

INDIA NEWSLETTER



(LATEST NEWS ON INDIA AND INDIA-VIETNAM RELATIONS)

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India's 78th Independence Day celebration



In his 78th Independence Day speech from the Red Fort, Prime Minister Narendra Modi outlined a series of futuristic goals aimed at shaping India's growth, driving innovation, and positioning the country as a global leader across various sectors including enhancing the quality of life in urban areas, positioning India as a global education hub, outlining India's commitment to becoming a global leader in semiconductor production, and transforming India into a global manufacturing hub.

Separately, the Embassy of India in Hanoi organized a Reception on India's 78th Independence Day, which was graced by Vietnam's Deputy Foreign Minister H.E. Do Hung Viet, Deputy Chief of General Staff of Vietnam People's Army, senior representatives of Ministries, Provinces, Buddhist Sangha, Diplomatic Corps, friends of India and the Indian community.



State visit to India of Prime Minister of Vietnam Pham Minh Chinh

We have elevated our ties to a
Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
over the last 10 years,
marked by an impressive growth of over
85% in bilateral trade.

वरत्वे गार)



At the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh paid a State Visit to India from 30 July to 1 August. The welcome ceremony for the visiting PM was held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan (President House) after which he visited Raj Ghat to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi. The two PMs held bilateral discussions, witnessed the exchange of 9 cooperation documents and adopted the Joint Statement on Strengthening the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between India and Vietnam. PM Chinh also called on President Droupadi Murmu, Vice President & Chairman of Upper House of Parliament Jagdeep Dhankhar and received EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar. On the sidelines, PM

Chinh, Ministers of Planning & Investment, Industry & Trade & Indian Minister of State for Commerce H.E. Jitin Prasada attended and addressed Vietnam–India Business Forum on 31 July. PM Chinh also delivered a policy speech at the historic Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi. Minister of State for External Affairs received and saw off the visiting PM at the airport.

BILATERAL CORNER

India-Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue

4th India-Vietnam Maritime Security Dialogue

Ambassador held meeting with Central Committee for Education & Popularisation

Development Partnership growing strong

India and Vietnam strengthen academic cooperation

Youth
exchange
between
Vietnam and
India

Odissi Indian classical dance performance



Voice of Global South Summit 3.0



India hosted the 3rd Voice of the Global South Summit (VoGSS) virtually on 17 August under the theme "An empowered Global South for a Sustainable Future". An Inaugural Leaders' Session was hosted by the Prime Minister of India H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi and addressed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Vietnam H.E. Mr. Pham Minh Chinh.

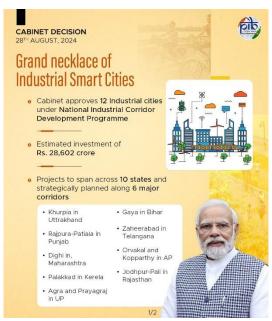
Prime Minister Modi underscored that as the world grapples with uncertainty in the aftermath of covid and faces the challenges of terrorism and climate change, there is a need for the Global South to unite, echo their voice and be each other's strength, share their capabilities, learn from each other's experiences. Prime Minister H.E. Pham Minh Chinh, in his address, requested the Global South to focus on three key areas (a) firstly, effective and substantive reform of regional and international governance institutions; (b) secondly, promote the mobilization and effective use of all resources to successfully implement the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals; and (c) thirdly, promote new drivers of growth, especially science, technology and innovation and startups.

The 3rd VoGSS also hosted Ministerial Sessions covering different aspects of the Theme. Vietnam's Deputy Minister of Industry & Trade, H.E. Madam Phan Thi Thang addressed the Commerce Ministers' Session coordinated by the Commerce Secretary of India H.E. Mr. Sunil Barthwal.

India will wear a grand necklace of industrial parks

India will soon wear a grand necklace of Industrial Smart Cities as in a landmark decision on 28 August, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved 12 new project proposals under National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP) with an estimated investment of Rs. 28,602 crore (~USD 3.4 billion). This move is set to transform the industrial landscape of the country creating a robust network of industrial nodes and cities that will significantly boost economic growth and global competitiveness.

