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August 16-31, 2024

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NEW INDIA SAMACHAR



(2014-2024)

A decade of Jan Dhan

JAN DHAN

bedrock of
financial infrastructure

Jan Dhan blossoms into an umbrella of financial inclusion;
a strong enabler of people-centric initiatives



Employment opportunities growing due to the increasing sales of Khadi and Handloom

Prime Minister Narendra Modi once again came among the countrymen on July 28 through the monthly program Mann Ki Baat broadcast on Akashvani. In this program, PM Modi discussed the new achievements of the country, and unique efforts of public participation. He talked on many topics including Khadi, the Mathematics Olympiad, Tiger Conservation, and Project PARI. In the 112th episode of Mann Ki Baat, he appealed to steadfastly maintain the energy to do something new for the country. Here are excerpts from Mann Ki Baat...

- **International Mathematics Olympiad:**

Students of India have performed exceptionally well in the International Mathematics Olympiad. Our team performed its best in that and won four Gold and one Silver Medal. Youth from more than 100 countries participate in it and in the overall tally, our team has been successful in reaching the top five.

- **Increased sales of Khadi:** The turnover of Khadi Village Industry has crossed Rs 1.5 lakh crore for the first time and the sale of Khadi has increased by 400 percent. This rising sale of Khadi, handloom, is also creating a large number of new employment opportunities.

- **Charaideo Moidams:** Assam's Charaideo Moidams is being included in the UNESCO World Heritage Sites. In this list, it will be the 43rd site of India, but the first site from the Northeast.

- **Project PARI:** It is becoming a great medium to bring emerging artists on one platform to popularise public art. Very beautiful paintings are seen on the roadsides, on walls, in underpasses. These are made by the same artists who are associated with PARI. This not only enhances the beauty of our public places but also helps in making our culture more popular.

- **Unnati Self Help Group:** I also want to talk about the colours that have filled the lives of more than 250 women of the Rohtak district of Haryana with hues of prosperity. By joining this group, they received training in block printing and dyeing.

- **Manas Helpline:** The government has opened a special center, named - 'Manas'. This is a very big step in the fight against drug abuse. A few

days ago, the Helpline and Portal of 'Manas' was launched. The government has issued a toll-free number '1933'. Anyone can call on this number to get the necessary advice

- **Kulhadi Band Panchayat:** An effort of public participation is "Kulhadi Band Panchayat" which is a very interesting campaign started in Ranthambore of Rajasthan. The local communities themselves have taken an oath that they will not go to the forest with axes and will not cut trees. Due to this one decision, the forests here are becoming green once again, and a better environment is being created for the tigers.

- **Conservation of tigers:** Public participation is proving very useful in tiger conservation, their population is increasing. You will feel happy and proud to know that 70 percent of the tigers in the world are in our country. That is why there are many Tiger Sanctuaries in different parts of our country.

- **Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam:** In the last 'Mann Ki Baat', we discussed the program 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam'. I am happy that a large number of people in different parts of the country are connecting with this campaign. A few days ago, a splendid program was held in Indore, the city famous for cleanliness.

- **Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan:** This campaign has become a unique festival in upholding the glory of the Tricolour. Now, various kinds of innovations related to that are also taking place. Some people even distribute the 'Tricolour' to their friends and neighbours. This joy, this enthusiasm with the Tricolour connects us with each other.



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Yojana's
Years



On the idea of empowering Jan-Gan-Man, in his first address from the ramparts of the Red Fort on 15 August, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "I have come to you to take a pledge to take forward a scheme - "Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana". The onset of an era of economic resources being used by the poor starts with it." One decade of Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana is completing on 28 August...

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President Droupadi Murmu completed two years of her tenure as President on 25 July. On the same day, the names 'Durbar Hall' and 'Ashoka Hall' given during British rule were changed to 'Ganatantra Mandap' and 'Ashok Mandap'. This is our steadfast journey of Sankalp Yatra till the goal of achieving freedom of mind and psyche is achieved.....

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...

PM Jan Dhan Yojana has become a unique prototype of removing 'financial untouchability'

Greetings,

The inclusive philosophy, that is, the thought of including everyone in the process of development, is the basis of every policy, and every scheme of the Central Government. Bringing the socio-economically neglected sections into the formal financial system and making them a part of development has become a national priority. While there was a time when banks were nationalized in the country, then even after 68 years of independence, 68 percent of the people had no connection with the banking system.

Undoubtedly, when a person opens an account in a bank, it becomes the first step to connect with the mainstream of the economy, but for decades a large number of people did not even have bank accounts. Just as the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi tried to eradicate social untouchability, in the same way, a unique campaign was launched in the country in 2014 to get rid of 'financial untouchability', through Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana. This scheme, which is completing a decade on 28 August this year, has freed every family and person in the country from the financial untouchability. The central government started working in a planned and phased manner to strengthen financial inclusion. To begin with, bank accounts of all families were opened through Jan Dhan, then corruption was curbed by using technology, and direct benefits were delivered through DBT through the 'Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile (JAM)' trinity. Also through schemes like Mudra, Standup, and Startup efforts were made to tap the entrepreneurial potential of the citizens. The

central government's thinking was clear from the onset that people should be empowered rather than made dependent. Be it Jan Dhan Yojana or PAHAL-DBT, economic inclusion became a habit and it was included in the Guinness World Records. Today, there are over 52 crore Jan Dhan accounts in the country. Out of these, more than 55 percent of accounts are held by women. The effect of this economic inclusion is clearly visible in every sector. It has become a milestone in the direction of empowering the citizens. How the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana has become the foundation of financial infrastructure is our cover story on the occasion of the completion of a decade of this scheme.

Also, read about the immortal revolutionary Rajguru in the personality section and how India is moving towards freedom from the signs of slavery in this issue as current affairs. The 9th meeting of the NITI Aayog Governing Council, Mann Ki Baat, and the Prime Minister's visit to Kargil on the silver jubilee of Kargil Vijay Diwas are the other highlights of this issue. Prime Minister's address to CII on the general budget, India's achievements so far in the Paris Olympics, and the inclusion of 'Charaideo Moidams' in the UNESCO World Heritage list as India's 43rd world heritage site on the back cover are also part of this issue.

Keep sending us your suggestions

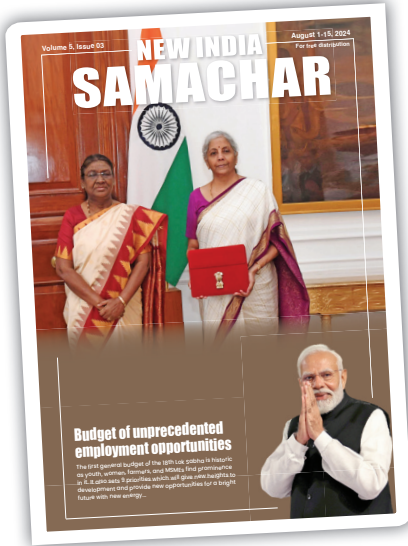


(Dhirendra Ojha)



Read/Download the magazine available in Hindi, English and 11 other languages.
<https://newindiasamachar.pib.gov.in/>

MAIL BOX



Treasure of knowledge about the Central Government and its work

I am deeply grateful to you for sending the fortnightly magazine New India Samachar. Available in Hindi, English, and 11 other regional languages, this magazine is a treasure of knowledge about the Central Government and its work. It also gives detailed information about other latest developments initiated by the government.

kjpanicker@yahoo.co.in

The cover story was very useful, informative articles

The cover story published in the July 1-15, 2024 edition was very useful and it was full of informative articles. I would like to make a suggestion. It would be very helpful if this fortnightly magazine becomes downloadable. This will make it easier for people to read offline. Hope it will be considered appropriately.

keshriraja426@gmail.com

New India Samachar magazine gives reliable news

I read New India Samachar in the Telugu language. New India Samachar gives reliable news. I am very happy to read this magazine. This magazine looks quite useful for current affairs for competitive exams.

lodinagaraj@gmail.com

'New India Samachar' useful for our young readers

Tranetmedia is a public library located in Malappuram, Kerala. Many of our members regularly visit the library to read and take books. We feel that your publication 'New India Samachar' is useful for our young readers.

tranetmedia@gmail.com

A chance to learn about the policies and programs of the government

I received New India Samachar magazine issue 1 to 15 July 2024. I read it and I liked this magazine very much. From this magazine, I get a chance to learn about the policies, schemes, and programs of the government.

Sushil Barman
sushilbarma15@gmail.com



Ideas4Life launched for an eco-friendly lifestyle

The Ideas4Life portal has been launched to invite ideas related to products and services that inspire behavior change related to eco-friendly lifestyles. The initiative aims to encourage and motivate students, teachers, and researchers to contribute their innovative ideas to the global initiative of Mission Life. The portal 'Ideas4Life.nic.in' will provide participants an opportunity to submit their ideas and innovations online. Winners and institutions under each of the seven themes of Mission LiFE will be awarded attractive prizes. UGC, AICTE, IITs, and academic institutions across the country will play a key role in spreading the call of Ideas4Life Ideathon among the student, researcher, and academic fraternity and contributing innovative citizen-centric ideas and technologies related to adopting eco-friendly lifestyles. UNICEF has been an active partner in the implementation of Mission LiFE. The Ministry in collaboration with UNICEF YUVA has developed a comprehensive Ideas4Life portal for the submission of innovative ideas, management, and further processing of entries.



Nominations for Padma Awards open till 15th September

The Central Government is committed to making Padma Awards "People's Padma". Under these awards, the recipient is honored for 'outstanding work'. Nominations for Padma Awards-2025 to be announced on the occasion of Republic Day, 2025 have started from May 1 and its last date is September 15, 2024. Nominations/recommendations for Padma Awards will be received online only on the National Awards Portal <https://awards.gov.in>. The Padma Awards are given for distinguished and exceptional achievements/service in all fields/disciplines like art, literature and education, sports, medicine, social service, science and engineering, public works, civil service, business and industry, etc. Citizens can also nominate themselves. Padma Awards, i.e. Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Shri are among the highest civilian awards in the country. Established in the year 1954, these awards are announced every year on the occasion of Republic Day.

Rs 362 crores disbursed to Sahara Group depositors so far

An amount of Rs 362.91 crore has been released to 4,20,417 depositors of Sahara Group cooperative societies till July 16, 2024, through the CRCS-Sahara Refund Portal. This information was given by Cooperation Minister Amit Shah in a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha. The applications received on the CRCS-Sahara Refund Portal are being processed transparently after proper identification and submission of proof of identity and deposit. These payments are being deposited directly into the Aadhaar-linked bank accounts of genuine depositors. At present, only up to Rs 10,000/- is being paid to each genuine depositor of Sahara Group cooperative societies on verified claims through an Aadhaar-linked bank account. Further, in case any deficiencies are found in the depositor's application they are being informed of the deficiencies to re-submit their application through the already launched re-submission portal on 15th November 2023.



