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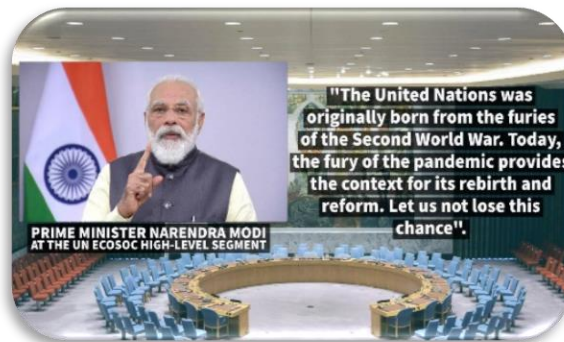
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Prime Minister Modi Calls for Reformed Multilateralism



Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered a keynote address virtually at this year's High-Level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) session on Friday, 17th July 2020 at the United Nations in New York. This was the first address by PM to the broader UN membership since India's overwhelming election as a non-permanent member of the Security Council on 17th June, for the term 2021-22. Prime Minister reiterated India's call for a 'reformed multilateralism' in a post-COVID-19 world, which reflects the realities of the contemporary world.

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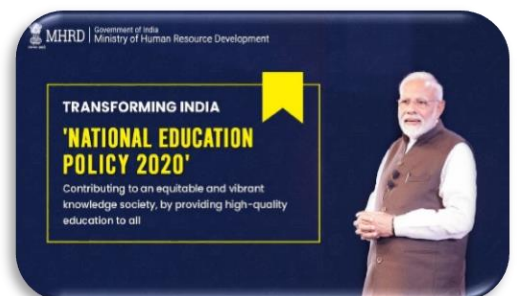
India-EU Reinforce Ties Through Virtual Summit



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the 15th India-EU summit via a video conference and said that the partnership of India and the European Union is vital for global peace and stability. In his inaugural remarks, PM Modi said this reality has become even more clear in the global situation today. He said that during the time of COVID-19 crisis, India-EU partnership can play an important role in economic reconstruction and in building a human-centric globalization.

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PM Modi: National Education Policy (NEP) Will Make India A Knowledge Hub



The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Modi approved the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 on 29 July, making way for large scale, transformational reforms in both school and higher education sectors. PM Modi said that the NEP will transform millions of lives by making India a knowledge hub in an era where learning, research and innovation are important. In a series of tweets, the PM said NEP is based on the pillars of "Access, Equity, Quality, Affordability and Accountability".

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PM Modi: India Offers A Perfect Combination of Openness, Opportunities and Options

Delivering the keynote address at the India Ideas Summit hosted by the US-India Business Council (USIBC) on 22 July 2020, Prime Minister Modi said that there is global optimism towards India because it offers a perfect combination of openness, opportunities and options. He said that India has what is needed to power the global economic recovery. He noted that India's rise means a rise in trade opportunities with a nation that can be trusted, a rise in global integration with increasing openness, a rise in competitiveness with access to a market which offers scale, and a rise in returns on investment with the availability of skilled human resources.

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PM Addresses Nation on World Youth Skills Day



In his message to the Digital Skills Conclave held on the occasion of the World Youth Skills Day on 15 July and the fifth anniversary of 'Skill India' mission, the Prime Minister exhorted the youth to skill, reskill and upskill in order to remain relevant in the rapidly changing business environment and market conditions. He congratulated the youth of the country on the occasion and said the world belongs to the youth due to their ability to acquire new skills all the time.

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PM Interacts with IBM CEO Arvind Krishna



Prime Minister Modi interacted with IBM CEO Mr.

Arvind Krishna via video conferencing on 20 July 2020. IBM CEO briefed PM about IBM's huge investment plans in India. He expressed confidence in the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India).



Recently, Prime Minister Modi also held a video call with Google CEO Mr. Sundar Pichai where they discussed leveraging the power of technology to transform the lives of India's farmers, youngsters and entrepreneurs. Google has announced an investment of US\$10 billion under India Digitization Fund.

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India's First Indigenous 700 MWe Commercial Nuclear Reactor Attains First Criticality

In a historic development, Unit-3 of KAPP Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP-3), located at Kakrapar, Gujarat achieved its first criticality - the controlled, self-sustaining nuclear fission chain reaction for the first time - on July 22, 2020 at 0936 hours. KAPP-3 is a first-of-its-kind indigenous 700 MWe Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR) designed by Indian scientists and engineers. The components and equipment for the reactor have been manufactured by Indian industries and the construction and erection were undertaken by Indian contractors. KAPP-3 is a shining example of Make in India endeavour in the high technology arena.



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India Significantly Ramps Up COVID Testing Facility

Prime Minister Modi launched three high capacity COVID-19 testing facilities located at Kolkata, Mumbai and Noida via video conferencing on 27 July. These facilities will boost the testing capacity in the country. At present more than 500,000 tests are being conducted in the country daily, and efforts are underway to increase this capacity to 1 million in the coming weeks.



