

NEW INDIA SAMACHAR

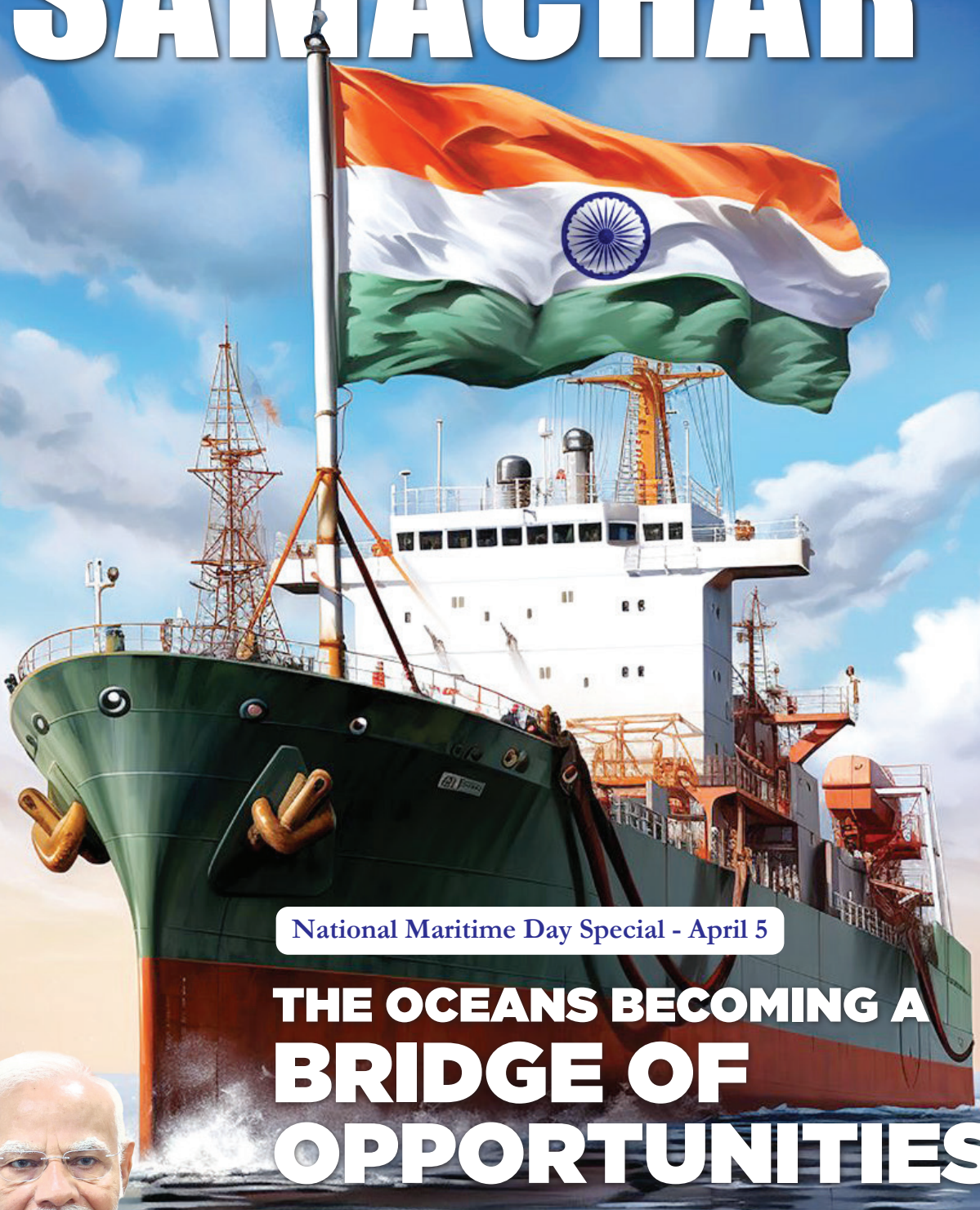
National Maritime Day Special - April 5

THE OCEANS BECOMING A BRIDGE OF OPPORTUNITIES

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Ports for Prosperity,' 'Ports for Progress,' and 'Ports for Productivity' is driving a transformative era in the Indian maritime sector



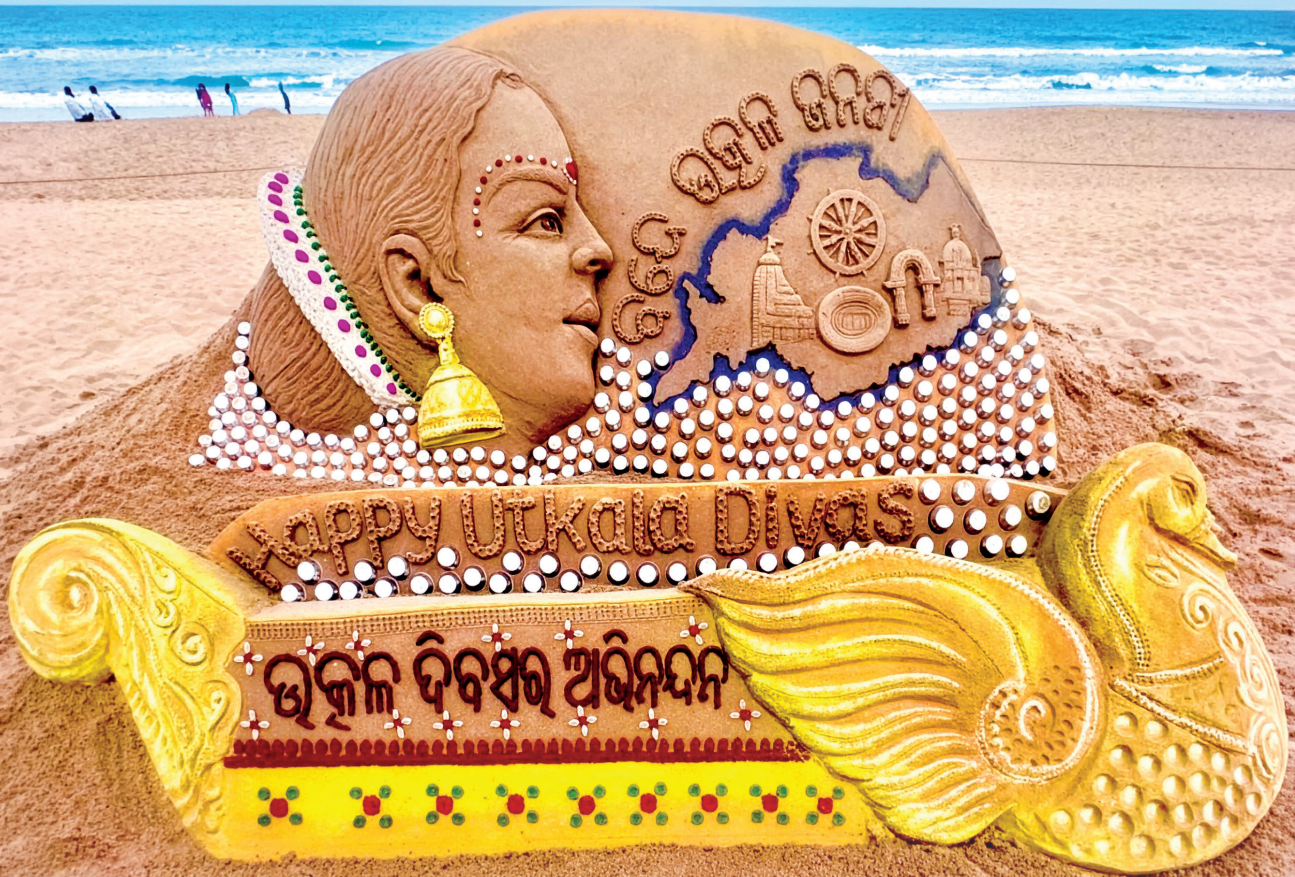
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Utkal Diwas: April 1

India Is Proud Of Odisha's History, Literature And Music

Odisha celebrates its 90th foundation day on April 1, known as Utkal Diwas. This is the day when 'Orissa' was created on a linguistic basis in 1936 by separating parts of the then Bihar, Madras Presidency, and United Bengal. 'Utkal Diwas' has been celebrated on this day ever since. In 2011, the name was changed to 'Odisha.' This land, where Emperor Ashoka preached the message of non-violence, also played a significant role in the freedom struggle. India is proud of the history, literature, and music of this sacred land of Lord Jagannath...



“Greetings on Utkal Divas. It is a day to acknowledge the rich role of Odisha, the Odia people, and culture in the progress of our nation. May the people of Odisha be blessed with good health and prosperity in the years to come.”

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



NEW INDIA SAMACHAR

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On the inside pages...



Cover Story

On the occasion of National Maritime Day (April 5), let us explore how, over the past 11 years, India has taken giant strides toward becoming a force to be reckoned with among the world's leading maritime powers. These efforts are expected to attract investments of approximately eight trillion rupees in the maritime sector by 2047 and generate nearly 15 million new jobs... **|12-27**

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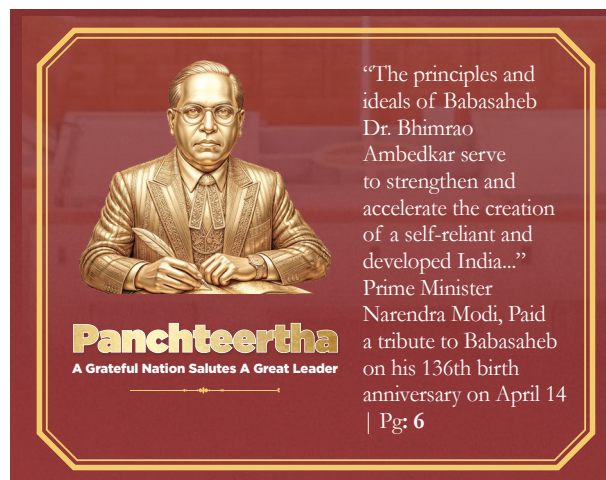


PM Mudra, e-NAM, and UPI

A Robust Cycle of Economic Security



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"The principles and ideals of Babasaheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar serve to strengthen and accelerate the creation of a self-reliant and developed India..."
Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Paid a tribute to Babasaheb on his 136th birth anniversary on April 14
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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...

Prosperity From the Seas **India inching towards assuming the role** **of Global Maritime Leadership**

Greetings,

India's glorious maritime heritage has a very vast and rich history. During the Chola and Maratha eras, maritime trade and naval prowess leveraged India's prosperity. Drawing inspiration from this very historical legacy, India is today steering its maritime sector into a new phase of modern development. With a coastline spanning approximately 11,000 kilometers and a strategic location along global shipping lanes, India possesses immense potential. Home to 12 major ports and 217 other ports, maritime transport remains the lifeline of the Indian economy to this day.

However, until about a decade ago, this sector grappled with archaic laws, limited capacity, and sluggish infrastructure development. Due to a lack of requisite focus on port capacity, ship-building, and the expansion of waterways, the country's vast maritime potential could not be fully realized. Over the past 11 years, this sector has undergone a significant transformation: the construction of indigenous vessels has accelerated, port capacity has doubled, and ship turn-around times have decreased. The Sagarmala Programme is driving the modernization of ports, enhancing connectivity, and fostering the development of coastal communities. Under

the 'Maritime India Vision 2030,' the Central Government is working relentlessly to position India among the world's leading maritime and shipbuilding nations.

This indicates that India is steadily advancing towards prosperity from the seas; therefore, on April 5th—National Maritime Day—the resurgence of India's maritime prowess serves as the cover story for this issue.

In the personality section, read about Babu Jagjivan Ram. A grateful nation's tribute to Baba Saheb Ambedkar on his birth anniversary on April 14th, Union Cabinet Decisions, Mudra, e-NAM, and UPI as economic security measures, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's fortnightly program are the other highlights.

Utkal Diwas celebrated on April 1st on the inside page, and a growing number of Cheetahs in the country on the back page are also part of this issue.

Keep sending us your suggestions.



(Dhirendra Ojha)



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

MAIL BOX



Effective for UPSC; Should be Available as a Book

I have been reading New India Samachar regularly for the past year. It has proven extremely useful for my UPSC preparation, as it helps me gather information regarding current affairs as well as various government programs and schemes. In my opinion, it would be excellent if this publication were made available to everyone in the form of a book.

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Important for Competitive Examinations

The New India Samachar magazine provides useful and reliable information. Furthermore, its articles are highly beneficial for students preparing for competitive examinations. Every news item published is packed with information. I find the stories of the national heroes featured in the 'Personalities' section, highlighting their contributions, to be the most significant.

prof.prema@gmail.com

Something New to Learn in Every Issue

Every issue of the New India Samachar magazine offers something new to learn. Each issue provides comprehensive information regarding the Government of India's various schemes. Through this magazine, I am able to stay informed about the developmental activities currently underway across the country. Whether it's patriotism or the environment, every issue presents something fresh and new on these themes.

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Good Source of Information for Students and Teachers

Through the New India Samachar magazine, one gains insight into various national and international developments. It serves as a valuable aid in preparing for various competitive examinations. As a teacher, I find it instrumental in keeping myself updated. We also encourage our students to read it; they, too, eagerly await every new issue. My sincere thanks to the entire New India Samachar team.

Dhananjay Kumar Yadav
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Accurate Information on Development Across All Sectors

I follow New India Samachar digitally and read every single article with close attention. Compared to major newspapers, this magazine provides its readers with detailed information regarding projects, infrastructure, social security for the unorganized sector, and similar topics. I find it to be excellent; it helps me stay well-updated.

