

75th

REPUBLIC DAY
of

INDIA



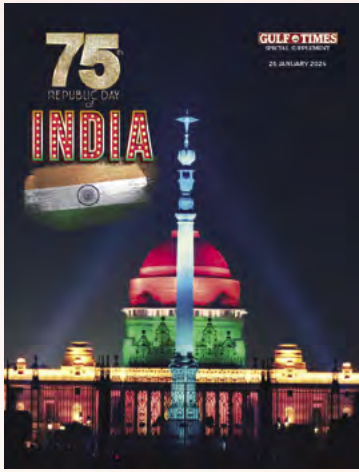


HAPPY INDIAN REPUBLIC DAY

On this historic occasion, we celebrate with pride the glorious nation of India and salute with utmost admiration its' visionary leaders, for leading us towards greater peace and prosperity.

#LongLiveQatar-IndiaFriendship





Smt. Droupadi Murmu
President



मृत्यमैव जयते



Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE

Extend warm wishes and greetings to all Indians and friends of India in Qatar on the glorious occasion of India's 75th Republic Day, the day when the Constitution of India came into force in 1950. Each year, on this day, we, the people of Bharat reaffirm our love and respect for the principles and values enshrined in our Constitution and renew our commitment to imbibe them in our thoughts and actions.

Over the past more than seven decades, the values of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity enshrined in our Constitution have guided and inspired us to follow the vision of the leaders of our freedom struggle. This is an occasion to pay homage to them as well as to our leaders who have transformed India and the armed forces who have ensured our security and well-being. It is also an occasion for Indians around the world, including in Qatar, to rejoice in India's successes.

Today, India is globally recognized as the world's largest democracy, fifth-largest world economy, fast-emerging innovation capital of the world, and an indispensable partner in addressing global issues. India is seen as a role model for countries across the world in taking along its diverse, multilingual, multi-religious, and multicultural people towards a path of development and progress.

In 2023, India's G-20 Presidency held under the motto of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam - One Earth, One Family, One Future' enabled India to shape the global discourse. As PM Modi said India offered the world an alternative from a "GDP-centric to human-centric progress". India led the effort for greater exclusivity in G-20 and ensured the inclusion of the African Union as a permanent member in the forum. India revitalized multilateralism, amplified the voice of the Global South, championed development, and fought for the empowerment of women. During India's Presidency, the G-20 adopted an Action Plan on SDGs, established a Digital Public Infrastructure Repository, and introduced ambitious aims for building a cleaner, greener planet.

India has continued to be the fastest-growing major economy with its GDP estimated to grow well above 7% in 2023-24. In the next few years, India is set to become a US\$ 5 trillion economy. There has been an unprecedented pace of infrastructure development in the country whether it be in the fields of highways, airports, ports, power, or renewable energy. India remains a top destination for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and aims to attract US\$ 100 billion annually in FDI in coming years. The booming digital payments crossing 11 billion monthly transactions, the quick 5G rollout, and the launch of the world's largest office space at Surat Diamond Bourse are some of the major milestones achieved in recent months.

India's march towards becoming an "innovation hub" continues forward with our Global Innovation Index ranking improving to 40 in 2023 from 81 in 2015. The space sector especially showed the strength of India in the field of science and technology. In August 2023 the landing of India's Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft on the Moon's South Pole drew global attention as India became the fourth country to do so while being the first to land on the South Pole.

As we celebrate the milestones and the journey so far, we also remain conscious of the task ahead. PM Modi has set a vision of 'Viksit Bharat - Developed India' by the year 2047. The vision is to transform India into a developed country encompassing all facets of development such as economic prosperity, social advancement, environmental sustainability, and effective governance. Realizing this vision demands an unwavering commitment, a firm belief in India's destiny, and a profound recognition of our vast potential, talent, and capabilities.

On this day, it is also befitting to recall India's friendly and multifaceted relationship with Qatar which has grown from strength to strength over the past years. The year 2023 marked 50 years of establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations between India and Qatar. Our relationship is not just a modern phenomenon but has strong historical links dating back centuries. In recent years, the relationship has continued to grow in diverse sectors through regular and substantive engagement. PM Modi and His Highness the Amir met in Dubai on the sidelines of COP-28 held in December in the UAE and exchanged views on issues of mutual interest.

The economic relations between India and Qatar have continued to grow in depth and momentum. The bilateral trade reached an impressive US\$18.77 billion in FY 2022-23. Qatar remains an important source of LNG and LPG for India and both sides are discussing steps for further extension of this important aspect of the bilateral relationship. Indian exports to Qatar and Qatar's investment in India have also shown upward growth. Recent months have been particularly significant on investments from Qatar to India, with reports of large investments by QIA Indian companies, Reliance Retail and Adani Green Energy.

The depth of the India-Qatar relationship is reflected in our strong people-to-people ties. Today, Qatar is a second home to over 835,000 Indian nationals. The large and diverse Indian community in Qatar has played an important role in Qatar's development as well as in nurturing the bilateral relationship between the two countries. The Indian diaspora shares

Qatar's pride in emerging as a hub of culture and sports in the region. Our community was at the forefront of celebrating Qatar's success in hosting FIFA 2022. Over the past few months, Indian teams have visited Qatar to participate in the Asian Football Championship as well as tournaments in chess, shooting, and snooker. We also welcomed Qatar's football team in India where both countries played a FIFA qualifier match. I am happy that movies from Bollywood and other languages of India are regularly screened in Qatar. Indian filmmakers are also looking at Qatar for shooting their films.

I would like to convey my appreciation to the various Indian community organizations in Qatar for their work. We remain committed to promoting and supporting the welfare and well-being of the Indian community in Qatar. We seek to provide best services to our community and assist any Indian in distress. Our Embassy has also been holding Open House sessions to address consular issues.

I take this opportunity to convey our felicitations and gratitude to His Highness the Amir of the State of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, His Highness Father Amir, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the members of the Royal Family, the Government and the friendly people of this wonderful country for their continued patronage and support to the Indian community in Qatar.

Once again extend my warm greetings to fellow Indians in Qatar on this 75th Republic Day and thank them for their continuing invaluable contribution to the growth and development of India and Qatar. Jai Hind!

Shri Vipul
Ambassador of India to Qatar.



Shri Vipul
Ambassador of India to Qatar

Supplement Team

Marketing Manager
Violette Fakhry

Marketing
Biju Paul Simon
Kuriakose Joseph
Sanjai Noah

Editor
Amjad Vanimal

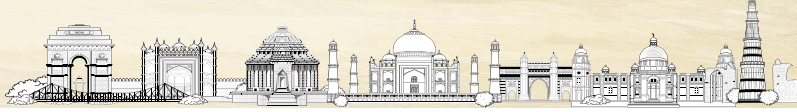
Ad. Controllers
Thomas Jose
Dr. Sabu K.C

Circulation In-charge
Sherif Samy

Printed by
Raya Commercial Printing Press

Editorial/Advertising Office
Gulf Times/Arrayah Building
C Ring Road, P.O. Box: 533
Doha - Qatar.
Tel: (0974) 44411300/44466621
Fax: (0974) 44418811
e-mail:gtadv@gulf-times.com





India and Qatar – New vistas of cooperation

By Anil Trigunayat

Qatar, despite its size, has emerged as a 'Go TO' country as a result of its astute diplomacy and visionary leadership of HH the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani. Merely through riches, with the highest per capita income, it is not possible to acquire the kind of diplomatic heft that the Gulf monarchy enjoys. In recent years, Qatar indigenised and developed its home industry which has been helpful in it emerging as an important international player. This was evident during the negotiations for Doha Accord with regard to Afghanistan and becoming a dependable interlocutor between USA and Taliban. During the ongoing Israel-Hamas war, it has facilitated the release of over 100 Israeli hostages from Hamas and continues to work for a sustainable ceasefire. No wonder even the Israeli leadership has acknowledged and appreciated this support.

On the other hand, by successfully hosting FIFA world Cup, it has displayed tremendous organizational capability as it was termed by many as the best ever world cup held anywhere. No wonder Qatar has emerged as a practitioner of sports and conference diplomacy with the acing by its flagship 'Doha Forum'. It plays the regional and international role as an interlocutor with pragmatism. It has close relations with the GCC countries and the regional powers as well as with USA, Russia and China. US has even designated Qatar as a non-NATO ally.


India, for which West Asia is an extended neighborhood, has historic civilizational links and mutual dependencies with all Gulf countries including Qatar. Until the Second World War, the traditional pearl trade and fishing were the means of livelihood for the Qatari people and Bombay served as the major nodal point for Qatar's trade and commerce. Until the late 1960s, Indian currency and postage stamps were in circulation in Qatar. This association is readily acknowledged by Qatari citizens, particularly by the older generation. Qatar supports India's permanent membership of UN Security Council and works closely on matters of mutual concern in the international fora.




Qatar remains pivotal in India's energy security as it imports nearly 40% LNG and 30% LPG requirements from Qatar. A growing Indian economy will need even more. Hence, long term supply contracts are essential for smooth and predictable cooperation. Renewable energy projects, keeping in view India's Mission Hydrogen as well as initiatives like International Solar Alliance

We Salute our nation on



26 January **75th** REPUBLIC DAY OF **India**

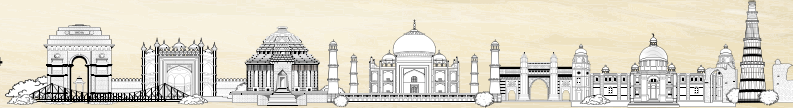


M.E.S Indian School, Doha, Qatar
An ISO 9001: 2015, QNSA and IWA 2:2007
Certified Indian School in Qatar
P.O. Box No. 3453, Tel.: +974-44572888,
Fax: +974-44681816 - Email: info@mesqatar.org
Web: www.mesqatar.org



M.E.S Indian School, Abu Hamour Branch
Together, Towards an Edu-Revolution
P.O. Box No. 47666, Tel.: +974-44572666
E-mail: info@mesisqatar.com
Website: www.mesisqatar.com



and Global Biofuels Alliance provide new areas of cooperation in combating climate change. India and Qatar can also partner for ensuring global food security by forming dedicated food security corridors and collaborating with third countries especially in Africa. India has an exceptional grassroots goodwill on the African continent and therefore, along with Qatari capital and African arable lands could provide a win-win model of cooperation as being done with some other countries.

