

NEW INDIA

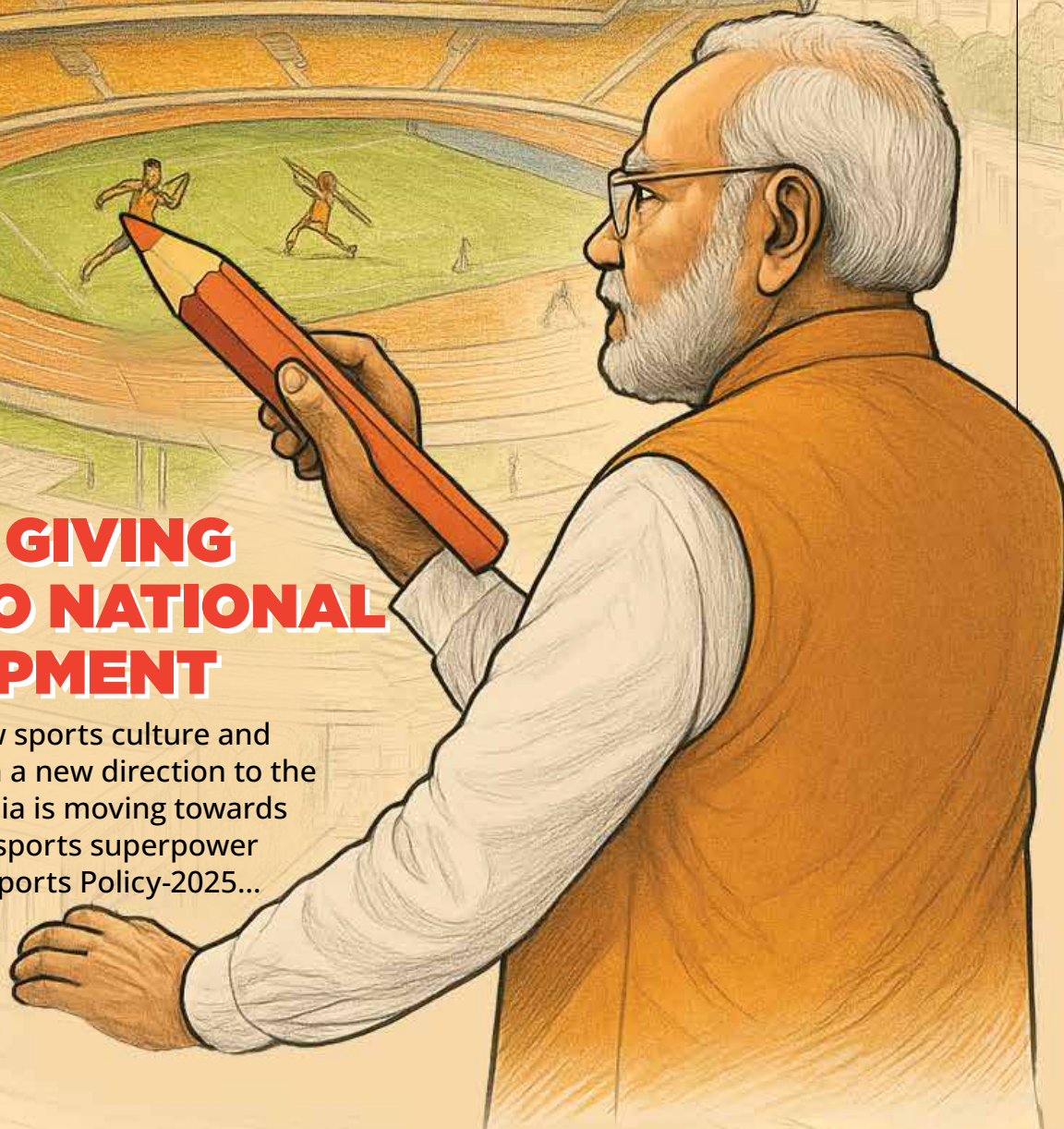
SAMACHAR

SPORTS GIVING FILLIP TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Efforts to build new sports culture and facilities have given a new direction to the youth, and now India is moving towards becoming a global sports superpower with the National Sports Policy-2025...



For e-copy





Self-reliance is the Path to Viksit Bharat

The Mann Ki Baat program, broadcast on the last Sunday of every month, serves as a direct medium of communication between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the citizens. It covers issues such as innovation, nation-building, and society. On July 27, in the 124th episode, Prime Minister Modi talked about the successes of the country and achievements of the countrymen in the Mann Ki Baat program. PM Modi addressed several historical, cultural, and environmental issues while also conveying messages of science, heritage, and diversity. Here is an edited excerpt...

- **Shubhanshu Shukla:** Recently, there was a lot of talk in the country over Shubhanshu Shukla's return from Space. As soon as Shubhanshu landed safely on Earth, people jumped with joy; a wave of happiness rippled through every heart. A new curiosity also arose among children about science, about space.
- **Space start-up:** Space start-ups are flourishing rapidly in the country. Five years ago, there were fewer than 50 start-ups. Today, there are more than 200, just in the Space sector. On the 23rd of August, it is National Space Day.
- **Renewed Energy:** In 21st-century India, science is progressing with a renewed energy. A few days ago, our students won medals in the International Chemistry Olympiad. In the International Mathematical Olympiad held in Australia, our students won 3 gold, 2 silver and 1 bronze medal.
- **Olympiad in Mumbai :** Astronomy and Astrophysics Olympiad is going to be held in Mumbai. Students from more than 60 countries will participate in this. Scientists, too will be there. This will be the biggest Olympiad till date.
- **Khudiram Bose :** Muzaffarpur city of Bihar, the date – the 11th of August 1908... every street, every square, every movement seemed to have come to a halt at that time. At the age of just 18, he showed such courage that shook the whole country. Even the newspapers reported then – “When Khudiram Bose walked towards the gallows, there was a smile on his face”.
- **National Handloom Day :** This year, 7th August marks the completion of 10 years of ‘National Handloom Day’. Just like our Khadi gave new strength to the freedom movement during the freedom struggle, today, when the country is moving towards becoming a Viksit Bharat, the textile sector is turning out to be the strength of the country.
- **Handloom Technology:** The achievement of Naveen Kumar from Nalanda, Bihar, is inspiring. His family has been involved in handloom work for generations. The best thing is that his family has now incorporated modernity in this field. Now his children are studying handloom technology.
- **Gyan Bharatam Mission:** A historic initiative has been announced in this year's budget- ‘Gyan Bharatam Mission’. Under this mission, ancient manuscripts will be digitized. Then a National Digital Repository will be created, where students and researchers from all over the world will be able to connect with India's knowledge tradition.
- **Aatmanirbhar Bharat :** Today, more than 3000 textile start-ups are active in India. The path to a Viksit Bharat in 2047 passes through self-reliance, and the main tenet of ‘Aatmanirbhar Bharat’ is – ‘vocal for local’. Buy and sell only those products that are made in India, in which an Indian has shed sweat. This should be our resolve.
- **Swachh Bharat Mission :** When the country comes together on one thought, even the impossible becomes possible. ‘Swachh Bharat Mission’ is the biggest example of this. Soon this mission will complete 11 years. But, its strength and its need are still the same. In these 11 years, ‘Swachh Bharat Mission’ has become a mass movement.



EDITOR IN CHIEF

DHIRENDRA OJHA

Principal Director General,
Press Information Bureau,
New Delhi

CHIEF CONSULTING EDITOR

SANTOSH KUMAR

CONSULTING EDITOR

VIBHOR SHARMA

SENIOR ASST. CONSULTING EDITOR

PAWAN KUMAR

ASST. CONSULTING EDITORS

AKHILESH KUMAR

CHANDAN KUMAR CHOUDHARY

LANGUAGE EDITORS

SUMIT KUMAR (ENGLISH)

RAJNEESH MISHRA (ENGLISH)

NADEEM AHMED (URDU)

CHIEF DESIGNER

SHYAM TIWARI

SENIOR DESIGNER

PHOOL CHAND TIWARI

DESIGNERS

ABHAY GUPTA

SATYAM SINGH



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On the inside pages...



National Sports Policy 2025

ASPIRATIONS TO BECOME A GLOBAL SPORTS SUPERPOWER

COVER STORY



**Khelta Bharat,
Khilta Bharat**

In the last 11 years, many revolutionary changes have scripted a new saga of transformation in sports. Now, to establish India as a sports superpower at the global stage, the government has approved the National Sports Policy 2025...

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...

Sports has become an integral part of the culture of the nation and society

Greetings!

The players who make the nation proud at the Olympics-Paralympics or any other world-level sporting event toil hard. When their talent, dedication, determination, and the spirit of not giving up are strengthened by the support and encouragement of the family, society, and the nation, then only one can become a champion. Today, we are proudly witnessing a transformation as Indian players are steadfastly making their mark in international competitions.

This is not just about striking medals at global competitions, but a symbol of India's resilience, of our progress from developing nation, to embarking on a journey to become a developed nation. To attain a reputable global stature and respect, apart from being a military power or an economic power, it also has to be a leader in other areas, and sports is one such very important area.

Sports play a big role in building a healthy body and mind, along with promoting an open society with a positive mindset for making a strong, successful nation. Sports creates a sense of team spirit and healthy competition. It promotes discipline and the never-say-die attitude. Sports have great importance in society, from personality and character development to nation-building. Understanding its importance, the Central Government is providing infrastructure facilities, training, scholarships, etc. for the youth through 'Khelo India', so that the players can prove their mettle. These efforts of the government have brought about a transformation in the perceptions of the people, and the culture of mentoring and encouragement has been promoted. The

mantra of Khelo India has today become a part of the culture of the nation and society. Today, a new trend, new enthusiasm, is witnessed among our youth towards sports. Along with this, the belief that the nation will fully support them in achieving their dreams.

Recently, the government has come up with the National Sports Policy 2025. The policy includes talent identification, guidance, infrastructure development, and promotion of competitive leagues and competitions. Its objective is to overhaul the sports landscape of the country and empower citizens through sports.

Under the backdrop of National Sports Day on 29 August, this issue of the magazine highlights the National Sports Policy 2025, the transformation in the sports landscape in the country, and the journey of the last 11 years.

In the personality section, read about BP Mandal, who played a critical role in the backward classes getting their rights. Apart from this, 11 years of Jan Dhan Yojana, unveiling of National Cooperation Policy 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's foreign visit, and his fortnight-long programs are part of it. In addition, Mann Ki Baat on the inside cover, and 12 forts of Maratha military heritage recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site on the back cover are the other highlights.

Keep sending us your suggestions.



(Dhirendra Ojha)



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MAIL BOX



I am eager to read informative articles published in the magazine

I got the opportunity to read about the role of radio in shaping India's information sector in the New India Samachar magazine. It was well thought out and linked to rich history. The information that you gave will stay with me for years to come. I am eager to read the next issue of the magazine. This is an informative magazine that sheds light on the efforts of the government.

sbhatnagar1971@gmail.com

Treasure trove of information about the work of the central government

I got to read the New India Samachar magazine. I liked this magazine very much. It includes welfare programs being implemented by the central government. It is a treasure trove of information about the work being done by the government. The magazine gives detailed information about all the current developments and transformations.

Niranjan Jatoliya
niranjanjatoliya@gmail.com

I get reliable information about current affairs

I am from West Bengal, and I regularly read the New India Samachar magazine. I get this magazine through the post. The magazine issues are excellent. This gives me reliable information about current affairs. I stay abreast of important information from various ministries of the Government of India.

Shantanu Mandal
mondal.santanu97@gmail.com

Detailed information about the activities of the government

I have difficulty in reading due to old age, but I sometimes read the online New India Samachar magazine. It is a great magazine that gives detailed information about the various activities of the government.

Gaurishankar Vaishya Vinamr
gsvaish51@gmail.com

I read the New India Samachar magazine regularly

I read the New India Samachar magazine regularly, which keeps me abreast of all the schemes and development-related activities of the Central Government. The vision of the government led by PM Narendra Modi is to help the people through welfare schemes to fulfill the needs of the public.

logendranranganathan@gmail.com



Piprahwa relics of Lord Buddha returned to India after 127 years



Another feather has been added to the cap in India's endeavour to bring back its cultural heritage from foreign countries. The Piprahwa relics related to Lord Buddha, which were to be auctioned in Hong Kong, have been brought back to India after 127 years. About two and a half thousand years ago, after the Mahaparinirvana of Lord Buddha, a part of his remains was found by the people of Kapilvastu. They were kept safe in a stupa in Piprahwa. According to historians, British engineer William Claxton Peppe retained these relics, excavated in the year 1898, with him under colonial policy. His descendants were to auction them in Hong Kong in May this year, but after the intervention of the Government of India, they were brought back to the country. PM Narendra Modi himself shared this information in a post on X and wrote that it also reflects our commitment towards the preservation and protection of various aspects of our glorious culture. It is worth noting that since 2014, a total of 640 ancient heritages have been brought back to India, whereas before this, between 1947 and 2014, only 13 heritages could be brought back.

Boost To Digital Literacy... More People Trained Than The Target

Whether it is government services or the private sector, digitization has made the lives of common people easier and has also promoted transparency in services. Especially in rural and backward areas, the government is making the lives of the common man easier through digital literacy. In the year 2017, in this direction, the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan was started with the target of making 6 crore people digitally literate in rural areas. Going far beyond its target, 6.39 crore people have been trained so far in this campaign. This includes 1.17 crore people from Scheduled Caste, 56 lakh from Scheduled Tribe and 2.55 crore from OBC. Not only this, out of the 5 lakh Common Service Centers started so far with the aim of providing digital services near home, 2.92 lakh Centers have been opened in SC/ST dominated areas. More than 2.14 lakh Gram Panchayats have also been connected with high-speed broadband under the BharatNet program.

DRDO Test Successful, India Fired Missiles From Drone

India, which is steadfastly moving forward on the path of development of indigenous technology with self-reliance, has achieved another success in its military preparations. The Defence Research and Development Organization



(DRDO) conducted successful flight trials of the Precision Guided Missile-V3 through a drone at the National Open Zone Range in Kurnool, Andhra

Pradesh. The drone from which it was fired was made by Bengaluru-based startup NewSpace Research and Technologies. The missile is available with three types of modular warhead options, including an anti-armour warhead with the capability to destroy modern tanks, a pre-fragmentation warhead, along with an anti-bunker warhead with the special capability to penetrate fortified targets and underground structures.

Bullet train project milestone

First 21 km undersea tunnel section opened



Work on the country's first bullet train is going on at a fast pace. The first section of the 21 km long tunnel of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project has been opened. According to the Railway Ministry, this tunnel connects the Bandra-Kurla Complex to Shilphata in Thane via Ghansoli. Under the bullet train project, the construction of a 310 km long special bridge viaduct, i.e., elevated bridge, has

also been completed recently. The work of laying tracks, overhead electric wires, stations, and bridges is going on at a fast pace. There is a consensus on the project that while E-5 bullet trains are being run on tracks prepared with Shinkansen technology in Japan, the next generation E-10 bullet trains will be run on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad corridor being built with the same technology in India.

India Overtakes China In Smartphone Exports To US



As a result of schemes like Make in India and PLI, India is now moving at a new pace in those industrial sectors in which it was never even considered a key manufacturer before. According to a report by research firm

Canalys, in the second quarter of this calendar year, i.e., April-June, India has also overtaken China in terms of smartphones exported to the US. Now, the share of Made in India smartphones imported to the US has increased to 44 percent, whereas in the second quarter of 2024, it was only 13 percent. At the same time, in comparison, the share of Made in China smartphones in the US market has come down from 61 percent a year ago to 25 percent during this period.



Meri Panchayat App gets Champion Award in Geneva

The “Meri Panchayat” mobile application, developed by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India, has won the Champion Award at the World Summit on the Information Society Awards 2025 in Geneva. This achievement is a global recognition of India's digital and inclusive rural development model. This app, which promotes community engagement, has been honored in Geneva, Switzerland. ‘Meri Panchayat App - M-Governance Platform for India's Panchayats’ empowers more than 25 lakh elected representatives of 2.65 lakh Gram Panchayats of India and about 95 crore rural residents. Available in more than 12 languages, through this app, citizens can get information on Panchayat budget and development plans, information about elected representatives and officials, information about public infrastructure and citizen services in their Panchayat, as well as weather forecast at the Gram Panchayat level on their mobile. ●



Operation Sindoor

Echo Of Army's Valour And Pride Of The Nation

When Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed on Operation Sindoor in the country's largest Panchayat, Parliament, pride in his voice, courage in his words, and the saga of bravery of the Indian soldiers in his eyes were clearly visible. This was not just a speech given by PM Modi in Parliament, but it was also a proclamation of India's military power, strength, strategic proficiency, and human responsibility. That is why he also said, 'I have stood up to present Bharat's position.' There was a special discussion on Operation Sindoor in both houses of Parliament. In his reply in the Lok Sabha, the Prime Minister gave a clear message that Operation Sindoor has become proof of the valour and strength of the Indian armed forces. Also, the country's top leadership has not only made terror and terrorism a global agenda but has also exposed the countries funding it across the world...

With 'Operation Sindoor,' India has given a clear message to the world that it is an advocate of peace and does not want war. But terrorism will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Three strikes on terrorist hideouts in the last 11 years make it clear that India's 1.4 billion citizens stand united to give a befitting reply to terrorism. Operation Sindoor has made Indians proud. The army has displayed valour. The action taken in Pakistan and PoK is also a clear



message to the neighbouring country that India will not tolerate any attack on its citizens or the soul of India.

This is the highlight of the special discussion held in both houses of Parliament on Operation Sindoor. During a special discussion in the Lok Sabha (Parliament) on the success story of Operation Sindoor on July 29, Prime Minister Narendra Modi presented India's vision with firmness and clarity. Reiterating the three clear policies of the new India, he said

that now India will respond to terrorism on its own terms, will not tolerate nuclear blackmail, and will treat its sponsors and conspirators equally. He explained how the coordination of India's Army, Navy and Air Force shook Pakistan to its core. Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave a clear message to Pakistan through the Parliament that Operation Sindoor is continuing, and any reckless step of Pakistan will be met with a firm response.

