

# INDIA CONNECT

*Bringing together Communities and Nations*

## Vol 17

1st October 2021

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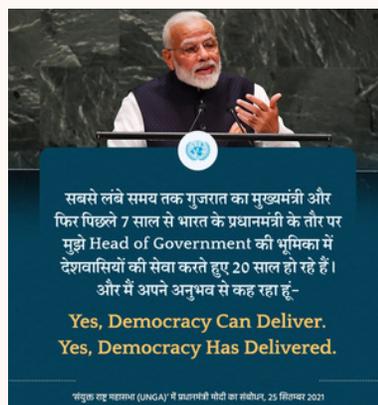
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## NEWS ROUND-UP

# PM at UNGA

Prime Minister made a powerful & impactful address to the UN General Assembly on 25 September 2021. In the course of his address, PM said that representing the mother of Democracy, he can affirm that democracy can deliver, democracy has delivered. PM noted when India grows, the world grows, when India reforms, the world transforms. PM highlighted the transformational role of technology in our daily lives, but equally emphasized the significance of Technology with democratic values. PM also spoke about diversified, resilient & expanded global value chains and production centers was in global collective interest and on India's strong record on climate action and its ambitious vision, including renewable energy goals and green hydrogen. PM also said that the ocean & its resources must be protected & this lifeline should be safeguarded from expansion & exclusion. He cautioned against regressive thinking and extremism and said that using terrorism as a political tool will backfire on those practicing it.



## PM at QUAD

"Be it supply chain, global security, climate action or Covid response, I will be happy to discuss all these issues with my Quad Partners", PM Narendra Modi at the Quad leaders meeting hosted by US President Joe Biden on 24 September 2021.



## PM Narendra Modi Chaired the 13th BRICS Summit

"Addressing the 13th BRICS Summit, PM Narendra Modi expressed his appreciation for the cooperation received from BRICS partners during India's Chairship this year, which allowed the achievement of several new initiatives. These included the first BRICS Digital Health Summit; the first BRICS Ministerial Joint Statement on multilateral reforms; a BRICS Counter-Terrorism Action Plan; an Agreement on cooperation in field of remote-sensing satellites; a virtual BRICS vaccine Research & Development Centre; BRICS Alliance on Green Tourism, etc. Highlighting the leading role that BRICS countries can play in the post-COVID global recovery, Prime Minister called for enhanced BRICS cooperation under the motto of 'Build-back Resiliently, Innovatively, Credibly and Sustainably'. Elaborating on these themes, Prime Minister stressed the need for accelerating 'build-back' by enhancing speed and accessibility of vaccination, creating 'resilience' by diversifying pharma and vaccine production capacities beyond the developed world, fostering 'innovation' by creatively using digital tools for public good, ensuring reform of multilateral institutions to enhance their 'credibility', and promoting 'sustainable' development by articulating a common BRICS voice on environmental and climate issues.



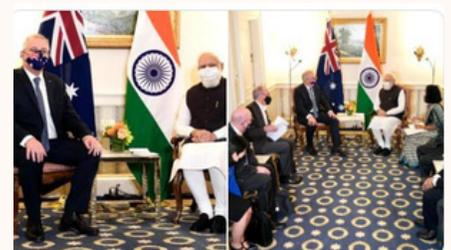
## PM Narendra Modi attends SCO HOS Meeting

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually participated at the 21st Meeting of the Council of Heads of the State of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. (SCO) (17 September 2021)

During his visit to the US, PM Narendra Modi met with President Joe Biden on 24 September. This was the first in-person meeting of the two Leaders after President Biden assumed office in January 2021. The leaders took the opportunity to review the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership and potential for strengthening bilateral cooperation further. Prime Minister said that India and USA were entering a decade of transformation, based on the pillars of tradition of democratic values, technology, trade, talent of our people, trusteeship of nature, and above all, trust. The leaders welcomed the forthcoming bilateral dialogues such as 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue of Foreign and Defense Ministers. The leaders also talked about ways of working together to overcome key challenges such as Covid-19 and climate change. PM stated that President Biden's leadership on critical global issues was commendable. Earlier on 23 September, PM Modi met with Vice President Kamala Harris. Followed by delegation level talks that covered a wide range of bilateral and global issues.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi met his Japanese counterpart Yoshihide Suga in Washington DC. Both leaders discussed several issues including ways to give further impetus to trade and cultural ties.

PM Narendra Modi met Australian PM Scott Morrison on 23 September 2021. India has a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership with Australia. They discussed regional & global developments as well as ongoing bilateral cooperation in areas related to Covid-19, trade, defence, clean energy & more.



