera and

Jhangar and then pushed back the attackers from Zojila, Dras, and Kargil.

PAKISTAN HANDED OVER HIS SON WITH FULL RESPECT

This incident is from the 1965 Indo-Pak war. After retiring General Cariappa was living at his home in Merkara, Karnataka. During this time his son, Nanda Cariappa was a flight lieutenant in the Indian Air Force. On the last day of the war, Flight Lieutenant Nanda Cariappa was leading a mission to bomb Pakistani targets. His plane was destroyed during the ground attack and Cariappa was taken prisoner by Pakistan. Pakistan President Ayub Khan had served in the army under General Cariappa. Upon learning of Nanda's identity, Radio Pakistan announced that Flight Lieutenant Nanda Cariappa was in their custody and was safe. Ayub Khan, through the Pakistani High Commissioner to India, offered to General Cariappa that his son could be released if he so desired. Cariappa politely refused and said that Nandu is the son of the country. He should be treated the same way as other prisoners of war are being treated. If you want to release him, then release all the prisoners of war.

EVEN ENEMIES RESPECTED CARIAPPA

After the end of the Indo-Pak war, Cariappa went to the border area to boost the morale of the Indian soldiers. During this time, he crossed the border and entered 'No Man's Land'. Nandu Cariappa writes in his father's biography, 'On seeing him, the Pakistani commander ordered him to stop there, otherwise he would be shot. Someone shouted from the Indian border that this is General Cariappa. On hearing his name, the Pakistani soldiers lowered their weapons. Pakistani officer came and saluted General Cariappa. He retired from the army in 1953. After his retirement from the army, he worked as High Commissioner in Australia and New Zealand till 1956. ■



PMO India @PMOIndia

युवा नए भारत का कर्णधार भी है, विस्तार भी है।

युवा नए भारत का नियन्ता भी है, नेतृत्वकर्ता भी है।

हमारे आज के युवाओं के पास प्राचीनता की विरासत भी है, आधुनिकता का बोध भी है।

और इसलिए, जिधर युवा चलेगा उधर भारत चलेगा।

और जिधर भारत चलेगा उधर ही अब दुनिया चलने वाली है: PM



Rajnath Singh @rajnathsingh · 5d

The infra projects inaugurated today will bolster security, ensure socio-economic development of far-flung areas & contribute in developing a New India.

The BRO is now ready to set up 'BRO Cafes' at 75 places in border areas, as part of #AzadiKaAmritMahotsav celebrations.



Amit Shah @AmitShah ·

एक किसान हितैषी सरकार केसी होती है ये देश ने पिछले 7 साल से किसानों को आत्मनिर्भर बनाने हेतु निरंतर अहर्निश प्रयास कर रही मोदी सरकार के रूप में देखा है।

#PMKisan योजना ने खेती के सबसे महत्वपूर्ण समय पर किसानों को आर्थिक संबल देकर उन्हें कर्ममुक्त रखने का बहुत बड़ा काम किया है।



Nitin Gadkari @nitin_gadkari

उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य में कानपुर-लखनऊ एक्सप्रेस-वे (NE-6) के लखनऊ रिंग रोड पर शहीद पथ के निकट से NH-27 (स्पर सहित) खंड के 6 लेन के निर्माण को ₹1935.64 करोड़ बजट परियोजना के साथ स्वीकृत किया गया है।

#PragatiKaHighway #GatiShakti
@myogiadityanath @rajnathsingh
@kpmmaurya1 @BJP4UP



Dharmendra Pradhan @dp...

#NEP2020 के अंतर्गत खेलों को अन्य विषयों के समानांतर ही महत्व दिया गया है।

उत्तर प्रदेश में तेजी से बढ़ते विश्वविद्यालयों का जाल, प्रदेश के युवाओं को बेहतर सुविधा, प्रशिक्षण व मार्गदर्शन देगे और उन्हें #AatmanirbharBharat निर्माण का अहम स्तम्भ बनाएंगे।

#खेलोगा_यूपी_बढ़ेगा_यूपी



G Kishan Reddy @kishanre... · 3d

Providing enhanced connectivity & giving impetus to religious tourism @RailMinIndia is fast-tracking the Char Dham Railway project between Rishikesh-Karnaprayag.

