Volume 5, Issue 02

July 16-31, 2024

For free distribution

July 24 Income Tax Day Special

NEW INDIA SAMACHAR



Decade of tax reforms

Transparent taxation
Honouring the Honest

Be it the taxpayers' charter, faceless system or the series of structural reforms, trust in the citizens and the faith of the people in the intentions of the government have become the strong foundation of the development journey...



Virtual journey of Mera Gaon, Meri Dharohar (MGMD)

India's 6.5 lakh villages are spread over 32 lakh 87 thousand square kilometers. For the first time, the Government of India has done the work of mapping and documenting all these villages. The 'Mera Gaon, Meri Dharohar' project was started under the National Mission on Cultural Mapping. A web portal on MGMD was launched on 27th July 2023. Till now more than 4 lakh villages have been documented and short videos of about one thousand villages have also been uploaded. Let's go on a virtual journey of Mera Gaon, Meri Dharohar.....

Objectives of MGMD - Cultural mapping of the villages on a comprehensive virtual platform. To enhance cultural vibrancy through awareness campaigns, protect cultural heritage and traditions, revive endangered arts and practices, and provide a national-level platform to promote artworks. To connect artists with e-commerce besides connecting them with existing schemes and welfare schemes of the Government of India.



- Mera Gaon, Meri Dharohar is an endeavor to collect detailed information about the life, history, and ethos of Indian villages and make it available virtually to visitors.
- By signing up at https://mgmd.gov.in, you can also upload information, photos, and videos of your village and take a virtual tour of the village by entering the information about the state, district, and block.
- Information about the village is collected in seven broad categories which will present the rural culture and identity of that village not only to India but also to the world.
  - Arts and Crafts Village
  - Ecologically Oriented Village
  - Scholastic Village Linked with Textual and Scriptural Traditions of India
  - Epic Village linked with Ramayana, Mahabharata, and/or Puranic legends and oral epics
  - Historical Village linked with Local and National History
  - Architectural Heritage Village
  - Any other characteristic that may need highlighting such as fishing village, horticulture village, shepherding village etc.



NEW INDIA SAMACHAR

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 02 | JULY 16-31, 2024

EDITOR IN CHIEF
DHIRENDRA OJHA
Principal Director General,
Press Information Bureau,
New Delhi

SENIOR CONSULTING EDITOR
SANTOSH KUMAR

SENIOR ASST. CONSULTING EDITOR
PAWAN KUMAR

ASST. CONSULTING EDITORS
AKHILESH KUMAR
CHANDAN KUMAR CHOUDHARY

LANGUAGE EDITORS
SUMIT KUMAR (English)
NADEEM AHMED (Urdu)

SENIOR DESIGNERS
PHOOL CHAND TIWARI
RAJEEV BHARGAVA

DESIGNERS
ABHAY GUPTA
FIROZ AHMAD



CLICK TO READ
NEW INDIA SAMACHAR
AVAILABLE IN 13 LANGUAGES
https://newindiasamachar.pib.gov.in/news.aspx
TO READ THE NEW INDIA SAMACHAR ARCHIVE EDITIONS CLICK
https://newindiasamachar.pib.gov.in.archive.aspx

Follow @NISPIBIndia on Twitter for regular updates on 'New India Samachar'

INSIDE PAGES

Trust in citizens: Transforming India's Tax Landscape



COVER STORY

The honest taxpayer of the country plays a very important role in nation-building. The tax paid by them ensures development paving the way for the ease of living of the people. Every taxpayer plays a crucial role in country's development, hence the past decade has become a symbol of reforms in totality, and every year July becomes an important month of participation in the celebration of development | 8-21

Parliament: Reply to the Motion of Thanks

The third term, three times speed, three times energy will bring three times the results



PM Modi replied to the Motion of Thanks on the President's address in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha | 22-25

News Briefs | 4-5

Personality - Munshi Premchand
Munshi Premchand's novels sketched the real plight of villages, poor, and farmers | 6

Knowledge is only that which is used for the betterment and upliftment of humanity
President Droupadi Murmu attended the 13th convocation of NISER | 7

There is a need to give a decisive answer to cross-border terrorism
Foreign Minister S Jaishankar represented India in the SCO meeting | 36



The world reckons with India's growing power on the global stage

After becoming the Prime Minister for the third consecutive time, PM Modi reached Russia and Austria from 8-10 July on his first bilateral foreign visit of this term | 32-35

World champion in cricket, now preparing to raise India's pride at the Olympics



India preparing infrastructure to host Olympics 2036: Not only the society but the government's thinking about sports has changed. The thinking of 'Kheloge kudgoge hoge lajawab' is now gaining recognition | 26-31

Published & Printed by **Yogesh Kumar Baweja,** Director General, on behalf of Central Bureau Of Communication Printed at Infinity Advertising services Pvt.Ltd. FBD-One Corporate Park, 10th floor, New Delhi-Faridabad border, NH-1, Faridabad-121003.
Communication Address : Room No–278, Central Bureau Of Communication, 2nd Floor, Soochna Bhawan, New Delhi -110003. **e-Mail:** response-nis@pib.gov.in, **RNI No. :** DELENG/2020/78811

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...

"Trust" in 140 crore citizens is the basis of all reforms including the tax system.

Greetings,

Reform, perform, and transform. These are not just words but a mantra to ameliorate the lives of common citizens who were earlier facing hardships for several decades. Another crucial change that has taken place since 2014 is that projects that were in limbo for years are being identified and completed in mission mode. Half-baked projects not only caused a waste of money for the honest taxpayers of the country but also increased the cost of the projects. Now technology has become the basis for reforms in laws and processes for tax transparency, while clear intentions have become the basis for performance. Also, revolutionary transformations have been made by the change in administrative thinking in tax. From 25 September 2020, the birth anniversary of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay, the faceless system has created a new confidence in taxpayers. There have been many improvements in the tax system in the last 10 years. Earlier, there were many different tax systems in the country which were difficult for the common man to understand easily. Due to a lack of transparency, honest taxpayers and business people faced hardships.

The new data on income tax returns indicates that the trust of the citizens of the country in government is continuously increasing. Due to this, the citizens of the country are coming forward in large numbers to pay their taxes honestly. They have started believing that every penny of their tax is being spent on the development of the country. They can see that the economy which was at number 10 in the world before 2014 has reached number 5 today. Now whether it is filing tax returns or refunds, it has become so easy through technology that the work of months and years is being done in a few hours. The result of the central government's thinking - 'First trust the taxpayers completely' is that 99.75 percent of the returns are being accepted without any objection.

Fundamental and structural reforms in India's tax system were needed for decades, but in the last decade, the economic revolution of tax reforms has changed the thinking and approach and made everything fair, rational, and easy to access. Now every year in July, filing tax returns in the country has become like a festival. That's why this time our cover story is based on the decade of tax reforms.

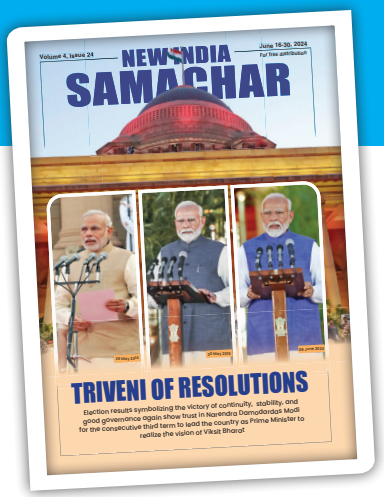
In the personality, section read about Munshi Premchand on his birth anniversary on July 31, Prime Minister Modi's reply to the motion of thanks on the President's address in Lok Sabha-Rajya Sabha, Prime Minister's interaction with the T-20 Cricket World Cup winning team and the Indian contingent going to Paris Olympics are part of this issue. The Prime Minister's visit to Russia and Austria, the President's visit to Odisha, and the 24th meeting of SCO are the other highlights 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

New India Samachar opens the doors of knowledge

New India Samachar magazine stands out in today's time. This magazine is also suitable for students preparing for competitive exams. It is also good for the common people, overall this magazine is useful for every citizen. I also read it myself. New India Samachar magazine has a special contribution to enhancing my knowledge. Many thanks to the entire editorial team.

Mukesh Kumar Rishi Verma
mukesh123idea@gmail.com

New India Samachar is useful for competitive exams

I read New India Samachar magazine. This magazine helps understand the policy, plans, and programs of the government. Also, it is very useful for competitive exams.

Arpana Singh
aparnasinghdm@gmail.com

Information about current affairs and all schemes is available

I become aware of all current events through New India Samachar magazine. It helps in understanding in detail about every scheme given by the government. I also share all that information with colleagues in my office and other places.

choudharymanikant.
choudhary@gmail.com

A great medium to understand government policies

New India Samachar magazine is a good medium to understand government policies. New India Samachar magazine contains useful and factual information about new policies, social issues, development, and many other initiatives taken by the government. Everyone, especially UPSC aspirants must read this enriching and informative magazine.

vermaprabhat9@gmail.com

The cover story is very informative

The cover story published in New India Samachar is very informative. Also, giving information about special ministries in the magazine is a very good initiative. Thanks for giving information about the initiatives, achievements, and development of the Government of India.

Suresh Babu GV |
sureshaps14@gmail.com

Communication Address : Room No–278,
Central Bureau Of Communication, 2nd Floor,
Soochna Bhawan, New Delhi -110003.
e-Mail: response-nis@pib.gov.in

आकाशवाणी समाचार
Akashvani

Scan the **QR code** to listen
New India Samachar
on All India Radio

Highest-ever increase in defense production during 2023-24

The Make in India program in the country is achieving new milestones year after year. India has recorded the highest-ever increase in defense production in 2023-24. The value of production in 2023-24 has reached Rs 1,26,887 crore which is 16.8% more than the production value of the previous financial year. This is the result of the hard work of defense product manufacturing companies, public sector companies, and private industry. The central government is fully committed to developing India as a leading global defense manufacturing hub and creating a more favorable environment. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has praised India's highest-ever increase in defense production in 2023-24. Sharing a post on X by Union Defense Minister Rajnath Singh, Prime Minister Modi



wrote, "Very encouraging development. Best wishes to all those who have contributed to this achievement. We are fully committed to creating a conducive environment to further enhance our capabilities and establish India as a leading global defense manufacturing hub. This will enhance our security system and make us self-reliant."

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas will now have ICT labs and smart classes



The Ministry of Education of the Government of India will now provide Information and Communication Technology (ICT) labs and smart classes in Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas and hostels. This initiative has been taken to empower the girls, make them digitally competent, and enhance their knowledge and skills. This will also make it possible to bridge the existing gap in digital knowledge. This initiative with an estimated cost of about Rs 290 crore will benefit 7 lakh girls. Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are built for girls from disadvantaged groups including SC, ST, OBC, minorities, and those living below the poverty line (BPL) from class VI to class XII and there is also a hostel for them here. At present, there are 5116 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas in 30 states and union territories of the country.

KVIC created history, sales of Khadi products increased by 400 percent in 10 years

Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has created history by achieving an annual turnover of more than Rs 1.50 lakh crore for the first time in the financial year 2023-24. Along with this, during this period it has also given employment to more than 10 lakh people, which has strengthened the rural economy. Not only this, the creation of new employment in Khadi and Village Industries activities has increased by 81 percent in 10 years since 2013-14. During this period, production increased by 315 percent and sales of Khadi and Village Industries products increased by 400 percent. With the support of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Khadi, people's confidence in Khadi products has increased. Khadi has become a 'new status symbol' of fashion for the youth. The demand for Khadi and Village Industries products is increasing rapidly in the market. The way the Prime Minister promoted Khadi during the G-20 summit held in the country last year, the world community has also been attracted to Khadi. The main objective of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission is to provide maximum employment opportunities in rural areas.

