







## PM inaugurates the International Cooperation and Convention Centre - Rudraksh in Varanasi

Chennai, July 16, 2021: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the International Cooperation and Convention Centre - Rudraksh in Varanasi, which has been constructed with Japanese assistance. Then he inspected the Maternal and Child Health Wing, BHU. He also met with officials and medical professionals to review Covid preparedness.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said that despite Covid, the pace of development remains intact in Kashi. He added that the 'International Cooperation and Convention Center - Rudraksh' is the result of this creativity and dynamism. He said this Centre shows the strong connect between India and Japan. He lauded Japan's effort in helping to build the convention centre.

Shri Modi recalled that Prime Minister of Japan Mr. Suga Yoshihide was the Chief Cabinet Secretary at that time. From then till he became the Prime Minister of Japan, he has been personally involved

in this project. Shri Modi added that every Indian is grateful to him for his affinity towards India.

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi remembered former Prime Minister of Japan Mr. Shinzo Abe who was closely connected with today's event. He recalled the moment when he had a discussion with the then Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Shinzo Abe on the idea of Rudraksh when he came to Kashi. The Prime Minister said this building has both the shine of modernity and cultural glow, it has the connection of India Japan relationship as well as scope of future cooperation also, said the Prime Minister. Shri Modi said that from his visit to Japan this kind of people to people relations were envisaged and projects like Rudraksh and Zen garden in Ahmedabad symbolize this relationship.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi lauded Japan for being one of the most trusted friends of India today



in both the strategic and economic spheres. He added that India's friendship with Japan is considered one of the most natural partnerships in the entire region. India and Japan are of the view that our development should be linked with our gaiety. This development should be all-round, should be for all, and should be all-encompassing.

The Prime Minister said songs, music and art flow from veins in Banaras. Here on the ghats of the Ganges so many arts have been developed, knowledge has reached the summit and so many serious thoughts related to humanity have taken place.

That is how Banaras can become a huge global centre of music, religion, spirit and of knowledge and science. He added that this Centre will be a cultural hub and a medium to unite different people. He requested the people of Kashi to preserve this Centre.

Kashi has been adorned with so many development projects in the last 7 years, how could this adornment be completed without Rudraksha?

said the Prime Minister.

Now that Kashi which is the real Shiva has worn this Rudraksha, the development of Kashi will shine more, and the beauty of Kashi will increase more.

## CCI receives notice relating to acquisition of equity stake in JSW Cement by Synergy Metals Investments Holding Limited, under Green Channel and is deemed approved

Chennai, July 16, 2021: The Competition Commission of India ("CCI") received a notice relating to acquisition of equity stake in JSW Cement ("Target") by Synergy Metals Investments Holding Limited ("Acquirer"), under Green Channel and is deemed approved.

The Acquirer is the investment fund of its ultimate controlling entity, Synergy Metals and Mining Fund I LP ("Synergy Fund"). Synergy Fund invests in the industrials, metals and power sectors globally;

The Target is an unlisted public company based in India and belongs to the JSW group of companies. Its business activities include (a) production, manufacturing and trading of cement, clinker, ground granulated blast-furnace slag, slag sand and related products; (b) mining,

crushing and grinding of raw materials and all other processes to finally produce and manufacture cement; (c) road transportation services; and (d) purchase of land/immovable properties to erect houses/building, etc.

## Commerce Minister bats strongly for India and the Developing World at the WTO

Chennai, July 16, 2021: Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal today spoke strongly for the rights of developing countries at the Ministerial meeting of the WTO on the crucial fisheries subsidy negotiations. The meeting was attended by Ministers and Ambassadors from other WTO members and the DG WTO Dr. Ngozi.

Delivering a strong statement on behalf of India, Shri Goyal stated that India is very keen to finalize the agreement because irrational subsidies and overfishing by many countries is hurting Indian fishermen and their livelihood. He expressed his disappointment that the Membership is still short of finding the right balance and fairness in the agreement. The minister also emphasized Prime Minister Modi's thrust to promote fishing sector and protect small fishermen.