It is the longest bridge (489mts) of the project and shall connect Srinagar town to proposed Railway station.

{ MANN KI BAAT }

Awareness key in fight against Omicron: PM

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Awareness and discipline have to be the strength of Indians in the fight against the Omicron variant of coronavirus, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in his monthly radio broadcast on the nation.

Although scientists are constantly studying the new variant and the government is working on their suggestions, it is the effort of citizens that is crucial to defeat the pandemic, Modi said in this year's last Mann Ki Baat episode on Sunday.

"We have to remember that a new variant of Corona has already knocked on our doors," he said. "In such a situation, self-awareness and self-discipline are our strength in the fight against this variant of Corona. Only our collective strength will defeat corona, and it is with this very sense of responsibility we have to enter into 2022."

India will start vaccinating children aged 15 and above from 3 January, and there will be an additional job for fully inoculated health and frontline workers, and senior citizens from 10 January, the PM had announced on a TV address on Saturday.

The government's efforts to inoculate the country's population is praiseworthy, he said. "Crossing the 140 million vaccine dose mark is an achievement of every Indian," Modi said in the 84th edition of the radio programme. "This shows that every Indian has trust in the system and trust in science and in scientists. It is also a testament to the willpower of the people who are fulfilling their responsibilities towards society."

The Prime Minister also spoke about the tragic helicopter crash in which chief of defence staff General Bipin Rawat, his wife and 12 defence personnel lost



PM Narendra Modi

their lives. He paid tribute to Shaurya Chakra awardee Group Captain Varun Singh, the lone survivor who succumbed to his injuries a week after the crash, for his humility and effort to inspire students.

Referring to Singh's letter to his school principal after receiving the military decoration for valour, Modi said, "After reading this letter, the first thought that came to my mind was that even after reaching the pinnacle of success, he did not forget to nurture his roots. When he had time to celebrate, he showed concern for the generations to come... he did not boast of his valour, instead he referred to his failures, but talked about how he converted his shortcomings into his strength."

PM said, "I would like to say he (Varun Singh) has inspired the whole country. Even though his letter talks only to the students, he has given a message to our entire society."

In the letter, which went viral on social media after Singh's death, he wrote that "It is okay to be mediocre" and performance in school was by no means the measure of things to come in life. Modi noted that the Swachh Bharat campaign for cleanliness and hygiene was a common theme in all the suggestions and messages he received from people for the new year. He spoke about the individual initiatives of people to contribute to the Swachh Bharat initiative.

PM-KISAN SCHEME

On New Year's Day, ₹20,000 crore will be credited to 10 crore farmers

Over 350 FPOs will get ₹14 cr as part of government equity

PRABHU DATTA MISHRA

New Delhi, December 29

The government is scheduled to transfer over ₹20,000 crore to bank accounts of more than 10 crore farmers under the flagship Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) scheme on January 1. Besides the transfer to bank accounts, the government will also transfer ₹14 crore to over 350 farmer producers' organisations (FPOs) as part of government equity.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi will transfer the benefits at a virtual event as a new year gift to farmers, sources said. Agriculture minister Naren-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi

dra Singh Tomar has already informed farmers through SMS about the event when this transfer to bank accounts will take place," the government said in a statement.

The Centre has so far released over ₹1.61-lakh crore to farmers under the PM-Kisan scheme since it was launched in February 2019. An estimated 14 crore farmers are entitled to receive ₹6,000 each, every

Over ₹1.61-lakh crore has been disbursed to farmers under the PM-Kisan scheme since it was launched in February 2019

year in three equal installments under the scheme.

Land records

On August 9 about ₹19,500 crore was transferred to over 9.75 crore beneficiaries for the August-November cycle. While the estimate of farmers' number was based on the agr census of 2015-16, the Centre is working on a project to identify the exact number by linking the digitised land

records with PM-Kisan data. While 12.6 crore farmers' data have been received under PM-Kisan, over 1 crore are pending correction/validation, sources said. The government has allocated ₹65,000 crore to the PM-Kisan scheme for FY22 and farmers have received ₹44,212 crore, so far in the current fiscal.