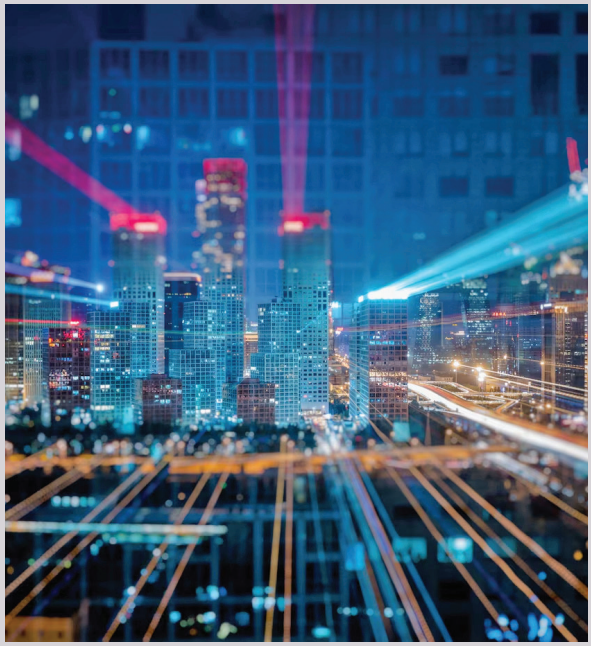
The application submission process for NMMSS started

The application submission process for the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS), launched to provide scholarships to meritorious students from economically weaker sections, has started on the National Scholarship Portal (NSP). The last date for students to submit the NMM Scholarship Scheme/Renewal Application for 2024-25 on NSP is 31 August 2024. The One-Time Registration (OTR) application launched on the National Scholarship Portal includes a new home page, a new mobile app, and an updated web version. With this, students can easily register online for OTR. The NMMSS scheme has been launched to prevent their dropping out of studies in class VIII and encourage them to continue their education at the secondary level. Under this scheme, one lakh new scholarships are provided to selected students of class IX every year. Also, their studies are continued from class 10th to 12th in State Government, Government aided, and local body schools.



Air Force starts Weapon Systems School

The Indian Air Force (IAF) started a new chapter in its history by inaugurating the Weapon Systems School (WSS) at Air Force Station Begumpet, Hyderabad on July 1, 2024. The establishment of the Weapon Systems School (WSS), a new officer cadre in the IAF, was done in 2022. The new training establishment is aimed at future-proofing and transforming the Indian Air Force. This is a major milestone for the armed forces in general and the Indian Air Force in particular. The Chief of the Air Force (CAS) announced the formation of the Weapon Systems School during the Air Force Day Parade celebrations on October 8, 2022.



Smart Cities Mission extended till March 2025

The Smart Cities Mission is a new experiment in India's urban development. Since its launch in June 2015, the Mission has attempted to put in place several innovative ideas, including competition among cities for selection of 100 smart cities, selection of stakeholder-driven projects, formation of Smart City Special Purpose Vehicles for implementation, effective use of technology and digital solutions to improve urban governance, third-party impact assessment by leading academic and professional institutions, etc. Each of the 100 cities has developed a diverse set of projects, many of which are very unique and are being implemented for the first time. This has improved the capacity and experience of cities and has led to major transformational goals at the city level. More than 8,000 multi-sector projects are being developed by the 100 cities at a cost of about Rs 1.6 lakh crore.



Munshi Premchand's novels sketched the real plight of villages, poor, and farmers

BORN: 31 JULY 1880 | DIED: 8 OCTOBER 1936

Munshi Premchand is counted among the great writers of India whose novels and stories are liked worldwide. Premchand's stories most accurately showcase the real India before the independence which is beyond compare. Villages, poverty, social fabric, women, and farmers were subjects that were close to his heart on which he wrote extensively. He understood the might of the pen and guided society with it for betterment...

He was born on 31 July 1880 in Lamhi village near Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. His childhood name was Dhanpat Rai. His father's name was Ajaib Rai and his mother's name was Anandi Devi. Born in a middle-class family he had to shoulder many responsibilities from an early age and struggled with financial difficulties throughout his life. He entered the literary field at a very early age. He started writing in Urdu and later shifted to Hindi. He exposed social evils prevailing in social systems in his works and also attacked them deeply. It is said that literature is only meaningful when its characters remain alive in the memories of the readers. His work had a similar impact which made him a writer popular with readers. His every work is a masterpiece that tells the truth of his time and their specialty is that they are still relevant today.

Premchand started writing stories while in government service. He used to write under the pseudonym Nawab Rai and his uncle also used to call him by this name. During the freedom movement, he wrote the story collection 'Soz-e-Watan' under the name Nawab Rai, which was banned by the British. Its copies were burnt and the collector issued an order not to write anything further. After this, he started writing under the name Premchand. On the call of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi, during the Non-Cooperation Movement in 1921, he left his government job and entered the struggle for freedom. He also edited some newspapers and magazines during his lifetime. He is also known as the 'Upanyas Samrat'. His works include diversity.

Eidgah is a story that probably everyone is familiar with, which was written by Premchand in the year 1933. The main character of the story is a small child Hamid who instead of buying and eating sweets at the fair, buys tongs for his grandmother. So that her hands do not get burnt while cooking. On 28 May 2018, while interacting with the beneficiaries of the Ujjwala scheme, Prime Minister Narendra Modi narrated the same story and said I can never forget Premchand's Eidgah. This story of Munshi Premchand still inspires me. He had said that I think if Hamid can do it, then why can't the Prime Minister of the country? Premchand's successful literary journey can be gauged from the fact that PM Modi took the help of his story to highlight the importance of making the lives of housewives comfortable through the Ujjwala scheme in the country.

Premchand's other popular stories include Shatranj Ke Khiladi, Poos Ki Raat, Bade Ghar Ki Beti, and Namak Ka Daroga. Apart from Godaan, he also wrote famous novels like Karmabhoomi, Nirmala, Rangbhoomi and Sevasadan. He died on 8 October 1936. Before his death, when Premchand was ill, he was still working on many stories which remained incomplete. ●



Knowledge is only that which is used for the betterment and upliftment of humanity

The journey of the National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER) is just a few years old. In such a short time, it has carved a niche in the world of education. This institute is moving forward by uniting the values of logic and the tradition of science. President Droupadi Murmu, who attended the 13th convocation of this institute on July 9, said that meaningful education and knowledge are only that which are used for the betterment and upliftment of humanity. The President, who was on a tour of Odisha from July 6 to 9, also attended many other functions.....

Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi has defined seven social sins, one of which is compassionless science, that is, promoting science without sensitivity towards humanity is akin to sinful acts. While attending the 13th convocation of the National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER) in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, President Droupadi Murmu advised the students that they should always remember this message of Mahatma Gandhi. While addressing the students, the President expressed confidence that wherever they work, they will achieve the highest level of excellence in their field. She hoped that along with achievements in their field, the students would also discharge their social duties with full responsibility.

Students are always expected to see their knowledge as a social enterprise. Also, they will use it for the development of society and the country. President Droupadi Murmu told the students that sometimes they may go through such a phase when their patience is tested but they should never be disappointed. She advised the students to always remember that development in fundamental research proves to be extremely beneficial in other fields as well.

President Droupadi Murmu was on a visit to Odisha from 6 to 9 July

- On 6 July, the President attended the function organized on the 96th death anniversary of Utkalmani Pandit Gopabandhu Das in Bhubaneswar.
- On 7 July, President Droupadi Murmu visited Puri to witness the Gundicha Yatra (Rath Yatra) of Lord Jagannath.
- On 8 July, the President visited the Udayagiri Caves and interacted with students of Bibhuti Kanungo Arts and Crafts College and Utkal University of Culture.
- Apart from this, on 8 July, the President inaugurated the Brahma Kumaris Divine Retreat Centre at Haridmada village near Bhubaneswar and launched the 'Lifestyle for Sustainability' campaign.
- On 9 July, the President attended the 13th convocation of the National Institute of Science Education and Research in Bhubaneswar.



Trust in Citizens

Transforming India's Tax Landscape: A Decade of Positive Reforms

The honest taxpayer of the country plays a pivotal role in nation-building and the taxes paid by them drive the development paving the way for the ease of living of the people. The initiatives of policy reforms, taxpayers' charter, and structural reforms have made the tax system equitable, and simple. Every taxpayer is playing a key role in the country's development. There has been a larger participation of taxpayers since the last decade as several reforms have been undertaken in this period. Every year the month of July becomes an important month to participate in the celebration of use of technology for citizen centric services.



On July 24 the nation celebrates Income Tax Day. Direct Taxes in India have undergone a transformation over the last decade. There has been a paradigm shift in the role and functions of the Income Tax Department from being largely an enforcement organization to a facilitator keeping taxpayer services as the cornerstone of its policies. In line with the policies of the Government, the focus has been to build a robust tax administration that not only garners revenue for governance but also prioritizes taxpayer services.

Taking forward the vision of Digital India, and to streamline ease of compliance for taxpayers, the Income Tax Department leveraged technology in a big way and integrated it in its processes to make them more efficient, equitable, and transparent, thereby fostering trust and confidence among taxpayers. Keeping in view the volumes of taxpayers and their financial transactions, the Department re-engineered its business especially in the last decade to bring in e-governance, increase its engagement with stakeholders, streamline operations,

"Another big change that has come about since 2014 is that the projects that have been stuck for years are being identified and completed on mission mode. Half-finished projects not only waste the money of our honest taxpayers, but also increase the cost, and the benefits that should be received are not received. This is a big injustice to our taxpayers."

– Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister

and focus on capacity building to deliver superior taxpayer services.

Taking a cue from the focus areas of the Government, the Department re-engineered its processes at each level and onboarded various stakeholders/entities including deductors, banks, state agencies, bureaucracy, third-party agencies, taxpayers, tax professionals, and tax administrators. This effort was accelerated in the last decade and the results are there for all to see.

E-governance in tax administration in India is an initiative that we, as citizens of the country, ought to be proud about. In the past decade, the Income Tax Department has taken giant strides in Direct Tax e-governance initiatives wherein end-to-end technology-driven services are being provided to the taxpayers on one hand, and technology-driven processing of tax returns with speedy issuance of refunds is being done, on the other.

A shift in leadership and vision

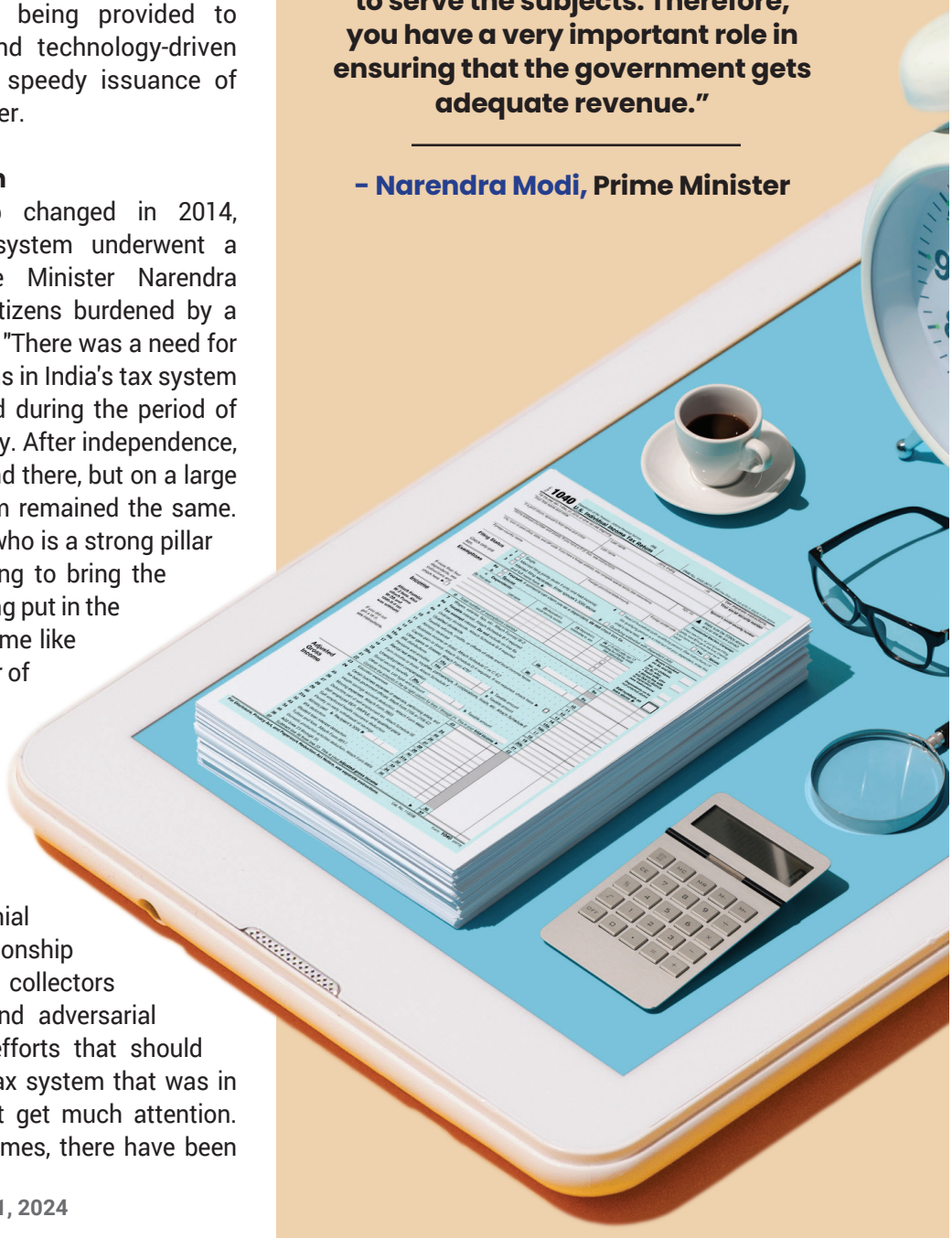
When the country's leadership changed in 2014, the landscape of India's tax system underwent a dramatic transformation. Prime Minister Narendra Modi empathized with honest citizens burdened by a cumbersome tax system. He said, "There was a need for fundamental and structural reforms in India's tax system because this system was created during the period of slavery and then progressed slowly. After independence, some changes were made here and there, but on a large scale, the character of the system remained the same. The result was that the taxpayer, who is a strong pillar of nation building, and contributing to bring the country out of poverty, started being put in the dock. The income tax notice became like a decree. On one hand, the number of taxpayers should have expanded, and on the other hand, a system of collusion was formed."