Ex-servicemen will get the benefit of e-SeHAT tele-consultation

E-SeHAT Assistance and Tele-Consultation module was started on 30 July 2024 under the Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS). E-SeHAT tele-consultation will enable ECHS beneficiaries to get online tele-consultation for medical treatment from their homes. For this, they will not need to go to the ECHS polyclinic. The module aims to provide healthcare services through video-based clinical consultation. The pilot project was launched in 12 ECHS polyclinics. This module follows the telemedicine practice guidelines issued in March 2020 by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in consultation with NITI Aayog. The e-SeHAT initiative is in line with the Digital India vision of the Government of India, which aims to promote digital inclusion and efficiency in public services. This pioneering effort will transform healthcare facilities for ex-servicemen, ensuring timely and quality medical care at their homes.

Rashtrapati Bhavan to auction gifts through the e-Upahaar portal

Rashtrapati Bhavan will auction select gifts presented to the President and former Presidents on various occasions through an online portal called e-Upahaar. The portal was launched by President Droupadi Murmu on July 25, 2024, on the occasion of her completion of two years as President. In the first phase, around 250 exquisite gifts will be auctioned. The bidding will be open from August 5 to August 26, 2024. After the bidding period ends, these items will be handed over to the highest bidders. Interested persons can place their bids on the portal <https://upahaar.rashtrapatibhavan.gov.in/>. The initiative aims to not only enhance citizen engagement but also support a noble cause. All the proceeds from the auction will be donated to help needy children.

JJM Achieves 15 Crore Rural Tap Connections Milestone

The National Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) has achieved a historic milestone by providing tap water connections to 15 crore rural households across the country. This flagship initiative launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 15, 2019, has increased the rural tap connection coverage from 3 crore to 15 crore in a short span of five years. This demonstrates unprecedented speed and scale. On this occasion, Union Jal Shakti Minister CR Patil in a post on social media platform 'X' expressed his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his leadership in achieving this historic feat. He said, "This golden achievement has not only gifted pure water to our countrymen but has also significantly improved their quality of life." The Har Ghar Jal initiative is providing socio-economic benefits to the rural population, especially women and girls, by freeing them from the arduous task of fetching water daily. Jal Jeevan Mission is transforming the rural landscape. This mission is enhancing the quality of life and creating a sense of community empowerment. ●

Now 'Gantantra Mandap' and 'Ashok Mandap' in Rashtrapati Bhavan



Gantantra Mandap



Ashok Mandap

The proclamation of 'Panch Pran' from the ramparts of the Red Fort by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has become a part of the thinking of the people very quickly. He has taken a pledge of 'Panch Pran' for India of 2047 in his address to the nation from the Red Fort on 15 August 2022, after which the journey to erase every mark of slavery and overcome that thinking is progressing at a fast pace. President Droupadi Murmu completed two years of her tenure as President on 25 July and on the same day the names given during the British rule - 'Durbar Hall' and 'Ashok Hall' were renamed as 'Gantantra Mandap' and 'Ashok Mandap' respectively. But this is neither the beginning nor the end, rather it has become a continuous journey of resolution till the goal of freedom of mind and psyche is achieved...

When India became independent in 1947, the British called it a 'transfer of power'. We became independent from colonial rule, but many such symbols and systems remained with us, about which Mahatma Gandhi had warned in 1909 that achieving Swaraj was not possible by just removing the British and their rule. If their civilization and their ideals remain even after their departure, then in practical terms we will remain the same as before. New India is coming out of the colonial shadow by realizing this thought. On 25 July, President Droupadi Murmu completed two years of her tenure, and on the same day, the two main halls of Rashtrapati Bhavan during British rule - Durbar Hall and Ashok Hall were also renamed Gantantra Mandap and Ashok Mandap respectively. In the two years of her tenure,



President Droupadi Murmu has taken many such decisions, which have fostered the connection of common people with Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Rashtrapati Bhavan, the office and the residence of the President of India, is a symbol of the nation, and an invaluable heritage of the people. Continuous efforts are being made to make it more accessible to people. There has been a consistent endeavor to make the ambience of the Rashtrapati Bhavan reflective of Indian cultural values and ethos. Taking this forward, two important halls of Rashtrapati Bhavan - 'Durbar Hall' and 'Ashok Hall' have been renamed as 'Ganatantra Mandap' and 'Ashok Mandap' respectively. 'Durbar Hall' has been the venue for important ceremonies and festivals like presenting national awards. The word 'Durbar' refers to the courts and meetings of Indian rulers and the British. After India became a republic, its relevance ended. But the name lingered. While the concept of 'republic' has been deeply rooted in Indian society since ancient times, 'Ganatantra Mandap' became an apt name for this venue.

'Ashok Hall' was originally a ballroom. The word 'Ashok' connotes someone who is "free from all sufferings" or is "bereft of any sorrow". Also,

'Ashoka' refers to Emperor Ashok, a symbol of unity and peaceful co-existence. The word also refers to the Ashok tree which has deep significance in Indian religious traditions as well as arts and culture. Renaming 'Ashok Hall' as 'Ashok Mandap' brings uniformity in language and removes the traces of anglicisation while upholding the key values associated with the word 'Ashok'. Earlier, the Mughal Garden at Rashtrapati Bhavan was renamed Amrit Udyan.

Redefining the nation

Often, some changes become a part of our life that may not look big to see or hear, but they bring big changes in our thinking. Just like during the freedom movement, small symbolic efforts like the spinning wheel and a handful of salt shook the foundations of British rule. History is witness that a thread of Khadi became the strength of the freedom movement, it broke the chains of slavery. In the same way, now when India is redefining itself as a nation, it becomes the duty of the nation to erase the symbols of slavery.

Let us know how the signs of slavery are being erased....



Mughal Garden became Amrit Udyan

Amrit Udyan, spread over a vast area of 15 acres, is the soul of Rashtrapati Bhavan. In January 2023, the name of the Mughal Garden was changed to Amrit Udyan.

New India's own law

After about 150 years, independent India's own justice-oriented law came into force from July 1, 2024, instead of the penal laws of British rule.



Freedom from the laws of the British era

In the last 10 years, more than 1500 laws made during the British era were abolished and the lives of citizens were made easy.

The Navy's flag changed

The symbol of slavery was removed from the flag of the Indian Navy, which showed the imprint of the colonial era. The red St. George's Cross was removed from the new flag. In its place, a symbol inspired by the royal seal of Chhatrapati Shivaji has been installed.



Kartavya Path:

Kingsway which was made for the British rulers before independence became Rajpath after independence but Prime Minister Modi made it Kartavya Path.

Lok Kalyan Marg

Prime Minister's residence was located on Race Course Road. But in 2016, on the birth centenary year of Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, it was renamed Lok Kalyan Marg.

Now 'Ae Mere Watan Ke Logon' will be played at Beating Retreat...

The prayer song 'Abide With Me' was dropped from the Beating the Retreat Ceremony which is held on the third day after the Republic Day celebrations. Kavi Pradeep's famous song 'Ae Mere Watan Ke Logon' was included in its place.

Indigenous cannons for gun salute



On 15 August, a 21-gun salute is given at the Red Fort. Now, the use of indigenous DRDO-made cannons has started for this.

National War Memorial

After independence, there was a long-standing demand for a

special memorial for the martyrs. But Prime Minister Modi made it a reality in the form of the National War Memorial. The flame of the Amar Jawan Jyoti was also merged with the National War Memorial.

Freedom from English dominance in the general budget

Until the year 2000, the general budget was presented in the



country at 5 pm on the last date of February. This tradition of British rule continued for more than five decades after independence. This tradition was created during British rule so that the British rulers sitting in London could listen to the budget at 11 am according to their time. For the first time, Atal Bihari Vajpayee's government changed this practice and from 2001, the budget started being presented at 11 am Indian time. Prime Minister Narendra Modi took a step forward and changed the date of the budget from 28 February to 1 February and broke the 92-year-old tradition by merging the railway budget with the general budget. With these steps, the country's budget process became completely free from the element of slavery.

Red beacons culture ended

Prime Minister Modi ended the culture of VIPs and the use of red beacons. A rule of the Central

Motor Vehicles Act 1989 gave the central and state governments the right to permit red and blue lights. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his decision, ended these lines written in this Motor Vehicle Act.

New National Education Policy

Earlier, questions were raised on the education system started by Macaulay, but Prime Minister Modi showed the courage to change it. After 34 years, a new National Education Policy came into force in the country which is completely based on practicality and skills. In this, education in the mother tongue and local language has been given priority. When English has gripped our entire system, the government has given importance to education in the mother tongue and local language.

Netaji's statue at India Gate

Similarly, a huge statue of national leader Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was also installed near India Gate. During slavery, a statue of George V, the representative of the British monarchy, was installed here.

End of Darbar Move tradition in Jammu and Kashmir

The 149-year-old 'Darbar Move' tradition between the twin capitals of Jammu and Kashmir, Srinagar and Jammu, ended in June 2021. It was a complex process in which everything from files to furniture was shifted from one place to another. This tradition has been going on since 1862 and crores of rupees were spent on it.

National Police Memorial

Symbol of valor and supreme sacrifice- On 21 October 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the National Police Memorial to the country. The Wall of Valour has the names of those 34 thousand 844 police personnel who made the supreme sacrifice while dealing with different challenges in different states of the country.

Renaming of roads

In 2015, Aurangzeb Road in Delhi was renamed APJ Abdul Kalam Road. In 2017, Dalhousie Road was renamed Dara Shikoh Road. In 2018, Teen Murti Chowk was renamed Teen Murti Haifa Chowk.



Naming of islands

To commemorate the completion of 75 years of Netaji's historic visit to Andaman Nicobar Islands, Havelock Island in Andaman was named Swaraj, Neil Island as Shaheed Island, and Ross Island as Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Island. Also, the 21 largest unnamed islands of this region have been named after 21 Param Vir Chakra winners.

Other steps that enhanced the pride of Indianness

1. Indian scriptures gained proudful place.
2. Democratization of Teen Murti - Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya was built.
3. Our new Parliament House was built during Amrit Kaal.
4. Amrit Mahotsav became a new symbol - Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary, 400th Prakash Parv
5. Khadi became a symbol of the freedom movement, but later it was not paid attention to, once again Khadi became a subject of fashion and national pride
6. Construction of Kashi Vishwanath Corridor and sites related to cultural heritage



Cover Story
Jan Dhan
Yojana's

1



Years

JAN DHAN became the bedrock of the financial infrastructure



Almost

53

Crore beneficiaries
have deposited
money in banks so far

More than **2,31,909**

crore rupees has been deposited in
the accounts of the beneficiaries.

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana launched a decade ago on 28 August 2014 changed the thinking and direction of the country's development and initiated an economic revolution. With the idea of empowering Jan Gan Man, in his first address from the ramparts of the Red Fort on 15 August, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "Brothers and sisters, on this Independence Day, I have come to you to take a pledge to take forward a scheme – Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana. The country's economic resources are used for the poor." This year on 28 August, Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana is completing a decade. Let us know how Jan Dhan Yojana, an important pillar of financial inclusion, has become the foundation stone of people-centric economic initiatives..





Leela Bai Porte, a resident of the Jashpur district of Chhattisgarh, has a family of six members. The family makes their living as agricultural labor. It was 2015, the distance of the bank from their village Karmatikara was 7 km, and they had no bank account. A Bank Mitra came to the village and opened an account. Later she filled out the form for Jeevan Jyoti Bima. Her husband died of heat stroke that year. She felt helpless. She was mentally and financially broken. When the Bank Mitra officer was informed about this, he provided information about insurance under the Social Security Scheme. Bank Mitra came home, got the form filled along with the documents, and sent it to the office, after which Rs 2 lakh was transferred into her account. Financial help was provided in times of crisis, and support to live.