Qatar seeks to establish itself as a sports center in the region. It hosted Asian Games in 2006- the first major event- and has since hosted many major tournaments in tennis, golf, sailing etc. Hosting FIFA world cup in 2022 provided it a unique expertise in the sports diplomacy including with Israel with which it has not established diplomatic relations due to the non-resolution of the Palestinian issue. Many reputed Indian companies were involved in construction projects for this major event. India can be a valuable partner for Qatar in administration and exchange of security best practices in some of these prestigious events. During PM Modi's visit, an Executive Programme for MoU for Youth and Sports was charted and whose scope could be expanded. Vice President of India, Jagdeep Dhankhar also attended the inauguration ceremony of FIFA World Cup 2022.

Qatar is liberalizing politically as a moderate Islamic state. It is taking steps towards democratic reform, participation of women in public life, and establishment of advanced educational institutions. It values dialogue of religions and can be an

important interlocutor for us. (Qatar had proposed Indian observer status in the OIC in 2002). Qatar is promoting higher and modern education and cultural connect programs with which Indian educational and other institutions can collaborate for mutual advantage and further expand People to People ties. The large Indian community in Qatar has been a beneficiary of the liberalization in religious matters in Qatar.

Indians represent the largest work force in Qatar and their stellar contribution in the development story of Qatar is highly appreciated. Institutional mechanisms for grievance redressal have been established and seem to be working satisfactorily. However, as Qatar diversifies its production processes and service delivery mechanisms in keeping with technological advancements, Indians, seeking enterprise and employment in both white and blue collar category, must also re-skill themselves in new and emerging areas.

Over 15000 Indian companies including heavyweights like Larsen&Toubro, Voltas, Shapoorji Pallonji, Wipro, TCS and Tech Mahindra have presence in Qatar and have invested over \$450mn. Qatar has invested billions of dollars in a bouquet of companies and projects in India. Oil & gas, refineries and infrastructure sectors in a growing India provide trillions of dollars of opportunity, in a competitive investor friendly environment and should be harnessed by Qatari companies. There are good prospects for energy-intensive industries to set up export-oriented production units in Qatar. The proposed Joint Task Force for promoting investments

in viable projects needs to be operationalised soon.

On security front, global menace of counter-terrorism must remain a priority for both the countries and mechanisms like joint exercises and agency to agency intelligence exchanges etc. should be institutionalized. Newer challenges in the area of Artificial Intelligence and Cyber security need closer cooperation as well.

There is tremendous potential for cooperation in areas of space, science and technology including in new and emerging technologies. Track 2 and Think Tank exchanges could provide a useful platform to identify mutually beneficial opportunities and way to harness them in an efficient manner. It would therefore be useful to explore the possibilities in establishing such mechanisms in a more autonomous manner.



The high level interaction between the leaders has been frequent and this momentum ought to be maintained. HH the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani and PM of India Modi have an excellent personal chemistry which was recently evident at the COP 28 Summit in Dubai. In modern diplomacy such comfort levels play a significant role for fostering greater collaboration across the spectrum from industry to economy, to security and for confronting the global and regional challenges together as the world goes through an unpredictable orbit.

Anil Trigunayat is a former Indian Ambassador and heads the West Asia experts Group at prestigious Vivekananda International Foundation.



INSPIRED BY HERITAGE.
DRIVING TO THE FUTURE...

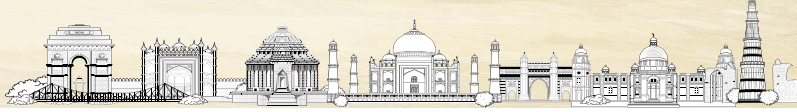
INDIA : Celebrating 75th Republic Day!

-  A peace-loving nation with a rich heritage, diverse culture, united in upholding democracy and a key driver of global economic growth.
-  A moment of pride for every Indian in their commitment to build a vibrant and prosperous India, amidst challenges.

Wishing all Indians, a Glorious Republic Day!



MAZDA : DRIVEN BY PASSION



Bilateral Engagements

On the sidelines of the 28th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28) Summit in Dubai, Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi met His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, the Amir of the State of Qatar. They engaged in a fruitful discussion regarding the potential of bilateral partnership and the welfare of the Indian community in Qatar.



H.E. Vipul, Ambassador of India to the State of Qatar, presented the credentials to His Highness The Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, on 17 August 2023.



Ambassador Shri Vipul called on HE Ali bin Samikh Al Marri, Minister of Labor of the State of Qatar, on 10th January. They reviewed India-Qatar bilateral partnership in the labour sector and discussed ways to further strengthen the same.





ابي ان كوربورشن ABN CORPORATION








**HAPPY
REPUBLIC DAY**

ABN CORPORATION
PO Box - 2952 | Doha-Qatar
Tel: +965 5728 | Fax: +965 2221
Website: www.abncorporation.com

**ALBIN NAHER AL MEINAD
TRANSPORT & TRADING WLL**
PO Box - 2952 | Doha-Qatar
Tel: +965 5728 | Fax: +965 2221
Email: albinaher@abn.com

ABN WAREHO
PO Box - 2952 | Doha-Qatar
Tel: +965 5728 | Fax: +965 2221
Email: abnwarehouse@abn.com

**ALBIN NAHER AL MEINAD
EQUIPMENT & TRADING WLL**
PO Box - 2952 | Doha-Qatar
Tel: +965 5728 | Fax: +965 2221
Email: albinaher@abn.com

ABN SCHOOL SUPPLIES WLL
Building No. 15, Sheikh No. 22
Khalifa Bin Zayed City, Doha
Tel: +965 5728

RAJAGIRI PUBLIC SCHOOL
Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed City, Doha
Tel: +965 7344477 | Email: info@rajagiridoha.com

We are the exclusive dealer for Kirloskar range of products in the State of Qatar.

kirloskar
Global Power Solution Provider
Range 12 kVA - 1111 kVA
☎ 4465 2220 ☎ 7478 2200





**للخدمات
Q SERVICES**
☎ 4002 2323 ☎ 311 29 322

تغيير إطارات
TIRE FITTING

المصنعية
ALIGNMENT


الفرامل
BRAKES

المطابرات
BATTERIES

تغيير زيت
OIL CHANGE


شحن غاز المكيف
A/C REFILLING

Shop No: 10, Opp. Al Farfan Automobiles, Near Aster Medical Centre, Industrial Area, Doha - Qatar. | info@qservices.com.qa




Warm Greetings
To the Government and
the People of India on
the joyous occasion of
75th Republic Day

مدرسة راجاغيري العامة RAJAGIRI PUBLIC SCHOOL

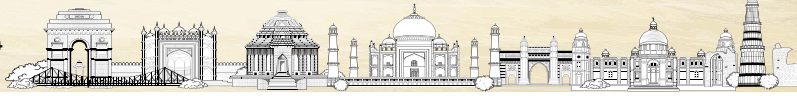


INTRODUCING INTEGRATED BATCH & ENGINEERING GRAPHICS

RAJAGIRI PUBLIC SCHOOL
QNSA Accredited
Affiliated to CBSE - No. 6330011
Abu Hamour, Doha, Qatar



Telephone: +974 44885440
+974 44885441
Fax: +974 44885446
Mail: info@rajagiridoha.com
Web: www.rajagiridoha.com



Ambassador HE Vipul met with HE Minister of State for Interior Affairs, Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Faisal Al-Thani, on 3rd December 2023. The meeting involved discussions on various matters of mutual interest and a review of the cooperative relations between the two countries in the security fields, along with ways to support and enhance them.



The Indian Ambassador to Qatar, Shri. Vipul, making the first move at the Qatar Masters Open 2023 Round 8.



Former Union Minister and Member of Parliament of India Shri. Suresh Prabhu along with Ambassador HE Vipul met with business and community leaders at the event hosted by Indian Business and Professionals Council (IBPC Qatar) in Doha on 25th October 2023. They interacted with dignitaries and shared mutual experiences.





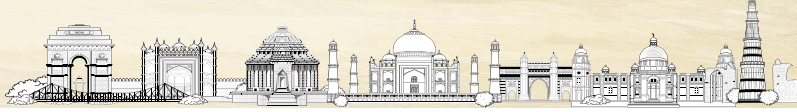
FOCUS
Solutions that move business

Wishing India a glorious
75th Republic Day,
and an enduring friendship with Qatar

 **HAPPY** 

Republic day





Ambassador HE Vipul and Indian community members paid floral tributes on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. They also recalled Bapu's teachings of peace, truth and non-violence as well as his emphasis on swachhhta (cleanliness). Saplings were planted in chancery premises on this occasion.



Ambassador HE Vipul met Secretary-General of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Qatar Dr. Ahmed bin Hassan Al Hammadi. The meeting discussed aspects of bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

KEY EVENTS

World Hindi Day Celebrations

The World Hindi Day celebration was organized in Qatar. More than 250 people attended a function held at the Indian Cultural Center, and many students participated enthusiastically in poetry recitation, essay writing, etc. Ambassador Vipul highlighted the growing interest in learning Hindi among people around the world.