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Apple Starts Sales of India-made iPhone 11

Apple's contract manufacturer Foxconn has started assembling the iPhone 11 in India. The U.S. company's flagship device is being assembled at Foxconn's Chennai plant. Currently, iPhone XR and iPhone 11 are being assembled by Foxconn in Chennai, while iPhone 7 is being made by another partner, Wistron, in Bengaluru.

Terming the move as a significant boost to 'Make in India', Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal tweeted, "Apple has started manufacturing iPhone 11 in India,



bringing a top-of-the-line model for the first time in the country."

Union Electronics and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad tweeted that Apple's iPhone SE was manufactured in India in 2017, iPhone 6S in 2018, iPhone 7 and XR in 2019 and iPhone 11 in 2020. The move comes as India looks to woo manufacturers, especially those mulling a move out of China, to set up shop in India.

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Ambassador Interacts with Vietnamese Media Persons



Ambassador hosted an interaction with Vietnamese media persons on 23 July 2020 at the Embassy and briefed them on India's policy measures to deal with COVID-19 and emerging perspectives for the future of India-Vietnam partnership. He highlighted Prime Minister's vision of human-centric globalization and of Atmanirbhar Bharat for a self-sustaining and resilient India leading the global revival with care and compassion and connecting with global value chains.

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India: A Home of Tiger

July 29 is observed across the world as Global Tiger Day every year to promote a worldwide system to protect tigers and their natural habitats. Today India has around 70% of the tiger population and tally stands at 2967 and the vision is to take it to the higher scales. This is a huge conservation success for the people and the country at large. It is India with its benchmarking practices has established a leadership role in tiger conservation across the globe with its processes and methodologies being accepted as the gold standard across the World.



Project Tiger was launched in 1973 with just nine tiger reserves. Today, India has 50 tiger reserves spread over 72,000 sq km. India's latest efforts of the world's largest camera trap survey of wildlife was included in the Guinness World Records. This was the largest counting exercise ever taken up by any country across the globe.

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Rajgir: The Place of Vishwa Shanti Stupa (World Peace Pagoda)



Nestled in a verdant valley guarded by five hills, and hot springs with medicinal properties, Rajgir is a scenic town located in the modern-day Nalanda district of Bihar. A complex of temples and monasteries, this hill town was once the capital of the Magadh Mahajanpad (state) when Patliputra was not formed. It was called Rajgrih then, meaning home of royalty. This naturally fortified destination is one of the most ancient sites of learning in India and finds a

mention in Mahabharata too. Legends say that it was here Lord Buddha set in motion his second wheel of law and spent several seasons meditating and preaching. During the time of Lord Buddha, Rajgir was renowned as place for congregation of spiritual leaders and scholars. So when prince Siddhartha renounced his royal life to become an ascetic, he too came to Rajgir. It is said that here he met king Bimbisara, who was so impressed by the young man that he offered him half his kingdom. But Siddhartha left the city, promising the king to return after he had found the answers to his questions. The Jivekarmavan Monastery is considered the favourite residence of Lord Buddha. Rajgir was also the venue of the first Buddhist Council.

One of the 80 peace pagodas in the world, the Vishwa Shanti Stupa in Rajgir was constructed in 1965 atop Ratnagiri Hill in Rajgir, a renowned Buddhist site. A symbol of world peace, the stupa enshrines four golden statues of the Buddha.

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Indian Pharmaceuticals - A Formula for Success

India is a prominent and rapidly growing presence in global pharmaceuticals. The total size of India's pharmaceutical industry stands at ~USD 43 bn and is one of the top 3 markets globally. It is the largest provider of generic medicines globally, occupying a 20% share in global supply by volume, and also supplies 62% of global demand for vaccines. India ranks 3rd worldwide for production by volume and 10th by value. 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is allowed under the automatic route for greenfield pharma. 100% FDI is allowed in brownfield pharma; wherein 74% is allowed under the automatic route and thereafter through government approval route.



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India's Special Economic Zone

India is emerging as one of the engines of global economy and a major investment destination. India's Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Scheme offers the best competitive package. Challenge today is how to combat the global slowdown without slowing down our economy and here the SEZ offers the best platform for generating economic activity and employment to sustain high economic growth.



India was one of the first in Asia to recognize the effectiveness of the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) model in promoting exports, with Asia's first EPZ set up in Kandla in 1965. With a view to overcome the shortcomings experienced on account of the multiplicity of controls and clearances; absence of world-class infrastructure, and an unstable fiscal regime and with a view to attract larger foreign investments in India, the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) Policy was announced in April 2000. Keeping in view the importance of EOU/SEZ Sector a need was felt in the Department of Commerce to establish an Export Promotion Council exclusively for EOUs & SEZ Sector to service their export promotional needs. In this regard initiatives were taken by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry in consultation with the EOUs and SEZ Industry from all over the country and constitutional requirements were complied and Export Promotion Council for EOUs and SEZs (EPCES) was set up in January, 2003 by Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

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