Historical discrepancies and the need for reform

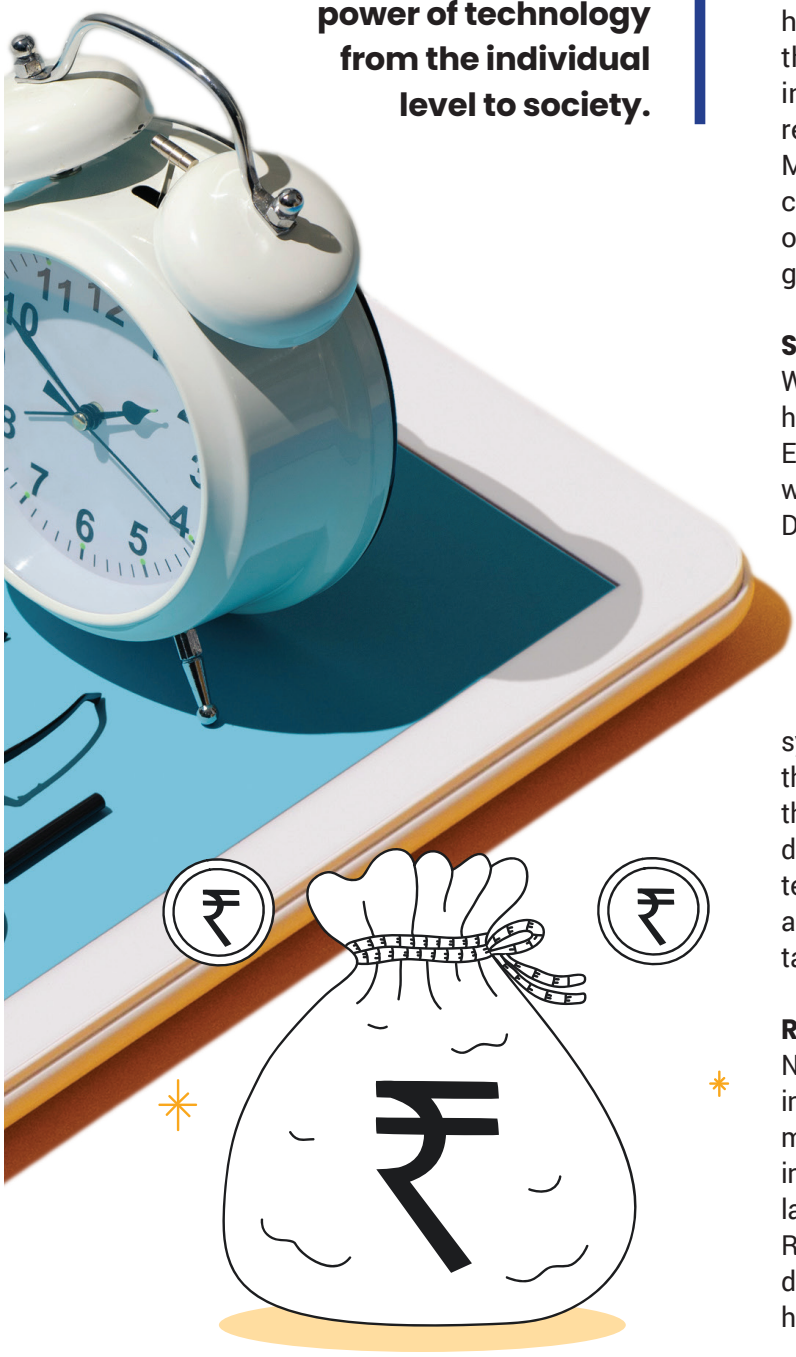
The prolonged period of colonial rule ended up creating a relationship between taxpayers and tax collectors which was based on distrust and adversarial governance. Unfortunately, the efforts that should have been made to change the tax system that was in place after independence did not get much attention. Whereas in India, since ancient times, there have been

"Saint Thiruvalluvar had said – उरुपोरुळुम उल्गु-पोरुळुम तन्-वोन्नार, तिरु-पोरुळुम वेन्दन पोरुळ, that is, the king has the right over the state taxes received as revenue and the money won from the enemy. Now in democracy, there are no kings, the kings are the subjects and the government works to serve the subjects. Therefore, you have a very important role in ensuring that the government gets adequate revenue."

– Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



India is one of the few countries that is at the forefront of formulating technology policies keeping the future in mind. India today is adopting innovative ways to take full advantage of the power of technology from the individual level to society.



very healthy traditions regarding the importance of tax and transactions. Goswami Tulsidas has said-

बरसत हरषत लोग सब, करषत लखै न कोइ,
तुलसी प्रजा सुभाग ते, भूप भानु सो होइ

That is, the sun draws water from the earth and then the same water turns into clouds and comes back to the earth in the form of rain, increasing prosperity.

Significant reforms and modernisation

In the last decade (2014-2024), the government has moved forward with this vision. As a result of this, the country got a modern system of simplified income tax, faceless assessment and GST, these reforms led to record tax collection. Prime Minister Modi says that whatever tax the central government collected from the people, it returned it in the form of development - this is the message of good governance and Ram Rajya.

Simplification and transparency

With this inspiration, the central government has made huge reforms in the tax system in the last 10 years. Earlier there were various tax systems in the country, which the common citizen could not understand easily. Due to a lack of transparency, honest taxpayers and people associated with business faced difficulties. The country has a modern technology-driven tax administrative system in Direct and Indirect Taxes. The country has a modern system in the form of GST. The government also simplified the income tax system. Started a faceless tax assessment system in the country which is one of its kind in the world. Today, the Income tax administration handles voluminous data and is one amongst the best in the world in terms of amount of data, and non-intrusive compliance administration. Due to all these reforms, there is record tax collection in the country.

Returning benefits to citizens

Not only this, when the government's tax collection has increased, the government is also returning the public's money to them through various schemes. In 2014, income tax exemption was only on income up to Rs 2 lakh, but in the last decade, this limit has increased from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 7 lakh. The tax exemptions and reforms done by the Central Government since 2014 have helped the citizens save tax in lakh crores. With this, the

government has made big plans for the welfare of the citizens and is making record investments in modern infrastructure. Also, with the reforms, undertaken when the honest taxpayer of the country sees that his money is being used properly he is ready to pay tax. Therefore, the number of taxpayers has been increasing continuously in the past years. That is, whatever the Central Government has taken from the public, it has dedicated it for the development of the masses. This is good governance, this is the message of Ram Rajya.

Enhancing efficiency

Tax reform is witnessing increased transparency. Taxpayers are experiencing a more equitable, efficient and transparent tax system. The PAN database of more than 65 crore reflects the efficacy of linkages between various compliances viz GST, Banks, credit ratings, property transactions etc. Similarly, TAN database of more than 75 lakh deductors reflects the reach and depth of information capturing capacity of the Income Tax Department. Refunds, which used to take months, are now processed within weeks. Today, refunds are being issued to more than 3 crore taxpayers through online mode. When taxpayers see the department itself taking the initiative to resolve longstanding disputes, they feel encouraged towards voluntary compliance. Faceless appeals and consistent reductions in income tax contribute to a sense of transparency. Prime Minister Modi himself notes that earlier there were complaints and terms like "tax terrorism" which were common. Today, however, the country is moving towards tax transparency. This change has come because the country is now moving forward with the vision of reform, perform, and transform. There are reforms in rules and processes, in which a lot of help from technology has been taken. Today, the Central Government is performing in every direction because the intentions are clear which is transforming due to clear intent of purpose.

Respecting honest taxpayers

Along with the reduction in tax and simplification in the process, the biggest reforms that have been done are related to the dignity of honest taxpayers, saving them from trouble. Today, India is among those few countries in the world where both the rights and duties of the taxpayer have been converted into codes and have been given legal recognition. This is a big step for restoring trust between the taxpayer and the tax collector, for transparency. The Central Government has given respect

Filing returns made easy

- The use of technology has made the process of filing income tax returns (ITR) easier, due to which there is a record increase in the number of returns.
- Detailed guidelines have been provided for filling out all types of ITR forms.
- Guidelines for the process of filing returns and answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) were provided.
- To make tax compliance more convenient, pre-filled income tax returns are made available to individual taxpayers, which makes it easier to file ITR.
- In the financial year 2023-24, 82 webinars were organized for the guidance of taxpayers and tax professionals, while in the financial year 2024-25, seven webinars have been organized till June 30.
- 7,392 Webex sessions have been organized for taxpayers and tax professionals in FY 2023-24 while 1,139 Webex sessions have been conducted in FY 2024-25 till June 30.
- The department is providing real-time support to taxpayers' queries and issues through Online Response Management (ORM) on its X handle.



Record returns filed in FY 2023-24

8.60 Crore

ITRs were filed in FY 2023-24 as against 7.78 crore returns filed in FY 2022-23. The number of return filers increased by 10.50 percent in a year.

- 64.33 lakh returns filed in a single day (31 July 2023) in FY 2023-24, with around five lakh ITRs filed between 5 and 6 pm on the same day.
- Maximum of 486 ITRs were filed per second and a maximum of 8,622 ITRs were filed per minute on 31 July 2023.

Return filing process

- After filing the return, it has to be verified by the taxpayer within the stipulated time. The return is then processed by the Centralized Processing Center (CPC) in Bengaluru.
- In processing, the refund is determined after completing the verification of the claims filed and matching them as well as checking for the errors only.
- Due to the extensive use of technology and strong infrastructure, the process of filing taxes has become faster, and due to faster processing, the refund has become faster.
- 8.46 crore returns were processed in FY 2023-24, 47 percent of the returns were processed within seven days.
- In FY 2023-24, 99.50 percent of the eligible taxpayers' returns were processed during the year.
- On average, the return process was completed in 10 days in 2023-24, it used to take 16 days in FY 2022-23.
- 1.96 crore returns (about 25 percent) were processed in one day in FY 2023-24.
- This is the first time that almost 99% of returns filed by companies were processed in the same year. Due to faster processing, refunds were also issued quickly.



The government's thinking is that first of all, have full faith in the income tax return that is being filed. The result of this is that today 99.75 percent of the returns filed in the country are accepted without any objection. Scrutiny is being done in only 0.25 percent of the cases.

- Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister

to the taxpayers because when the difficulties of those who give money for the development of the country are reduced, they get security, and then their trust in the systems of the country increases even more. The result of this increasing trust is that now more and more people are coming forward to join the tax system for the development of the country.

Implementing faceless assessment

The arrangements of faceless assessment along with new facilities, which started in 2020 regarding the income tax system have proved to strengthen the nation's commitment towards minimum government, and maximum governance. Be it the Taxpayers Charter or the series of institutional reforms, it is a big step in the country's development journey. Transparent Taxation: Honouring the Honest has emerged as an

important system of the 21st-century tax system. Major reforms like faceless assessment, appeal, and taxpayers charter in the country have given new confidence to honest taxpayers. The thinking behind this is that the honest taxpayer of the country plays a very big role in nation-building. Facilities like Faceless Assessment have reduced the interference of the government with the commitment of minimum government, and maximum governance.

A people centric approach to governance

The thinking of the central government for the last decade has been that instead of making every policy, process, rule, and law government-centric, the emphasis should be on making it people-centric and public-friendly. The pleasant result of the governance model of the new India is reflected in the tax system. These reforms have created an environment in the country where every citizen of the country should do all the work while keeping the sense of duty paramount.

There are four other reasons behind these changes, not punishment or strictness.

First- good governance based on policy reform. That is, when policies are clear, the barriers are reduced and due to this discrimination in business is reduced.

Second- faith in the honesty of the common man.

Third- large-scale use of technology by limiting human intervention in the government system. This is the reason that today whether it is government procurement, government tender, or delivery of government services, technical interfaces are providing services everywhere.

