

INTERVIEW

– Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister of Education, Skill Development, and Entrepreneurship

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Volume 4, Issue 2

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NEW INDIA SAMACHAR



YOUTH POWER BUILDING NATION

New India is progressing towards the great goal of becoming a developed nation by giving new wings to the dreams and aspirations of more than 60 crore youth and students termed as the Amrit Generation.



DR. A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM: 27 JULY 2023 DEATH ANNIVERSARY

INSPIRATION FOR FRESH IDEAS IN YOUTH

"Dreams are not those that are seen in sleep; dreams are those that do not let you sleep." With these words, the 'Missile Man,' Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's contribution to the country cannot be forgotten. Abdul Kalam was born on October 15, 1931, in Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu, to a Tamil Muslim family. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam dedicated his entire life to hard work and service to the people as a teacher, scientist, and President. 'Bharat Ratna' Kalam, India's 11th President, always tried to inspire the young generation through his powerful speeches. His ideas continue to inspire millions of young people today. On July 27, it is Abdul Kalam's death anniversary, and the nation salutes him.



Dare to think differently, invent, take the unknown path, seek the impossible, solve problems, and become successful. These are the great qualities you must strive for.

A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

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SAMACHAR

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...

DOORS OF NEW OPPORTUNITIES OPEN FOR THE YOUTH

Greetings!

This is India's precious time! This proclamation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi from the ramparts of Red Fort is the basis of Amrit Yatra for the next 25 years. The responsibility of turning it into a reality rests on the young shoulders. The Sankalp Se Siddhi path on which the country is moving and making every effort to realise the dream of a new India- the responsibility of which largely lies with youth. Today the pivotal position that India enjoys in the 21st century has come after centuries. The biggest reason for this is India's youth potential, youth power.

Today, young dreams and aspirations are getting new opportunities in India and promising results are also visible. Three years ago on July 29, the new National Education Policy was approved by the Union Cabinet. The Central Government has implemented the new National Education Policy keeping in view the requirements of modern and developed India. The policy lays emphasis on the holistic development of children, promotion of knowledge, skills, and Indian values.

Along with education, new opportunities through skill development, employment-self-employment, journey from startup to unicorn, gaining recognition for sports, technology-research and other fields have made the youth a partner in the overall development of the nation. From different parts of the country, endless examples of talent and potential of the youth are grabbing attention. Even today, when global level competitions are held, from maths to science, the prowess of Indian youth amazes the world.

The initiatives taken for youth and vision of future India has become our cover story this time because the young population of the country is the 'Amrit' generation of India , which will take the country to a new height in the coming 25 years, making India self-reliant and making it more developed.

Apart from this, the story of brave heart Nirmal Jit Singh Sekhon in the personality section, the inspirational saga of the great heroes in the series of Amrit Mahotsav features in this edition. Events related to G-20, decisions of the Union Cabinet, Prime Minister's visit to America and Egypt are the other highlights of this issue.

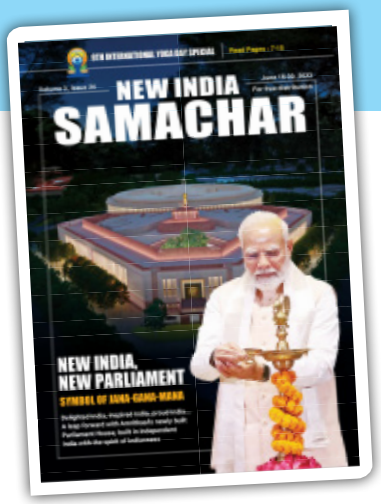
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(Rajesh Malhotra)

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MAIL BOX



Admired the cover story 'New India, New Parliament'

The cover story published in the June 16-30 issue of New India Samachar magazine titled 'New India, New Parliament' was very good. I appreciate the way in which every issue and facts associated with it has been presented in the cover story to reach the common man. It is unique in terms of presentation. The other articles in the magazine are also excellent.

Shalini Bhatnagar
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Nice to read about freedom fighters

In the New India Samachar magazine, however, all the articles are very special which provide information about general knowledge and current affairs. However, I personally enjoy reading about freedom fighters in the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav section. Many thanks to you and your entire team for collecting and publishing such rare information. It is a request to continue this column even after Amrit Mahotsav.

Dr. Arvind Kumar Gupta
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Article published in the magazine is inspiring the young generation

The articles published in New India Samachar Magazine throws light on the cultural, traditional, industrial and digital transformation of New India which is surely inspiring the new young generation of the country. The story published on senior citizens was brilliant. The Action for LiFE, Action for Lifestyle article really highlight revoltionary ideas for promoting green energy.

Heman V. Majethia
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All the information given in the cover story seemed important

All the information given in the cover story of 'World Elder Abuse Awareness Day' in the June 1-15 issue of New India Samachar magazine gained my attention. Reading the magazine, it seems that the role of elders in the society is very important. They cannot be forgotten. They should be given due respect in the family and society. All the schemes of the government, which are being run keeping senior citizens in mind, are going to give them multidimensional benefits. Feeling proud of our glorious history after reading about Ramappa temple in the magazine. Remembering this 'Rudreshwar Temple', included in UNESCO's 2021 World Heritage List, named after its architect, is a true tribute from the country to that artist and his art.

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GANDHI PEACE PRIZE FOR 2021 TO BE CONFERRED ON GITA PRESS



The Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021 will be conferred on Gita Press in recognition of its contribution to collective upliftment as well as its promotion of peace and Gandhian ideals. After deliberations on June 18, 2023, the jury chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi unanimously selected Gita Press, Gorakhpur, for the Gandhi Peace Prize for the year 2021. The prize includes an amount of one crore rupees, a citation, a plaque, and a unique traditional handicraft item. Gita Press has been recognised for its outstanding contribution to bringing about change in the social, economic, and political spheres through nonviolence and other Gandhian ideals. This award has previously been given to Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Said of Oman in 2019 and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman of Bangladesh in 2020. Prime Minister Modi stated that awarding the Gandhi Award to Gita Press on its 100th anniversary is to recognise the institution's work in community service. Gita Press, founded in 1923, is one of the world's largest publishers. The organisation has published 41.7 crore books in 14 languages, including 16.21 crore Shrimad Bhagavad Gita books. The Gandhi Peace Prize is an annual award given by the Indian government. The award was established in 1995 to commemorate the 125th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, as a tribute to his ideals. The award is open to all people, regardless of nationality, race, language, caste, creed, or gender.

REDUCTION IN IMPORT DUTY TO CUT DOWN EDIBLE OIL PRICES BY 5%



The Central Government is continuously working to make affordable and high-quality food available to consumers. The government is attempting to reduce inflation at all levels, whether by controlling exports or lowering import duties. The government is constantly working to reduce the price of edible oil in the domestic market. In this episode, the Central Government has reduced the basic import duty on edible oil by 5% in order to ensure the availability of edible oil to consumers at an affordable price. The basic import duty on refined soybean and sunflower oils has been reduced from 17.5% to 12.5%. This government order will be in effect until March 31, 2024. Basic import duty is a significant factor in the price of edible oil, affecting costs at all levels. The import duty on refined soybean oil and refined sunflower oil was reduced from 32.5 percent to 17.5 percent earlier in October 2021. This was done because international prices were extremely high in 2021, which was reflected in domestic prices as well.



"DUGDH SANKALAN SATHI MOBILE APP" LAUNCHED

The government is taking a number of steps to fulfil its commitment to improve milk quality, transfer direct benefits to milk producers, and promote transparency among stakeholders. In this sequence, Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey, Union Heavy Industries Minister, launched the 'Dugdh Sankalp Saathi Mobile App' in Mussoorie, Uttarakhand, with the goal of bringing changes to the Indian dairy industry. The app's goal is to improve milk quality and streamline operations at the village level, including milk cooperatives. Rajasthan Electronics & Instruments Limited (REIL) designed and developed the app. The app will solve the problems that currently exist in the milk collection process. The application will allow all partnerships, including milk producers, milk cooperatives, milk organisations, and state unions, to improve operations at the grassroots level. The mobile app will provide milk producers with information in English, Hindi, Punjabi, Telugu, and other languages. Aside from that, online monitoring of daily milk sent to milk cooperative societies, real-time milk price updates from a cloud server, elimination of human errors, payment of milk producers, and direct benefit of government subsidy in beneficiaries' bank accounts via an app There will be a switch. The app will send information to milk producers for milk collection.



INITIATIVE TO IMPROVE BLACK SPOTS ON THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY

According to the National Crime Records Bureau, there were 4.22 lakh road accidents in the country in 2021, with 1.73 lakh people killed in these accidents. The causes of these accidents varied, but one major factor was the negligence of the drivers on the road, as well as the failure to follow traffic rules and some accident-prone spots on the highway. This is why the NHAI has taken the initiative to improve road safety by issuing guidelines to improve accident-prone spots on National Highways through the implementation of short-term measures. The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has given project directors the authority to improve accident-prone spots identified by the concerned state police or district road safety committee, up to a maximum of Rs 10 lakh per spot. Simultaneously, the authority for short-term measures costing more than Rs 10 lakh and up to Rs 25 lakh has been delegated to the relevant regional office. These financial powers are in addition to the NHAI's previous guidelines, which stated that project directors could approve the rectification of black spots notified by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways through short-term measures at a cost of up to Rs 25 lakh per black spot. Short-term solutions include installing zebra crossings, crash barriers, and guardrails for pedestrians. ■



NIRMAL JEET SINGH SEKHON: THE INDIAN AIR FORCE'S ONLY PARAM VIR CHAKRA AWARDEE

BORN: 17 JULY 1943 | **DIED:** 14 DECEMBER, 1971

Nirmal Jit Singh Sekhon, the first and only Paramveer Flying Officer of the Indian Air Force, whose courage and supreme sacrifice continue to inspire millions, is one of India's most distinguished war heroes. The nation will always remember bravehearts like Sekhon for his intrepid act of flying his fighter aircraft in adverse conditions amidst enemy bombardment and then shooting down two enemy fighter jets in the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971...

Nirmal Jeet Singh Sekhon was born in Rurka Issewal village, Ludhiana, Punjab, on July 17, 1943. Sardar Trilok Singh was his father's name, and Harbans Kaur was his mother's. His father was an Air Force Warrant Officer who retired as an Honorary Flying Lieutenant. Nirmal Jeet Singh has always had a fascination with aircraft and the Air Force. In 1962, he enrolled at Dayalbagh Engineering College after graduating from Ajitsar Mohi High School in Ludhiana. However, he dropped out midway and joined the Air Force as a fighter pilot on June 4, 1967.

After undergoing rigorous training, he joined the 18 Sqadron in October 1968. In 1971, he married. Simultaneously, information about the Pakistan-India war, which Pakistan initiated on December 3, 1971, was received. Sekhon made the decision to take command. Sekhon was co-pilot of a G-Nat squadron in Srinagar at the time, reporting directly to the Srinagar airbase.

18 Squadron was tasked with protecting the airspace from Pakistan. Nirmal Jeet Singh Sekhon, a flying officer, was assigned to this mission. Sekhon was ready on December 14, 1971. Six F-86 fighter jets from Peshawar, Pakistan, attacked the Srinagar airbase. Enemy aircraft began to hover over the strip, and ground targets were attacked. Flying in such a situation is tantamount to inviting death. Nonetheless, Sekhon flew the aircraft, shooting down one plane and setting the other on fire. During this time, Sekhon lost contact with Flt. Lt. Ghumman, who was in command and was fighting the enemy alone.

In the meantime, four more Pakistani planes surrounded Nirmal Jit Singh Sekhon's plane. Sekhon did not give up and continued to fight their enemies in the battle. Sekhon's plane was attacked, and he was martyred. His plane's wreckage was eventually discovered, but his body was never found. At the age of 28, Sheikh was posthumously awarded the Param Vir Chakra, the highest military honour.

This is how a grateful nation remembers

In the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, 21 large uncharted islands have been named after Param Vir Chakra winners, including one named after Flying Officer Nirmal Jit Singh Sekhon. On the occasion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated, "These 21 newly named islands will be a constant source of inspiration for the younger generations." There are also statues of him at the National War Memorial, the District Court in Ludhiana, and his school. On the 50th anniversary of the Indian Republic, then-Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee issued a set of five postage stamps honouring gallantry award winners of the Indian Armed Forces, including the name of Flying Officer Nirmal Jeet Singh Sekhon. ■

CABINET DECISIONS

DECISION TO INCREASE THE SUPPORT PRICE OF SUGARCANE, FIVE CRORE FARMERS WILL GET BENEFIT

The Government of India is committed to improve the economic condition of the sugarcane farmers and add sweetness to their lives. With this aim, the price of sugarcane has been increased to Rs 315 per quintal for the year 2023-24, which is the highest price so far. Crores of sugarcane farmers across the country will benefit from this. In this direction, the government has extended the urea subsidy scheme for another three years. Along with this, the Union Cabinet has also approved several other programs related to the welfare of farmers including PM-Pranam.



Decision: The government approved the highest ever fair and remunerative price of Rs 315/quintal for sugarcane farmers in the sugar season 2023-24.

Impact: This decision will benefit about 5 crore sugarcane farmers and lakhs of workers working in sugar mills. In the last season, the minimum price of sugarcane was Rs 305 per quintal. Further, the government has decided that there will be no deduction in cases of sugar mills where the recovery is less than 9.5 per cent.

Decision: Approves a comprehensive package of schemes for upliftment of farmers, enhancing soil productivity and ensuring food security while promoting environmental sustainability.

Impact: A special package of innovative schemes for farmers has been approved with a total outlay of Rs 3,70,128.7 crore. The cluster of schemes focuses on the overall welfare of farmers and their economic betterment by promoting sustainable agriculture. This initiative will increase the income of farmers, strengthen natural and organic farming, revive soil productivity and also ensure food security.

- Approval to continue the urea subsidy scheme.
- Introduction of Sulfur Coated Urea (Urea Gold) to overcome the Sulfur deficiency in the soil and reduce the input cost of the farmers.
- By 2025-26, eight Nano Urea plants with a production capacity of 44 crore bottles equivalent to 195 LMT conventional urea will be commissioned.

Decision: Approval to introduce the National Research Foundation Bill, 2023 in Parliament to strengthen the research ecosystem in the country.

Impact: The approved bill will pave the way for the establishment of the National Research Foundation. This foundation will seed, grow and promote research and development. It will also promote a culture of research and innovation in universities, colleges, research institutes and development laboratories across the country.

Decision: Approval to the agreement done between the Government of India and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure on August 22, 2022.