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PM-KISAN Samman Nidhi

22nd Installment Released: ₹4.27 Lakh Crore Transferred to Farmers' Accounts Over 7 Years

For the past 11 years, under the leadership of PM Modi, the Central Government has been working continuously to provide a robust safety cycle for the nation's farmers. Efforts are underway to ensure that farming and agricultural activities remain unaffected—even amidst international crises—through measures such as MSP, affordable credit, and crop insurance. Over the last 10 years, farmers have received more than ₹20 lakh crore in the form of Minimum Support Price (MSP). Continuing this series of initiatives aimed at empowering farmers, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on March 13, directly transferred an amount exceeding ₹18,640 crore into the accounts of 9.32 crore farmers as the 22nd installment of the PM-KISAN Samman Nidhi. The beneficiaries of this 22nd installment include 2.15 crore women farmers. Under the PM-KISAN Samman Nidhi—which has emerged as the world's largest Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme—a total amount exceeding ₹4.27 lakh crore has already been transferred to farmers. Under this scheme, every eligible farming family receives financial assistance of ₹6,000 per year, disbursed in three equal installments. PM Modi stated, "Today, the Samman Nidhi scheme has become a vehicle for social security for the country's small farmers."

Unveiling of the Census-2027 Mascots: 'Pragati' (Female) and 'Vikas' (Male)

Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation, Amit Shah, launched four digital tools and unveiled the mascots for the World's Largest Census-2027, which is scheduled to be conducted in two phases. The mascots—'Pragati' and 'Vikas'—have been introduced as friendly and approachable symbols. Furthermore, these mascots serve as emblems of the equal participation of men and women in fulfilling the national resolve to transform India into a developed nation by the year 2047. For the first time, the census will be conducted digitally. Additionally, for the first time, an option for 'Self-Enumeration' is also being provided. In the first phase of the census, the House-listing and Housing Census will be conducted between April 1, 2026, and September 30, 2026; the second phase—the Population

Enumeration—will be carried out across India in February 2027.



Noida International Airport Receives License

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has granted an airport license to Yamuna International Airport Private Limited for the Noida International Airport, located in Jewar, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh. This airport has been authorized for 24-hour, all-weather operations under the 'public use' category. This international airport is being developed under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. Noida International Airport is being developed as a multi-modal cargo hub across four phases. In the first phase, one runway and one terminal have been constructed. In this phase, the airport will have an annual capacity to handle approximately 12 million passengers. Once all phases are completed, the airport will be capable of handling approximately 70 million passengers annually. Consequently, it will emerge as a major aviation hub for the National Capital Region and Western Uttar Pradesh.





Nominate for the Padma Awards-2027

Nominations for the Padma Awards-2027 have commenced. The deadline for nominations is July 31, 2026. These nominations or recommendations will be accepted exclusively online via the National Awards Portal: <https://awards.gov.in>. Ranked among the highest civilian honors, the Padma Awards comprise the Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Shri awards. These awards are conferred in recognition of distinguished and exceptional achievements in various fields, such as Art, Literature and Education, Sports, Medicine, Social Work, Science and Engineering, Public Affairs, Civil Service, Trade and Industry, among others. With the exception of doctors and scientists, government employees—including those working in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)—are not eligible for the Padma Awards. Committed to transforming the Padma Awards into a 'People's Padma' (Janata ka Padma), the Central Government has urged all citizens to submit nominations/recommendations, including self-nominations. Information regarding these awards is also available on the Ministry of Home Affairs website (<https://mha.gov.in>) and the Padma Awards portal (<https://padmaawards.gov.in>).

Nation Set to Become Self-Reliant in Sulfuric Acid Production

Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation, Amit Shah, inaugurated the IFFCO Sulfuric Acid Plant-III in Paradip, Odisha, on March 6. With the commissioning of this facility, IFFCO and KRIBHCO will work together in the coming days to make the entire nation self-reliant in the production of sulfuric acid. On behalf of the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Bhoomi Pujan for the National Forensic Sciences University and the inauguration of its temporary campus were also held in Odisha. These initiatives by the Central Government will open up a multitude of opportunities for forensic science students in Odisha, offering them access to job-oriented courses that ensure secure employment immediately upon graduation. In a single day, the Home Minister inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for 3 schemes under the Ministry of Home Affairs, 4 under the Ministry of Cooperation, and 173 schemes of the Government of Odisha.



Launch of 'Sujalam Village ID'

Union Minister of Jal Shakti, C.R. Patil, launched the 'Sujalam Village ID' initiative. Through this unique ID, the water supply provided via rural pipelines will undergo digital mapping. For the first time in the country, every rural drinking water scheme is being assigned a digital identity; to date, 1.64 lakh 'Sujalam Village IDs' have been generated across the States and Union Territories. These have been linked to 67,000 'Sujalam Bharat IDs'.



This constitutes a comprehensive digital initiative aimed at rural water service delivery. It will help strengthen mechanisms for transparency and monitoring. The Union Cabinet has approved the extension of the second phase of the Jal Jeevan Mission until December 2028, and its budgetary allocation has been increased to ₹8.69 lakh crore.



Bhim Janmabhoomi
Mhow, Madhya Pradesh



Shiksha Bhoomi
Ambedkar Memorial,
London



Mahaparinirvan Bhoomi
Alipur Road, New Delhi



Deeksha Bhoomi
Nagpur, Maharashtra



Chaityabhoomi
Mumbai, Maharashtra

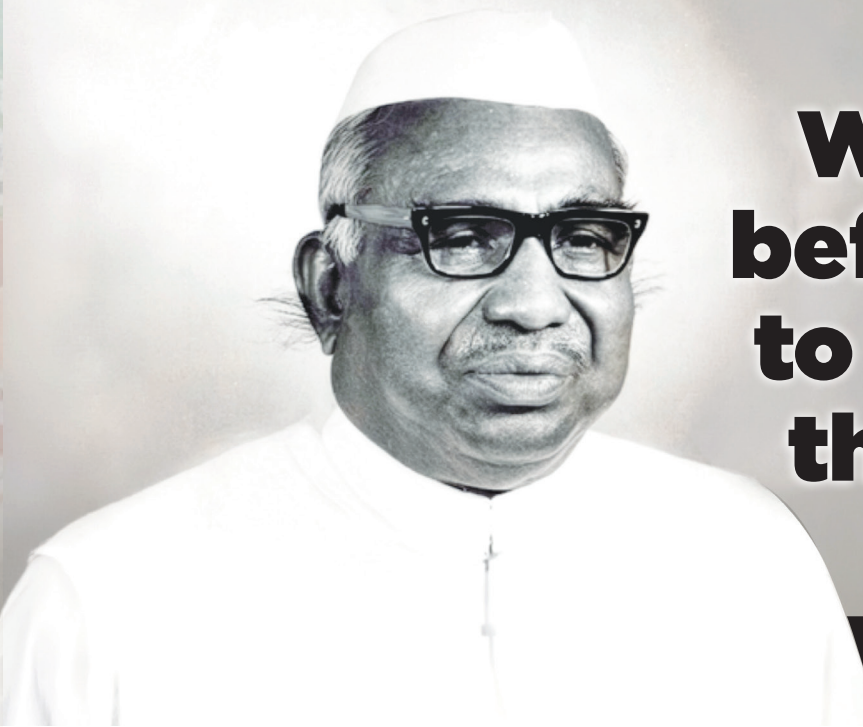
Panchteertha

A Grateful Nation Salutes A Great Leader

Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar's principles and ideals will give strength to the creation of an Aatmnirbhar and Viksit Bharat... In the words of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a grateful nation salutes Baba Saheb on his 136th birth anniversary on April 14th ...

"Baba Saheb was a strong advocate of humanity. He rejected every form of inhumanity, tried to reform it, and always worked through constitutional methods. What message did Baba Saheb give us? He told society only one thing: 'Brothers, become educated...' Once you are educated, you will be able to look the world in the eye and speak with confidence. The second mantra he gave was to become organised... The third was to struggle in support of humanity and raise your voice against inhuman practices. These three mantras continue to inspire us even today and will keep giving us strength. The spirit with which Baba Saheb Ambedkar carried out his work was completely pure. It was filled with dedication to the nation and commitment to society. Therefore, this is our resolve: whether it is the Dalits, the oppressed, the exploited, the deprived, the poor, the tribals, those living in villages, those living in slums, or those suffering due to lack of education, if we wish to work for all of them, then Baba Saheb Ambedkar will always remain our inspiration.

The government has prominently presented Baba Saheb's contributions before the country and the world. Wherever Baba Saheb lived in India and abroad, those places have been developed as the 'Panchteerth'. His birthplace in Mhow, Deekshabhoomi in Nagpur, Chaityabhoomi in Mumbai, the place in Delhi where he spent his final days, and the Ambedkar Memorial Home in London – these Panchteerth will continue to inspire future generations. On behalf of all the citizens of the country, I pay my heartfelt tributes to Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb on his birth anniversary. It is his inspiration that keeps the nation dedicated to realising the dream of social justice today. His principles and ideals strengthen and accelerate the building of a Aatmnirbhar and Viksit Bharat."



Who gave a befitting reply to Pakistan in the 1971 war

BORN: APRIL 5, 1908,
DEATH: JULY 6, 1986

Babu Jagjivan Ram, a prominent figure in Indian politics, fought for an inclusive and egalitarian society throughout his life. As Minister of Food and Agriculture, he is credited with the success of the Green Revolution in India, while as Defence Minister, he led India to a historic victory in the 1971 war, which resulted in the creation of Bangladesh. His commitment to social justice will always remain source of Inspiration...

Babu Jagjivan Ram was a great freedom fighter and national leader who fought tirelessly for the upliftment of the downtrodden. He was born on April 5, 1908, in Bhojpur, Bihar. Jagjivan Ram inherited ideal human values and wisdom from his father, who was a religious person. Affectionately known as Babuji, Jagjivan Ram tirelessly fought for the upliftment of Dalits. Babu Jagjivan Ram, who idolised Mahatma Gandhi, was detained on December 10, 1940, and was again arrested on August 19, 1942, for his active participation in the Quit India Movement. Upon his release from prison, he became the youngest minister in the interim central government in 1946. He was also a member of India's Constituent Assembly.

Earlier, in 1936, he became a legislator at the age of 28 as a nominated member of the Bihar Legislative Council. He was a Cabinet Minister for 35 years – the longest-serving minister, handling several key portfolios. He brought about path-breaking reforms. As Food and Agriculture Minister, he is credited with

the success of the 'Green Revolution' in India, while as Defence Minister, he led India to the historic win in the 1971 war that saw the birth of Bangladesh. As an administrator, his services to India were incomparable. This great nationalist leader passed away on July 6, 1986.

Paying tribute to former Deputy Prime Minister Babu Jagjivan Ram on his birth anniversary on April 5, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "His lifelong struggle for the rights of the deprived and oppressed will always remain a source of inspiration. Babu Jagjivan Ram dedicated his life to the welfare of the poor. He devoted many years to serving the nation. Babu Jagjivan Ram wanted two things: a strong India and a democratic India. When we strongly retaliated against Pakistan, Babu Ji was the Defence Minister of India.

He was the first Congress leader to raise his voice against the Emergency. During those difficult days, when people were getting arrested, he emerged as a voice of strength and encouraged people not to fear.●

At the Next Stage of Development...

India is moving to the Next level

The Dandi March marked an important turning point in India's freedom struggle – a movement aimed at securing India's independence. Drawing inspiration from this glorious history, India has penned a new chapter of progress over the past 11 years. It is now steering this journey of development to the next level – a journey whose ultimate goal and destination is a 'Viksit Bharat'. At the iTV Network's NXT Summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi outlined the roadmap for realising this national resolve: transforming India into a developed nation by the year 2047.

ONE DESTINATION... VIKSIT BHARAT

On March 12, 1930, Mahatma Gandhi embarked on the Dandi March from the Sabar-mati Ashram. This event served as a turning point in India's freedom struggle, for it united every corner of the nation around a single objective: the independence of India. Today, nearly 100 years after that historic journey, the people of India have set out on a new journey once again. This is the journey toward a 'Viksit Bharat'. We have one goal, one destination: Viksit Bharat.

A NATION MOVING FORWARD EVEN AMID CHALLENGES

This era of 21st century is unprecedented – unlike anything seen in the past. On one hand, the devastation of war is unfolding, supply chains are once again being disrupted, and the relevance of global institutions such as the United Nations is being questioned. In such a time, India continues to move forward despite these adverse circumstances.

A major foundation of a nation's development lies in how it confronts challenges. In recent years, we witnessed the disaster of COVID-19, then the



Connecting with India is inevitable...

Quite recently, Finnish President Alexander Stubb visited India. He stated that the Global South will now determine the world's trajectory, and the single greatest force shaping that direction will be India.

Prior to this, Canadian PM Mark Carney also remarked that the centre toward which the world's economic gravity is shifting over the next three decades is named India.

French President Emmanuel Macron, too, acknowledges that India has emerged as an indispensable partner in resolving the world's most pressing issues. If one distills the essence of the statements made today by global leaders across the technology and economic spheres, a singular sentiment emerges: if you wish to be a part of the future, you simply must be associated with India; you must be in India.



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crisis of the Russia-Ukraine War, and now another major war is ongoing. This conflict has pushed the entire world into a serious energy crisis. A time of crisis, in many ways, is a test for the entire nation. The Government of India is also leaving no stone unturned to deal with this crisis. The government is making efforts at different levels. In recent days, I have discussed this issue with the top leaders of several countries around the world. Continuous efforts are also being made to overcome the obstacles that have emerged in supply chains. Situations must be handled with peace and patience. By strengthening public trust and raising awareness among citizens, we must move forward together – and in this, everyone has a role to play.

TOWARDS NEXT CHAPTER OF REFORMS

Today, India is undertaking “Next-Generation Reforms”—it has truly boarded the “Reforms Express”. There was a time when many tasks and decisions in India were considered “next to impossible”; today, India is taking precisely those decisions.

- It was once said that abrogating Article 370 was impossible; today, the wall of Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir has crumbled.
- Connecting every citizen in the country to the banking system seemed impossible; today, over 50 crore (500 million) Jan Dhan accounts have been opened.
- Abolishing Triple Talaq seemed impossible; today, our Muslim sisters have been liberated from this injustice.