And fourth- rewarding the qualities of efficiency, honesty, and sensitivity in government machinery, and bureaucracy.

Comprehensive tax system reforms

From returns to refunds, the entire system is now online. Previously, reforms were often superficial, driven by compulsion or pressure, and did not yield desired results. Today, reforms are policy-based, holistic, and continuous, reducing complexities and making compliance easier. Now reforms mean policy-based reforms with holistic thinking. Also now the seamless process of reform moves forward with continuity because where there are complexities, compliance is also difficult. If there is at least a clear law, then the taxpayer and the country will happily comply with it. The system from returns to refunds has been completely made online. The new tax regime

Refunds

- The highest number of refunds have been issued in FY 2023-24, both in number and value. Issuing refunds on time is an important component of taxpayer service.



3.79 Crore

number of refunds issued in FY 2023-24. This number was 3.17 crore in FY 2022-23, an increase of 20 percent in one year.

- Refunds amounting to Rs 3.78 lakh crore were issued in FY 2023-24, compared to Rs 3.08 lakh crore in 2022-23, an increase of 23 percent in one year.
- 1.03 lakh refunds of Rs 1,035 crore were issued per day on an average in FY 2023-24.
- Refunds are reaching 97 percent of accounts within 3 days, after the implementation of TIN2.0 technology.

ITR filing increased by 126 per cent



8.60 Crore

ITRs were filed in FY 2023-24 while 3.80 crore ITRs were filed in FY 2013-14. This increase was 126.31 percent in a decade.



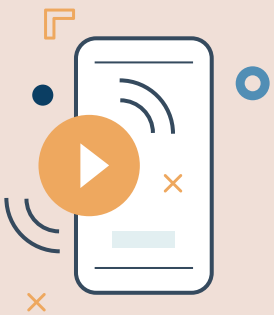
Instant PAN card-making system



- The Income Tax Department started the facility of instant online PAN allotment

for those applicants who have a valid Aadhaar number with a registered mobile number. It is free. It is being widely used by the public

National website updated



- The national website of the Income Tax Department has been redesigned during the financial year 2023-24. It has been launched with more secure features.
- The website has been designed with a user-friendly interface, a mobile responsive layout, new functionalities, and modules.
- The new website allows users to compare various provisions of the Income tax Act 1961, other Acts various rules as well as tax treaties over the years.

Made work easier

- For the first time, the Income Tax Department enabled taxpayers to file their returns on the first day of the new financial year. This is also a big step for the convenience of taxpayers.
- CBDT has already notified ITR. ITR-1,2,4 and 6 were made available on the first day of the financial year i.e. April 1, 2024.
- Filing of income tax returns for the financial year 2023-24 has started from April 1, 2024.

Our effort is that our tax system should be Seamless, Painless, and Faceless. Seamless means that the tax administration should work to solve the problem instead of confusing every taxpayer. Painless means that everything from technology to rules should be simple.

- Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister

has freed us from the compulsion of collecting unnecessary papers and documents. Mega and path-breaking initiatives such as the Centralised Processing Centre (CPC) including CPC-ITR, CPC-TDS, e-filing systems, Refund Banker Scheme, Online tax payments, Annual Information Statement (AIS), e-Verification and new tax regime are examples that Income Tax Department can showcase to the world to emulate. Not only this, earlier the government used to approach the High Court and Supreme Court for disputes above Rs 10 lakh. Now the limit for cases in the High Court has been set to Rs 1 crore and in the Supreme Court to Rs 2 crore. With schemes like Vivaad se Vishwas, the effort is to resolve most of the cases outside the court. The result of this is that lakhs of cases have been resolved in a very short time.

Trust in taxpayers

The tax system should be seamless, hassle-free, and faceless. Seamless means that the tax administration should work to solve the problem instead of confusing every taxpayer. Hassle-free means that everything from technology to rules should be simple. Faceless means that it should not matter who is the taxpayer and who is the tax officer. These reforms are going to take this thinking forward. Whereas earlier, the tax department of the city in which you live used to handle all matters



related to tax. Be it scrutiny, notice, survey, or seizure, the income tax department and income tax officer of the same city used to play the main role in it. Now this role has ended in a way, now it has been replaced with the help of technology.

Now the scrutiny cases are randomly allocated to any officer in any area of the country. This system eliminates the risk of identification, influence and pressure between the taxpayer and the income tax office as tax assessment as well as appeals are now faceless. Updated returns have been introduced with the objective of building trust with taxpayers, increasing voluntary compliance and reducing litigation. This initiative provides the facility to the taxpayer to update his return anytime within two years from the end of the assessment year in which the additional tax and interest is paid. In case the taxpayer wishes to rectify any mistake or omission while filing the ITR, he can file an updated ITR. So far, about 72 lakh updated returns have been filed involving a total additional tax of about Rs 7,655 crore. Along with this, showing its trust in the taxpayers and to increase the convenience of small taxpayers, for the first time the government has taken the initiative to abolish the petty demands of previous years. CBDT has abolished the petty demands up to Rs 25,000 for the financial year 2009-10 and earlier years and the demands up to Rs 10,000 for the financial years 2010-11 to 2014-15. Due to this, demands worth more than Rs 1 crore 12 lakhs have been eliminated, which has benefited more than 77.39 lakh taxpayers

The Taxpayers' Charter

The Taxpayers' Charter is also a big step in the country's development journey. For the first time in the history of India, the rights and duties of taxpayers have been codified and recognized. India has now joined the

Faceless Assessment

- Faceless Assessment Scheme (FS) was launched in August 2020 by PM Modi, an ambitious faceless system was launched under 'Transparent Taxation-honoring the honest'.
- The Faceless Assessment Scheme provides efficiency, transparency, and accountability in the assessment process by eliminating the interface between the assessing officer and the taxpayer.
- For the first time in the world, faceless assessment and faceless appeal process started using technology.
- Faceless assessment and appeal processes have been put in place to promote trust and transparency between taxpayers and the department.
- Several steps have been taken to ensure adherence to the principles of natural justice in faceless assessment and appeal proceedings.
- SOPs, provision of video conferencing, guidelines, have been issued and technical glitches have been removed.
- A total of 6.76 lakh faceless assessments have been completed till 31 March 2024, including 2.74 lakh faceless assessments made in the financial year 2023-24.
- A total of 2.57 lakh faceless appeals have been completed till 31 March 2024, including 77 thousand faceless appeals completed in the financial year 2023-24.
- Local officers will no longer do assessments. The Income Tax Officer of the city where you are filing the return will not look into your case.
- Through a centralized computerized process, the



case will be allotted to any officer across the country.

- In faceless regime assessment is a team-based activity where the orders drafted by one team are reviewed by another team before finalisation.
- The taxpayer and the assessing officer will not come face to face with each other, hence it is called faceless assessment.

Taxpayer Charter



The Income Tax Department will behave fairly and politely, the Income Tax Department will consider the taxpayer to be honest.

- The department will provide a fair environment to the taxpayers for appeal and review mechanism. The complaint will be settled on time. The privacy and confidentiality of the taxpayer will be followed. Income Tax officials will be made accountable.

Duties of taxpayers



To provide all the information related to income honestly. Take care of the obligations under the Income-tax Act, 1961. Keep your tax records completely correct. Inform the Income Tax Department on the change in circumstances. Follow the rules completely.



Before 2014, income tax was levied even on income of Rs 2 lakh. Whereas in our government, now no income tax has to be paid on income up to Rs 7 lakh. Because of this, thousands of crores of rupees of the middle class have been saved.

- Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister

handful of countries that give this level of respect and security to taxpayers. Now the taxpayer has been assured of fair, polite, and rational behavior. That is, the income tax department now has to take care of the taxpayer's respect and sensitivity. Now the taxpayer's words have to be believed, the department cannot look at him with suspicion without any basis. Even if there is any kind of doubt, the taxpayer has now been given the right to appeal and review. Any rights always come with corresponding responsibilities and duties. In this charter also, some expectations have been made from the taxpayers. Taxpayer Paying tax or government collecting tax is not a matter of right or authority, but it is the responsibility of both. The taxpayer has to pay taxes because it is the system that runs the country.

Trust in citizens has been the only mantra in every program, and every policy of the central government.

Economic growth and trust in citizens

In 2013-14, the country's total tax revenue was around Rs 11 lakh crore. Whereas in 2023-24 it was Rs 34 lakh crore. That is, the total tax revenue has increased 3 times in a decade. This increase has happened when the tax rates have come down. It is the result of trust in the common citizens that major boost in tax collections has taken place as the result of tax reforms. Earlier the system was such that most of the people or businessmen who filed income tax returns in the country had to face scrutiny by the Income Tax Department. But now it is not so. Now the government's thinking is that first of all, have full faith in the income tax return that is being filed. The result of this is that today 99.75 percent of the returns filed in the country are accepted without any objection. Scrutiny is being done only in 0.25 percent of the cases. This is a huge change that has come in the tax system of the country.

Rapid economic growth and middle class expansion

India is one of the fastest-growing economies in the world today. It is the fifth largest economy in the world with a rapidly growing middle class and unprecedented demographic dividend. India's current financial situation is a golden moment and the efforts made towards a minimum cash economy are further propelling this momentum. Over the last decade, the government has been engaged in strengthening the infrastructure to make digital payments not only possible but also convenient for all Indians. Before 2014, different types of indirect taxes - clothing bills, restaurant food bills, used to increase all kinds of expenses. After the implementation of GST, these indirect taxes have also reduced.

Increase in average income

There has been a huge increase in the average returned income of people in the last 10 years. According to ITR data, the average returned income which was around Rs 4 lakh in 2014 has increased to Rs 7.3 lakh in 2023. This means that millions of people in India have moved from the low income group to the high income group. These figures are encouraging as well as assure that every sector of the country is getting stronger and many new employment opportunities are increasing. Another important thing in the new data of income tax returns is that the trust of the citizens of the country on their government is constantly increasing. Because of this, the citizens of the country are coming forward in large numbers to pay their taxes honestly.

Slab rates under the new tax regime

Total income	Tax rate
Up to Rs. 3,00,000	Nil
From Rs. 3,00,001 to Rs. 6,00,000	5 per cent
From Rs. 6,00,001 to Rs.9,00,000	10 per cent
From Rs. 9,00,001 to Rs. 12,00,000	15 per cent
From Rs. 12,00,001 to Rs. 15,00,000	20 per cent
Above Rs. 15,00,000	30 per cent

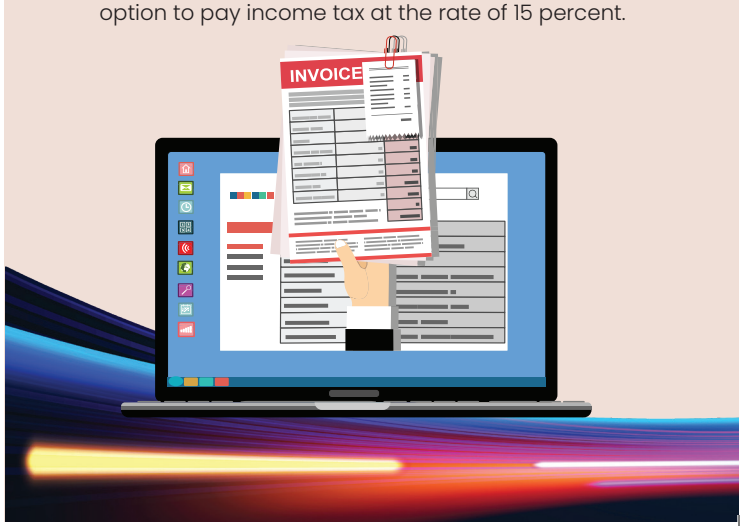
Corporate tax



15%

is the new corporate tax for new domestic manufacturing companies while corporate taxes for other domestic companies have been reduced to 22 percent.

- To promote growth and investment, a landmark reform was brought in by inserting a new provision in the Income-tax Act, 1961 from FY 2019-20, which allowed any domestic company an option to pay income tax at the rate of 22 percent subject to the condition that they would not avail any exemption/incentive .
- To attract new investment in manufacturing and thus promote the Government's 'Make in India' initiative, another new provision was added to the Income tax Act, 1961 from FY 2019-20. A domestic company incorporated on or after October 1, 2019 making fresh investments in manufacturing has the option to pay income tax at the rate of 15 percent.





Compliance norms eased to promote start-ups

- To promote growth and development in some key industrial sectors impacting medium to small taxpayers, the Government has taken several steps to encourage start-ups, cooperatives, MSMEs, etc.
- Eligible start-ups have been provided with several tax benefits which are being regularly updated in collaboration with DPIIT (Ministry of Commerce).
- Start-ups have been provided with a hassle-free tax environment. This includes simplification of the assessment process, exemption from angel tax subject to certian conditions and formation of a dedicated start-up cell.
- 'Angel Investments' in eligible start-ups have been provided tax benefits. Hence eligible start-ups can secure funding from angel investors as per the existing provisions of law.