## PM Narendra Modi congratulates PM Justin Trudeau

"PM Narendra Modi congratulated Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on his victory in the elections. In his message he stated that he was looking forward to continue in strengthening India-Canada relations as well as cooperation on global and multilateral issues.



## EAM's Call with Foreign Minister of Canada Marc Garneau

In his telephone call to Foreign Minister of Canada, Marc Garneau, EAM Dr. S Jaishankar discussed the challenges of recent developments in Afghanistan.



## EAM addressed the Afghanistan conference co-convened by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and German FM Heiko Maas.

In his address EAM spoke about resumption of travel out of Kabul as a priority. Use of Afghan soil to promote terrorism in any manner by any country is unacceptable and Taliban must live up to its commitments to that effect. (8 September 2021)



## EAM at the G-20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the Humanitarian Situation in Afghanistan 2021.

EAM addressed the G20 Foreign Minister's meeting on humanitarian situation in Afghanistan and stated that the international community must come together responding to humanitarian needs in Afghanistan. He said that assistance providers must be accorded unimpeded, unrestricted and direct access.



# ECONOMY

## India's coal-fired power output fall 1.5%, renewables jumps in September.

India's coal fired electricity generation so far this month fell 1.5% from year earlier, while power output from renewable energy jumped 53.6%, a Reuters analysis of government data showed. The slowdown in coal-fired power output and a pick up in renewable energy generation could provide relief to utilities across the country which are struggling with a coal shortage.

## Fairfax India announces Investment in Maxop Engineering Company Private Limited.

In connection with the initial transaction, Fairfax India will invest INR 2.2 billion (approximately \$30 million at current exchange rates) for a 51% equity interest in Maxop and in the second transaction will invest up to INR 2.66 billion (approximately \$36 million at current exchange rates) for an additional 16% equity interest. The initial transaction is expected to close in Q4 2021 and the second transaction is expected to close in the second half of 2022. The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions.

## Indian Stock Market outperforms the World

Investors confidence at an all-time high with Indian economy. Despite the pandemic hurdles, the Indian stock market outperforms the world, in terms of percentage growth in market index over a 12 month period upto 8 September 2021. BSE index recorded 53% growth compared to six other major indices. The second best was NYSE with 31% growth.



## Aatmanirbhar Dream -India's Forex reserves increase

India is progressively realizing the Aatmanirbhar dream. India's forex exchange reserves cross Russia's this week to become the world's fourth-largest.



## India Fights Corona



Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
Government of India

#IndiaFightsCorona

Let's learn about the **5 W's of COVID-19**

- What?** - Follow COVID-19 Appropriate Behaviour
- When?** - Every time
- Where?** - Everywhere
- Who?** - Everyone
- Why?** - To stay protected from COVID-19

**Safai bhi, Dawai bhi, Kadai bhi  
Jetenge corona se ladai bhi**

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## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### India-Canada collaboration in medical sciences to ensure availability of critical drugs in Canadian hospitals. Verity Pharma joins hands with Serum Institute of India.

Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) is a proven immunotherapy of choice for bladder cancer. It is used as first-line intravesical therapy following tumor resection of non-muscle-invasive bladder cancer. Currently the drug is in short supply in Canada. Verity Pharma of Canada is partnering with Serum Institute of India, which manufactures BCG. Serum Institute is world's largest manufacturer of vaccines. Welcoming this partnership, High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria said 'India is proud to support this effort to resolve the shortage of BCG in Canada. With more than 60 percent of global vaccine manufacturing capacity, India believes in vaccine internationalism. This collaboration between the Serum Institute of India & Verity Pharma is a clear demonstration of our commitment to global health'.



## Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati, have developed a first-of-its-kind super-hydrophobic cotton composite with a Metal-Organic Framework (MOF), capable of cleaning the marine oil spill.

The water-repellent super-hydrophobic cotton composite material contains Metal-Organic Framework (MOF), which is highly porous and acts like a sponge. MOF are crystalline materials with ultrahigh porosity (up to 90% free volume) and have enormous internal surface areas. Due to these properties, the cotton can absorb oil selectively from an oil-water mixture. The material is easy to prepare, cost-effective, and recyclable. The MOF material is applied in areas of clean energy, for storage medium of gases such as hydrogen and methane, and as adsorbents to meet various separation needs. The separation efficiency of the super-hydrophobic cotton composite lies between 95% and 98%, irrespective of the chemical composition and density of the oils. Besides, the MOF composite is capable of absorbing large volumes of oil. The novel technology is recyclable and can be used for a minimum of 10 times. The research was led by Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, IIT Guwahati, Dr. Shyam P. Biswas.