Self-Reliance in the Energy Sector

LPG Connections in Country



- Bottling capacity doubled in 11 years; distribution centres increased from 13,000 to 25,000.
- In 2014, there were 4 LNG terminals; that number has since doubled.
- Gas pipeline network spanned approximately 3,500 kilometres; it has now been expanded to cover 10,000 kilometres.
- 60% of LPG is imported; import terminal capacity at major ports has been expanded.

Piped Gas Facilities...

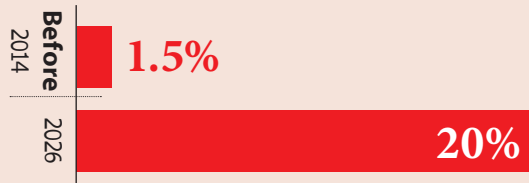
- Prior to 2014, only 2.5 to 2.6 million households had access to PNG; today, it exceeds 12.5 million.
- In 2014, 1 million CNG-powered vehicles in the country; today, there are over 7 million.
- Over the past decade, City Gas Distribution (CGD) networks have been established across more than 600 districts nationwide.



Ethanol in Petroleum and Reserve Capacity

- Prior to 2014, India possessed negligible strategic reserve capacity. Today, this capacity exceeds 5 million tonnes. Work is currently underway to develop even greater capacity.
- Today, India stands as one of the world's largest refining hubs. Over the past decade, refining capacity has witnessed an annual increase of more than 40 million tonnes.
- To reduce dependence on petroleum, significant emphasis has been placed on ethanol and biofuels.

Ethanol Blending Capacity in Country



- Had India not undertaken these initiatives, it would have been compelled to import approximately 180 million additional barrels of oil from abroad over the past 11 years.

Approx **45** million barrels of oil imports dependence is reduced annually today, thanks to our ethanol production capacity.

Nearly **1.5** lakh crore rupees have been saved by the country through this alone.



Electrification of Railway Lines

Electrification of the Railway Broad Gauge Network



- In the year 2024-25 alone, Indian Railways saved approximately 1.8 billion litres of diesel.
- Had this electrification not taken place, additional crude oil would have had to be imported every year to produce this quantity of diesel.

- Providing 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies also seemed impossible; today, a law has been enacted to make this a reality.
- Today, missions such as the Moon Mission, Semiconductor Mission, and Quantum Mission are propelling India toward the frontiers of next-generation technology.

...ENSURING THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF WAR DO NOT IMPACT INDIA

- When the Russia-Ukraine crisis escalated, international urea prices reached ₹3,000 per bag, and the government ensured farmers received it at the nominal rate of ₹300.
- This time, too, the nation will make every possible effort

to ensure that the war has the minimal possible impact on the lives of its citizens.

SPECIAL CAMPAIGNS IN ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS

The government has integrated those who had fallen behind in the race for development into the core priorities of governance. Today, special campaigns – such as the Aspirational Districts Programme, Aspirational Blocks Programme, and PM-JANMAN Scheme – are being actively implemented in these regions to drive the construction of vital infrastructure, including housing, roads, schools, and hospitals.

Renewable Energy Capacity Has Grown 40-Fold

- Today, renewable sources account for half of the country's total energy generation capacity.

Renewable energy capacity has now surpassed the

250 Gigawatt

- To ensure that electricity—rather than gas—is utilised to the maximum extent for domestic purposes, the 'PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana' (Free Electricity Scheme) was implemented. So far, approximately 3 million households have installed rooftop solar systems under this scheme.

- Under the GOBARdhan scheme, efforts have focused on the production of Compressed Biogas (CBG). To date, more than 100 plants have become operational across the country, and work is currently underway on over 600 additional plants.

India's Solar Power Capacity



NAXALISM

In 2013, more than 180 districts were affected by Maoist terror; today, that number has dropped to a single digit. The result is that areas once forced to live under the shadow of fear are now pulsating with a new energy of development.

INDIA IS MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE...

Today's India isn't just dreaming. India is making them come true. That's why the world is saying, "India isn't just progressing but moving to the next level." During the COVID-19 pandemic, we've seen that when we work together, a country's ability to face crises increases exponentially. Today, the country faces another challenge, and therefore, we must work together, fulfilling our

duties while keeping national interest paramount.

THE NEXT LEVEL OF PROGRESS...

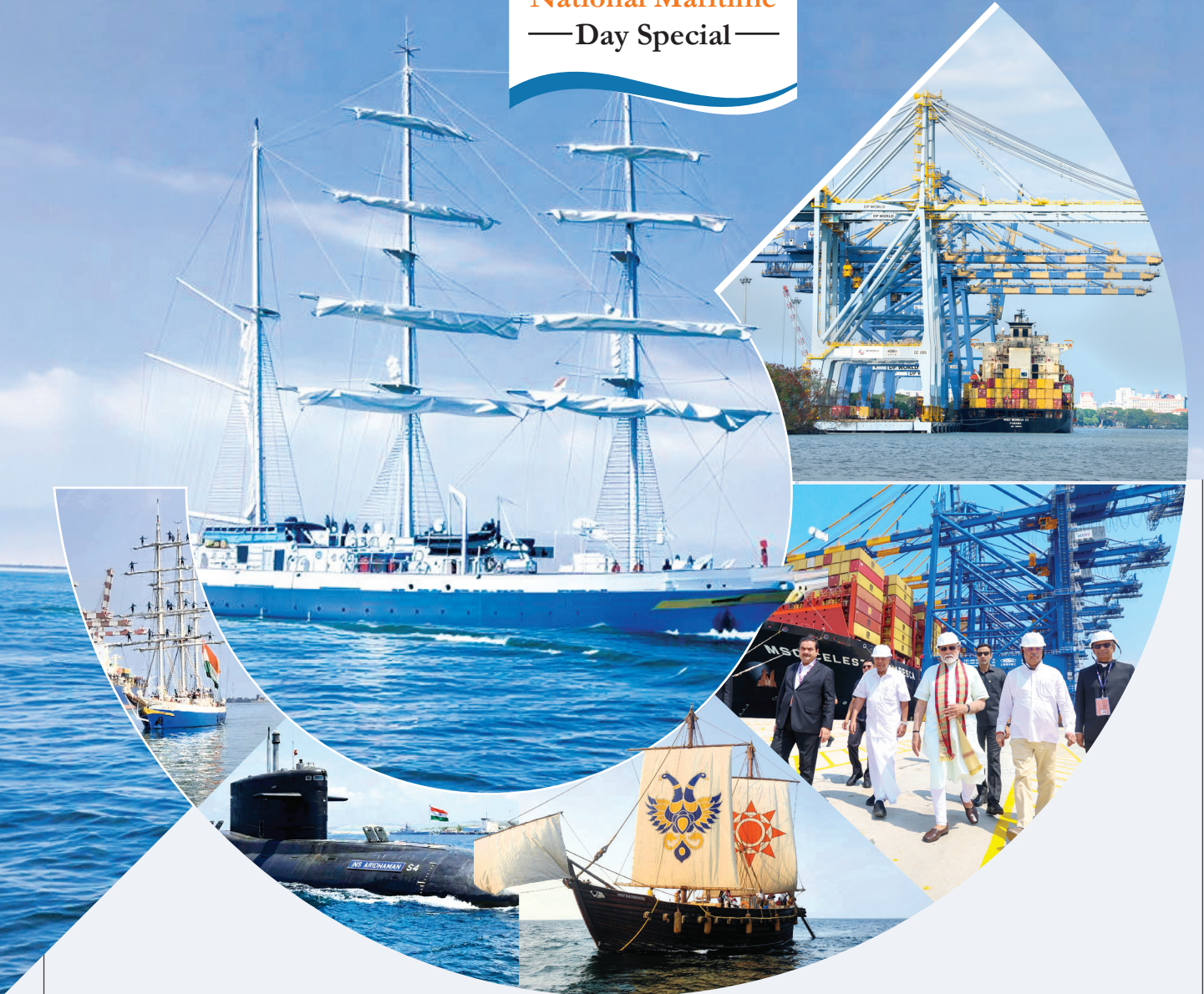
Today, the country is moving towards next-generation digital infrastructure. UPI has taken digital payments to the next level. Today, India has become the fastest country in the world for real-time digital payments. The pace at which India is progressing today makes it impossible to stop its momentum. The aspirations of 1.4 billion Indians have now reached the next level. I know that when one dream is fulfilled, new dreams and new aspirations are born. Now, the hopes and aspirations of 1.4 billion Indians will be fulfilled. India will become self-reliant in every sector, and India will become a developed nation under all circumstances. ●



Cover Story

National Maritime

— Day Special —



The Revival of India's **Maritime Power**





India was once considered one of the world's most prosperous and powerful countries, which was possible because of its strong maritime presence. However, for a long time after independence, the immense potential of this sector was not given the necessary attention. Today, in the changing global landscape, a new India is moving forward, inspired by its glorious maritime history. Through the development of modern ports, improved maritime connectivity, and the construction of state-of-the-art infrastructure, the country is infusing new energy into the maritime sector. Through this, India is not only accelerating trade and industrial growth, but also providing a new impetus to national security, global competitiveness, and strategic self-reliance...

On the occasion of National Maritime Day (April 5), let us learn how India has taken significant steps over the past 11 years towards becoming one of the world's leading maritime powers. These efforts are expected to spur investment of approximately ₹8 trillion in the maritime sector by 2047 and create approximately 15 million new jobs. With its Maritime Amrit Kaal vision, New India is rapidly progressing towards the goal of a Viksit Bharat...

India's maritime prowess has a golden history, stretching back thousands of years. Hundreds of years ago, when technology and resources were scarce, India carved out numerous forts like Sindhudurg and built them. With over 11,000 kilometer coastline, India's strategic location on major global trade routes offers immense potential for port-based economic development. This is why New India is now writing a new chapter in the renaissance of that golden history. The importance of maritime power and strength is described in Indian religious texts as well as modern works. With this in mind, New India is achieving new milestones in maritime infrastructure. Continuous work is underway to strengthen the entire maritime infrastructure ecosystem. The capacity of India's major ports has doubled in the past decade. Thousands of kilometers of new roads have been built to strengthen port connectivity. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of "Ports for Prosperity" and "Ports for Progress" is continuously bringing about change on the ground, furthering the mantra of "Ports for Productivity" in action. India is also modernizing its coastal shipping. The development of inland waterways in India is also undergoing significant changes. History bears witness that whenever India's maritime capabilities have been strong, the country and the world have benefited greatly. With this vision, systematic efforts have been underway over the past decade to strengthen this sector.

In light of the changing maritime situation due to the ongoing conflict in the West Asia region, the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has further strengthened surveillance and preparedness. Its primary objective is to ensure the safety of Indian seafarers and Indian ships and to ensure uninterrupted maritime trade.

A RICH HISTORY IS BEING REVIVED.

India has a rich maritime heritage. Since ancient times, India has been known for shipbuilding and coastal trade. It was the land of powerful dynasties like the Cholas and Marathas, whose strong naval power, extensive trade, and strategic prowess played a crucial role in the country's prosperity and power. Their foresight demonstrated how the oceans could serve as a bridge of opportunity, but for a long time, India's maritime sector struggled with outdated laws and limited capacity. A farsighted initiative was launched in 2014 aimed at changing this appalling situation, and over the past 11 years, the sector has seen significant changes. Today, India's maritime sector has become modern, a symbol of global trust and national pride. Civilizations flourished on the Indian coasts. For thousands of years, Indian ports have been important trading centers. These coasts have connected India to the world. A major foundation of India's prosperity was its maritime strength. An example of this strength is Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj himself, who elevated maritime trade and maritime power to new heights. He formulated new policies and made decisions for the country's progress. India's power was once so great that Darya Sarang Kanhoji Angre overpowered the entire East India Company. However, after independence, that legacy was neglected. From industrial development to trade, India fell behind. As a maritime power, India was once the world's largest shipbuilding hub. Ships built in India's coastal states fueled domestic and global trade. Even six decades ago, ships built in India were used. At that time, more than 40 percent of India's imports and exports were handled by domestically built vessels. However, subsequently, the country's shipping sector had



India is achieving tremendous success in achieving the goals we set 11 years ago for port-led development. We are building large ports across the country for large ships and enhancing port connectivity through schemes like Sagarmala

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



fallen into neglect. Instead of focusing on shipbuilding in India, it was considered preferable to charter foreign ships. This stagnated the ship-building ecosystem in India, and dependence on foreign vessels became a necessity. The result was that while 40 percent of the trade was done on Indian ships 5-6 decades ago, that share reduced to only 5 percent, that is, we became dependent on foreign ships for 95 percent of our trade

To put it simply, before the efforts made over the past decade to revive this sector, India was paying approximately \$75 billion, or approximately six lakh crore rupees, in freight to foreign shipping companies each year. This means that India's current defense budget was almost as much as the amount spent on shipping. If this amount had been invested in India's shipping industry earlier, the world would be using Indian ships today. The country would have saved money that could have been used

for other public welfare projects. New India has learned from history and recognized its potential and pride. At the same time, the country is continuously setting new milestones in the development of maritime infrastructure. Today, the maritime sector remains the backbone of the Indian economy, supporting approximately 95 percent of the country's trade by volume and 70 percent by value. At its core is shipbuilding, often called the "mother of heavy engineering." It not only contributes significantly to employment and investment but also enhances national security, strategic independence, and the optimization of trade and energy supply chains.

The central government has placed special emphasis on ensuring that shipbuilding takes place in India and provides employment to Indian citizens, and lakhs of crores of rupees have been invested in this direction. As a result, the capacity

Reforms in the shipping sector are a continuation of India's decade-long reform journey. If we look at the last ten or eleven years, the transformation in India's maritime sector has been historic

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



Indian Maritime

The maritime sector symbolises India's strength, stability, and continuity. An 11,098-kilometre coastline, 13 coastal states, approximately 1,300 islands, and an exclusive economic zone of 2.37 million square kilometres make India a natural maritime power.