Gajendra Singh, a resident of Panihar village of Madhya Pradesh, opened an account in the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana in August 2014, before opening the bank account, he did not have any knowledge of the bank account and banking system. He is a marginal farmer. After opening an account in the Barai branch of the Central Bank of India, Gajendra Singh started using it and also spread awareness about the benefits of this account in the nearby villages. His knowledge of financial inclusion has also been enhanced.

A large number of migrant workers live in the industrial town of Faridabad in NCR. In those days, most of the industrial units used to pay cash to their workers. In such a situation, the administration decided to bring them into the banking system. State Bank of India started opening accounts here. About 55 thousand accounts were opened, and passbooks and Rupay cards were given. Most of the accounts were linked to Aadhaar and self-checking machines were installed so that they could update the account themselves.

Such success stories of Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, have become a witness to a transformative decade in the socio-economic environment in the last 10 years only. If the carrier of revolutionary change in any society is a strong economy then economic security is guaranteed by bank accounts. There comes a momentous time in the development journey of every country when it proudly rejoices that we all have created a new history. India witnessed such occasions which started in the aftermath of 2014. One decade of Jan Dhan Yojana tells the story of similar proud moments.

Until 2011, out of about 25 crore families in the country, banking facilities were available only to about 14 crore families, but today this scheme has added more than 52 crore new people. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana was started on 28 August 2014 to provide services to the people deprived of banking services, promoting financial security, and providing finance to the unfinanced. This scheme, which has become the foundation of people-centric economic initiatives, has ensured that every adult has an account, which is a way forward from the earlier thinking of bank accounts for every household. Be it the International Monetary Fund or other global institutions, all have praised this scheme and said that Jan Dhan has widened access to bank accounts and financial services. It is because of the success of this scheme that self-reliance through good governance has become the 'sanskara' of the new India and is paving the way for a Viksit Bharat. When the poor got the Jan Dhan account, their self-respect was restored. Millions of marginalized poor citizens also came forward to save lakhs and crores of rupees. The scheme announced on 15 August 2014 to free the poor from the vicious cycle was also implemented within 15 days. It has been said in our scriptures that सुखस्य मूलम धर्म, धर्मस्य मूलम अर्थ, अर्थस्य मूलम राज्यम्. That is, Dharma is the root of happiness, but economic stability is at the root of Dharma. Also, The responsibility of the state is at the root of economic stability. This has been said by our ancestors even before Chanakya and for this, the state is trying to fulfill its responsibility in which there is economic empowerment of the common citizen and he will reach a state of happiness

and satisfaction in his life.

Security net prepared in a planned manner

Three things are important in the life of any common citizen- self-reliance, self-welfare, and self-respect. Mahatma Gandhi also showed the country a new path with the ideas of self-reliance along with truth, non-violence, and satyagraha, following the same path a clean, prosperous, and strong new India is being built. Where by taking public welfare schemes to the last mile delivery, through public participation, such a system of safe, self-respecting, and self-reliant India is being prepared which is making the life of the people easy and fostering a high standard of living. In the year 2014, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi took charge of the central government, he studied the system of the country closely and using his previous experience of good governance, with long-term thinking, took a planned step to empower the person standing at the last pedestal of the country and create a net of economic security for them. In this, the Prime Minister Jan Dhan Yojana became the basis of all initiatives. A unique initiative was taken to make banking available at the doorstep of the poor. The money of the people of the country,





the money of their right, should be given to them. With broad thinking in this direction, the central government created such a trinity of Jan Dhan accounts, Aadhaar, and mobile that the money of the poor stopped getting looted. Now whether it is money for building a house or gas subsidy, MGNREGA money, or Kisan Samman Nidhi, everything started reaching the account directly. That is, everyone gets benefits, direct benefits, and no discrimination. Then to strengthen them, a mechanism was created to link them with schemes like Standup, Startup, and Mudra. That is, Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana became the basis of all the schemes that lead to entrepreneurship while providing a cycle of economic-social security.

The countrymen are familiar with the success of Jan Dhan bank accounts today. When this scheme started, some experts raised doubts and said that opening this scheme was a waste of resources and, the poor would not put even a single penny in it. But Prime Minister Modi says that it was not just about money. It was about breaking the mental barrier and changing the mindset. These people could never understand the pride of the poor, the self-respect that Jan Dhan Yojana awakened in them. He did not dare to go to the bank, he was afraid. For him, having a bank account was also a thing of the rich. When he saw that the banks themselves were coming to his door, confidence arose in him, and self-respect arose. Today he takes out the RuPay card from his pocket with great pride. Whereas there was a time when the RuPay card was a matter of status only for the rich, the central government broke that mental thinking through Jan Dhan accounts. The seed of Jan Dhan has become a banyan tree and is giving fruits.

DBT proved to be a game-changer

For a long time, the slogans of Garibi Hatao were raised in the country, but despite these slogans, poverty was not eradicated. The biggest reason for this was that schemes were made in the name of the poor, but the real beneficiaries did not get their benefits. The money meant for the poor was looted by middlemen in between. That is, earlier the intention, policy, and loyalty were in the dock. But now the intention is clear, the policy is to empower

Guinness World Records

1,80,96,130

Accounts were opened under the Jan Dhan Yojana in a week during the campaign from 23 to 29 August 2014 thus entering Guinness World Records for financial inclusion.



Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana has played a very key role in the economic empowerment of villages and the poor as well as in employment generation.

– Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

the poor and the loyalty is towards the country. Therefore, Prime Minister Modi guaranteed that the government benefits will now reach the beneficiaries directly. The work of removing the

Self-reliance through security cover

When Prime Minister Narendra Modi took over the reins of the country, the first thing he did was to formulate schemes that would give a strong lifelong security cover to the poor, Dalits, deprived, and backward people and empower them. After this, the work of linking them with schemes that promote self-reliance by encouraging entrepreneurship was started so that the foundation of Viksit Bharat becomes strong.



middlemen was done to provide direct benefits to the beneficiaries. With the help of technology, the central government has made every possible effort to curb corruption in 10 years. Jan Dhan-Aadhar-

Mobile, its trinity has prevented crores of fake beneficiaries from snatching the rights of the poor. There were about 10 crore fake beneficiaries in the country who were getting government help. This

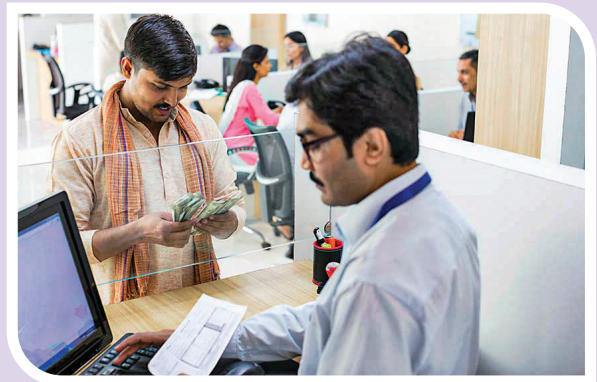
money belonged to the poor, tribal, backward, and Dalit. In these 10 years, Rs 30 lakh crore has reached the bank accounts of beneficiaries directly through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). Today, India has an excellent infrastructure of digital governance. The poor and middle class of the country have benefited the most from the trinity of Jan Dhan-Mobile and Aadhar i.e. JAM. The convenience and transparency that has come from this is saving the money of crores of families in the country.

When the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana was started, many people were wondering what would happen, and how it would happen. But today the experience is that schemes for the poor were added one after the other. This was the foundation of economic-social empowerment, which is being expanded further. In this country, there are several government pensioners. How much pension did about 35 lakh people get earlier? Some got seven rupees, some got 20 rupees, some got one hundred and twenty-five, and some got two hundred and fifty. In that too, one had to travel miles to get a pension, but now with DBT, it has been decided that whoever gets a pension will not get less than one thousand rupees, so that the poor can live with dignity. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says, "You can imagine, when the banks were nationalized in 1969, even after 68 years of independence, 68 percent of the people had no participation in the economy. Whereas when a person opens an account in the bank, it becomes the first step to join the mainstream of the economy."

In the true sense, even after the nationalization of banks in the country decades ago, till the year 2014, there were 40-50 crore poor people in the country who did not even have a bank account. That is, half the country was out of the banking system. Be it ration, house, scholarship, or pension, the real beneficiaries of many such government schemes felt cheated. This never became an issue. Under this backdrop, Prime Minister Modi made Jan Dhan Yojana a movement. More than 52 crore people were connected to the banking system. This became the backbone of Digital India and anti-corruption efforts. Not only this, there was a time when the poor did not have anything to give

Vision of the scheme

If we want to get rid of poverty, then we will also have to get rid of financial untouchability. Every person has to be connected to the financial system. The poor and deprived should be connected to the banking system, they should be freed from the clutches of moneylenders, and banks should give loans easily, with this vision, one of the world's largest financial inclusion initiatives, PMJDY was started.



According to the RBI, if the customer has not made any transaction in the account for more than 2 years, then the account should be considered inactive. As a result of various initiatives, the percentage of PMJDY inactive accounts, which was 40% in March 2017, has now come down to half i.e. about 20%.

The number of women Jan Dhan account holders has increased from 7.5 crores in March 2015 to 28.9 crores in March 2024, that is, in these nine years, about 21.40 crore accounts of women have increased.

as a guarantee to the bank. Till 2014, some did not even have a bank account. When they did not have an account in the banks, how would they get a loan from the banks? But after opening Jan Dhan accounts, they were linked to Aadhaar numbers, and efforts were made to link as many accounts as possible to mobile numbers. Now schemes have been linked to Jan Dhan accounts. Today money from more than 425 schemes of the government is being transferred directly to the bank accounts

JAM's vision

- Foundation for many future initiatives
- Maximum target attainment.
- Maximum return for every rupee spent.
- Maximum empowerment of the poor.
- Maximum dissemination of technology among the masses.

No requirement to maintain a balance in the account

Then **22,901**
crore rupees was
deposited in Jan Dhan's
accounts in August 2015.

Now **2,31,909**
lakh crore rupees is
deposited.



28 August 2014, the launch of
1.5 crore accounts at Vigyan
Bhavan, New Delhi.

Sankalp ki Siddhi

52.74

crore Jan Dhan
accounts were
opened.

More than

2,31,909

lakh crore rupees
is deposited in Jan
Dhan's accounts.



29.32

crore accounts
(55.6%) are of
women.

35.78

crore RuPay
cards issued.

35.11

crore accounts (66.6%)
are from rural or semi-
urban areas.

Note: Figures as of 10 July.



"Jan Dhan Yojana is a milestone in our journey towards empowering our citizens. Through this initiative, we have brought millions of people into the financial mainstream, ensuring a fair place for every Indian in our growing economy."

– Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

of the beneficiaries. In the same Jan Dhan Yojana accounts, the money from PM-Svanidhi is being given to street vendors in the form of loans.