Spanning across 10 states and strategically planned along 6 major corridors, these projects represent a significant leap forward in India's quest to enhance its manufacturing capabilities and economic growth.



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Cabinet approves 8 important National High-Speed Road Corridor Projects

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the development of 8 important National High Speed Road Corridor projects with a Length of 936 km at a cost of Rs. 50,655 crore across the country. Implementation of these 8 projects will generate an estimated 4.42 crore mandays of direct and indirect employment. This will enhance connectivity, reduce congestion, boost economic growth, and create job opportunities.

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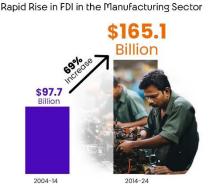
Rapid rise in FDI inflow due to Make in India initiative

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INCREDIBLE INDIA

- India Hosts
 Historic 46th
 World Heritage
 Committee
 Meeting
- Moidams inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage List





In a written reply in the Lok Sabha on 9 August, Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Shri Som Parkash informed that since its launch on September 25, 2014, Make in India initiative has made significant achievements and presently focuses on 27 sectors under Make in India 2.0. which is implemented across various Ministries/Departments, Central Government, State Governments, including Tamil Nadu.

The Government has taken a series of policy initiatives to improve the economic situation and convert the disruption caused by COVID 19 into an opportunity for growth, including the Atmanirbhar Bharat packages, introduction of Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme in 14 sectors, investment opportunities under

National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) and National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP), etc. In addition to ongoing schemes of various Departments and Ministries, the Government has taken various steps to boost domestic and foreign investments in India, including the introduction of Goods and Services Tax, reduction in corporate tax, improving ease of doing business, FDI policy reforms, etc.

Due to Make in India Initiative, FDI equity inflow in the manufacturing sector between 2014-2022 has increased by 57% over the previous 8 years i.e. 2006- 2014.

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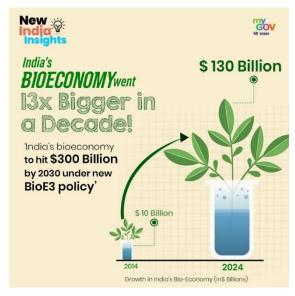


New Bioeconomy policy to place India as a global leader

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh on 26 August briefed the media about the recent Union Cabinet decision on the ambitious BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Employment, and Environment) Policy, heralding a transformative shift in India's manufacturing sector.

Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said "India's bio-economy has experienced remarkable growth, skyrocketing from \$10 billion in 2014 to over \$130 billion in 2024, with projections to reach \$300 billion by 2030. This surge reflects India's robust economic growth".

According to the Minister, the BioE3 Policy is set to accelerate India's growth trajectory, making substantial contributions to the 'Make in India'



initiative by fostering the development of bio-based products with minimal carbon footprints. The BioE3 Policy is designed to address critical global challenges such as climate change and depleting non-renewable resources by: 1) Facilitating the shift from chemical-based industries to sustainable bio-based models 2) Promoting a circular bio economy 3) Achieving net-zero carbon emissions through innovative waste utilization from biomass, landfills, and greenhouse gases and 4) Encouraging the development of bio-based products and expanding job creation.

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'INS Arighaat' commissioned into Indian Navy



The second Arihant-Class submarine 'INS Arighaat' was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 29 August at Visakhapatnam. In his address, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh exuded confidence that 'Arighaat' will further strengthen India's nuclear triad, enhance nuclear deterrence, help in establishing strategic balance & peace in the region, and play a decisive role in the security of the country. He described it as an achievement for the

nation and a testament to Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Government's unwavering resolve to achieve 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence.

The construction of INS Arighaat involved the use of advanced design and manufacturing technology, detailed research & development, utilisation of special materials, complex engineering and highly skilled workmanship. It has the distinction of having the indigenous systems and equipment which were conceptualised, designed, manufactured & integrated by the Indian scientists, industry and Naval personnel.