Even before the monsoon session of Parliament began, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had called it India's Vijayotsav session. Vijayotsav means razing the terrorist headquarters to the ground, fulfilling the oath of Sindoor. This Vijayotsav is the victory saga of the valour and strength of the Indian army; this Vijayotsav is the unity, willpower, and victory of 140 crore people of India. PM Modi expressed gratitude for the unwavering support and blessings of the people of the country during Operation Sindoor and praised their role. The heinous terrorist incident that took place in Pahalgam on 22 April 2025, in which innocent people were brutally shot after asking their religion, PM Modi termed it as the height of cruelty and said that through this, there was a well-planned conspiracy to throw India into the fire of violence and incite communal unrest. But this conspiracy was foiled by the unity and determination of the country.

INDIA'S MISSILES REACHED PLACES PAKISTAN HAD NOT EVEN IMAGINED...

India has fought many wars with Pakistan in the past, but this is the first time that terrorist bases in Pakistan were decisively targeted, including areas that no one had even imagined. PM Modi specifically mentioned Bahawalpur and Muridke and said that these bases were razed to the ground, confirming that India's armed forces have successfully destroyed terrorist bases. Pakistan's air bases suffered a lot of damage, and many of them are still in critical condition. Pakistan's nuclear threats proved hollow, and India showed that nuclear blackmail will no longer be tolerated. Nor will India bow down to it. Now is the era of technology-driven warfare, and Operation Sindoor has proved India's mastery in this field. If India had not prepared for the last 10 years, the

From Pahalgam Attack To **Operation Sindoor...**

On April 22, 2025, a terrorist attack took place in Pahalgam in which 26 people were killed. The dead included 25 Indians and one Nepali citizen.

After the incident, Home Minister Amit Shah reached Srinagar, visited the spot, and a security meeting was held. In this meeting, it was decided that the terrorists involved in the Pahalgam terror attack should not leave the country and flee to Pakistan, and we made strong arrangements for this and did not let them escape the country. Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) meeting was chaired by the PM on 23 and 30 April.

On 23 April, the first decision was taken to suspend the Indus Water Treaty. It was decided to suspend the SAARC visa of Pakistani citizens.

Defence, military, and naval advisors working in the Pakistani High Commission were declared persona non grata. On the night of May 7, the Indian Army demolished 9 of their bases along with neutralising terrorists. More than 125 terrorists were killed under Operation Sindoor.

At 1:22 am on the night of May 7, India's DGMO told Pakistan's

DGMO that India has only attacked the terrorist bases and their headquarters and India has the right to self-defence. On May 8, Pakistan attacked residential areas and military establishments of India. In this attack, a Gurudwara was damaged, a temple was broken, and some civilians were killed. After this, the next day the Indian Air Force gave a befitting reply to Pakistan and damaged its 11 airbases. India targeted only Pakistan's airbases and air defence systems and crippled their ability to attack. The Prime Minister further stated that India's decisive action under Operation Sindoor forced Pakistan to its knees. On 10 May, Pakistan was so overwhelmed by the response that its Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) directly called India, pleading to stop the offensive, admitting they could not endure further assault. At 5 o'clock, India called off the conflict.

Scope of investigation...

During investigation, discussions were held with the families of the deceased; a total of 1,055 people, including tourists, mule owners, pony owners, photographers, and shop workers, were questioned for more than 3,000 hours. The interrogation was also video recorded. Based on the information received from the interrogation, sketches of the terrorists were made, and Bashir and Parvez were identified on 22 June 2025. These two had given shelter to the terrorists the day after the Pahalgam attack. Bashir and Parvez were arrested. During interrogation, it was found that three terrorists had come to them at 8 pm on the night of 21 April 2025, and they had two AK-47s and one M4 carbine rifle. Bashir and Parvez's mother has also identified the three killed terrorists, and this has also been confirmed by FSL. Investigation has revealed that the three terrorists were involved in the Pahalgam attack, and two AK-47s and one M9 carbine recovered from them were used in the terror incident.

country could have suffered heavy losses in this technological age. For the first time, the world saw the power of a self-reliant India during Operation Sindoor.

GLOBAL SUPPORT ON OPERATION SINDOOR...

PM Modi has informed the house about the global support received for India's action during Operation Sindoor. He said that no country in the world objected to India taking necessary action for its national security. Out of the 193 member countries of the United Nations, only three countries issued statements in support of Pakistan during Operation Sindoor. India received widespread support from countries around the world, including strategic groups like Quad and BRICS, as well as countries like France, Russia, and Germany. The international community stands firmly with India. On 10 May 2025, India announced the closure of its action under Operation Sindoor. PM Modi said that



**I want to repeat in the temple of democracy—
Operation Sindoor is going on. If Pakistan dares again, it will face a fitting and formidable retaliation.**

**-Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister**

Five big victories of Operation Sindoor

First victory

By conducting an operation on May 7, the Indian Army gave a befitting reply to the terrorist attack of April 22 in just 22 minutes. Destroyed terrorist hideouts and their headquarters.

Second victory

India went beyond the borders and attacked those areas of Pakistan that had never been attacked before. By attacking Bahawalpur and Muridke, many terrorist launchpads were destroyed.

Third victory

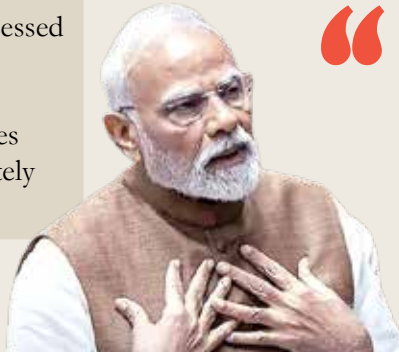
Pakistan's nuclear threats remained ineffective in front of India's resolve. India exposed the hollow nuclear threats of Pakistan.

Fourth victory

India's technology became Brahmastra against terror! India's attacks precisely targeted Pakistan's fighter jets, airbases, and other targets. This mission demonstrated India's cutting-edge technological capability.

Fifth victory

For the first time, the world has witnessed the strength of an Aatmanirbhar Bharat. 'Made-in-India' drones and missiles, which exposed vulnerabilities in Pakistan's weapon system completely failed Pakistan's false defence story.



“ India is the land of Buddha, not Yuddha. We strive for prosperity and harmony, knowing that lasting peace comes through strength

-Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

this announcement led to various speculations, which he described as propaganda being spread from across the border.

NOW, AFTER THE ATTACK, THE CONSPIRATORS LOSE THEIR SLEEP...

There were terrorist incidents in India earlier too, but their conspirators were fearless. They used to get busy planning future attacks. Now the situation has changed. Today, after every attack, the conspirators lose their sleep because they know that India will now retaliate and eliminate the threats with precision. PM Modi said that India has established a 'new normal'. The global community has now seen the huge scale and reach of India's strategic operations. PM Modi said that attacks were carried out all over

Pakistan. Operation Sindoor has established a new principle. After any terrorist attack on India, its conspirators and Pakistan will have to pay a heavy price.

INDIAN ARMY ACHIEVED 100 PERCENT OF THE TARGET...

PM Modi said that the Indian Army once again achieved its targets 100 percent and demonstrated the strength of the country. PM Modi reiterated that India's objectives were clear from day one. India's goal was to dismantle terrorist networks, their masterminds, and their military bases, and this mission was completed as planned. India's goal is to eliminate terrorism, not conflict with any country. However, when Pakistan decided to enter the battlefield in support of terrorists, India re-



The aim of the operation was not to cross the border or occupy enemy territory, but to destroy the terror infrastructure nurtured by Pakistan. And to provide justice to the victim families after 26 innocent people were killed in terror attacks based on religion. Pakistan is a training ground for global terrorism and has made it the basis of its state policy. India and Pakistan got independence at the same time, but today India is internationally considered the 'mother of democracy' and Pakistan the 'father of global terrorism'.

Rajnath Singh,
Defence Minister

Operation Mahadev

The terrorists involved in the Pahalgam terror attack were wiped out. The Army, CRPF, and Jammu and Kashmir Police killed terrorists Suleman, alias Faizal Jat; Hamza Afghani; and Jibran in a joint operation. Operation Mahadev was launched on May 22, 2025. Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that killing these terrorists was not so easy. For 22 days, CRPF, Army, and Jammu and Kashmir Police personnel chased and killed these terrorists in extremely difficult conditions, living on food sent by drones.



India attacked terrorist camps in Pakistan, which Pakistan considered an attack on itself, and started telling the world that it has nothing to do with terrorism. But when Pakistan Army officers attended the funeral of the terrorists, Pakistan was exposed in front of the whole world that Pakistan is a state sponsor of terrorism.

-Amit Shah, Union Home Minister

We have to live for India

PM Narendra Modi, While expressing his feelings, recited these lines:

करो चर्चा और इतनी करो,
की दुश्मन दहशत से दहल उठे,
रहे ध्यान बस इतना ही, मान सिंदूर
और सेना का प्रश्नों में भी अटल रहे।

हमला मां भारती पर हुआ अगर,
तो प्रचंड प्रहार करना होगा,
दुश्मन जहां भी बैठा हो,
हमें भारत के लिए ही जीना होगा।



Understand The Story Of The Change In The Situation Of Kashmir From These Figures...

- 7,217 terrorist incidents between 2004 and 2014 and 2,150 incidents between 2015 and 2025.
- 1,770 civilians died between 2004 and 2014 and 357 between 2015 and 2025, a reduction of 80%.
- 1,060 security personnel died between 2004 and 2014 and 542 between 2015 and 2025.
- In the previous government, the valley used to remain closed for 132 days in a year due to Pakistan-sponsored strikes.
- In the last three years, there has not been a single strike in the valley. Similarly, stone-pelting incidents have also become zero.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar told the Parliament that there was not a single phone call between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump from April 22 to June 16.

sponded with a powerful counter attack. Praising India's defence system, PM Modi said that on May 9, Pakistan launched about a thousand missiles and drone attacks targeting India, but India's air defence system destroyed Pakistan's drones and missiles like straws. In retaliation, the Indian Army attacked Pakistan so fiercely on the midnight of May 9 and the morning of May 10 that they could not even imagine. India's decisive action under Operation Sindoor forced Pakistan to kneel. After this, Pakistan's DGMO called India directly and requested to stop the attack, admitting that they could not afford any more attacks. After that, it was decided to stop Operation Sindoor immediately.

PAKISTAN WILL HAVE TO PAY A HEAVY PRICE...

PM Modi revealed that on the night of May 9, the

Vice President of the United States attempted to reach him multiple times while he was in a high-level meeting with Indian defence officials. After returning the call, the Prime Minister was informed that Pakistan might launch a major offensive. He responded unequivocally: "If that is Pakistan's intent, it will cost them dearly." He added firmly that India would retaliate with greater force, stating, "We will respond to bullets with shells." The Prime Minister confirmed that India struck back powerfully on the night of May 9 and morning of May 10, dismantling Pakistan's military infrastructure with overwhelming force. He noted that Pakistan now fully understands—every Indian response will be stronger than the last. "Should Pakistan dare again, it will face a fitting and formidable retaliation. Operation Sindoor remains active and resolute". ●



Brought Justice to Backward Classes

Birth: 25 August 1918, Death: 13 April 1982

August 7, 1990 – a day that began like any other. But that evening, during a routine Cabinet meeting at Prime Minister VP Singh's residence, a historic and unforeseen decision was made. The Mandal Commission report had been in abeyance for nearly a decade. The Commission, headed by Bindeshwari Prasad Mandal had proposed that 27% of government jobs be reserved for other Backward Classes (OBCs). The approval of this report marked a turning point. It not only reshaped the social and political landscape of India, but also granted the underprivileged the opportunity to join the mainstream.

BP Mandal, who belonged to a landlord family in Murho village, about 15 km from Madhepura district of Bihar, was born on 25 August 1918 in Banaras. He faced difficulties right from his birth. His father died the very next day. After his initial education amid hardships, he was sent to a hostel in Darbhanga. But his difficulties did not end here as well. In the hostel, food was given first to the children of upper castes. His turn came after them. The front benches in the class were reserved for them. But BP had now made up his mind to face it instead of tolerating it. He gathered the boys of his group in the hostel and clashed with the man-



After three decades of unfulfilled demands, the OBC Commission was granted constitutional status

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also mentioned keeping the recommendations of the Mandal Commission, along with the Kaka Kalelkar Commission, suppressed for a long time. During a special discussion on 14 December 2024 on the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution, he said that if the Mandal Commission report had not been kept pending for such a long time, then today, people of backward classes would have been serving in many posts in the country. Taking forward the vision of BP Mandal, the central government has taken many steps in the interest of the backward classes....

- By fulfilling the demand pending for nearly three decades to give constitutional status to the OBC Commission, Prime Minister Modi gave the backward society their rights.
- For the first time, a 27 percent reservation was given in Kendriya Vidyalaya, Navodaya Vidyalaya, Sainik School, and NEET examinations.
- Under the Shreyas scheme for OBC and EBC, Rs 585.02 crore was spent for 38,011 beneficiaries from 2014-15 to 2023-24.
- Scholarships given to the youth of the OBC society were increased. The central government implemented a 27 percent reservation for OBCs in the All India quota in medical seats.



agement. Finally, the hostel management had to give in to his demands.

After completing his studies, he was posted as a magistrate, but destiny had other plans for him. In 1952, the nation was on the verge of holding its first elections. Leaving his job, BP jumped into the election fray from Madhepura assembly seat. He became an MLA in his very first attempt. BP's father Ras Bihari Lal Mandal had also started a campaign for wearing the sacred thread by backward castes in Bihar with the aim of eliminating stereotypes and discrimination. Following in his footsteps, BP emerged as the messiah of the backward classes and as a visionary of social justice in Bihar. Amidst political upheavals, he became the state's seventh Chief Minister on 1 February 1968. However, his government lasted only about 50 days. During 1970s, there was a lot of anger against social discrimination in the country. After the Emergency, Morarji Desai took over as the Prime Minister in 1977. After this, the second Backward Classes Commission was formed. It was decided that the

chairman of the Commission should have a high credibility. In such a situation, BP Mandal was made the chairman of the Commission because he was a strong voice for interests of backward classes and strong advocate of providing them reservations. In 1953, Kalekar Commission was formed for protecting rights of backward classes, but its recommendations were never implemented.

In December 1980, the Commission headed by Mandal submitted its report to the then Home Minister Giani Zail Singh. In the report, more than 3,500 castes of backward classes of all religions were identified, and it was recommended to give them 27 per cent reservation in government jobs and educational institutions. Sixteen months after submission of the report, he died in Patna on 13 April 1982. After remaining suppressed for about a decade, the Mandal Commission report was accepted in 1990. BP Mandal is no more, but his recommendations made him the hero of the silent revolution of the backward classes against social discrimination. ●



National Sports Policy 2025

ASPIRATIONS TO BECOME A GLOBAL SPORTS SUPERPOWER

Sports is playing a dominant role in the all-round development of India. The progress of sports is directly linked to a nation's growing credibility. Today, sports is an important part of India's development journey. Over the last 11 years, the central government has overhauled the field of sports through transformative initiatives and policies, raising the confidence of the youth as an invaluable asset for them. Who can stop India from becoming a global superpower when youth in India's demography account for 65 percent of its population below the age of 35? With this view recently unveiled National Sports Policy- 2025 has become not just a policy document, but the embodiment of India's ambition...

India aims to become a great sports superpower. Amid this backdrop, the sports policy approved by the Union Cabinet and National Sports Day on 29 August, let us know how "Khelego-Kudoghe Banoge Lajawab" has become the new mantra of the sports talents of the new India...

The ambition of the youth in sports is soaring high, and they are ready to take on tough challenges. Be it the Tokyo or Paris Olympics, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games, or other world-class sports competitions, this statement holds true for the players who bring pride to India. Who would have thought that javelin champion Neeraj Chopra would create history by winning a gold medal in the Olympics.

Neeraj was born on 24 December 1997 in a farmer family to Satish and Saroj Devi of Khandra village in





National Sports Policy 2025

Establishing India as a sports superpower: not just win medals

- The performance of Indian athletes on international sports forums has been a matter of concern for a long time. There was a lack of a strong sports ecosystem, where talents are discovered and honed from the grassroots level itself... and along with this, a strong political will was required so that sports could be prepared as a great career option.
- On the instructions of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a special initiative was taken to improve the performance of Indian players on international forums with the formation of a task force from the year 2016.
- Fit India, the Target Olympic Podium Scheme, and the National Talent Search, excellent sports infrastructure and an ecosystem were created from the ground level itself. The result was also visible in the performance of Indian players.
- Now, taking this vision forward, the National Sports Policy 2025 has been prepared. The new policy will replace the National Sports Policy 2001. The aim is not just to win medals but to establish India as a global sports power by linking sports with education, economy, and gender equality.



Haryana. Neeraj, who was well-built from his early days, was encouraged to join the gym by his father due to his eating habits. The gym nestled in the Sports Stadium in Panipat was the place where Neeraj saw the javelin for the first time, touched it, and threw it, which later on took him to new heights in the field of sports. Neeraj says, "When I saw and threw the javelin for the first time, I decided that I had to take up this sport." His coach, Jitendra Jaglan, also says, "When I saw him throw the javelin, I realized that he has some extraordinary ability." Arjun Award winner Neeraj Chopra, who rose from a small village near Panipat to become famous all over the world, became the Olympic hope of 140 crore Indians. He also created history by winning the gold medal in the Tokyo Olympics.

Not only sons, but when the ambitions of India's daughters are encouraged, they have the courage to make the country proud. Manu Bhaker, a resident of Goriya village in Jhajjar district of Haryana, is an example of this. Manu is among those players who were identified through KIRTI (Khelo India Rising Talent Identification). She came into the limelight by winning the gold medal at the age of 15 in the Khelo India School Games held in Delhi in the year 2018. At the age of 16, Manu became the youngest Indian to win a gold medal in the ISSF World Cup by defeating a two-time winner. Now, 23-year-old Manu Bhaker has become a prominent face among the well-known players of the Indian sports world. Manu has also created history by winning two medals in the recent Paris Olympics.

