

NEWSLETTER

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EMBASSY OF INDIA
MINSK

April 2026

BHARAT SANDESH

Issue- 13

H.E. PRESIDENT OF INDIA GRACES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS IN NEW DELHI



On the occasion of International Women's Day, the President of India H.E. Droupadi Murmu graced and addressed the event organised by the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development in New Delhi (March 8, 2026). This national-level event was organised to celebrate the achievements and contributions of women across diverse fields and reaffirm the collective commitment towards gender equality, safety, dignity and empowerment of women.

Addressing the gathering, the President said that women are playing leading role in every field—education, administration, judiciary, military, medicine, science, technology, arts and entrepreneurship. Women in rural areas are becoming financially self-reliant through Self-Help Groups. They are providing leadership to rural development in panchayats. Many women are leveraging their abilities and capabilities to provide leadership in industry, startups and the corporate world. They are excelling in sports too. Such examples instil confidence that, given the opportunities and support, women can achieve excellence in every field. The President said that India is rapidly moving towards women-led development. Over the past decade, strong foundation has been laid for removing barriers in the path of women. India has achieved gender parity in school education. Even in higher education, the number of female students is higher in terms of Gross Enrolment Ratio. Women's participation in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education is rapidly increasing.

Link for full article: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2236565®=3&lang=1>

PRESIDENT OF FINLAND MEETS THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA



H.E. Dr. Alexander Stubb, President of the Republic of Finland met H.E. President of India, Mrs. Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan (March 5, 2026). Welcoming President Stubb at Rashtrapati Bhavan, the President said that his presence as the Chief Guest at this year's Raisina Dialogue is a matter of pride for India. She expressed confidence that his views on the contemporary global situation will certainly be very valuable for all the participants. The President said that Finland is a global leader in cutting-edge digital technologies, ranging from quantum technology to 6G, and appreciated Finnish companies' role in India's journey towards a Viksit Bharat. She underlined that several Indian companies are active in Finland and that thousands of Indians, especially IT professionals, are making significant contributions to Finland's economy. She said this scenario provides immense possibilities for deeper cooperation between our countries in these areas.

The President also commended Finland's leadership in sustainable development and clean technologies. She added that India too has made notable progress in climate action, by expanding our solar and wind energy capacities, promoting green hydrogen, improving sustainable energy efficiency, and initiating platforms such as International Solar Alliance and the Global Bio-Fuels Alliance. She also apprised President Stubb of the LiFE Mission, which encourages people to adopt sustainable lifestyles. She noted that by combining Finland's expertise in sustainable technologies with India's green energy innovation, we can demonstrate that prosperity and sustainability can go hand in hand.

Link for full article: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2235682®=3&lang=1>

PRESIDENT OF INDIA GRACES CONVOCATION CEREMONY OF NALANDA UNIVERSITY



H.E. the President of India, Mrs. Droupadi Murmu graced and addressed the convocation ceremony of Nalanda University at Rajgir, Bihar (March 31, 2026). Speaking on the occasion, the President said that today's convocation ceremony is a reaffirmation of a civilizational promise: a promise that knowledge shall endure, that dialogue shall prevail, and that learning shall continue to serve humanity. She congratulated graduating students and said that their achievements are the result of perseverance, discipline, and intellectual commitment. She was happy to note that over half of the graduating cohort today comprises international students from more than 30 countries.

The President said that the ancient Nalanda University stood as a renowned center of learning for nearly eight centuries. The decline of Nalanda constituted a monumental loss—not only for India but for the entire world. Nevertheless, the concept of Nalanda remained alive. Its resurgence in our times symbolizes a national and international commitment to re-establishing that glorious legacy within a modern context. She underlined that this resurgence has been made possible through visionary leadership, sustained institutional efforts, and the coordination of partner nations. It serves as an illustration of how diverse nations can achieve lofty goals when guided by shared values.

The President said that the library of ancient Nalanda is said to have contained millions of manuscripts. With that lofty benchmark as a reference, what we are building here today, will be a lasting legacy. As India moves towards becoming a developed nation by 2047, institutions like Nalanda University will play a vital role.

Link for full article: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2247280®=3&lang=1>

PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA VISITS INDIA



At the invitation of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi, the Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada, paid an official visit to India from February 27 – March 2, 2026. This was Prime Minister Carney's first visit to India after taking over as the Prime Minister of Canada and is the first bilateral visit to India by a Canadian Prime Minister since 2018. Prime Minister Carney was accompanied by a Canadian high-level delegation that included senior ministers, provincial leaders and leading CEOs.