A new section 54EE has been inserted in the Income Tax Act, 1961 to enable eligible start-ups to exempt their tax on long-term capital gains, if such long-term capital gains or a part thereof is invested in a notified fund.

Transformation of the middle class

Rapid advancement

In 2013 national and international publications often painted a grim picture, declaring the dreams of the middle class shattered by tough economic conditions. But there has been a change in 2023-24. Be it sports, startups, space or technology, the middle class of the country is seen standing at the forefront of every development journey. In the last few years, the middle class of India has progressed rapidly. Their income has increased, their size has increased. In 2013-14, about 3.31 crore people used to file income tax returns. In 2023-24, this number has doubled and more than 8.09 crore people have filed income tax returns.

Rising salaries

According to media reports, a very interesting figure is that in the year 2011-12, if we add the total income of those who get salary from Rs 5.5 lakh to Rs 25 lakh annually, then this figure was about 2.8 2 lakh crore. By 2021, it has increased to Rs 14.5 lakh crore. Meaning it has increased 5 times. There are two clear reasons for this. The number of people getting salary from Rs 5.5 lakh to Rs 25 lakh has also increased a lot and the salary of people in this bracket has also increased significantly. These figures are only of salary based income, if business, income from home property, income from investment etc. are added to it, then the figure will increase even more.

Easing living conditions

Ease of living is one of the top priorities of the central government. There are unforgettable memories of problems people have to face in earlier times. No one can forget the kind of problems the people of the country had to face earlier. Whether it was paying electricity-water



bills, getting treatment in a hospital, or taking insurance and pension, there were a lot of challenges, but Digital India has provided solutions to all these problems.

Tax reforms

The first budget of the 18th Lok Sabha is about to be unveiled. Given this context, people's opinion of taxes after the presentation of the budget in the past is worth paying attention to. There was a general opinion that tax rates in India were very high. Today the situation in India is completely different. Due to the reduction in income tax, decrease in corporate tax and GST initiatives the taxes in India have been reduced a lot, and that burden on citizens has been reduced significantly. It is the result of trust in the common citizens that landmark reforms have taken place. The time for tax returns, which earlier used to take up to 90 days, are processed in 24 hours. This was unimaginable till a few years ago. All these are dimensions related to tax reform which are making life easier.

Strengthening social security

The central government is also committed to the social security of the people living in the city. The central government has worked seriously to ensure that everyone gets security coverage after the age of 60 years. So far, 6 crore people in the country have joined the Atal Pension Yojana. This will ensure a regular pension of up to Rs 5 thousand after the age of 60 years. The Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana has also emerged as a big hope for the poor living in the city. In this, the insurer has to pay only Rs 20 premium once a year and in return he gets a security cover of Rs 2 lakh. Under the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, urban poor are provisioned to only pay Rs. 436 per year. This also gives them an insurance cover of up to Rs 2 lakh. Through these two schemes of the central government, till now, eligible families who have faced any crisis, have received a claim amount of Rs 17 thousand crore.

Today, whether it is income tax exemption or cheap treatment facilities, the government is trying to save as much money as possible for urban families. So far, crores of poor people in cities have joined the Ayushman Bharat Yojana. Due to the Ayushman card, the poor have saved more than one lakh crore rupees that otherwise would have gone as out-of-pocket expenditure of poor and deprived families. One lakh crore rupees would have either gone to doctors or on medicines, which is now being saved by the poor and the middle class. The Jan Aushadhi Kendras opened by the Central Government have saved Rs 25

Revenue Collection (FY 2023-24, till March 31, 2024)

- Gross collection (provisional) in FY 2023-24 was Rs 23.37 lakh crore which is 18.48 per cent higher than FY 2022-23.
- Net collection (provisional) in FY 2023-24 was Rs 19.58 lakh crore which is 17.7 per cent higher than the previous year.
- Refunds increased by 23 percent in FY 2023-24. Refunds of Rs 3.78 lakh crore were issued in this financial year which were just Rs 3.08 lakh crore in the previous financial year.

The contribution of direct taxes to total tax revenue is also increasing as compared to indirect taxes. In the financial year 2023-24, the share of direct tax in the government's revenue was 57 percent while the share of indirect tax was 43 percent.



Annual Information Statement (AIS)

- Annual Information Statement (AIS) has been introduced for the convenience of the taxpayers and ease of compliance.
- AIS is the center of all the economic information of the taxpayer including financial transactions. It is being made available to the taxpayer under the AIS tab on the e-filing portal of the department.
- AIS contains information on property purchased, large investments, fixed deposit interest, savings bank account, profit, share purchase-sale.
- This data is pre-populated in ITR, which allows taxpayers to file their returns correctly and seamlessly.
- More than 37 crore AIS were filed in FY 2023-24, while 12 crore were filed last year.

Many payment options

- Many payment options like Net Banking, UPI, RTGS, and NEFT have been made available.



When the life of an honest taxpayer of the country becomes easy, he moves forward and develops, and then the country also develops and leaps forward.

– Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister

thousand crore for the poor and middle-class people living in cities who have bought medicines from Jan Aushadhi Kendra. Now the government is eyeing to increase the number of Jan Aushadhi Kendras to 25 thousand. In the past years, the country has seen a revolution in LED bulbs due to the Ujala Yojana. This has also reduced the electricity bills of urban families a lot. Now the Central Government has started the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana. By installing a 3 kW rooftop solar unit under it, a family that consumes up to 300 units of electricity every month will be able to save about Rs 15 thousand annually.

The role of middle class in development

When a government of any country is sensitive towards the poor, and works with clear intentions to remove the problems of the poor, then it also yields results. One such result is the coming out of poverty of about 25 crore people in the last 10 years. In a country where slogans of Garibi Hatao were given for decades, the coming out of poverty of about 25 crore people in just one decade is historic. Somewhere behind all this are the reforms done by the government at every level, the measures taken for social security.

Now the system emphasizes providing them facilities. Earlier people left everything to their fate. Just think, before 2014, out of every 100 families in the country, only 50-55 families, i.e. almost half the houses had LPG gas connections.

The growing middle class in India and decreasing poverty, these two factors are becoming the basis of a very big economic cycle. The number of people who are coming out of poverty and becoming part of the neo-middle class are emerging as the driving force behind the growth of consumption in the country. That is, the decreasing poverty in the country is also benefiting the middle class. The aspirations and willpower of the poor and middle class are powering the development of the country today. The power of these people has made India the 5th largest economy from the 10th largest economy. Now this willpower is going to make India the third largest economy in the world in the third term of the current central government.

Certainly, in the last 10 years, India has seen a new model of good governance developing in tax administration. Respecting this feeling of trust, rights, and responsibilities, 140 crore citizens of the country are moving towards realizing the resolution of New India, Aatmanirbhar Bharat because ease of living, along with quality of life is one of the top priorities of the central government. ●



Third term, three-time speed, and three-time result with three-time energy

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's reply to the Motion of Thanks on President's Address in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha

History was created after a coalition government was formed at the center for the third time in a row for the first time. This is an endorsement by the people of the country on the policies of the central government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the last 10 years and the resolution of Viksit Bharat. The track record of the last 10 years of the central government for fast development will get further momentum and its results will be visible promptly. While replying to the Motion of Thanks on the President's address, Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave clear indications of this in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha...

When the 18th Lok Sabha commenced after the historic election results, President Droupadi Murmu addressed the joint session of Parliament, after which MPs in both houses discussed the motion of thanks and put forth their views. Prime Minister Narendra Modi replied to the motion of thanks on the President's address in the Lok Sabha on July 2 and in the Rajya Sabha on July 3. PM Modi made the government's policies and intentions clear. From the Lok Sabha election results to the formation of a new government and from the resolution of Viksit Bharat to eyeing becoming the third largest economy of the world, the government's policies were presented before the people of the country during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's reply to the Motion of Thanks on President's Address in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

After 60 years, the people of India gave a historic mandate to return a government for the third time in a row. The opposition's move to undermine the electorate's decision is not appropriate.The people of India have wholeheartedly supported and blessed the government's efforts to serve the country over the past 10 years. The PM expressed pride in the judgment shown by the citizens who have defeated propaganda, prioritized performance, rejected the politics of illusions, and put a seal of victory on the politics of trust.

It is the result of the Constitution given by Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar that those who never had a family member associated with the political spectrum in India are getting the opportunity to serve the country due to the rights enshrined in it. It is the Constitution given by Baba Saheb Ambedkar that has allowed people like me, who have zero political lineage, to enter politics and reach such a stage. The Constitution of India is not just a compilation of articles but its spirit and imprint are extremely valuable.

The country has seen the Indian economy rise from tenth to the fifth largest economy in the last ten years despite challenges like global disturbances and the pandemic. The mandate is to take the economy to third place from the present fifth place. The Prime Minister added, expressing confidence to fulfill this mandate. In the next 5 years, the government would work towards saturation of the basic necessities of the people. The next 5 years are crucial for the fight against poverty. Based on the experiences of the last 10 years a belief was expressed in the collective capabilities of the poor to stand against poverty and overcome it.

Key points of the Prime Minister's reply

- Government interference in the lives of citizens should be reduced and the government should continue to help the needy.
- Basic goals can be achieved with political will; states should also cooperate in this.
- The present century is going to be India's century. We cannot afford to lose this opportunity.
- The faith, expectations, and trust of 140 crore citizens have become the driving force for development.
- When a country develops, a strong foundation is necessary to fulfill the dreams of future generations.
- In the third term, we will work at three times the speed, put in three times the energy, and give three times the results.
- The people of India have expressed confidence in the track record of the government of the last 10 years and have allowed continuing good governance for the third time.
- For the first time since independence, more than 25 crore poor people have been lifted out of poverty in such a short time.
- The government will continue the policy of zero tolerance towards corruption strictly as before.
- India's presence on the global stage has strengthened. The world has also changed its way of looking at India.
- Nation first is the sole objective and this is reflected in government policies and decisions.
- India needs to compete with itself, we have to break our old records and take the country to the next level.
- The path of development that India has adopted in the last decade has now become a benchmark.

India has presented the digital payment system to the world as an excellent example.



It is very important to strengthen the four pillars- farmers, poor, narishakti, and youth. In the last 10 years, the government has made many efforts to make agriculture lucrative for farmers. Efforts have been made to ensure credit, seeds, affordable fertilizer, crop insurance, and MSP procurement. Strong mechanisms are being prepared for a robust system for farmers ranging from seed to market through micro-planning at every stage. Kisan Credit Card has simplified the process of getting loans for small farmers. PM Kisan Samman Nidhi which has benefitted 10 crore farmers by disbursing about 3 lakh crore rupees in the last 6 years. The government has given 2.5 times more money to paddy and wheat farmers in the last 10 years. The central government has currently launched the world's largest campaign for food storage.

The central government has continuously expanded the scope of India's development journey with the basic mantra of 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas'. Providing a life of dignity to the citizens has been the top priority of the government. PM Modi said that those who were neglected for decades after independence, today are not only cared for but also respected. The problems of Divyang brothers and sisters are being addressed in mission mode and on a micro level so that they can lead a life of dignity requiring minimum dependence on others. Western countries today look at the progressive nature of India with pride. The central government is now also giving the prestigious Padma Award to transgenders.

Vishwakarmas of India have played a key role in India's development journey. The government with the help of about Rs 13 thousand crores has transformed their lives by inculcating professionalism and providing the resources for skill development. Under the Pradhan Mantri SVANidhi Yojana, street vendors have been helped to take loans from banks and increase their income.

The women-led development

The Indian approach to women-led development is moving not just as a slogan but with unwavering commitment. PM Modi noted the importance of mothers in the family highlighting women's health, sanitation, and wellness. Important decisions have been taken in the direction of toilets, sanitary pads, vaccinations, and cooking gas as key measures in that direction. Most of the 4 crore houses that have been handed to the poor have been registered in the name of women. Schemes like Mudra and Sukanya Samriddhi Yojna have economically empowered women making them independent and giving them a voice to become



In the third term, we will work at three times the speed, put in three times the energy, and bring three times the results to the countrymen.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

a part of decision-making. One crore women working in self-help groups in small villages have become Lakhpati Didis while the government is working to increase their number by 3 crores in the present term. Women have to be made leaders in every field, for which it is being ensured that every technology reaches them first. Namo Drone Didi Abhiyan has been successfully implemented in villages, in which women are at the forefront. Women operating drones are being called 'Pilot Didi'.