Impact: Approval of this Agreement will enable the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure to enjoy the exemptions, immunities and privileges required under Section 3 of the United Nations (Privileges and Immunities) Act, 1947, by virtue of which it is legally an independent entity. And as a unit, it will be able to perform its functions more efficiently internationally. ■



INDIA'S 'AMRIT GENERATION' GETTING EMPOWERED

India is the youngest country in the world with an average age of 29 years. About 65 percent of the population is below 35 years of age, while 50 percent of the population is below 25 years of age. In this backdrop, a nation with unlimited powers owing to its demography and democracy is giving new flight to young dreams. Several steps are being taken to empower youth including the new National Education Policy unveiled three years ago, on July 29 to create a global hub of knowledge or equipping the youth with skills on a mission mode, making the unicorn initiative a culture from startup or connecting youth with technology-digital. Providing youth opportunities in army or changing the social thinking by linking sports with career, moving towards Amrit Kaal through the National Youth Policy or embodying the revolutionary initiative to link employment-self-employment have been the key efforts of the government. The youth power referred to as the Amrit Generation has become the driving force of India's development journey which will take the country to a new height in the coming 25 years and make India a self-reliant and developed nation....





The people of India are young,
And the mind of India is also young.
India is young beyond its potential,
India is younger than its dreams.
India is younger than it thinks
India is younger than its consciousness.

Today the world sees India with hope and faith because of these specialities. India is young because the vision of India has always accepted modernity, the philosophy of India has embraced change. Bharat is that which has newness even in its antiquity. It is said in the Vedas - "Api Yatha, Yuvano Matstha, No Vishwam Jagat, Abhipitve Manisha". That is, it is the youth who are the harbinger of happiness to security in the world. Only the youth will definitely pave the way for happiness and security for India and the nation. That's why, in India, whether it is the journey of yoga reaching common people, whether it is revolution or progressive development, whether it is the path of service or dedication, whether it is the path of transformation or bravery, whether it is the path of cooperation or reform, whether it is a matter of connecting with the roots or propelling our prowess in the world, there is no field left in which the youth of our country have not taken an active part because...

They now aim for the sky. They have created their own new identity. The enthusiasm of the youth is high due to the policies of the Central Government. The spirit of innovation runs in the veins of the Indian youth. There is an abundance of creativity in his brain. The innovation and creativity that the youth of India talks about, the central government is doing the work of converting it into reality. The Central Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is making every possible use of the talent of the youth of India who have the 'Can Do Spirit, Will Do approach' and is creating a conducive environment for them. PM Modi has been encouraging the youth to be entrepreneurs and self-employed. That's why today's youth are becoming job providers instead of job seekers. The central government is giving full support to the startups with the policies and schemes, which has boosted the courage of the youth to take risks. If a government takes reformative steps, youth bring results. This partnership between the government and the youth is giving new flight to the country's resolutions.



> Today, when the world is looking towards India with so much hope, behind it are the youth. Today we are the 5th largest economy in the world. India's target is to make it to the top-3. This economic growth of the country will bring immense opportunities for the youth. Revolution of technology and innovation in the field of agriculture will create new opportunities for the youth, new avenues will open. Today's youth are witnessing these changes, so tomorrow they will lead the future with this same strength.
>
> - Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Inching closer to become a global hub of education

A country gets recognition all over the world for its education standard and policies. The central government has created world class education infrastructure due to which the youth of the country is becoming empowered. Prime Minister Modi brought new National Education Policy, which infused revolutionary changes in the field of education. There is no compulsion to get an education in the English language. In the new National Education Policy, subjects are taught in regional languages at the level of primary and higher education. Technical subjects like engineering and IT can now be completed in five regional languages as well. This will not only boost registration but also increase the ability of students to solve local problems with global thinking. In every country with high youth demography, three things matter a lot, which become the true identity of the youth. The first thing is ideas and innovation. The second is the spirit to take risks and the third is the can-do spirit, that is, the determination to complete any task, no matter how adverse the circumstances are-when these three things combine, unprecedented results are obtained. Education has an important contribution to this. This is the reason that after waiting for almost three decades, three years ago i.e. on July 29, 2020, India got a new National Education Policy, which is making India a global center of knowledge. Many major changes have taken place due to the student-based policies of PM Modi. There has been an unprecedented expansion in the number of AIIMS, IITs, IIMs and medical colleges in the country.

New India becoming skilled through Kaushal mission

It has been the priority of the Modi government to ensure that the youth get employment according to their education, skills and expectations. The extent to which employment is increasing within the country is known through direct and indirect indicators. Strong economic policies are creating lakhs of jobs. People are being skilled under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Yojana. Due to these efforts of the government, new employment opportunities are being created in many new sectors. For example, if we look at the figures of EPFO only, then after the year 2018-19, more than four and a half crore people have got formal jobs. Self-employment opportunities are also increasing continuously in the country. This shows the trust of the youth in the Modi government. To make youth future ready, there is a need to continuously skill, reskill and build their skills. With this thinking, the work of skill mapping has started in India. Under it, the Ministries of Education, Skills and Labour are working together. It is also very important for the youth of India

to have the skills to work in different sectors. For this, higher education institutions and skill development institutions are also being constructed on a war footing in the country. Between 2014 and 2022, every year a new IIT and a new IIM have come up. On an average, one university has been opened every week and two colleges every day in the last 9 years. If the number of colleges increases, naturally the number of seats has also increased, opportunities for higher education have increased for the youth. ITIs are also playing an important role in developing skills for a job. In the last 9 years, almost everyday, a new ITI has been built in the country. Today, according to the new needs of the country, new courses are being started in about 15 thousand ITIs of the country. Under various schemes of skill development, more than 6 crore youth have been given skill training in the country.

Sports provide a new avenue of career

In the last 9 years a new era of sports has started in India. This new era is not just about making India a big sporting power in the world, rather it is also a new era of empowerment of the society through sports. There was a time when there was a feeling of indifference towards sports in the country. Very few people thought that sports could be a career. The reason for this was that the sports were not getting the support and cooperation they should have got from the previous governments. That's why it was very difficult for poor, middle class and village-rural children to move forward in sports. Most of the parents also felt that the child should go into that profession which would settle his life. But now there has been a big change in the outlook of society. Sports have come to be seen as a lucrative profession to get ahead in life. The Khelo India campaign has played a big role in this.

The efforts of PM Modi brought a change in the thinking of the people of the country. The Central Government made such policies which opened the way to make a career in sports. The result was India's best ever performance in the Tokyo Olympics with 7 medals. India also got 19 medals in the Paralympics. The mantra of New India is - unite and win. Get involved and win the battle. India had not won as many medals in the Paralympics till now in its history. India's performance in the Olympics was also excellent, because the confidence of

Today the goal of the country is - Developed India, Strong India! We do not have to stop without fulfilling the dream of a developed India. I am sure, every youth will make this dream his dream, and will take this responsibility of the country on his shoulders.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



victory was instilled in the youth. Through the TOPS program of the Central Government, players are getting cooperation and encouragement in all kinds of sports. New sports are also getting recognition. With this, the players are not only bringing glory to India but also shaping their future.

Journey from Startup to Unicorn

The nature of jobs has also changed very rapidly in the last 9 years. In these changing circumstances, new sectors have emerged for the youth. The Central Government is constantly encouraging these new sectors as well. In these 9 years, the country has witnessed a new revolution in the start-up culture. In 2014, where there were a few hundred startups in the country, today their number has reached above one



lakh. It is estimated that these startups have given employment to at least 10 lakh youth. In these 9 years there has been a new boom in the drone sector. From spraying fertilizers to supply of medicines, the use of drones is increasing. In the last 9 years, the Government of India has given 23 lakh crore rupees to the youth of the country under Mudra Yojana. There are about 8 to 9 crore people who have started their independent work for the first time with the help of Mudra Yojana. The self-reliant India campaign that is going on today is also based on the creation of employment through manufacturing in the country. Under the PLI scheme, the central government is providing assistance of about Rs 2 lakh crore for manufacturing. Apart from making India the manufacturing hub of the world, this amount will also help in providing employment to lakhs of youth.

The world has accepted the fact that today India has two immense powers – one is demography and the other is democracy. The younger the population of a country, the greater its potential and the wider its possibilities. But India's youth have demographic dividend as well as democratic values, their democratic dividend is also incomparable. India also considers its youth as development drivers.

– Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Youth getting new opportunities

In a country where youth are full of passion and enthusiasm, the priority of that country will always be the youth. Today's India is also trying to provide that platform to all its youth, which can help in fulfilling the dreams of the nation. Today, new sectors are being opened for the youth in India. Be it India's digital revolution, India's start-up revolution, innovation revolution, the youth are getting the biggest benefit of all these. Today, the way India is continuously improving its defense sector, the youth of the country are also benefiting from it. There was a time when even assault rifles and bullet proof jackets were imported from abroad. But today there are hundreds of items needed by the army, which are being made in India. All these campaigns have brought new possibilities and opportunities for the youth of India. Recently, the country opened the doors of the space sector for young talent as a result, the first private satellite was launched in no time. Similarly, the animation and gaming sector has brought in a vast array of opportunities for the talented youth. Be it entertainment, logistics, agriculture, drone technology is making its presence felt. Today the youth of the country are coming forward to prepare all types of drones in India.

In the last 8 years, the number of daughters in the police and paramilitary forces has almost doubled. The way has been opened for the deployment of women at the front line in all three wings of the army. Today women have joined the Indian Navy for the first time as Agniveers, as sailors. Women have started to enter combat roles in the armed forces. Training of the first batch of women cadets has started at NDA Pune. The Central Government has also given permission for admission of girls in Sainik Schools. About 1500 girl students have been admitted to Sainik Schools. Today there is a facility of self-certification for the youth, while earlier the certificate had to be attested by a gazetted officer. Interviews have been abolished for recruitment to the posts of Group-C, D. In this age of technology, youth are becoming new digital entrepreneurs in every village. Employment and self-employment opportunities are continuously increasing in the country due to the schemes of the Central Government. Apart from this, the central government is also organizing job fairs to provide 10 lakh permanent government jobs to the youth. When such a mammoth youth power will be engaged in nation building, development of the country, then no goal will remain impossible.

Youth energy is, in fact, the most important source of energy for any nation. There is zeal and passion at this stage of life. There are many dreams, and life is successful when dreams become resolutions and life converges on the resolution. For India's youth, this is an exciting time. It is widely acknowledged that India's time has arrived, and the entire world now looks to India. The youth of India are primarily the reason for this. In fact, youth power is the driving force behind India's development journey. As a result, a nation seeking inclusive progress cannot afford not to invest in its youth's overall development. A country with so many young people cannot dream small. As a result, the youth, in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision, are being given the opportunity to think big in order to realise their dreams. Through youth welfare policies and foresight, the central government, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, recognises youth potential and provides opportunities for them to realise their dreams

Let us know how the youth are becoming the charioteers of the nation's progress with the policies, intentions and new opportunities of the Central Government, so that the dream of a developed and strong India can come true through determination.



Today, as a nation, as the largest youth country in the world, we are at a crossroads. This is the stage of new dreams, new resolutions for India. In such a situation, the potential of the youth of India will take India to a new height.

– Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY 2020

NEW NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY, THE WAY TO ACHIEVE THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE AMRIT GENERATION

The education system and the young generation have a big responsibility to fulfill the Amrit resolutions of the country in Amritkaal. It has also been said in our Upanishads - Vidya Amritam Ashnute. That is, knowledge only leads to immortality and Amrit. Knowledge and learning have also been considered as the path of salvation. Therefore, on July 29, 2020, the government came out with a future-oriented new National Education Policy after three decades. The foundation of a developed India has been laid in the budget for the current financial year 2023-24, that education should be practical and industry-oriented, which will rapidly increase the resolutions of the Amrit generation on the path of success.

There has never been any dearth of talent in the country, but, unfortunately, such a system was created in the country in which the meaning of education was considered only and only job. This disorder in education was done by the British during the period of slavery to prepare a servant class for themselves, to meet their needs. A little changed but a lot was left. The present government has tried to change this. Education and skills have been reoriented according to the interests of the youth and the demands of the future. The National Education Policy has also given equal emphasis on both learning and skilling. The new National Education Policy

> Under the new education policy, more than 90 universities across the country have started NCC as an elective subject

ensures more freedom for the youth to take decisions according to the emerging circumstances.

For the implementation of the new National Education Policy, an All India Education Conference was held in July, 2022 so that this policy gets an

Steps taken so far for the new National Education Policy

- NCERT has started the process of developing the National Curriculum Framework by taking input from all stakeholders, including Ministries, Departments, states, and Union Territories.
- States and UTs have also started formulating State curricula based on themes identified in the NEP, with district-level deliberations on Early Childhood and Education, School Education, Teacher education, and Adult Education.
- The National Curriculum Framework for Early Childhood Care and Education at the foundational level has been prepared by NCERT. This is the first-ever integrated curriculum framework for children in the age group of 3 to 8 years in India, which is a direct result of the 5+3 + 3+4 curriculum and pedagogical structure for school education as suggested in the National Education Policy 2020.
- Some of the transformative ideas for implementing quality school education have been incorporated into the framework, which include toy-based learning, sports, an eco-friendly lifestyle, and learning about the outside world.
- Launch of the National Literacy and Numeracy Skills Initiative (NIPUN) India Mission to strengthen foundational literacy and numeracy, including skills in practical thinking, problem solving, decision-making, etc.
- Launch of Jadui Pitara, a compilation of learning materials to assist teachers in the holistic development of children through play as a foundational pedagogy.
- An Integrated Teacher programme for secondary level foundational literacy and numeracy, NISHTHA, a national initiative for the holistic development of school heads and teachers, has been launched.
- The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has advised its schools to integrate curriculum and teaching methodology with 21st century skills to ensure that students develop these skills.
- A handbook on 21st-century skills for teachers has also been prepared.
- To equip students with the necessary knowledge and skills that will make them successful in the 21st century, the board has also included new subjects like Artificial Intelligence, Design thinking, and Data Science.
- The Board is conducting an adolescent peer teacher leadership programme to develop life skills among the students.
- In order to reduce the course load, CBSE has released its syllabus for the years 2022–23 with reduced content.
- The National Education Policy has also placed equal emphasis on both learning and skilling, which has received a lot of support from teachers. This has given a lot of encouragement to the children to get rid of the burden of the past.



effective direction. Here PM Modi said, "The basic premise of the National Education Policy is to take education out of the confines of narrow thinking and connect it with the modern ideas of the 21st century." Till now schools, colleges and books used to decide in which direction the children should go, but after the new National Education Policy, now the responsibility on the youth and the government has also increased. Now the institute should understand the mind of the youth, understand their aspirations. The era of imposing anything without understanding is gone. The education policy is preparing the ground

The new National Education Policy will also play an important role in developing the necessary technological mindset. In the country, a vast network of Atal Incubation Centres is being established.

