



Newsletter for the month of August 2019

India

Prime Minister Modi attends G7 Summit:



PM Modi and US President Trump at G7 Summit

At the personal invitation of French President Emmanuel Macron, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi attended the G7 Summit which was held in Biarritz, France from 24 to 26 August. At the Summit, PM Modi addressed sessions on environment, climate, oceans and digital transformation, and highlighted India's large-scale efforts towards eliminating single use plastics, conserving water, harnessing solar energy and protecting flora and fauna for a sustainable future. PM Modi also held bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the Summit with leaders such as US President Donald Trump, at which trade, security and other issues of current interest were discussed.

PM Modi visits Bhutan:



PM Modi and the King of Bhutan, Jigme Khesar Wangchuck

From 17 to 18 August, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Bhutan. He stated that there was a unique friendship between India and Bhutan, and that the bilateral relations were based on the common interests of progress, prosperity and security of the people in both countries. He also highlighted that the intelligence and foresight of the Kings of Bhutan had guided the bilateral relations for a long time, and underlined that it was a privilege for India to be a major partner in the development of Bhutan.

PM Modi visits Bahrain: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Bahrain from 24 to 25 August, and was warmly received by the Prime Minister of Bahrain, His

Highness Prince Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa. This was the first ever visit by an Indian prime minister to Bahrain. PM Modi stated that the visit was historical and would improve bilateral ties.

Passing away of Smt. Sushma Swaraj, former External Affairs Minister of India



Smt. Sushma Swaraj

On 7 August, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi expressed condolence over the demise of former External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj on 6 August, 2019. PM Modi stated that a glorious chapter in Indian politics had come to an end, and that India grieved the demise of a remarkable leader who devoted her life to public service and improving lives of the poor. He stated that she was admired and revered across party lines, and was a source of inspiration for crores of people.

Passing away of Shri Arun Jaitley, former Finance Minister of India



Shri Arun Jaitley

On 24 August, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi condoled the demise of former Finance Minister and BJP stalwart Shri Arun Jaitley. PM Modi stated that Shri

Arun Jaitley was a political giant, and an articulate leader who made a lasting contribution to India. Moreover, PM Modi highlighted that Shri Arun Jaitley had a great sense of humour and charisma, and was admired by people across all sections of society. During his long political career, Shri Arun Jaitley held multiple ministerial responsibilities, which enabled him to contribute towards India's economic growth, strengthening the country's defence capabilities, creating people friendly laws and enhancing trade with other nations.

Badminton World Championships 2019:

On 25 August, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated the Indian badminton player P.V. Sindhu on winning gold at the Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Championships which was held from 19-25 August in Basel, Switzerland. PM Modi stated that the stupendously talented P.V. Sindhu had made India proud, and highlighted that the passion and dedication with which she pursued badminton was inspiring and that her success would inspire generations of players.

Indian States / Festivals

Haryana:



Haryana Automobile Industry

Photo: Gurgaon Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Haryana is located in northern India and surrounds the national capital city, New

Delhi, from three sides. The state economy ranks 13th among India's 33 states and union territories with an estimated GDP of USD 110 billion in 2019-2020 and the state's GDP growth rate is estimated at 11% from 2018-19 to 2019-20. Haryana is a well-developed industrial state with good transportation connections to surrounding states and the rest of India. It is one of India's largest automobile hubs, and accounts for about two thirds of passenger cars, 50% of tractors and 60% of motorcycles manufactured in India. Regarding other industries, Haryana has emerged as a base for the knowledge industry, including the IT and biotechnology sectors, and is the third largest exporter of software among Indian states. For example, the city of Gurgaon, Haryana has emerged as a preferred destination for the IT industry in North India, with more than 400 IT and IT enabled Services (ITeS) companies. Some of the initiatives adopted by the Haryana Government to promote Haryana as an investment destination include development of a number of industrial estates, industrial model townships and specialized parks for cluster development, development of infrastructure facilities.



Surajkund International Crafts Mela
Photo: Travel Triangle.com

The Surajkund International Crafts Mela is held in Surajkund, Faridabad, Haryana in

February each year. The event is organized by the Surajkund Mela Authority & Haryana Tourism in collaboration with Union Ministries of Tourism, Textiles, Culture and External Affairs, and attracts more than a million visitors every year, thousands of which are foreign tourists. The Surajkund Mela is unique as it showcases the richness and diversity of the handicrafts, handlooms and cultural fabric of India, and is the largest crafts fair in the world. Other tourist attractions in Haryana include the popular pilgrim destination Kurukshetra, the ancient city of Ambala, the monuments in Hisar, the Karnal Fort and the town of Pinjore, which is home to a beautiful 17th century garden.

Janmashtami:



Janmashtami
Photo: Press Trust of India (PTI)

The Janmashtami Festival was celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm throughout India and various part of the world from 23 to 24 August to commemorate the birthday of Lord Krishna, the eighth incarnation of Lord Vishnu. Krishna Janmashtami is an occasion to celebrate the rich persona of Lord Krishna who took birth to dispel evil and spread the message of love and universal brotherhood.

International commercial & business activities in India

India-France to jointly build and run space-based ship tracking system: On 26 August, the India Brand Equity Foundation reported that the world's first space-based Automatic Identification System to monitor merchant ships on real-time basis would be built and operated mutually by India and France. Dr. K Sivan, Chairman, India Space Research Organization (ISRO) and Mr. Jean-Yves Le Gall, President of the French space agency National Centre for Space Studies (CNES) recently signed an agreement to start development and production of a constellation of satellites carrying telecommunication (AIS), radar and optical remote-detecting instruments.

15th India Innovation Summit 2019:



Dr. Omkar Rai at the 15th India Innovation Summit 2019

The 15th India Innovation Summit 2019 was organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in Bengaluru from 21 to 22 August. The Summit was held under the theme “Innovation Manifesto Scaling for the next decade”, and included event highlights such as keynote panels by innovation promoters, master classes for hands-on experience on innovation, experience zones for the showcase of innovation across sectors and a student challenge to felicitate young entrepreneurs. Speaking at the Summit, Dr. Omkar Rai, Director General, Software Technology Park of India (STPI) stated that the goal was to take India's software industry to

reach USD 80-90 billion by 2025, up from USD 8.1 billion today.

India-Norway:

India-Norway JWG on Fisheries: The 6th meeting of the Joint Working Group on cooperation on Fisheries between India and Norway was held on August 22, 2019 in Trondheim, Norway. Indian delegation was led by Secretary (Fisheries), Ms. Rajni Sekhri Sibal and the Norwegian side was led by Deputy Secretary General, Dr. Morten Berg, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, Government of Norway. Both sides discussed issues related to cooperation in the field of aquaculture and fisheries. The Indian delegation also attended the Aqua Nor 2019 Exhibition held in Trondheim from August 20-23, 2019.

Indian Community:

73rd Independence Day of India: On the occasion of the 73rd Independence Day of India, the Embassy of India organized a Flag Hoisting Ceremony on 15th August at India House, Oslo in the morning. After flag hoisting ceremony, Ambassador Krishan Kumar read out Hon'ble President's Address to the Nation. The event was celebrated with gaiety and enthusiasm. Around 350 Indian nationals, Indian diaspora and friends of India attended the celebration.



Celebration of the 73rd Independence Day of India