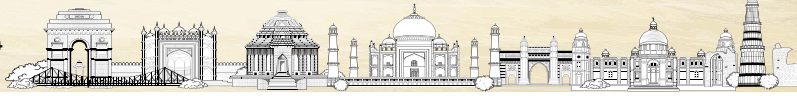


PODAR PEARL SCHOOL
مدرسه بيرل بودار

PEARL SCHOOL
WEST BAY
AL JAMIAA ST.
DOHA
CALL: 4466 4379

PODAR PEARL SCHOOL
UMM BASHER, AL MESHAF, BUILDING NO, 284
ZONE 91, STREET: 95,
CALL: 4444 2555, 4466 4379
admissions@pearlschool.org

PEARL SCHOOL
THUMAMA,
AL HADARA ST.
DOHA
CALL: 4444 2555



Indian Pavilion at Lusail Boulevard for AFC Asia Cup Qatar 2023

Glimpses from the opening of the India pavilion at Lusail Boulevard set up by the Indian Cultural Center. Visit the pavilion and enjoy the amazing wonders, cultural shows and experience the diversity of India while celebrating AFC Asian Cup Qatar 2023.



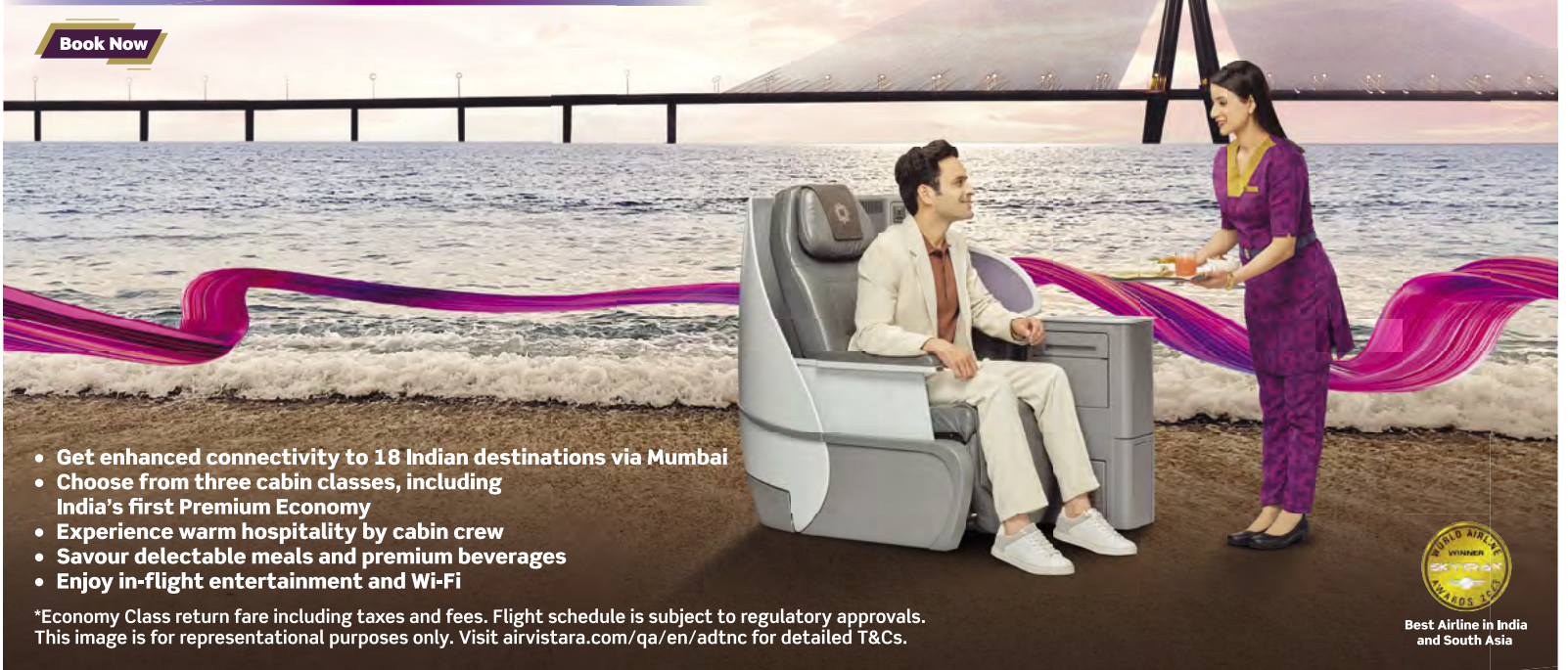
airvistara.com

Experience the best of India on India's best airline

Fly to Mumbai 4x weekly from Doha with return fares starting from QAR 1349 all-in*

Introducing Vistara, brought to you by Tata and Singapore Airlines

Book Now

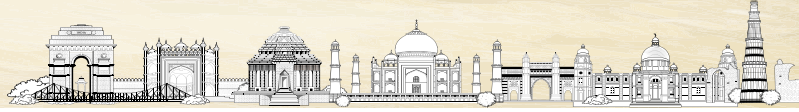


- Get enhanced connectivity to 18 Indian destinations via Mumbai
- Choose from three cabin classes, including India's first Premium Economy
- Experience warm hospitality by cabin crew
- Savour delectable meals and premium beverages
- Enjoy in-flight entertainment and Wi-Fi

*Economy Class return fare including taxes and fees. Flight schedule is subject to regulatory approvals. This image is for representational purposes only. Visit airvistara.com/qa/en/adtn for detailed T&Cs.




Best Airline in India and South Asia




Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2024

On 9th January 2024, Indian Cultural Centre, under the aegis of the Embassy of India, celebrated 'Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2024', a yearly event to celebrate the accomplishments of non-resident Indians. The event was held in Ashoka Hall within ICC premises. H.E. Mr. Vipul, Ambassador of India to Qatar, was the chief guest for the evening. In his speech, H.E. Mr. Vipul spoke about the contribution of Non-resident Indians for India and reminded that the day is celebrated to mark the anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi's return from South Africa. H.E. also felicitated achievers from different walks of life. Subsequent presentation of the cultural performances enthralled the audience.




مدرسة نوبل الدولية
NOBLE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
 DOHA, QATAR

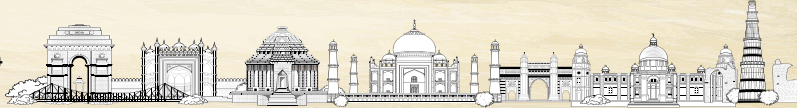
On this special day let us promise that we will do everything to enrich and preserve our heritage, our ethos, and our treasure


75th Happy Republic Day 2024

ICC Photography Exhibition

The Indian Cultural Center and ICC Photography Club jointly hosted the inaugural ICC Photography Exhibition in Qatar on 15 & 16 December 2023 at ICC Ashoka Hall. The two-day event at the ICC brought together photography enthusiasts for workshops, exhibitions, competitions, and more. The first event took place at Mumbai Hall at 2:30 PM and was led by Fuji Film Mentor Danny Eid in the area of landscape and cityscape photography. Photographic aficionados were well-represented during the event. First Secretary of the Indian Embassy in Qatar and ICC Coordinating Officer Sachin Dinkar Shankpal was present at the exhibition's opening, along with Head of the Qatar Photography Center and Founder Abdullah Al Mesle.





India Climbs the Global Climate Performance Index

India's significant rise to the 7th position in the Global Climate Performance Index reflects the country's dedicated and effective actions in tackling climate change. The drastic reductions in carbon emissions have positioned India as a global leader in environmental governance.

According to a report released during the global climate conference (COP-28) in Dubai, India not only improved one rank from the previous one, it also maintained its top 10 position for the fifth year in a row.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a series of impactful initiatives have been launched, steering the country towards a greener and more sustainable future.

Renewable Energy Expansion

Central to this ascent has been India's aggressive investment in renewable energy sources. The Modi government has significantly expanded solar and wind power capacities, reducing dependency on fossil fuels and cutting down greenhouse gas emissions. This shift towards renewable is a cornerstone in India's climate strategy, reflecting a commitment to sustainable energy generation.

According to information provided by Union Minister for New & Renewable Energy and Power R K Singh in written replies to three separate questions in the Rajya Sabha on December 12, 2023, a total of 72.02 GW Solar power capacity projects have been installed in the country, so far.

National Electric Mobility Mission Plan

Embracing electric mobility, India has taken bold steps under the National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMP) 2020 launched in 2013. It aims to achieve national fuel security by promoting hybrid and electric vehicles in the country.

There is an ambitious target to achieve 6-7 million sales of hybrid and electric vehicles year on year from 2020 onwards. The government aims to provide fiscal and monetary incentives to kick start this nascent technology.

International Solar Alliance Leadership

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been pivotal in driving the International Solar Alliance (ISA), a global coalition aiming to harness solar energy effectively. By promoting solar technology in tropical countries, ISA is addressing both energy poverty and environmental concerns, marking a large milestone in global climate change mitigation.

The ISA, co-founded by India and France in 2015, aims to harness solar energy to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. The alliance, primarily involving countries located between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, has grown steadily over the years. Total 97 countries have officially become the member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).



Policies To Combat Climate Change

India has committed to reducing emissions intensity of its GDP by 45% by 2030. The updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) marks an important step towards achieving India's long-term goal of reaching net-zero emissions by 2070.

Prime Minister Modi's policies have been instrumental in ensuring that India not only meets but, in many cases, surpasses its international commitments. These policies focus on both mitigation strategies to reduce the effects of climate change and adaptation measures to manage the impacts.

Green Infrastructure Development

The development of green infrastructure is another area where the Modi government has excelled. Initiatives like smart cities and eco-friendly buildings are part of a larger plan to create sustainable urban environments that are resilient to climate-related challenges.

In addition to these, India's reforestation and wildlife conservation efforts have contributed significantly to biodiversity and helped in carbon sequestration. These initiatives have contributed to maintaining overall ecological balance and reducing the impact of climate change.

India has also aligned with international climate agreements, notably the Paris Agreement, which offers a central position to achieving global climate goals.