11,098 | **13** | **1,300**
KM-long coastline | coastal states | islands

23.7 lakh square kilometres of
exclusive economic zone



What is maritime?

'Maritime' refers to maritime industries, navigation, trade, shipbuilding, and maritime security, which are crucial to the economy.

Rich History

India's maritime history is linked to Lothal (the world's oldest port) of the Indus Valley Civilisation, which traded with Mesopotamia. The dry dock discovered at Lothal dates back to 2400 BC. It is considered the world's first such facility for harbouring and repairing ships.



"India's history is the history of our maritime prowess. Hundreds of years ago, when such technology and resources were absent, we built numerous forts like Sindhudurg by forging the sea. India's maritime prowess is thousands of years old. The Indus Valley Civilisation port discovered in Lothal, Gujarat, is a significant heritage for us today"

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

of most ports has doubled, private investment has increased, and ship turnaround times have decreased. This has benefited industries and traders, reducing costs. The Indus Valley Civilization port discovered at Lothal in Gujarat is a significant heritage of India. At one time, ships from more than 80 countries anchored at Surat Port. The Chola Empire, relying on this strength, expanded its trade to numerous countries in Southeast Asia. Therefore,

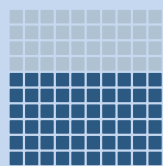
when foreign powers attacked India, this power was the first target. India, renowned for its boat and shipbuilding, was a significant asset. Art, skill, everything was brought to a standstill. This led to India losing control of the seas and strategic economic power. Today, as India pursues development, it has made rapid strides towards regaining this lost glory. The central government is focusing on the oceans and all sectors connected to it. India is giving un-



Maritime Economy

India's Economic Power Flows Through the Sea

India's economic power flows through the seas. Nearly 95 percent of India's trade by volume and around 70 percent by value is carried through maritime routes.



60%

of the country's GDP comes from coastal states.

Furthermore, nearly 80 million people depend on the sea for their livelihoods.



10%

of maritime trade is controlled by India.



By **2047** the target is to triple it.

India is the world's second-largest fish producer, accounting for 8% of global production.

India's fisheries sector supports the livelihoods of approximately 30 million people and contributes significantly to exports.



Considerable work is underway to enhance efficiency and connectivity. We are integrating our ports with coastal economic zones, port-based smart cities, and industrial parks. This will increase industrial investment and encourage global manufacturing activity near the port.

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



precedented impetus to the blue economy. India is engaged in port-led development under Sagarmala and is rapidly moving towards harnessing the full potential of its oceans under the Maritime Vision. Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently said, "India has a rich maritime heritage. Our fishermen and our ancient port cities are emblematic of this heritage. Bhavnagar, Saurashtra, is a prime example. To preserve this heritage for future generations and showcase our potential to the world, a magnificent maritime museum is being built in Lothal. It will be the largest maritime museum in the world." Like the Statue of Unity, this will become the new identity of India."

ASSUMING GLOBAL LEADERSHIP IN THE MARITIME SECTOR

New India is achieving its goals ahead of schedule. India is achieving significant success in achieving the targets set 11 years ago for

Maritime Vision

Maritime Vision of India's Future

India has been continuously taking bold steps with the aim of establishing itself as a global maritime power. In this context, work has begun on a vision to determine how strongly India will stand in the maritime domain by 2030. At the same time, a vision has also been prepared, and work has started on it to define how strong a Viksit Bharat will be as a maritime power by 2047.



Maritime India Vision (MIV) 2030

Maritime India Vision 2030 provides a comprehensive framework for the overall development of India's maritime sector. This includes ports, shipping, and waterways. MIV 2030 outlines 150 initiatives aimed at propelling India towards global maritime leadership.

Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision

2047

India is not only prepared to meet its trade demands but also poised to emerge as a maritime leader. On this basis, the Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 has been formulated as a long-term roadmap for India's maritime resurgence. It envisages an investment of around ₹80 lakh crore for ports, coastal shipping, inland waterways, shipbuilding, and green shipping initiatives.



Today, India's share of maritime trade is only 10%. We must increase this further. We want to nearly triple our share of global maritime trade by 2047. And we will do it.

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

port-led development. Larger ports are being built across the country to accommodate larger vessels, and projects like Sagarmala are enhancing port connectivity. In the last 11 years, India has doubled its port capacity. Before 2014, the average ship turnaround time in India was two days. Now, the ship turnaround time in India has decreased by almost 60 percent, to less than one day. New and larger ports are also being constructed across the country. Recently, the country's first deep-water container transshipment port was inaugurated in Keralam. Vadhavan Port is being built in Maharashtra at a cost of over ₹75,000 crore. It will be one of the top 10 ports in the world.



Maritime Infrastructure

India's Strengthening Maritime Power

India's future is inseparably linked with the oceans. This is why Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been continuously emphasizing the strengthening of infrastructure in this sector to reinforce the nation's rich maritime heritage and capabilities. Reforms in India's maritime sector are delivering solid results in shipbuilding and green shipping...



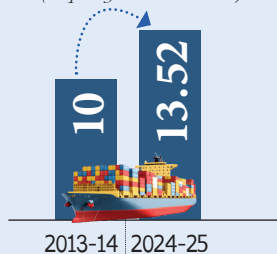
₹69,725 crore

worth of a comprehensive package has been approved to revive India's shipbuilding and maritime ecosystem.

Under this package, the Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Scheme (SBFAS) has been extended until March 31, 2036.

Shipping

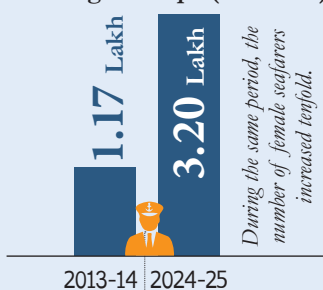
Indian shipping capacity (gross tonnage) increased by 35%
(Capacity in million GT)



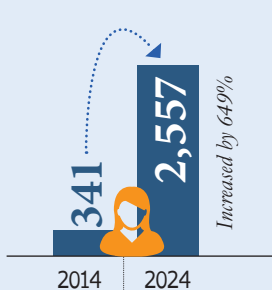
Indian-flagged ships/vessels



A 174% increase was seen in the number of employees working on ships (seafarers)



The number of female seafarers in the maritime sector

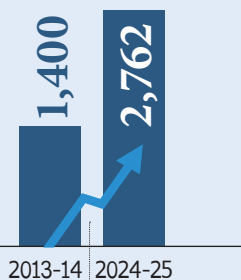


Today, India's share in seaborne trade is only 10 percent. India is pursuing a goal of nearly tripling its share of global maritime trade by 2047. With a planned investment of ₹8 trillion and the creation of 15 million jobs by 2047, India is poised to become

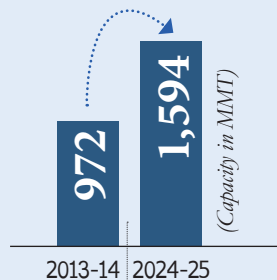
a global leader in the maritime sector. As India's maritime trade grows, so too does the number of seafarers. These are hardworking professionals who operate ships, maintain engines and machinery, and oversee loading and unloading. A decade

Cargo Handling at Indian Ports

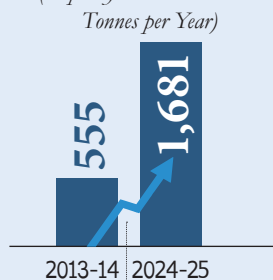
Capacity Nearly Doubled
(Capacity in MMTPA)



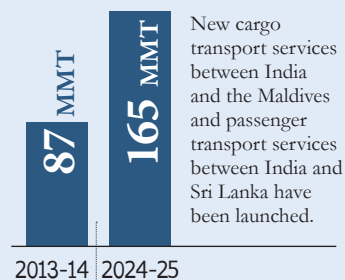
Cargo Handling Increased More Than One and a Half Times



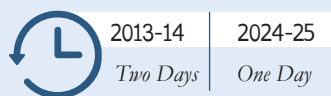
Combined Cargo Handling Capacity
(Capacity in Million Metric Tonnes per Year)



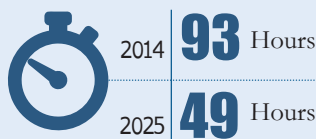
Cargo through Coastal Shipping Increased by 90%



Ship Turnaround Time

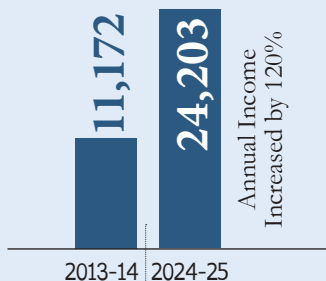


Total Turnaround Time at Ports

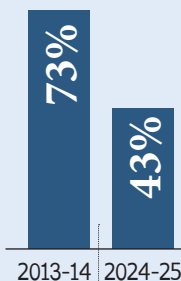


Average Turnaround Time: 43 Hours

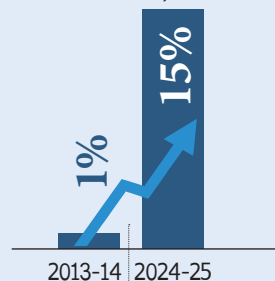
Financial Performance of Ports
(Number in crores of rupees)



Operating Ratio Improved

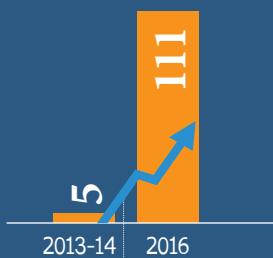


Increased Renewable Energy Use at Major Ports

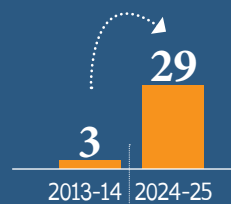


Inland Water Transport

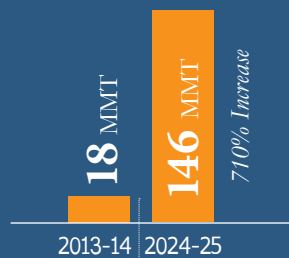
Number of Notified National Waterways



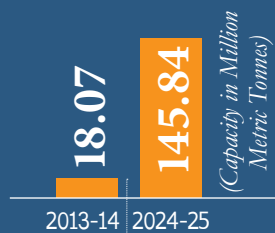
The Number of Operational National Waterways Increased by 10 Times



Cargo Transportation through National Waterways



Cargo Movement through Inland Waterways Increased



ago, there were fewer than 125,000 seafarers, but today their number has surpassed 300,000. Today, India is among the top three countries in the world, providing the largest number of seafarers and creating employment opportunities for Indian youth. This once-neglected sector is now becoming the foundation of a developed India. Tamil Nadu and South India are reaping the greatest benefits. Tamil Nadu also boasts three major and over a dozen smaller ports. Almost all the states in the South are

connected to the immense potential of the coastline. The development of the maritime and waterways sector directly translates to the development of a state like Tamil Nadu.

In the last ten years, India has climbed several places to 38th place in the Logistics Performance Index. Port capacity has doubled in the past decade. National waterways have expanded eightfold. Cruise passenger traffic in India has also increased fourfold, and the number of seafarers has also doubled.



Sagarmala Programme

Under the Sagarmala Programme, 839 projects have been identified, with an estimated cost of approximately ₹5.79 lakh crore. 119 projects are being implemented through the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

280

projects
have been
completed

₹1.42

lakh crore
investment has
been made

- ✦ 209 projects worth ₹1.62 lakh crore are under implementation, while 353 projects worth ₹2.75 lakh crore are in various stages of development.
- ✦ 106 port modernisation projects worth ₹35,423 crore were completed.
- ✦ 96 port connectivity (road and rail) projects worth ₹58,628 crore were completed.
- ✦ 9 port industrialisation projects worth ₹45,865 crore were completed, leading to the industrialisation of over 8,000 acres of land.
- ✦ 81 coastal community development projects were initiated at a cost of ₹11,573 crore. Of these, 23 projects worth approximately ₹2,000 crore have been completed.
- ✦ 12 fishing harbour projects worth ₹1,078 crore were completed, benefiting over 35,000 fishermen.



India is excelling in human resources in the shipping sector. The number of Indian seafarers has increased from 1.25 lakh to over 3 lakh in the last decade. If you visit any coastline in the world, you will find some Indian seafarers on board. Today, India has become one of the top three countries in the world in terms of the number of seafarers.

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



- ✦ 18 projects related to urban water transport worth ₹640 crore were completed, reducing pressure on road and rail traffic.
- ✦ Six dedicated coastal berths were constructed with an investment of ₹430 crore.

Capex (capital expenditure) increased by 228%.