The journey of athletes who become the pride of the nation at the Olympics is never easy. The support from the nation to harness the talent, dedication, determination, and sportsmanship of these players makes them a champion. The sportsman spirit promotes accepting others with openness in family, social,



and national life. Sports develop the never-say-die attitude. With this thinking of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the sports movement has now started in India, and “Khelego-Kudoge Banoge Lajawab” has become the new mantra of the sports talents of the new India. The last decade has been a golden chapter in Indian sports history, which includes record-breaking achievements and increasing global recognition. From historic Olympic and Paralympic medals to brilliant performances in athletics, badminton, wrestling, and boxing world championships, Indian athletes have consistently achieved unimaginable success. India, full of aspirations, enthusiasm, and capability, has now resolved to become a sports superpower. To further strengthen this resolve, recently on July 1, the Union Cabinet has approved the National Sports Policy, which is a clear call to transform India into a global sports superpower. But this policy has not



The image of any country is not only based on economic and military strength. The soft face of the country also gives it a different identity. Sports is one such soft power that can capture the world’s attention to India.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

A strong step towards the

DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS



The new sports policy includes the vision of India's readiness to associate sports with excellence, as well as India's strong claim in international sports events, including the Olympic Games of the year 2036, and a visionary strategic roadmap. This policy is based on the following five main pillars, which touch every aspect of sports:

1. Excellence on the global stage

- The first goal of this policy is to improve performance and results. For this, sports science, technology, and artificial intelligence are being included in the training system so that it can be made world-class, along with monitoring the performance of athletes.
- Under this, a mechanism will be developed to identify and hone talents and strengthen sports programs from grassroots to high levels.
- Under the policy, priority will be given to infrastructural development of sports in urban and rural areas to enhance the capacity and governance of the National Sports Federations as well as to promote sports.

2. Economic development

- By promoting sports start-ups, professional leagues, and sports tourism, as well as attracting international events to India, this policy connects sports with employment generation and entrepreneurship.
- Under this, the goal is to encourage private sector participation in the field of sports through PPP, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), and innovative financing initiatives.

3. Social development

- This policy emphasises social inclusion. Emphasis has been laid on planning and creating special events and infrastructure to give equal opportunities in mainstream sports to women athletes, economically weaker sections, youth from tribal communities, and Divyangs.
- Under the policy, the goal is to revive indigenous and traditional sports as well as connect the NRIs.

4. Sports as a Mass Movement

- Instead of limiting sports only to the elite class, it will be given the form of a mass movement. Work will be done to make sports participation a part of the culture at every level—school, college, panchayat, and workplace. Along with promoting public participation and fitness culture through nationwide campaigns and community-based programs, a fitness index will be started for schools, colleges, workplaces, etc.

been brought suddenly; there has been a decade of strong planning and effort behind it. This is the reason why today, many people are surprised at how the performance of our athletes has improved so much after 2014.

India gave its best performance ever in the Tokyo and Paris Olympics and Paralympic Games. India also created history in the Asian Games and Asian Para

Games. India also struck a new record of medals in the University Games. This has not happened suddenly. There was no lack of hard work and passion in the country's players even before. But in the last 11 years, they have gained new confidence, and the government has supported them at every step. In the last 11 years, the government brought reforms, the players performed, and the entire ecosystem of



5. Integration of sports with the National Education Policy 2020

- In alignment with the National Education Policy 2020, this policy reduces the gap between education and sports. Sports will be made part of the curriculum. Strong support will be given towards strengthening physical education and dual careers.
- Under the new policy, educators and physical education teachers will also be specially trained to promote sports education and awareness.



The Government's special focus on strategic framework related to sports

- Under the National Sports Policy 2025, attention has been paid to the regulation of the sports ecosystem and related strategic framework in India.
- Under this, a strong regulatory and legal framework for sports administration will be established, and a national monitoring framework will be prepared with defined criteria, key performance indicators (KPIs), and time-bound goals.
- The sports policy will serve as a model for states and union territories, encouraging them to revise or formulate their policies in line with national objectives.

sports got transformed. Today, thousands of athletes in the country are being helped through Khelo India Abhiyan. In 2014, TOPS, i.e., Target Olympic Podium Scheme, was launched. Through this, training of top athletes, along with providing an international platform, and participation in big sports events have been ensured. Now, the central government is eyeing Los Angeles 2028 and future Olympic Games.

For this, every possible help is being extended to the players under TOPS.

INDIA'S SPORTS POLICY: A GLOBAL JOURNEY

When India became independent, the priority was nation-building, in which focus was on issues like poverty, health, education, but sports development never got the same attention. Some sports events



were held in India after that, but the development of sports remained abysmally low. In 1982, for the first time, a policy initiative was taken regarding sports, and the Sports Department was formed. After that, for the first time in 1984, a sports policy was made, the objective of which was to develop infrastructure for sports and promote public participation. But, the pace at which sports should have been promoted could not be given momentum. On the occasion of International Youth Year, 1985, its name was changed to the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports. In 1991, during the period of economic liberalization, the expectations soared that the initiatives for sports in India would gain momentum, but it remained far below expectations. The transformative initiative for sports came when it was established as a separate ministry on 27 May 2000 during the government of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. As a result, India got successes like Karnam Malleswari, Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Abhinav Bindra, Vijender Singh, and Mary Kom raised the pride of the nation in the subsequent Olympics. But, this was very little in terms of a large and capable country like India.

Learning from the experience of the past and embarking on the path of the future, National Sports Policy - 2025 is a landmark initiative aimed at reshaping the country's sports landscape and empowering citizens through sports. The policy focuses on strengthening sports programmes from the grassroots to the elite levels, including early talent identification and mentoring, promoting competitive leagues and competitions, and developing infrastructure in rural and urban areas. It aims to build world-class systems for training, coaching, and overall athlete support, while enhancing the capacity and governance of National Sports Federations. The National Sports Policy 2025 provides a comprehensive roadmap to transform India into a global sporting nation.

A big move towards improving transparency and functioning

Taking a huge step towards improving sports, Union Youth Affairs and Sports Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya introduced the National Sports Administration Bill-2025 in the Lok Sabha on 23 July. Many provisions have been made in the bill to improve the functioning of sports organizations, which includes important steps, including monitoring of all sports associations after the law is made...

Further Steps...

- All national sports organisations and regional sports bodies in India will have to get recognition under a new law.
- A National Sports Board will be formed, which will monitor all sports organisations. This Board will decide which organisation will get recognition and whose recognition will be cancelled. A code of ethics will have to be made for players, coaches, and sports officials. This will stop misbehaviour and corruption.

Benefits...

- A National Sports Tribunal will be established for quick resolution of complaints. It will work under the chairmanship of a former Supreme Court judge or Chief Justice of the High Court.
- The decisions of the Board can be challenged in the Tribunal. Its orders will be binding like that of a civil court. There will also be a provision for direct appeal to the Supreme Court.
- Accountability will be ensured while recognising the autonomy of sports institutions.
- Uniform governance system to be established in the Olympics, Paralympics, and other recognised sports.

All recognized sports bodies will be brought under the ambit of the RTI to ensure transparency. "Safe Sports Policy" will be implemented for the safety of athletes.

The Internal Code of Conduct Committee and Dispute Resolution Committee will be made mandatory in every sports institution.





This is how the creation of a sports ecosystem in India began in 2014

Talents are also found where they are least expected. From 2014, a special focus was laid on this in India with a new vision of the central government. Through 'Khelo India,' implemented in 2016, the identification and training of grassroots-level talents and taking them to the Olympic stage began, while the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (i.e., TOPS) laid the foundation of an excellent sports structure in India with the construction of excellent sports infrastructure. Let us know how these schemes laid the foundation for comprehensive improvement in the level of sports in India.

Khelo India...

Helping players from the grassroots level

Khelo India, launched with the motto of 'Khelege Kudoge Banoge Lajawab,' worked to remove the shortcomings in all the schemes launched before it. In 2017, it was revamped by dividing it into 12 areas of work. It aims to promote mass participation and sports excellence in both rural and urban areas. The scheme has been extended for the next five years with an outlay of Rs 3,790.50 crore in the year 2021.

Creation of sports ecosystem in India began in 2014

₹3,124.12

crore was spent on the construction of 328 new sports infrastructures, out of which 238 projects have been completed.

70

projects are currently under construction, while work on 20 projects is yet to begin.



More Than
17,000

grounds were geo-tagged so that they can be fully utilised.

Establishment of 1,045 Khelo India Centres for training and support at grassroots level.

Zone-wise talent search teams were formed to reach out to sports talent at the district and block levels. The Talent Search Portal was launched; players themselves can upload their achievements on it.

34

Notifications of Khelo India State Centre of Excellence, recognition to 306 academies.

Annual sports competition under Khelo India

- Khelo India Youth Games
- Khelo India University Games
- Khelo India Para Games
- Khelo India Winter Games become national sports competitions.

17
Editions

More Than
50
Thousands of athletes have participated.

The government is going to organise Khelo India North-East Games every year in 8 states of the Northeast.

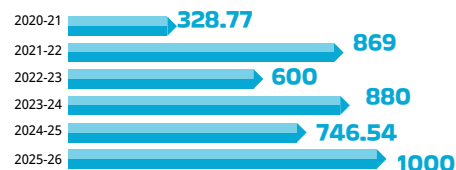
2,845

Khelo India athletes have been supported with coaching, equipment, medical care, and a monthly out-of-pocket allowance.

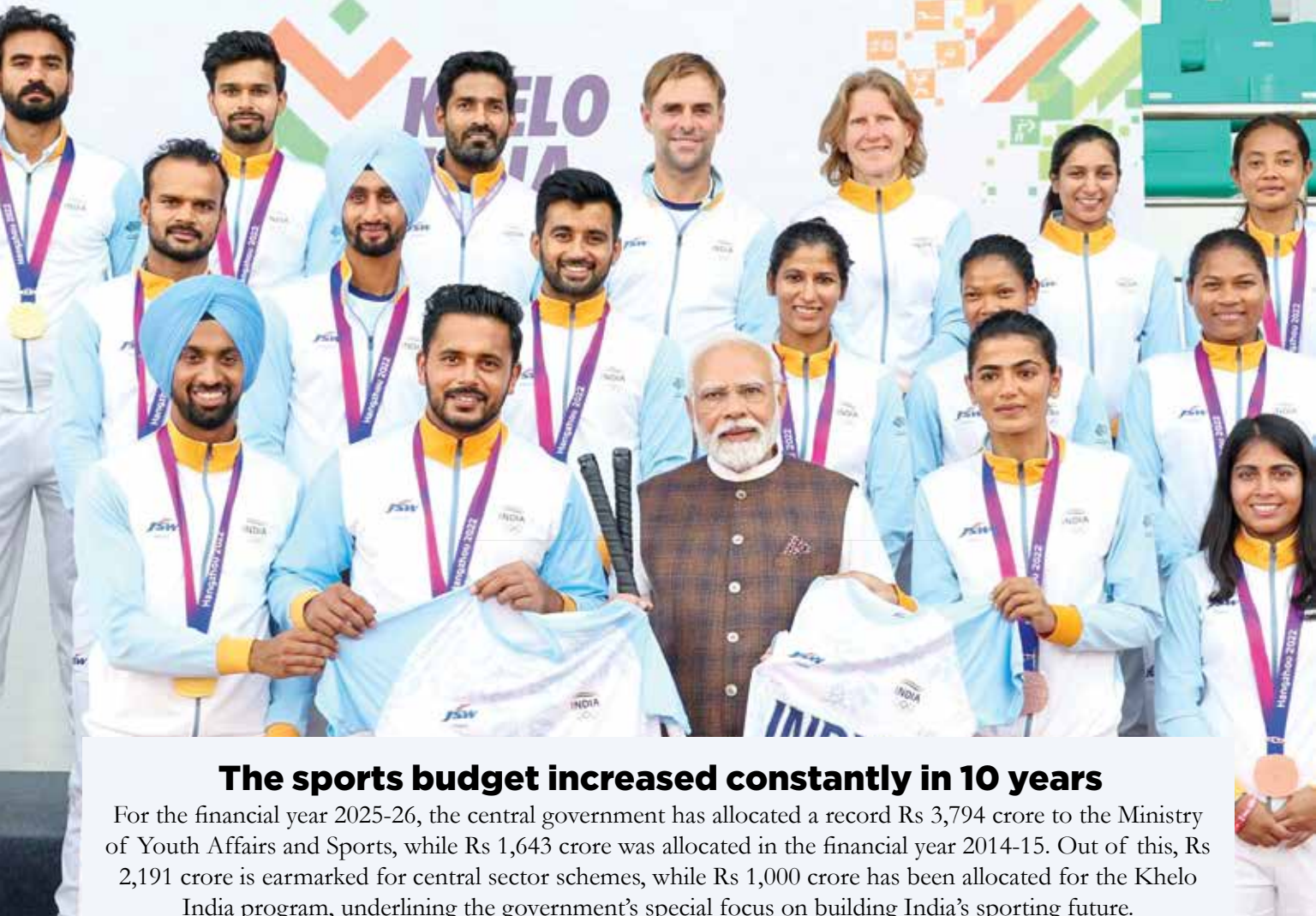


The Khelo India Emerging Talent Identification program launched, targeting children in the age group of 9-18 years. It uses 174 Talent Assessment Centres for merit-based talent searches. KIRTI aims to prepare a pipeline of athletes to make India a top 10 sporting nation by 2036 and top 5 by 2047.

Amount allocated under the Khelo India scheme

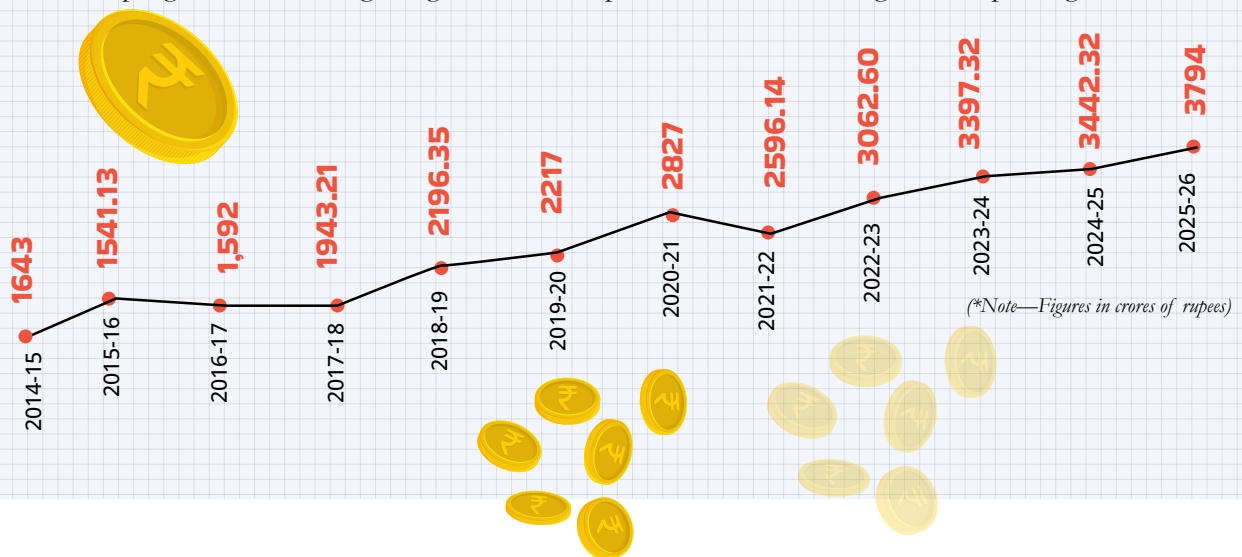


*Note: All amounts are in crores of rupees.



The sports budget increased constantly in 10 years

For the financial year 2025-26, the central government has allocated a record Rs 3,794 crore to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, while Rs 1,643 crore was allocated in the financial year 2014-15. Out of this, Rs 2,191 crore is earmarked for central sector schemes, while Rs 1,000 crore has been allocated for the Khelo India program, underlining the government's special focus on building India's sporting future.



However, a concerted effort is needed to improve infrastructure, funding, governance, and inclusiveness to overcome the current challenges and help India perform at its best at the 2036 Olympics and beyond.

The sports policy is based on five key pillars. First- Excellence on the Global Stage, Second- Sports for Economic Development, Third- Sports for Social Development, Fourth- Sports as a People's Movement, and Fifth- Integration with Education in alignment

with the new National Education Policy 2020.

In the last few years, India has achieved significant achievements in the field of sports at the domestic and international level because with a transformational approach to sports in India, the Government has prioritised sports education to foster a strong sports ecosystem. It is rightly said that champions are not born overnight, but they are made over years of dedication, discipline, and most importantly, support.



Support from families, support from coaches, and support from the government play a vital role in nurturing talent from every corner of the country. The Government of India is working tirelessly to make Indian athletes the best in the world through its schemes and initiatives. These schemes aim to identify and encourage talent at the grassroots level, support the players during their active career and beyond, as well as create a sustainable ecosystem for sporting excellence.

SPORTS HAS NOW BECOME A NEW CULTURE

The Prime Minister himself talks to the players. Review the preparations for the Olympics and interact. Have you heard this before in India? This change has come in the new sports culture of India in the last 11 years. The responsibility of the central government is to bring every talent out of the grassroots level and take it to the international stage, and provide every possible help for this. Earlier, for a long time, only cricketers were considered icons. People developed the mindset that only those who play cricket become millionaires, whereas in other sports, the government gives money initially on winning medals, but no attention is paid after that. Now this situation is changing. The youngest country in the world with a great history of sports, where there is no dearth of talent, yet sports could never become a culture. But, in the last 11 years, the central government has not only coined a new definition of sports by making sports a culture, but the thinking has also been formed that players and athletes should only focus on their best performance, and the country will take care of the rest. Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the Olympics, had said that winning or losing in sports is not important; what is important is participating in sports. Whereas Prime Minister Modi has always believed that there is never defeat in sports. There is only victory or new learning. The result of this thinking of the modern leadership that encourages this notion is that society is now also accepting sports as a profession.