*"Celebration of Unity!
Celebration of Freedom!
Celebration of Pride!"*

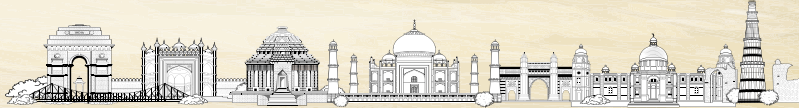


*We extend our warmest greetings
on the occasion of the
75th Republic Day of
India*



 <p>DPS - MODERN INDIAN SCHOOL</p> <p>"School with a difference"</p> <p>admission@dpsmisdoha.com +974 44499100 www.dpsmisdoha.com</p>	 <p>MIE - SPPU Savitribai Phule Pune University Campus in Qatar</p> <p>admissions@miesppu.edu.qa +974 5500 8444 www.miesppu.edu.qa</p>	 <p>DPS-MONARCH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL</p> <p>"Education with a difference"</p> <p>admission@misdoha.com +974 40337200 www.misdoha.com</p>
--	--	--





Felicitation of Indian bikers

On 12th December 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the aegis of the Embassy of India, hosted 2 bikers from India who are on World tour on bike. Deepak Gupta, famously known as Mountain Man and Ankit Lamba, famously known as Dream Chaser were felicitated in the ICC premises by Sandeep Kumar, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of India.



Guru Vandana- Felicitation of Dance Teachers

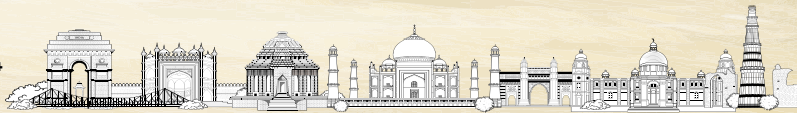
On 8th December 2023, Indian Cultural Centre, under the aegis of the Embassy of India, conducted 'Guru Vandana', a unique way to felicitate the dance teachers among the vibrant Indian community residing in Qatar. Various dance teachers belonging to Indian schools and other associations of performing arts, showcased their dancing talent on this occasion. Padma Karri, First Secretary at the Embassy of India, was the chief guest.



INDIA
Celebrating 75th Republic Day

HAPPY
Republic Day

Birla Public School
Doha - Qatar
مدرسة بيرلا الشعيبة
ENLIGHTENMENT THROUGH EDUCATION



India, UAE join forces to spearhead Global Green Credit Initiative at COP-28

Prime Minister Narendra Modi together with President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan of UAE, co-hosted the high-level event on 'Green Credits Programme' at COP-28, on 1 December 2023 in Dubai. Notable participants included Ulf Kristersson, Prime Minister of Sweden, Filipe Nyusi, President of Mozambique, and Charles Michel, President of the European Council.

The Prime Minister extended an invitation to all nations to join the Green Credit Initiative. This innovative program has been conceived as a mechanism to encourage voluntary pro-planet actions, providing an effective response to the challenges posed by climate change. The initiative aims to issue Green Credits for initiatives such as plantations on waste/degraded lands and river catchment areas, promoting the rejuvenation and revival of natural ecosystems.

A significant highlight of the event was the launch of a web platform designed to serve as a repository for policies and best practices that incentivize environmentally friendly actions. This platform is expected to play a crucial role in sharing knowledge and fostering global collaboration on sustainable practices.

In his address, Modi stated: "We have to see what can be done to add positive points to the Earth's health card. And this is Green Credit according to me. And that is my concept of Green Credit. We will have to think in our policies and decisions as to how Green Credit will be added to the Earth's Health Card. One example I give is that of degraded waste land. If we follow the concept of Green Credit then first an inventory of degraded waste land will be made. Then any person or organization will use that land for voluntary plantation."



COP28 UAE



Global Leadership for a Greener Planet

India Co-Hosts High Level Events On the sidelines of COP28 in Dubai



LeadIT 2.0 Session with Sweden

A shared effort to give industry transition a boost, low carbon tech & innovation receive a pace



Green Credits Initiative with U.A.E

A new philosophy to add positive points to the Earth's health card



Warm felicitation and best wishes to the Indian nationals and the Government of India on the occasion of

REPUBLIC DAY of India

أمواج Amwaj

مياه الشرب المعبأة
BOTTLED DRINKING WATER



DOHA JUICE & FOOD FACTORY
Contact: 70960448/30454443

Hyderabad

A city of royal heritage

Hyderabad, the capital city of the Indian state of Telangana, stands as a testament to a rich historical legacy, blending the grandeur of its royal past with the dynamism of its modern present. Nestled on the banks of the Musi River, this vibrant metropolis is a fascinating tapestry of ancient forts, opulent palaces, and bustling markets that reflect the confluence of various cultures. Let's embark on a journey through the lanes of Hyderabad, uncovering the regal heritage that has shaped this city.

The Nizami Charisma

Hyderabad was once the seat of the powerful Nizams, a dynasty that left an indelible mark on the city's landscape. The imposing Chowmohallah Palace, the residence of the Nizams, stands as a living testament to their opulence and refined taste. As visitors enter the palace complex, they are transported back in time, wandering through ornate courtyards, exquisite halls, and the grand Khilwat Mubarak - the heart of the palace.

Adjacent to Chowmohallah, the Falaknuma Palace, perched atop a hill, offers panoramic views of the city. This former residence of the Nizams has been converted into a luxurious heritage hotel, allowing guests to experience the regal lifestyle in a setting of unparalleled grandeur.

The Iconic Charminar

A symbol synonymous with Hyderabad, the Charminar stands at the heart of the old city, a stunning monument that dates back to 1591. Commissioned by Mohammed Quli Qutb Shah, the founder of Hyderabad, the Charminar's four graceful arches not only mark the city's center

but also house a bustling market at their base, where traditional bazaars offer everything from pearls and bangles to aromatic spices.

Venturing through the narrow lanes surrounding the Charminar, visitors are enveloped in the sights and sounds of Laad Bazaar, a vibrant market where intricate lacquer bangles, traditional textiles, and authentic Hyderabad pearls await exploration.





Pearls and Palaces

Hyderabad's association with pearls is legendary, earning it the moniker "City of Pearls." The city's rich trade history with the Gulf countries and Europe has left an enduring impact on its cultural fabric. Exploring the pearl markets, such as the historic Pearl Market in Sultan Bazaar, offers a glimpse into the city's heritage as a major trading hub.

Hyderabad's regal charm is further accentuated by the magnificent Golkonda Fort. Perched on a granite hill, the fort boasts an ingenious acoustics system, the famous "clapping hands" that could be heard at the highest point of the fort, signaling the arrival of potential danger. The expansive fort complex also houses the royal palaces, audience halls, and the iconic Fateh Darwaza, a colossal gate that witnessed the march of the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb's victorious army.

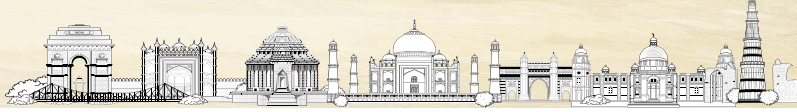
Culinary Delights

A visit to Hyderabad is incomplete without indulging in its delectable cuisine, a unique blend of Mughal, Turkish, and Persian influences. The Hyderabadi Biryani, a fragrant and flavourful rice dish cooked with aromatic spices and succulent meat, is a culinary masterpiece that has transcended regional boundaries.

The city's vibrant street food scene, especially in areas like Charminar and Moazzam Jahi Market, offers a gastronomic adventure. From the iconic Irani Chai to the mouth-watering Haleem during Ramadan, Hyderabad's culinary tapestry is a testament to its multicultural influences.

In every corner of Hyderabad, the echoes of its royal heritage resonate, from the regal palaces to the bustling bazaars and the aromatic kitchens. The city's ability to seamlessly blend its rich past with a thriving present makes it a unique destination for those seeking a glimpse into India's royal history. Hyderabad, truly, is a city where the majesty of the Nizams lives on, captivating the hearts of all who walk its historic streets.





A stellar year of sporting achievements

In 2023, Indians experienced a series of groundbreaking milestones in various sports, setting the stage for the upcoming Olympics. With numerous significant sporting events throughout the year, it seemed like a perfect prelude to the grandeur of the impending Olympics.

Let's take a look at some of the greatest sports moments featuring Indians in 2023.

Neeraj Chopra wins World Championships gold

Neeraj Chopra, at the age of 25, continued his extraordinary success by securing the gold medal at the 2023 World Championships in Budapest. With his dominant performance, Neeraj affirmed his status as the front-runner for victory. This achievement marked him as the third javelin thrower in history, alongside his



idols Jan Zelezny and Andreas Thorkildsen, to concurrently hold continental, World, and Olympic titles. Later in the year, Neeraj successfully defended his Asian Games gold medal. The mere relegation of this accomplishment to a mere footnote is a testament to the remarkable level at which he operates. Notably, the fact that he has yet to surpass the 90m mark provides him with a new goal, despite having triumphed in nearly every major competition in his sport.

Hangzhou Asian Games

The Hangzhou Asian Games witnessed an unprecedented achievement by the Indian contingent, concluding with an impressive total of 107 medals, comprising 28 gold, 38 silver, and 41 bronze. This marked the first time India surpassed the 100-medal mark at the Asiad. Among the notable accomplishments was Neeraj Chopra's successful defense of his title in a fiercely contested competition. Remarkably, Kishore Jena, his closest rival, momentarily led Neeraj, forcing the latter to summon a season's best performance of 88.88m to secure his gold, while Jena claimed the silver.

Avinash Sable left an indelible mark by setting an Asian Games record in the men's 3000m steeplechase. Parul Chaudhary's victory in the 5000m race stood out, as she executed a late surge to overtake Ririka Hironaka just before the finish line. Not only did Parul become the first Indian woman to

clinch gold in the event, but it also marked her second medal in Hangzhou, following her earlier silver in the women's 3000m steeplechase.

Jyothi Yarraji's story added another layer of drama. Having previously secured the title of the first Indian woman to win gold in women's 100m hurdles at the Asian Athletics Championships, she faced adversity in Hangzhou. Despite being wrongly disqualified for a false start, she tenaciously protested for over 10 minutes, pointing out the error to officials. Ultimately, her efforts were recognized, and she not only retained her bronze but saw it upgraded to a well-deserved silver.