Employment opportunities for youth

The country has acquired a new global image and the era of ifs and buts is over as India is welcoming foreign investment which is creating employment opportunities for the country's youth. The impact of the government's policies is that the country's youth are showcasing their potential and talent on the international platform. Today's India has brought hope for investors who are expecting balance in the global economy. India is also emerging as a promising country in terms of transparency.

The first choice of the people of India in the fight to save the Constitution is the 'present government'

At the time of the 1977 Lok Sabha elections, the press and radio were curbed and the voice of the people was suppressed. At that time too, the voters had voted to protect the Constitution of India and re-establish



The people of the country have given us an opportunity for the third time. This is the blessing of crores of people of the country to take the resolution of developed India to success.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

democracy. Even today, the first choice of the people of India in this fight to save the Constitution is the present government. On the atrocities committed on the country during the Emergency, PM Modi said that the spirit of the Constitution was tampered with by changing the 38th, 39th, and 42nd Constitutional Amendments along with a dozen other articles. The period of Emergency was not just a political issue but it was also related to India's democracy, Constitution, and humanity. Recalling the condition of minorities in Muzaffarnagar and Turkman Gate during the Emergency, PM Modi said with sadness that many people who left their homes after the Emergency never returned.

The fight against corruption is not an election issue but a 'mission'

The allegation of misuse of enforcement agencies by the government is baseless. PM Modi said that there are many examples of misuse of investigative agencies in previous governments. For the present government, the fight against corruption is not an election issue but a mission for PM Modi. The present government has given full freedom to the investigative agencies to take strict action against corruption. The government has assured the youth of the country that strict action is being taken against those who play with the future of the country and will not let them go unpunished. The central government is working to strengthen the entire system so that the youth can showcase their potential confidently.

Four decades old record broken in Jammu and Kashmir

The figures of the recently held Lok Sabha elections show that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have broken the record of the last four decades. The people of Jammu and Kashmir have accepted the Constitution of India, democracy, and the Election Commission. In the last few decades, multiple bandhs, protests, blasts, and terror activities had eclipsed the democracy in Jammu & Kashmir. The people of Jammu and Kashmir have shown their unwavering faith in the Constitution and decided their future. The fight against terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir is now in its final stage. The government is working hard to destroy the terrorist network and the people of Jammu and Kashmir are helping the country in this fight.

Hope for peace is a definite possibility in Manipur

The government is steadfastly making efforts to improve the situation in Manipur. More than 11 thousand FIRs were registered during and after the unrest in Manipur and more than 500 criminals have been arrested. Incidents of violence in Manipur are on a constant downward trajectory, meaning the hope for peace was a definite possibility in Manipur. Schools, colleges, offices, and other institutions are functioning normally in Manipur. PM Modi said that the central and state governments are talking to all stakeholders to ensure peace and harmony in Manipur. The Home Minister himself led the peace efforts from the front by being in Manipur. Even the senior officials were pressed into the task of finding solutions to the problems and ensuring peace. Whereas in the past, President's rule has been imposed in Manipur 10 times since independence. Regarding the social conflict that lasted for five years in Manipur since 1993, PM Modi said that the situation needs to be handled with wisdom and patience.

India leading the revolution in semiconductor and electronics manufacturing

India is leading the next revolution in semiconductor and electronics manufacturing. States have been encouraged to compete in development, good governance, policy-making, job creation, and attracting foreign investment. Every state of India has an opportunity when the world is knocking on India's doors. States have an opportunity to contribute and benefit from India's growth story. Competition among states will help the youth as new employment opportunities will be created. ●



India preparing infrastructure to host Olympics 2036

World champion in cricket now preparing to prove its mettle at the Olympics

The youth power of new India, the players are filled with the spirit of 'CAN DO'. This spirit is making them world champions. It is allowing them to stand on the podium because not only society but also the government's thinking about sports has changed. The thinking of 'Kheloge kudgoge hoge lajawab' has become the catchphrase showing that thinking about sports as a career is changing. Behind this is the ecosystem of preparing players with Khelo India, the TOPS scheme, and the increased budget of the current central government. Prime Minister Narendra Modi fills enthusiasm in the players with his advice before a big event 'You just leave behind all the problems, you just give your best'. Then after the victory he meets and congratulates players and also interacts with them...



To give to the country, one has to give his best on the sports field. The one who gives his best on the sports field brings pride to the country. I am sure that all our friends will break all the old records this time.

- Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister

Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with Indian players going for the Paris Olympics on 4 July. 98 people were also connected online in the interaction. The Olympic 2024 Games will be held in Paris from 26 July to 11 August. Some of the players of the Indian team participating in this event are training in the country and some abroad, who will enter the sports arena with full strength to increase the medal tally of the country. The athletics team consists of 28 members and is led by javelin player Neeraj Chopra, who won the gold medal in the last Olympics. The athletics competition will be held from 1 August to 11 August. Expressing confidence in the players in this interaction, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "I am confident that our athletes will perform their best and make India proud. Their life journey and successes give hope to 140 crore Indians." The 141st session of the International Olympic Association was held in India last year and India has assured the International Olympic Committee that it is ready to host the 2030 Youth Olympics and the 2036 Olympics. Prime Minister Modi had said in a program recently that our aspiration to host the Olympics is not limited to just emotions but there are some good reasons behind it. In 2036, India will be one of the leading economic powers in the world. By that time, the income of every Indian will be many times more than at present. From sports to space, the Indian tricolor will be flying with pride. Connectivity and other modern infrastructure will be needed to host the Olympics. India is preparing to spend more than Rs 100 lakh crore on modern infrastructure. Therefore, hosting the Olympics will also become easier for us.

With the increase in the sports budget in the country, the infrastructure required for training, diet, and preparation of players in the country and abroad is increasing rapidly. Not only this, today India is not only performing better in sports but is also ready to host big events. PM Modi believes that the Olympics is a great opportunity not only to win but also to learn.

In a conversation with the Indian team of the Paris Olympics 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that I try to keep meeting the stars

PM Modi gave mantras to players

- I know many such players who never blame the circumstances. They will always say that that technique was new to me. I did not guess that that could also be a method.

- There are many opportunities for learning for those who work with a learning attitude. People from a country like ours go there and there are many difficulties and inconveniences, but my country, my tricolor remains in his mind. That is why he keeps the difficulties, and inconveniences completely aside. He gets busy with his mission.

- Do not get drowned in the pomp and show, do not get lost. Otherwise, it has such an impact on us that we may not be able to focus on our things.

- God has given us a stature, the rest of the players are of greater stature than us. We should firmly believe that it is not a game of stature here. It is a game of skill-talent here. There should be faith and focus on one's talent. That is what gives us results.

- You should stop worrying, and just play. Medals may come or may not come, so what? Never put this pressure. Yes, you should have the attitude to give your 100% best and there should be no shortcomings in it.

- In the world of sports, sleep is as important as practice and stability. Lack of sleep harms us more than anything else. Do not compromise on sleep at all.





associated with the sports world, keep learning new things, and keep understanding their efforts. As a government, if there is some change to be brought into the system, some efforts have to be ramped up, then I should keep working in this direction. In the conversation, PM Modi said that I would try that when the Independence Day event is held at the Red Fort on 15th August, you people should also be present in it.

In the conversation with the PM, the players thanked the government for getting help from Khelo India and Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS). Shooting player Manu Bhaker said that with the help of Khelo India and TOPS, the problems



I am excited for my first Olympics

I am Ramita Jindal. I am going to the Olympics for the first time in air rifle shooting. I am very excited. Ever since I started playing, it has been my dream to go to the Olympics. I am excited and also inspired to do something for the country. I am from Haryana and train in Chennai.



Olympics at the age of 14

I am Dhinidhi Desinghu. I am 14 years old. I am from Kerala but I usually represent Karnataka. I am very excited to be a part of Team India in the Olympics. It is a matter of great honour and privilege for me. I know this is the beginning of my journey. We all have a long way to go. I hope we all make the country proud and we come back with great achievements and lifelong goals.



I am excited, I will give my 100 percent

My name is Ritika and I am from Rohtak, Haryana. I am very happy, I am going for the first time. I am also very excited that I will show my performance, the whole country will be looking at me and everyone is also praying. I will also give my 100 percent.

of the players are solved. In a conversation with the hockey players, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that if there is one sport that faces the highest pressure, then it is hockey. Because everyone in the country believes that this is our game, how can we be left behind? The country does not compromise on the subject of hockey. That is why they have to work harder.

In a conversation with the Olympic team, PM Modi said that India is trying to host the Olympics in 2036. That also creates a great atmosphere. Right now a lot of work is going on for the preparations and infrastructure. He appealed to the players that if they have any interest after the games, look at it, assess it, and take notes. Because it will be very useful in the preparation for 2036, it will be convenient for us.

Message of senior players to new players

Don't think that this is some different tournament

PV Sindhu: This is my third Olympics. I won a silver medal in the first Olympics in 2016, I won bronze in 2020 Tokyo. This time I hope that the color of the medal will change, I will come with a medal. I will say this much for the new players it is like any other tournament. We just have to focus. We have to believe in ourselves that we can do it. Don't think that this is a different tournament and it is going to be difficult. Give your 100 percent.

My fourth Olympics, experience will come in handy

Deepika Kumari: I represent archery. This is my



India's journey in the Olympics

- About 10,500 athletes from 206 committees of the world, including the National Olympic Committee of India, will participate in the Paris Olympics 2024.
- India is sending a team of about 120 athletes to the Olympics, which includes a 28-member athletics team led by men's javelin throw champion Neeraj Chopra, a 21-member shooting team, and a 16-member men's hockey team.
- India won a total of 7 medals including 1 gold, 2 silver, and 4 bronze in the Olympics, 2020, which is the highest number of medals from India in any Olympics.
- India saw a jump from two medals in Rio Olympics 2016 to seven medals in Tokyo 2020. India moved from 67th position to 48th position. It is expected that the athletes will take India even higher in the medal table this time.
- Indian Olympic Association President PT Usha has announced the responsibility of Chef-de-Mission to Olympic medalist Gagan Narang. PV Sindhu and A. Sharath Kamal will be the flag bearers of the Indian team in the opening ceremony.
- Los Angeles, United States will host the Olympic 2028 Games which will be held from 14 to 30 July 2028. Brisbane, Australia will host the Olympic 2032 Games in 2032.





When you see those tears of joy, you realize how difficult defeat must have been. People don't understand the pain a player goes through because he has come here after doing so much penance and is left with just one step.

- Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister

fourth Olympics, and I am excited. I will use my experience. I will give my 200 percent. Regarding new players, I will say that there is a lot of enthusiasm but they should not get caught in that glamour. They should focus on themselves as much as possible. Don't run after winning a medal, perform well so that the medal comes to you.

Bring out the things that can give the best in you

Neeraj Chopra: Trying to make myself fully fit and give 100% in Paris. I would tell all the players that they get an opportunity in four years. Bring out the thing that can help you give your best. Because I won gold in my first Olympics in Tokyo, the reason for which I believe was that I had no fear in my mind, I played fearlessly and had a lot of confidence in myself. The training has been very good, play in the same way. There is no need to be afraid of anyone because the other players are also human beings.

After meeting the world champions, the PM said I was confident that we would overcome

Flying the flag high in the world of sports, India's cricket team won the T20 World Cup on 29 June by showing great team spirit, patience, and confidence. Earlier, India had won the T20 World Cup in 2007 and the One Day World Cup in 2011, that is, after 13 years, India has the ICC title in its hands. The 'Men in Blue' won the title in Barbados but the Indian community celebrated globally. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's telephonic conversation with coach Rahul Dravid, captain Rohit Sharma, and Virat Kohli and then hosting the team on their return tells what this victory means...

Hosting the Indian cricket team that returned after winning the T20 World Cup at his residence on 4 July, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that he had an excellent meeting with our champions and had a memorable conversation about their experiences. Earlier, on the night of the World Cup victory, while congratulating coach Rahul Dravid, captain Rohit Sharma, and Virat Kohli, who scored the most runs in the final match, over the phone, PM Modi said that the team has shown great skill and talent throughout the tournament. The commitment of each player is very inspiring. Talking about Rahul Dravid's incredible coaching journey, Rohit Sharma's aggressive mindset, batting and captaincy, and Virat Kohli's final innings, he said that T20 cricket will miss you but I am confident that you will continue to inspire the new generation of players.