2013-14

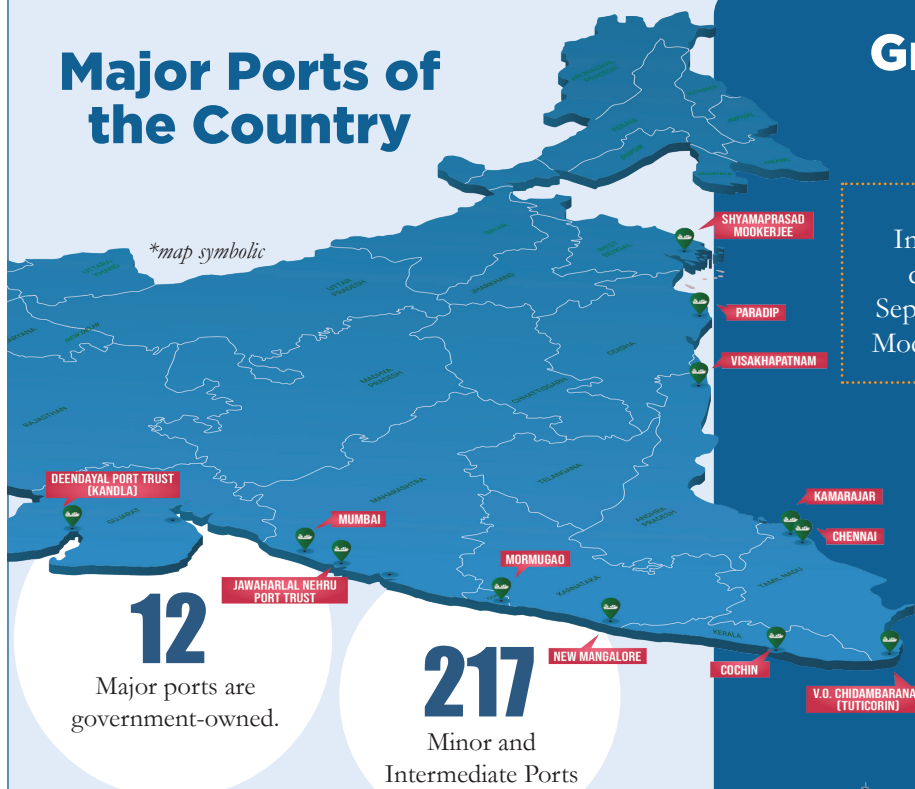
₹3,233 crore

2024-25

₹10,600 crore



Major Ports of the Country



Growing Strategic Importance

INS Vikrant

India's first indigenous aircraft carrier was commissioned into the Indian Navy on September 2, 2022. Prime Minister Narendra Modi celebrated Diwali 2025 on INS Vikrant.

- At a cost of ₹90,000 crore, 51 large ships are under construction in the country.
- The 100th and 101st indigenous warships, INS Udaygiri and INS Himgiri, were commissioned into the Navy.
- Indian shipyards have delivered over 40 indigenous warships and submarines to the Navy since 2014, with a new ship being inducted every 40 days on average over the past year.



Navy Budget

49,623

Crore Rupees

2020-21

1,03,548

Crore Rupees

2025-26



- The Navy's share of defence expenditure increased from 15% to 21%.
- INS Anjadip also joined the Navy on 27 February 2026
- Two state-of-the-art frontline frigates, Udayagiri (F35) and Himgiri (F34), were inducted into the Navy in 2025. This is the first time two major surface combatant ships have been inducted simultaneously.

Not only this, but work on the 'MAHASAGAR Maritime Vision' is progressing at a rapid pace. Today, India is able to lend helping hand for humanitarian assistance in any corner of the world. From Africa to Southeast Asia, the world sees India as a friend in times of disaster. In 2014, neighboring Maldives faced

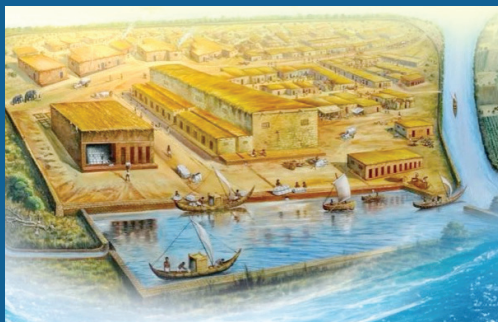
a water crisis, and India launched Operation Neer, and the Navy arrived there with clean water. In 2017, when Sri Lanka was hit by a devastating flood, India was the first to extend a helping hand. When Indonesia was devastated by the tsunami in 2018, India stood with the people of Indonesia in relief and rescue opera-



Powerful Initiative

Initiatives Strengthening Maritime Power

Lothal Museum



A Peek inside maritime heritage

India and the Netherlands have signed an agreement to strengthen maritime heritage in Lothal, Gujarat. This agreement is a historic step towards elevating India's 4,500-year-old rich maritime heritage to the global stage. PM Modi said that once completed, it will be the world's largest maritime museum. It will showcase India's ancient maritime traditions and will also become a hub for tourism, research, education, and skill development.

Maritime University

The Indian Maritime University (IMU) is a central university headquartered in Chennai. IMU has six institutes in Chennai, Kolkata, Visakhapatnam, Kochi, Mumbai Port, and Navi Mumbai, and 17 affiliated institutes. On April 8, 2025, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated 26 projects worth ₹67.77 crore at six Indian Maritime University (IMU) campuses across the country.

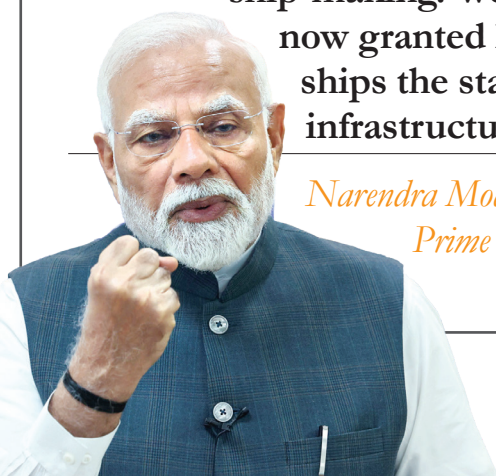
Sagar Samman Award

The Sagar Samman Award is given to recognise outstanding contributions to the maritime sector. It is usually presented annually on April 5, National Maritime Day. This award has gained particular prominence in recent years. As part of the Government of India's policy initiative, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government launched the "Sagar Mein Samman" initiative. Its objective is to create a gender-equal maritime workforce for the future.

Ships built in India were once a vital part of global trade. Later, we moved into the field of shipbreaking. Now, India is once again accelerating its efforts to reach new heights in the field of ship-making. We have

now granted large ships the status of infrastructure assets.

*Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister*



tions. Similarly, whether it was the devastation caused by the earthquake in Myanmar or the crisis in Mozambique in 2019 and Madagascar in 2020, India reached out with a spirit of service. Even during COVID, Operation Samudra Setu was launched to bring people back by sea. This means that maritime power is not only strategic and tactical, but also a vital protector of humanity's interests.

POLICY CHANGES... SO THAT COASTS BECOME GATEWAYS TO PROSPERITY

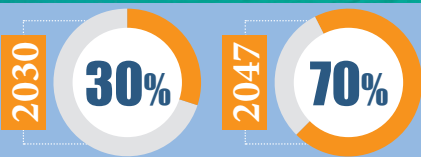
Policy changes have been made to strengthen the country's maritime sector. The government has now



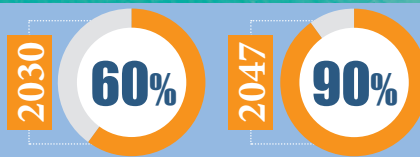


Highlights of the Green Port Guidelines

Aim to reduce carbon emissions per tonne of cargo.



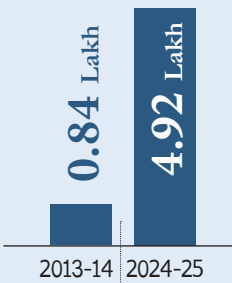
Aim to increase the share of renewable energy to more than 100%.



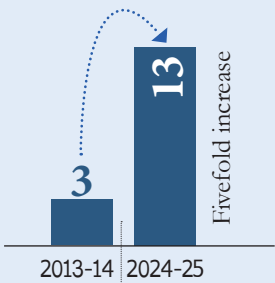
- By 2025, New Mangalore Port had achieved 100% solar power integration, a benchmark for renewable energy adoption.
- To improve environmental quality, the port aims to increase green cover to more than 20% by 2030 and more than 33% by 2047.
- Ports will be required to reduce freshwater consumption by more than 20% by 2030 through improved resource management and 100% wastewater reuse.

Tourism

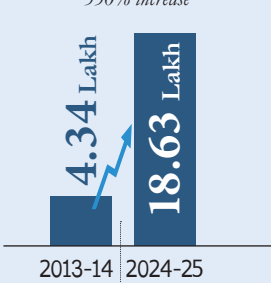
Sea cruise passengers increased by 480%



National waterways designated for river cruises



Number of lighthouse visitors
330% increase



The world's longest river cruise, the 'Ganga Vilas', covered a distance of 3,200 km from Varanasi to Dibrugarh via the Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route. It completed its maiden voyage in 2023.

recognized large ships as infrastructure. When a sector is recognized as infrastructure, its benefits are naturally visible. Now, large shipbuilding companies have found it easier to obtain loans from banks and have been granted interest rate concessions. These shipbuilding companies are also receiving all the benefits of infrastructure financing. This decision by the central government is reducing the burden on Indian shipping companies and helping

them compete globally. The central government is working on three more major schemes to make India a major maritime power in the world. These three schemes will facilitate financial assistance to the shipbuilding sector and will also greatly help shipyards adopt modern technology and improve design and quality. Over 70,000 crore rupees will be spent on these schemes in the coming years. Shipbuilding is not a simple industry. It is known world-



Legal Reforms

Accelerate Growth In The Maritime Sector

The government has undertaken comprehensive legal reforms to modernize and make India's maritime and inland water transport sector competitive. The sector has gained a strong foothold through various Acts and new Bills introduced in Parliament in 2025...

Acts

- ✦ The National Waterways Act, 2016
- ✦ The Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Act, 2017
- ✦ The Recycling of Ships Act, 2019
- ✦ The Major Ports Authorities Act, 2021
- ✦ The Inland Vessels Act, 2021
- ✦ The Marine Aids to Navigation Act, 2021

5 new Bills passed in Parliament in 2025...

- The Coastal Shipping Bill, 2025
- The Carriage of Goods by Sea Bill, 2025
- The Bills of Lading Bill, 2025
- The Merchant Shipping Bill, 2025
- The Indian Ports Bill, 2025

Nearly 50 rules, regulations, policies, and guidelines have been implemented to promote ease of doing business in the sector.



This land is the land of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj not only laid the foundation of maritime security but also asserted Indian strength across the trade routes of the Arabian Sea. His vision showed us that the seas are not just boundaries but also gateways of opportunity. Today, India is moving forward with the same vision

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



wide as the Mother of All Industries. It not only builds a ship, but also expands the industries associated with it. Numerous industries, including steel, machinery, electronics, textiles, paints, and IT systems, benefit from the shipping industry. This, in turn, benefits small and micro-scale industries. Studies show that every rupee invested in shipbuilding nearly doubles the investment in the economy. Every job created in a shipyard creates six to seven new jobs in the supply chain. This means that if 100 jobs are created in the shipbuilding industry, more than 600 jobs are created in other related sectors. This sector creates a significant multiplier effect.

If India is to become a developed nation by 2047, when the country celebrates its 100th anniversary of independence, it must become self-reliant. India has no choice but to be self-reliant. 1.4 billion citizens have made a solemn resolve: whether it's chips

India's Ranking

India's Ranking Improves in Ports and Logistics

Over the past few years, India's position on the global stage has strengthened due to improvements in port infrastructure, digital logistics, and operational efficiency. The improved ranking of Indian ports in the World Bank's Container Port Performance Index and Logistics Performance Index validated this transformation.



Ports

- For the first time in 2023-24, two Indian ports were included in the top 30 ports in the world, according to the World Bank's Container Port Performance Index (CPPI).
- India's ranking in the international shipment category in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index (LPI) improved from 44th in 2013-14 to 22nd in 2024-25.

The private sector has also played an important role in giving new heights to the country's maritime sector. Thousands of crores of rupees have been invested in the last 10 years under Public-Private Partnerships. With this partnership, our ports have not only been upgraded to global standards but have also become future ready.

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



or ships, we will manufacture them in India. With this vision, India's maritime sector is also implementing next-generation reforms. Starting today, every major port in the country is freeing itself from various documents and procedures. The One Nation, One Document, and One Nation, One Port processes are further simplifying trade. To this end, laws dating back to the British era have been changed. The central government has reformed the maritime sector and presented five maritime laws in a new avatar. These laws are bringing about a major transformation in the shipping sector and port governance. Undoubtedly, India has been an expert in building large ships for centuries. Next-generation

reforms will help restore this forgotten glory of the country. Over the past decade, more than 40 ships and submarines have joined the Navy. Except for a few, all of these were built in India. The massive INS Vikrant was also built in India, with the high-quality steel used to build it also manufactured in India. That is, through policy changes, today India's leadership is giving political will and strong confidence to India's strength and skills, so that India's coastline emerges as the gateway to the country's prosperity.

India is becoming a major maritime power through new initiatives. Enhancing India's military capabilities in the 21st century is one of the country's priorities. India is safeguarding its interests everywhere,



India is poised to become a global leader in the maritime sector with a planned investment of eight trillion rupees and the creation of 15 million jobs by 2047. Our Maritime Amrit Kaal vision is based on prosperity, sustainability, and pride in our maritime heritage, which is fully aligned with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a Viksit Bharat 2047.

Sarbananda Sonowal,

*Union Minister of Ports,
Shipping and Waterways*



whether on land, in the air, in the deep sea, or in the vast expanse of space. Continuous reforms are underway to achieve this. For a long time, connectivity infrastructure along the border and coastline was neglected. Unprecedented progress has been made in this regard in the last ten years. In the past decade, India has also focused on its remote islands. Even those uninhabited islands are being continuously monitored. Furthermore, new identities are being created for these islands and they are being given new names. Seamounts on the seabed in the Indian Ocean are also being named. In 2024, on India's initiative, an international organization has named five such locations. In the Indian Ocean, Ashoka Seamount, Harshvardhan Seamount, Rajaraja Chola Seamount, Kalpataru Ridge, and Chandragupta

Ridge are adding to India's pride.

The private sector has also played a significant role in elevating the country's maritime sector to new heights. Thousands of crores of rupees have been invested in the last 10-11 years under public-private partnerships. This partnership has not only upgraded ports to global standards but also made them future-ready. Private sector participation has fostered both innovation and capacity.