In other sporting arenas, India's shooting contingent claimed an impressive 22 medals, including seven gold. The men's hockey team experienced a smooth journey to clinch the gold medal, securing their spot in the Paris 2024 Olympics. Despite facing challenges, the Indian athletes showcased resilience, determination, and a remarkable display of talent, contributing to India's historic success at the Hangzhou Asian Games.

Chirag Shetty-Satwiksairaj Rankireddy's historic rise to No.1

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, stalwarts of Indian badminton, have truly matured and asserted themselves this year. Their exceptional performances saw them secure three BWF titles, along with gold medals at both the Asian Games and the Asian Badminton Championships. This outstanding success propelled them to the pinnacle of the men's doubles rankings, making them the sole Indians to achieve this distinction in the realm of doubles badminton.



Praggnanandhaa reaches FIDE World Cup final



While Grandmaster Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa is not the first Indian to reach the FIDE World Cup final, that honor belongs to Viswanathan Anand. However, Praggnanandhaa distinguishes himself by becoming the youngest player ever, at the age of 18, to reach the title clash of this prestigious tournament. His remarkable achievement is underscored by the challenging path he took, defeating world No. 2 Hikaru Nakamura and world No. 3 Fabiano Caruana en route to the final.


Despite ultimately losing the final to the four-time world champion and Norwegian Grandmaster Magnus Carlsen, Praggnanandhaa's performance earned him a coveted spot in the prestigious Candidates tournament in 2024. His resilience, strategic prowess, and triumph over top-ranked opponents highlight the promising future of this young chess prodigy on the global stage.

Virat Kohli scores 50 ODI centuries


Despite India's heartbreak in the 2023 World Cup, there is undeniable recognition for Virat Kohli's exceptional individual performance, which stands as one of the greatest in the tournament's history. In a remarkable feat, Kohli first equaled Sachin Tendulkar's revered record of 49 ODI centuries - a milestone deemed nearly untouchable when Tendulkar set it many years ago. Subsequently, Kohli surpassed this landmark, becoming the first player to achieve 50 centuries in the ODI format.

Kohli's extraordinary run continued as he shattered Tendulkar's long-standing record for the most runs in a single edition of the World Cup. Tendulkar's record of 673 runs in the 2003 World Cup was surpassed by Kohli, who concluded the 2023 tournament with an astounding 765 runs. This outstanding performance not only solidifies Kohli's status as a cricketing legend but also cements his place in the annals of World Cup history.






LOYOLA
International School
Liscen. Learn. Lead



76
REPUBLIC DAY

The Management, Staff and Students at
LOYOLA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
wish the Indian community a very

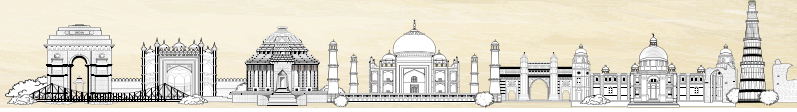
HAPPY REPUBLIC DAY



LIS OASIS
Telephone : +974 44994858
Email : info.oasis@lisdoha.com

LIS AL-NASR
Telephone : +974 44311390
Email : info@lisdoha.com

Web: www.lisdoha.com



India takes the lead to form Global Biofuel Alliance

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi along with the Leaders of Singapore, Bangladesh, Italy, USA, Brazil, Argentina, Mauritius and UAE, launched the Global Biofuel Alliance (GBA) on 9 September 2023, on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in New Delhi. The GBA, is one of the priorities under India's G20 Presidency, where PM Modi urged G20 and other nations to join the initiative, with a plea to take ethanol blending with petrol, globally to 20%. Initially, 19 countries and 12 international organisations joined the initiative, including the World Bank, the ADB and the WEF. Subsequently, with the addition of the Philippines and Tanzania the Alliance now has 21 countries as members.

The GBA intends to expedite the global uptake of biofuels through facilitating technology advancements, intensifying utilization of sustainable biofuels, shaping robust standard setting and certification through the participation of a wide spectrum of stakeholders. The alliance will also act as a central repository of knowledge and an expert hub. GBA aims to serve as a catalytic platform, fostering global collaboration for the advancement and widespread adoption of biofuels.

India and the US have a strong bilateral partnership in the energy sector since 2005. In April 2021 an India-U.S. Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership was launched, with two tracks i.e. Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP); and Climate Action and Finance Mobilization Dialogue (CAFMD). SCEP focusses on government, industry and other stakeholder efforts to advance energy security, clean energy innovation and decarbonization efforts to support the bilateral and global energy transition while ensuring clean energy access. The Joint Statement issued on July 18, 2003 after the third Ministerial Meeting of the SCEP between the Indian Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and the US Energy Secretary, states that the, "The Ministers affirmed the vision of President Biden and Prime Minister Modi for establishing the Global Biofuel Alliance."

Earlier on February 11, 2023 a press note of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas stated that Brazil, India, and the United States, as leading biofuel producers and consumers, will work together during the next few months towards the development of a Global Biofuel Alliance along with other interested countries. This Alliance will be aimed at facilitating cooperation and intensifying the use of sustainable biofuels, including in the transportation sector. It will place emphasis on strengthening markets, facilitating global biofuels trade, development of concrete policy lesson-sharing and provision of technical support for national biofuels programs worldwide. It will also emphasize the already implemented best practices and success cases. The GBA will work in collaboration with and complement the relevant existing regional and international agencies as well as initiatives in the bioenergy, bioeconomy, and energy transition fields more broadly, including the Clean Energy Ministerial Biofuture Platform, the Mission Innovation Bioenergy initiatives, and the Global Bioenergy Partnership.

Unlike other renewable energy sources, biomass can be directly converted into liquid and gaseous fuel, most common of which are ethanol for blending with petrol and biodiesel for blending with diesel. Biofuel sources are mainly crop residue, animal waste, residue from cooking oils, and non-food biomass.

India is now the world's third largest producer and user of ethanol, thanks to nearly tripling production in the past 5 years. It has already achieved 10% blending of ethanol with petrol and aims to reach 20% by 2025-26. India imports 85% of its oil needs. The transportation sector contributes to significant chunks of emissions. In order to meet its target of net-zero emissions by 2070, India has embarked vigorously on replacing a significant portion of its fossil fuel consumption with biofuels. Though not absolutely emission free, biofuels have a lower emissions intensity than fossil fuels. Blending of biodiesel with diesel has been mandated from April 1, 2023. 100 such plants are expected to come on stream across the country with an investment of about Rs. 2000 crore. The potential for biofuels in India is about one billion tonnes, with feedstock of only a minuscule portion coming from domestic crops, about 25-30% from agricultural residue and the major portion from other residues.

Global climate factor is propelling people, investments and projects into this sector. Government of India's push for net-zero emissions and its biofuel initiatives, including with its international partners have ensured that funds and technology are flowing into this sector, such as the NEEV Fund, a joint venture between the State Bank of India and the UK Government. GBA is also expected to provide additional

opportunities to Indian industries in the form of exporting technology and equipment, generating employment and skill development.

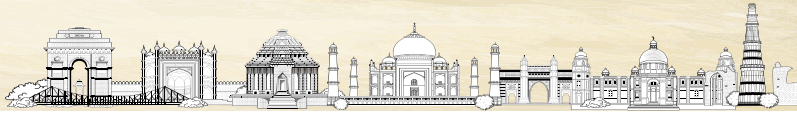
The International Energy Agency (IEA), of which, India is an association country, has put its weight behind GBA. Globally the production and use of biofuels, which contributes significantly towards net zero emission goals, is not progressing as rapidly as it should. IEA is of the view that sustainable biofuel production needs to triple by 2030 to help reduce emissions from new and existing trucks, planes, ships and passenger vehicles that have few other mitigation options. Brazil, India and the US showcase policies that have driven considerable growth in supply. As these three countries are the prime movers behind the establishment of the GBA, the IEA

expects the Alliance to accelerate the deployment of secure and affordable biofuels globally.

India recognised the significance of biofuels in mitigating carbon emissions, particularly in the transportation sector, and adopted policies and practices early to give a concrete boost to the production and use of biofuels particularly ethanol and biodiesel. However, India also realises that climate change mitigation cannot be successful unless adopted on a global scale. Hence, India took the initiative, in consultation with countries and organizations having a similar outlook, like the USA and IEA, to concretise the idea of a forum to drive the greater production and use of biofuels, which culminated in the launch of the Global Biofuel Alliance at the G20 Summit in New Delhi last year.



Exclusive Distributor: Al Maya International WLL, Doha-Qatar
T: 4441 6441 / 4441 0890 - E-mail: almaya@almayaqatar.com.qa



Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar:

A New Benchmark in Science and Technology Recognition

The Government of India has come out with a new set of National Awards in the field of Science, Technology and Innovation known as "Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar".

The objective of the Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar (RVP) is to recognize the notable and inspiring contribution made by the scientists, technologists, and innovators individually or in teams in various fields of science, technology and technology led innovation.

The Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar shall be one of the highest recognitions in the field of science, technology, and innovation in India. Scientists/ technologists/innovators working in government, private sector organizations or any individual working outside any organization, who have made distinguished contributions in terms of path-breaking research or innovation or discovery in any field of science, technology, or technology-led innovation shall be eligible for the awards.

People of Indian Origin staying abroad with exceptional contributions benefiting the Indian communities or society shall also be eligible for the awards.