Focus on world-class education

7 new IITs have opened since 2014.

7 new IIMs have opened since 2014.

157 New medical colleges sanctioned, 97 already functional

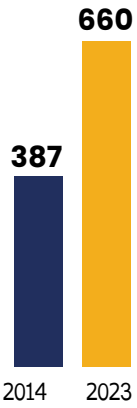
14,500 Pradhan Mantri Schools of Rising India, PM SHRI Schools will be developed as exemplary schools.

Number of Senior Secondary Schools

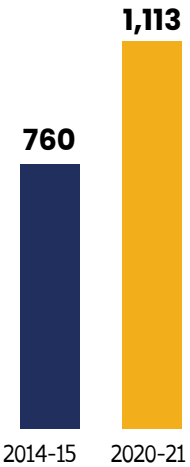
86,261 2013-14

1,42,398 2021-22

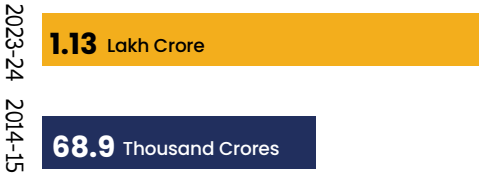
71% increase in the number of medical colleges



46% increase in the number of universities



Government expenditure on education doubled



Promoting digital education

An initiative to facilitate online education through PM eVidya

The DIKSHA platform provides quality e-content for school education in 33 languages.

Digitization of 377 NCERT books and availability on the e-Pathshala Mobile App

Textbooks with QR codes are available for all grades.

24x7 telecast of educational content on SWAYAM PRABHA TV channels

for our youth to be skilled, confident, practical and calculative.

The country has taken several concrete steps in the direction of implementing the National Education Policy in three years. Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself has attended more than 25 seminars related to this policy and has spoken on it. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dialogue with education ministers and educationists of the country has also increased its pace. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has also interacted with education ministers of the states across the country. Continuous efforts are being made on how to make 100% reality the subjects included in the new National Education Policy. State

Strengthening: Education Ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir

The collaboration between IIM, IIT, and AIIMS, Jammu, offers courses in which students from one institute can enroll in another.

Himayat Yojana is a unique skill-training initiative for unemployed youth in Jammu and Kashmir.

4500

Youth Clubs are being set up under Mission Youth Clubs.

7 new medical colleges have been approved.

5 new nursing colleges approved

Inauguration of IIT and IIM, IIT Jammu campus, and IIM Jammu made functional.

The budget of the Ministry of Education has been kept at Rs 1,12,899 crore in the current financial year 2023–24, which was Rs 93,224 crore in 2021–22.

New guidelines have been issued to prepare higher education according to international standards. A special office for international affairs has also been set up at about 180 higher education institutions.

Around **27** crore students in the country.

governments have also taken many important steps in this direction at their respective levels.

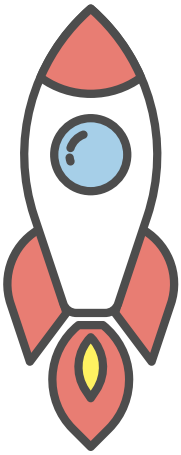
Work has also been done on a major infrastructure overhaul in the country's education sector for the new National Education Policy. A large number of new colleges are opening in the country, new universities are opening. The Common University Entrance Test (CUET) has been implemented so that the level of universities is the same. Several other reforms have also been undertaken as a result of which the number of Indian institutions in the World University Rankings has grown exponentially. Now the choice for study in mother tongue is being opened, Indian languages like Sanskrit are being promoted. Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his US visit has told that an agreement has been signed with the American University in which Tamil language will be promoted. This beginning will definitely work to give new energy to Indian languages and Indian resolutions.

Yuva Sangam: An opportunity to see and understand India

India's strength lies in its diversity. The Ministry of Education has come up with an initiative called Yuva Sangam which aims to enhance connectivity and provide youth an opportunity to mingle with each other. 11 higher education institutions from eight northeastern states and 14 educational institutions from other states have been included in it. In the first round of Yuva Sangam, 1200 youth visited 22 states. More than 10,000 programs have been organized by 10 ministries involving the youth. Initiatives like Kashi Sangam and Saurashtra Sangam have also been taken under Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat.

This time and this period belong to the young sons and daughters of India. The last nine years were about returning India's self-confidence; now the Amrit Kaal of independence is about the fulfilment of the resolutions of the Amrit generation.

– Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



INDIA HAS BECOME A STARTUP SUPER POWER

Pune's Mayur Patil developed a technology to reduce carbon emissions and fuel consumption from vehicles. Patented the technology and started a startup and factory with a grant from the Atal New India Challenge initiative with colleagues. Similarly, three engineering students who created the success story of the Purple Revolution and participated in the Republic Day parade, quit their jobs to start their own startup venture. With the efforts of the decisive government of the Center along with the strength of the country's youth, the Startup India program, the number of startups from 442 reached above one lakh in just nine years, in which about 9 lakh jobs were created...

When India is presiding over the G-20, a new Startup-20 group has also been started to strengthen startups at the global level. The group is crafting an agenda for global leaders to ignite the startup revolution. Due to India's Reform, Perform and Transform, a supportive environment has been created for investment in the country.

Initiatives to accelerate startup revolution

- Angel tax including 32 rules have been simplified.
- Fund of Funds worth 1,000 crore to raise domestic venture capital.
- Under 9 labour and 3 environmental laws Startups are allowed to self-certify their compliance

Know the growing power of startup with following statistics

- In the last 8 years, 4 startups were registered every hour in India.
- Increase in the number of incubators by 7 times.
- The number of investors increased by 9 times.
- 15 times increase in funding for startups.
- 47% startups are in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities.
- More than 45% of startups are led by women.

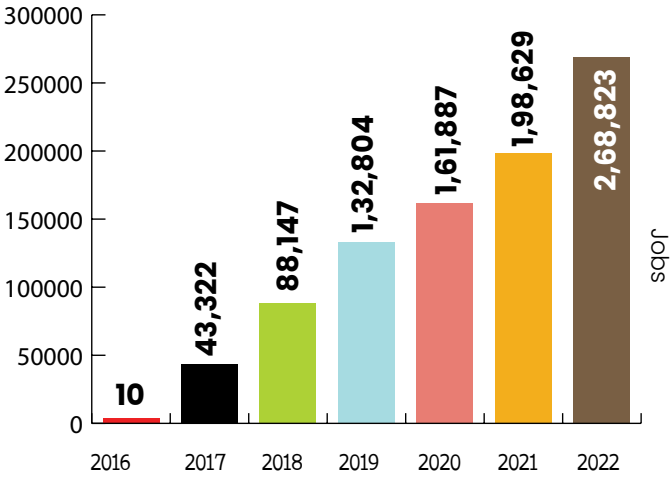
Rise of the Unicorn

India ranks third among top countries of the world

- There are 108 unicorns with a combined valuation of $340.79 billion. In the year 2022 alone, 23 unicorns were added.
- So far $ 94 billion capital has been raised.
- Globally, one out of every ten unicorns is from India, with one unicorn being created every month in the country.

About 9 lakh jobs created from startup

- More than 9 lakh jobs have been created by startups and unicorns till June, 2023 since the launch of Startup India.
- 525% increase in the number of jobs created by startups.



Whatever we do on the strong foundation of a developed India in the Amrit Kaal, the future of New India will be decided, the direction of the country will be decided. India's startup revolution will become a very important identity of this Amrit Kaal.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister





MODERN, SELF-RELIANT AND TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED ARMY

The security of the nation is the priority of the government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Along with modernizing the army and armed forces, work is also being done to make them self-reliant. India is manufacturing various types of weapons including tanks, aircraft carriers, submarines. Exports were Rs 900 crore in 2014, which has now increased to Rs 20 thousand crore. Technologically capable soldiers will play a vital role in the new frontiers of non-contact warfare and the challenges of cyber warfare as the 21st century changes the way war is fought. The new Agnipath scheme will strengthen the technologically advanced and young armed forces, also the entry of girls in the National Defence Academy has been allowed.

With the agreement between General Electric Aerospace and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for the co-production of India's F-414 fighter jet engine, India will become the fourth country to manufacture jet engines. The government is taking several steps to make the armed forces young and more tech-savvy. Under the Agnipath scheme, technology-rich youth are being recruited in all the three forces according to the need of the hour. With the recruitment of Agniveers, the average age of those serving in the armed forces will come down from 32 years to 26 years in a few years. Agniveer Yojana will also empower women.

Agnipath:
Towards becoming a young and dynamic armed force

- On June 14, 2022, the Agnipath scheme was launched.
- Young men and women in the age group of 17 years 6 months to 21 years are eligible.
- Shift towards a more tech savvy army.
- On the basis of merit, up to 25% Agniveer will be included in the regular cadre.
- Agniveers who are not able to advance in service will get a degree and tax free service fund package of about Rs 12 lakh after completing 4 years of service.
- Non-contributory insurance of Rs 48 lakh will be available during the tenure.
- In the Navy's first batch of Agniveers, 273 women Agniveers were inducted.



Women's participation in the army, admission allowed in Sainik schools

- In all Sainik Schools, admission of girls has been started against 10% of the vacancies in class 6 from the session 2021-22.
- In November 2021, the admission of girls for NDA-2022 was started.
- The number of women officers serving in the army is 10, 493 of which 4734 are Army Nursing Service officers.
- The Indian Air Force has commissioned 15 women fighter pilots by 28 March 2022.
- In the Navy, 28 women officers have been deployed on ships.
- The provision for recruitment of women to other ranks in the Military Police Corps in the Indian Army was introduced in 2019.



SKILL DEVELOPMENT MAKING ATMANIRBHAR CITIZENS

SKILLS MAKE LIFE EASIER, SIMPLE

Skill is the ability that allows anyone to solve current and future problems with ease. Skills include not only bookish knowledge but also learning new skills that can be used for employment. Many young men and women, including Sachin and Princy, have received free training and employment opportunities because of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visionary thinking.

Sachin, who is from Patna in Bihar, got the job through a job fair after completing a 90-day training programme as a sales associate at the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana Centre. Sachin claims that if this scheme did not exist, he would not have received free training or a job. I am now self-employed. "Previously, I had no knowledge of computers, but through the PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana, I received training as a data entry operator and a certificate," says Princy, who is from Faizabad in Uttar Pradesh. I now have a thorough understanding of computers and can perform any type of computer-related work anywhere. There are numerous success stories of the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, which has provided financial assistance not only to youth but also to their families.

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is imparting skill training to youth across the country. This is a first-of its kind initiative that has recognised the existing skilled class with certification and helped in enhancing their efficiency. Students who drop out of school and college, as well as workers who are working in

PMKVY 4.0 will be launched soon

- Under PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana 3.0, immediate support was provided to the healthcare sector through a customised crash course programme for COVID Warriors.
- To reduce the burden on doctors and nurses working in the healthcare sector, around 1.20 lakh candidates were trained under relevant healthcare sector job roles.
- From 2015 to December 2022, 1.37 crore candidates across the country were trained under PMKVY in three phases.
- Under the PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana, 23 lakh youth have been successfully provided employment. In order to skill the youth for employment opportunities, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 will be launched soon, in which 30 Skill India International Centres will be set up across the country.
- The specialty of the PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana is that the training for the youth is completely free and paid for by the government, as well as the prize money given to the youth.

Human resources being prepared according to industry, market, and needs

What kind of human resources are required for the country's industries? Workers and youth are being trained in response to these needs, so that after receiving training, an increasing number of people can find work that matches their skills and pay them fairly. Drones, Internet of Things (IoT) robotics, artificial intelligence and machine learning in electric vehicles (EV), 5G technology, mechatronics, cloud computing, block chain, cyber security, 3D printing, and VLSI design are examples. The government is paying special attention to these areas in light of their future needs. The Indian Agro-Forestry Development Cooperative (IFFCO) and WOW Factors have entered into an agreement with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). This will explore options to train farmers and other candidates to use and promote drones for alternative fertilisers like nanourea and other organic fertilisers. This will benefit farmers a lot.

Apprenticeship training

An apprenticeship is a type of training programme in which candidates are trained for industrial work. Apprenticeship is done in many government and private companies, including the railways. In this, a fixed amount is also given to the candidate every month as an apprenticeship from the government and the concerned company during the training. Promoting apprenticeship across the country is one of the most sustainable forms of skill development.

9,25,260 **apprentices' training has been completed so far.**

- At present, about 6.41 lakh apprentices are working in various establishments in the country.
- As of May 2023, 19,88,139 apprentices had enrolled for training.
- It is expected that 15 lakh apprentices will be hired by establishments under the Apprenticeship Training Programme during the current financial year.
- 1,72,809 establishments have been registered on the Apprenticeship Portal **(www.apprenticeshipindia.gov.in).**
- On-the-job training of 6–12 months is provided for the post-graduation programme.

the field, are being certified by giving them quality training in the same work. The government is now not only expanding its scope but also connecting it with technology. The Union Budget 2023–24 has decided to give further impetus to skill development and digital technology. Billed as a youth-centric budget with 'Amrit Generation or "Yuva Shakti," the Budget announced the launch of the fourth phase of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY 4.0) and the launch of 30 Skill India International Centres. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has announced the launch of an integrated Skill India digital platform for the digital skilling ecosystem.

Strengthening the mechanism of industrial training and up-skilling

116 government ITIs have been approved to run drone courses.

- The traditional mode of examination for NITI trainees was changed to a computer-based test.
- 73 new Government Instructor Training Institutes (ITOTs) were affiliated for the years 2022–23.
- Convocation was held for the first time for over 14,000 ITIs at the national, state, and ITI levels on September 20, 2022, for more than 8.5 lakh trainees, with a virtual participation of 11 lakh.

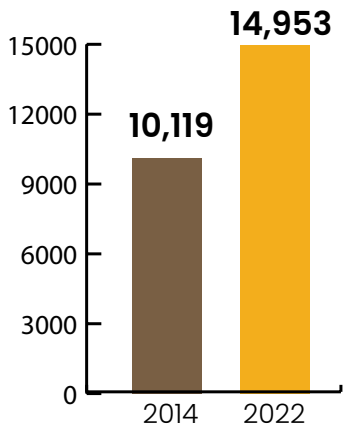
274 Government ITIs have been approved to run DST.