## A research group of IIT (ISM)'s Department of Physics, Dhanbad, has developed advanced luminescent materials for defense and security applications

IIT-Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad has developed special luminescent materials for defence applications. Long persistence luminescence is a phenomenon in which material exhibit light for a long time after the excitation source is removed. Long persistent phosphor material is developed which gives emission in the near infrared (NIR) region. The material can be excited by solar radiation in day time and NIR emission is observed by Night Vision Monocular for 24 hours. As the material emits NIR persistent light, it is used as a secret light source for night vision devices and cannot be tracked by naked human eye. The developed material is used for tagging, tracking and locating purposes for defence applications.

**VISION SURVEILLANCE AND ANTI-COUNTERFEIT APPLICATIONS**

 	 	<p><b>RESEARCH GROUP</b></p>  <small>Prof. Jai Ram Manam Project Supervisor</small>	 <small>Prof. S K Sharma Co-Supervisor</small>
 <small>Dr. Sourav Das Research Associate</small>			

A research group consisting of Prof J Manam, Prof S K Sharma and Dr. Sourav Das of Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology (ISM) Dhanbad, India developed advanced luminescent materials for defence and security applications.

Long persistence luminescence is a phenomenon in which material exhibit light for a long time after the excitation source is removed. Long persistent phosphor material is developed which gives emission in the near infrared (NIR) region. The material can be excited by solar radiation in day time and NIR emission is observed by Night Vision Monocular for 24 hours. As the material emits NIR persistent light, it is used as a secret light source for night vision devices and cannot be tracked by naked human eye. The developed material is used for tagging, tracking and locating purposes for defence applications. The acrylic based paint is prepared to develop long persistent near infrared (NIR) paint, which can be coated on combat vehicle, ship, weapon, helmet, cloth, tent, rock for defence applications. The NIR security ink is prepared and demonstrated for anti-counterfeit applications.

  
Project Funded by (SERB) (DST), Gov.  


# SPORTS

## India sets a record in Paralympic Games

India is proud of its Para Athletes for their exemplary performance at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. The athletes returned home with a record 19 medals (5 Gold medals, 8 Silver medals & 6 Bronze medals), their highest medal tally ever.



## PM Narendra Modi's interaction with Paralympic Champions of Tokyo 2020

PM Narendra Modi had an interaction with all our Paralympic Champions of Tokyo 2020 on 12 September 2021. He praised the athletes and stated that the whole country is proud of their achievements. He interacted with each one of them making them feel proud.



# HIGH COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

## India & Canada are natural partners in Global Climate (31 Aug)

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria in his Op-ed in Toronto Sun said, 'India and Canada are the world's largest democracies- by population and by area-united in our common values & shared aspiration for a sustainable future, backed by strong domestic consensus for climate action. If we are to build back better and sustainable, as world leaders have committed to do, we must recognize that while our individual voices carry weight, our two countries can jointly spark an engine for economic growth and scaled climate innovation. We could define together the story of how humanity acts in the face of this perilous challenge to our only planet.'

(<https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/bisaria-india-and-canada-partners-in-global-climate-action>)



## High Commissioner inaugurated the Maha Ganesh Utsav in Ottawa

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria inaugurated the Maha Ganesh Utsav 2021, the first major in-person festival promoting India's cultural heritage in Ottawa region with a celebration of Lord Ganesh.



## High Commissioner attends 9/11 Remembrance Day

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria participated in the solemn ceremony at the US Embassy Ottawa in memory of the victims of September 11, 2011 terrorist attacks 20 years ago. He remarked that 'that trauma defined the priorities for this century. We stand today united in our resolve to eradicate terrorism (11 September 2021).



## High Commissioner met Lt Governor Janet Austin in Vancouver

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria met Lt Governor Janet Austin in Vancouver on 13 September 2021. They had discussed India -Canada relations, COVID pandemic & Government of India's ongoing measures to vaccinate all the people in India, environmental & other issues.



## High Commissioner pays homage to Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore

High commissioner Ajay Bisaria paid homage to Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore at University of British Columbia.



## High Commissioner met Hon. Bruce Ralston Minister of Energy, Mines & Low Carbon Innovation

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria had a meeting with Hon. Bruce Ralston, BC's Minister of Energy, Mines & Low Carbon Innovation. They discussed transition to cleaner sources of energy including BC's recently released Hydrogen Strategy. (19 September 2021)



## High Commissioner's interaction with Indo-Canadian Community in Surrey, BC.

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria had an interaction with the Indo-Canadian Community members in Surrey, British Columbia on 19 September 2021.



## High Commissioner meets Mr. Don Kayne, CEO for Canfor

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria met Mr. Don Kayne CEO of Canfor. They exchanged views on opportunities in timber, wood and pulp sector & prospects for Canfor in India. Canfor Corporation is seriously looking to expand its business and expressed positive outlook on India.