Decades-old thinking versus the thinking of new India

India's strong banking system and the work of every bank employee have been compatible with the government's vision in the last 10 years, and that is a matter of pride for everyone. Jan Dhan Yojana

was started keeping in mind economic inclusion, and out of the 50 crore beneficiaries, the maximum number of women have become bank account holders. This in itself is a huge transformation, a new confidence too. When the Mudra Yojana was launched, this country can be proud that it had a scheme of providing a loan of Rs 10 lakhs without a bank guarantee and most of the women in the country took advantage of it, which was a big step towards the empowerment of women

entrepreneurs. PM Awas Yojana - Pucca Ghar, its registry was also done in the name of most of the women, women got the right of ownership. Now in this year's general budget, the limit of Mudra loans has been increased from Rs. 10 lakh to Rs. 20 lakh.

But when the Jan Dhan Yojana started, the old school of thought used to ask the question that the poor do not have money, what will they do by opening a bank account? The burden on the banks will increase, and how will the bank employees work? Various kinds of doubts were spread. But the bank employees ensured that the Jan Dhan account of the poor was opened, for this they worked day and night, bank employees used to go to slums, and open bank accounts for people. If today more than 52 crore Jan Dhan bank accounts have been opened in the country, then the hard work of the employees working in the bank is behind it. It is the hard work of the bank employees due to which the government was able to transfer more than Rs 30 thousand crore directly to the bank accounts of crores of women during the biggest pandemic of the century like the Corona period.

Today, out of more than 52 crore Jan Dhan accounts in the country, more than 55 percent of the accounts are in the name of women. The effect of this financial inclusion can also be seen in sectors like agriculture and fisheries. Today more than 7 crore farmers, fish farmers, and animal rearers have Kisan Credit Cards. This has given a big boost to the rural economy of the country. The field of cooperatives has also got a big boost in the last 10 years. Co-operative banks play a very important role in promoting cooperative movement. India's UPI has become a platform with global recognition today. More than 1,200 crore transactions are taking place on it every month. In a decade, it has entered a new banking system, a new economy, and a new monetary transaction experience. But what has happened in the last 10 years is just a trailer. The central government's thinking is to expand it further in the next 10 years. The country has to move towards a cashless economy and strengthen strong efforts for financial inclusion. Jan Dhan bank accounts have become a medium to break mental barriers among the poor and strengthen their pride and self-esteem again.

Facilities available in PMJDY

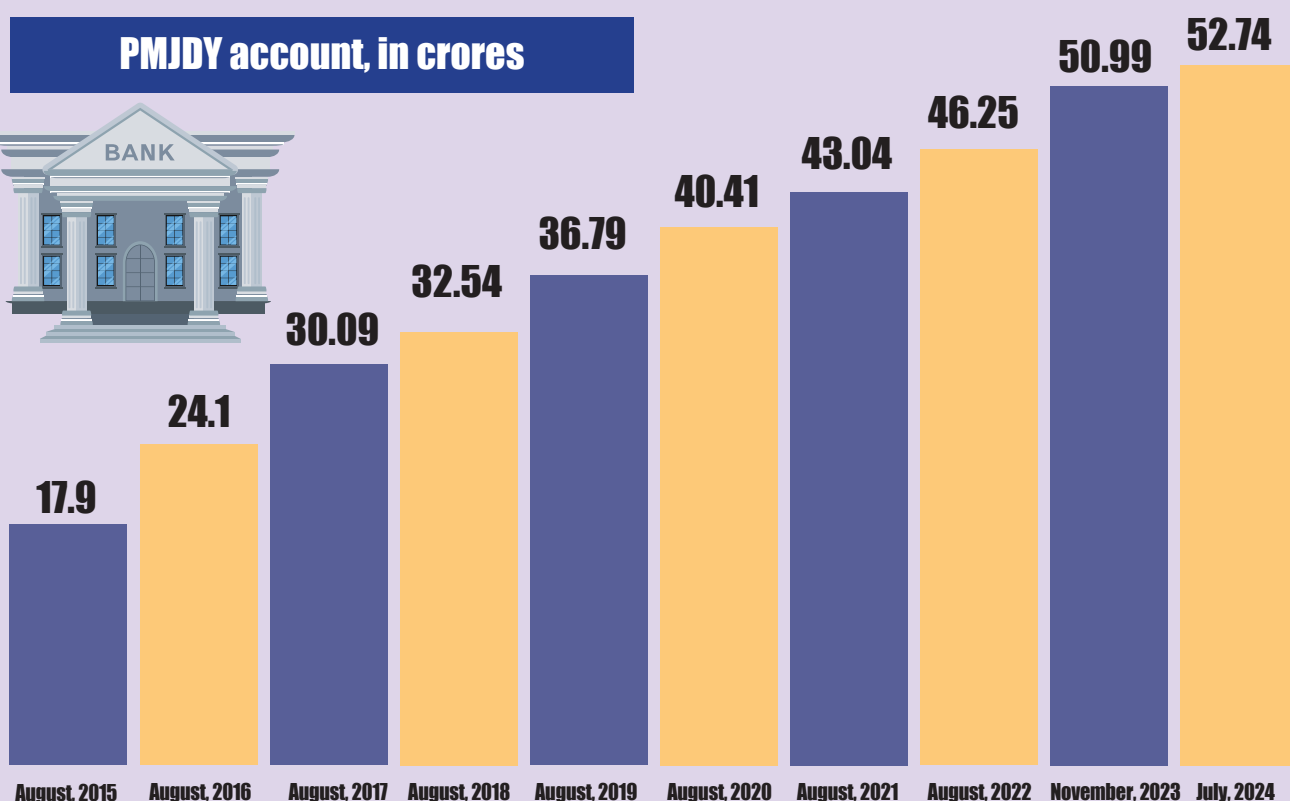
- A Basic Savings Bank Deposit (BSBD) account is opened for a person without a bank facility account.
- The account can be opened at any bank branch or banking outlet operated by a Business Correspondent (BC).
- There is no charge for opening Jan Dhan accounts.
- Jan Dhan account holders are given a free RuPay debit card with an accident insurance cover of Rs 2 lakh (Rs 1 lakh for accounts opened before 28-8-2018).
- Eligible PMJDY account holders can avail overdraft facility of up to Rs 10,000;
- Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) facility under government schemes can be availed in Jan Dhan accounts.



The foundation of Jan Dhan has become the basis of a three-tier impact

The direction of the change that is coming in the country today, one way to measure it is the speed of development and expansion of the economy. It took almost 60 years for India to become a one trillion-dollar economy. By the year 2014, India had somehow managed to reach two trillion dollars. That is, an economy of 2 trillion dollars in seven decades,

PMJDY account, in crores



A testament to changing India

- In the year 1969, the nationalization of banks was done to bring people into the economic mainstream, but the objective was not achieved. Even after 68 years of independence, till 2014, 68 percent of the country's population was not able to get banking facilities. The rich used to get loans easily, but the poor had to take loans from moneylenders.
- In August 2014, the scheme was started with the goal of connecting every family to the bank.
- On August 14, 2018, the scheme was expanded with

Out of

6,01,328

villages 6,00,458 villages, i.e. almost 100 percent of the villages are covered with banking outlets within 5 km mapped as per the Jan Dhan Darshak App.

the vision of connecting every adult to the bank.

- For promoting financial inclusion, the government has worked to ensure banking services within 5 km of all villages including villages in tribal and remote areas.

but today in 10 years India has become a country with an economy of almost 3.5 trillion dollars. In the last 10 years, India has taken a long leap from the 10th largest economy to the 5th largest. The first and natural result of any policy- What was the first impact, this is the first goal of the policy. It becomes visible in a short time. But every policy also has a second and third-level impact, which is deep and far-reaching. It takes time to unfold. After

independence, the economic policies of license raj were adopted, in which the government itself became the controller. Competition was eliminated and private industry and MSMEs were not allowed to move forward.

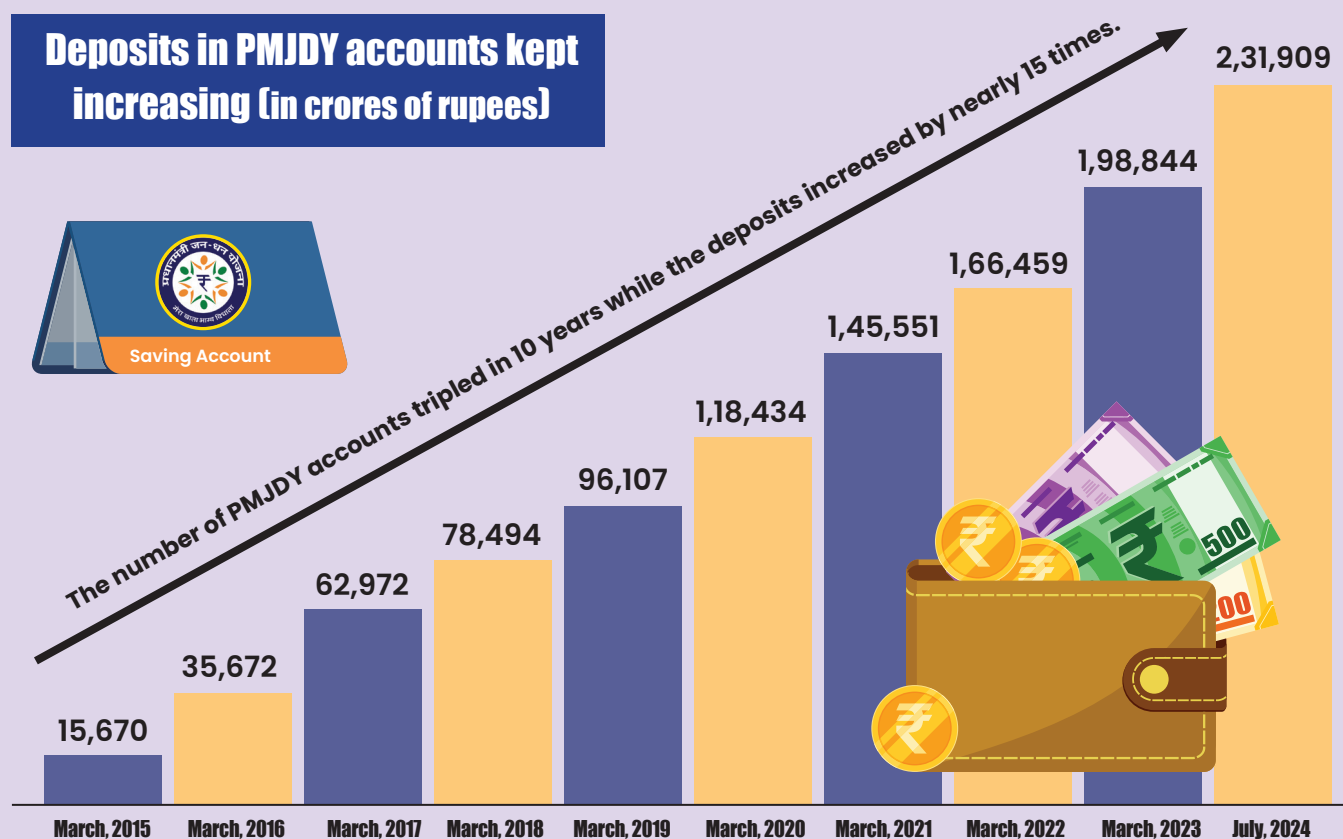
Its first negative impact was that we started lagging behind other countries. The second level impact of those policies was that India's consumption rate also remained low compared