Certainly, India has a long coastline, strategic global trade routes, world-class ports, and a broad and ambitious vision for the Blue Economy. Today, India possesses infrastructure, innovation, and clear vision. This sector is gaining new momentum from the new ecosystem, and the world is participating in India's resurgent maritime development journey. ●



Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0

Three Major Connectivity Projects Also Approved

As a result of the Central Government's commitment to public welfare, the Union Cabinet has approved Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0. This decision will not only ensure access to clean drinking water through taps for rural families but will also improve water management.

The Cabinet also approved several other important proposals, including three major connectivity projects: the West Bengal-Jharkhand Multi-Tracking Rail Project, the Jewar-Delhi NCR Greenfield Corridor, and the 4-lane Ujjain-Delhi-Mumbai Expressway. These projects will boost employment, tourism, and industry in these areas...

DECISION: Approval to extend the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) until December 2028. It will be restructured as JJM 2.0 by increasing the budget.

IMPACT: The Cabinet has approved the enhancement of the total outlay to Rs. 8.69 lakh crore with total central assistance of Rs. 3.59 lakh crore, enhanced from the Rs. 2.08 lakh crore approved in 2019-20, i.e., an additional central share of Rs. 1.51 lakh crore.

- The mission will be restructured to focus not just on infrastructure but also on providing clean drinking water to people. This will strengthen drinking water management and institutional mechanisms to ensure a sustainable drinking water supply in rural areas.
- A uniform national digital framework called 'Sujalam Bharat' will be implemented to digitally map the drinking water supply system from source to tap across the country.
- Under JJM 2.0, the target is to provide tap water connections to all 19.36 crore rural households across the country by December 2028.

DECISION: Approval for the construction of the 4-laning of the Badnawar-Petla-wad-Thandla-Timarwani section of the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway (NH-752D) in Madhya Pradesh on a hybrid annuity mode at a cost of Rs. 3,839.42 crore.

IMPACT: The approved corridor will connect Ujjain to the Timarwani Interchange on the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway (DME). The primary purpose of the proposed four-lane project corridor is to improve travel efficiency and is expected to reduce travel time by approx. one hour. The proposed project will provide high-speed connectivity. It is designed for improved safety and seamless traffic flow. It will also reduce congestion and operational costs. The project will strengthen infrastructure in the region and further accelerate the overall economic development of Dhar and Jhabua in Madhya Pradesh.

DECISION: Revised outlay approved for the construction of a new road to Jewar International Airport.

IMPACT: A revised outlay of Rs. 3,630.77 crore was approved for the construction of a new road from the Delhi-Faridabad-Ballabhgarh-Sohna bypass of the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway to Jewar International Airport on a hybrid annuity basis in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana. This 31.42-kilometre corridor will provide direct, high-speed

connectivity from South Delhi, Faridabad, and Gurugram to Jewar International Airport, boosting economic growth and operational efficiency in the National Capital Region. This corridor will connect the Eastern Peripheral Expressway, Yamuna Expressway, and the Dedicated Freight Corridor. This corridor will be a significant tool for infrastructure improvement, urban infrastructure transformation, regional connectivity, and national operational efficiency.



DECISION: Approval of two multi-tracking projects covering five districts of West Bengal and Jharkhand.

IMPACT: The total estimated cost of these projects is Rs. 4,474 crore. These will be completed by 2030-31. These projects include the Sainthia-Pakur Fourth Line and the Santragachi-Kharagpur Fourth Line. This will add approximately 192 kilometres to Indian Railways' existing network. The increased rail line capacity will significantly improve traffic flow, enhancing Indian Railways' operational efficiency and service reliability. This multi-tracking project will help streamline operations and reduce congestion.

DECISION: Approval to upgrade Madurai Airport in Tamil Nadu to an international airport.

IMPACT: Granting international status to Madurai Airport will enhance regional connectivity, boost trade, and accelerate economic development in the region. The airport's capacity to handle international pilgrims and business is commensurate with the city's historical significance.

DECISION: Approval to change guidelines for investment from countries sharing a land border with India.

IMPACT: The Cabinet has approved changes to the FDI policy to ensure timely approval for investments in key sectors requiring approval under PN3. These amendments aim to attract more FDI investment from global funds for startups and deep tech and advance ease of doing business. The quick decision within 60 days will help companies establish collaborations to expand manufacturing in India. The Cabinet-approved changes to the FDI policy for investments from countries sharing a land border will support the manufacturing of electronic components, capital goods, and solar cells. ●





Rs 33,500 crore Infra Boost

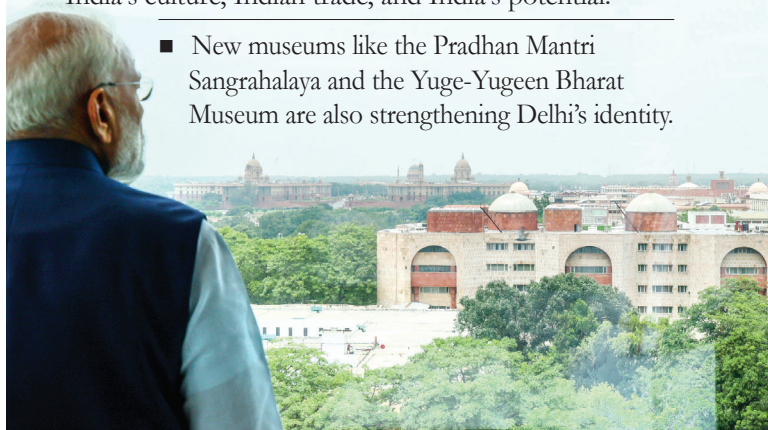
Delhi Is Witnessing A New Era

Delhi is the city of India's historic journey. This city is now witnessing a new era. This is the era of self-confidence of a new India. This self-confidence of India will now lead the country towards a developed future. Furthering this vision, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on March 8th, at the inauguration and foundation stone laying of various development projects in Delhi, said we must all work together to fulfil every resolve...

A beautifully adorned Delhi... the nation's capital transforming into the growth engine of a Viksit Bharat. Delhi is becoming a reflection of the country's progress. Over the past 11 years, the central government has given the national capital a new identity with a clear vision. Whether it is India's own Parliament building of independent India or initiatives like Bharat Mandapam, Yashobhoomi, Kartavya Path, Kartavya Bhavan, the National War Memorial, and the Metro, countless efforts have given the country's capital a new form and character. Today, Delhi is not just the capital of India. It is also India's identity, a symbol of India's energy. Therefore, the development of Delhi is not merely the development of a city; it is linked to the image of the entire country. The more modern Delhi becomes, the more convenient Delhi becomes, the better Delhi's connectivity becomes, and the more strongly India's self-confidence will be visible before the world. Inaugurating and laying the foundation stone

Heritage Sites...

- The National War Memorial has been built to honour the brave soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the country.
- The new Parliament House, Kartavya Path, Kartavya Bhavan, and Seva Teerth all reflect the new thinking of 21st-century India.
- Places like Bharat Mandapam and Yashobhoomi have become major platforms for introducing the world to India's culture, Indian trade, and India's potential.
- New museums like the Pradhan Mantri Sangrahalaya and the Yuge-Yugeen Bharat Museum are also strengthening Delhi's identity.



Inauguration and foundation stone laying of metro projects

- PM Modi visited the GPRA Type-5 quarters in Sarojini Nagar and handed over keys to women allottees.
- Inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for Delhi Metro projects worth approximately ₹18,300 crore.
- He inaugurated two new Delhi Metro corridors. These include the approximately 12.3-kilometre Majlis Park-Maujpur Babarpur (Pink Line) corridor and the approximately 9.9-kilometre Deepali Chowk-Majlis Park (Magenta Line) corridor.
- The new connectivity will benefit several areas of Delhi, including Burari, Jagatpur-Wazirabad, Khajuri Khas, Bhajanpura, Yamuna Vihar, Madhuban Chowk, Haiderpur Badli Mor, Bhalswa, and Majlis Park.
- Laid the foundation stone for three new corridors totalling approximately 16.10 km under Phase 5A of the Delhi Metro.
- These three new corridors are RK Ashram Marg to Indraprastha, Aerocity to Indira Gandhi Airport Terminal-1, and Tughlakabad to Kalindi Kunj.
- These corridors will provide direct connectivity to several important locations in the national capital. They will improve connectivity for people travelling between Noida, South Delhi, and the airport.



Scan the QR code to view the full programme of the Prime Minister.



Inauguration and foundation stone laying of projects under the GPRA

₹15,200

crore worth of projects inaugurated and foundation stones laid under the General Pool Residential Accommodation (GPRA) Redevelopment Scheme.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ These projects are located in key locations such as Sarojini Nagar, Netaji Nagar, Kasturba Nagar, and Srinivasपुरi. | <p>innovative self-sustaining financial model that ensures that redevelopment is carried out without burdening the government treasury.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ This is part of the government's ambitious programme to modernise GPRA colonies and create world-class infrastructure for government employees and administrative offices. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Over 9,350 modern flats will be provided for government employees under the redevelopment scheme. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ These projects have been redeveloped through an | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Approximately 4.8 million square feet of office space will also be created, significantly enhancing administrative efficiency. |

for several development projects worth approximately ₹33,500 crore in Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi noted the rapidly expanding amenities and infrastructure in Delhi. A few days ago, Delhi was connected to Meerut via the Namo Bharat Express, a high-speed train. With the launch of Metro Phase 4, the Delhi Metro network has expanded to over 375 kilometres.

The new Metro section will provide great conve-

nience to the capital, extending its benefits to residents of the National Capital Region. The central government is striving to provide clean, comfortable, and modern bus services to the people of Delhi. More than four thousand electric buses provided by the central government are serving the people of Delhi today. And in just the past year, about 1800 new buses have been deployed on Delhi's roads. ●

PM Modi lays the foundation stone for Kota Airport

Giving Impetus to Hadoti's Aspirations

Clear intentions and strong resolve accelerate the pace of development exponentially. This is evident in Rajasthan today. The resolve for a developed India is gaining new momentum here. In this direction, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for Kota Airport on March 7th. This modern airport, built at a cost of approximately 1500 crore rupees, will accelerate the development of the entire region in the future.

The city of Kota in Rajasthan is famous not only for education but also as a major energy hub. Electricity is generated here from various sources, including nuclear, coal, gas, and water. Kota's Kachori, Doria sarees, stone, and sandstone are also renowned worldwide. The Basmati rice of nearby Bundi is renowned in international markets for its aroma. This entire region, known for its hard work, manufacturing, and potential, is now set to gain a new identity with the construction of an airport, which will accelerate the development of Kota and the surrounding areas.

In the future, the people of Kota and its nearby places will no longer need to travel to Jaipur or

Jodhpur to catch flights, as an airport will soon be operational in Kota. At the foundation stone laying ceremony of the Kota airport, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, referring to the 2023 event, said, "I had said that Kota's airport will not remain just a dream but will be made a reality. Today, I am happy that the moment has come when the construction work of Kota airport is about to begin."

Kota is being provided with strong connectivity from all sides. On one hand, under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, both major railway stations in Kota are being equipped with modern facilities, while on the other hand, the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway passing through Kota and Bundi is opening new



Scan the QR code to view the full programme of the Prime Minister.



कोटा-बूंदी ग्रीनफील्ड एयरपोर्ट

शिलान्यास समारोह



Hadoti: Major center of faith

Hadoti is a major center of enterprise and faith. For centuries, devotees from across the country and the world have come here to visit the holy seat of Shri Mathuradhish Ji, the pilgrimage sites of Keshav-Rai-Patan, Khadi Ganesh Ji Maharaj, and Godavari Balaji Dham. The view of Chambal from Garadia Mahadev is mesmerizing. Wildlife sanctuaries like Mukundra Hills and Ramgarh Vishdhari make this entire region a major hub for wildlife tourism. With increased air connectivity, tourists from across the country and the world will flock here. This will directly benefit the youth, businesses, and the local economy.

Kota Will Write a New Chapter of Development: LS Speaker

Lok Sabha Speaker and Kota MP Om Birla, who was present at the foundation stone laying ceremony for the Kota airport, said that the long-awaited dream of a greenfield airport for the people of Kota is about to come true. The construction of the Kota airport faced many obstacles, but under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Hadoti received a significant gift. He said that he met with entrepreneurs seeking to set up industries in Kota, but the lack of an airport held them back. With the airport completed by 2027, Kota will write a new story of development. With the arrival of industries, the IT sector will also flourish in Kota. New dimensions will emerge in the tourism sector.



When connectivity increases, development possibilities also gain momentum. Over the past 11 years, new airports built across the country have accelerated development. These new airports have facilitated air travel, boosted tourism, created employment opportunities for youth, and accelerated regional development

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

doors for development for the entire region. Due to the strengthening infrastructure, the journey to major cities like Delhi, Vadodara, and Mumbai is now just a few hours away. Improved connectivity will make this region a major hub for agro-based industries. ●



Scan the QR code to view the full programme of the Prime Minister.

India Strengthened by the Power of Infrastructure

South India holds an important place in the country's economy. This is why the central government is continuously increasing investment in infrastructure to accelerate the development of the southern states. In this context, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on March 11, dedicated and laid the foundation stones for development projects worth ₹16,450 crore across Keralam and Tamil Nadu.