PM Modi told the cricket team that you have filled the country with enthusiasm and celebration. I work in the office till late at night but this time the TV was on so I was not able to concentrate on the file. You people showed great team spirit and talent. You were patient and did not show haste. You were full of confidence, congratulations on the victory. Prime Minister Modi also talked about Virat Kohli's 76 runs, Surya Kumar's catch, Hardik Pandya's comeback, and Jaspreet Bumrah's bowling, calling Kuldeep Yadav as Deshdeep and Rishabh Pant's recovery journey. He also talked about the inclusion of cricket for the first time and its preparation for the Olympics to be held in the USA in 2028.







The world reckons with India's growing power on the global stage

After becoming the Prime Minister for the third consecutive time, PM Narendra Modi reached Russia and Austria on his first bilateral foreign visit from July 8 to 10.

The impact of India's independent foreign policy under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which gives priority to the country's 140 crore people, is such that not only the country but NRIs living abroad also keep an eye on the PM's foreign visits. On one hand, while the world has been divided into two camps for some time, India has given importance to the priorities of its people and has kept an independent and neutral foreign policy. Several important agreements were signed during PM Modi's visit to Russia and Austria from July 8 to 10.

Just a month into his third term PM Modi reached Moscow on July 8 where he was accorded a grand welcome. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi reached Moscow to participate in the 22nd India-Russia annual summit at the invitation of Russian President Vladimir Putin. During his visit, the entire range of multifaceted relations between the two leaders was reviewed as well as contemporary regional and global issues of mutual interest were discussed in detail. During the Moscow visit, PM Modi also addressed the NRIs and people of Indian origin living there and paid tribute at the 'Tomb of the Unknown Soldier' in Moscow which is dedicated to the Soviet soldiers who sacrificed their lives during the Second World War. Apart from this, PM Modi also visited a photo exhibition dedicated to India-Russia cooperation in the field of civilian nuclear energy. After a two-day visit to Russia, PM Modi went on his maiden visit to Austria. This was the first visit of an Indian Prime Minister to Austria after 41 years

Target to achieve $100 billion trade between India and Russia

Strategic as well as trade relations are getting stronger between India and Russia. This is the reason why both countries have agreed to achieve a mutual trade target of $100 billion by the year 2030. Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra said that during the meeting, the focus between the two

When India talks about Peace, Dialogue, and Diplomacy, the whole world listens. Whenever there is a crisis in the world, India becomes the first country to reach. India will leave no stone unturned to fulfill the expectations of the world.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

leaders was on economic cooperation. Agreement related to Cooperation in the field of broadcasting was also signed between Prasar Bharati and TV Novosti between the two countries. Along with promoting the pharmaceutical trade, agreements were signed for cooperation between business organizations. Now India and Russia are also working to open the Chennai-Vladivostok Eastern Corridor. During the talks, officials from political, economic, trade, energy science, technology cooperation, defense, and security were also present.

Paved way for the return of Indian citizens working in the Russian army

An important agreement was signed during PM Modi's visit to Russia which will pave the way for Indian citizens working in the Russian army to return home safely. It was also agreed that their recruitment will also stop now. PM Modi had also raised this issue prominently during his informal meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Indian nationals were misled into the service of the Russian Army. The Foreign Secretary said that India estimates that the number of its citizens working in the Russian army would be between 35 to 50, out of which 10 have already been brought back to India.

Addressed the Indian community in Moscow

'The power of the youth has given strength'

"I have not come alone, I have brought a lot with me. I have brought with me the fragrance of the soil of Hindustan, I have brought with me the love of 140 crore countrymen, I have brought their good wishes" said Prime Minister Modi addressing the people of the Indian community in Moscow on July 9. The government aims to make India third-largest economy, building three crore houses for the poor and three crore Lakhpati didis in its third term. After taking oath as the Prime Minister for the third consecutive time, PM Modi has resolved to work with three times the energy and three times the target in his third term.

Women's self-help groups are operating in the villages of India. The Government of India wants to make them empowered, skilled, and proficient in every field. The government is working on making three crore Didis lakhpatis from among the poor women of the villages. Work is being done to increase their annual income to more than one lakh rupees but for such a big task, everyone's support is needed. PM Modi told the Indian community that you know that today's India fulfills whatever goals it sets. Today India is the country that takes Chandrayaan to the moon where no other country in the world has been able to reach. India is the country that is giving the world the strongest model of digital transactions. Citizens are being empowered through visionary policies in the social sector. This is the reason why India has the third-largest startup ecosystem in the world. Before 2014, the number of startups was in the hundreds whereas now it is in lakhs. It is the result of India's youth power that today a record number of patents are being filed and research papers are being published in the country. The world is surprised by India's development

The world is surprised by the pace of development that the country has achieved in the last 10 years. When people from all over the world come to India, they say that India is changing. When India organizes successful events like the G-20, the world speaks in unison that India is changing. When India doubled the number of its airports in ten years, electrified more than 40 thousand kilometers of railway line, new records of digital payments made, completed the orbit of the sun from L-one point, and many such unique works were done, then the world feels that India is changing.

India is creating milestones of global standards

Today's India and its 140 crore population are busy preparing to move ahead in every field. India

has not only pulled its economy out of the Covid crisis but has also made its economy one of the strongest economies in the world. By removing the shortcomings of infrastructure, India is now creating milestones of global standards. Not only have the health services in the country improved, but the world's largest health insurance scheme is also being run in India. Ayushman Bharat is the



world's largest health insurance scheme. All this is being made possible by the hard work, dedication, and devotion of the citizens of India.

A special relationship between India and Russia

India and Russia have a special relationship. On hearing the word Russia... the first thing that comes to every Indian's mind is... India's partner in happiness and sorrow... India's trusted friend. PM Modi said that our Russian friends call it Druzhba and we call it 'dosti' in Hindi. No matter how much the temperature goes to minus in the winter season in Russia... India-Russia friendship has always been in plus. This relationship has been of mutual trust and respect. PM Modi said that 'Sir Pe Lal Topi Russi'... 'Phir Bhi Dil Hai Hindustani'... this song may have become old but the sentiments are evergreen. The friendship of India and Russia's culture has also been strengthened by India's artists and cinema. PM Modi said that for this India's friendship with Russia, I would especially appreciate the leadership of my dear friend President Putin. He has done a great job to strengthen this partnership for more than two decades. PM Modi said that this is the sixth time I have come to Russia in the last 10 years and in these years, we have met 17 times. When Indian students were starnded in war and conflict, President Putin helped the country in bringing the students to India.

I had said it then, now the world is saying it

PM Modi said that when I came here in 2015, I had said that the 21st century will belong to India. Then what I had said, today the world is saying it. There is no dispute on this subject now among all the experts of the world. Everyone says that the 21st century is India's century. Today, as Vishwa Bandhu, India is giving new confidence to the world. When India talks about peace, dialogue and diplomacy, the whole world listens. Whenever there is a crisis in the world, India becomes the first country to extend its hands. India will leave no stone unturned to fulfill the expectations of the world. PM Modi told the Indian community that all of you are India's brand ambassadors in Russia. Those who sit here in the mission are 'Rajdoot' and those who are outside the mission are 'Rashtradoot'. May you continue to strengthen the relations between Russia and India like this.

Prime Minister visits Rosatom Pavilion at VDNKh

PM Modi visited the All-Russian Exhibition Center, VDNKh in Moscow along with President Vladimir Putin. The two leaders visited the Rosatom Pavilion at VDNKh. The Rosatom Pavilion, one of the largest exhibitions in the history of scientific and technological development, was inaugurated in November 2023. The Prime Minister also visited a photo exhibition dedicated to India-Russia cooperation in the field of civil nuclear energy.

PM Modi receives warm welcome in Austria, completes 75 years of mutual relations

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was given a ceremonial welcome on his arrival in Vienna, Austria. He was warmly welcomed by the people of the Indian community on his arrival. During his visit, Prime Minister Modi released the India-Austria joint declaration. He said I thank all of you for the warm welcome. I am happy that I got the opportunity to visit Austria at the beginning of my third term.

This visit of PM Modi is historic and special. After 41 years, an Indian Prime Minister has visited Austria. It is also a happy coincidence that this visit is taking place at a time when 75 years of our mutual relations are being completed. PM Modi said in his statement that both of us strongly condemn terrorism. We agree that it is not acceptable in any form. It cannot be justified in any way. We agree to reform the United Nations and other international institutions so that they can be made contemporary and effective.



PM Modi gets another honour, India's prestige increases

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has received many honours from the heads of state or civil institutions of the respective country at different times on foreign soil in the last few years. While he received four highest honours in 2023, on 9 July 2024, Russia honoured him with its highest national award "Order of St. Andrew the Apostle". The honour received on foreign soil is not just an honour for PM Modi or India but for the 140 crore people of the country.

Russian President Vladimir Putin honoured Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the highest national award "Order of St. Andrew the Apostle" at a special ceremony held at St. Andrew's Hall in the Kremlin for his contribution to promoting India-Russia relations. The award was started in 1698 by Tsar Peter the Great in honour of St. Andrew, the first apostle and patron saint of Russia. The award was discontinued and was restarted in 1998. Prime Minister Modi is the first Indian leader to be honoured with this award. While accepting the award, Prime Minister Modi dedicated it to the people of India and the traditional ties of friendship between India and Russia and said that this recognition highlights the special and privileged strategic partnership between the two countries. Prime Minister Modi wrote on social media, "I am honored to receive the Order of St. Andrew the Apostle Award. I dedicate it to the people of India."

International Awards Received by PM Modi

2016: PM Modi becomes the first non-Muslim to receive the highest honor of Saudi Arabia.

2016: Given the highest civilian honor of Afghanistan.

2018: First person outside Palestine to receive the highest honor there.

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

2019: Received the highest civilian honor of Russia.

2019: Maldives honored PM Modi. The highest honor given to someone outside the country.

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

2020: Legion of Merit Award from the US Government. Honored by the US for outstanding services and achievements.

2021: Bhutan honored him with the highest civilian honor.

2023: Honored with the Grand Companion of the Order of Logohu, the highest civilian award of Papua New Guinea.

2023: Honored with the Republic of Fiji's highest honor 'The Companion of the Order of Fiji'.

2023: Honored with France's highest award 'Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor'.

2023: Honored with Egypt's highest civilian award 'Order of the Nile'.

2024: Honored with Bhutan's highest national award "Order of the Druk Gyalpo".

Received honors from institutions and foundations

2018: PM Modi received the Seoul Peace Prize for peace .

2018: Received the highest 'Champion of the Earth' award in the field of environment from the United Nations.

2019: Bill and Melinda Gates Award for Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

2021: Energy and Environment Leadership Award from Cambridge Energy Research Associates.



Need to give a decisive answer to cross-border terrorism

The 24th meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) was held on 4 July in Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan. Prime Minister Narendra Modi did not attend this meeting, in his place External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar represented India. External Affairs Minister Dr. Jaishankar delivered Prime Minister Modi's speech in the meeting. In the speech, along with many important issues, the need to give a decisive answer to cross-border terrorism was emphasized...

India joined as a member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in 2017 during the Kazakhstan Presidency. India also hosted the meeting of the Council of Heads of Government in 2020 and the meeting of the Council of Heads of State in 2023. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech at the SCO Council of Heads of State meeting was delivered by External Affairs Minister Dr. Jaishankar, who was present there.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's message strongly condemned cross-border terrorism. Terrorism would surely rank foremost for many of us. The truth is that it is being used as a means of destabilization by nations. We have our own experiences of cross-border terrorism. It must be clear to us that terrorism in any form or manifestation cannot be condoned. Harboring terrorists must be strongly condemned. There is a need to give a decisive response to cross-border terrorism and terrorism financing and recruitment must be effectively countered. The SCO should never lose its commitment. We cannot adopt double standards in this regard.

India has also contributed significantly to enhancing the economic agenda of the SCO. India has institutionalized mechanisms like the SCO Startup Forum and the Special Working Group on Startups and Innovation. India has 1 lakh 30 thousand startups, including 100 unicorns. This is why India's experience can be useful for others. In his message, Prime Minister Modi said that when it comes to medical and wellness tourism, you would know that WHO has set up a global center for traditional medicine in Gujarat. In the SCO, India has taken the initiative for a new SCO working group on traditional medicine. In his statement, PM Modi said that technology at present is not only very promising but is also fast becoming a game changer in terms of both development and security. The digital age requires greater trust and transparency. During his visit to Astana, External Affairs Minister Jaishankar also met several dignitaries on the sidelines of the event. ●

Cooperation in SCO is people-centric

For India, cooperation in the SCO has been people-centric. India has organized the SCO Millet Food Festival, SCO Film Festival, SCO Surajkund Crafts Mela, SCO Think-Tank Conference, and International Conference on Shared Buddhist Heritage during its chairmanship.