- A total of 8,292 candidates registered on the online portal for the session 2022–23 of the Recognition of Prior Learning Scheme.
- 35 NSTIs have been registered as NIOS and IGNOU centres for certification in higher education and degree certification courses.
- More than 15,000 candidates have been trained by Strive ITIs under the Skill Hub initiative and Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 3.0.

Youth being made employable according to the needs of the 21st century

- NSDC and the American India Foundation (AIF) have tied up with the Skill India Mission to upskill one lakh Indian youth with digital curriculum to enhance employability through e-Skill India.
- e-Skill India enabled the digital skilling of 400 candidates for Power Links.
- 3040 NTPC candidates and 240 SBI cardholders were given reimbursable digital skills on an employment-enhancing kit, as well as online assessment and e-certification.
- e-Skill India, in collaboration with National Star College, UK, and FCDO-UK, has launched a free e-learning module on "Sensitivity to Persons with Disabilities."

Strength of Industrial Training Institutes increased



There were 10,119 institutions established until 2014, now the total number is 14,953.

- More than 25 lakh seats have been allocated for the session 2021-23, with an additional five lakh seats added since 2014.
- 60 new courses were added after 2014. There are now 222 courses available (150 CTS, 54 CITS, 14 STT, and four Advanced Diploma).
- To decentralise skill development, the State Skill Development Empowered Committee was formed.

Skill India
कौशल भारत-कुशल भारत

PMKVY 3.0 has affiliated

414

ITIs for short-term courses.

Empowerment of women through skill development

In line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visionary programme 'Mission Karmayogi, "the Skill Ministry imparted self-defence training to women under the' Meri Suraksha, Meri Zimmedari" programme.

MSDE has tied up with the Sports, Physical Education, Fitness, and Leisure Skills Council to impart self-defence training to 10,000 working women and ITI girl students.

A 16-day Module Gender Sensitization POSH workshop was organised with the help of MSDE.

Women are now skilled in large numbers, from self-employment to working as skilled workers in industries.

Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) empowering rural India

- Jan Shikshan Sansthan (Central Sector Scheme): Non-literates, neo-literates, and persons with an elementary level of education, including school dropouts up to the 12th standard in the age group of 15–45 years, are being provided vocational skills and training at the doorstep of the beneficiary through NGOs.
- At present, 301 JSS schemes are being implemented in 295 districts in 26 States and 7 Union Territories.

31.08

lakh beneficiaries have been trained under the JSS scheme from 2014–15 to March 15, 2023, which includes 85% women beneficiaries.

There is a need to prepare skilled work force on a large scale for the new possibilities being created in the country. With the skill power of the youth, India can achieve its goal of becoming the third-largest economy in the world. It is our endeavour to ensure that every section of society gets the benefit of skill development. Be it our Dalit brothers and sisters, tribal brothers and sisters, deprived sections, or our mothers and sisters, everyone will get an equal opportunity to move forward. Keeping this in mind, the skill development of the youth is also given priority.

– Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



SPORTS: A CATALYST FOR RISING INDIA

When talent connects with the right opportunities, the pinnacle of success itself bows and welcomes. Stadiums across the world are now saluting the tricolour of India, which is emerging as a new force in the open world. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visionary initiatives like Khelo India and TOPS have transformed Indian sports. There was a time when India's identity depended on one or two sports. Today, the youth are making us proud in various fields. The talents of our country are setting new records every day.

'Khelo India ' strengthening the sports ecosystem



25027
sports talents participated in five editions of the Khelo India Youth Games.

733
Khelo India Centres, covering 491 districts

2,759
athletes were covered for training and financial assistance.

226
Sports Academy accredited.

2,791
crore has been released under the Khelo India Scheme in the last six years.

Three-fold increase in budget for sports

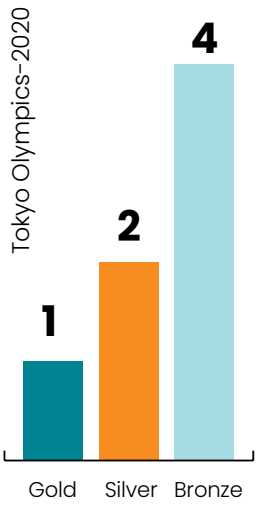
In the last nine years, the budget for sports has increased from Rs 864 crore to about Rs 2700 crore. This is a threefold increase. More than 15,000 players have participated in Khelo India, the Youth Games, the University Games, and the Winter Games. This year, 25 new national records have been set in the Khelo India Games, out of which 21 have been set by the daughters of India.

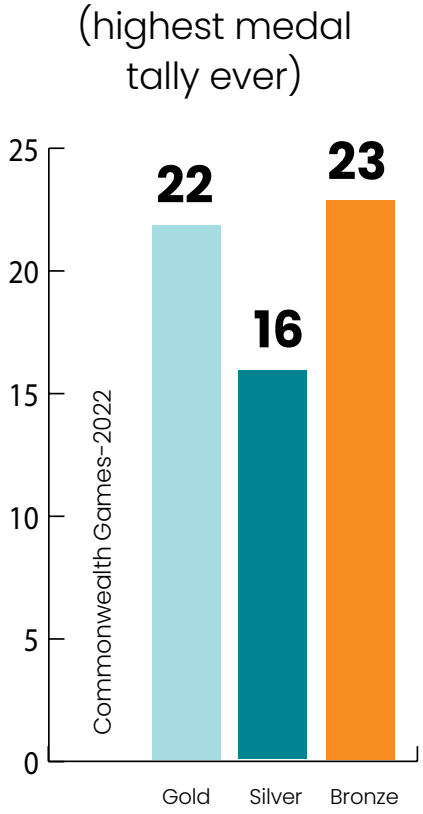
- The country's first National Sports University was established in Manipur in 2018.
- Major Dhyan Chand Sports University will soon be started in Uttar Pradesh for higher education in sports.
- Projects worth more than Rs 400 crore related to sports infrastructure are giving a new direction to the development of the North East today.
- At least two Khelo India Centres in every district of the North East and Khelo India State Centres of Excellence in every state are being set up.
- India has won the highest number of medals in the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics so far.

Efforts

- The Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) has helped Indian athletes in a big way.
- Under the TOPS programme, 98 athletes in the TOPS Core Group and 182 athletes in the TOPS Development Group were supported.
- 61 medals at the Commonwealth Games in 2022.
- 1000 Khelo India Centres are being set up to tap talent at the grassroots level.
- More than 4639 athletes have been selected under Khelo India and provided assistance of Rs. 6.28 lakh per annum.

Results







"When it comes to nation building, everyone's attention in the country and the world goes towards the youth. Youth means speed, youth means dreams, youth means new energy, youth means new thinking, youth means new goals, youth means future, youth means ray of hope, youth means sun. The sun burns to give light to everyone. Our youth is also working for nation building."

– Anurag Thakur, Union Minister of Information Broadcasting and Sports and Youth Affairs



JOB OPPORTUNITIES GALORE FOR YOUTH

The Central Government is committed to providing appropriate opportunities for the talent and energy of the youth in order to achieve the goal of a developed India. Because of this commitment, job creation increased significantly during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's nine-year tenure. As a result, as part of the pledge to provide 10 lakh government jobs in the next few years, approximately 4.20 lakh appointment letters have been given at six job fairs. In the last nine years, 8, 82,191 central government vacancies have been filled.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set a goal of creating 10 lakh jobs for young people. These job fairs have now become the central government's new identity. Every month, the central and state governments distribute thousands of appointment letters through the job fair. Job fairs provide meaningful opportunities for youth empowerment and participation in national development. On June 13, Prime Minister Narendra Modi handed out appointment letters to over 70,000 youth at the 6th National Job Fair.

PM Modi impulses youth to create jobs

- Prime Minister Modi has awakened the youth not only to depend on government jobs but also to create employment. As a result, young people are becoming more self-employed.
- When the time Aroma Mission was launched, Agarbatti was being imported from Southeast Asia, but thereafter-indigenous bamboo cultivation was taken out of the purview of the Indian Forest Act 1927 by amendment.
- The import duty was increased to 25% to provide an opportunity for the bamboo industry to gain global recognition.
- Khadi has become a designer item today, with a turnover of one lakh crore rupees.

9 lakh government jobs in 9 years

- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi government has provided 9 lakh government jobs in the nine years of its rule from 2014 to 2023, as compared to 6 lakh government jobs in the same period from 2004 to 2013 under the previous government.
- As many as 8,82,191 central government vacancies have been filled in the last nine years, as compared to 6,02,045 in the nine years of the previous regime from 2004 to 2013.
- During 2014–23, 50,906 candidates were recruited as compared to 45,431 during 2004–13 of the UPSC.
- The Staff Selection Commission selected 4, 00,691 candidates against 2, 07,563 recruitments made by the previous government. SSC recruitment increased by 58% in the last nine years, until March 2023.
- The Regional Recruitment Boards gave government jobs to 4, 30,592 youths during 2014–2023, as compared to 3, 47,251 recruitments during the period 2004–2013.
- In addition to large-scale recruitment, 9,000 employees were also given simultaneous promotions last year. Before that, DoPT had given out 4,000 promotions in the last three years. It is planned to make 4,000 promotions this year.
- On June 27, 2017, the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) Ministry of Personnel approved mass promotion to the rank of Section Officer for 1,592 officers working in the rank of Assistant Section Officers (ASOs) on an ad-hoc basis with immediate effect.
- The central government has made the recruitment process faster, more transparent, and fairer. Earlier, it used to take about 15 to 18 months to complete the recruitment process of the Staff Selection Commission, but today this process is completed in six to eight months.
- The Mudra Yojana, which provides assistance from the bank without guarantee, has helped crores of youth. Campaigns like Start-up India and Stand-up India have increased the potential of the youth. These youths who got help from the government are now themselves giving jobs to many other youths.

Employment: The Government's Commitment

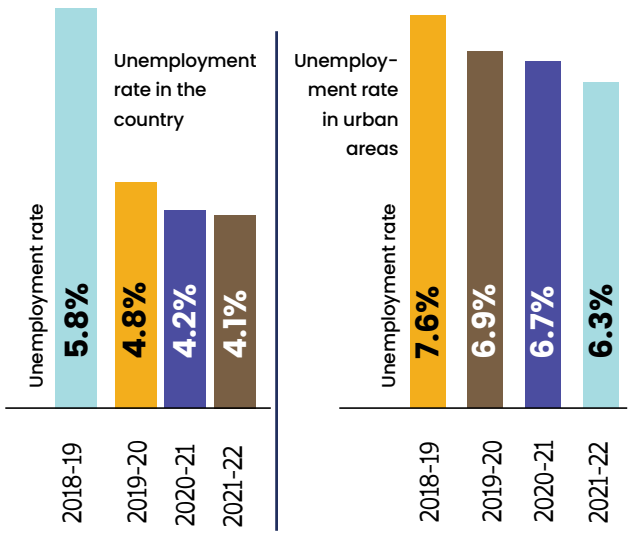
- Speed up the recruitment process through the online system.
- All job information is available online.
- Transparency and timeliness in the recruitment process through SSC, RRB, and UPSC

More than 4 lakh youth have got jobs so far

JOB FAIR HELD	WHEN	JOINING LETTERS GIVEN
First	October 22, 2022	More than 75,000
Second	November 22, 2022	More than 71,000
Third	January 20, 2023	More than 71,000
Fourth	April 13, 2023	More than 71000
Fifth	May 16, 2023	More than 70,000
Sixth	June 13, 2023	More than 70,000

Unemployment rate decreasing

Data on employment and unemployment collected from the Periodic Labour Force Survey conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation since 2017-18 show that the unemployment rate of people aged 15 and up has decreased in the country and in cities. The period of the survey is from July to June next year.





Tech + Digital India

YOUTH GOT THE SUPPORT OF TRANSPARENCY

Innovative India is being empowered by Digital India and the power of technology. This tech revolution has increased the speed and scale of development projects manifold. Arogya Setu and CoWIN have shown the way in the Covid period. More than 75 lakh students are innovating by joining more than 10 thousand Atal Tinkering Labs. Rs 2.73 lakh crore was saved from corruption by the use of DBT. The Fintech revolution has increased the ease of life, eliminating the network of middlemen. The strong pillars of New India, Digital India and technology have got the support of transparency for the youth to move forward.

India leading the digital revolution

Over **135** crore Aadhaar cards have been generated

More than **49** crore new PM Jan Dhan Yojana accounts were opened.

Over **4.23** lakh crore goods were ordered on GeM, over 31 lakh products and over 2.5 lakh services available

More than **80** Crore internet users, India was the second largest online market in the world

Over **40** crore Ayushman Bharat digital accounts.



- 1GB data for Rs 10, among the cheapest data countries in the world.
- 2 lakh gram panchayats were connected by laying optical fiber under Bharat Net.
- 35% of adults had bank accounts in 2014, now more than 90%.
- More than 562 crore documents were delivered digitally.
- Over 5.2 crore users registered on UMANG app, more than 22 thousand services available.
- More than Rs 29 lakh crore transferred through DBT, savings of more than Rs 2.73 lakh crore.
- 104 satellites launched in a single flight.
- 335 foreign satellites launched after 2014, earlier only 35 were launched.
- More than 12 crore patients were treated through e-Sanjeevani.
- India ranks 9th in the field of patent filing in the world.



India number one in real time digital transactions

- India accounts for 46% of global real time transactions.
- More than one crore transactions per hour.
- More than 2 lakhs per minute.
- More than 3500 transactions per second.
- UPI goes global: Now available in UAE, Singapore, Bhutan and Nepal

GeM empowering the cooperatives

550 cooperative societies have joined as buyers.

63,000 functional PACS are being linked to NABARD.

More than **300** e-services are being provided by Primary Agricultural Credit Societies which are being provided by Citizen Facilitation Centers.



Be it India's economic growth, sustainable development goals, or creating an inclusive ecosystem for innovation, technology is important for us. India views technology as a tool to accelerate the country's progress rather than a means to establish dominance.

– Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

"THE AMRIT GENERATION IS GOING TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN BUILDING A NEW INDIA WITH THE THOUGHT OF KNOWLEDGE CREATION, KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND WORLD WELFARE"



Education is not just the foundation on which our civilization is built, but it is also the architect of the future of humanity. It is very important for the youth of India to have the skills to work in different fields. For this, educational and higher educational institutions, skill development institutions are also being built on a war footing in the country. New opportunities have also been created for the youth in every field. The youth today have the freedom to move forward as per their wish. Skill India Mission, Atal Innovation Mission and New National Education Policy, Sports and Startups are our efforts to enhance the potential of youth, which has made 21st century India's century. Under this backdrop, how India as a young nation is moving towards rebuilding, Santosh Kumar, Senior Consulting Editor, New India Samachar had a special conversation with Union Minister for Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan. Here is its excerpt:

● The biggest responsibility of a developed India is on youth and education. For this, what steps have been taken in the last three years under the new National Education Policy brought by the Central Government?