When the government and the policy makers are connected to the grassroots level, then the government is sensitive towards the interests of the players, when the government understands the struggle of the players, their dreams, then its direct impact is also visible in the policies of the government. There

TOPS...the biggest preparation for success in the Olympics

The Target Olympic Podium Scheme i.e. TOPS was launched in 2014 to improve the performance of Indian athletes in the Olympics and give them full support. Under this, the central government provides assistance to the top athletes of India to prepare for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Selected athletes are supported with funding from the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) for training and other assistance not available under the general schemes of the ministry. Core group athletes are given an out-of-pocket allowance (OPA) of Rs 50,000 per month. Apart from this, a development group was also added to assist junior athletes with a scholarship of Rs 25,000 per month. By August 2024, 174 individual athletes and 2 hockey teams (men and women) have been selected as core groups under this scheme.

Fit India Movement

With an aim to make fitness an integral part of daily life, the Fit India Movement was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 29 August 2019. The mission of this movement is to bring about a change in behavior and move towards a more physically active lifestyle.

Major achievements of the scheme...

- In October 2019, more than 1,500 Fit India Plog Runs were organized across the country under the Fit India Movement.
- Under this movement, Fit India Family sessions were organized, aimed at inculcating fitness routines in families by sharing simple and easy tips on fitness with experts.
- A special online series called 'Fit India-Swasth Hindustan' program was launched. Talk show of eminent fitness experts and Fit India icons.
- For the first time, Fit India Carnival, a three-day fitness and wellness festival, was organized in New Delhi in March 2025.

FIT
INDIA
MOVEMENT





Government with the Players

Holding hands from debut to retirement

The past decade has been like a golden era for sports and players in India. Through various initiatives and schemes, while the government is nurturing talent from urban areas to rural areas, it has also supported the athletes at every stage in their entire journey. With a comprehensive framework to promote sports, socio-economic security of the players has also been ensured.

Khel Nidhi: Lifelong pension to meritorious players

For meritorious players who make the country proud, the government gives them financial security along with a lifelong pension from Khel Nidhi. Under this, after retiring from an active sports career, the player is given a monthly pension of Rs 12 thousand to Rs 20 thousand for life. Players who win medals in the Olympics, Paralympics, World Cup, World Championship, Asian Games, Para Asian Games, and Commonwealth Games are eligible for this pension.

RESET: A chance for retired players to prove themselves again

When a player is on the field, the government takes financial care of his training, nutrition, and family needs, but there have been many occasions when the player does not get a chance to join the sport again after retirement.

Central government launched the Retired Player Empowerment Training (RESET) program in 2024 to give retired players a chance to prove themselves again. This initiative gives retired players an opportunity for education, internship, and skill-building, according to them. While its goal is to meet the employment needs of retired players, it also aims to meet the lack of human resources in coaching, administration, mentoring, and other areas in the sports sector of India, emerging as a sports superpower.

Divyang: So that no talent is left out

Government has launched the Sports and Games Scheme for Divyang, which promotes inclusive and participatory sports among them at the grassroots level. Emerging and high-performing para-athletes from here get separate assistance through National Sports Federations.

were excellent players in the country even before, but there were no policies to support them. There was no system of good coaching, modern infrastructure, or necessary financial help. In the last 11 years, the country has come out of that old thinking and old system. Today, there are many such players in the country, on whose training to travel and from fitness experts to trainers, crores of rupees are being spent.

Sports inculcate a sportsman spirit, which is important both on and off the field. And this is why Prime Minister Narendra Modi often says - Jo khele, wo khile.



On the field, off the field as well



DDU National Welfare Fund

The Central Government has created the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya National Welfare Fund for any sudden trouble, trauma or equipment and participation in the program faced by the player or his family. In this, one-time ex gratia assistance of up to Rs 5 lakh, a monthly pension of Rs 5,000, medical assistance up to Rs 10 lakh, and assistance of up to Rs 10 lakh for injuries sustained during training or competitions is given to the player. The families of deceased players and support personnel like coaches, referees and physiotherapists can also get financial assistance of a maximum of Rs 5 lakh and Rs 2 lakh, respectively.

Panchayat Yuva Krida and Sports Campaign

Be it rural environment or remote areas Panchayat Yuva Krida and Sports Campaign was started to promote sports at the grassroots level. Under it, financial assistance is given for the development of sports infrastructure at the village and block level and for purchasing equipment and organizing annual sports competitions.

Training Support

National Sports Development Fund has also been set up for better performance at the international level. It aims to mobilize resources from both public and private sector to address critical gaps in infrastructure, training and athlete support.

Assistance to National Sports Federations

This scheme provides financial assistance to federations for training of athletes. The norms of the scheme have been revised in May, 2025 to take into account India's aspiration to host the 2036 Olympics. The salary of the chief national coach has been increased to Rs 7.5 lakh per month and other coaches to Rs 3 lakh per month along with allowances for proper nutrition of the players.

For this, from Khelo India to TOPS, a campaign was launched to make sports a mass movement in India with a holistic thinking and approach. In the words of PM Modi, "India's voice will be heard with power in the Olympics arena, as such a system has now been established. Make sports a part of life, develop the system, families should come forward, society should come forward, and India should make its name shine in the world of sports as well."

SPORTS IS GIVING A NEW FILLIP TO THE ECONOMY

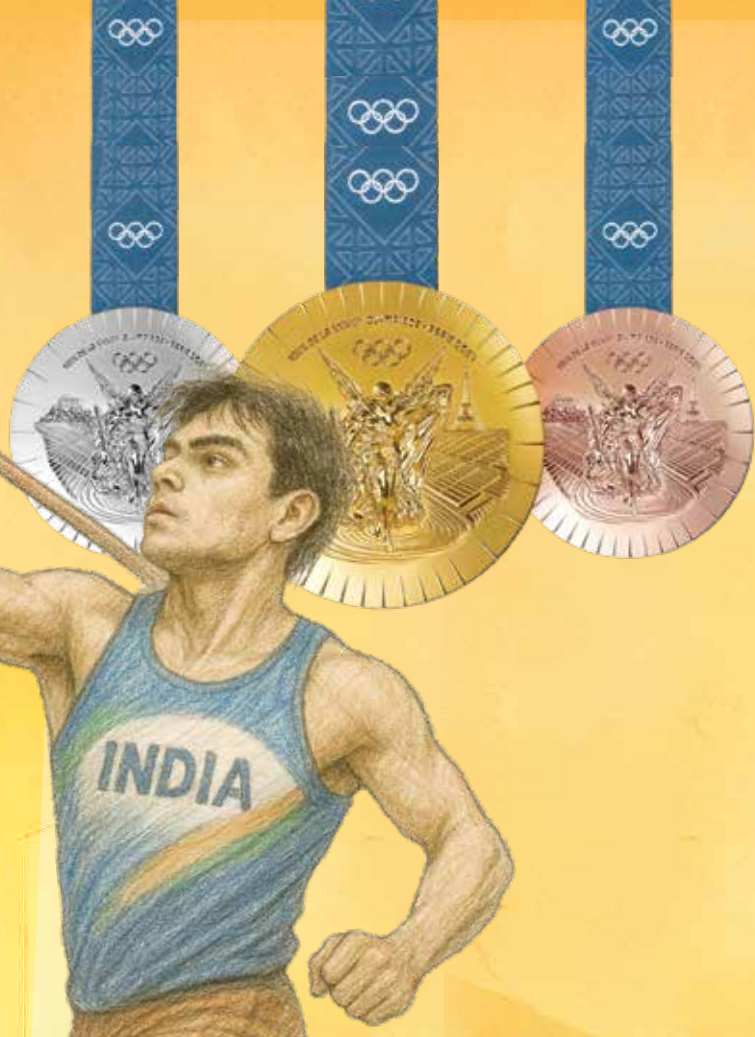
To increase India's dominance in sports at the international level, sports talents are being identified and trained at the school level itself. From Khelo India to TOPS Yojana, a whole ecosystem has been developed for this. Today, thousands of athletes from all over the country are taking advantage of it. The government's focus is on new sports along

Medal By Medal

India's stature soared

Olympics

Indian players have been improving their performance in the Olympics for the last decade, and the number of medals is increasing. In Rio de Janeiro 2016, the 117-member team won 2 medals, while this number reached 7 in Tokyo 2020. In Paris 2024 despite 6 players missing out by a small margin, India continued its strong performance with 6 medals. During this period, Neeraj Chopra won India's first Olympic gold medal in javelin throw and became the first Indian to win two Olympic medals (gold and silver). At the same time, in weightlifting, Mirabai Chanu made a record of winning two consecutive medals, and Manu Bhaker made a record of winning two medals in one Olympics.



Rio de Janeiro		Tokyo		Paris	
2016	Athletes	2020	Athletes	2024	Athletes
	117		119		117
	Medals won		Medals won		Medals won
	2		7		6

20 medals in 60 years and 15 in 8

The first Olympics were held in 1896, but India participated for the first time in 1900. Since then, India has won a total of 41 medals in the Olympics. From 1952 to 2012, i.e., only 20 medals in 60 years, while after that, from 2016 to 2024, 15 medals have been won in eight years.

Hockey team won 2 consecutive Olympic medals after 52 years

Indian Hockey team achieved the feat of winning medals in two consecutive Olympics (Tokyo and Paris) for the first time by winning the bronze medal in the Paris Olympics after the 1972 Munich Olympics. India had won 4 consecutive medals from 1960 to 1972. Then in 1976, there was no medal.

Paralympics

India ranked 18th among 170 countries in the Paralympics 2024

India's Paralympic players have touched new heights of achievements in the last 11 years. This reflects India's growing strength in para sports and strong support in the country for disabled players. While only 19 athletes went to Rio 2016 and won 4 medals, a team of 84 athletes went to Paris 2024 and won 29 medals.

Year/Venue	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
2012 (London)	0	1	0	1
2016 (Rio)	2	1	1	4
2020 (Tokyo)	5	8	6	19
2024 (Paris)	7	9	13	29



Asian Games

The strengthening of the sports ecosystem in India has also influenced its performance in the Asian Games. In 2014, Indian players won 57 medals with 11 gold, while in the 2023 Hangzhou Asian Games, the largest ever Indian contingent won 107 medals with 28 gold.

Year/Venue	Athlete	Medal	Gold	Silver	Bronze
2014-Incheon	541	57	11	9	37
2018 -Jakarta	570	69	15	24	30
2023 -Hangzhou	655	107	28	38	41

Asian Para: Athletes created history

Indian para-athletes have created history with a record medal haul at the 2023 Asian Games. The team won a total of 111 medals, including 29 gold medals at the Asian Para Games 2023. Earlier, India had won 14 medals at the Asian Para Games 2010, 33 in 2014 and 72 in 2018. This is India's best performance since the inception of these games, where India finished fifth in the medal tally.

Commonwealth Games

India has been consistently performing well in the Commonwealth Games secured its place in top 5. Its better performance continued with 64 medals in Glasgow 2014, 66 in Gold Coast 2018 and 61 medals in Birmingham 2022.

Year/Venue	Indian athletes	Won medals
2014 - Glasgow	215	64
2018 - Gold Coast	218	66
2022 - Birmingham	210	61

These accomplishments also raised the reputation on the global stage

- India won a double gold medal at the 2024 FIDE Chess Olympiad in Budapest.
- Indian athletes won 22 medals at the 2023 ITTF FA 20 AI - WataniPara Table Tennis Championship in Jordan.
- India won the gold medal in javelin throw at the World Athletics Championships 2023 in Budapest.
- The Indian badminton men's team created history by winning the Thomas Cup in May 2022.
- The Indian team won 34 medals at the ISSF Rifle/Pistol World Championship 2022 (Senior and Junior) held in Egypt.
- The Indian team topped the ISSF Junior World Cup 2023 held in Germany.

with traditional ones. That is why Gatka, Karipayattu, Kho-Kho, Mallakhamb, and even Yogasana have been included in the Khelo India Youth Games. Indian players are now coming forward in sports like Wushu, Sepak-Takraw, Pencak Silat, Lawn Bowls, and Roller Skating. In the 2022 Commonwealth Games, the women's team attracted everyone's attention by winning a medal in lawn bowls. The government is also focusing on modernizing the sports infrastructure in India. In the last decade, the sports budget has increased more than three times. A large part of this budget is being spent on sports infrastructure. Today, more than one thousand Khelo India centers are running in the country.

The world of sports and the economy related to sports are not limited to just sports. Today, also giving new opportunities for employment and self-employment to the youth. It includes many sub-sectors like physiotherapy, data analytics, sports technology, broadcasting, e-sports, and management. The youth of the country can also choose a profession as coach, fitness trainer, recruitment agent, event manager, sports lawyer, or sports media expert. A stadium is no longer just a pitch; it has become a source of employment for thousands. Many opportunities are also being developed for the youth in the field of sports enterprise. In the National Sports University being built in the country today, or the new National Education Policy that was unveiled, sports has been made a part of mainstream education. Its objective is also to create good sportsmen as well as excellent sports professionals in the country.

There is no doubt that the way new enthusiasm has been generated in the nation and society about sports in the last 11 years, the contribution of sports economy to the goal of becoming the third largest economic power in the world is becoming visible. It's not only individual in a sport, but there is a whole ecosystem behind it. There are coaches, trainers, people who focus on nutrition and fitness, and there are doctors. That is, there are possibilities for both service and manufacturing



in it. Today, players from all over the world use different sports equipment. India is becoming their quality manufacturer. There are over 35 thousand small and big factories manufacturing sports equipment in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh alone. More than three lakh people work in them. The country is working to create this ecosystem in every corner of the country. Under the TOPS scheme, hundreds of crores of rupees are being invested in players. Under the Khelo India program, modern sports infrastructure is being built across the country. Today, sports has become part of mainstream in schools. The country's first sports university is being built in Manipur.

SPORTS BECOME A PART OF THE NATION'S ASPIRATION, SOCIETY, AND LIFE

The struggle of Indian players participating in the Tokyo and Paris Olympics has become an inspiration. Now the country is aiming to bring India to the top 10 countries in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, which reflects the government's far-sighted thinking of the central government. When Narendra Modi took the baton of the country as the Prime Minister, he took the initiative to provide a strong ecosystem to improve sports infrastructure, sports facilities, and performance in the Olympics by taking forward his experience as the Chief Minister of Gujarat. In August 2016, the Prime Minister announced in the meeting of the Council of Ministers that a detailed action plan would be prepared for the effective participation of Indian players in the next three Olympic Games to be held in 2020, 2024, and 2028, for which a task force will be formed. This task force was directed

“
Our country is diverse, and sports have always been a unique force that connects cultures, regions, and languages.

**- Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister**

to prepare a complete strategy for other matters, including facilities, training, and the selection process for sports. Experts from the country and abroad were included in this task force. The sports budget for the Olympics, which was earlier Rs 15-20 crore, has been increased to more than Rs 125 crore.

But to connect the society with sports, the PM appealed to the citizens in his 'Mann Ki Baat' program on 28 August of the same year to give suggestions to create an environment for sports. Even before this appeal, the Prime Minister described sports as an essential aspect of life for the complete development of personality. He said that in a country like India, where there are 100 languages, more than 1700 dialects, different clothes and food, if district-level teams keep playing from one end to the other, then it can become the biggest basis for national unity.



Low physical activity leads to higher public health costs: WHO

- According to the World Health Organization (WHO), globally 31% of adults and 80% of adolescents do not do physical activity as per the prescribed standard.
- WHO has set a target to reduce the level of physical inactivity by 10% by the year 2025 and 15% by the year 2030.
- According to WHO, if physical inactivity is not reduced, then between the years 2020-2030, about 300 billion US dollars will be spent on the public health system.
- Physical activity in adults helps prevent non-communicable diseases, including heart disease, cancer, and diabetes. Along with this, depression and anxiety also decrease.
- Physical activity in children and adolescents leads to strong bones and muscle development.
- Regular exercise and yoga provide physical and mental health benefits.

STRONG RESOLVE TO HOST OLYMPICS

India is determined to ensure that Indian youth athletes get an international platform in the future and that India becomes a global hub of the sports ecosystem. With this thinking, the current central government will bid for hosting the Youth Olympics in 2030 and the Olympic Games in 2036. It has been the dream of every Indian that the Olympics should be held in India someday. If India is moving ahead with such a huge goal, then behind this is the successful attempt to make sports a new culture in the last 11 years, and also to boost the role of sports economy in becoming the third economic superpower. The Olympics is not just a sporting event, but the country hosting it gets momentum in many sectors.

The sports infrastructure that is built for the Olympics also generates employment. Better facilities are created for the players. A new connectivity infrastructure is built in the city where the Olympics are held. This strengthens the construction-related industry, and the transport-related sector moves forward. The

biggest benefit is to the tourism of country. Many new hotels are built, and people from all over the world come to participate in the Olympics and watch the games. The entire country benefits from this. India's aspiration to host the Olympics is not limited to just emotions, but there are some strong reasons behind it. By 2036, i.e., after about 11 years, India will be economically more stronger. By that time, the income of every Indian will be many times more than today. By then, India will have a very large middle class. From sports to space, the Indian tricolour will be flying with pride.

It is estimated that in the coming few years, India's sports industry will be worth about one lakh crore rupees. The youth will directly benefit from this. The awareness about sports that has come into the country in the past years is leading to rapid growth in business related to the sports sector. India is moving towards self-reliance in sports equipment. Today, 300 types of sports equipment are being made in India. Now, there are preparations to build clusters related to sports equipment in different parts of the country. India is making its mark not only in sports but in every sector. New India has set out to break old records and create new ones because New India has faith in the potential of its youth, their desire to win, determination, and mental strength. Today's India can set big goals and achieve them. No record is so big that it cannot be broken. India is now determined to create new records and is committed to setting new milestones for itself as well as the world. That is why PM Modi appeals to the youth, "You have to move ahead because India will move ahead with you. Get together, win for yourself, and make the country win."