In the Union Budget, the Central Government has allocated a provision of ₹12 lakh crore for infrastructure spending, a move that underscores its strong commitment to boosting national investment and developing the country's infrastructure framework. Continuing this thrust, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on March 11, inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for development projects worth ₹10,800 crore in Ernakulam, Keralam, and ₹5,650 crore in Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu. These development projects encompass initiatives related to highways, railways, rural roads, clean energy, gas distribution networks, and oil refineries.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for Bharat Petroleum's City Gas Distribution Network in Tamil Nadu. This initiative will make Piped Natural Gas (PNG) available to approximately 900,000 households and numerous commercial establishments across the Nilgiris and Erode

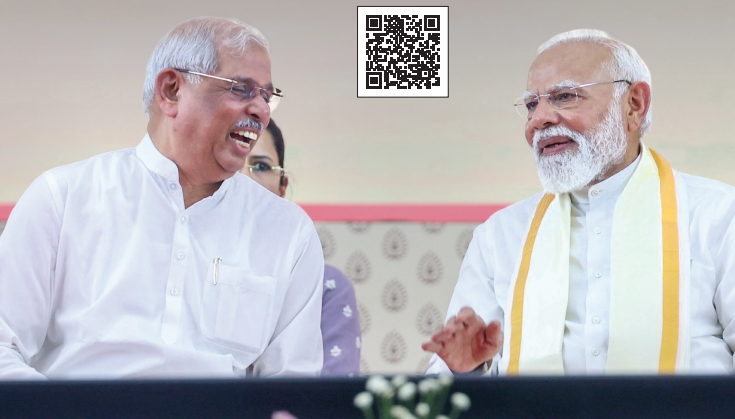


With the aim of ensuring Keralam progresses in the field of solar power generation, the foundation stone of a 50 MW Floating Solar Project has been laid in West Kallada . With a very large number of water bodies in Keralam, the state holds great potential in the field of floating solar power.

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Inauguration and Foundation Stone Laying of Projects in Kerala

- Foundation stone for a polypropylene unit at BPCL's Kochi Refinery. This polypropylene unit has a capacity of 400 kilotonnes per annum.
- Inauguration of National Highway projects, including the six-laning of the Thalapady-Chengala section of NH-66 and the six-laning of the Kozhikode Bypass from Vengalam to Ramanattukara. These two projects entail an expenditure of ₹4,790 crore.
- Inauguration of 23 rural roads constructed under the PMGSY.
- Inauguration of the redeveloped Shoranur Junction, Kuttippuram, and Changanassery railway stations under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme.
- Dedication to the nation of the electrification project for the Shoranur-Nilambur Road railway line.
- Foundation stone for a 50 MW floating solar power project in West Kallada, Kollam district, Kerala.



districts. PM Modi stated that these projects would enhance energy availability and connectivity while simultaneously generating thousands of job opportunities for the youth of Tamil Nadu. He further noted that, over a span of just eight years, the positive environmental impact of this project would be equivalent to planting 40 million trees.

Coconut groves and paddy fields further enhance the prosperity of Keralam. Continuing this trajectory of development, and following the inauguration and laying of foundation stones for development projects worth ₹10,800 crore in Keralam, PM Modi addressed a public gathering. He stated that the decision to officially



Inauguration and Foundation Stone Laying of Projects in Tamil Nadu

- Foundation stone for BPCL's City Gas Distribution (CGD) network in the Nilgiris and Erode, valued at over ₹3,680 crore. This project will provide PNG connections to over 8.8 lakh households and lead to the establishment of more than 201 CNG stations.
- Dedication to the nation of Indian Oil Corporation's Lube Blending Plant in Chennai, with a capacity of 672 thousand metric tonnes per annum. An investment of approximately ₹1,490 crore has been made in this facility.
- Inauguration of 89 rural roads, spanning a total length of 370 km, in Tamil Nadu under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).
- Foundation stone for a Greenfield Bypass near Gangaikonda Cholapuram on NH-81.

recognise the state's name as "Keralam"—rather than "Kerala"—is a mark of respect for the sentiments of the local people. It also serves as a symbol of reverence for the rich heritage of the Malayalam language and culture. Today, the nation and the world alike are recognising this state by the name "Keralam".

The world today lauds the investments being made in infrastructure within India. With regard to infrastructure investments in Keralam and Tamil Nadu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi reiterated that every rupee invested in infrastructure generates new employment opportunities. All these projects, collectively, are set to provide new jobs to thousands of young people. ●



‘The Budget’

Turning Public Aspirations into Reality

The Budget webinars, play a crucial role in ensuring that the benefits of its potential reach the citizens of the country, and that every single penny allocated in the Budget is channeled—as swiftly as possible—to the specific purposes for which it was intended. With this aim, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the third Budget webinar on March 6, focusing on ‘Agriculture and Rural Transformation,’ and subsequently addressed the fourth webinar on March 9, centered on the theme ‘Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas—Fulfilling Aspirations of People

Agriculture stands as a strategic pillar in India’s long-term development journey, and guided by this very philosophy, the Central Government has been consistently strengthening the agricultural sector. During the post-Budget webinar on Agriculture and Rural Transformation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi noted that the country is currently achieving record levels of production across a wide spectrum, ranging from food grains and pulses to oilseeds. However, now that the second quarter of the 21st century has commenced, it is equally imperative to infuse the agricultural sector with renewed energy. This year’s Budget features several new initiatives aimed at achieving precisely this objective.

Fundamental sectors—such as

Key Highlights of PM Modi’s Address at the Webinar on “Agriculture and Rural Transformation”

- ✦ The Union Budget for this financial year has provided a new direction to agriculture and rural transformation.
- ✦ Key government initiatives have reduced risks for farmers, providing them with fundamental economic security.
- ✦ Promoting high-value agriculture will transform the sector into a globally competitive domain.
- ✦ Increased export-oriented production will generate employment in rural areas through processing and value addition.
- ✦ Fisheries can emerge as a high-value, high-impact sector for rural prosperity and a key pillar for export growth.
- ✦ The government is developing digital public infrastructure for agriculture through ‘Agri Stack’.
- ✦ Technology yields results when systems adopt it, institutions integrate it, and entrepreneurs innovate upon it.
- ✦ A massive campaign for storage infrastructure is currently underway across the country, with warehouses being constructed in the hundreds of thousands.

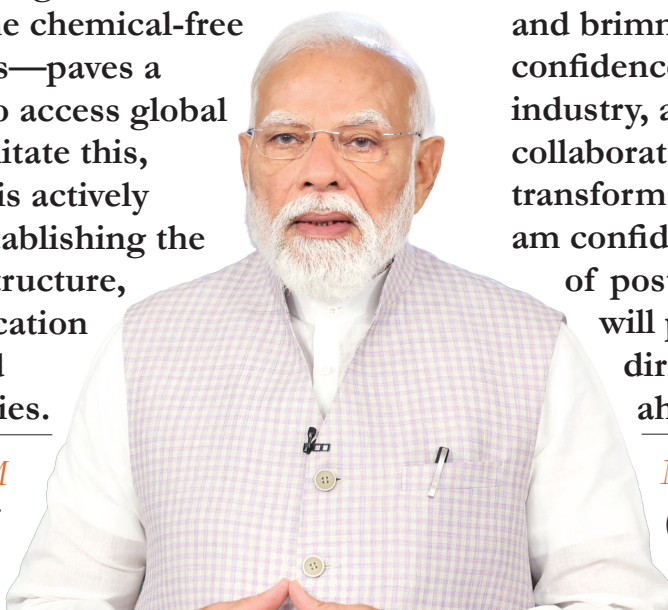
“Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas: Fulfilling the Aspirations of the People” Key Highlights of PM Modi’s Address at the Webinar

- ✦ Today, India is working with a vision focused on preventive and holistic healthcare.
- ✦ Over the past few years, the country's healthcare infrastructure has been strengthened, and access to healthcare services has been extended to every village.
- ✦ Medical colleges have been established in hundreds of districts through initiatives such as the Ayushman Bharat scheme and ‘Arogya Mandirs’ (Health Centers).
- ✦ Our traditions of Yoga and Ayurveda are gaining popularity across the globe.
- ✦ The process of linking our education system with the real economy must be further accelerated.
- ✦ We must intensify our focus on subjects such as AI and automation, the digital economy, and design-led manufacturing.
- ✦ As we prepare for the technologies of the future, it is crucial that no girl child is left behind due to a lack of opportunities.
- ✦ In recent years, sports have come to be viewed as a vital stream of national development.
- ✦ Initiatives like ‘Khelo India’ have infused new energy into the country's sports ecosystem, and sports infrastructure is being strengthened across the nation.



In India, we must emphasize chemical-free agriculture and natural farming. Natural farming—and the chemical-free products it yields—paves a highway for us to access global markets. To facilitate this, the government is actively planning and establishing the necessary infrastructure, including certification mechanisms and laboratory facilities.

Narendra Modi, PM
(At the Budget Webinar on March 6)



Youth power truly transforms into national power only when it is healthy, disciplined, and brimming with self-confidence. When institutions, industry, and academia collaborate, the pace of transformation accelerates. I am confident that this series of post-Budget webinars will provide a concrete direction for the times ahead.

Narendra Modi, PM
(At the Budget Webinar on March 9)

education, skill development, healthcare, tourism, sports, and culture—serve as powerful means for fulfilling the aspirations of the people. Speaking at the webinar held under the theme ‘Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas—Fulfilling Aspirations of People’, PM Modi observed that over the past decade, a significant shift has taken place in the nation’s col-

lective mindset. Today, every young Indian aspires to undertake something innovative. This new mindset constitutes the nation’s greatest strength; it represents the most valuable capital for building a bright future. To effectively capitalize on this asset, it is essential that we continuously modernize our education system. ●

PM MUDRA, e-NAM, and UPI

A Strong Cycle of Economic Security

India is one of the world's fastest-growing major economies. Whether it's promoting self-employment and employment through the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) or facilitating farmers' sale of their produce through platforms like e-NAM, the government is giving impetus to fresh momentum. Furthermore, the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), launched to enable small and large businesses to accept payments anytime, anywhere, and simplify transactions for citizens, is making digital transactions accessible and inclusive.

The country's economic strength can be gauged by the fact that just last year, India became the world's fourth-largest economy. If this pace of progress continues, it is estimated that India's economy will reach the third position in the next two and a half to three years. Furthermore, by 2030, India's gross domestic product (GDP) will reach US\$7.3 trillion. Micro and small enterprises (MSMEs) play a major role in this growth. There are over 60 million MSMEs in the country. This has provided employment opportunities to millions of people.

The government expanded the definition of MSMEs in last year's budget, giving them the confidence to continue their growth. Until a decade ago, MSMEs were unable to easily access loans. However, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, access to loans has become easier, and this has had a positive impact on the country's economy. The Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana has disbursed loans worth over ₹37 lakh crore. It has become not just a source of financial assistance but a means to fulfill the dreams of every Indian.

Over the past 11-12 years, the government has been creat-



PM Mudra Yojana

Boosting Entrepreneurial Revolution

Since its launch on April 8, 2015, the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana has fostered an entrepreneurship revolution across the country. It has strengthened the power of financial inclusion and grassroots innovation. More than 5.6 million loans have been approved through this scheme, making more than ₹ 37 lakh crore available for entrepreneurship...

- The PM Mudra Yojana provides loans up to ₹10 lakh to micro and small enterprises without any guarantee. This enables employment and self-employment.
- In the financial year 2024-25, the Mudra loan amount has been increased to ₹20 lakh under the new category of Tarun Plus. This loan is available to entrepreneurs who have successfully repaid their previous loans.
- In the Budget announcement for 2025-26, the government has introduced a separate category for homestays under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana. Homestays located in rural areas are eligible to avail this loan.
- Over 56.31 crore Mudra loans worth ₹37.31 lakh crore have been disbursed since the inception of the PM Mudra Yojana scheme till January 2, 2026.



₹15.6  **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana**

lakh crore has been disbursed to 33.4 crore loan accounts of SC, ST, OBC, and minority entrepreneurs from the inception of the scheme till October 2025.

69% of small loans were received by women entrepreneurs

“The definition of MSMEs has been changed to enable small businesses to expand. Credit guarantee coverage has been increased. Under the Mudra scheme, ordinary citizens entering the business sector for the first time have been given large loans without a guarantee. More than 50% of the beneficiaries are from SC, ST, and OBC families. The effort is to ensure that small businesses fulfill the big dreams of young people.”

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

ing a cycle of economic security, along with social security, to increase employment and self-employment. These policies have transformed India's economy in unprecedented ways. To achieve upper middle-income status by 2047, the centenary of independence, the country is moving forward on a strong foundation of economic growth, structural reforms, and social progress. Not only have

millions of people accessed loans easily, but platforms like the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) have allowed farmers access to 1,522 mandis for selling their agricultural produce, providing them with financial security.

UPI in India has transformed the way digital money is transacted globally. A study suggests that by 2030, India's digital economy will comprise

National Agricultural Market

Easy Market Access for Farmers

The National Agricultural Market (e-NAM) has connected farmers and traders through a transparent and competitive digital platform. This has provided them with more opportunities to sell their produce and is connecting agricultural markets across the country. This platform has provided farmers with a cycle of economic security by giving them the freedom to sell their produce at higher prices...



- Launched on April 14, 2016, agricultural produce worth more than ₹ 4.40 lakh crore has been traded on this platform.
- Provides free mobile-based price information services for 24/7 notified commodities through the e-NAM mobile application.
- This app shows farmers the prevailing prices and accessibility maps of mandis within a 100 km radius.
- Facilitates quality testing of agricultural produce. Provides infrastructure for cleaning, grading, sorting, and packaging.
- A toll-free helpline number, 1800-270-0224, is available to address farmers' issues related to e-NAM.
- Farmers' dependence on middlemen has decreased. Bargaining power has strengthened. E-NAM is contributing to the long-term development of India's agricultural economy.



E-NAM Network

Mandis	1522
Tradable Agricultural Commodities	247
States and Union Territories	27
Registered Farmers	18 Million
Traders	2,72,000
Commission Agents	1,20,000
FPOs	4,698

(Data as of February 28, 2026.)



A Simple Digital Retail Payment Experience

Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has simplified retail payments. 640 million transactions are processed daily. Launched on April 11, 2016, UPI is the story of technology built for people, connecting lives and economies around the world...

More Than **640** million transactions are processed daily through UPI

65 million merchants, 691 banks are live on UPI.