Narendra Modi
@narendramodi

अपने प्रखर राष्ट्रवादी विचारों से मां भारती को गौरवान्वित करने वाले डॉ. श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी को उनकी जन्म-जयंती पर आदरपूर्ण श्रद्धांजलि। मातृभूमि के लिए उनका समर्पण और त्याग देशवासियों को सदैव प्रेरित करता रहेगा।



Rajnath Singh
@rajnathsingh

हमारे प्रेरणास्रोत एवं जनसंघ के संस्थापक, डा. श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी की जयंती पर मैं उन्हें स्मरण करते हुए नमन करता हूँ। वे एक महान चिंतक, विचारक एवं प्रखर राष्ट्रभक्त थे।भारत की एकता और अखंडता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए, उन्होंने अपना जीवन समर्पित कर दिया। यह देश उनके बलिदान को न भूला है न कभी भूलेगा।



Amit Shah
@AmitShah

प्रखर राष्ट्रवादी विचारक डॉ श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी जी की जयंती पर उनका स्मरण कर उन्हें नमन करता हूँ। देश की एकता व अखंडता के लिए संघर्ष करने की जब-जब बात आएगी, डॉ मुखर्जी जी जरूर याद आएँगे। चाहे बंगाल को देश का हिस्सा बनाये रखने के लिए उनका संघर्ष हो, या 'एक निशान, एक प्रधान, एक विधान' के संकल्प के साथ जम्मू-कश्मीर को भारत का अभिन्न अंग बनाए रखने के लिए सर्वोच्च बलिदान देना



Nitin Gadkari
@nitin_gadkari

प्रखर राष्ट्रभक्ति और समर्पण के प्रतीक डॉ. श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी जी का संपूर्ण जीवन 🇮🇳🇮🇳 भारत की एकता और अखंडता के लिए समर्पित रहा। ऐसे महान राष्ट्र नायक को उनकी जयंती पर सादर नमन।🙏



Jagat Prakash Nadda
@JPNadda

आज श्रद्धेय डॉ.श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी जी की जयंती पर जम्मू-कश्मीर के जम्मू में @BJP4JnK की 'विस्तारित कार्यसमिति बैठक' में उपस्थित हमारे ऊर्जावान कार्यकर्ताओं को संबोधित किया।



Shandilya Giriraj...
@girirajsinghbjp

देश की एकता व अखंडता के लिए संघर्ष करने वाले प्रखर राष्ट्रवादी विचारक, हमारे पथ प्रदर्शक-प्रेरणा पुंज, प्रखर राष्ट्रवादी विचारक, महान शिक्षाविद,जनसंघ के संस्थापक डॉ श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी जी की जयंती पर उन्हें अपनी श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित की।

After historic visit, Modi and Putin unveil $100bn trade target by 2030

HT Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday set an ambitious India-Russia trade target of $100 billion by 2030 even as the New Delhi focused on measures aimed at ensuring predictable and assured supplies of Russian crude, fertilisers and nuclear fuel for the Kudankulam power plant.

The new goal for trade aims to build on a recent surge in two-way commerce, already worth more than double the earlier target of $30 billion set for 2025. Bilateral trade ballooned to $65.7 billion in 2023-24, largely because of India's uptake of discounted Russian crude after the imposition of Western sanctions, but concerns have grown in New Delhi about trade being skewed as Indian exports are worth less than $5 billion.

In his opening remarks at the annual bilateral summit, Modi said Indian choices faced no difficulties with the supply of petrol and diesel amid a global fuel crisis because of Putin's cooperation. Putin stated in his remarks that two-way trade had grown 16% in 2023 and by another 20% in the first quarter of 2024.

"The world will have to acknowledge that the agreement between India and Russia on fuel played an indirect role in giving market stability... to the world," Modi said, speaking in Hindi and referring to India's increased purchases of Russian energy after the start of the Ukraine conflict.

Russia has emerged as an important partner in meeting India's energy needs, supplying more than 40 million metric tons of crude last year. Indian oil recoils said securing affordable energy supplies to keep inflation low was key to sustaining the country's economic growth.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with a Russian cultural troupe after a programme in Moscow on Tuesday.





(Left) PM Modi with President Putin on Monday; Modi lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Moscow on Tuesday.

Key agreements signed during PM's Russia visit

India and Russia inked nine MoUs and agreements on several areas during PM Modi's high-profile visit to Moscow. Highlights of the pacts

On climate crisis
MoU between India's ministry of environment, and the ministry of economic development of the Russian Federation, under which a joint working group on the issues of climate change and low-carbon development will be set up

On promotion of trade
MoU between the Trade Promotion Council of India and All Russia Public Organisation 'Business Russia' to promote bilateral trade and investment, organise B2B meetings, and business promotion events

On trade, and joint investment
The two inked a programme of bilateral cooperation in trade, economic and investment spheres on Russia's Far East for the period from 2024 to 2029, as well as of cooperation principles in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation

On scientific research
MoU between India's National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research and Russia's Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute on cooperation in research in polar regions

On industrial cooperation
Agreement between the Indian International Arbitration Centre and the International Commercial Arbitration Court which aims at facilitating the settlement of civil law disputes of a commercial nature

India to open two new consulates
PM Modi announced that India will open two new consulates in Kazan and Yekaterinburg cities of Russia in a bid to further boost travel and trade with the country

Cooperation on nuclear energy
The two sides also confirmed their intention to broaden cooperation in nuclear power including fuel cycle, life cycle support for operating the Kudankulam nuclear power plant

In other areas
MoUs between Survey of India and Russia's Federal Service for State Registration, Cadastre and Cartography; Fosar Bharati and TV Novosti; and Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission and Russia's Federal State Budgetary Institution

PM: PEOPLE'S WORK, ENTHUSIASM OUR BIGGEST STRENGTH



EXCELLENT WORK OF Indians across various fields and their enthusiasm to make India a developed nation is the country's biggest strength, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said. In a written message to the Jain International Trade Organisation (JITO) on the seventh foundation day of its incubation innovation fund, Modi said that the kind of optimism and trust being seen worldwide for India is a reflection of the country's strength. "India is a nation of immense possibilities. The participation of our countrymen doing excellent work in various fields and their enthusiasm to develop the country is our biggest strength," Modi said. He also lauded the values of the Jain community.

PM Modi speaks to Starmer, invites him to India; both agree to work on sealing FTA

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JULY 8

A DAY after Keir Starmer led the Labour landslide to end 14 years of Conservative rule in the United Kingdom, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to the new British Prime Minister Saturday and the two leaders agreed to work towards an early conclusion of a mutually beneficial India-UK free trade agreement.

Modi congratulated Starmer on assuming charge and on the remarkable victory of his Labour Party in the election. He also invited Starmer to India.

According to 10, Downing Street, the British Prime Minister, while discussing the FTA, said he stood ready to conclude a deal "that worked for both sides".

Starmer also looked forward to further deepening the "strong and respectful relationship" between both countries, and welcomed Prime Minister Modi's leadership on key global challenges such as climate change and economic growth, the British government's statement said.



New UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer; Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Downing Street said the leaders agreed there was a wide range of areas across "defence and security, critical and emerging technology, and climate change" for the two countries to deepen cooperation on — this reflects the Starmer government's priorities.

Their conversation took place two days before Modi travels to Russia and Austria on bilateral visits, his first bilateral visit in the third term. His visit to Russia on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



PM Narendra Modi inspects guard of honour in Moscow on Monday PHOTO: PTI

STRONGER TIES WILL BENEFIT OUR PEOPLE: PM MODI IN MOSCOW

In his first trip since the start of Russia–Ukraine war, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday travelled to Russia to hold summit talks with President Vladimir Putin. Shortly after landing in Moscow, the PM said he is looking forward to deepening bilateral partnership in futuristic areas and that stronger ties between India and Russia will "greatly benefit our people".

7 ▸

Desi def production hit record ₹1.3L crore in 2023-24: Rajnath

TIMES NEWS NETWORK



Govt has an 'unwavering resolve' to develop India as a leading defence manufacturing hub, Rajnath said

New Delhi: India recorded the highest-ever annual domestic defence production in 2023-24, reaching Rs 1.3 lakh crore in terms of value, which represents a 16.7% growth over the previous fiscal, defence minister Rajnath Singh said on Friday.

Stating that the 'Make in India' programme is crossing new milestones, year after year, under PM Modi, Singh said govt has an "unwavering resolve" to develop the country as a leading global defence manufacturing hub.

brought in the last 10 years, with focus on attaining self-reliance. The indigenisation

Stay calm, sleep well: PM to Paris-bound athletes



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with Indian athletes who are going to represent the country in the upcoming Paris Olympics

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, 5 July

Neeraj Chopra shared his fitness concerns, P V Sindhu talked about the significance of self-belief and Nikhat Zareen could barely hide her excitement about being a first-time Olympian during a light-hearted interaction with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who advised the Paris-bound group to stay calm and sleep well for best results.

The interaction, held on Thursday, also featured the men's hockey team and the 21-strong shooting contingent in person, while some others, including Chopra, Sindhu and Zareen, joined online from their respective training bases abroad.

"Don't get lost in the magnitude of the Olympics because that can break your focus. We need to have faith in our talent, and the focus should be on it and it will produce results," Modi said in his address.

The upcoming Games will be held from July 26 to August 11 and India would be hoping to better its best ever tally of seven medals including Chopra's historic javelin throw gold achieved in the Tokyo Games

Reforms not a bad word; this is India's decade: PM

Oppn MPs stage walkout after LoP Mallikarjun Kharge not allowed to intervene

ARCHIS MOHAN
New Delhi, 3 July

Urging state governments to embrace the spirit of competition to attract foreign investments, Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi on Wednesday said reforms are not a bad word. He said governments should neither shy away from undertaking reforms nor fear that it could cost them the seat of power.

Replying to the President's address in the Rajya Sabha, the PM said the current decade was India's moment but the evidence from the recent past is that the country missed opportunities to develop a mistake it should not repeat. He said the country should seize opportunities to leverage its demographic dividend of a young population.

Modi took potshots at the Congress



"(CONGRESS IS) THE BIGGEST OPPONENT OF THE CONSTITUTION"

"WE MUST ACKNOWLEDGE THE FACT

He said countries that gained their independence at the same time as India undertook reforms in the 1980s and have emerged as developed economies.

"Even if late, India could catch up and fulfill the aspirations of its people," the PM said, advocating greater participation of the common people.

In his nearly two-hour speech, Modi asserted that he learnt the importance of federalism from his years as the Gujarat chief minister. He reiterated his commitment to strengthening "cooperative competitive federalism", and said states should compete on issues of development, good governance, and policy formulation, generating employment and attracting foreign investments.

The PM said every state has an opportunity when the world is knocking on India's doors. He said competition among states will help the youth as new

BREAKFAST WITH PM

Rohit coaxed into dancing before picking up trophy

New Delhi: India's T20 World Cup winning captain Rohit Sharma, during a breakfast hosted by prime minister Narendra Modi, revealed who suggested to him to dance as he went to recieve the trophy. "We had been waiting for this for so long. The players suggested just don't walk up to



Kargil Vijay Diwas - 26 July 2024

A grateful nation salutes the indomitable courage of the brave soldiers

On 26 July 1999, our brave soldiers with their indomitable courage and determination drove away the intruders from our border in Kargil. This year the nation is celebrating the 25th anniversary of India's historic victory. Wars are not fought and won only with weapons and bombs. The indomitable spirit of valor and courage also plays an equally important role. It is this willpower and sense of national pride that distinguishes Indian soldiers from other armies. Our forces are imbued with the spirit of patriotism to protect the country, its civilization, and culture. Also, they are fully committed to the spirit of national pride.....

Kargil Vijay Diwas brings to the fore the heroic saga of those wonderful bravehearts of India, who will always remain an inspiration for the countrymen. On this special day, I bow down and salute them from the bottom of my heart. Jai Hind!"
- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



NEW INDIA SAMACHAR
FORTNIGHTLY

RNI No. : DELENG/2020/78811 July 16-31, 2024

RNI Registered No DELENG/2020/78811, Delhi Postal License No DL(S)-1/3545/2023-25, WPP NO U (S)-93/2023-25, posting at BPC, Market Road, New Delhi-110001 on 13-17 advance Fortnightly (Publishing July 15, 2024, Pages - 40)

Editor in Chief
Dhirendra Ojha
Principal Director General,
Press Information Bureau, New Delhi

Published & Printed by:
Yogesh Kumar Baweja,
Director General, on behalf of
Central Bureau Of Communication

Published from:
Room No–278, Central Bureau Of Communication, 2nd Floor, Soochna Bhawan, New Delhi -110003

Printed at
Infinity Advertising services Pvt.Ltd.
FBD-One Corporate Park, 10th floor,
New Delhi-Faridabad border,
NH-1,Faridabad-121003