It is also the duty of country to encourage every player with an open mind. But it should also not be forgotten that the youth have full potential to make India an important world power in the field of sports. For this, sports will have to be established as a 'sanskar' because without this 'sanskar', the society cannot develop. As a nation, the central government is trying to make sports the important component of life of the society and the nation by approving the new National Sports Policy, under this backdrop, the common people will also have to make it a movement, so that the culture of sports can dwell deep in the minds of every citizen and India can emerge as a global superpower in the field of sports. ●



Tamil Nadu Scaling New Heights

In the last decade, India has achieved multi-dimensional development by completing several mega and modern infrastructure projects, along with preserving its heritage. This mantra of heritage, along with development, got a boost on 26 July during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Tamil Nadu, where he added another important milestone in the state's development journey by laying the foundation stone and inaugurating development projects worth Rs 4,800 crore. He addressed the Thiruvathirai Mahotsav at the Cholapuram temple in Gangaikonda, where he praised Tamil Nadu's contribution to India's historical and cultural heritage...

Tamil Nadu has enriched the country's development and heritage, and has also been at the helm of India's prosperity and cultural progress. The good governance of various dynasties like Pallava, Chola, Pandya, and Nayak has given the country a robust model of development. In the last 11 years, the central government has been working to preserve cultural heritage along with the model of good governance in Tamil Nadu. The central government is steadfastly focusing on the infrastructure and energy sector in Tamil Nadu. The gifts of more than Rs 1 lakh crore in the last decade showcase the commitment of the central government



A commemorative coin was released at the event in honour of Rajendra Chola I, one of the greatest emperors of India.

towards the development of the state. A glimpse of this commitment of the central government towards the development of the state was also witnessed during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, when he reached Tamil Nadu directly after a four-day foreign tour. In the program, PM Modi, referring to the historic free trade agreement between India and Britain, said that such decisions raise the world's trust in India, and it is also a symbol of new confidence. This confidence will accelerate the creation of a Viksit Bharat and a Viksit Tamil Nadu. He said that the mission of taking Tamil Nadu to the pinnacle of development, which started in 2014, is being witnessed in Tuticorin.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in February 2024, launched the 'Outer Harbor Container Terminal' for the 'VO Chidambaranar Port' and inaugurated the new Thoothukudi International Container Terminal in September 2024. Referring to them, he said that the new projects that have been inaugurated and the foundation stone for new projects will not only progress the infrastructure of the state but will also make the lives of the residents easier. The central government considers the railway network as the lifeline of industrial development and a self-reliant India. With this thinking, the railway infrastructure is being modernized on a large scale, in which Tamil Nadu has emerged as a major center. Under the Amrit Bharat Station Yojana, 77 stations of Tamil Nadu are being extensively redeveloped. The modern Vande Bharat train is now providing a new travel experience to the residents of Tamil Nadu. India's first vertical lift rail bridge, 'Pamban Bridge', was also built in Tamil Nadu, which is a unique achievement of engineering.

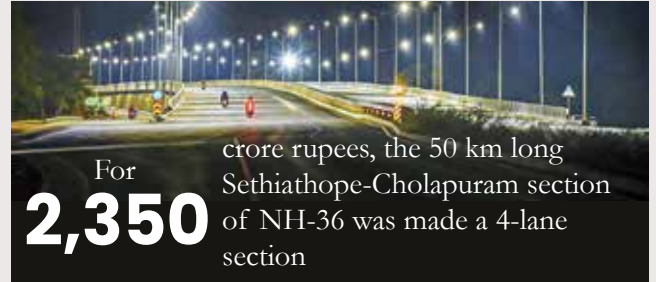
Keeping in mind the vision of a Viksit Tamil Nadu, the Gov-



These projects will make the lives of the people easier

₹ 450 crore new terminal building at Thoothukudi airport inaugurated

- This building can now handle more than 20 lakh air passengers annually, which was only three lakh earlier. This capacity can be increased to 25 lakh annually in the future.



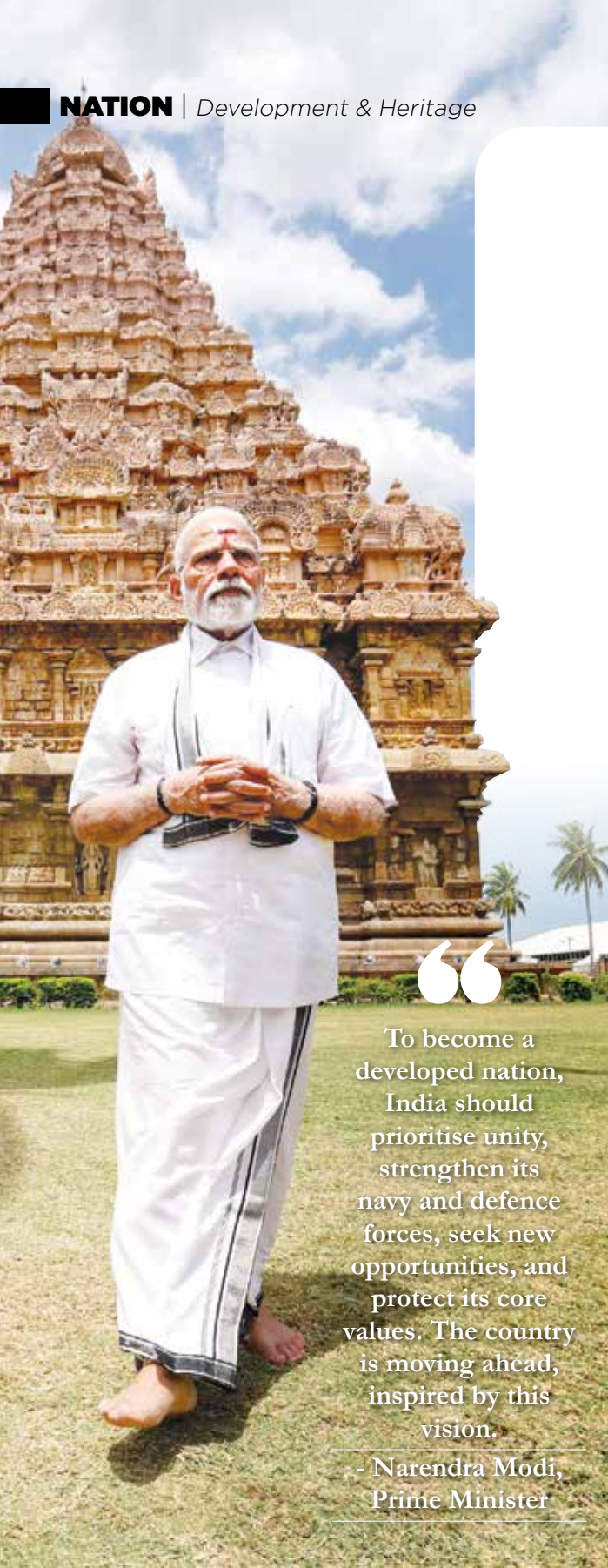
For **2,350** crore rupees, the 50 km long Sethiathope-Cholapuram section of NH-36 was made a 4-lane section

- This includes three bypasses, a one-kilometre-long four-lane bridge over the Kollidam river, four major bridges, seven flyovers, and several underpasses. Its construction will reduce the travel time between Sethiathope and Cholapuram by 45 minutes.
- 5.16 km, NH-138 Tuticorin port road was made 6-lane for Rs 200 crore. Logistics costs will be reduced.
- Inauguration of North Cargo Berth-III with 6.96 MMTA cargo handling capacity at V. O. Chidambaranar Port for Rs 285 crore.
- Inauguration of 3 major railway projects in southern Tamil Nadu.
- Foundation stone of the Rs 550 crore power transmission project-Units 3 and 4 of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant was laid.



The Government of India is trying to modernize the infrastructure of Tamil Nadu. In Tamil Nadu, we are making the port infrastructure hi-tech. Along with this, we are also integrating airports, highways, and roadways.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



To become a developed nation, India should prioritise unity, strengthen its navy and defence forces, seek new opportunities, and protect its core values. The country is moving ahead, inspired by this vision.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

India's inspiration

Economic and Strategic Progress of the Chola era

In the golden age of Indian history, the Chola emperors had threaded the country into cultural unity. To promote those cultural values, the central government is organising programmes like Kashi-Tamil Sangamam and Saurashtra-Tamil Sangamam. On July 27, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the Aadi Thiruvathirai Mahotsav at Gangaikonda Cholapuram temple in Tamil Nadu...

PM Modi said that the economic and strategic progress that India has reached in the Chola era is still the inspiration for the country. Rajaraja Chola had created a powerful navy, and Rajendra Chola had strengthened it further. Historians consider the Chola period as one of the golden ages of India. The Chola empire carried forward India's democratic traditions. In the coming times, grand statues of Rajaraja Chola and his son, the eminent ruler Rajendra Chola I, will be installed in Tamil Nadu.

PM Modi said the special celebration also commemorates the completion of 1,000 years of Rajendra Chola-I's legendary sea expedition to Southeast Asia and the beginning of the construction of the iconic Gangaikonda Cholapuram temple, a magnificent example of Chola architecture. Rajendra Chola-I (AD 1014-1044) was one of the most powerful rulers in history. Under his leadership, the Chola empire extended its influence across South and Southeast Asia. PM Modi said today global discussions often focus on water management and ecological conservation, but India's ancestors understood the importance of these issues much earlier. While many kings are remembered for acquiring gold, silver, or livestock from other regions, Rajendra Chola is known for bringing the holy Ganga water. He brought Ganga water from North India and established it in the South. PM Modi mentioned the phrase "गङ्गा जलमयम् जयस्तम्बम्" and said that water was released here in Chola Ganga Yeri, Chola Ganga Lake, which is today known as Ponneri Lake.



ernment of India, under the leadership of PM Modi, is continuously giving top priority to the policies related to development here. In the last eleven years, Tamil Nadu has had 11 new medical colleges. For the first

time, a government has come up with a big scheme for the fishing communities in coastal areas. Through the Blue Revolution, the government is expanding the coastal economy while ensuring inclusive growth. ●



Jan Dhan: A Catalyst OF Socio-Economic Transformation



Every country's development journey has such historical moments, which are milestones in their history and become the foundation of a golden future for them. The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, which aims to provide every family in the nation with at least one bank account, was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his first Independence Day speech on August 15, 2014, marking a significant milestone in the development process that involved building a New India with a pragmatic approach. Its goal to empower the individual at the bottom of the economic ladder with last-mile delivery and reap the rewards of the nation's progress turned true. With over 56 crore bank accounts, the largest financial inclusion programme in the world is celebrating 11 years of achievement....

For more than six decades after Independence, more than 65 per cent of the country's population neither had bank accounts nor any connection with the banking system. These people were forced to fall into the clutches of moneylenders to fulfil their financial needs. Government schemes were made, but their benefits did not reach such people. How to include them in the mainstream of the country's development? The vision behind Antyodaya proved to be the answer to this question. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) was launched on 28 August 2014 as the world's biggest initiative towards achieving this vision. It was started by adding a zero-balance account and a free



The story of excellence was also recorded in the Guinness World Records



1,80,96,130

Accounts were opened under the Jan Dhan Yojana in one week, between 23 to 29 August 2014. This achievement made it into the Guinness Book of World Records.

Figures tell the story of success



Despite there being no requirement to keep balance in Jan Dhan accounts, the figure of the deposit itself tells the story of its success...

PM Jan Dhan account holders are given the option to contribute, along with encouragement to enrol in social security schemes like Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Bima Suraksha Yojana, and Atal Pension Yojana.



RuPay debit card, along with accident insurance of Rs 1 lakh. The objective was clear: to make available to the poorest of the poor citizens with the facility of a bank account so that the window of economic progress could open for this deprived class. The amount of accident insurance was later increased to Rs 2 lakh, and along with this, the facility of overdraft up to Rs 10 thousand was also added to the account. Around 38.5 crore RuPay debit cards have been issued under the scheme, which is more than the population of the US and Canada combined.

With the success of the scheme, the objective of at least one bank account in every family was moved forward, and the target of providing a bank account for every adult individual was set. In 11 years, this scheme has written a new history of financial inclusion in India as well as the world by opening about 56 crore bank accounts, and now every penny sent by the central government for development is reaching the beneficiaries directly. The World Bank's latest

Global FIDEX Database 2025 states that 89 percent of the people in India have bank accounts, which was only 35 percent in 2011. That is, the number of people holding bank accounts has increased by more than two and a half times.

This scheme has proved to be important in the direction of women's empowerment. Out of the total bank accounts opened so far, 56 percent of account holders are women. Nearly 100 percent, i.e., more than 6 lakh villages, have been covered by banking outlets within 5 kilometres. Underprivileged families are easily joining various schemes of the Central and State governments through this account. To fulfil their economic needs, various social security schemes have also been linked to this account. Jan Dhan bank accounts are also contributing towards breaking the mental barriers among the poor and awakening their pride and self-respect.

HELP REACHED THE RIGHT BENEFICIARIES THROUGH DBT

It is the wonder of Jan Dhan Yojana that during the biggest disaster of the century, COVID-19, the government transferred more than 30 thousand crore rupees directly to the bank accounts of crores of women. There were about 10 crore such fake beneficiaries in the country, who were not even born and were being given government aid; such beneficiaries were removed from the list.

**India has more
Jan Dhan accounts
than the total
population of the
European Union !**

55.98

Crore Jan Dhan
account has
been opened

18.62

crore beneficiaries
in urban areas

31.21

crore Jan Dhan
accounts belong
to women

*Note: Figures in crores, till
23 July 2025*

37.36

crore accounts
opened in banks
in rural and semi-
urban areas

38.56

Crore RuPay
debit cards were
distributed



Continuing at an unabated pace

1.40 lakh Jan Dhan accounts opened in 15 days

The campaign was started on July 1... under the saturation of financial inclusion to bring every eligible person in the country under the ambit of the social security scheme. More than 43 thousand camps were set up across the country. As a result, 1.40 lakh Jan Dhan accounts were opened in the first 15 days of the campaign. With this, more than 5.4 lakh people have enrolled under the three insurance schemes related to public safety. Under this campaign, which will run till 30 September, about 2.70 lakh Gram Panchayats and ULBs are being covered.



Jan Dhan Yojana has been paramount in promoting financial inclusion and giving respect to crores of people, especially women, youth, and marginalised communities. We created such a trinity of Jan Dhan, Aadhaar, and mobile that the corrupt system was destroyed. Due to this trinity, we have managed to save Rs 2.5 lakh crore.

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

This transparency is saving the country's money. In the same accounts of Jan Dhan Yojana, today, the money of PM-Svanidhi is being given to the street vendors in the form of a loan. So far, an amount of more than Rs 38 lakh crore has been deposited into Jan Dhan accounts through Direct Benefit Transfer. Today the countrymen are aware of the success of Jan Dhan bank accounts. When this scheme was launched, some experts had said that opening such accounts is a waste of resources; the poor will not deposit even a single penny in them, but Prime Minister Modi says that it was not just about money. It was about breaking the mental bondage and changing the mindset. Jan Dhan Yojana awakened self-confidence in the poor. It gave them the courage to go to the doors of banks. Today they take out the RuPay card from their pockets with great pride. For the

last 11 years, the poor, Dalit, deprived, backward, tribal, general class, middle class, and everyone have been experiencing a clear change in their lives. Today the country is moving on the path of satisfaction instead of appeasement with a very systematic approach. This approach has created a protective shield for the poor and middle class of the country. ●

India's Space Journey **Moon, Mars And Beyond**

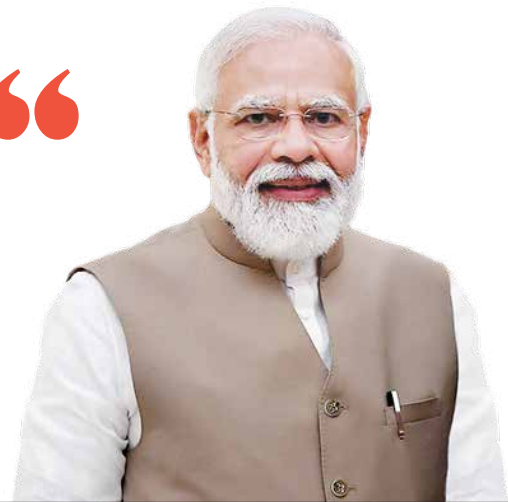
India has emerged as a key player in the world in the 21st century because of the policy reforms undertaken in the last 11 years, along with promoting the role of science and technology in the country under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. India is shooting for the stars, behind which is the tireless efforts to establish India as a dominant space power. There is a transformation in people's perception, as every Indian considers it a national mission instead of just a field of research. On this 23rd August, on the occasion of National Space Day, on the second anniversary of the successful landing of Chandrayaan-3, a look at the country's high ambitions and efforts...



"Recently, there was a lot of discussion in the country about Shubhanshu Shukla's return from space. As soon as Shubhanshu landed safely on Earth, people were overjoyed. The whole country was filled with pride. I remember when Chandrayaan-3 successfully landed in August 2023, a new enthusiasm was built in the country. A new curiosity also arose among children about science, about space. Now small children say, we will also go to space, we will also land on the moon - we will become space scientists."

This is the proclamation of the new India, which has set new records in the field of space. Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently shared this with the countrymen in the 'Mann Ki Baat' program, which is a reflection of the vision with which 21st-century India is moving ahead. The basis of creating new history in the space sector is the unwavering faith in India's capabilities. India's capabilities are no less than any other country in the world. It is the responsibility of the central government to remove every obstacle in the way. The major reforms that are taking place in India today in the space sector and space technology are a part of this.

Before knowing about India's growing stature in the space sector, it is necessary to understand how failure gives birth to success. When Chandrayaan-2 could not reach the surface of the moon as planned on 7 September 2019, there was a sense of disappointment in the scientific community. The then ISRO chief K. Sivan's eyes were filled with tears. During that time, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was present at the ISRO Control Center. He hugged and encouraged Sivan. After this, departing from the setback, India achieved many milestones. On 23 August 2023, Chandrayaan-3 not only landed on the surface of the moon, but India became the first country in the



India's rockets carry not just payloads but also the dreams of 1.4 billion Indians. India's space journey does not mean competing with others. It means reaching great heights together. We share a common goal to explore space for the good of humanity.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

world to land on the south pole of the moon. To commemorate this achievement, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that 23 August, the day India landed on the moon, will be celebrated as National Space Day.

Space has fascinated our imagination since time immemorial. Unravelling the mysteries of the universe and the curiosity to know more about our origin are the biggest driving forces of research in the field of space. For achieving the accomplishments in the space sector, it is also important that there is strong political will and strong determination.