Details of Statewise PMJDY accounts are as below

State Name	PMJDY accounts as on Mar'15	PMJDY accounts as on Mar'24	Growth since Mar'15
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.48	0.61	0.13
Andhra Pradesh	60.24	147.67	87.43
Arunachal Pradesh	0.94	4.52	3.58
Assam	44.40	236.17	191.78
Bihar	106.06	583.84	477.78
Chandigarh	1.82	3.27	1.46
Chhattisgarh	68.10	175.10	107.00
Dadra & Nagar Haveli & daman n diu	0.58	2.31	1.72
Delhi	24.74	62.98	38.24
Goa	1.07	2.06	0.98
Gujarat	57.91	184.04	126.12
Haryana	42.01	99.25	57.24
Himachal Pradesh	6.76	18.76	11.99
Jammu & Kashmir	14.62	27.36	12.74
Jharkhand	33.05	183.63	150.58
Karnataka	73.76	192.13	118.37
Kerala	19.00	62.04	43.04
Ladakh	-	0.22	0.22
Lakshadweep	0.05	0.10	0.06
Madhya Pradesh	119.85	429.88	310.04
Maharashtra	100.43	340.81	240.38
Manipur	4.49	10.89	6.40
Meghalaya	1.67	7.75	6.08
Mizoram	0.81	3.82	3.01
Nagaland	1.34	3.92	2.58
Odisha	52.82	213.18	160.36
Puducherry	0.92	2.15	1.23
Punjab	39.08	90.78	51.70
Rajasthan	102.50	351.75	249.26
Sikkim	0.62	0.90	0.28
Tamil Nadu	62.33	154.04	91.72
Telangana	66.07	117.87	51.80
Tripura	4.57	10.29	5.72
Uttar Pradesh	233.35	925.20	691.85
Uttarakhand	14.22	35.87	21.64
West Bengal	110.97	509.50	398.53
	1,471.63	5,194.67	3,723.04

*Figures in lakhs

Deposits in PMJDY accounts kept increasing (in crores of rupees)



to the world. Due to this, the country lost the opportunity of manufacturing and investment. The third impact was that an environment of innovation could not be created in the country, but in all the policies made by the Central Government after 2014, not only immediate benefits were taken into consideration, but second and third-level impacts were also given priority. Today, due to several efforts such as Jan Dhan Yojana, in which the benefits of schemes are reaching the bank accounts directly, providing concrete houses, free gas cylinders under Ujjwala, loan facilities without guarantee under Mudra Yojana, PM Svamitva or other schemes related to social concern, the confidence of the poor has increased. These schemes have not only given immediate benefits but have also instilled in them a sense of self-respect, self-satisfaction, and self-pride. There are so many schemes related to the impact of all three levels, whether it is DBT, or schemes to provide facilities like electricity, water, and toilets to the poor, all these have brought a revolution at the grassroots level.

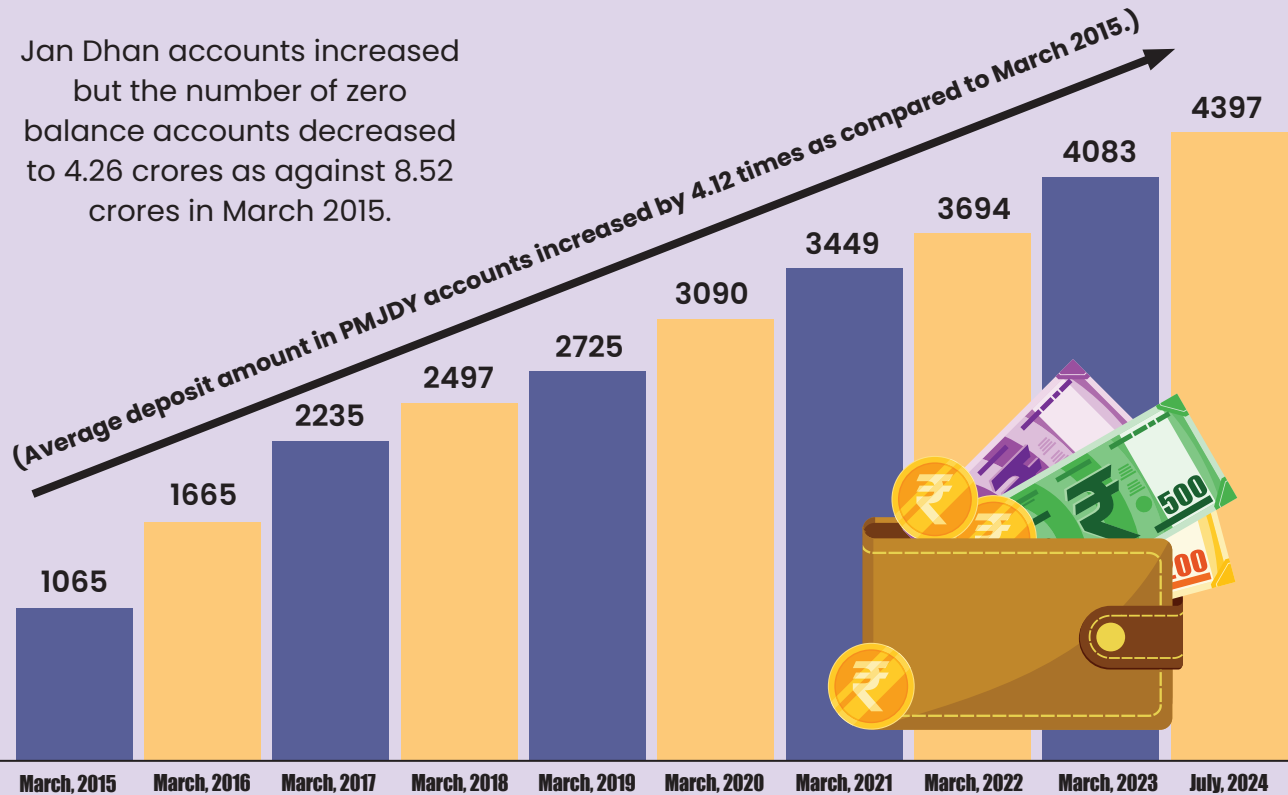
These schemes have filled even the poorest of the poor with a sense of respect and security. For

the first time, the poor in the country have social security as well as self-respect. Those who were made to feel for decades that they are a burden on the development of the country, are today giving impetus to the development of the country. When the government was starting these schemes, some people used to mock it. But today these schemes have accelerated the rapid development of India, and these schemes have become the basis for the creation of a Viksit Bharat. For the last 10 years, the poor, Dalit, deprived, backward, tribal, general class, and middle class, everyone is experiencing a clear transformation in their lives. Today, work is being done in the country in mission mode with a very systematic approach. It has changed the thinking of power to the thinking of service. It has made satisfaction its basis, not appeasement. This approach has created a safety net for the poor and middle class of the country. This safety net has prevented the poor from becoming poorer.

Today's new India is fearless, courageous and decisive. Today the government is moving ahead with the efforts and faith of 140 crore Indians. Now the new India is moving ahead trusting its strength,

Average deposit amount in PMJDY accounts (in rupees)

Jan Dhan accounts increased but the number of zero balance accounts decreased to 4.26 crores as against 8.52 crores in March 2015.



We created such a trinity of Jan Dhan, Aadhaar, and mobile that the corrupt system was destroyed. Because of this trinity, we have managed to save Rs 2.5 lakh crore.

– Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



its means, its resources, and is trying to overcome its basic weaknesses and reduce all challenges. Earlier there was no dearth of targets, there was no dearth of intentions, there was no dearth of money, there was no dearth of passion, there was no dearth of solutions, there was no dearth of compassion, there was no dearth of capability, there was a dearth of work culture.

Certainly today the Jan Dhan Yojana, which connects more than 52 crore poor people to the banking system, has become an example of India's financial infrastructure, so this Amrit Kaal of Independence is a period of 'Sabka Prayas'. When the strength of every Indian will be applied, the hard work of every Indian will be applied, then the dream of a Viksit Bharat will also be fulfilled as soon as possible. The number of countrymen walking with honesty is increasing and that is the guarantee of a grand India. Prime Minister Modi says, "My countrymen are the guarantee of a grand India."

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: How is Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana different from the previous financial inclusion scheme (Swabhiman)?

Answer: PMJDY focuses on coverage of households while the previous scheme focused on village coverage. It focuses on coverage of rural and urban areas. Swabhiman scheme targeted villages with a population of more than 2000 while PMJDY provides banking facilities within a maximum radius of 5 km in each service area with a population of up to 1000.

Question: Can a joint account be opened in Jan Dhan Yojana?

Answer: Yes, a joint account can be opened.

Question: Where can I open an account under this scheme?

Answer: The account can be opened at any bank branch or business correspondent i.e. Bank Mitra outlet.

Question: What is RuPay Debit Card?

Answer: RuPay Debit Card is a local domestic debit card launched by the National Payment Corporation of India. This card is accepted at all ATMs and most PSO machines in the country.

Question: What is a PIN?

Answer: Personal Identification Number (PIN) is a voluntarily generated code for use while withdrawing money from an ATM or making payment at a POS.

Question: How can one keep one's RuPay card safe?

Answer: To keep the RuPay card safe, it should be changed at frequent intervals and should not be disclosed to anyone. While using the card at ATMs or PSOs, one should use secret methods so that no one can guess the PIN.

Question: Can RuPay cards be issued to illiterate customers?

Answer: Yes, however, the branch manager has to inform the illiterate account holder about all the risks involved while issuing the RuPay card.

Question: What are the eligibility criteria for availing of personal accident insurance cover on a RuPay card?

Answer: The claim will be payable under Personal Accident Insurance under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Account Yojana. The condition for this is that the RuPay card holder should have done at least one successful transaction with any bank branch, Bank Mitra, ATM, or PSO either by himself or through another bank within the last 90 days from the day of the accident. Accident insurance coverage is only in one account even if there is more than one RuPay card.

Question: What is the overdraft facility? For whom is this facility available?

Answer: The Jan Dhan Yojana account holder will be able to avail overdraft facility of up to Rs 10,000 after 6 months of satisfactory operation of the account. Aadhaar number is necessary for this. The overdraft facility is available in one account per family, mainly for the female member of the family. The interest rate charged on overdraft will be the base interest rate +2% or 12%, whichever is lower.

Question: Will cheque books be issued in the accounts opened under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Account Scheme?

Answer: There is no cheque book facility in the Jan Dhan account being opened with zero deposit amount. If the account holder wants to get a cheque book, he has to fulfill the minimum balance criteria of the bank.

Question: What is the interest rate on the savings amount in the PMJDY account?

Answer: The interest rate applicable for savings bank accounts will also be applicable to accounts opened under PMJDY.



India's industry and private sector are a powerful medium to build a Viksit Bharat

To fulfill the resolve of Viksit Bharat by keeping the aspirations of the citizens paramount, the central government is also empowering the industry and private sector so that the resolve of the country and a better future for the citizens can be ensured. This is the reason that even in the current global scenario full of uncertainties, not only is India's economy growing at a fast pace but the country's foreign exchange reserves have also increased tremendously. The intention and commitment are very clear, so the policy, decisions, and investments of the central government are becoming the basis of global progress...