● India has a huge eco-system of education, with around 15 lakh schools, 95 lakh teachers and 26.5 crore students. We have continuously increased the education budget. To take education to the last mile, a comprehensive approach has been adopted, practicality and skill development have been given priority in the curriculum. Experts also say that by the age of 6, 80% of a child's brain is developed, so we have laid special emphasis on foundational learning. Earlier India's education system was promoting job seeking knowledge only, but the new policy will make the youth employable. According to the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the new education system has brought new opportunities for the youth.

The new National Education Policy is completely a plan of the Central Government. Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman has also been added to this so that students do not drop out. More than 14 thousand schools of the country are being linked with the PM-Shri scheme and prepared according to the new National Education Policy. New India Literacy Programme, new policy for gifted children with special focus on sign language and related books have been prepared.

● The aim of New India is to provide quality education. How is the new National Education Policy setting the course for change in this direction?

● After waiting for more than three decades, our government came up with a new National Education Policy to make India a knowledge-based society. Provisions have been made in the new National Education Policy to equip the youth with quality education and skills. The emphasis on education in the local language and mother tongue has been beneficial. Along with child care, formal education is introduced for the first time from the age of three. Methods like storytelling, toy based learning are being used for children. Innovative and entrepreneurial mindset is being inculcated with scientific temper.

● Moving towards making the nation a global hub of education, how is India preparing itself according to international standards?

● India has been the center of knowledge-civilization for centuries. We move forward with the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam. In line with the thinking of the new National Education Policy, to prepare the education system according to international standards, joint degree with foreign universities, steps to encourage studies in India, setting up campuses of Indian universities outside India, encouraging foreign universities to establish the campus of their Institutes in India, validating the qualifications of both the places.

By 2047, the central government is continuously working towards making India developed and self-reliant by providing new opportunities to the aspirations, dreams and resolutions of the young population.

● Digitization of education has become an essential part after Covid. What are the important efforts of the Ministry of Education in this direction?

● Emphasis has been laid on digital education. For this many initiatives have been taken like SWAYAM, N-DEAR, NETF, Digital University, National Digital Library, Samarth, NTA, ITEP, PM e-Vidya DIKSHA, Vidya Samiksha Kendra Swayamprabha. Students are getting opportunities since childhood to promote research in education.

● There is a keen enthusiasm among the youth regarding innovation-technology. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also been giving priority to it in the schemes. How do you see?

● So far, 10,000 Atal Tinkering Labs have been established in the country, where students are innovating. Atal Incubation Centers across the country have been working to promote entrepreneurship from the very beginning. Virtual Labs are being set up. Curriculum is being developed according to the new era. 125 National Skill Qualification Framework is being launched.

● Every now and then there is a debate in the country regarding the change in the curriculum. Has the government made some changes in the curriculum according to the new circumstances and the new era?

● Bal Vatika's outline is in the new National Education Policy to strengthen the initial foundation. It has also started as a pilot project in 49 Kendriya Vidyalayas. In the coming time, these Bal Vatikas will be started in all Kendriya Vidyalayas and CBSE schools. New books for class I and class II are ready and will be launched in this academic session. The National Curriculum Framework for School Education estimates that there will be 150 new textbooks at the elementary, middle and secondary stages. New text books will be developed in regional languages and digital versions will also be made available on PM E Vidya Diksha.

● India is a young country. How do you see India's growing youth population and how it is creating new opportunities for education and skills?

● India's youth population is a great strength. The average age of the population of India is 29 years. On an average, every Indian is 10 years younger than in China. We are turning the growing youth population into opportunity. Under the leadership of PM Modi, we are paying attention to groom youth who become job creators and not job seekers. Our youth should not only create jobs but also work for themselves and the society. Right now India is the country with the youngest population in the world, but in the coming time, the elderly population will also increase in India. Therefore, what Prime Minister Narendra Modi said from the ramparts of the Red Fort and what he has been saying on various forums that this is India's time,

right time, precious time. Its intention is clear that the Prime Minister has already realized a long-term vision, so by 2047, the central government is continuously working towards making India developed-self-reliant by giving new opportunities to the aspirations, dreams and resolutions of the young population.

● Skill development is the basis of every scheme today. For the first time, Prime Minister Modi constituted a separate special ministry for this. What has been its progress so far?

● The Ministry of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has taken the initiative of Skill Hub Centers for skill development. Its objective is to create a skilled workforce as per the demand of the industry. Emphasis has been laid on skilling, re-skilling, up-skilling through the skill mission. 6.35 crore people have been trained so far through the initiatives of the Ministry of Skill Development and various Ministries. The youth are also being re-skilled and up-skilled in the mission. With the collaboration of Startup India, Mudra and Standup India, youth are getting self-employment opportunities.

India is a young nation, which Prime Minister Narendra Modi has understood, that is why he has given a call – the time is right for Amrit Kaal, it is the precious time of India.

● You are making changes in the Ministry of Education as well as Skill Development. What changes are you seeing in the education and skill development sectors? Which of the two do you consider more important?

● Yes, it is true that both society and institutions have been giving more importance to education. However, now it is changing. We are living in a very different world now. However, when the Prime Minister emphasizes the importance of skills, he says that if a student in the future does not have a degree but has some skill, it will be enough. So I see only a combination of education and skill. The convergence of both education and skill development can create a holistic ecosystem that will equip individuals with knowledge and practical skills. This will increase their employment and encourage entrepreneurship.

● The youth have expectations from the central government for good opportunities for education and cooperation for employment and self-employment. What is the thinking of the central government regarding this Amrit generation for a developed India and what does it expect from it?

● The world is moving towards the Fourth Industrial Revolution, India has the potential to lead through its 60 Crore youth population. This is possible by increasing the knowledge capacity of the youth. For the first time the Apprenticeship Program has been linked to DBT, currently 6.41 lakh apprentices are working in different industrial units of the country. Over 2.41 lakh DBT transfers have been done and Rs 35.02 crore has been disbursed so far. The announcement to set up 30 new Skill India International Centers in the country has been made in the budget for the year 2023. Work is being done with the holistic concept so that the youth of the country can be prepared according to their potential. Only then in 2047, when the country will be completing 100 years of independence, then India will stand in the category of developed nation.

● How do you see India's G-20 Presidency? Especially in the context that the youth of India is emerging as a hope for the world?

● India is poised to become a 5 trillion dollar economy by 2025. The eco-system of education and knowledge will play an important role in achieving this goal. There comes a time for every nation when it sets a new direction and tries to achieve it. Going beyond the Amrit Mahotsav, the Amrit generation is going to play an important role in rebuilding of New India with the thought of knowledge creation, knowledge sharing and world welfare. The new National Education Policy document in the recently concluded G-20 Education Ministers meeting in Pune has emerged as a hope for the world and especially for the emerging economies of the world. The new policy educates the world about India's knowledge based social system. Our focus is on world welfare because as Prime Minister Modi says that if India grows, the world will also grow. The aim of making India a developed nation by 2047 is not only to make India developed alone, we talk about taking the world humanity along. The new education policy has transformed "What is our right?" To the philosophy of "What is our responsibility?" The message of this policy is clear that do duty, take responsibility. This is the time, the right time, move forward with this thinking. ■

PM MODI INTERACTS WITH AGRICULTURE, TOURISM, AND EDUCATION MINISTERS

G-20 MINISTERS FINALISE SUMMIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

As the date of the G-20 Heads of State and Government Summit under India's Presidency approaches, the G-20 Ministers of the respective sectors are finalising the announcements to be made at the Summit. The 18th Summit, which will be held in New Delhi on September 9-10, will announce future roadmaps. Agriculture, tourism, education, and some other announcements have already been finalised; however, the ministers of finance and central bank governors, labour, energy, and environment and climate stability will finalise the related sector announcements in the second fortnight of July.



G20 AGRICULTURE MINISTERS AGREE ON THE MAHARISHI INITIATIVE AND DECCAN HIGH-LEVEL PRINCIPLES

The G-20 Agriculture Ministers meeting held in Hyderabad from June 15 to 17 agreed on the Millets And Other Ancient Grains International ResearcH Initiative., (MAHARISHI)' and 'Deccan High Level Principles'. Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the Agriculture Ministers on June 16. India's contribution to the agriculture sector called for putting forward productivity-enhancing, cost-effective solutions for the marginal farmers of the South and urged them to adopt coarse cereals as their food of choice.

The units of the Global Centre of Excellence (IIMR) on Millets (Shree Anna) and eight varieties of Millets in their field were shown to the G-20 Agriculture Ministers. As a symbol of their collective commitment, the Agriculture Ministers also planted coarse grain saplings. Click on the link to read the conclusion and summary of the meeting: https://www.g20.org/content/dam/gtwenty/gtwenty_new/document/AMM-ODCS.pdf

The G-20 Agriculture Ministers Meeting discussed and adopted the Agriculture Working Group's outcome documents and conclusions. The Millets And Other Ancient Grains International Research Initiative' (MAHARISHI), launched at the 12th Chief Agriculture Scientists' Meeting in Varanasi, was unanimously approved at the G-20 Agriculture Ministers' Meeting, according to Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar. This initiative by India aims to increase the cultivation and consumption of millets (Shree Anna) and other traditional cereals in India and around the world, which have high nutritional value and help to ensure food security. The member nations also unanimously agreed on the 'Deccan High Level Principles' during the meeting. These principles are landmarks in the promotion of sustainable and inclusive agricultural practises.

On India's contribution in the field of agriculture, Prime Minister Narendra Modi says that India's policy is a mix of 'Back to Basics' and 'March to the Future'. Along with natural farming, India is also promoting technology-enabled farming. Farmers across the country are now adopting natural farming. The emphasis is also on protecting soil health, producing 'per drop, more crop, and promoting organic fertilisers and pest management measures. India's farmers are also using technology like drones to generate and harness solar energy in the fields to boost productivity, use soil health cards to optimise crop selection, and spray nutrients and monitor their crops.



> India's G20 priorities in the field of agriculture are focused on healing our 'One Earth, "creating harmony within our' One Family," and igniting hope for a brighter 'One Future."
>
> - Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

For better soil health, crop health, and yield, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi asked the agriculture ministers to adopt appropriate agricultural practises. Traditional practises from around the world can serve as inspiration for us to develop alternatives to regenerative agriculture. He urged them to arm farmers with innovation and digital technology in order to empower them and develop affordable solutions for small and marginal farmers in southern countries.

PM MODI INVITES FOR WATCHING THE CELEBRATION OF DEMOCRACY

The fourth Tourism Working Group and Tourism Ministers meeting concluded in Goa, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi inviting the G20 Tourism Ministers to the General Election Festival next year. He also stated that India's G20 Presidency's slogan, "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: One Earth, One Family, One Future," can also serve as a slogan for global tourism.

The Tourism Ministers meeting was preceded by the co-event of the Tourism Working Group on 'Towards a Circular Economy of Plastics in the Tourism Sector: Global Tourism Plastics Initiative, "' Making Cruise Tourism a Model for Sustainable and Responsible Travel." The documents prepared by the Group, including the Goa Road Map, were finalised and accepted by the Ministers. See the full document at this link: **https://www.g20.org/content/dam/gtwenty/gtwenty_new/document/G20_Tourism_Outcome.pdf**.

Green tourism, digitalization, skill development, tourism MSMEs, and destination management are among the G-20's five priorities, which India chairs. These priorities reflect those of India and the Global South. Following these discussions, the outcome document, which includes the Goa Roadmap, was adopted. Just as India is promoting tourism through innovation, G20 Tourism Ministers were urged to work together for greater use of emerging technologies, increased access to finance, easing trade rules, and investment in skill development.

Union Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy said that the power of tourism can be harnessed through collaborative efforts to accelerate the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Ministers approved both documents from the Tourism Working Group, which includes Prime Minister Narendra Modi's initiative Travel for Life based on Lifestyle for Environment.

Atithi Devo Bhava is our approach to tourism. Our tourism is more than just sightseeing. It is a completely immersive experience. India has something for everyone. With India hosting 200 meetings across the country during its G-20 presidency, Prime Minister Modi stated that no two meetings experience would be the same for those who have attended in the past. The focus in India is on spiritual tourism. There is something in India for pilgrims of all major religions; it appeals to everyone. 7 crore pilgrims have come so far since the improvement of infrastructure in Varanasi, which is ten times more than before. The Statue of Unity, the world's tallest statue, attracts 27 lakh visitors each year. In the last nine years, India has placed a special emphasis on developing the entire tourism ecosystem in the country. The hospitality industry holds enormous promise for job creation, social inclusion, and economic growth.



> India will hold general elections next year. Nearly a billion voters will celebrate the festival of democracy for more than a month. There will be plenty of places to see this festival. I invite you all to join us in India for this important global moment.
>
> - Narendra Modi, **Prime Minister**

INDIA READY TO SHARE ITS EXPERTISE AND RESOURCE PLATFORMS

On June 22, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the G-20 Education Ministers meeting in Pune. The meeting was held to finalise the findings of the Education Working Group meeting, which took place from June 19 to June 21. The meeting, presided over by Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, drew 150 delegates, including 14 ministers. The delegates focused on education as the transformative path to achieving India's Presidency goal of "One Earth, One Family, One Future."

The outcomes of the four priorities identified in India's Chairship, the report of the Education Working Group, and the G-20 countries adopted and supported the collection of the Group on Education Policies and Programmes. The meeting of Education Ministers emphasised the importance of education in promoting global dignity and empowerment. It reaffirmed commitment to collaborate to develop the technology ecosystem, including local languages, by removing technical infrastructure and digital barriers for learners. Education was recognised for its importance in digital transformation, women-led development, green growth, and lifestyle (LiFE). To see the findings in detail click on https://www.g20.org/content/dam/gtwenty/gtwenty_new/document/G20-Education-WG-ODCS-22.pdf

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a video address, made it clear that education is not only the foundation on which our civilization is built, but also the architect of the future of humanity. Basic literacy is also being combined with technology. The 'National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Comprehension and Numeracy, or "NIPUN Bharat," initiative is part of this.