The Centre in February 2020 had announced the ₹6,865-crore FPO scheme to be spent for setting up of 10,000 new FPOs and ensuring their growth by FY28. Budget allocation for FY22 has been raised 40 per cent to ₹700 crore. New FPOs are entitled to receive direct financial assistance up to ₹18 lakh each over three years under the scheme.

Govt directs ICAR to include natural farming in UG/PG courses; KVVs to set up demo plots

43.38 lakh farmers

have been enrolled in natural farming in 2020

Ministry of Agriculture

has directed ICAR to include natural farming in UG/PG courses

and KVVs to set up demo plots

to promote natural farming

across the country

to promote natural farming

across the country

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15+ can register for vaccines from Jan, set to get Covaxin

Elderly with specified co-morbidities, and health and frontline workers can apply for the jobs from Jan 10

By Anshu Kishan

New Delhi, December 29

The government has announced that 15+ age group of people with specified co-morbidities, and health and frontline workers can apply for the jobs from Jan 10

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Next phase of immunisation drive

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? 15+ age group of people with specified co-morbidities, and health and frontline workers can apply for the jobs from Jan 10

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Govt working to grant equal rights to daughters: PM

SUKHBIH SIWAICH
Mandi, December 27

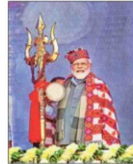
BATTING FOR raising the minimum age of marriage for women to 21 years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Monday said that it will give them sufficient time to complete their studies and plan their careers.

"We have decided that the age of marriage of daughters should also be the same as the age at which sons are allowed to marry. The marriage age being raised to 21 years for daughters will give them full time to study and they will also be able to make their careers," said Modi.

Addressing a public meeting at Himachal Pradesh's Mandi town, the Prime Minister said the government was working on granting rights to daughters that are equal to those for sons. "Beta-beti ki samman (sons and daughters are equal)," said Modi.

The Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill 2021, which was introduced by the government in the Lok Sabha and seeks to raise the legal age of marriage for women from 18 to 21 years, has been sent to a Parliamentary Standing Committee for scrutiny following objections of the Opposition.

During his visit, Modi laid the foundation of the Shri Renkaji Dam. The project, worth Rs 6,700 crore, on the Gori river in Sirmour district, will generate 200 million units of energy in a surface power house with 40



Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, on Monday. Express

MW installed capacity. The live storage of the dam will be 498 million (49.8 crore) cubic metres, which will fulfil about 40 per cent of the drinking water requirement of Delhi. A large area will benefit from the project. A large portion of the income generated from this project will be spent on development here," the Prime Minister said.

In an indirect reference to his political opponents, Modi blamed them for a three-decade long delay in the Renkaji Dam project, which has now taken shape following cooperation by six states - Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Delhi. The Centre claims it brought together these states to make the project possible.

PM launches ₹17.5K-cr projects in U'khand

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday announced successive Congress governments at the Centre and in Uttarakhand of dragging their feet for decades over development projects, forcing people to migrate from their villages in the state.

Addressing a rally in Haldwani, Modi accused the previous Uttarakhand governments of "foot-dragging" the state and doing nothing for its development.

He said this inaugurating and laying foundation ceremony of projects worth over ₹12,000 crore, including the ₹5,747 crore Lakshmi hydropower project.

Modi said the Lakshmi project was thought of in 1974 and took nearly 46 years to see the light of day. "Generations of people in Uttarakhand villages were forced to leave their homes in the absence of roads and other facilities and migrate somewhere else," he said.

Modi also announced that he is bringing infrastructure projects worth ₹2,000 crore to Haldwani as a New Year gift.

He accused the previous regime in Uttarakhand of being interested only in "foot-dragging" the state and said it did nothing for its development.