- 21.70 billion transactions worth ₹28.33 lakh crore were processed in January 2026.
- In India, more than 81% of total retail payment transactions are processed through UPI.
- UPI is also available in 8 other countries, including Bhutan, France, Mauritius, Nepal, Qatar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and the UAE.
- The International Monetary Fund has recognized that UPI is the world's largest retail fast payment system by transaction volume.
- According to the ACI Worldwide Report, UPI accounts for approximately 49% of global real time payment system transaction volume.



nearly a fifth of the country's total economy. Over the past decade, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country has witnessed remarkable technological advancements, establishing it as a global superpower. It has also regulated the informal economy. Technology has made money transactions more transparent. ●



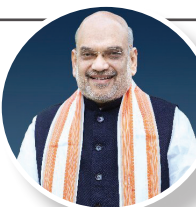
PMO India
@PMOIndia

पीएम किसान सम्मान निधि योजना देश के छोटे किसानों के लिए, सामाजिक सुरक्षा का एक माध्यम बन गई है: PM @narendramodi in Guwahati



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रक्षा क्षेत्र में भारत पूरी गति से आत्मनिर्भरता की ओर बढ़ रहा है, और इसके सकारात्मक परिणाम स्पष्ट दिख रहे हैं। आज भारतीय नौसेना के लिए वॉरशिप और सबमरीन भारतीय शिपयार्ड्स में ही बन रही हैं। हमारा लक्ष्य स्पष्ट है 2030 तक दुनिया के टॉप टेन शिपबिल्डिंग नेशन्स में स्थान बनाना और 2047 तक टॉप फाइव में पहुँचना।



Amit Shah
@AmitShah

UCC, डेमोग्राफिक चेंज की रोकथाम में भी कारगर सिद्ध होगा। मोदी सरकार द्वारा लाया गया हाई पावर डेमोग्राफी मिशन जल्द ही अपना काम शुरू करेगा।



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गरिबों का स्वास्थ्य अच्छा रहें, उन्हें कम लागत में दवा उपलब्ध हो, इस उद्देश्य से प्रधानमंत्री श्री @narendramodi जी द्वारा कार्यान्वित 'प्रधानमंत्री भारतीय जन औषधि परियोजना' के अंतर्गत देश के गरिबों को दवाई औसत बाजार मूल्य की तुलना में 50 से 90 प्रतिशत तक सस्ती मिल रही है। सस्ती दवा के साथ साथ जन औषधि परियोजना देश भर में रोजगार सृजन में भी मददगार साबित हो रही है।



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@ChouhanShivraj

आज हमारी बेटीयों बड़ी संख्या में कृषि शिक्षा की ओर आगे बढ़ रही हैं। इसी दिशा में ICAR शीघ्र ही एक जेडर प्लेटफॉर्म लॉन्च करने का रहा है, जो पूरे देश के कृषि अनुसंधान नेटवर्क में महिला-केंद्रित शोध को नई गति और दिशा देगा।



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माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी के नेतृत्व में भारत में रोजगार के नए अवसर अब मेट्रो शहरों से आगे बढ़कर Tier-2 और Tier-3 शहरों में तेजी से विकसित हो रहे हैं।

देश के लगभग 70% रोजगार नॉन-मेट्रो शहरों में हैं, जिसमें Tier-3 शहरों की हिस्सेदारी 40% है। यह बढ़ती औद्योगिक गतिविधियों और युवाओं के लिए नए अवसरों का संकेत है।

Modernising Delhi is essential to showcase India to the world: Modi

The Hindu Bureau
New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday inaugurated two new Delhi Metro corridors and laid the foundation stone for three more metro lines. He said the foundation stone was working in mission mode to address the diverse challenges facing the city.

He inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for projects worth ₹15,200 crore under the Central government's General Pool Residential Accommodation (GPRA) redevelopment plan. The total cost of all projects is around ₹33,500 crore. Addressing a rally at Bhairi, Mr. Modi said the projects ranging from the growth of the Metro network to the establishment of modern residential complexes for thousands of government employees would give a new momentum to the development of Delhi. "The people of Delhi, with new hope and a new resolve, formed the symbol of Indian democracy, and that modernising the capital's infrastructure



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being felicitated by Union Minister Manohar Lal and Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Sunday. ANI

these development works," he said. The two new corridors are the Majlis Park-Majpur Bahapur (Pink Line) corridor of 12.3 km and the Deepali Chowk-Majlis Park (Magenta Line) corridor of 9.9 km. The three new corridors for which the foundation stone was laid are R.K. Ashram Marg to Indraprastha, Aerocity to Indira Gandhi Airport Terminal 1 and Taghlabad to Kalini Raji.

Global identity

Mr. Modi said Delhi was the global identity and energy symbol of Indian democracy, and that modernising the capital's infrastructure

and connectivity was essential for showcasing India's confidence to the world. "The more modern, convenient, and better connected Delhi becomes, the more strongly India's self-confidence will be visible to the world," he said. Attacking the previous Aam Aadmi Party government, Mr. Modi said it was essential to remove the "AAP-da" (disastrous) government in Delhi as if there had not been an "AAP-da" government, the Metro Phase Four project would have been completed long ago. "For their own political interest, the previous government had put the convenience of millions of people of Delhi at stake. Now, after the formation of the BJP government, SVANIKSHI credit card, new convention facilities and museums, and would soon get a clean Yamuna. "The current development model focuses on immediate action and tangible results, ensuring that the projects are swiftly transitioned from planning to ground-level execution. Every family in Delhi will now lead a more prosperous life," he said.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said the government had taken steps to tackle pollution and waterlogging and brought a new drainage master plan for the city after 50 years to address long-standing issues. She highlighted changes brought in to improve transparency in governance, schemes for women and the poor.

Speaking at the NDA rally in Tricity, Modi said the upcoming election was the most important election in Tamil Nadu's history. "The choice before the people is clear. One path leads to dynastic politics and corruption. The other path leads to development, opportunity and honest governance," he said. Modi said "the desire for change is gaining huge momentum. The whole state has made up its mind to throw out DMK govt. People want a port for every family, not for just one family and they know only NDA can bring that change."

He said infrastructure funds given to Tamil Nadu had tripled in the last decade. DMK's protection, "he claimed. The rally was attended by leaders of the alliance parties, including AIADMK general secretary Eddupadi K. Palanisami, PMK's Anbumani Ramadoss, ADMK's TTV Dinakaran and TMC leader G.K. Vasan. This is the third time Modi has visited the state this year, the first land put to a designated tea garden worker. Distribution will then be carried out across the state. CM Hemanth Bawa said that DMK has become a slave of Congress and managed to retain the alliance only by begging Congress," he claimed. Earlier, at a govt event, the PM inaugurated and laid foundation stones for projects worth ₹5,600 crore.

PM: TN wants a govt for every family, not for just one family

Positions NDA As Alternative To DMK In State

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Tricity: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Wednesday positioned NDA as a credible alternative to Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam in Tamil Nadu and called upon the people to support the alliance to bring transparent governance and faster development to the state.

Speaking at the NDA rally in Tricity, Modi said the upcoming election was the most important election in Tamil Nadu's history. "The choice before the people is clear. One path leads to dynastic politics and corruption. The other path leads to development, opportunity and honest governance," he said. Modi said "the desire for change is gaining huge momentum. The whole state has made up its mind to throw out DMK govt. People want a port for every family, not for just one family and they know only NDA can bring that change."



AIADMK's general secretary Eddupadi K. Palanisami felicitating Modi in Tricity

The NDA govt has spent nearly ₹ 57,000 crore on highways, which is four times more than the Congress DMK govt. "Nearly ₹ 8,000 crores has been invested in building rural roads," Modi said. Farmers of the delta are the backbone of Tamil Nadu's food security but DMK has failed to deliver on its promises, he said. "They deserved fair prices, good facilities and modern storage infrastructure. DMK also promised a big increase in MSP for paddy but failed to fulfil these promises," he said. He alleged that illegal sand mining was destroying rivers and threatening the environment. "Yet those responsible for this continue to enjoy

PM to give land deeds to Assam tea workers

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Guwahati: PM Modi will land deeds to thousands of tea workers in poll-bound Assam on March 13, giving them a stake in plantations where they have lived and worked for two centuries since British planters brought them from villages of Chota Nagpur division, Bihar and Bengal.

Nearly 15 lakh families across 825 tea estates stand to benefit, with the initiative seeking to legislate land rights of generations living in labour lines without homesteads of their own. "The PM will hand over the first land put to a designated tea garden worker. Distribution will then be carried out across the state," CM Himanta Biswa Sarma said. Tea tribes and Adivasis, about 2% of Assam's population, are suffering from poverty. DMK has become a slave of Congress and managed to retain the alliance only by begging Congress," he claimed. Earlier, at a govt event, the PM inaugurated and laid foundation stones for projects worth ₹5,600 crore.

Won't leave our people stranded in W Asia: Modi

Vishnu Varma

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday assured the people that the government will not leave them stranded in West Asia. "The LDF and UDF are the only parties that have the capacity to govern Kerala. We will support them to ensure the welfare of the people of Kerala," he said.

Modi said the "policy" of the Congress party, a reference to the Janasiksha and Janasiksha, is to leave the people of Kerala stranded in West Asia. "The LDF and UDF are the only parties that have the capacity to govern Kerala. We will support them to ensure the welfare of the people of Kerala," he said. "The LDF and UDF are the only parties that have the capacity to govern Kerala. We will support them to ensure the welfare of the people of Kerala," he said.

PM unveils ₹10,800-cr projects in Kerala, State govt boycotts event

Our Bureau
Kochi

Ahead of the Prime Minister's inauguration of the highway expansion, Mothamattur was protested at Ramankutty in Kozhikode, describing the exclusion of a State Minister from the event as a humiliation to the State.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing a public meeting in Ernakulam on Wednesday. ANI

KEY PROJECTS

Among the key projects inaugurated were the ₹5,500 crore Polypolypropylene Unit at the BPCL Kochi Refinery, the six-lane Kozhikode Bypass, a 30-MW floating solar project at West Kallada in Kollam, three redeveloped railway stations under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, and

the Shoranur-Nilambur Road Railway Line Electrification Project.

SOLAR PROJECT

Speaking on the occasion, Modi said the unit at BPCL Kochi Refinery will have the capacity to produce four lakh tonnes per annum to support packaging, automotive components, medical devices,

Modi stressed the need to generate more power to support various industrial sectors as India emerges as a manufacturing hub.

While laying the foundation stone for the 50-MW floating solar project at West Kallada, Modi stressed the need to generate more power to support various industrial sectors as India emerges as a manufacturing hub.

modular manufacturing hub in AI and semiconductor industries. Clean and green energy will be essential to support this growth, he said, adding that the project will contribute to India's clean-energy goals and reinforce the country's commitment to a sustainable and low-carbon future.

Kerala, with a large number of water bodies, holds great potential in floating solar power plants. He said the six-lane NH-66, built at a cost of over ₹2,650 crore, forms part of the Mumbai-Kanyakumari Economic Corridor.

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi is keen to have expressed serious concern over India's energy security and the ongoing tensions involving the United States, Israel, Iran and the Gulf nations.

While during a meeting of the Union Cabinet on Tuesday, the Prime Minister directed his ministers to remain vigilant and ensure that citizens are not inconvenienced as a result of the evolving geopolitical situation. Kerala's energy security and protecting the interests of citizens.

The Prime Minister's remarks are aimed at providing global uncertainty with governments worldwide closely watching the developments of the West Asia conflict.

Emergency plans are in place, and the sectors that could be directly affected by fluctuations in energy supply, said a senior source. Modi is also keen to have highlighted the importance of strong coordination among ministers so that the government can respond effectively and in a timely manner should a crisis arise across departments would be crucial in safeguarding the country's energy security and protecting the interests of citizens.

PM asks ministers to keep watch on energy concerns

RAJESH KUMAR TRAKHUR | New Delhi

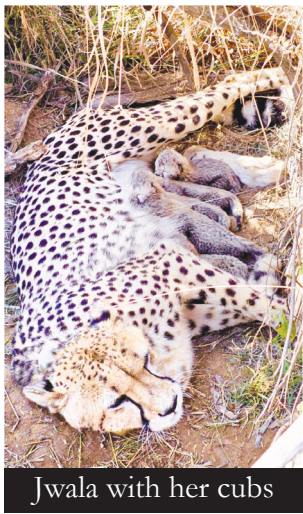
PRIME Minister Narendra Modi has asked his ministers to keep a close watch on energy concerns, particularly in the wake of the West Asia conflict. "We need to ensure that our energy security is not compromised by the ongoing tensions in the region," he said. "We need to ensure that our energy security is not compromised by the ongoing tensions in the region," he said. "We need to ensure that our energy security is not compromised by the ongoing tensions in the region," he said.

Modi said the "policy" of the Congress party, a reference to the Janasiksha and Janasiksha, is to leave the people of Kerala stranded in West Asia. "The LDF and UDF are the only parties that have the capacity to govern Kerala. We will support them to ensure the welfare of the people of Kerala," he said.

Half Century of Cheetahs in India

The cheetah, one of the most remarkable species of wildlife on Earth, was declared extinct in India in 1952. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the government launched Project Cheetah. In September 2022, PM Modi released eight cheetahs brought from Namibia into Kuno National Park. The number of cheetahs on Indian soil is increasing... On March 9, 2026, Namibian cheetah 'Jwala' gave birth to five cubs in Kuno National Park, bringing the total number of cheetahs in India to 53...

- In 2023, cheetahs were born on Indian soil for the first time in more than 70 years.
- In November 2025, 'Mukhi', the first cheetah born on Indian soil, became the mother of five healthy cubs.
- A Namibian cheetah, 'Jwala', has now become a mother for the third time, giving birth to five cubs.
- The number of cubs born in India increased to 33, bringing the total number of cheetahs to 53.
- Gamini, a cheetah from South Africa, recently became a mother for the second time, giving birth to four cubs.
- On February 9, 2026, India received nine cheetahs from Botswana, which were released into quarantine enclosures in Kuno.



Jwala with her cubs