The Journey Towards Viksit Bharat: A Post Union Budget 2024-25 Conference by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) was held on 30 July. More than a thousand participants from several sectors including industry, government, diplomatic community, and think tanks participated in it in person. While various CII centers joined the program online. In the inaugural session of CII, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that when the citizens of the country achieve stability in every aspect of life and are full of enthusiasm, then the country can never lag. If the country is talking about Viksit Bharat today, then the big reason for this is not just the change in sentiment but it reflects the

self-confidence of the citizens.

Referring to the year before 2014, PM Modi said that at that time the country was in the list of weak five economies and was suffering from corruption and scams worth lakhs of crores of rupees. The government also made the path of industry and the private sector easier by removing its unnecessary policies, rules, laws, and compliances so that India's economy could be taken to new heights. The country should be saved from a serious economic crisis. Since then, the country's economy is continuously getting stronger. Even during the pandemic, the government's policies and the strength given to the industry did not let the

Focus on skill development and employment

The central government is focusing extensively on skill development and employment keeping in mind the Industry 4.0 standards. More than 8 crore people have started new businesses through campaigns like Mudra Yojana, Startup India, and Stand Up India. There are 1.40 lakh startups in India that are employing lakhs of youth. The announcement of the PM package of Rs 2 lakh crore in this year's budget will benefit more than 4 crore youth. The PM package aims to make India's manpower, and products globally competitive in terms of quality and price. The internship scheme to enhance the skills and experience of the youth will also increase employment opportunities. Along with this, those who generate employment on a large scale will get encouragement. The government has announced EPFO contributions for those who get employment as well as those who provide employment.

country's economic pace stop. Despite significant global shocks like pandemic, natural disaster, and war, India's contribution to global development has reached 16 percent. While the budget for the financial year 2024-25 is Rs 48 lakh crore, which was a budget of just Rs 16 lakh crore in the financial year 2013-14, there has been a three-fold increase in this period. Capital expenditure, the biggest measure of resource investment, was Rs 90 thousand crore in 2004 which increased to Rs 2 lakh crore in the 10 years till 2014, i.e. a twofold increase. In comparison, today it has increased more than 5 times to more than Rs 11 lakh crore. In the last 10 years, the budget of railways and highways has seen an 8-fold increase. Agriculture budget has increased four times while the defense budget has increased more than 2 times. The central government has increased the budget of every sector after a record reduction in taxes. In 2014, MSMEs earning Rs 1 crore had to pay presumptive tax, now MSMEs with income up to Rs 3 crore can also avail of this benefit. In 2014, MSMEs with income up to Rs 50 crore had to pay 30 percent tax, today this rate is 22 percent. In 2014, companies used to pay 30 percent corporate tax, today this rate is 25 percent for companies with income up to Rs 400 crore.

PM Modi said that before 2014, big announcements were made in the budget to show a healthy economy but when it came to



their implementation on the ground, the same announcements could not be implemented. The amount allocated for infrastructure was also not being spent completely, but the announcements made headlines. Small jumps were recorded in the stock market. In that era, priority was not given to completing the projects on time. The current central government has changed this situation in the last 10 years. Now infrastructure is being completed at every scale at a fast pace. It is because of the decisions taken by the government that



Simplification of FDI rules

Along with Make in India and simplification of FDI rules in various sectors, the government is focused on important schemes like multi-purpose logistics parks and PLI for 14 sectors. Investment parks have been announced for 100 districts of the country in the budget. These 100 cities will become the new centers of Viksit Bharat. The central government has also decided to modernize the existing industrial corridors.

25 crore people have come out of poverty in the last 10 years.

The budget has made announcements such as increased allocation for nuclear power generation, digital public infrastructure for agriculture, Bhu-Aadhaar cards to provide unique identification numbers for all land parcels, Rs 1,000 crore venture capital fund for space economy, critical mineral mission and upcoming auction of offshore blocks for mining. These new announcements will accelerate the country's progress. India is moving towards becoming the third-largest economy in the world. Opportunities are being created especially in emerging sectors. The government is emphasizing promoting the semiconductor industry. Electronics manufacturing is being encouraged especially in the current phase of the mobile manufacturing revolution. The result of this has been that India

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I consider the industry, the private sector of India, as a powerful medium to build a Viksit Bharat. I consider colleagues like you, Wealth Creators, as the main driving force of India's growth story.

– Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

from being a mobile importer has become a top mobile manufacturer and exporter. Referring to the road map for the green jobs sector in the country, PM Modi said that in today's era, both energy security and energy transition are equally important for the economy and the ecosystem. The work being done on small nuclear reactors will not only benefit the industry in energy access but will also provide new business opportunities to the entire supply chain associated with this sector. Industry and entrepreneurs have shown their commitment to the development of the country. Therefore, it is expected that the industry will play an important role in making India a global leader in all emerging sectors. ●





Collective efforts will make the dream of Viksit Bharat @ 2047 come true

India was the 10th largest economy in the world in 2014, which became the 5th largest economy in 2024. India has maintained a fast pace of development in the last ten years and now the collective goal of all citizens along with the government is to make it the third largest economy in the world. Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the 9th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog at the Cultural Center in Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi on July 27, 2024. He emphasized the cooperation and collective efforts of all the states and the Center to realize the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047....

India has made great progress in the last ten years by strengthening social and economic infrastructure. Earlier India was mainly dependent on imports, but now exports many products to the world. The country has made its mark on the world stage in a wide range of areas such as defense, space, start-ups, and sports. This is a decade of change that has brought a lot of opportunities in various fields. Addressing the meeting, Prime Minister Narendra Modi encouraged the states to use these opportunities and formulate policies and governance programs conducive to development through innovative approaches in policy-making and implementation. He said that the vision of a Viksit Bharat can be realized through developed states and the aspiration of a Viksit Bharat must reach the grassroots level i.e. every district, block, and village. For this, every state and district must

make a vision for 2047 so that a Viksit Bharat can be realized in 2047.

During the event, Prime Minister Modi also praised the Aspirational Districts Program run by NITI Aayog. He said that continuous and online monitoring was essential for its success, which led to healthy competition among districts to improve performance in various government schemes. Emphasis is being laid on skills and training to prepare the youth for employment as the world is looking towards India for skilled human resources.

Addressing the 9th Governing Council meeting of NITI Aayog, PM Modi also encouraged the states to provide an investor-friendly environment. He directed NITI Aayog to prepare an 'investment-friendly charter' of parameters which will include policies, programs, and processes to be implemented to attract investments. States can



The vision of a Viksit Bharat can be realized through developed states. The aspiration of a Viksit Bharat should reach the grassroots level i.e. every district, block, and village. For this, every state and district should make a vision for 2047, so that a Viksit Bharat can be realized in 2047.

– Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

be monitored based on achievement in these parameters to promote healthy competition among them to attract investments. He also emphasized the importance of law and order, good governance, and infrastructure instead of only incentives to attract investments.

Encouraged for creating river grids at the state level

PM Modi encouraged the creation of river grids at the state level for effective use of water resources. He said that we should target poverty alleviation as a priority for Viksit Bharat. He emphasized that we have to work not only at the program level but also at the individual level to tackle poverty. He said that eradicating poverty from the grassroots level will bring change to our country.

Discussion on the vision document for the Viksit Bharat @2047

The vision document for the Viksit Bharat @2047 was discussed in the Governing Council meeting. The objective of this meeting is to promote participatory governance and cooperation between the Central and State Governments, to improve the quality of life of rural and urban populations by smoothly reaching the government efforts to the common people. The role of the states in achieving the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047 was also discussed in detail in the meeting.

- India is on its way to becoming the third largest economy in the world and is expected to become an economy of 30 trillion US dollars by 2047.
- In such a situation, a collaborative approach is needed between the Central and State Governments to achieve the goal of 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047.
- The objective of the 9th Governing Council meeting was to prepare a roadmap for this goal, in which teamwork can be promoted between the Center and the States in the form of 'Team India'.

Encouraged to link farmers to the market

Prime Minister Narendra Modi encouraged all the states to increase productivity and diversification in agriculture and link farmers to the market. He emphasized adopting natural farming methods which can improve soil fertility. Due to low cost, farmers can get better and quick profit and a global market can also be available for the products.

Encouragement to launch Demographic Management Plans

PM Modi encouraged the states to launch Demographic Management Plans to address the issues of ageing in the future. He asked the states to build the capacity of government officials at all levels and encouraged them to collaborate with the Capacity Building Commission for this.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the Chairman of NITI Aayog

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the Chairman of NITI Aayog. Other Attendees included Chief Ministers and Lieutenant Governors of States and Union Territories, Union Ministers as Ex-officio Members and Special Invitees, and the Vice Chairman and Members of NITI Aayog.

9th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog: The theme for this year was 'Viksit Bharat @ 2047' with the central focus being to make India a developed nation.

Chief Ministers and Lieutenant Governors gave several suggestions for Viksit Bharat Chief Ministers/Lt. Governors representing 20 States and 6 Union Territories participated in it. The Chief Ministers/Lt. Governors gave various suggestions for the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047 and also discussed the steps being taken in their states. Some of the key suggestions and best practices were highlighted in the fields of agriculture, education and skill development, entrepreneurship, drinking water, non-compliance reduction, governance, digitization, women empowerment, cyber security, etc. Many states also shared their efforts to create a State Vision for 2047. The Prime Minister directed NITI Aayog to study the suggestions made by the States and Union Territories during the meeting.●

Focus on the recommendations of the Third National Conference of Chief Secretaries

The Governing Council of NITI Aayog also focused on the recommendations of the 3rd National Conference of Chief Secretaries held from December 27-29, 2023. Under the broad theme of 'Ease of Living', recommendations were made on five key themes during the 3rd National Conference of Chief Secretaries. Additionally, special sessions were also organized to deliberate on cyber security, aspiring districts and block programs, and the role of states and AI in governance, which were also discussed during the 3rd National Conference of Chief Secretaries. The five key themes recommended are as follows:



Drinking Water: Access, Quantity, and Quality



Electricity: Quality, Efficiency, and Reliability



Health: Accessibility, Affordability, and Quality of Care



Schooling: Access and Quality



Land and Property: Accessibility, Digitization, Registration, and Mutation

The third Chief Secretaries Conference was held in December 2023

In preparation for the 9th Governing Council meeting of NITI Aayog, the 3rd Chief Secretaries Conference was held in late December 2023. During this, extensive discussions were held on five key themes. Secretaries to the Government of India and Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories were part of the consultation process to define the framework and make suggestions for the agenda of 'Viksit Bharat @ 2047'.



A symbol of truth, restraint, and strength 'Kargil'

In Kargil, the brave soldiers of the country vanquished the enemy who ran away showing their backs. Along with winning the war, our army presented an incredible example of truth, restraint, and strength. On the '25th Kargil Vijay Diwas', Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to the brave soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice and carried out the first blast of the Shinkun La Tunnel Project in Ladakh. It is the result of the efforts of the government that this heaven on earth is now rapidly moving towards peace and prosperity...