## High Commissioner at University of British Columbia

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria exchanged his notes on the fascinating work on the immigrant experience with Ms. Wendy Yip, University's Ambassador of UBC. They also discussed mobility issues of students, particularly of 2500 Indian students at University of British Columbia apart from celebrations of India@75, research collaboration, global climate change action & International Solar Alliance.



## High Commissioner met Hon. Paul Martin Former PM & Finance Minister of Canada

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria met Hon. Paul Martin, former PM and Finance Minister of Canada, one of the original architects of the G20. (24 September 2021)



## High Commissioner meets forum founders Mr. Doug Mitchell and Ms. Lois Mitchell

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria met Mr. Doug and Ms. Lois Mitchell, forum founders of Global Business Forum on 24 September 2021. CEO of Canada India Business Council Mr. Victor E Thomas was present at the meeting and pointed out India's tech-led growth of 9.5% will drive global recovery of 6%.



## High Commissioner's live interview to CTV News

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria spoke on CTV News Live about the resumption of direct flights between India & Canada and the improving Covid-19 situation in India. Renowned anchor Merella Fernandez hosted the live interview on 27 September 2021.



## High Commissioner meets VP of Calgary Economic Development.

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria met Mr. Patrick Mattern, VP of Calgary Economic Development & Mr. Victor Thomas, CEO of Canada India Business Council. Two IT major firms from India expanding their operations are setting up business in Calgary, Alberta. (30 September 2021)



# ARTS & CULTURE

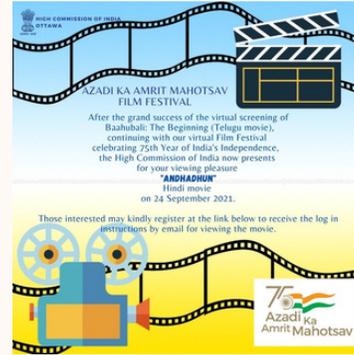
## 'Navrang' : Fortnightly Cultural Performances

Promoting cultural talent in the Indian community, the third episode of Navrang was a Carnatic Classical Vocal Recital by Dr. Rashmi Venkateswaran on 3 September 2021. The fourth episode of Navrang was a Kathak Dance Concert by Ms. Nikhila Parameswaran & Ms. Vinuthna Dittakavi on 17 September 2021.



## Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Film Festival

The High Commission is organizing “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav” Virtual Film Festival, celebrating Indian Cinema with select Hindi and other regional language movies. 1st of the series, Telugu movie Baahubali: The Beginning, was webcast on 16 September 2021. The Second of the series, ‘Andhadhun’ (Hindi movie) was featured on 24 September 2021.



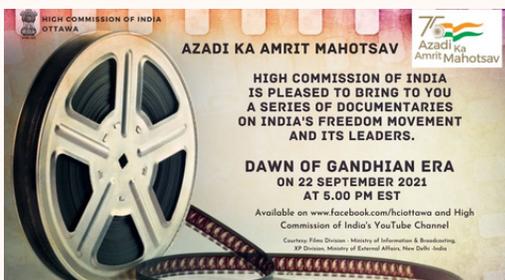
## Hindi Diwas - High Commission of India

Team HCI celebrated Hindi Diwas on 14 September and took Hindi Diwas pledge to promote use of Hindi. On the occasion, TEAM HCI benefited from the messages of EAM Dr.S Jaishankar & MoS Meenakshi Lekhi. The High Commission also organized a Hindi Essay & Poetry Recitation competition for children in Ottawa region on 17 September 2021.



## Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Documentary Series

Celebrating ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’, High Commission of India is presenting a documentary series on India’s freedom movement and its leaders. First of the series, ‘Dawn of Gandhian Era’ was webcast on 22 September 2021 and second in the series, ‘The Great Salt March’, on 30 September 2021. [The documentaries were made available by Films Division.]



## India elected to head an important ICAO Committee

As international civil aviation inches towards normalcy, India is elected chair of the crucial ICAO Aviation Security Committee in Montreal.

Ms. Juneja Shefali is the first woman to lead this important committee as Representative of India to ICAO.



## Direct Flights between India & Canada resumed.

In important step towards normalizing air mobility, Canadian authorities gave a go ahead for resumption of direct flights between India & Canada. Air India and Air Canada resumed daily flights between Delhi- Toronto and Delhi- Vancouver from 27 September 2021.

AIR CANADA 



# ADVISORIES

- Ø Guidelines for applicants for registering grievance [Click here](#)
- Ø Advisory for OCI Card holders [Click here](#)
- Ø Beware about Scam Telephone Calls. See our advisory [here](#)