When Chandrayaan-2 could not land on the surface of the moon, Prime Minister Modi had said, "Today, even though there have been some obstacles, hurdles, this has not weakened our courage, but has strengthened it. Today, even though there have been obstacles in the last step, we have not deviated from our path to our destination. He had also said on the same day,

A successful journey with the high speed of progress

The country is now moving towards achieving new achievements in space sector with the Space Vision 2047...

Achievements, which raised the nation's stature

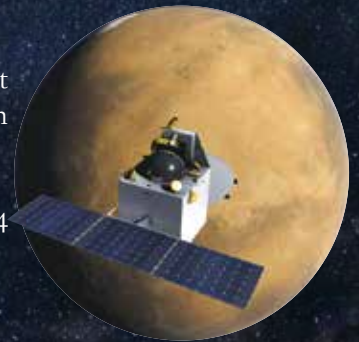
ISRO completed

58

launch vehicle missions between 2014 and 2025 which is an increase of 38% compared to 42 missions before 2014.

Mangalyaan

Mangalyaan was the world's first mission to reach Mars on the first attempt. The Mangalyaan mission was possibly the least expensive interplanetary mission ever, with an estimated budget of about \$74 million, a symbol of India's expertise in resourcefulness and innovation.



ISRO's First-of-its-Kind Satellite 'NISAR' Launched

ISRO launched the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR), jointly developed with NASA, on 30 July 2025 from Satish Dhawan Space Center, Sriharikota. Weighing 2392 kg, It is world's first Earth observation satellite to carry dual-frequency synthetic aperture radar (NASA's L-band and ISRO's S-band) on a single platform. It will provide high-resolution, all-weather images of the Earth's land and ice surfaces. The mission has a life of 5 years and an estimated cost of over \$1.5 billion.

398 foreign satellites launched

A total of 398 foreign satellites have been launched on a commercial basis on ISRO's PSLV, LVM3, and SSLV launch vehicles during the last ten years, from January 2015 to December 2024. This is an increase of over 1000% compared to 35 before 2014.

"Our will has strengthened... when it comes to the space program, its best is yet to come..." Encouraging the scientists, the Prime Minister had said that they are not the ones who draw a line on butter, but the ones who draw a line on stone.

Today, the result is before everyone. Shubhanshu Shukla going into space, conducting experiments there, and then returning safely, shows that a few obstacles cannot deviate our aspirations from the set path. Reforms in the space sector and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision are based on four pillars, which in themselves open the doors to extraordinary possibilities-

1. Freedom of innovation to the private sector
2. Role of the government as an enabler.
3. Preparing the youth for the future.
4. Seeing the space sector as a resource for the progress of the common man.

There was a time when the space sector was under the government's hegemony. For decades, the private industry related to the space sector in India was seen only as a vendor. The government used to work on all space missions and projects. Those who were not in the government system, be it a scientist or a youth, were not able to work on their ideas related to the space sector.

Satellites of 34 countries launched

India has so far launched satellites of 34 countries, including satellites of developed countries since 2014.

Country	Satellites
United States	232
United Kingdom	83
Singapore	19
Canada	8
Korea	5
Luxembourg	4
Italy	4
Germany	3
Belgium	3
Finland	3
France	3
Switzerland	2
Netherlands	2
Japan	2
Israel	2
Spain	2
Australia	1
UAE	1
Austria	1

Includes 8 satellites from other countries.



On 15 February 2017, ISRO created a world record by launching

104

satellites simultaneously in a single mission, which has not been broken to date.

India's first solar mission, Aditya L-1, was launched in September 2023 and was aimed at studying the Sun from an orbit around the Sun-Earth Lagrangian point 1 (L1), which is about 1.5 million kilometers from Earth. In February 2025, the Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT) on board Aditya-L1 obtained an unprecedented view of a powerful solar intense fire 'kernel' in the lower solar atmosphere, namely the photosphere and chromosphere.



Vikram-S Rocket Launch

Skyroot Aerospace, a Hyderabad-based startup, launched the Vikram-S rocket from ISRO's Sriharikota launch centre on 18 November 2022. This is India's first private rocket launch.



- With the ASAT test under Mission Shakti, India demonstrated the ability to destroy enemy satellites in low Earth orbit. Now, only 4 countries (the US, Russia, China, and India) have this capability.
- The Spadex mission in January 2025 made India the fourth country capable of space docking. Data from the successful AstroSat launch in 2015 led to over 400 research papers and 30 theses.
- India has signed space cooperation documents with 61 countries and five multilateral bodies.

The country was suffering losses due to this. By improving the space sector, freeing it from all restrictions, and supporting the private industry through IN-SPACe, the country has started a campaign to make the country a winner today.

India's space journey, which began in 1962 with the establishment of the Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR), has seen many important milestones in the last 6 decades. But, in the last 11 years, this sector has not only established new dimensions of success due to strong willpower, but has also made its mark in the field of space diplomacy. India has

opened the doors to new possibilities in this sector with continuous reforms since 2014. In the last decade, the space budget has increased almost three times, i.e., from Rs 5,615 crore in 2013-14 to Rs 13,416 crore in 2025-26. For the first time, up to 100 percent foreign direct investment has been allowed in the space sector. In the year 2020, India opened the space sector for private companies by setting up a nodal agency in the form of IN-SPACe. While this boosted competition, a new wave of innovation arose in this sector. As a result, more than 328 space startups have emerged in recent years. These startups

Steps...on which the future flights depend

On 26 June, with Mission Axiom 4, India's Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla became the second Indian to step into space and the first Indian to step into the International Space Station. 41 years ago, Wing Commander Rakesh Sharma had stepped into space with the Russian Soyuz T-11.



Target

Launch of the first module of the Indian Space Station by

2028

Establishment of a full Indian Space Station by

2035

India is preparing to land on the Moon with a crew by

2040



India's first fully indigenous manned space mission Gaganyaan program, has been approved with a financial outlay of about

₹20,193 CRORE

Under this, Indian astronauts will be sent to the lower orbit of the Earth.



Training and training flights of four astronauts have been completed for Mission Gaganyaan. These four astronauts are Group Captain PB Nair, Group Captain Ajit Krishnan, Group Captain Angad Pratap, and Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla. Group Captain Shubhanshu was sent on the Axiom-4 mission as part of the initial phase of India's Mission Gaganyaan.

The Gaganyaan mission will lay the foundation for further advanced missions. After this, India is preparing to establish its space center by the year 2035.

India has not only eased the rules to promote startups and private sector, i.e., non-government companies, in the space sector but has also signed 79 MoUs with non-government companies.

are playing a key role in expanding India's space innovation ecosystem in collaboration with ISRO and other partners. The government's decision to open space to the private sector has also boosted India's space economy, which is estimated to grow from the current \$8.4 billion to \$44 billion by 2033. Further improving the policy vision, the central government implemented a new space policy in 2023. The Performance Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme has strengthened the domestic manufacturing of space sector related products. This

has reduced dependence on imports, and India has established itself as a technology exporter.

This story of India's success in the space sector is not just related to rockets and satellites, but also about the changes in people's lives. From farmers doing farming in remote villages to students taking advantage of digital education, space technology has now become a part of people's lives. India's continuous successes have also made the space sector popular among the common people. ●

Bihar's Resources Are Instruments of its Progress



The sacred land of Bihar, which gave a new direction to India's freedom movement in the form of Satyagraha, is now giving a new shape to the path of resolve for Viksit Bharat. Be it road or rail, air traffic, energy, or investment destination, along with giving new impetus to the industrial and economic development of the state, Bihar has emerged as a strong link in the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi from Purvodaya to Bharat Udaya. To further give pace to development of Bihar, PM Modi unveiled multiple projects worth over Rs 7 thousand crore in Motihari on July 18...

Globally, in the 21st century, leaving behind the dominance of the West, eastern countries are making a new contribution to the development story, and in India too, this is the time for the rise of eastern states. After 2014, with this vision of India's rise through the rise of the East, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has put special focus on the states that have lagged in the pace of development. He mentioned this vision in a public meeting held in Motihari. Modi envisioned equal opportunities in Gaya as in Gurugram, industrial growth in Patna akin to Pune, and development in Santhal Pargana comparable to Surat. This is the resolution of the central government. While inaugurating and laying the foundation stone of development projects worth more than Rs 7,000 crore, PM Modi also mentioned the efforts made by the



Development will gain momentum

- **Launch of four new Amrit trains:** This train will run from Rajendra Nagar Terminal (Patna) to New Delhi, Bapudham Motihari to Delhi (Anand Vihar Terminal), Darbhanga to Lucknow (Gomti Nagar), and Malda Town to Lucknow (Gomti Nagar) via Bhagalpur.
- Automatic signalling between the Samastipur-Bachhwara rail line and the doubling of the Darbhanga-Thalwara and Samastipur-Rambhadrapur rail lines, as well as the start of the Darbhanga-Samastipur doubling project, at a cost of more than Rs 580 crore.
- 4 lanes from Pararia to Mohania on NH-319 costing Rs 820 crore; with its launch, Ara city got connected to NH-2 (Golden Quadrilateral).
- New Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) in Darbhanga and STPI's state-of-the-art incubation facility in Patna.
- Launch of a series of fisheries development projects sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).

The road ahead will be easier

- The four-lane Ara bypass on National Highway-319 will connect Ara-Mohania National Highway-319 and Patna-Buxar NH-922.
- Doubling of the Darbhanga-Narkatiaganj rail line at a cost of about Rs 4,080 crore, development of infrastructure for maintenance of Vande Bharat trains in Patliputra, automatic signalling on the Bhatni-Chhapra rural rail line (114 km), and upgradation of the traction system in the Bhatni-Chhapra rural section.



central government in the last 10 years. He said that in the 10 years after 2014, Rs 9 lakh crore has been allocated for development projects in Bihar, whereas in the 10 years before this, this figure was only Rs 2 lakh crore.

PM Modi said that the central government has made many reforms at the policy level so that the benefits of welfare schemes reach the people at the bottom of the society, which are showing positive results. In the last 11 years, about 3.5 crore women's bank accounts were opened in Bihar under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana. The benefit of this is that the money of government schemes is now being transferred directly to their accounts. Under the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, about Rs 3.5 lakh crore has been distributed to farmers across

the country, in which more than 5 lakh farmers in Motihari alone have received an amount of more than Rs 1,500 crore. PM Modi said that the target is to create three crore Lakhpati Didis in the country. So far, 1.5 crore women have achieved this feat. More than 20 lakh women have become Lakhpati Didis in Bihar alone, and more than 80 thousand women in Champaran have reached this position by joining self-help groups. PM Modi announced the release of Rs 400 crore as a community investment fund with the aim of strengthening women's power. Not only this, reiterating his vision, 'Bihar's progress is necessary for India's progress,' he said that Bihar will progress only when its youth move forward.

The Prime Minister mentioned that the Central Government has recently approved a major scheme



**Bihar lacks neither capability
nor resources, and today,
Bihar's resources are
becoming instruments of its
progress.**

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

aimed at supporting first-time job seekers in the private sector. Under this scheme, youth receiving their first appointment in a private company will be granted ₹15,000 by the Central Government. He stated that the scheme will be implemented starting August 1 and will involve an expenditure of ₹1 lakh crore by the Centre, emphasising that this initiative will significantly benefit the youth of Bihar.

INCOME CAN BE INCREASED BY LINKING TO MARKETS

The Central and Bihar governments are doing a lot of work to increase the income of the farmers of Bihar, but now, on the lines of Makhana, the income of the farmers of Bihar can be increased by linking products like banana, litchi, mircha, katarni rice, zardalu mango, and magahi paan, which are produced in large quantities in Bihar, to the markets around the world. Also, the youth of Bihar can be given access to the markets around the world.

NOW YOUTH ARE DREAMING BIG

The Prime Minister highlighted the decisive action taken against Naxalism in recent years, which has greatly benefited the youth of Bihar. He stated that districts like Champaran, Aurangabad, Gaya, and Jamui—once held back by Maoist influence—are now witnessing the decline of extremism. He emphasised that in areas once overshadowed by Maoist violence, youth are now dreaming big, and reaffirmed the government's commitment to completely freeing India from the grip of Naxalism.

BIHAR'S PMAY HOUSES EXCEEDS THE POPULATIONS OF MANY COUNTRIES

PM Modi handed over the keys of the house to more than 12 thousand families under the PM Awas Yojana. He highlighted that over the past 11 years, more than 4 crore houses have been built under it across the country, with nearly 60 lakh constructed in Bihar alone. This figure surpasses the total population of countries like Norway, New Zealand, and Singapore. ●



India On The Path Of Development

Aamar Bengal Hobe Engine



The development journey of the nation involves an inclusive approach involving equal participation of every particle, every citizen, every part of the country. As India embarks on the path of Viksit Bharat with transformative changes in the last decade, everyone's participation is needed in this development journey. The role of West Bengal is equally important for achieving this goal. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision for a Viksit Bengal for Viksit Bharat got a further impetus on July 18 in Durgapur, where he inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of development projects worth more than Rs 5,400 crore...

India has given a new thrust to development with a decade of transformational journey. Be it connectivity or infrastructure, now villages and remote areas, along with cities, are getting equal attention from the central government. There is no lack of resources or bias based on region. Also, a rightful vision where the tough topography or inaccessibility in the way of development is not an impediment. Every state of the country has become an equal partner in this journey of well-planned development. Prime Minister Narendra Modi underscored this resolution of a developed state for a developed India in a program organized in the industrial city of Durgapur in West Bengal. Inaugurating and laying the foundation stone of development projects worth more than Rs 5,400 crore, he said that these will strengthen the connectivity and identity of this major center of India's labor force. Gas-based transportation and gas-based economy will get a boost. These projects

will further help West Bengal to move forward with the vision of 'Make in India, Make for the World'.

PM Modi said that every state, including West Bengal, is reaping the benefits of modern infrastructure. West Bengal is one of the leading states where a large number of Vande Bharat trains are running. Kolkata Metro is also being expanded rapidly. Work is also going on on the doubling and electrification of new railway tracks. Many railway stations are being modernized, and a large number of railway over bridges are also being built. On July 18, two more railway over bridges were inaugurated.

Referring to the 'One Nation-One Gas Grid' approach and the Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga Pariyojana, PM Modi said that in the last 11 years, India has made extensive progress in gas connectivity. In this decade, LPG has reached every household across the country, which has received global recognition. Gas pipelines are being laid in



More than
₹1,457
 crores Flue Gas
 Desulphurization (FGD) of
 Durgapur Steel Thermal Power
 Station and Raghunathpur
 Thermal Power Station,
 dedicated to the nation.

Quality of Life to Improve

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the Durgapur to Kolkata section (132 km) of Durgapur-Haldia Natural Gas Pipeline to the nation. It is also known as the Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga Pariyojana.
- Doubling of the Purulia-Kotshila rail line (36 km) completed at a cost of more than Rs 390 crore.
- Rail connectivity between the industrial hub of Jamshedpur, Bokaro, and Dhanbad with Ranchi and Kolkata will improve.
- Inauguration of two Road Over Bridges (ROBs) constructed under the Setu Bharatam program at Topsy and Pandabeshwar in Paschim Bardhaman at a cost of more than Rs 380 crore.

“
 We have to make India developed by 2047. Our path is - empowerment through development. Self-reliance through employment and good governance through sensitivity. Following these values, we will make West Bengal a strong engine of India's development journey.”

- **Narendra Modi,**
 Prime Minister

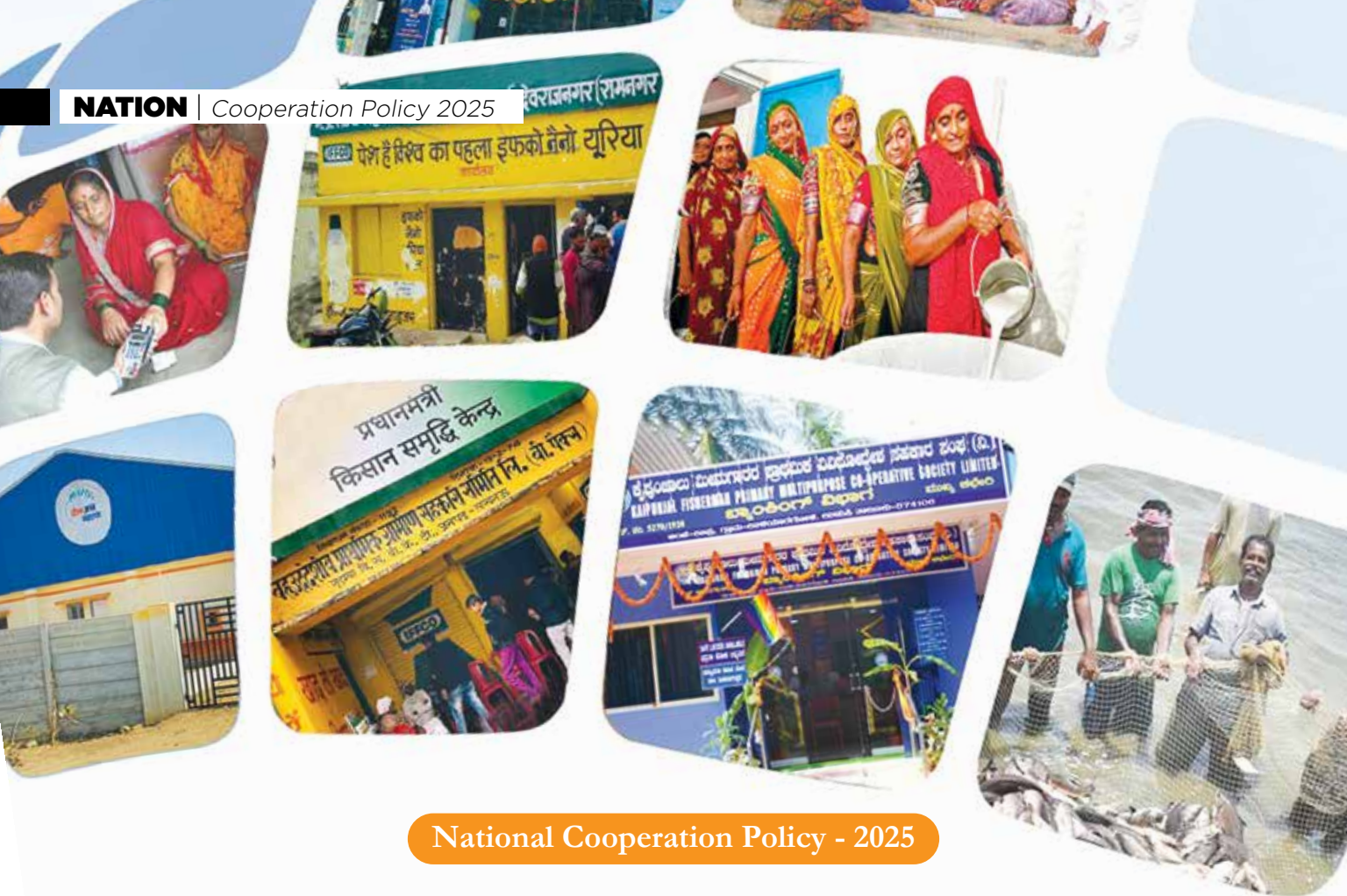
CNG and PNG will be easily available

The foundation stone of the city gas distribution project was laid in Bankura and Purulia districts of West Bengal at a cost of about Rs 1,950 crore. It will provide PNG connections to homes, commercial establishments, and industrial customers. Employment opportunities will also be created in the area.

six eastern states, including West Bengal. This will help in delivering affordable piped gas to industries and kitchens in these states. PM Modi also said that the industrial area of Durgapur has now become a part of the National Gas Grid. This project will benefit the industries of the region. Affordable piped gas will reach about 30 lakh homes in West Bengal.