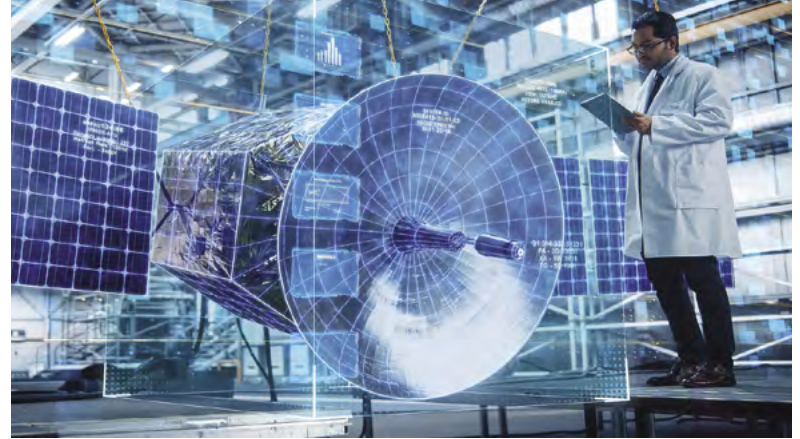
The awards shall be given in following four categories:-

- Vigyan Ratna (VR) award will recognize lifetime achievements & contributions made in any field of science and technology.
- Vigyan Shri (VS) award will recognize distinguished contributions in any field of science and technology.
- Vigyan Yuva-Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar (VY-SSB) award will recognize & encourage young scientists up to the age of 45 years who made an exceptional contribution in any field of science and technology.
- Vigyan Team (VT) award to be given to a team comprising of three or more scientists/ researchers/innovators who have made an exceptional contribution working in a team in any field of science and technology.

Scientists, technologists, and innovators working in any field of science in government or private organizations who have contributed or carried out a path breaking research, technology led innovation or discovery in any field of science or development of innovative technologies/products having significant societal impact shall be eligible for the award.

Scientists, technologists, and innovators of Indian origin abroad with exceptional contributions benefiting the Indian communities or society at large shall also be eligible.

The Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar shall be given in the 13 domains, namely Physics, Chemistry, Biological Sciences, Mathematics & Computer Science, Earth Science, Medicine, Engineering Sciences, Agricultural Science, Environmental Science, Technology &



Innovation, Atomic Energy, Space Science and Technology, and Others. The representation from each domain/field, including gender parity will be ensured.

All nominations received for the Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar awards shall be placed before the Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar Committee (RVPC) to be headed by the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to Government of India and comprising Secretaries of Science Departments, members of Science and Engineering Academies and some distinguished scientists and technologists from different fields of science and technology.

The nominations for this bouquet of awards will be invited every year on 14th January which would remain open till 28th February (National Science Day) every year. These awards shall be announced on 11th May (National Technology Day) every year. The Award Ceremony for all categories of awards will be held on 23rd August (National Space Day). All Awards will have a Sanad & a medal.

These new National Awards is a transformative step in recognizing achievements of Scientific community at the highest level by the Government of India. With transparency and fairness in the entire selection process, work done by all sections of Scientific Innovators and Technologists will be awarded providing at par status with other National Awards.

8 Groundbreaking Women Empowerment Schemes in India

Women empowerment involves fostering the growth of women and enabling them to participate in crucial decisions. It entails affording them equal opportunities to learn, succeed in society, and rejecting any form of unfair treatment based on gender. Below are some initiatives in India dedicated to fortifying women and promoting their independence.

1. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana

Launched under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 1, 2016, this scheme aims to provide free cooking gas connections to impoverished families, both rural and urban, falling below poverty line (BPL).

2. Sukanya Samridhi Scheme

Introduced in 2015, this scheme provides financial support to female children, enabling them to pursue their ambitions and education. Eligible participants include mothers of girls.

3. Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana

Announced in 2019, this program offers financial support to expectant and nursing mothers, allowing them to prioritize their health and that of their children. Cash assistance of up to Rs 6000 is provided under this scheme.

4. Women Entrepreneurship Fund Scheme

Established in 2020, this scheme supports female entrepreneurs lacking the necessary capital to launch their businesses.

5. Mahila Shakti Kendras

Initiated in 2017, this empowerment scheme provides women with essential resources such as healthcare, quality education, guidance, and job opportunities across different regions in the country, including blocks and districts.



6. Nari Shakti Puraskar

Commenced in 2016, this initiative strives to strengthen women in society by supporting organizations dedicated to women's progress and development in various aspects of life.

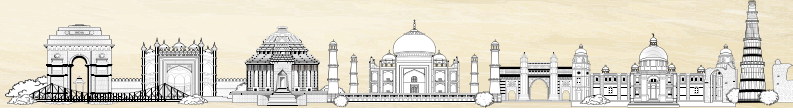
7. One-Stop Centre Scheme

Launched in 2015, this scheme assists women facing violence, whether at home or in public. It facilitates the

reporting of incidents, aiding in filing First Information Reports (FIR/NCR), and offers emotional support through counseling services.

8. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme

Initiated in 2015, this scheme addresses the unfair practice of favouring boys over girls before birth. It endeavours to ensure the safety of girls and provides them with opportunities to learn and participate in various activities.



Swarved Mahamandir

Varanasi unveils world's largest meditation haven

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on December 18, 2023 inaugurated the newly-built Swarved Mahamandir, which is the world's largest meditation centre, in Umaraha, Varanasi.

While addressing the audience, PM Modi said that India has declared freedom from the slave mentality and is feeling proud of its heritage.

"In the era of slavery, the oppressors who made an effort to weaken India first targeted our symbols. After Independence, re-building of these cultural symbols was essential," he said.



Modi said that after the country gained Independence, "there was an opposition to the rebuilding of the Somnath temple and this thought process remained dominant for decades."

He said because of this, the country descended into an inferiority complex and somehow ignored the rich heritage it possessed.

"After seven decades of Independence, the wheel of time has turned once again. The country has declared from the Red Fort freedom from the slave mentality and a feeling of pride about its heritage."

"The work which started from Somnath has now become a campaign. Today, the grandeur of Vishwanath is singing the tales of India's glory," Modi said.

He then said that India, for the longest time, has been an example of economic prosperity and physical development and that the government, society and saints were making all the required efforts to rejuvenate Kashi.

Chief Minister of the state of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath was also present during the inauguration.

CM Yogi along with PM Modi took a tour of the centre that can seat around 20,000 people at a time for meditation.

Verses of the Swarveda have been carved upon the walls of the Mahamandir, a seven-floor grand structure.

Architecture of Swarved Mahamandir

The beautiful intricate marble works and towering lotus-shaped domes are an example of the rich cultural legacy of the city, blending well with contemporary architectural features. With its impressive seven floors and 20,000 devotee capacity, the Swarved Mahamandir is a remarkable architectural marvel. The temple has 101 fountains as well as elaborately carved teakwood doors and ceilings. The walls are adorned with pink sandstone, and the grandeur is further enhanced by a lovely garden filled with medicinal plants.



ENRICHING
THE RAWABI LEGACY
WITH A SUSTAINABLE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
INDIA & QATAR

WISHING ALL A HAPPY

Republic Day of India

26TH JANUARY



AL RAWABI
GROUP OF COMPANIES W.L.L.

A Journey of Taste and Tradition

From the syrupy delights of the North to the creamy confections of the South, Indian sweets form a sweet symphony that resonates with the joy and celebration inherent in the vibrant tapestry of Indian life

India is a land of diverse cultures, languages, and cuisines, and its culinary traditions are a testament to this diversity. One aspect of Indian cuisine that never fails to captivate the taste buds and hearts of people around the world is its vast array of mouthwatering sweets. Let's embark on a sweet journey through the enchanting realm of Indian desserts, exploring the cultural significance, regional variations, and the sheer artistry involved in crafting these delectable treats.

Cultural Significance

Indian desserts are not merely sweet treats; they hold cultural and religious significance in various festivities and celebrations. Sweets are offered during religious ceremonies, weddings, and festivals, symbolizing joy, prosperity, and the sweetness of life. Each region has its signature sweets, contributing to the diverse dessert landscape of India.

Gulab Jamun

Often hailed as the king of Indian desserts, Gulab Jamun is a deep-fried dough ball soaked in cardamom-infused sugar syrup. The name itself, where "gulab" means rose and "jamun" refers to a dark purple berry, reflects the dessert's lusciousness and aromatic essence. Originating from North India, Gulab Jamun has become a pan-Indian favourite, transcending regional boundaries.



Rasgulla

Hailing from the eastern state of West Bengal, Rasgulla is a spongy, cheese-based dessert soaked in sugar syrup. The light and airy texture of Rasgulla, combined with its sweet simplicity, has made it a cherished sweet across the country. The debate between the origins of Rasgulla in West Bengal and Odisha adds an interesting layer to its cultural significance.





Jalebi

With its intricate spiral shape and vibrant orange colour, Jalebi is an iconic sweet often associated with festivals and celebrations. Made by deep-frying maida (all-purpose flour) batter into pretzel or circular shapes and then soaking them in sugar syrup, Jalebi is a delightful blend of crispiness and sweetness. It is a staple at Indian weddings and street food stalls alike



Mysore Pak

Originating from the southern state of Karnataka, Mysore Pak is a fudge-like dessert made from besan (gram flour), ghee, and sugar. The melt-in-your-mouth texture and rich flavor make it a beloved sweet during Diwali and other festive occasions in South India.



Barfi

Barfi, meaning "snow" in Persian, is a broad category of fudgy sweets that come in various flavours like coconut, pistachio, and almond. The name reflects the smooth and snowy texture of these treats. Barfi is often cut into diamond shapes, making it a visually appealing sweet enjoyed across the country.



Kheer

Kheer is the Indian version of rice pudding, a creamy and comforting dessert made by slow-cooking rice in milk and sweetening it with sugar or jaggery. Infused with cardamom and garnished with nuts, Kheer is a versatile dessert that adapts to regional variations, such as Payasam in South India.

Gajar ka Halwa

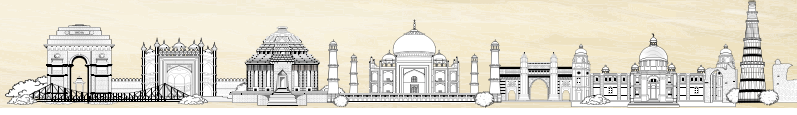
A winter specialty, Gajar ka Halwa is a carrot-based dessert cooked with ghee, milk, and sugar. The grated carrots are slow-cooked until they become soft and caramelized, creating a warm and indulgent sweet dish enjoyed during cold months.