Commemorating 79 years of establishment of diplomatic relations, the Leaders reaffirmed the importance of the Canada–India relationship, grounded in shared democratic values, deep people-to-people ties, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, and a joint commitment to the rule of law.

The Leaders acknowledged that, in an increasingly complex and uncertain global context, a strong, resilient, and forward-looking partnership between two vibrant democracies contributes meaningfully to mutual prosperity and to advancing shared global priorities. They underscored that closer cooperation between India and Canada will help reinforce international rules and norms that are applied fairly, strengthen economic resilience, promote sustainable development, and address global challenges including climate change, rapid technological transformation, and public health. The Leaders affirmed their shared resolve to work together bilaterally and in multilateral fora to uphold democratic values, support inclusive growth, and contribute to peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific and beyond.

Link for full article: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2234572®=3&lang=1>

HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER MR. NARENDRA MODI ADDRESSES POST BUDGET WEBINAR ON "SUSTAINING AND STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC GROWTH"



Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi addressed the second installment of the Budget Webinar series, focusing on the theme of "Sustaining and Strengthening Economic Growth." Reflecting on the momentum of the previous week, the Prime Minister noted that the first webinar was highly successful and yielded excellent suggestions regarding the implementation of budget provisions.

The Prime Minister emphasized that the current webinar is intrinsically linked to providing continuous strength to the country's economic growth. The PM observed that as global supply chains are getting re-shaped, India's robust economy has become a beacon of hope for the world. "The rapid progress of the economy is a massive foundation for a 'Viksit Bharat'", Mr. Modi remarked. Reaffirming the government's clear vision and clear resolution, the Prime Minister reiterated the core mantras of "Build more, produce more, connect more, and export more." "Certainly, the deliberations that will take place among you today, and the suggestions that emerge from these deliberations, will play a major role," the PM remarked.

Addressing the synergy between various sectors, the Prime Minister explained that manufacturing, logistics, MSMEs, and urban centers are not isolated silos but interconnected pillars of a single economic structure. He detailed how manufacturing drives exports while competitive MSMEs foster flexibility and innovation. "This year's budget has provided great strength to all these pillars," Mr. Modi affirmed.

Link for full address: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2234919®=3&lang=1>

HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI EXTENDS GREETINGS ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY, LAUDS THE ROLE OF NARI SHAKTI IN INDIA'S PROGRESS



Hon'ble the Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi, extended his greetings to the nation on International Women's Day and paid tribute to the strength, determination and achievements of India's Nari Shakti. The Prime Minister greeted women across the country and acknowledged their growing role in shaping India's progress. He said that across every field, women are contributing with determination, creativity and unmatched zeal, and that their achievements inspire the nation while strengthening the collective resolve to build a Viksit Bharat.

Highlighting the Government's commitment towards women-led development, the Prime Minister noted that empowerment of women lies at the core of several schemes and initiatives of the Government. He reiterated that the Government remains committed to creating opportunities that enable every woman to realise her full potential and contribute to India's journey of development. The Prime Minister further remarked that the achievements of India's Nari Shakti are a source of pride for the nation and a powerful reminder of the transformative role played by women in nation building. He added that as India progresses further, the aspirations and contributions of women will continue to guide the country's collective journey towards a strong and prosperous nation.

Mr. Modi also shared a glimpse of how the lives of women at the grassroots have been transformed over the past decade, highlighting the impact of initiatives aimed at empowering women across the country.

Link for full article: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2236532®=3&lang=1>

PRIME MINISTER MR. NARENDRA MODI ADDRESSES THE NXT SUMMIT



The Prime Minister addressed the iTV Network's NXT Summit, marking the historic anniversary of the Dandi March and drawing a parallel between India's struggle for independence and its current pursuit of becoming a developed nation. Mr. Modi emphasized that just as the 1930 march unified the country toward freedom, the current "Viksit Bharat" mission is the collective goal of 140 crore Indians. "Today, nearly 100 years after that historic journey, we Indians have set out on a new journey once again for a 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India)," said the PM.