Major steel and power plants in Durgapur and Raghunathpur have been upgraded with new technology. An investment of about Rs 1,500 crore has been made in these plants. These plants will now be more efficient and able to compete globally. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, whether it is India's factories or farms, every effort is inspired by a single resolve - to make India a developed nation by the year 2047. ●





National Cooperation Policy - 2025

Cooperatives Reshaping Future Of The Country

When we see a group of people coming together to form a strong force through cooperation, we come to know how big a contribution even a common citizen can make to nation-building. Its data is testimony to their potential: 30 crore people associated with about 8.25 lakh cooperative societies in India. These societies are emerging as a powerful engine of inclusive development. In order to strongly advance this concept of Sahkar Se Samridhhi, Union Cooperation Minister Amit Shah unveiled the National Cooperation Policy 2025 in New Delhi on 24 July...

Understanding the potential and scope of expansion of cooperatives in India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi formed the Ministry of Cooperation on 6 July 2021, 75 years after independence, in alignment with the vision of 'Sahkar Se Samridhhi'. Today, even the members of the smallest cooperative unit in the country feel pride and confidence. The computerization of cooperatives has gained the world's attention, alongwith new PACS, integrating with the facility of the Common Service Center, the world's largest food storage scheme in the cooperative sector.

As a pilot project under the Central Government scheme, 11 PACS warehouses have been constructed in 11 states, while the construction of the remaining more than 500 warehouses will also be completed by December 2026. Before 2020, some people had declared the cooperative sector to be defunct, but now, they also acknowledge its importance and future. In the past four years, the cooperative sector has stood on equal footing with the corporate sector by every measure. To strengthen these capabilities of co-operatives, the new National Cooperation Policy 2025 has been unveiled,

Solution to all problems of the cooperative sector in the new policy

- The government aims to create a cooperative sector in the country in which the youth get the best education and choose cooperatives as a career.
- It has the potential to resolve all the issues of the cooperative sector. All states have adopted the model bylaws, sidelining any political differences.
- Till now, the work of creating 45 thousand new PACS has almost been completed. The work of computerization of PACS has also been completed.
- Out of the 25 new activities added with PACS, progress has been made in every activity.
- Till now, 4,108 PACS have been approved to open the PM Jan Aushadhi Kendra.
- 393 PACS have applied to run petrol and diesel retail outlets, over 100 PACS have applied for LPG distribution
- PACS are also working on managing the “Har Ghar Nal Se Jal” (tap water to every home) scheme and the PM Surya Ghar Yojana
- The foundation for the Tribhuvan Sahkari University has been laid to provide trained manpower for all these activities.

A 40-member committee prepared the new Cooperation Policy

The 40-member national-level committee, led by former Union Minister Suresh Prabhu, after considering more than 750 suggestions, discussions with many parties, 17 meetings, and 4 regional workshops, consultations with the RBI and NABARD, has finalized the new National Cooperation Policy. The Government of India had brought the cooperation policy for the first time in the year 2002, when Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Prime Minister.

Major goals of Cooperation Policy 2025...

2034

It aims to triple the cooperative sector's contribution to GDP

Connecting
50

crore citizens with cooperative societies.

30%

increase in the number of cooperative societies.

- Forming at least one cooperative society in every Panchayat.
- Developing 5 model cooperative villages in every tehsil.
- The Contribution of the cooperative sector in employment generation.
- Increasing transparency, financial stability, and institutional trust in societies.
- Empowering women through White Revolution 2.0.



The National Cooperation Policy, which develops cooperatives as an inclusive, self-reliant, and futuristic economic model, will ensure transparency and technical empowerment in cooperatives. It will make it a center of expansion in new areas and employment generation. This policy is proof of PM Modi's deep sensitivity and strong will towards cooperatives.

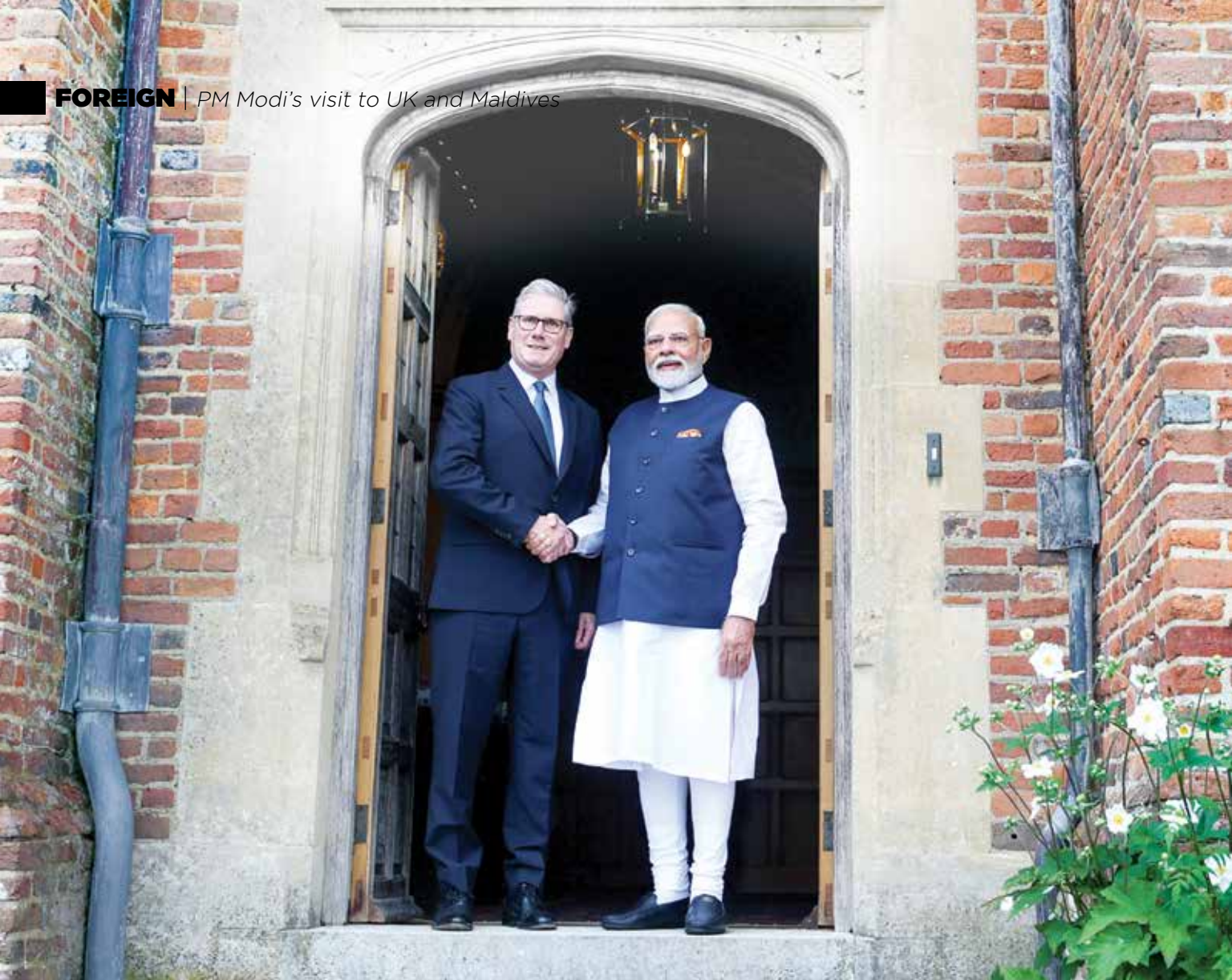
- Amit Shah, Union Home and Cooperation Minister

which is visionary, practical, and result-oriented.

While unveiling the National Cooperation Policy - 2025, Union Cooperation Minister Amit Shah said that it is very important for the country to become the third-largest economy. He emphasized that only the cooperative sector can develop the nation's economy inclusively with contributions from all 140 crore citizens. He said that the cooperative sector has a unique capability to pool small amounts of

capital from many individuals to create large-scale enterprises. He stated that while formulating the Cooperation Policy, it was ensured that its core focus remained on the development of 140 crore people of India, especially villages, agriculture, rural women, Dalits, and tribals. The new policy will create employment and livelihood opportunities on a large scale, and create Viksit Bharat by 2047 by bringing Sahkar Se Samriddhi. ●





India-UK Free Trade Agreement

New Era of Economic Collaboration

With India's strong and decisive leadership, rapidly growing middle class, and increasing income of people, it has emerged as the world's most preferred country as a global partner. Especially at a time when many countries of the world are struggling with huge turmoil and tariff wars... India laid a new foundation of historical relations with the United Kingdom with the much-awaited Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement, Double Contribution Convention, and 10-year vision of mutual partnership...

When agreements are made between two democracies and two major economies of the world, they promote global stability and prosperity. As the fourth largest economy in the world, while India is moving ahead with the fastest economic pace, it wants to develop itself as the manufacturing hub of the world with Make in India. With this goal, on July 24, on the first day of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's two-day visit to Britain, both countries signed the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). Regarding this agreement, Prime Minister Modi said that this agreement is a symbol of new trust between two democratic countries and two big economies of the world.

PM Modi, in a conversation with UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer, said that this agreement will create new opportunities for our farmers, MSMEs, and youth and will form a roadmap for a strong, reliable, and ambitious partnership in the areas of technology, defence, climate, education, and people-to-people connection. PM Modi also met King Charles III at Sandringham House. During this, he gifted a special plant to the king under the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' initiative. This plant will be planted this winter season.

BLUEPRINT OF COLLABORATION WITH INDIA-UK VISION 2035

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the UK PM Keir Starmer also agreed on India-UK Vision 2035 as a 10-year roadmap of mutual partnership between the two countries in the bilateral meeting.



The Most Comprehensive Agreement With A Developed Country So Far

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal termed the free trade agreement as historic and said that India and the UK currently do bilateral trade of \$56 billion. After the agreement, this figure will double by 2030. Indian companies will now get fair and nondiscriminatory access to the UK's public procurement system. This is India's most comprehensive agreement with a developed country so far.

- Tariffs up to 16% in the UK will now end. India is likely to get more than 5% market share in the UK in 1-2 years. Leather and footwear exports will increase by more than \$900 million due to the FTA.
- India's agricultural products will get a better market in the UK. Tariffs will be zeroed by the UK on more than 95% of agricultural tariff lines. It is estimated to increase exports by more than 20% in the next 3 years. Milk and edible oil have been excluded from this agreement to protect the interests of Indian farmers.
- UK tariffs on Indian marine products will end. This will further strengthen India's position in global marine exports.
- India's 1,659 engineering products will now enter the UK market with zero import duty. Engineering products account for 17% of the total FTA coverage. After the agreement, the export of these products to the UK in this sector is expected to double to \$7.5 billion by 2029-30.
- Indian electronics products will also get entry into the UK with zero duty. Products like smartphones, optical fibre cables, and inverters made in India will have a stronger hold in the UK market.
- India's medical device exports will also get a new direction from this agreement. Products like X-ray and ECG machines, along with Indian generic medicines, will have zero tariff in the UK.
- India's chemical exports are expected to increase by 30-40%. Exports are estimated to reach \$650-750 million in the financial year 2025-26.
- India currently exports gems and jewellery worth \$941 million to the UK, of which \$400 million comes from jewellery exports alone. India's position in the UK's luxury and lifestyle segment will be further strengthened. This export is expected to double in the next 2-3 years.



Big relief for Indian professionals

With the Double Contribution Convention, Indian professionals and their employers will be exempted from UK social security contributions for three years. Let us tell you that Indian professionals working in Britain had to pay an amount of about 500 pounds every year as National Insurance. This payment is for the social security schemes there, but they are unable to avail the benefits of this because they return to India after a few months.

This blueprint sets a transformative agenda to deepen and diversify bilateral cooperation in areas such as trade, technology, defence, education, clean energy, and climate action. This long-term strategic vision is based on a comprehensive strategic partnership and reflects the shared resolve of both countries to promote a safe, sustainable, and prosperous world amid emerging global challenges. Under Vision 2035, both countries will work together in the fields of development, technology, innovation, education, and defence, as well as climate change and clean energy.



India-Maldives A New Chapter Of Warmth In Relations

India and Maldives are not just neighbours but are also exclusive partners in the development journey. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's two-day visit to the Maldives on 25-26 July was marked by warmth and a reaffirmation of the deep-rooted friendship between the two nations. This successful visit of the Prime Minister made it clear that India is moving strongly on the path of cooperation and stability with its closest neighbours. The biggest achievement of this visit was that both the people and the government of the Maldives were assured that India will always be with them in their progress and security...



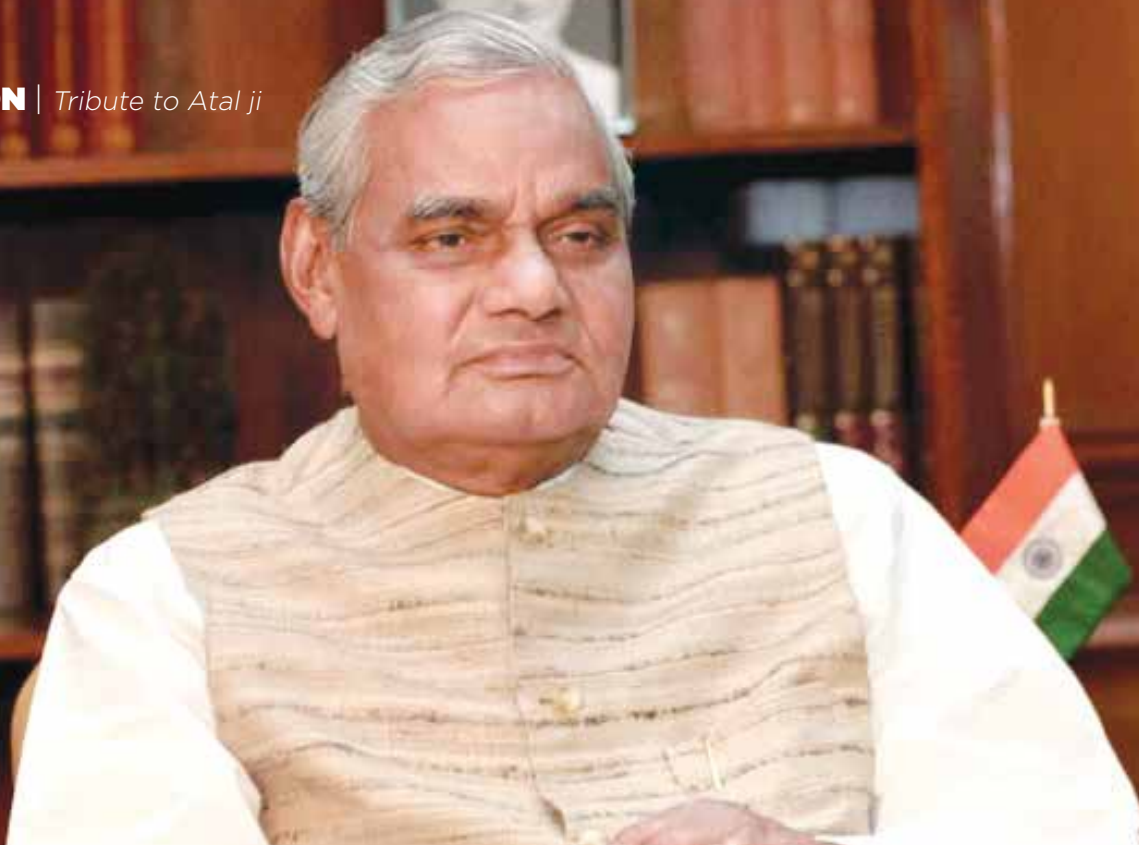


Maldives has an important place in India's "Neighbourhood First policy," and it is also a special partner in the Vision Mahasagar under the mutual coordination of security and development with regional and maritime partners. With this commitment, India has been seen standing with the Maldives in every time of crisis. The depth of relations between the two countries was visible on 25 July in the capital, Male, where President Mohammed Muizzu himself reached the airport with his entire cabinet to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi. PM Modi, who arrived to attend the 60th anniversary celebrations of Maldives' independence as the chief guest, said that during President Muizzu's visit to India in October last year, we shared the vision of a comprehensive economic and maritime security partnership. Now it is becoming a reality. As a result of this, our relations are touching new heights. Apart from government representatives, Prime Minister Modi also met opposition leaders, businessmen, diaspora, and students. Describing the Indian Ocean as living proof of the long-term relations between the Maldives and India, Maldives President Muizzu said that there is an unbreakable bond between the two countries, which is far beyond diplomacy. During a state banquet organised in honour of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Muizzu expressed gratitude for the continued support and unbreakable friendship of the Government of India.

