

आ नो भद्राः क्रतवो यन्तु विश्वतः
ऋग्वेद -1.89.

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

Vol. 25, December 2022

India assumes G20 Presidency



In a historic moment, India formally assumed the G20 Presidency on December 1st. The G20, or Group of Twenty, is an intergovernmental forum of the world's 20 major developed and developing economies, making it the premier forum for international economic cooperation.

On the occasion, Prime Minister penned an article outlining India's vision for the G20 Presidency. This was carried by publications across the world. In his article, the Prime Minister said that India looks forward to a Presidency of healing, harmony and hope.

A key element of India's G20 Presidency will be taking the G20 closer to the public and making it truly a 'People's G20'. To realize this, Citizen engagement and large scale public participation through various Jan Bhagidari activities are planned throughout the year.

To mark the first day of India's Presidency, numerous activities were planned. A special University Connect event was organized, which virtually brought together students from 75 universities across the country. External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar and Principal Secretary to Prime Minister, Shri P.K. Mishra were among the distinguished speakers at the event. The University Connect event aimed at engaging the youth in G20 activities. School students were also involved through special G20 sessions in various schools.

Taking people participation further, The Hornbill Festival in Kohima featured a special focus on G20. One hundred monuments, including some UNESCO world heritage sites, are being specially illuminated today, and citizens have been invited to join a selfie campaign on MyGov around these illuminated monuments.

Drawing inspiration from its G20 Presidency theme of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' - 'One Earth One Family One Future', India will host over 200 meetings in over 50 cities across 32 different workstreams, and would have the opportunity to offer G20 delegates and guests a glimpse of India's rich cultural heritage and provide them with a unique Indian experience.



India assumes the Presidency of the UNSC for the month of December 2022



India has assumed the Presidency of the UN Security Council for the month of December. This is the second time in its two-year tenure as an elected member of the UN Security Council [2021-2022] that India has assumed the Presidency of the Council, as it earlier did in August 2021.

During India's December Presidency of the Security Council, two High-Level signature events were scheduled on 14&15 December 2022 on Reformed Multilateralism and Counter-Terrorism chaired by the External Affairs Minister.



The High-level Open Debate on the theme – "Maintenance of International Peace and Security: New Orientation for Reformed Multilateralism" on 14 December encouraged UN Member States to take the conversation forward on reforms in the current multilateral architecture with the UN at its centre to make it more representative and fit for purpose. On 15 December, a High-level briefing on the theme – "Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorist Acts: Global Approach to Counter Terrorism - Challenges and Way Forward" sought to forge a consensus on the broad principles of a global counter terror architecture and aim to further the Delhi Declaration adopted during the Special Meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee held in October in India.

During the visit, EAM also be unveiled Mahatma Gandhi's Bust at the premises of the UN Headquarters in presence of UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres. The bust, a gift from India to the United Nations, is the first Gandhi sculpture to be installed at the UN Headquarters.





Production linked incentive scheme for textiles attracts US\$ 185 million (Rs 1,536 crores) in investments



The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for India's textiles sector, which is worth US\$ 1.2 billion (Rs. 10,684 crores), attracted investments of US\$ 185 million (Rs. 1,536 crores). 56 approval letters were issued to applicants who met the eligibility criteria and informed the government.

The PLI scheme for textiles was launched to promote the production of man-made fibres (MMF) apparel, MMF fabrics and products of technical textiles in the country and to enable the textile sector of India to achieve size and scale.

In total, 64 applicants were selected under the scheme and 56 out of them, met the eligibility criteria. The Ministry of Textiles states that domestic cotton cultivation has also increased by 5% to 125.02 lakh hectares and a brand named 'Kasturi Cotton India' has been launched to encourage the harvesting of cotton.

Start-ups to contribute 4-5% to India's GDP in next five years, says report



According to a report by StrideOne, India has more than 60,000 registered start-ups in India and therefore, has the potential to contribute 4-5% to the country's gross domestic product (GDP) over the next 3-5 years. As per Economic Survey 2021-22, India is the third-largest start-up ecosystem in the world, succeeding US and China.

It is expected in the report that around 24,500 platforms would have registered in 2022, while it was estimated as 20,000 in 2021. The registration of new start-ups is expected to grow at an annual rate of 25% during 2022-27. The funding in start-ups has also been growing at an exponential rate with an increment of 42% annually in the total funding raised, from 2016-2021 whereas the deal count rose by 23%. SaaS, FinTech, and Logistics attracted the most investment.

The report also emphasized the contribution of start-ups in the textile industry, gig economy, and B2B logistics to the overall growth.

India now third largest aviation market in the world: Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi stressed that India has become the third-largest aviation market in the world as the nation has made every effort to increase the "Ease of Travel" for visitors during the past eight years.



India to pitch for international biofuels alliance at G20, says Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri

India intends to propose for a worldwide biofuels alliance similar to the extremely successful international solar coalition at the forthcoming G20 conference, according to Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, and Housing and Urban Affairs, Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri. The International Solar Alliance (ISA) was founded on November 30, 2015, by India and France, to meet the particular energy demands of solar resource-rich countries.

India will preside over the Group of 20 major economies, generally known as the G20, and will host a gathering of the member countries in September of next year. With countries ranging from Brazil to the US producing biofuels, the alliance hopes to create an ecosystem for fuel standards and engines, as well as collaboration on technology for rapid adoption. He stated that India is already utilising fuel combined with 10% ethanol generated from sugarcane and other agricultural goods (90% petrol, 10% ethanol). India, the world's third largest oil consumer and importer, is now pushing for increased use of biofuels derived from sugarcane, cereals, and agricultural waste to reduce reliance on crude oil.

Uttar Pradesh (UP) - Investment Promotion Roadshow



On 12 December 2022, an Investment Promotion Roadshow was organized by the Mission along with Invest UP (Uttar Pradesh) and CII at Hotel Doubletree by Hilton. The roadshow was led by Hon'ble Minister of Industrial Development and Export Promotion Shri Nand Gopal Gupta and Hon'ble Minister for Public Works Department Shri Jitin Prasada. They travelled with a high level delegation who addressed a number of business representatives and industry organizations for promoting business and investment opportunities in the state of UP and welcomed them to participate in the Uttar Pradesh Global Investors Summit to be held in UP in February 2023. Mission had called for and secured the attendance around 40 businesses from Belgium and other nearby countries.

The two Hon'ble Ministers and Ambassador of India to the European Union, Belgium and Luxembourg Shri Santosh Jha addressed the businesses and stressed on the opportunities and incentives offered by the UP government for investors for creating businesses in UP. The Roadshow was followed the next day by meetings between the high level delegation with individual businesses and investors like IMEC, Synpet, Gemini Corporation and others for discussing specific investment opportunities in UP. Besides the Roadshow, the Ministerial delegation also met with European Investment Bank and high ranking officials from the Belgian Federal Government, Brussels Capital Region and Flanders Region.



Ambassador's Visit to KU Leuven

Ambassador Santosh Jha visited Group T Campus (engineering) of KU Leuven on 7th December 2022 and interacted with the faculty and Indian students. Indian students constitute the second largest community among non-Europeans to study at this globally reputed institution.



Veer Bal Diwas Exhibition



India in Belgium

@IndEmbassyBru

India government organization

Embassy of India, Brussels held an exhibition on the occasion of Veer Baal Diwas on 26th December 2022 in the Embassy premises to commemorate the saga of unmatched martyrdom of Sahibzadas of the tenth Guru.



12:33 PM · Dec 26, 2022

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