Sandesh

Originating from the state of West Bengal, Sandesh is a delicate dessert made from chhena (freshly made cottage cheese) and flavoured with cardamom, saffron, or rose water. The artistry involved in shaping Sandesh into intricate patterns adds to its appeal.





A Global Information Technology Hub



With a thriving software and technology sector, India has emerged as a global IT hub, delivering innovative solutions to companies worldwide

India's remarkable success in the Information Technology (IT) industry has positioned the country as a global IT hub, making significant contributions to the worldwide technological landscape.

Over the past few decades, India's IT sector has witnessed exponential growth, earning a reputation for its skilled workforce, innovative solutions, and competitive edge. This article explores the elements that have propelled India into the realm of IT prominence, examining the evolution, major contributors, and the prospective trajectory of the nation's IT industry.

Historical Context

The roots of India's IT success can be traced back to the 1980s when the country embarked on economic reforms, liberalizing its economy. The government's proactive policies and investments in education laid the foundation for the growth of the IT sector. The establishment of software technology parks and the promotion of software exports through incentives further fueled the industry's expansion.

Skilled Workforce

One of the critical factors behind India's emergence as an IT hub is its vast pool of highly skilled and English-speaking workforce. The country's education system, with an emphasis on science and engineering, has produced a steady stream of IT professionals. Indian IT professionals are known for their strong analytical and problem-solving skills, making them valuable assets for

global companies seeking innovative solutions. Outsourcing Revolution

India's IT industry gained international prominence through outsourcing, with Indian companies providing cost-effective and high-quality IT services to global businesses. The outsourcing model, characterized by software development, maintenance, and support services, attracted multinational corporations looking to reduce costs without compromising on quality. Indian IT firms played a pivotal role in this paradigm shift, offering services ranging from software development to business process outsourcing (BPO).

Key Players

Several Indian IT companies have achieved global recognition and success. Companies like Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Infosys, Wipro, and HCL Technologies have become household names in the global IT landscape. These companies have demonstrated excellence in delivering cutting-edge solutions, fostering innovation, and adapting to the rapidly evolving technological landscape.

Innovation, Research & Development

India's IT industry has evolved beyond just outsourcing, with a growing emphasis on innovation and research. The country has seen a surge in startups focusing on emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, blockchain, and cybersecurity. Collaborations between industry and

academia, along with the establishment of research centers, have propelled India into the forefront of technological advancements.

Government Initiatives

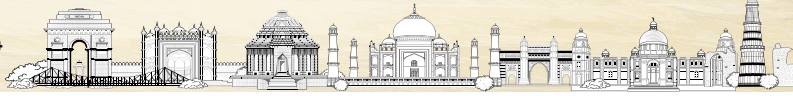
The Indian government has played a crucial role in fostering the growth of the IT industry. Policies aimed at promoting entrepreneurship, investment in infrastructure, and the establishment of technology parks have created a conducive environment for the IT sector to thrive. Initiatives like 'Digital India' and 'Make in India' further underscore the government's commitment to transforming India into a global technology hub.

Future Prospects

The future of India's IT industry looks promising, with a focus on emerging technologies, increased innovation, and a commitment to sustainability. As the industry continues to evolve, India is likely to maintain its status as a global IT hub, contributing significantly to the digital transformation of businesses worldwide.

In short, India's journey to becoming a global IT hub is a testament to its resilience, adaptability, and commitment to excellence. The combination of a skilled workforce, outsourcing success, innovation, and supportive government policies has propelled the country to the forefront of the global IT landscape. With a promising future ahead, India remains a key player in shaping the digital future of the world.





A Global Economic Powerhouse

Despite the global pandemic, Russia-Ukraine war, and a global recession, a record amount of foreign direct investment (FDI) flowed into the country, solidifying India's position as an indispensable link in the global supply chain

Breaking all the stereotypical myths and norms, the Indian economy has emerged victorious amidst various challenges and global headwinds thrown upon her during the past few years. The Indian economy has proven to be robust and resilient, emerging as one of the fastest growing economies of the world. This has been made possible because of the slew of reforms and initiatives brought by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In 2014, PM Modi was elected with a clear mandate to revive the country's sluggish economic growth. He assumed power with an ambitious goal of boosting investment, promoting innovation, creating best-in-class infrastructure and making India a manufacturing, design and innovation hub. During his tenure of nine years PM Modi has not only brought out comprehensive and innovative measures for the economic development of the nation but at the same time has given great impetus to the growth trajectory owing to several initiatives laid out by the government.

Due to his visionary leadership and robust economic planning, the nation has moved from the 10th to the 5th position as an economic power. The successful economic turnaround of India can be assessed from the fact that despite the global pandemic, Russia-Ukraine war, and a global recession, a record amount of direct foreign direct investment (FDI) flowed into the country, solidifying India's position as an inevitable link in the global supply chain.

PM Modi contributed heavily in all spheres of economic activity, focusing mainly on the 4 I's - investment, infrastructure, innovation and inclusion. The government has created a better environment for investment and liberalised the FDI policy by allowing for 100% foreign investment in many sectors. This boosted investors' confidence and increased investment inflows into the country. As a result, India received its highest-ever FDI of US \$84.8 billion in FY22, which is 84% higher than the figure of US \$45 billion in FY 2014-15. The role of the private sector was also strengthened, encouraging more domestic investments in core sectors.

To strengthen the infrastructure, the government ensured a sustained focus on increasing capital expenditure. Consequently, the latest union Budget saw a provision of Rs 10 lakh crore, which is a 4 times increase since

2014. In March, 2014, where the total length of National Highways was 91,287 kms, it has increased to 1,45,155 kms by March 2023. The number of airports doubled, from 74 in 2014 to 148 at present. The capacity of major ports almost doubled from 871 MT in 2014 to 1597 MT in 2023.

With the mantra of 'Vocal for Local' and 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat', the government also took huge steps towards self-reliance. The government introduced initiatives like 'Make in India', 'Startup India' and 'Stand-Up India', which actively identified, encouraged, nurtured, and boosted domestic manufacturing.

The government launched Skill India programme to meet the demand of skilling, upskilling and reskilling the workforce. This is the reason that despite the pandemic, new startups have witnessed rapid growth in India. Interestingly, startups are being formed not just in metro cities but in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities as well. Similarly, the push is not given just to the traditional sectors like IT, finance, digital economy, and health, but also to new and emerging technology areas like AI, Robotics, Machine learning, Internet of Things and nanotechnology. So far, 108 startup companies have joined the Unicorn Club. Simultaneously, steps were taken to remove the constraints in raising capital. Earlier during the previous government's reign, it was almost impossible for small businessmen

GST, the government revenue increased heavily, which meant that more money could be spent on capital expenditure. Gross tax revenue during 2013-14 was about Rs 11 lakh crore, which increased to Rs 33 lakh crore in 2023-24. The government also lowered down the tax rates thereby reducing the tax burden on the citizens of the nation, which resulted in the increase in the tax base. Wherein about 3.3 crore individual tax returns were filed in the year 2014, it increased to about 6.6 crore in 2021-22.

Economic reforms, alone, cannot be successful unless there is a dedicated approach towards social reform, and vice versa. To achieve this, huge emphasis was laid on Inclusion - 'Sabka, Saath, Sabka Vikas', and maximum use of technology - 'Digital India'.

Whereas till 2014, there were only 35 crore bank accounts in the whole country, the introduction of PM Jan Dhan Yojana - the world's biggest financial inclusion initiative, contributed heavily towards the opening of over 48 crore new bank accounts which have further been linked to their mobile numbers. The use of technology platforms also revolutionized the delivery of income support. More than Rs. 29 lakh crores have been transferred to citizens' bank accounts through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

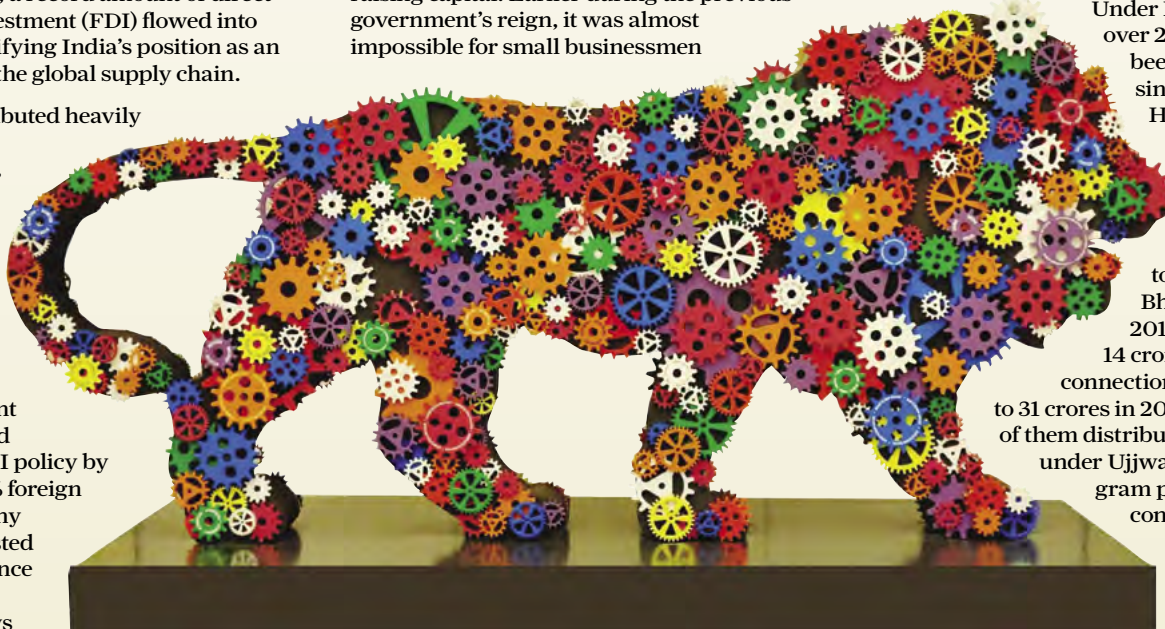
Under PM Awas Yojana, over 2 crore houses have been built in rural areas since 2014. Under Har Ghar Jal Yojana, over 8.6 crore households have been provided tap water and 11 crore houses now have toilets due to 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan'. In 2014, there were only 14 crore cooking gas connections, which increased to 31 crores in 2023, with 9.5 crore of them distributed to rural women under Ujjwala Yojana. 1.89 lakh gram panchayats have been connected with fiber optic cable under BharatNet, and all villages have been electrified under Saubhagya.