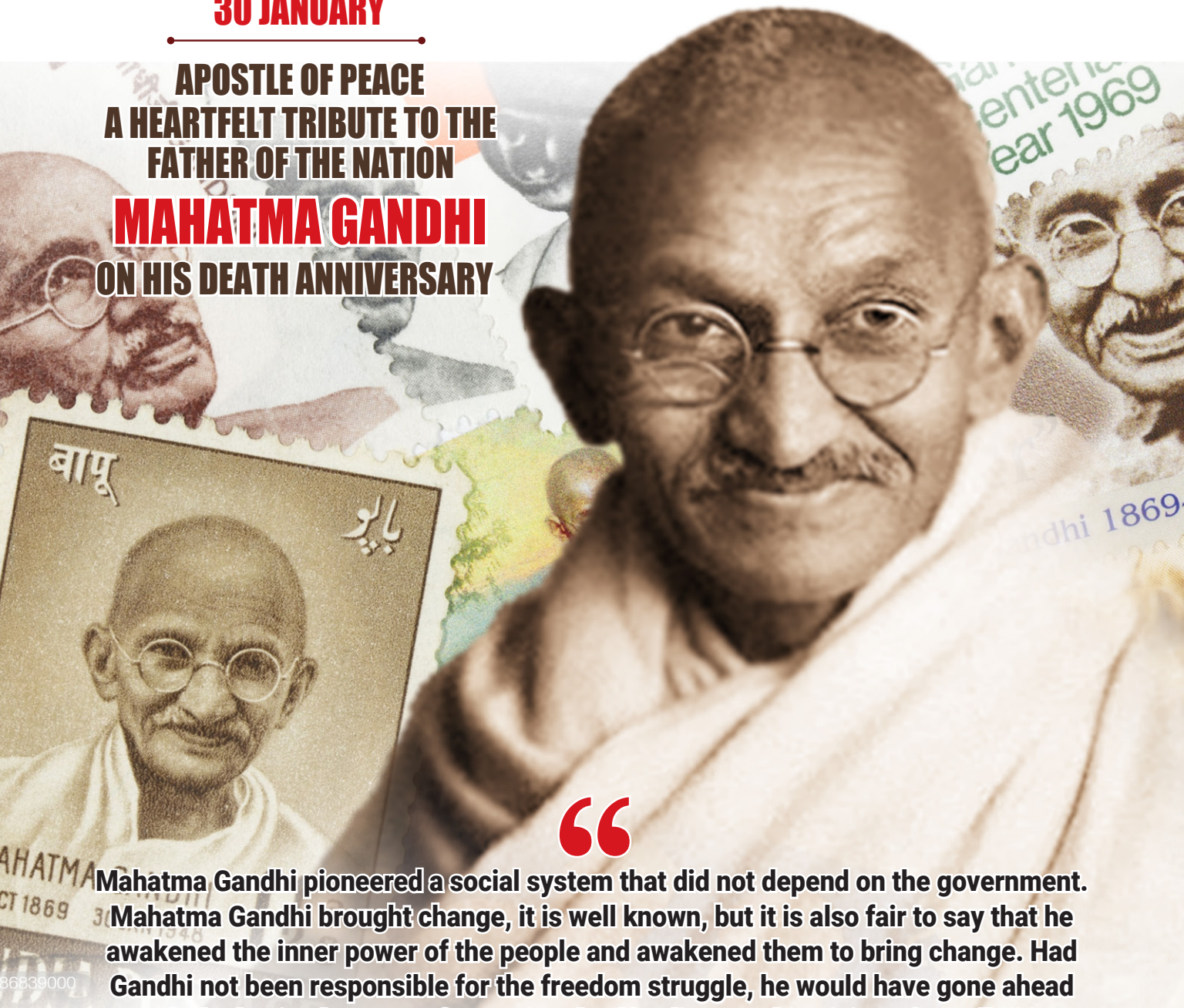


Crowds at the PM's programme to inaugurate projects in Haldwani on Thursday. PHOTO: PTI

MARTYRS' DAY
30 JANUARY

APOSTLE OF PEACE
A HEARTFELT TRIBUTE TO THE
FATHER OF THE NATION

MAHATMA GANDHI
ON HIS DEATH ANNIVERSARY



“

Mahatma Gandhi pioneered a social system that did not depend on the government. Mahatma Gandhi brought change, it is well known, but it is also fair to say that he awakened the inner power of the people and awakened them to bring change. Had Gandhi not been responsible for the freedom struggle, he would have gone ahead with the basic elements of Swaraj and self-reliance. This vision of Gandhiji is becoming a great medium to solve big challenges facing India today. In the last few years, we have prioritized public participation. Be it Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Digital India, people are now leading these campaigns themselves

”

-Narendra Modi, Prime Minister