Reflecting on the unique challenges of the 21st century, the Prime Minister noted that India is emerging as a beacon of hope and stability despite global conflicts and disrupted supply chains. The Prime Minister highlighted how top global leadership and experts now view India as the primary driver of the new world order, noting that during a recent visit, the President of Finland, Alexander Stubb, remarked that the direction of the world will now be decided by the Global South. PM Modi further mentioned that Mark Carney of Canada identified India as the center toward which the world's Economic Gravity is shifting over the next three decades, while French President Macron views the nation as an essential partner for solving global challenges. "If you want to be part of the future, you must be associated with India and you must be in India," asserted Mr. Modi. The Prime Minister spoke about the unprecedented level of confidence and aspiration among Indian citizens, comparing the public's interest in economic growth to the national passion for cricket. He highlighted how the country has transitioned to "Next Level" operations, particularly in digital payments and large-scale reforms that were once deemed impossible. "India is not just progressing; India is moving to the Next," asserted Mr. Modi.

For more details: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2239313®=3&lang=1>

PRIME MINISTER MR. NARENDRA MODI ADDRESSES TV9 NETWORK SUMMIT



Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi addressed the TV9 Summit themed 'India and the World'. Acknowledging the unprecedented and grave global circumstances, the Prime Minister lauded TV9 Network for creating an important platform for the exchange of ideas at a critical juncture. "Today, the serious circumstances the world is passing through are unprecedented and extremely grave, and amidst these, TV9 Network has created a very important platform for ideas," stated Mr. Modi.

Speaking on India's position in a world riddled with conflicts, the Prime Minister emphasized that India's economy is progressing rapidly, leaving behind the pre-2014 conditions and marching ahead with renewed confidence. He noted that despite challenges escalating since the Corona pandemic, 140 crore citizens have stood united, enabling India to overcome every adversity. "In these 23 days since February 28, India has demonstrated its Relationship Building Capacity, Decision Making Capacity, and Crisis Management Capacity," highlighted Mr. Modi.

Addressing India's diplomatic outreach amidst a fractured global order, the Prime Minister underscored that India has built unprecedented bridges, from the Gulf to the Global West, and from the Global South to neighbouring countries, establishing itself as a trusted partner for all. On the question of India's alignment, he gave a clear and emphatic answer. "We are with India, with India's interests, with peace, and with dialogue," affirmed Mr. Modi. Highlighting India's model of diversification and resilience at a time when global supply chains are faltering, the Prime Minister noted that whether it is energy, fertilizers, or essential goods, continuous efforts have been made to ensure that citizens face the least possible difficulties. "India has presented a model of diversification and resilience, and ensuring that our citizens face the least possible difficulties has been our continuous endeavour," remarked Mr. Modi.

Link for full article: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2244211®=3&lang=1>

PM CHAIRS CCS MEETING TO REVIEW THE SITUATION AND MITIGATING MEASURES IN THE CONTEXT OF ONGOING WEST ASIA CONFLICT



Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi chaired a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security to review the situation and ongoing and proposed mitigating measures in the context of ongoing West Asia Conflict.

The Cabinet Secretary gave a detailed presentation on the global situation and mitigating measures taken so far and being planned by all concerned Ministries/Departments of Government of India. The expected impact and measures taken to address it across sectors like agriculture, fertilisers, food security, petroleum, power, MSMEs, exporters, shipping, trade, finance, supply chains and all affected sectors were discussed. The overall macro-economic scenario in the country and further measures to be taken were also discussed. The ongoing conflict in West Asia will have significant short, medium and long term impact on the global economy and its effect on India were assessed and counter-measures, both immediate and long-term, were discussed.

Detailed assessment of availability for critical needs of the common man, including food, energy and fuel security was made. Short term, Medium term and Long term measures to ensure continued availability of essential needs were discussed in detail. The impact on farmers and their requirement for fertiliser for the Kharif season was assessed. The measures taken in the last few years to maintain adequate stocks of fertilizers will ensure timely availability and food security. Alternate sources of fertilizers were also discussed to ensure continued availability in the future.

Link for full article: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2221199®=3&lang=1>

MISSION CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AT CHANCERY PREMISES



The Embassy organized a memorable commemorative event to celebrate International Women's Day at Chancery premises on 09th March 2026. The event drew around 30 distinguished women guests, making it an impactful affair. The guest of honour was Mrs. Natalia Ryzhenkova, spouse of Mr. Maxim Ryzhenkov, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Belarus, whose presence added prestige to the event. Mrs. Olga Shpilevskaya, Chairwoman of the Belarusian Women's Union, known for her advocacy work for women's course was the chief guest. Ambassador H.E. Mr. Ashok Kumar addressed the gathering and highlighted the big role Indian women have played in the development of India. The guest list also featured spouses of heads from various diplomatic missions accredited to Minsk, including representatives from Europe, Asia and members of Indian diaspora. This diverse group shared stories and laughter, highlighting cross-cultural bonds. This year holds special significance as Belarus has proclaimed 2026 as the "Year of Belarusian Women", a bold initiative to spotlight women empowerment.