Kargil Vijay Diwas reminds the country that the sacrifice made for the country is immortal. Even after months, years, decades, and centuries have passed, the sacrifice made to protect the country's borders cannot be forgotten. PM Modi said that the country will always be indebted to the mighty superheroes of the armed forces. Recalling the days of the Kargil war, PM Modi said that he was fortunate to be among the

soldiers at that time. He said that he still remembers how our soldiers carried out a difficult operation at such a high altitude. I salute those brave sons of the country who made the supreme sacrifice to protect the motherland. The Kargil war was waged by Pakistan at a time when India was making all efforts to maintain peace.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the construction of the Shinkun



Jammu and Kashmir is talking about a new future today, talking about big dreams. Jammu and Kashmir is being recognized for holding important meetings of Global Summits like G-20. Along with infrastructure development, the tourism sector is also growing rapidly in Jammu and Kashmir.

– Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

La tunnel project in Ladakh on 26 July, Kargil Vijay Diwas, by carrying out the first blast. The construction of the 4.1 km long twin-tube 'Shinkun La Tunnel' at an altitude of about 15,800 feet on the Nimmu-Padam-Darcha road will keep Leh as well as Jammu and Kashmir connected to the country throughout the year, in all seasons. This tunnel will open the doors to new possibilities for the development of Ladakh and a better future. After completion of the work, this tunnel will be the highest in the world. The Shinkun La tunnel will not only ensure fast and efficient movement of the country's armed forces and equipment but will also promote economic and social development

In the last 10 years, the defence sector has been made the first priority of the government. Due to these reforms, today the country's forces are becoming more capable and self-reliant.



Agnipath aims to 'keep the forces young and war ready'

Agnipath scheme is one of the important reforms made in the defense sector. Concerns were being raised for a long time due to the average age of the Indian Army being above the global average, but there was no will to deal with this serious concern. Now efforts are being made to overcome this through the Agnipath scheme. Prime Minister Modi lamented the blatant politicization of this sensitive issue and said, "Agnipath aims to keep the forces young and war-ready." The truth is that the Agnipath scheme will increase the strength of the country and will also provide qualified youth to the army. Priority has also been announced for Agniveers in the private sector and paramilitary forces. Rejecting the propaganda that the main reason behind the Agnipath scheme is the intention to save the pension burden, PM Modi said that the pension burden of the soldiers recruited today will come after 30 years, so this cannot be the reason behind this scheme.

in Ladakh. Mentioning the ambitious goals for the border areas, PM Modi said that the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has completed more than 330 projects, including the Sela Tunnel, demonstrating the capabilities and direction of New India.

India will overcome all challenges coming in

the way of development, be it Ladakh or Jammu and Kashmir. It is the result of the policies and strong will of the government as well as the faith of the people in the government that today Jammu and Kashmir is talking about a new future full of dreams. The progress of Jammu and Kashmir can also be gauged from the fact that it is holding important meetings of Global Summits like G-20, the government has focused on infrastructure development and tourism, the opening of cinema halls as well as starting the Tazia procession after three and a half decades, all this is a witness to the fact that this paradise on earth is rapidly moving towards peace and prosperity.

Pakistan has not learned anything from the past

Pakistan has always faced defeat in the past but it has not learned anything from it and has continued the war under the guise of terrorism and proxy war to remain relevant. The nefarious intentions of the terrorists will never be fulfilled because the brave soldiers of the country are ready to crush all terrorist attempts.

Ladakh's development gained momentum

The central government made many successful efforts to make the lives of the people of Ladakh easier and convenient. Ladakh's budget has been increased almost six times from Rs 1,100 crore to Rs 6000 crore in the last 5 years. Be it roads, electricity, water, education, power supply, or employment, Ladakh is seeing changes in every direction. Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, more than 90 percent of the houses in Ladakh are getting drinking water, Sindhu Central University provides quality higher education to the youth of Ladakh, setting up a 4G network in the entire Ladakh region, construction of 13 km long Zoji La tunnel for all-weather connectivity on NH 1, and other development projects are writing the story of Ladakh's development.

The army became more capable and self-reliant

Prime Minister Narendra Modi stressed the importance of upgrading military technologies and said that in the changing global environment, our defense force needs modern working styles and systems as well as the latest weapons and



Kargil Vijay Diwas reminds us that the sacrifices made for the nation are immortal. Even though months, years, decades, and centuries pass but the names of those who put their lives at stake for the security of the nation remain indelible.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

equipment. Defence reforms have been given priority in the last 10 years, making the country's forces more capable and self-reliant. Today a large share in defence purchases is being given to the Indian defence industry. 25 percent of the annual research and development budget of the defence ministry have been reserved for private companies and start-ups. As a result of these efforts, India's defence production has exceeded Rs 1.5 lakh crore. India is also making its mark as an arms exporter, in contrast to its previous image, whereas earlier India was counted as an arms-importing country. The country's army has now decided to stop importing more than 5,000 weapons and military equipment. ●



India and Saudi Arabia

First meeting of High-Level Task Force on Investment



Saudi Arabia is one of the most important strategic partners of India. Bilateral relations between these two countries have strengthened significantly in the last few years. Not only this, the economic importance of the partnership between the two countries has also increased in recent years. To further boost the relations, the first meeting of the India and Saudi Arabia High-Level Task Force on Investment was held virtually on 28 July. It was co-chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Principal Secretary Dr. PK Mishra and Saudi Arabia's Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud

The friendship between India and Saudi Arabia is important for regional and global stability, prosperity, and human welfare. Saudi Arabia is one of the most important strategic partners for India. Moving forward in this direction, India and Saudi Arabia held the first meeting of the High-Level Task Force on various investment opportunities. Both sides reviewed the discussions held between the technical teams of the Task Force. Constructive discussions were held regarding various opportunities for bilateral investment in various public and private sectors including refining and petrochemical plants, new and renewable energy, power, telecommunications, and innovation.

Both sides agreed to have regular consultations between technical teams to take the discussions forward and reach a consensus on specified investments. A high-powered delegation led by the Petroleum Secretary will visit Saudi Arabia for further discussions on mutually beneficial investments in the oil and gas sector. Saudi Arabia has also been invited to establish an office of Sovereign Wealth Fund PIF in India.

PK Mishra, Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Modi invited the Energy Minister of Saudi Arabia to visit India for the next round of the High Level Task Force meeting. He reiterated the firm intention of the Government of India to provide active support to Saudi investments of the order of US\$ 100 billion that were committed during the visit of the Crown Prince and PM of Saudi Arabia. ●

A High-Level Task Force formed to facilitate bilateral investment

It is a special body to facilitate bilateral investments following the decision taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Crown Prince and Prime Minister His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud during the latter's State Visit to India in September 2023. It comprises senior officials from both sides, including CEO Niti Aayog, Secretaries for Economic Affairs, Commerce, MEA, DPIIT, Petroleum and Natural Gas, and Power from India.

India-Saudi have better relations

In the modern world, India and Saudi Arabia share cultural experience, economic synergy, and shared commitment to a peaceful and sustainable world making both countries partners. Saudi Arabia has a large number of Indian immigrants who have been given a chance to flourish. Through their hard work and professionalism, they have contributed significantly to the development and prosperity of Saudi Arabia.





India in Paris Olympics 2024

India starts its Olympic campaign with spectacular performance in shooting

The thinking of society and government towards sports in India has changed because defeats are not final in sports, in this, you either win or learn. India recognizes the power of sports. This is the reason why the sports ecosystem is being strengthened in the country with Khelo India, Fit India, and Target Olympic Podium Scheme. Due to these efforts, the pride of India's national flag is rising high in international competitions. In the Paris Olympics 2024, which started on July 26, Indian player Manu Bhaker won the first medal for the country and then created a record by winning the second medal in the mixed team event, while India also bagged the third medal in shooting...

The beauty of sports is not only in developing the habit of winning but also in the constant pursuit of self-improvement. Sports teach us that there is no limit to excellence and we should keep trying with all our might. A similar effort was made by the Indian players who competed in the Paris Olympics 2024, which began on 26 July. The country's hopes rest on the performance of talented athletes. From hockey and athletics to newer fields like equestrian and sailing, Team India exemplifies the country's growing prowess and ambition in the international sports arena. India's 117 players are competing not only for medals but also for national pride with adequate funding and dedicated preparation

Manu Bhaker has become the 5th Indian shooter to win a medal at the Olympic Games. Before her, Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore won medals at the 2004 Athens Olympics, Abhinav Bindra at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, and Vijay Kumar and Gagan Narang at the 2012 Olympics.

programs in 16 sports including archery, athletics, boxing, badminton, equestrian, golf, hockey, judo, sailing, shooting, swimming, sailing, table tennis, weightlifting and wrestling.



Our shooters have been making us proud. Congratulations to Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh on winning the bronze medal in the 10m air pistol mixed team event at the Olympics. Both displayed great skill and team spirit. India is extremely happy. This is the second consecutive Olympic medal for Manu. She has become the first woman to win a medal in shooting for India. An incredible achievement! Which reflects her continued excellence and dedication.

– Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Indian female shooter Manu Bhaker won the bronze medal in the women's 10m air pistol on 28 July at the Paris Olympics 2024. This is India's first medal at the Paris Olympics 2024 and the first Olympic medal in shooting for India since the London 2012 Olympic Games. With this, Manu Bhaker became the first Indian female shooter to win a medal at the Olympics. Not only this, she has also become the first female shooter to reach the Olympic final in individual competition in the last 20 years. After this, on 30 July, Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh won over the Republic of Korea in the final round of the 10m air pistol event and won the bronze medal in the mixed team event with a brilliant performance. On August 1, shooter Swapnil Kusale won the bronze medal in men's 50m rifle 3 position shooting. Swapnil Kusale, who hails from Kolhapur district of Maharashtra, has become the second individual Olympic medalist from Maharashtra, before this wrestler Khashaba Dadasaheb Jadhav had won the bronze medal in the 1952 Olympics. Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has announced a reward of Rs 1 crore for Swapnil. This is the third medal for India in this Olympics till August 2. These three bronze medals have been won in different shooting competitions. Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated all the three Olympic medalists over the phone for raising the country's pride. Sarabjot Singh has been a Khelo India and Target Olympic Podium player since 2019. Manu Bhaker is a former Khelo India competitor and Target Olympic Podium player.

28 Khelo India players in the Olympic contingent

Out of the 117 players participating in the Paris Olympics 2024, 28 players are Khelo India athletes. Out of this, 12 Khelo India athletes from Haryana qualified for the Paris Olympics. Earlier, in the Asian Games held in Hangzhou, the Indian contingent comprised 124 Khelo India athletes who won 42 out of 106 medals.

India starts bid proposal for the 2036 Olympics

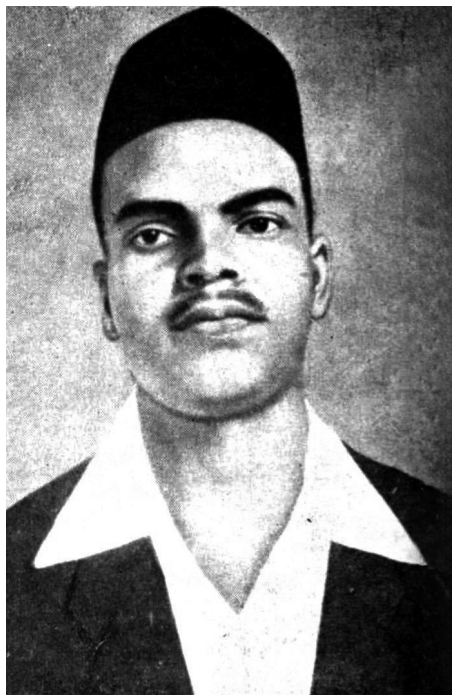
India's National Olympic Committee, the Indian Olympic Association, has begun the process of negotiations with the Future Host Commission to host the 2036 Olympics. The hosting rights for the Olympics are allocated by the International Olympic Committee-IOC through a detailed host selection process. The IOC has a dedicated body, the Future Host Commission (FHC), to deal with the matter.

