



Embassy of India

Belgium, Luxembourg & the European Union

आ नो भद्राः क्रतवो यन्तु विश्वतः

- ऋग्वेद-1.89.

Let noble thoughts come to us from all directions in the universe

Mimansa

मीमांसा

Vol. 2, January 2021

Dialogue between world's two largest Democracies



Speaker of Lok Sabha

13 January at 14:08

Met European Parliament President, H.E. Mr David Sassoli via virtual conference, today. I expressed my condolences for the loss of lives in the European Union due to COVID-19 pandemic.

We are of the common belief that greater parliamentary exchange is important to realize the full potential of India-EU relationship, particularly in trade & investment.

President of the European Parliament
European Parliament



Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Om Birla had a virtual meeting with European Parliament President H.E. Mr. David Sassoli via virtual conference on 13 January, 2021. They

exchanged views on ways to strengthen parliamentary contacts between the two largest Parliaments in the world.

PM Inaugurates Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention

The Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi, inaugurated the Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas Convention on 9th January 2021. Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister complimented the overseas Indians for their role during the Corona pandemic in their respective countries. The Prime Minister said that as India is moving with the goal of Aatmanirbhar India, the overseas Indian have a major role to play as their use of made in India products will create more confidence in Indian products. Despite dependence in critical things like PPE kits, masks, ventilators or testing kits, India developed its capabilities not only to become self-reliant but also to start export.



FDI in India rises in 2020, as inflows declined in major economies due to pandemic: UN



An 'investment trends monitor' issued by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has highlighted that Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into India rose in 2020, boosted by interest in the digital sector, and while fund flows declined most strongly in major economies due to the pandemic. It showed the resilience of Indian economy backed by proactive support measures of Government in terms of "Ease of doing Business" and "Atmanirbhar Bharat Initiative"



India's global position rises both in innovations & publications.

India's excellence in science has now been combined with the recognition of its brilliance as an innovative economy. While the country has already attained the third position in terms of publications, it now features among the top 50 innovative economies globally as per the Global Innovation Index (GII). Among the 13,045 patents sealed in the year 2017-18, 1,937 patents were by Indians. India has attained 3rd rank in terms

of the number of PhDs produced. The breeding ground of this escalating scientific research lay in the country's 993 Universities/Deemed Universities, 127 institutes of national importance, and 39,931 colleges across the length and breadth of the country, which nurtures human resources that will take forward the scientific and technological legacy of the nation.

First India-EU IPR dialogue held to strengthen relation and facilitate enhanced cooperation in the field of Intellectual Property Rights

The 1st India-EU IPR dialogue was held on 14th January 2021 between the EU Commission and Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) through a virtual platform.

The aim of the dialogue was to further strengthen the India-EU relation & facilitate enhanced cooperation in the field of Intellectual Property Rights.

India - EU Maritime Security Dialogue

The first Maritime Security Dialogue between India and the EU was held in a virtual format on 20 January 2021. The consultations involved exchanges on developments in

maritime security environment, regional cooperation activities, developments of mutual interest and opportunities for cooperation between India and the EU.

India-EU Cyber Dialogue

The 6th India-EU Cyber Dialogue was held on 14 December 2020 in virtual mode. Both sides discussed various areas of cooperation in the cyber space including contemporary matters; multilateral and regional cooperation on stability in cyberspace at UN platforms in GGE, OEWG, or in Regional

settings including relevant discussions at OSCE and ARF; EU Cyber diplomacy toolbox; Cooperation on Cybercrime and Capacity building therein; Contemporary issue and exchanges on cyber policies; Internet Governance; New Emerging cyber-related technologies etc.

Seventh Trade Policy Review of India at the WTO

India's seventh Trade Policy Review (TPR) conducted on 6th January 2021 & 8th January 2021, at the World Trade Organization in Geneva. A comprehensive Report issued by the WTO Secretariat on the occasion, chronicling all major trade and economic initiatives that India took over the last five years, acknowledged India's strong economic growth at 7.4% during the period under review and made a positive

note of India's reform efforts during this period. The Report noted that strong economic growth led to an improvement in socio-economic indicators, such as per-capita income and life expectancy in India. The Secretariat report also commended India for liberalizing its FDI policy, ratifying the Trade Facilitation Agreement and implementing several trade-facilitation measures during the period under review.

Ambassador of India to Belgium, the EU and Luxembourg, Mr. Santosh Jha presented his Credentials on 20 January, 2021 to His Royal Highness Grand Duke Henri of Luxembourg at the Grand Ducal Palace.



India Delivers Covid-19 Shots 'World's Biggest Vaccination Drive'-

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the "world's largest" vaccination drive on 16 January 2021, starting with healthcare and frontline workers. 30 million health and other frontline staff would be the first to receive the vaccine, followed by around 270 million older than 50 or considered to be high-risk. The two vaccines, Covishield (the Serum Institute) and Covaxin (Bharat Biotech), are administered to frontline health workers across the country.



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मेरी सरकार

World's Largest Vaccination Drive

More Than 3.7 Million Healthcare
Workers Vaccinated



2,06,130

Beneficiaries vaccinated on the 15th day
(till 7 pm)

37,06,157

Beneficiaries vaccinated
till date



5,143

Sessions held on 15th day
(till 7 pm)

68,830

Sessions held so far



सर्वे सन्तु निरामयाः (May All be Free from Illness)

India has gifted over 5.5 Million doses of vaccines in the neighbourhood-

Bahrain (100,000), Bangladesh (2M), Bhutan (150,000), Maldives (100,000), Nepal (1M), Myanmar (1.5M), Mauritius (100,000), Seychelles (50,000), Sri Lanka (.5 M).

Over the next few days, India plans to gift vaccines to Oman, CARICOM countries, Nicaragua and Pacific Islands states.

India will supply on commercial basis to Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Brazil, Morocco, Bangladesh, Canada, Mongolia etc. India is going to supply 10 million doses to Africa and 1 million to UN health workers under GAVI's COVAX facility.