Discussion on many issues, including free trade agreements

- India has also decided to reduce Maldives' annual debt payment obligations by 40 percent. It has been reduced from US \$ 51 million to US \$ 29 million. This will help the Maldives to deal with its economic problems. Apart from this, both the countries agreed to start negotiations on a free trade agreement.
- Six new projects were initiated or handed over to the Maldives in the field of development projects, including schemes related to social housing and community development.
- Further promoting cooperation in various fields, eight Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed in fisheries, meteorology, digital technology, and the pharma industry.
- A commemorative postage stamp was also jointly released to commemorate the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations. PM Modi also inaugurated the new building of the Ministry of Defence in Male.
- PM Modi gifted a sapling to the Maldives under the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign. Two Bhishma Health Cube sets were handed over to Maldives under the Arogya Maitri initiative. The Indian government has also gifted 72 vehicles to the Maldives Army. ●





‘Atal’ Ideal of Nation Building

On 16 August 2018, the demise of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who was the people's leader, created a void. Assimilating his ideals, Prime Minister Narendra Modi took his vision forward and made progress and prosperity his goal. On behalf of the grateful nation New India Samachar, brings to you edited excerpts of two blogs penned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in memory of Atal ji, a respectful tribute to him on his seventh death anniversary...

मैं जी भर जिया, मैं मन से मरूँ...लौटकर आऊंगा, कूच से क्यों डरूँ?

Today, the country is remembering its Bharat Ratna Atal as an ideal personality who made a place in the hearts of crores of Indians with his gentleness, simplicity, and kindness. The country is grateful for his contribution.

Our nation will always be grateful to Atal Ji for being the architect of India's transition into the 21st century. When he was re-elected as PM in 1998, our nation had passed through a period of political instability. In about 9 years, we had seen 4 Lok Sabha elections. The people of India were getting impatient and also sceptical about governments being able to deliver. It was Atal Ji who turned this tide by providing stable and effective governance. Coming from humble roots, he realised the struggles of the common citizen and the transformative power of effective governance.

Atal Ji, who came from an ordinary family, not only gave the country a model of stability and good governance, but also guaranteed new development.

One can see the long-term impact of Atal Ji's leadership in so many sectors around us. His era marked a gigantic leap in the world of Information Technology, telecom, and communications. The NDA Government under Atal Ji made the first serious attempt to make technology accessible to the common citizens. At the same time, there was foresight in connecting India. Even today, most people recall the Golden Quadrilateral Project, which connected the length and breadth of India. Equally notable were the Vajpayee Government's efforts to enhance local connectivity as well through initiatives like the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. Similarly, his Government gave a push to metro connectivity by doing extensive work for the Delhi Metro, which stands out as a world-class infrastructure project. Thus, the Vajpayee Government not only boosted economic growth but also brought distant regions closer, fostering unity and integration. When it comes to the social sector, an initiative like the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan highlights how Atal Ji dreamt of building an India where modern education is accessible to people across the nation, particularly for the poor and marginalised sections. He wanted education to be easy and accessible to all classes of India, i.e., OBC, SC, ST, tribals, and women.

At the same time, his government presided over many economic reforms, which set the stage for India's economic surge after several decades of following an economic philosophy that encouraged cronyism and stagnation. A wonderful example of Vajpayee Ji's leadership can be seen in the summer of 1998. His Government had just assumed office and on 11th May, India conducted the Pokhran tests, known as Operation Shakti. These tests exemplified the prowess of India's scientific community. The world was stunned that India had done the tests and expressed their anger in no uncertain terms. Any ordinary leader would have buckled, but Atal Ji was made differently. And what happened? India stood firm and resolute with the government calling for another



set of tests two days later, on 13th May! If the tests of the 11th showed scientific skill, the ones on the 13th showed true leadership. For him, the nation was supreme. India First, this mantra was his life's motto. Pokhran was necessary for the country, so he did not worry about sanctions and criticism, because the country came first. If we did not get supercomputers, cryogenic engines, we did not care, we would make them ourselves, we would make the impossible possible on our strength, with the power of our talent and scientific prowess. And we did it. We astonished the world. Only one force worked within him - the insistence of putting the country first.

It was a message to the world that gone were the days when India would buckle under threats or pressure. Despite facing international sanctions, the country fought together. Whenever you talk to anyone about Vajpayee's personality, they will say that he used to attract people towards him. His speaking skills were unmatched. He was unmatched in poetry and words. Even the opponents were admirers of Vajpayee's speeches. Those discussions became a medium of learning for the young MPs. Even with a small number of MPs, he was successful in strongly opposing the evil policies of the Congress. Vajpayee showed in Indian politics what honesty and policy clarity



His statement, Governments will come and go, parties will be formed, will break, but country should remain, still resonates in our minds like a mantra.

mean. This statement by him... Governments will come and go, parties will be formed and destroyed, but this country should remain... still resonates in our minds like a mantra.

During his tenure as PM, he always responded to the criticisms of the opposition in the best possible manner. He was in the opposition party most of the time, but opposed the policies with arguments and words. At one time, the Congress even called him a traitor, but even then, he never used unparliamentary words.

He was also not one to cling on to power through opportunistic means. He preferred to resign in 1996 instead of following the path of horse-trading and dirty politics. In 1999, his Government was defeated by 1 vote. But, he came back with another resounding mandate from the people. It is also noteworthy how deeply rooted Atal Ji was in Indian culture. Upon becoming India's External Affairs Minister, he became the first Indian leader to speak in Hindi at the United Nations. This one gesture showcased his immense pride in India's heritage and identity, leaving an indelible mark on the global stage. He took the language of the common Indian to the platform of the United Nations.

Atal Ji's persona was magnetic, and his life was enriched by his love for literature and expression. A prolific writer and poet, he used words to inspire, provoke thought, and even offer solace. His poetry, often reflective of his inner struggles and hopes for the nation, continues to resonate with people across age groups. He built new paths in social and political life. He could "light lamps even in storms". He spoke with complete frankness. He was proficient in how to present his point, how much to say, and how much to leave unsaid.

He used to say-

**“हे प्रभु! मुझे इतनी ऊँचाई कभी मत देना।
गैरों को गले ना लगा सकूँ, इतनी रुखाई कभी मत देना”**

This desire to stay connected with his countrymen with such ease and simplicity puts him on a different pedestal in social life. Dedicating his efforts and dedication to the nation reflects the greatness of his personality. With full faith in the means and resources of the country, we have to fulfill the dreams of Atal Ji, build the India of his dreams. I am confident that the principles taught by Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji will continue to inspire us to pave the path of new progress and prosperity for India.

(Edited excerpts from two blogs written by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the occasion of Atal ji's death and birth anniversary) ●

Boosting Cooperative Society

Multitracking Projects Of Railways Approved

Farmers are the priority of the Central Government, and strengthening modern infrastructure is the biggest goal. In this direction, 6 major decisions were approved in the Union Cabinet meeting held on July 31 under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Under these, while crores of rupees will be given to the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) to further strengthen the cooperative societies, the focus will be on agriculture-related infrastructure under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana. Along with this, the approval of four multitracking projects of the Railways will give a new pace to the rail network...

DECISION: Central grant of Rs 2,000 crore to NCDC in four years. In this, assistance of Rs 500 crore will be given every year from the financial year 2025-26.

IMPACT: The cooperative sector has an important contribution to the Indian economy. Cooperatives play an important role in socio-economic upliftment, developing infrastructure, and generating employment in rural areas. There are more than 8 lakh 25 thousand cooperative societies in the country, which have nearly 30 crore members. 94 percent of the farmers in the country are associated with these societies in some form or the other. The amount of grant released by the government to the National Cooperative Development Corporation will be Rs 500 crore every year in four years (from 2025-26 to 2028-29). Along with this, the corporation will also be able to raise Rs 20,000 crore from the open market in this four-year period. The fund given by the government will be given by the corporation in the form of a loan to the cooperative institutions to start new projects, expand the plant, and meet the working capital needs. This decision will benefit about 2 crore 90 lakh members of 13,288 cooperative societies.



We have taken an important step to strengthen the cooperative societies of the country. Under this, a central grant assistance scheme of Rs 2,000 crore has been approved for the National Cooperative Development Corporation. Sectors like dairy and storage will benefit greatly from this.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



DECISION: A total budget of Rs 6,520 crore has been approved for the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY), including an additional expenditure of Rs 1,920 crore.

IMPACT: Along with the budget approval, the Union Cabinet has made a provision of Rs 1,000 crore for the establishment of 50 multi-product food irradiation units and 100 food testing labs accredited by NABL. In this, financial assistance will be given to strengthen the infrastructure, and special attention will be given to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe dominated areas, including remote areas. The implementation of the proposed 50 irradiation units is expected to develop the capacity of food preservation up to 20 to 30 lakh metric tonnes per year. PM Krishi Sampada Yojana was launched in 2017 to help develop agro-processing clusters, cold chains, value-added infrastructure, and food processing capabilities. Irradiation helps reduce post-harvest crop losses, prevent microbial contamination, and increase the shelf life of food products.

DECISION: 4 multitracking projects covering 13 districts of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, and Jharkhand approved.

IMPACT: These projects, with an estimated cost of about Rs 11,169 crore, will be completed by the year 2028-29. Direct employment of about 229 lakh man-days will also be generated during the construction of the projects. These projects include the Itarsi-Nagpur 4th line, Aurangabad (Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar)-Parbhani doubling, Aluabari Road-New Jalpaiguri 3rd and 4th lines, and Dangoaposi-Jaroli 3rd and 4th lines. Adding about 574 km to the existing network of the Indian Railways. The proposed multitracking project will enhance connectivity to about 2,309 villages, having a population of about 43.60 lakh. ●



71st National Film Awards

Shah Rukh Khan, Vikrant Massey Best Actor, Rani Mukerji Best Actress

The National Film Awards, started in 1954 to promote cinematic excellence in India, have not only recognized talent on silver screen but also promoted diverse cultures and stories that shape the cultural image of the nation. The 71st National Film Awards 2023 were announced on August 1. While Shah Rukh Khan was adjudged as the Best Actor for the film 'Jawan' and Vikrant Massey for the film '12th Fail', Rani Mukherjee was announced as the Best Actress for her performance in the film 'Mrs. Chatterjee V/s Norway'...

Best Actress in a Leading Role



Category- Feature Film
Mrs. Chatterjee V/s
Norway (Hindi) Actress:
Rani Mukerji

Best Actor in a Leading Role



12th Fail (Hindi)
Actor Vikrant
Massey

Jawan (Hindi)
Actor Shah
Rukh Khan



Best Direction: *The Kerala Story (Hindi)*
Director: Sudipto Sen

Best Cinematography

The Kerala Story (Hindi)
Cinematography: Prasantanu
Mohapatra

Best Choreography

Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kabaani (Hindi)
Choreographer: Vaibhavi Merchant

Best Hindi Film

Kathal: A Jackfruit Mystery
Director: Yashowardhan
Mishra





PMO India
@PMOIndia

हमें 2047 तक भारत को विकसित बनाना है। हमारा रास्ता है- विकास से सशक्तिकरण। रोजगार से आत्मनिर्भरता। और संवेदनशीलता से सुशासन: PM @narendramodi



रक्षा मंत्री कार्यालय / R...
@DefenceMinIndia

6 और 7 मई 2025 को, भारतीय सेनाओं ने ऑपरेशन सिंदूर के नाम से एक ऐतिहासिक सैन्य कार्रवाई को अंजाम दिया। यह केवल एक सैन्य कार्रवाई नहीं थी, बल्कि यह भारत की संप्रभुता, उसकी अस्मिता, देश के नागरिकों के प्रति हमारी जिम्मेदारी और आतंकवाद के खिलाफ हमारी नीति का एक effective और decisive demonstration था: रक्षा मंत्री श्री @rajnathsingh



Amit Shah
@AmitShah

'ऑपरेशन सिंदूर' किसी के कहने पर नहीं रोका गया। पाकिस्तान घुटनों के बल आ गया और वहाँ के DGMO ने कॉल करके कहा... 'बहुत हो गया, अब कृपया इसे रोक दीजिए'।



Nitin Gadkari
@nitin_gadkari

Bharat celebrates a landmark moment with the signing of the historic #IndiaUKFTA! 🇮🇳🇬🇧 Gratitude to the visionary leadership of Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi Ji, this milestone pact offers Indian exporters duty-free access to the UK, boosting agriculture, pharma, MSMEs, and labour-intensive sectors.



Piyush Goyal
@PiyushGoyal

The India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) is a game-changer. It is encouraging to witness the optimism of our business leaders and their resolve to leverage the #IndiaUKFTA for growth, collaboration & global competitiveness.



Arjun Ram Meghwal
@arjunrammeghwal

Operation Sindoor ने Defence Market में भारत का झंडा गाड़ दिया है। दुनिया में Made in India हथियारों की मांग बढ़ रही है। #ModiGovtAgainstTerror

Line of credit, trade talks, direct flights: Modi, Muizzu mark turnaround in ties



1 in 3 US smartphone imports now made in India, China's lead shrinks

AGGAM WALIA
A. SOUMYARENDRA BARIK
NEW DELHI, JULY 25

INDIA'S SHARE IN US smartphone imports surged sharply to 33 per cent in the first five months of 2025, from about 11 per cent in 2024, China, which continues to dominate the product category, saw its share drop from 52 per cent to 49 per cent over the same period.

India's growing share — now 1 in 3, driven largely by Apple iPhones — comes amid ongoing trade talks with the US. While smartphone imports from India jumped by over three times year-on-year to 21.1 million units

SHARE IN U.S. SMARTPHONE IMPORTS



Donald Trump has threatened a 25 per cent tariff on Indian iPhones — comes amid ongoing trade talks with the US. While smartphone imports from India jumped by over three times year-on-year to 21.1 million units

between January and May this year, according to data from the US International Trade Commission (USITC). In value terms (FOB), imports of Indian-made smartphones were valued at \$1.1 billion in the first five months of 2025, up from \$360 million in the same period last year.

The projects include a new Thiruvallur airport terminal building, developed as an extension of the TGV line.

The new terminal has a built-up area of 1,20,000 sq m and will offer 1,200 parking spaces, including a new ATC tower and other facilities.

The project is being implemented by the Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Corporation (TIDCO) in partnership with the Ministry of Transport, Government of India.

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India, UK Start a New Chapter with FTA

Focus on doubling bilateral trade to more than \$100 b by 2030; simplified visa norms for professionals; benefits for Indian farmers under the pact

Team IT
NEW DELHI

India's IT exports to the UK are projected to reach \$100 billion by 2030, according to the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). The pact will simplify visa norms for professionals and provide benefits for Indian farmers.

BREWING A DEAL
NEW DELHI

The India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) is a game-changer. It will simplify visa norms for professionals and provide benefits for Indian farmers.

OVERSEAS INDIAN
NEW DELHI

The India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) is a game-changer. It will simplify visa norms for professionals and provide benefits for Indian farmers.

PM Modi dedicates to nation ₹4,900-cr airport, rail, road port projects in TN

PM Modi dedicates to nation ₹4,900-cr airport, rail, road port projects in TN

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated ₹4,900 crore worth of infrastructure projects in Tamil Nadu, including a new airport terminal, a railway station, and a road project.

INFRA BOOST

The projects include a new Thiruvallur airport terminal building, developed as an extension of the TGV line.

RAILWAY PROJECT

The railway project is being implemented by the Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Corporation (TIDCO) in partnership with the Ministry of Transport, Government of India.

ROAD PROJECT

The road project is being implemented by the Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Corporation (TIDCO) in partnership with the Ministry of Transport, Government of India.

Modi: NEP making big contribution towards holistic growth of students

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi said there have been many positive changes in education during the last five years and the new National Education Policy (NEP) is making a significant contribution to the holistic and multidimensional development of students by encouraging research and innovation.

In a message on the completion of five years of NEP, Modi noted that the Ministry of Education is organising Akshati Shiksha Samagam (ASSS) Tuesday and new initiatives will be launched in the field of education during the event. "Education is the medium that makes a person self-reliant," he said.

No world leader asked us to stop operation: Modi

The Operation Sindoor in India has put Pakistan's notion of escalation to rest, Modi said. He said that no world leader has asked India to stop the operation. He said that India is confident that this event will make a person self-reliant.

Exceptional Maratha Forts

India's 44th site on the UNESCO list

Pratapgad

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj defeated the Bijapur army in the Battle of Pratapgad in 1659 and ended the threat posed by Afzal Khan.

Raigad

Here Chhatrapati Shivaji was coronated in 1674, served as the first capital of his empire.

Shivneri

Birthplace of Chhatrapati Shivaji.

Lohagad

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj conquered the fort in 1670.

Suvarnadurg

In 1669, Chhatrapati Shivaji strengthened this island fort.

Khanderi

In 1679, Shivaji built Khanderi island for coastal surveillance.

Panhala

Residence of Shivaji. Role in the Battle of Pavan Khind.

Salher

In 1671, Shivaji won this fort in the war against Mughals.

Vijaydurg

This fort was won by the Marathas from Adil Shah.

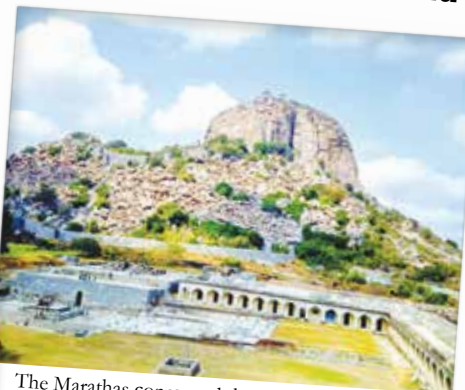
Rajgad

Capital of the Maratha Empire before Raigad.

Sindhu durg

Shivaji built a naval fort at a cost of about 1 crore hon.

Gingee Fort of Tamil Nadu :



The Marathas conquered the Gingee fort in 1677 AD and made it the main base for their southern expansion. It was also the residence of Shivaji.

**NEW INDIA
SAMACHAR**
FORTNIGHTLY

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EDITOR IN CHIEF
Dhirendra Ojha
Principal Director General,
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