Five years of Fit India

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Fit India Movement in 2019 under Khelo India. The movement has gained immense popularity across India since various initiatives and programs were launched to promote physical activity and healthy habits. In this program, various programs focused on fitness, sports, and overall health are organized among people of all age groups. Under this, the Fit India mobile app has been launched which has the facility of location tracking, tracks cycling and running. It is available in 12 languages including Hindi and English.

Manu Bhaker has also won a medal at the national level in Thang Ta

Manu Bhaker is an Indian Olympian who participates in shooting. Born in Jhajjar, Haryana, a state famous for boxers and wrestlers, Manu Bhaker participated in sports like tennis, skating, and boxing in school. She also participated in 'Thang-Ta' martial arts and won medals at the national level. Then she decided to try her hand at shooting after the 2016 Rio Olympics ended when she was just 14 years old. She has won many medals apart from winning a gold medal in the 25m pistol team at the Asian Games 2022. ●



Shivram Rajguru Icon of patriotism and courage

The sacrifice of Shivaram Rajguru, a prominent revolutionary figure in the independence movement of the country made him immortal in Indian history. Rajguru, an icon of patriotism and courage, is a unique example of patriotism and dedication to the motherland. He had only one resolve, and one goal - India's independence. Despite the inhuman atrocities of the foreign government, he became immortal by smilingly going to the gallows for this goal. His dedication to the motherland will always inspire the countrymen....

BORN: 24 AUGUST 1908 | DIED: 23 MARCH 1931

On 24 August 1908, Shivaram Hari Rajguru was born in Kheda, Pune. His father's name was Hari Narayan and his mother's name was Parvati Bai. From the early days of his life, Rajguru started getting inclined towards revolutionary activities. Shivaram Hari Rajguru, who will always be remembered for his courage in the history of the Indian freedom struggle, was a fearless revolutionary. He joined the Hindustan Socialist Republican Army for the independence of the country.

In October 1928, the British police lathi-charged the Indians protesting against the Simon Commission, in which Lala Lajpat Rai was seriously injured and succumbed. To avenge Lajpat Rai's death, Rajguru, Sukhdev, and Bhagat Singh killed the police officer responsible for the lathi charge, JP Saunders. After a lot of effort, the British police finally arrested Rajguru, after which he was tried. The British sentenced Rajguru, Sukhdev, and Bhagat Singh to death for the murder of JP Saunders.

On 23 March 1931, the British hanged the great patriots Rajguru, Bhagat Singh, and Sukhdev, calling them criminals. It is said that when these three were being hanged, they remained fearless and unnerved and happily

sang 'Mera Rang De Basanti Chola'. They also raised slogans of 'Inquilab Zindabad' and went through the gallows for the sake of the country. 23rd March is considered an important event in the history of the Indian freedom struggle. This is the reason why every year 23rd March is celebrated as 'Martyr's Day' across the country. Rajguru, the great son of Maa Bharti was only 22 years old when he was martyred for the country. The martyrdom of brave son Rajguru not only shook the foundations of the British government but also inspired crores of youth for the freedom movement.

On the occasion of the 77th Independence Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi remembered Rajguru on 15 August 2023 from the ramparts of the Red Fort. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said, "The movement of non-cooperation under the leadership of Pujya Bapu, the movement of Satyagraha and the sacrifice of countless heroes like Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, Rajguru, there would be hardly any person in that generation who did not contribute to the freedom of the country. Today, I respectfully bow down to all those who have contributed, sacrificed, performed penance in the country's freedom struggle, I congratulate them." ●



Narendra Modi @narendramodi

कारगिल विजय दिवस हमें बताता है कि राष्ट्र के लिए दिए गए बलिदान और देश की रक्षा के लिए अपनी जान की बाजी लगाने वालों के नाम अमिट रहते हैं।



रक्षा मंत्री कार्यालय / R... @DefenceMinIndia

रक्षा मंत्रालय में AFHQ Civil Services के अधिकारियों को key roles में शामिल करने से, हमारी decision making की quality में improvement आयी। इसलिए मैं मंत्रालय के वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों से एक बार फिर यह आग्रह करूंगा, कि वह इस दिशा में एक ठोस प्रयास करें और इसको प्राथमिकता दें: RM



Amit Shah @AmitShah

विपक्ष के सांसदों को अलॉ वर्निंग सिस्टम की जानकारी के लिए भारत सरकार की वेबसाइट देखनी होगी। किसी विदेशी वेबसाइट पर इसकी जानकारी नहीं मिलेगी।



Nitin Gadkari @nitin_gadkari

Cashless Treatment to Road Crash Victims
@MORTHIndia has formulated a scheme and initiated implementation on pilot basis in Chandigarh and Assam to provide cashless treatment to victims of road accidents caused by use of motor vehicle, on any category of road, in collaboration with National Health Authority (NHA).



Ashwini Vaishnav @AshwiniVaishnav

12 लाख रेल कर्मी दिन-रात लागकर, सर्दी-गर्मी, धूप-बारिश में भी लगाकर, प्रतिदिन करीब 20 हजार से अधिक ट्रेन चलाते हैं और देश की सेवा करते हैं।

‘हम मेहनत करने वाले लोग’



C R Paatl @CRPaatl

माननीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री @narendramodi

सर के नेतृत्व में आज हमारे देश ने एक ऐतिहासिक उपलब्धि हासिल की है! 15 करोड़ ग्रामीण घरों में अब नल से जल की सुविधा उपलब्ध है।

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF VICTORY IN KARGIL

Agnipath will keep force young, ready for war: PM

NAVJED IQBAL
Shrinagar, July 26

IN HIS STRONGEST defence of the Agnipath scheme, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Friday said his 'aim is to keep the force young and to keep them ready for war at all times', but 'some people' have turned it into a 'matter of politics'.

The scheme — under which around 45,000 to 50,000 soldiers are supposed to be recruited annually, and most will leave the service in four years — has been frequently criticised by the Opposition. In fact, in the run-up to the Lok Sabha polls, Opposition leaders led by Congress' Rahul Gandhi had tried to tap into what they felt was anger over the scheme. The Congress manifesto the year of the election is 'against the interest of youth of the country'.

Speaking at the Kargil War Memorial in Dras after paying tribute to the soldiers on the 25th



PM Narendra Modi arrives to take part in an event on the 25th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas, in Dras.

PM: World's highest tunnel to boost connectivity to Ladakh

Rahul Singh
@rahulsinghtimescom

DRAS (LADAKH): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday carried out the 'first blast' for the Shinku La tunnel in Ladakh, aimed at providing all-weather connectivity from Manali to Leh via the Nimmu-Padum-Darcha axis.

The 'first blast' is significant as it marks the beginning of the tunnel's construction by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), which is at the centre of India's forward infrastructure push. Speaking at the Kargil War Memorial here, Modi described it as a pioneering project that will 'boost all-weather connectivity to Ladakh and ease the lives of the locals who face troubles because of the harsh weather'.

The blast was carried out remotely from Dras. The tunnel at 15,800 ft, expected to be ready in four years, will be the world's highest, surpassing China's Mita tunnel at 15,590 ft.



The 'first blast' carried out by PM Modi for the construction of the Shinku La tunnel.

The construction of the tunnel will further boost military mobility and logistics support for deployed forces in the Ladakh sector as the Nimmu-Padum-Darcha road will provide the third connectivity option to Ladakh. Connectivity improved the strategic mobility of the Indian armed forces along the border with China. It is also on the verge of completing an ambitious project to provide much-needed alternative connectivity to Daulet Bag Old (DBO), India's northernmost military base near LAC.

The development comes at a time when the military standoff at the border with China has entered its fifth

year, with no indication of a resolution to the outstanding problems along the contested Line of Actual Control (LAC), although India is hoping ongoing negotiations will help restore the status quo ante of April 2020.

The 41-km-long Shinku La tunnel will cut the present distance between Manali and Leh by 60 km. It will be an alternative to the Manali-Leh and the traditional Srinagar-Leh route. The Nimmu-Padum-Darcha road is strategically important as it is shorter than the other two axes, and crosses only one pass — the 16,815-ft high Shinku La.

BRO has completed 330 projects at a cost of ₹8,737 crore in the last three years, and significantly improved the strategic mobility of the Indian armed forces along the border with China. It is also on the verge of completing an ambitious project to provide much-needed alternative connectivity to Daulet Bag Old (DBO), India's northernmost military base near LAC.

Community-led efforts key to tiger conservation: PM

'Campaigns Saving Green Cover, Aiding Eco-Tourism'

Video: Mahesh @narendramodi

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi on Sunday celebrated the 25th anniversary of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB).

2019 Global Tiger Reserve Day celebrated to bolster conservation efforts for tiger conservation

2023 International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA) launched

Modi highlighted the 'Saugh Mita Rejuvenation' of Pilibhit in UP. Under this, local people are trained to work as 'tiger friends' to ensure no conflict between tigers and humans, he said

about efforts of the 'Changri' tribe living on the Mithi hills in Andhra Pradesh where they are 'tiger trackers' are not only gathering every bit of information on the movement of wild animals in the forest

that community-driven efforts have been very useful in tiger conservation, and led to an increase in the tiger population. India has 54 tiger reserves, covering over 70,000 sq km, with a total tiger population of 3,826 in 2022

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BIG BOOST FOR BIG CATS

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13th in a decade

India's 43rd World Heritage 'Charaideo Moidams'

Development as well as heritage. This is the mantra with which the new India is growing rapidly. Preserving its heritage and strengthening its global identity, India hosted the 46th meeting of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee for the first time. The committee again endorsed this strong identity of India on 26 July. Assam's 'Charaideo Moidams - Mound-burial system of Ahom dynasty' was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List, which is the first North East India and India's 43rd World Heritage site listed by UNESCO. India ranks sixth in the world in terms of the highest number of World Heritage properties.

- ✓ India's heritage sites in the UNESCO list include 35 cultural, seven natural, and one mixed site. In the last 10 years, 13 new heritages have been included in the UNESCO World Heritage List.
- ✓ Charaideo Moidams was the process of burying the mortal remains of the members of the Ahom dynasty that ruled Assam. The king was buried with his belongings.
- ✓ Moidams is a mound-like structure covered with soil. Each Moidams is believed to be the resting place of an Ahom ruler or dignitary.
- ✓ Moidams reflects the rich tradition of Assamese identity and heritage. Charaideo Moidams is also called the Pyramids of Assam.



A matter of great joy and pride for India! I hope more people will know about the great Ahom rule and culture. More tourists will come here. You too must include this site in your future travel plans.

- Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister

NEW INDIA
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