INDIAN EMBASSY ORGANIZES AN INTERACTIVE SESSION FOR ITEC ALUMNI



The Mission organised a luncheon interactive session with the ITEC Alumni to share their experiences during their training in India and the how the course was useful in their career progression on 11th March 2026. Ambassador H.E. Mr. Ashok Kumar addressed the participants and sought the suggestions from the participants on how to make the training or course more useful or any scope of improvements.

DELEGATION LED BY DIRECTOR GENERAL, PHARMEXCIL VISITS MINSK



A 45 member strong delegation led by Shri Raja Bhanu Kolanukonda, Director General, Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmaexcil) visited Minsk from 18-20 March 2026. The delegation included companies active in generics, bio-pharmaceuticals, APIs (active pharmaceutical ingredients), and nutraceuticals. In the inaugural session, Mr. Vladimir Karanik emphasized for stronger cooperation in the pharmaceutical sector and it should be a “strategic priority” of both countries. Ms. Elena Sergeevna Malinovskaya, Deputy Chairperson, Belarusian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Mr. Mitrofanov Igor, Director, Belpharmprom were also present at the session.

Ambassador H.E. Mr. Ashok Kumar highlighted the growing and robust relations between India and Belarus and opportunities for further enhancing trade and business. The Minsk Buyer Seller Meet and B2B sessions organized under the India-Belarus Pharma Business Forum was a resounding success and the delegation got an encouraging response from Belarusian partners to forge alliances.

FORTHCOMING BUSINESS EVENTS IN INDIA

India SME Forum

India SME Forum is organizing a **Reverse Buyer–Seller Meets (RBSMs)** under the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) Program of the Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises, Government of India. The first RBSM is tentatively scheduled **from 26th to 28th April in Mumbai**, in association with the **Maharashtra Small Scale Industries Development Corporation (MSSIDC), Government of Maharashtra**

FORTHCOMING BUSINESS EVENTS IN BELARUS

Expo HORECA Minsk

Falcon Club Arena, Pobediteley Avenue, 20, Minsk

The exhibition is a key industry platform with an audience reach of approximately 12,000 contacts and presents the full range of the HoReCa industry : technological and commercial equipment, tableware, inventory, products, automation equipment, hotel equipment, cleaning solutions, franchises, and interior concepts for food outlets, restaurants, and tourist facilities. **April 7–9, 2026**

Mechanical engineering/Metalworking

Football arena, Minsk, Pobediteley Ave. 20/2

Metalworking Metal-cutting machines and equipment, forging and pressing equipment, component units and products, automation tools and elements, band saw machines, guillotines, metal-cutting tools, integrated control systems, measuring instruments. Corrosion protection. Coatings Hardening technologies for tools and machine parts. Laser processing technologies. Thermal spray coating equipment and technologies. Rolling and hardware production. Special types of casting. Powder metallurgy Materials, technologies and equipment in powder metallurgy. Mechanical engineering Products mechanical engineering, industrial equipment, production technologies, machine tools and tools. Welding and cutting Equipment, materials, technological processes for welding production, control devices. **April 7-10, 2026**

WATER AND HEAT

27th International Specialized Exhibition The leading industry event in the Republic of Belarus, bringing together suppliers and manufacturers of technologies and equipment for high-quality water and heat supply Belarus, Minsk, Pobediteley Ave., 20/2, Football Arena **April 14–17, 2026**

BUDPRAGRES

International specialized construction exhibition Pobediteley Ave. 20/2, Football Arena International specialized construction exhibition. Building materials, technologies, and structures, construction and road equipment. Architecture and construction. Design and interior. Heating and ventilation. Plumbing products. The "Doors" and "Tools in Construction" salons. **April 15-17, 2026**

XV International Forum "Transport and Logistics-2026"

Minsk, MMEC, Pavliny st. Medelki , 24 transport and logistics electric vehicle transport logistics engineering transport infrastructure **April 28-30, 2026**

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