India aims to provide quality education with good governance. For this, new e-learning has to be adopted in an innovative way. India has launched the Study Webs of Active-Study for Young Aspiring Ideas', or 'SWAYAM, initiative. Courses are offered from the undergraduate to the graduate level. With over 34 million enrollments and over 9,000 courses, it has become a very effective learning medium. Similarly, there is also the "Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing," or DIKSHA, portal. It facilitates learning in 29 Indian languages as well as 7 foreign languages. More than 13.7 crore courses have been completed here. India would be delighted to share these experiences and resources with the people of the world, particularly those in developing countries.

The education group has prioritised "foundational literacy and numeracy." Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called upon the education ministers to take a pledge to work on it in a time-bound manner by 2030. PM Modi said that the Ministry of Education, Skills, and Labour in India is working on skill mapping. Skill mapping at the global level can help G-20 countries identify gaps that need to be filled. The G-20 can play an important role in balancing the opportunities and technological challenges in skill development and education.

Ten thousand Atal Tinkering Labs, which are becoming nurseries of research and innovation for schoolchildren, have been established, with approximately 75 lakh students working on more than 12 lakh projects. G-20 countries, particularly developing countries, can play an important role in research cooperation. Prime Minister Modi has said that the education group has identified green transformation, digital transformation, and women's empowerment as accelerators to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Education is at the core of these efforts.



The role of education in Indian scriptures has been described as a provider of joy. True knowledge gives humility. From humility comes merit, and from merit comes wealth. Wealth enables a person to do good work. That is what makes it fun. - Narendra Modi, Prime Minister







MEETING ON FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN INDONESIA; ON SUSTAINABLE FINANCE IN MAHABALIPURAM

The third Global Partnership Meeting of the Financial Inclusion Working Group (GPFI), chaired by India, was held in Bali, Indonesia, from June 24-26, and the Sustainable Finance Working Group meeting was held in Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu, from June 19–21. Five sessions of the GPFI meeting discussed priority areas, including leveraging digital public infrastructure for financial inclusion and productivity gains. A Financial Inclusion Action Plan was agreed upon. The findings will be put up for consideration at the meeting of finance ministers and central bank governors in Gandhinagar. At the meeting of the Sustainable Finance Working Group, the group moved forward on finalising the action plan for the year 2023 and the recommendations for the 3 priority areas. The Voluntary Recommendations of the Group will be taken up at the meeting to be held on July 17 and 18.

LABOUR 20 ACCEPTS THE TASK FORCE REPORT, WILL NOW GO TO THE SUMMIT

The Labour-20 Summit was held in Patna from June 21 to 23rd. G-20 members and invitees resolved to develop a multilateral mechanism to ensure that social security benefits are easily accessible to workers. Earlier, in the founding meeting of Amritsar, five task forces related to the burning issues of the world of work were formed, whose reports were discussed. The Skill Development Task Force has said in the report that green skills should be included in the skill development-training programme.

The report on 'Women and the Future of Work' said that work-from-home arrangements and flexible working hours can be offered to increase the participation of women in the private sector and increase their leadership roles, creating a supportive environment. The issues raised in the conference will be taken up in the upcoming meeting of the Labour and Employment Ministers as well as the Summit in September.

MEETINGS TO BE HELD

- Fourth Meeting of the Employment Working Group, 19–20 July, Indore
- Fourth meeting of the Energy Transition Working Group, July 19–20, Goa
- G-20 Labour and Employment Ministers Meeting, 21 July, Indore
- G-20 Energy Ministers Meeting, July 22, Goa
- Third Meeting of the Risk Reduction Working Group, July 24-26, Chennai
- Fourth Meeting of the Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group, 26–27 July, Chennai
- G-20 Environment and Climate Sustainability Ministers Meeting, July 28, Chennai

DELEGATES MEET IN RISHIKESH TO DISCUSS INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES

G-20 members and representatives met in Rishikesh from June 26 to 28 to discuss the third Infrastructure Working Group meeting. The infrastructure priorities set under India's chairmanship, as well as the follow-up action to the discussions of the group's second meeting in March 2023, include developing infrastructure as an asset, investing in infrastructure, and identifying avenues for mobilising financial resources. The outcomes of this group will be incorporated into the finance track's priorities."

The discussion of future city financing and the development of inclusive and sustainable cities has been prioritised. Along with the official meetings of the G-20 delegates, cultural programmes covering the rich culture and natural beauty of Rishikesh, as well as the Yoga programme, were organised. On the occasion, two seminars were also held. Next meeting of this group will be held in Khajuraho. ■



FREE OF COPYRIGHT, PATENT, ROYALTY, YOGA BECOMES A GLOBAL MOVEMENT

युज्यते एतद् इति योग: Which means what unites is yoga. Yoga is a very old tradition of India. On the 9th annual International Day of Yoga on June 21, Prime Minister Narendra Modi led a yoga event at the United Nations Headquarters in which participants from over 135 countries attended the event. When India proposed for celebrating International Day of Yoga at the global level at the forum of the United Nations Assembly, more than 180 countries of the world came together and supported it in record numbers. Since then, Yoga has become a global movement through International Day of Yoga.

It has been said about yoga in the texts - Vyayamat Labhate Swasthyam, Dirgh Ayushyam Balam Sukham! That is, by yoga, by exercise we get health, long life and strength. Yoga creates such a healthy and powerful society, whose collective energy is many times more. On the 9th International Day of Yoga-2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "Yoga is a very old tradition of India. Like all ancient Indian traditions, it is also alive and dynamic. Yoga is free - free of copyrights, free of patents and free of royalty payments.Yoga is adaptable to your age, gender, and fitness level. Yoga is portable – you can do it at home or during work or even while traveling." This time the theme of International Yoga Day was 'Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' i.e. 'One Earth - One Family - One Future'.

The participation of the highest number of nationalities in the yoga exercise at the UN Headquarters under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi has been recorded in the Guinness World Record.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the 9th annual International Day of Yoga celebrations at the iconic North Lawn of the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, while Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar led the National Yoga Festival in

In a divided world, yoga unites millions of people across the globe, for whom it is a source of strength, harmony and peace.

- Antonio Guterres,
United Nations Secretary-General

Completely agree with UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres on the importance of Yoga. May International Day of Yoga bring us all closer and improve the health of our planet.

- Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister



In over **135** countries, thousands of people expressed keen interest in Yoga.

9th Annual International Day of Yoga under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the 9th annual International Day of Yoga celebrations at the North Lawn of the United Nations Headquarters in New York City on June 21, 2023. The event witnessed tremendous interest from thousands of people from over 135 countries. A video message from UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres was also played. The event was attended by Csaba Korosi, President of the 77th United Nations General Assembly, Eric Adams, Mayor of New York City, United Nations Deputy Secretary-General and President of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group, Amina J. Mohammad. Also prominent personalities from all walks of life - diplomats, officials, academicians, health professionals, technocrats, industry leaders, media personalities, artists, spiritual leaders and yoga practitioners participated. Before the yoga session, Prime Minister Modi paid floral tributes at the statue of Mahatma Gandhi. The statue was inaugurated in December 2022 during India's presidency of the United Nations Security Council. Prime Minister Modi also paid tributes at the Peacekeeping Memorial located in the North Lawns.

Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh. In his video message on International Day of Yoga 2023, PM Modi said, "Be it India's culture or social structure, India's spirituality or ideals, India's philosophy or vision, we have always nurtured traditions that connect, adopt and embrace." In yoga one can mould himself according to the situation. You can practice it alone or in a group, learn from a teacher or do self-learning. Yoga is unifying – it is for everyone, for all castes, religions and cultures. Yoga is truly universal. Prime Minister Modi said, "It has been said for Yoga – 'Yoga: Karmasu Kaushalam'. That is, skill in action is yoga. This mantra is very important for all of us in the Amrit Kaal of freedom. When we are devoted to our duties, we reach the perfection of yoga.

International Day of Yoga made special by fomation of Ocean Ring of Yoga

This year the event of International Day of Yoga was made more special by the formation of Ocean Ring of Yoga. The idea of the Ocean Ring of Yoga is based on the idea of yoga and the interrelationship of the expanse of the ocean. Army personnel made 'Yog Bharatmala and Yoga Sagarmala' by using water sources. Similarly, the Prime Minister continued, India's two research bases from the Arctic to Antarctica i.e. the two poles of the earth are also connected with yoga. The participation of crores of people from all over the country and the world in this unique celebration of Yoga in such a spontaneous manner, highlights the spread of Yoga, the fame of Yoga and its greatness. ■

A yoga session in Gujarat's Surat has entered the Guinness World Record for the largest number of people participating at one place.

PM NARENDRA MODI'S VISIT TO AMERICA, EGYPT

BEGINNING OF A NEW AND GLORIOUS JOURNEY OF BILATERAL RELATIONS

"The Future is AI – America and India". This statement of Prime Minister Narendra Modi explains in toto the strong partnership and cooperation between India and America. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's official state visit to the US from June 21-24 on the invitation of US President Joe Biden and First Lady Dr. Jill Biden further cemented the relationship. Bilateral talks with President Biden along with addressing the joint session of the US Congress during the visit strengthened cooperation with agreements on AI, space, quantum and investment. After this, several key agreements were signed during his two-day visit to Egypt.

The India-US Comprehensive Strategic Global Partnership is based on shared democratic values, convergence on security and strategic issues, and a shared vision of a rules-based international order. Bilateral relations have been progressive through wide-ranging engagement and cooperation. Regular high-level talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden have been instrumental in guiding the two governments and focussing the bilateral agenda in the context of contemporary issues of shared priority. The US is India's largest trading partner in goods and services. Both countries are key partners in sectors such as - science, technology, education, health, defense and security, while the initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology has added new dimensions. Defense industrial cooperation, space, telecommunications, quantum, artificial intelligence and biotech have broadened cooperation.

At White House state reception PM Modi accorded 21-gun salute

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was accorded a state welcome at the White House during his visit to the US in which a 21-gun salute was given. President Joe Biden welcomed, where the Indian community present in the lawn also raised slogans of Modi-Modi warmly. Regarding the ceremonial welcome, PM Modi said, "Thank you President Biden for your friendship." Today marks the first time that the doors of the White House have been opened for the Indian-American community in such a large number. A state dinner was also organized in the White House.



Agreements between India and America

- Agreement on semiconductor.
- India-US drone deal.
- A landmark deal in the defense sector.
- Announcement for joint space missions
- The US will open consulates in Ahmedabad and Bengaluru while India will open its consulate in Seattle.
- The US President supported India's proposal to make the African Union a full member of the G-20.

Prime Minister Modi met leading experts from various sectors in America

- Met with Technology leader, and business magnate Elon Musk on June 21 in New York, USA.
- Met with American mathematical statistician, educationist, public intellectual and author Prof Nicholas Taleb on 21 June in New York.
- Met Ray Dalio, American investor, author and co-founder, Bridgewater Associates, in New York.
- Met prominent American astrophysicist, author and science communicator Neil deGrasse Tyson on 21 June in New York.
- Met a group of eminent American academicians in New York, USA. The academicians were people from diverse fields of agriculture, marketing, engineering, health, science and technology.
- Met America's Nobel Prize winning economist and policy entrepreneur Prof. Paul Romer in New York.
- Met Indian American singer, musician and Grammy Award winner Falguni Shah in New York.
- Met with Gary E. Dickerson, President and CEO of Applied Materials, on June 22.
- Met General Electric CEO H. Lawrence Culp Jr. on June 22.
- Met with Sanjay Mehrotra, CEO of Micron in Washington DC.
- Met David L. Calhoun, President and CEO of Boeing in Washington DC.
- Met Amazon Chairman and CEO Andrew R Jessie.
- Met Sundar Pichai, CEO of Alphabet Inc and Google in Washington DC.







During the US visit, it has been decided that both the countries will work to end the pending issues related to trade. US President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi agreed that bringing governments, businesses and educational institutions together is vital to making our strategic partnership meaningful. The India-US trade and investment partnership is important not only for the two countries but also for the global economy. Today America is India's largest trade partner. PM Narendra Modi said that India-US friendship will make the world a better place.

From defense to aviation sector, from applied material to manufacturing, from IT sector to space sector, India-America are now moving towards becoming the most reliable partners. This partnership of India and America is in the interest of both the countries. That's why it is equally necessary to strengthen it. Several historic steps have been taken for this. Prime Minister Modi says that our partnership can change the fate of the

The famous buildings of New York lit up in tricolour to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



Special T-shirt gifted to PM Modi

To mark the fast growing technology cooperation between India and America, President Joe Biden gifted Prime Minister Narendra Modi a special T-shirt with the famous quote of PM Modi – **"The Future is AI – America and India"** written on it. Addressing the US Congress for the second time, PM Modi said, a lot has changed since he came to USA seven years ago but commitment to deepening the friendship between India and America remains the same.

"I completely agree with you, Joe Biden. India and America's friendship is a force for global good. This will make our planet better and more sustainable. The things that have come to light in my recent visit will make our bond even stronger.

- Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister

"The friendship between the United States of America and India is one of the most important friendships in the world. It's stronger, closer and more dynamic than ever."

- Joe Biden,
US President



21st century. We are building a strong and forward-looking relationship by collaborating in areas such as AI, space, quantum, semiconductor and telecommunications. The Artemis accord between India and the US will take space exploration to new heights, a testimony to Sky is Not the Limit. India and America are walking shoulder to shoulder in the fight against terrorism and radicalism. Both nations agree that concerted action is necessary to end cross border terrorism.

A new dawn in India-US relations

Addressing the joint session of the US Congress for the second time, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "India was the 10th largest economy when I visited the US for the first time as Prime Minister, today India is the 5th largest economy and soon India will be the 3rd largest economy. We are not only developing but growing rapidly. When India grows, the world grows. After all, we

Prior to this, PM Modi received several other major honors

2016: PM Modi is the first non-Muslim to receive Saudi Arabia's highest honour.

2016: Awarded the highest civilian honor of Afghanistan.

2018: The first person from outside Palestine who receive its highest honor

2019: Received the highest civilian honor of the United Arab Emirates.

2019: Received the highest civilian honor of Russia.

2019: Maldives honored PM Modi. The biggest honor anyone can get outside the country.

2019: Bahrain gave the highest honor. This is the highest honor of the Gulf countries.

2020: America honored him for excellent services and achievements.

2021: Bhutan honored him with the highest civilian honor.

2023: Papua New Guinea awarded him Grand Companion of the Order of Logohu

2023: The Republic of Fiji honored PM Modi with the highest honor 'The Companion of the Order of Fiji'.