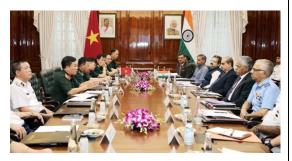
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BILATERAL CORNER

India-Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue

India-Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue took place in New Delhi on 1 August. It was co-chaired by Defence Secretary Shri Giridhar Aramane & Deputy Minister of National Defence of Vietnam Sr Lt Gen Hoang Xuan Chien. The Secretary proposed cooperation in emerging areas such as cyber security, information security, military medicine and submarine search & rescue. The two sides also signed the Letter of Intent to strengthen collaboration in training.





4th India-Vietnam Maritime Security Dialogue



4th India-Vietnam Maritime Security Dialogue was co-chaired by Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs of India and Vice Chairman, National Boundary Commission of Vietnam in Hanoi on 16 August. It reviewed ongoing cooperation in maritime domain and discussed avenues to strengthen it. The Indian delegation also called on Vietnam's Permanent Deputy Foreign Minister, H.E. Nguyen Minh Vu.



Ambassador held meeting with Central Committee for Education & Popularisation

Ambassador had a meeting with Chairman of Party Commission for Education & Popularisation, H.E. Nguyen Trong Nghia about strengthening India-Vietnam partnership, particularly in education, science, culture, tourism, media, people-level ties and broader understanding between the two countries.

Development Partnership growing strong

On 30 August, the Embassy signed with the provincial authorities of Bac Kan, Can Tho and Daknong the Memorandum of Understanding for implementation of three Quick Impact Projects for local communities. This will enable the implementation of respective projects in the coming months.

The Embassy also signed arrangements with the Provincial authorities of Ca Mau and Cao Bang for Indian grants for the construction of a canal bridge and facilities at a kindergarten.

India and Vietnam strengthen academic cooperation





RIS
Research and Information System
for Developing Countries
विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली





On 30 August, India's Research and Information System for Developing Countries (DAKSHIN Centre) and Vietnam's Institute for South Asian, West Asian and African Studies (ISAWAAS) have signed an MOU for cooperation in the area of policy research, studies & promoting development cooperation.



Youth exchange between Vietnam and India

India's National Cadet Corps delegates attended the youth exchange programme in Vietnam from 5-14 August 2024. They met with Secretary of Ho Chi Minh Youth Union, Ambassador, engaged with youth groups, and visited historical & cultural

sites.



Army Young Officers exchange held this week with ten Indian Army Officers visiting Vietnam with meetings with Viet Nam People's Army, Navy, interactions with Vietnamese officers, Indian Ambassador and visits to sites from 5-11 August 2024.

Odissi Indian classical dance performance







In celebration of India's Independence Day, Indian classical dance "Odissi" by A.L.P.A.N.A. group led by Guru Alpana Nayak performed at the iconic Hanoi Opera House on 15 August which enthralled over 500 audience and was graced by Vietnam's Deputy Minister of Culture, Sports & Tourism, H.E. Ho An Phong; Chairperson of Vietnam Academy of Dance, Dr. Nguyen Thuy Nga; Ambassadors and other distinguished guests and friends of India. Besides Hanoi, the troop performed in Hai Phong, Vinh Phuc, Hue, Bien Hoa, and Ho Chi Minh City. They also received a silver medal at the International Dance Festival organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Vietnam in Hue City.

INCREDIBLE INDIA

Munnar: Where every leaf tells a story



Nestled amidst the verdant hills of Kerala, Munnar emerges as a sanctuary of tranquillity, where mist-clad mountains, lush tea plantations, and cascading waterfalls create a breathtaking tapestry of beauty. With its cool climate, pristine landscapes, and rich biodiversity, Munnar captivates the heart and soul, inviting travellers to immerse themselves in the timeless charm of nature's embrace.

One of the most iconic features of Munnar is its sprawling tea plantations, which carpet the hillsides in vibrant shades of green. Munnar's tea estates, dating back to the late 19th century, produce some of the finest varieties of tea in the world. Visitors to Munnar can explore the lush tea gardens, taking guided tours of tea factories and plantations to learn about the tea-making process. The Tata Tea Museum offers insights into the history and evolution of tea cultivation in the region, showcasing antique tea-processing equipment and exhibits on the tea industry.

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