Consequently, almost the whole country is now connected with the country's economy.

Large-scale employment was also created during this period, as can be witnessed from the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESI) figures. During September 2017 to February 2023, around 6.35 crore subscribers have joined EPF. In the same period, 8 crore employees were added to ESI.

who did not have any assets to guarantee, to take loans from banks, but such businessmen could now easily take loans as a system was made under which MSMEs, small traders, businessmen and entrepreneurs could get subsidised collateral-free loans from banks.

The next big milestone came in the form of GST, which put an end to a complex web of dozens of taxes making the whole nation one big cohesive market. Due to the implementation of



ADITYA-L1 SOLAR MISSION REACHES DESTINATION

INDIA ACHIEVED ANOTHER MILESTONE BY SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHING ITS INAUGURAL OBSERVATION MISSION TO THE SUN, SHORTLY AFTER MAKING HISTORY AS THE FIRST COUNTRY TO LAND NEAR THE MOON'S SOUTH POLE

The Indian Space Research Organisation's inaugural solar mission, Aditya-L1, has reached its destination within the anticipated four-month timeframe, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said recently.

Launched on September 2, the spacecraft positioned itself at Lagrange Point 1, from where it will undertake a comprehensive study of the sun, focusing on the solar corona and its influence on space weather.

"India creates yet another landmark. It is a testament to the relentless dedication of our scientists in realising among the most complex and intricate space missions," Modi said in a post on social media platform X, formerly known as Twitter.

The satellite covered approximately 1.5 million kilometers (930,000 miles) over the span of four months, just a fraction of the Earth-sun distance of 150 million kilometers.

The Lagrange Point, where the satellite is stationed, benefits from gravitational forces that allow objects to remain relatively stationary, reducing fuel consumption for the spacecraft.

Equipped with seven payloads, Aditya-L1 is slated to conduct remote sensing of the sun and in-situ observations for an estimated five years.

Named after the Hindi word for the sun, this mission follows India's recent achievement of being the first country to successfully land on the moon's south pole, surpassing Russia's failed Luna-25 with the Chandrayaan-3 mission. Chandrayaan-3 landed on the unexplored south pole of the moon in August last year.

Scientists involved in the project aim to gain insights into the impact of solar radiation on the increasing number of satellites in orbit, with a particular focus on phenomena affecting ventures like Elon Musk's Starlink communications network.

"We definitely need to know more about the sun, as it controls the space weather," said Manish Purohit, a former ISRO scientist.

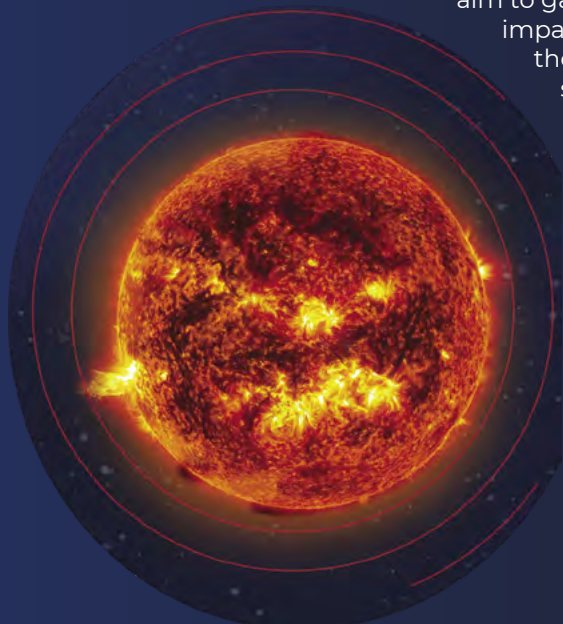
The low earth orbit is going to get "super" crowded over the coming years, said Purohit.

"Satellites are going to become the main stay of all tech on Earth with Quantum implemented, with internet connectivity, disaster warning system, resource utilisation and many more applications," said Purohit.

Stationing a spacecraft at L1 acts as an early warning system, with roughly one-hour advantage, for an upcoming storm from the Sun, he said.

The mission to study the sun is among a slate of projects ISRO has lined up through the year, key among them its first human space mission and a low-Earth orbit observatory system jointly developed by NASA and ISRO, called NISAR.

NISAR will map the entire planet once every 12 days, providing data for understanding changes in ecosystems, ice mass, vegetation biomass, sea level rise, ground water and natural hazards including earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes and landslides.



ADITYA-L1 MISSION

THE FIRST OBSERVATORY-CLASS SPACE-BASED SOLAR MISSION FROM INDIA

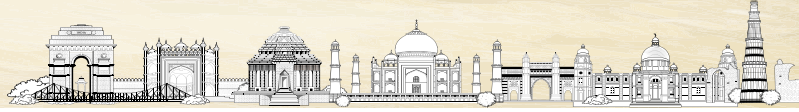


PSLV
C57

INDIA

PSLV C57

इसरो ISRO
BHAR



India retains 40th rank in the Global Innovation Index

India has maintained its 40th rank in the latest Global Innovation Index (GII) 2023 released by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), making it a leading position holder among the lower middle-income country group.

The country ranked first among the 37 lower-middle group income and first among the 10 economies in Central and South America.

"India maintains its 40th position overall and takes the helm in the lower middle-income group. It holds the record for over-performing on innovation for the 13th consecutive year. India holds top rankings in key indicators, including ICT services exports (at place 5), VC received (6), graduates in science and engineering (11) and global corporate R&D investors (13)," read a press state from the GII.

The GII tracks the innovation ecosystem performance of 132 global economies and the most recent global innovation trends. In 2015, India stood at the 81st spot and has been rising in the past eight years.

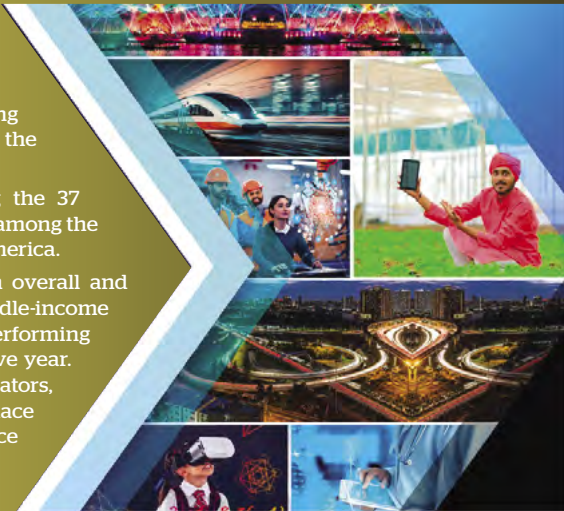
"The consistent improvement in the GII ranking is owing to the immense knowledge capital, the vibrant start-up ecosystem, and the amazing work done by the public and private research organizations. Innovation has been at the forefront of our battle against the unprecedented crisis created by the pandemic and will be pivotal in driving the country's resilience, as enshrined in the Prime Minister's clarion call on Atma Nirbhar Bharat," NITI Aayog said in a statement.

The GII is a reliable tool for governments across the world to assess the innovation-led social and economic changes in their respective countries.

Other parameters where India performed fairly better include- cultural and creative services exports as percentage of trade (18th rank), intangible asset intensity (8th rank), and overall market sophistication (20th rank).

The broad areas where a lot of improvement needs to happen are infrastructure (84th rank), business sophistication (57) and institutions (56).

NITI Aayog said that it has been working tirelessly to ensure the optimisation of the national efforts for bringing policy-led innovation in different areas such as electric vehicles, biotechnology, nanotechnology, space, alternative energy sources, etc.



THE GII TRACKS THE INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM PERFORMANCE OF 132 GLOBAL ECONOMIES AND THE MOST RECENT GLOBAL INNOVATION TRENDS. IN 2015, INDIA STOOD AT THE 81ST SPOT AND HAS BEEN RISING IN THE PAST EIGHT YEARS



CELEBRATING 75TH INDIAN REPUBLIC DAY



Ex. Indian Navy
Mr. NAZERATH CHARLES
GENERAL MANAGER
EXBLOWRA GROUP OF COMPANIES

On this day of the year 1950, we adopted the constitution and gave to ourselves a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular and Democratic Republic. On this great occasion, let us salute the great freedom fighters and the personalities who, through their sacrifices, made it possible for our country to attain freedom and become a Sovereign Republic.

A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people. As India and Indians march forward, we remain committed to engaging the global community to build a secure and prosperous future for ourselves and for the entire humanity.

Wishing a very Happy Republic Day 2024 to all!



EXBLOWRA TRADING & CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L.

P.O.Box: 12147 Doha -Qatar Tel: +974 4441 8945, Fax: +974 4443 4276, E-mail: contactus@exblowra.com

Our Services:

Civil Contracting
Manufacturing Porta Cabins

Manpower supply
Fire Fighting

Maintenance of buildings
Safety & Security

Escalators and Elevators
Technologies

Facility Management

Celebrate India's Republic Day and make your loved ones a part of it with **Commercial Bank!**



Enjoy 60 seconds transfers when you send money to India.

Faster credits to bank accounts, competitive exchange rates, and 24/7 availability!

Download "CBQ Mobile App" from your Apple Store / Google play Store / Huawei App Gallery or login to Internet Banking and transfer now.

Happy Republic Day!