2023: Ebakl Award of the Republic of Palau: PM Modi was awarded the Ebakl Award during his visit to Papua New Guinea.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi honored with Order of the Nile, Egypt's highest civilian award

The President of Egypt, His Excellency Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, conferred the Order of the Nile, Egypt's highest civilian award, on Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 25 June 2023 at a special ceremony held at the Presidency of Cairo. Prime Minister Narendra Modi getting the highest honor in Egypt, which has the sixth largest Muslim population in world, is considered significant for India. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has so far received the highest honor from 13 countries. Prime Minister Modi is the first Indian to receive this award.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi gifted US First Lady Jill Biden a 7.5 carat diamond grown in Surat's laboratory. This raises hopes for the lab-grown diamond industry.

are one-sixth of the world's population.

PM Modi said, “America is the oldest and India is the largest democracy. Our partnership augurs well for the future of democracy. Together we will give a better future to the world and a better world to the future. There are more than 2500 political parties in India today. About twenty different parties rule the different states of India. We have twenty-two official languages and thousands of dialects, yet we speak with one voice. Today the world wants to know more and more about India."

Regarding India's digital revolution, PM Modi said, "We have worked on building Digital India. People have been protected by giving 220 crore

India's growing stature globally under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi



This was PM Modi's second address to the US Congress and 12th to a foreign parliament.

2014 Bhutan	2015 Mongolia
2014 Nepal	2015 Afghanistan
2014 Australia	2016 America
2014 Fiji	2018 Uganda
2015 Sri Lanka	2019 Maldives

PM Modi participated in 'India and USA: Skill Development for the Future' program

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the First Lady of USA Dr. Jill Biden participated in an event on the theme 'India and USA: Skill Development for the Future' at the National Science Center in Washington DC. The event focused on redeveloping the workforce in higher education institutions to enhance and expand access to quality education across society. At the same time, Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended a private event organized by US President Joe Biden and First Lady Dr. Jill Biden at the White House on June 21, 2023. Prime Minister Modi also met their family members.

The Prime Minister presented a five-point proposal to give impetus to Indo-US cooperation in the field of education and research, which are as follows:

- Integrated approach bringing together Government, Industry and Academia.
- To encourage exchange of teachers and students.
- Organizing Hackathons on various topics between the two countries.
- Mutual recognition of vocational skills qualifications.
- To encourage the travel of people associated with education and research.

indigenous Covid vaccine doses free of cost in the country. Farmers check weather updates, the elderly get social security payments, students access scholarships, doctors deliver tele-medicine, with just a tap on their phones . This is the strength of Digital India.

Talking about the empowerment of the nation by the empowerment of women, Prime Minister Modi said, “Women in India today are leading us towards a better future. India’s vision is not just of women's development but of women-led development.”

During his visit to the US, Prime Minister Modi also met members of the Indian community

The US government has decided to return over 100 antiquities of great importance to India, which were stolen from India and reached the international market.



PM Modi met dignitaries in Egypt

- Met the Grand Mufti of Egypt, His Eminence Dr. Shawky Ibrahim Allam, on 24 June 2023
- Meeting with Tarek Heggy, renowned Egyptian author and petroleum strategist in Cairo.
- Met Reem Jabak and Nada Adel, two prominent youth yoga instructors, in Cairo.
- Met Hassan Allam, CEO of Hassan Allam Holding Company, one of the largest Egyptian companies operating in the Middle East and North African region.

Agreement between India and Egypt

- The signing of an agreement to elevate bilateral relations between the two countries to a 'strategic partnership'.
- Three MoUs were also signed in the fields of agriculture, archeology and antiquities and competition law.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to Egypt is the first bilateral visit by an Indian Prime Minister in 26 years. He was received at the airport by his Egyptian counterpart Mustafa Madbouly.

and sector experts. The United States has now become one of India's most important defense partners. Today, India and the United States work together in space and sea, in science and semi-conductors, in startups and sustainability, in technology and business, in agriculture and finance, in the arts and artificial intelligence, in energy and education, in health care and in humanitarian efforts.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi began his USA visit from New York where he celebrated the International Day of Yoga on June 21 at the UN Headquarters with the leadership of the United Nations and members of the international community. In December 2014, the United Nations supported India's proposal to recognize the International Day of Yoga. ■

'VANDE BHARAT TRAINS' GIVING SPEED TO THE GOAL OF DEVELOPED INDIA

'Vande Bharat Train' is a wonderful example of today's modern and developing India. It is a reflection of both India's speed and scale. The country is launching Vande Bharat trains at a fast pace and the power of speed is bringing the countrymen closer. Continuing with it, Indian Railways witnessed a historic occasion on June 27 when Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off Vande Bharat Express trains on five new routes at Rani Kamalapati station in Bhopal.



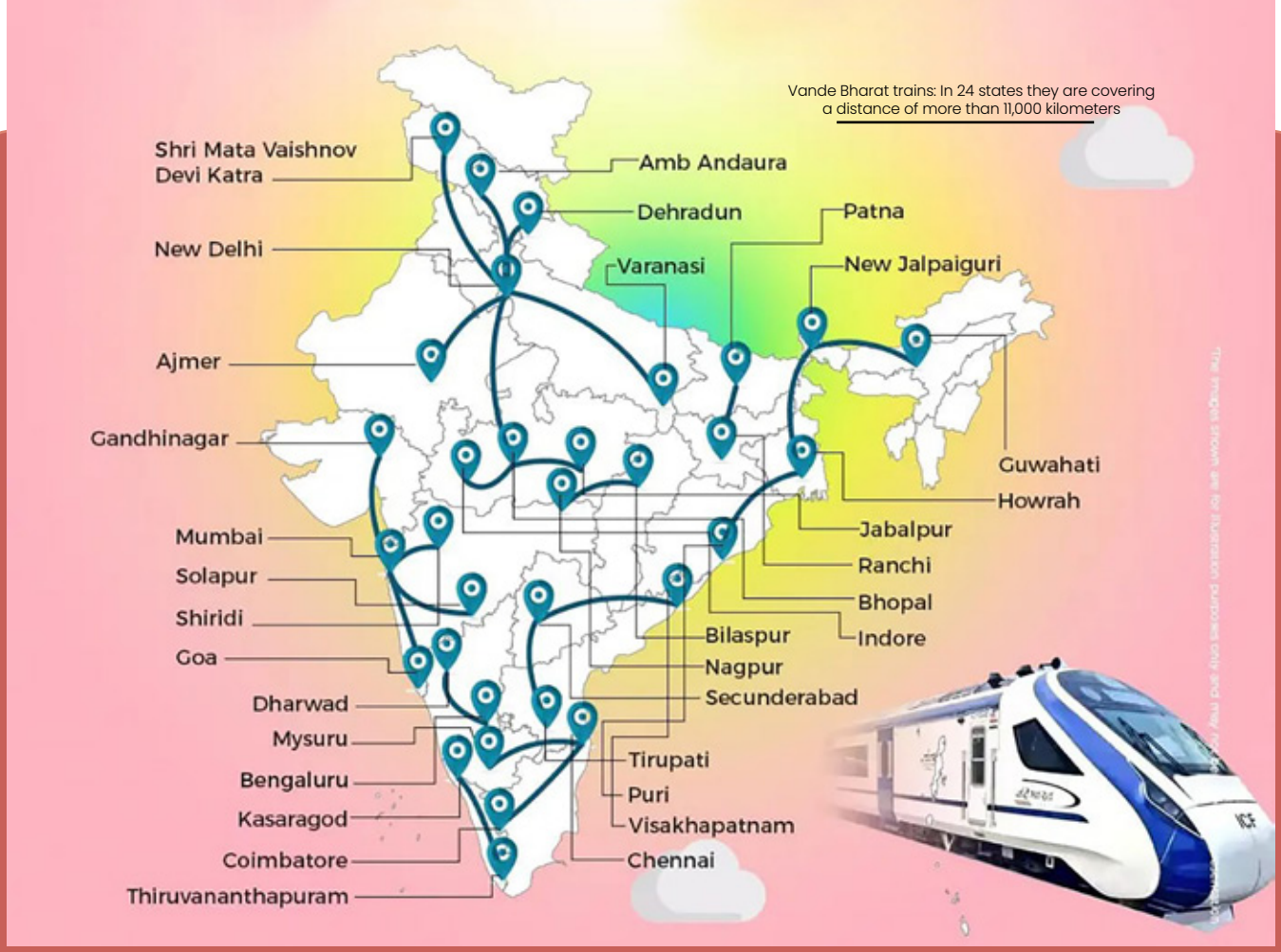
Strong infrastructure saves time and also speeds up the pace of development in the country. This is the reason why the work of connecting new waterways and new places with the sea plane is going on very fast in the country. Indian Railways is also getting transformed fastly into a modern avatar. To speed up development, the government's emphasis is on the progress of infrastructure. Keeping this in mind, the country is launching the Vande Bharat train connecting every part of the country at a very fast pace. So far 23 such trains have started running across the country covering 24 states and a distance of over 11,000 kms. Ushering in a new era of comfortable and enhanced rail travel experience, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched five new Vande Bharat Express trains between Rani Kamalapati-Jabalpur, Rani Kamalapati-Indore, Goa Madgaon-Mumbai, Ranchi-Patna and Dharwad-Bengaluru. These trains will improve connectivity between various state capitals and other cities, reducing travel time. Also it will make the journey more comfortable. Vande Bharat train is taking the message of New India-Developed India to every nook and corner of the country. Prime Minister Modi inspected the first coach of Rani Kamalapati-Indore Vande Bharat Express. He also interacted with the children traveling in the train and the crew members.

"Fortunate to have started five Vande Bharat trains simultaneously in Bhopal. This shows how committed our government is to speedy development of infrastructure and connectivity across the country."

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Vande Bharat Express train is equipped with the best facilities

Vande Bharat Express trains offer many types of superior facilities. This train is providing world-class comfortable travel experience to the passengers and advanced state-of-the-art security special arrangements including armour technology. Each train has fully suspended traction motor equipped



Rani Kamalapati-Jabalpur Vande Bharat Express

Rani Kamalapati-Jabalpur Vande Bharat Express train will leave from Rani Kamalapati railway station and reach Jabalpur station on the same day stopping at Narsinghpur, Pipariya and Narmadapuram railway stations. With the commencement of operation of the Vande Bharat train, connectivity will increase to the cultural capital of Madhya Pradesh Jabalpur, the capital of Madhya Pradesh Bhopal and nearby religious and tourist places apart from bringing the all-round development of this area.

Ranchi-Patna Vande Bharat Express

Ranchi-Patna New Vande Bharat Express train will depart from Patna and reach Ranchi station on the same day stopping at Gaya, Koderma, Hazaribagh, Barkakana and Mesra railway stations.

Rani Kamlapati-Indore Vande Bharat Express

Bhopal-Indore Vande Bharat Express train will leave from Bhopal Railway Station and will reach Indore Station on the same day stopping at Ujjain Railway Station. With the running of Vande Bharat train between Rani Kamalapati and Indore, the journey will be easier and faster. Also, it will become an important medium to connect the culture, tourism and pilgrimage sites of these areas.

Goa (Madgaon)-Mumbai Vande Bharat Express

Goa (Madgaon)-Mumbai Vande Bharat Express train will depart from Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus station and reach Madgaon station on the same day stopping at Dadar, Thane, Panvel, Khed, Ratnagiri, Kankavli and Thivim railway stations. This will give a boost to tourism in this area.

Dharwad - Bengaluru Vande Bharat Express

Dharwad-Bengaluru Vande Bharat Express train will depart from KSR Bengaluru City and reach Dharwad station on the same day stopping at Yesvantpur, Davangere and Hubli railway stations. In Karnataka, the Dharwad-Bengaluru Vande Bharat train will connect Vidya Kashi Dharwad, Vanijya Nagri, Hubli and Bengaluru. This Vande Bharat train will connect North Karnataka to South Karnataka

bogies for an operating speed of 160 kmph. The advanced state-of-the-art suspension system ensures smooth and safe travel and enhanced ride comfort for the passengers. These trains have been designed with power car and advanced regenerative braking systems with an aim to boost green emissions of Indian Railways by saving about 30 per cent electricity. ■

FREEDOM FIGHTERS CONSIDERED THE NATIONAL INTEREST PARAMOUNT; LED WITH PENANCE AND SACRIFICE

The first freedom struggle commenced in 1857 and the struggle to get independence continued every moment till 1947 in some or other corner of the country. This long period ignited the desire for freedom in the countrymen's hearts. Generations changed but the resolve to get freedom became stronger. The countrymen kept trying unitedly, fighting to overthrow British rule. The names of Mangal Pandey, Dr. Khubchand Baghel, Aruna Asaf Ali, and Abdul Hamid Kaiser are written in golden letters who always considered national interest paramount and kept fighting for freedom. These freedom fighters not only worked tirelessly in the freedom movement of India but also led with penance and sacrifice in the interest of the nation when needed.



MANGAL PANDEY

FIRST REVOLUTIONARY OF THE INDIAN FREEDOM STRUGGLE

Born: 19 July 1827, Died: 8 April 1857

In the afternoon of 29 March 1857 at Barrackpore, Lieutenant BH Baugh, an officer in the 34th Bengal Native Infantry then stationed at Barrackpore, was informed that several men in his regiment were in an agitated state. Further, it was also informed that one of the sepoys, Mangal Pandey, was coming from the parade ground with a loaded musket in front of the regimental guard room and inciting the other sepoys to mutiny. Threatening to gun down the first European who comes before him. As soon as Baugh reached there, Mangal Pandey opened fire on seeing him. Mangal Pandey was hanged on April 8, 1857, for attacking two British soldiers. The hanging of Mangal Pandey, who was a soldier of the English army, raised such a spark of freedom among the people of the country that after 90 years the British had to leave the country.

Mangal Pandey, a key figure in India's first war of independence in 1857, was born on 19 July 1827 in the Ballia district of Uttar Pradesh. He was the harbinger of the 1857 revolution. He ignited the flame of revolution among the public, whose light and splendor shook the roots of foreign rule. He was a soldier in the 34th Bengal Infantry at Barrackpore. In 1857, the British Army gave its soldiers a new Enfield rifle, which had to be loaded with the tip of a greased cartridge. It was rumored that either cow or pig fat had been used to lubricate the cartridges. The soldiers were convinced that the British had deliberately used grease on the cartridges. On 29 March 1857, Pandey asked his fellow soldiers to revolt against the British officers. Mangal Pandey attacked two officers and tried to shoot himself on resistance but was arrested by British soldiers.



Immediately the case was heard and Mangal Pandey was sentenced to death. Earlier, the date of hanging of Mangal Pandey was fixed for 18 April. The British felt that this rebellion might not spread to other areas, so they hanged Mangal Pandey ten days in advance on April 8 in Barrackpore. Mangal Pandey was the first Indian to die in the Revolt of 1857. A month after this incident, on 10 May 1857, the sepoys in Meerut mutinied, which gave rise to the First War of Independence of 1857.

His patriotism and sacrifice inspired millions of countrymen to participate in the freedom movement and embodied the spirit of freedom among the people through ideological revolution. On 19 July 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to freedom fighter Mangal Pandey on his birth anniversary and said, "The great Mangal Pandey is synonymous with courage and determination. He ignited the spark of patriotism at a very crucial time in our history and inspired countless others. Remembering him on his birth anniversary." At the beginning of the year 2022 also, Prime Minister Modi paid tribute to Mangal Pandey in his hometown in Meerut.



DR. KHUBCHAND BAGHEL

LEFT THE JOB FOR THE FREEDOM OF THE COUNTRY

Born: 19 July 1900, Died: 22 February 1969

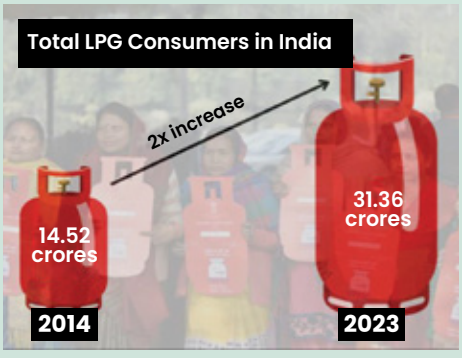
Dr. Khubchand Baghel was born on 19 July 1900 in Pathri village of Raipur. His father's name was Jodavan Singh and his mother's name was Ketki Bai. After receiving education from Raipur Government School, he studied medicine in Nagpur and also obtained other degrees. He participated in the Flag Satyagraha in 1923. While working as a government doctor from 1925 to 1931, he came in contact with the national leaders of Chhattisgarh. Despite being a government employee, he violated the Forest Act in 1930 during the Civil Disobedience Movement. He supported the Satyagrahis on 10 October 1930 and started leading them. When he got the notice, he resigned from the job and became a complete Satyagrahi.

Baghel had become a motivator for the rural people of Chhattisgarh. Due to his influence, men and women from many villages started participating in the movement. In the second phase of the Civil Disobedience Movement, Dr. Baghel was arrested on 15 February 1932. Along with this, his mother Ketki Bai, and wife Rajkunwar were also arrested while protesting. After being released from jail in 1933, he started the work of Harijan upliftment on the call of Mahatma Gandhi. The Congress Committee appointed him as the minister of the Provincial Harijan Seva Samiti. He was also a good writer. He attacked social evils and spread patriotism by writing plays like Karam Chadha, Jarnail Singh, Unch Neech, and Ladega. He also received training in the Satyagraha from 1 May to 7 May 1939. As soon as the individual Satyagraha movement started in the year 1940, he became active and started spreading nationalist sentiments. Baghel used to visit villages by forming a group of youths for social and political awakening through his plays.

In the year 1942, at the time of the Quit India announcement, Baghel along with other leaders went to Mumbai to listen to the speech of Mahatma Gandhi. While returning from there other companions were arrested in Malkapur but Baghel escaped from the police and reached Raipur. Going underground, anti-government revolutionaries kept on distributing pamphlets and giving anti-British speeches. He was finally arrested on 23 August 1942. Baghel remained very active even after the country got independence. He died on 22 February 1969.

LPG 'FUEL OF REVOLUTION' PRADHAN MANTRI UJJWALA YOJANA

India has achieved significant growth in the number of LPG consumers in the last nine years. The number of active domestic LPG consumers increased from 14.52 crore in April 2014 to 31.36 crore by March 2023. Around 17 crores of LPG consumers have been connected in the last 9 years. This significant increase is due to the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY). LPG coverage increased from 62% in 2016 to 104.1% in 2022. The total number of connections released under PMUY till January 30, 2023, was 9.58 crore. Further, on March 24, 2023, the Union Cabinet approved a subsidy of Rs 200 for PMUY beneficiaries for up to 12 refills of 14.2 kg cylinders per year. A WHO report published in 2018 said that 37 million women living below the poverty line were provided free LPG connections under the Ujjwala scheme to help them switch to cleaner household energy use. The scheme increased LPG coverage among Indian households, made the kitchen smoke-free through clean fuel, and also benefited the environment. Along with this, there was a comprehensive improvement in the health of women.





ARUNA ASAF ALI

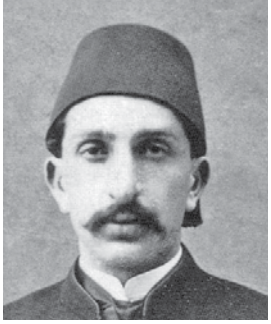
HOISTED FLAG AT MUMBAI'S GOWALIA MAIDAN

Born: 16 July 1909, **Died:** 29 July 1996

Freedom fighter Aruna Asaf Ali was an inspirational freedom fighter who is best remembered for unfurling the Indian national flag in Mumbai during the Quit India Movement in 1942. Aruna was of Bengali origin and was born on July 16, 1909, in Kalka, Haryana. She was married to freedom fighter Asaf Ali. She came in close contact with leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad and started attending their meetings. Aruna Asaf Ali participated in many movements during the Indian freedom struggle, including the Salt Satyagraha, due to which she had to go to jail several times.

It was Aruna Asaf Ali who unfurled the Indian national flag at the Gowalia Tank Maidan in Mumbai during the Quit India Movement in 1942, when the top leaders of the freedom struggle were jailed by the British on 8 August 1942. Mumbai's Gowalia Tank Maidan is now known as August Kranti Maidan. After this incident, instead of surrendering or getting arrested, she continued the freedom struggle by going underground. Mahatma Gandhi wrote a letter to Aruna requesting her to surrender but she never accepted that request. Mumbai remained the center of the movement but later it started spreading to other parts of the country as well. Aruna Asaf Ali also encouraged women to participate in the freedom struggle.

After independence, she became active in politics. Aruna was appointed the first mayor of Delhi in 1958. She was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 1992 and the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award, posthumously in 1997. Aruna Asaf Ali died on 29 July 1996.



ABDUL HAMID KAISER

A FREEDOM FIGHTER WHO WAS THE MESSIAH OF THE POOR

Born: May 5, 1929, **Died:** July 18, 1998

Freedom fighter Abdul Hamid Kaiser was one of the well-known patriots of India. He was born on May 5, 1929, in Jhalawar district of Rajasthan. The feeling of patriotism had awakened in his mind since childhood. Abdul Hamid Kaiser, popularly known as 'Lakhpati', was considered an intense speaker. It is said that in 1954 a lottery of one lakh rupees was opened in his name, after which he became famous as 'Lakhpati'. Kaiser remained active during the 'Quit India Movement'. In August 1942, 'Tilak Jayanti' was celebrated in Kota. In this, a resolution was passed to participate in the session to be held in Mumbai on August 9, 1942, and to support the 'Quit India Movement'. The event was attended by the dignitaries of the city along with the students under the leadership of Abdul Hamid Kaiser. He also suffered a head injury during this movement. Despite this, his morale did not abate and he continued to agitate.

After getting admission to Aligarh University, Kaiser actively participated in the freedom movement. Even after the independence of the country, he continued to be active and worked in the interest of the nation. Apart from his contribution to freedom and his dedication and duty toward society, he is also remembered as the messiah of the poor. Kaiser wanted to see India united but his wish could not be fulfilled. Eventually, after the country got independence, he stayed away from direct electoral politics. However, many of his comrades rose to high positions in politics. After completing his education in Aligarh, he started practicing in Bundi. In 1961, he had promised Lal Bahadur Shastri that he would fight the case of the poor free of cost. He followed it all his life. He died on 18 July 1998. ■



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आज युवा कुछ नया करना चाहता है, अपनी लकीर खुद खींचना चाहता है।





रक्षा मंत्री कार्यालय/ RMO India @DefenceMinIndia

आज भारत दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्थाओं में से एक है। भारत की Geographic Location ऐसी है कि भारत अपनी Economy के साथ-साथ Global Economy और Trade की दृष्टि से भी एक बड़ी भूमिका निभा रहा है। आज भारत दुनिया की पांचवी सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था और तीसरी सबसे बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था बनने की तरफ अग्रसर है: श्री @rajnathsingh



Amit Shah @AmitShah · 25/06/23

The epic success of PM @narendramodi Ji as a statesman of global aura is now adorned with another honor as Egypt bestows its highest state honor, 'The Order of Nile Award,' on Modi Ji.

Modi Ji is the only Indian PM to receive a maximum number of such awards from other countries.



Nitin Gadkari @nitin_gadkari · 4d

Under Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi Ji's leadership, the new India is dedicated to global progress, aiming for a 5 trillion economy by 2024-25, becoming the third-largest economy by 2030, and achieving net-zero emissions by 2070.

#Bhavishya_Ka_Bharat



Office of Mr. Anurag Thakur @... · 4h

Under the visionary leadership of our PM @narendramodi ji, India has shown immense progress in sports at the global level. India's sporting culture like all other activities is deep rooted in strong ethics, morals and values.

-Sh @ianuragthakur



Dr Mansukh Mandaviya @m... · 4h

दुनिया के बाजारों में जब यूरिया और DAP की क़ीमत बढ़ी थी तब मोदी जी ने किसानों के लिए सब्सिडी बढ़ाई लेकिन दाम नहीं बढ़ाए।

मोदी सरकार Pro-Farmers सरकार है।

#KisanoKoPMPRANAM

India, Egypt upgrade ties to 'strategic partnership'

PM, Egyptian President discuss trade, defence and security

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 25

PM Narendra Modi and President of Egypt Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi on Sunday signed a pact to elevate the bilateral relationship between the two countries to a "strategic partnership".

Meeting for the second time

MODI VISITS 11TH CENTURY MOSQUE IN CAIRO

in less than six months, this time in Egypt, the two leaders identified areas like trade and investment, IT, defence and security, renewable energy, agriculture, health, culture and people-to-people ties for deeper cooperation.

On the second day in Cairo, PM Modi was received by Sisi at the Al-Ittihadiya Palace. In a special ceremony, Sisi conferred PM Modi with the Order of the Nile, the highest civilian award of Egypt. This was the 13th state honour to have been



PM Narendra Modi with his Egyptian counterpart Mostafa Madbouly during his visit to the Great Pyramid of Giza on Sunday. PTI

'ORDER OF NILE' CONFERRED ON MODI

- PM Modi was conferred with 'Order of the Nile', Egypt's highest honour, by President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi
- The honour is conferred upon heads of states who offer Egypt or the humanity their invaluable services

Putin briefs Modi on Wagner revolt, Ukraine situation

Russia Says PM Backed 'Actions' On Law & Order

Sachin Parashar
@timesgroup.com



Modi dialled Putin days before the SCO summit to be held on July 4

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi spoke to Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday and backed his efforts to maintain law and order in the country in the aftermath of the aborted coup by a former ally Yevgeny Prigozhin, who marched unarmed to Moscow with his mercenary Wagner Group for hours on June 24 before ordering them back.

While Putin briefed Modi about the developments on and since June 24, according to a Kremlin readout, Modi initiated the call and, in connection with those events, expressed understanding and support for the "decisive actions of the Russian leadership" to protect law and order, ensure stability in the country and security of its citizens.

There was no mention of this support in the Indian statement on the meeting that only said Putin briefed Modi about the developments in Russia and that, while discussing the situation in Ukraine, the PM reiterated his call for dialogue and diplomacy.

This was their first conversation since the short-lived and rare defiance of Putin's authority and also since Modi's visit to the US, about which he "informed" Putin during the talks. The Indian government said that both leaders agreed to remain in

cus on issues related to security and connectivity. The conversation followed NSA Ajit Doval's talks with his counterpart Nikolai Patrushev on Thursday in which the latter stressed that normalcy had been restored in Russia.

Putin shared his assessment of the situation in Ukraine and stressed "Kiev's utter refusal to undertake political and diplomatic steps to resolve the conflict".

The Russian President is likely to visit India for the G20 summit in September. India has not invited Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky for the summit and so far, despite pressure from the West to do so, there's no indication that he will be allowed to address the meeting virtually.

"When discussing topical issues of bilateral cooperation, they underscored the importance of further consistent implementation of the major joint projects in various areas and noted with satisfaction substantial growth in trade throughout 2022 and in the first quarter of this year," said the Kremlin read-



India-US relations: Set for a strategic upgrade

Washington's grand reception of Prime Minister Narendra Modi despite some unease within highlights the clarity of America's focus on the geo-strategic value of a deeper relationship

Prime Minister Narendra Modi received a rousing reception last week at the White House [part 3 President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden, and later from lawmakers too, when the PM addressed a joint session of the U.S. Congress — a rare honour for a visiting leader from overseas. Modi's rapprochement United Hyper-standing relations and was

all, while on defiant deal with Moscow for S-400 anti-missile fire power etc in the face of U.S. sanctions may have upset the ante in a global market for weaponry, where India is the biggest buyer. Even as Jaishankar is in Europe as well America's Cold War time frame of reference, a "multipolar" map between Russia and China is not expected to exist in the Indo-Pacific, where tension has mounted since Beijing's designs on

In election-bound MP, PM Modi flags off five Vande Bharat trains



PM Narendra Modi flagged off five Vande Bharat Express trains in Bhopal on Tuesday. PTI

PM: Every farmer gets annual benefit of Rs 50,000, this is Modi guarantee

HARIKISHAN SHARMA



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Included in the UNESCO World Heritage List

Dholavira, the first site of the Indus Valley Civilization in India

The remains of Dholavira, one of the finest cities of the Indus Valley Civilization in India, were discovered in 1967 during the discovery of the Harappan land route from Sindh to Kutch. About 23 years later, in 1990, excavation work was started, in which Dholavira, a wonderful city spread over 120 acres, came to the fore. This city, which was inhabited for about 1,500 years, is counted among the best-preserved cities ever discovered. Dholavira, which gives evidence of the rise and fall of the Harappan civilization, has been included in the list of India's World Heritage Sites as Super-40 in July 2021.

- The Harappan city of Dholavira is located in the Rann of Kutch, Gujarat.
- Its history is about 5,000 years older than the Great Pyramid of Egypt.
- The water management system of the city protected by the boundary wall was amazing.
- Several water bodies were discovered around the city during the excavation.
- The Rudreshwara Temple (Ramappa Temple), located in the Mulugu district of Telangana, was designated as India's 39th World Heritage Site on the World Heritage List in 2021.



Absolutely delighted by this news. Dholavira was an important urban center and is one of our most important linkages with our past. People who are interested in history, culture, and archeology must visit this place.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



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