Shri Goyal cautioned that we should not repeat the mistakes made during the Uruguay Round three decades ago that allowed unequal and trade-distorting entitlements for select developed country Members, particularly in agriculture. These unfairly constrained less developed members who did not have the capacity and resources to support their industry or farmers then. Shri Goyal expressed concern that any unbalanced or unequal agreement now would bind us



into current fishing arrangements, which may not meet future requirements. He pointed out that it is essential that big subsidizers take greater responsibility to reduce their subsidies and fishing capacities, in accordance with the principles of 'Polluter Pays' and 'Common but Differentiated Responsibilities'.

Shri Goyal observed that any agreement must recognize that different countries are at different stages of development and that current fishing arrangements reflect their current economic capacities. The agreement has to provide for current and future needs.

While putting forth India's demands, he said that the per capita fisheries subsidy given by most developing countries is minuscule compared to advanced fishing nations. Shri Goyal clearly demanded that countries like India who are yet to develop fishing capacities, cannot sacrifice their future ambitions. Allowing advanced nations to continue grant of subsidies is unequal, unfair and unjust.

While responding to the specific question posed by the DG to the ministers, he said that limiting Special & Differential Treatment (S&DT) to poor and artisanal fishermen only is neither appropriate nor affordable, and is not acceptable. S&DT

## Kamal Haasan's interaction with the athletes of Thamizh Nadu representing India in the forthcoming Tokyo Olympics

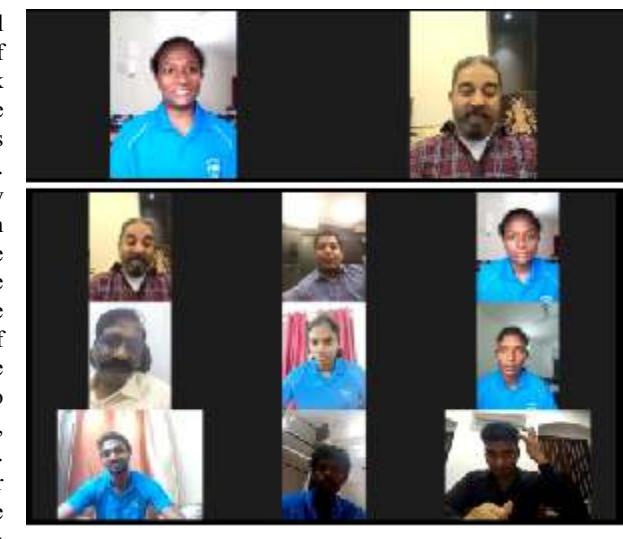
Chennai, July 16, 2021:

Makkal Needhi Maiam President Kamal Haasan provided a pleasant surprise to athletes from Thamizh Nadu who will be taking part in the forthcoming Tokyo Olympics, during a delightful video-call interaction yesterday (14.07.2021) evening. Kamal Haasan spoke with members of the athletic contingent and wished them luck as they embark upon their Olympic journey. The athletes present during the meeting were Arokia Rajiv (4x400m men's relay), Naganathan Pandi, (4x400m men's relay) Revathi Veeramani, Subha Venkatesan, (4x400m mixed relay category) and Dhanalakshmi Sekhar (4x400m mixed relay category).

Kamal Haasan hailed the

athletes as the "real universal heroes" who, in spite of hailing from financially weak backgrounds, have distinguished themselves as outstanding achievers. "Cinema fans affectionately call me Ulaganayagan, but in reality, it is you who deserve the title. You have the distinction of making the world sit up and take notice of your achievements. Even the greatest of empires lasts no more than 500 years; poverty, too, is similarly impermanent. If those with talent set their minds to it, they can chase away poverty in no time. I am sure you are going to do that."

Kamal Haasan hailed the



to up-and-coming athletes. An excited Revathi Veeramani, Subha Venkatesan, and Dhanalakshmi Sekhar (4x400m mixed relay category).

An excited Revathi Veeramani, Subha Venkatesan, and Dhanalakshmi Sekhar (4x400m mixed relay category). Kamal Haasan advised them to stay calm and collected, and "respect your competition as much as you respect yourself. Things will happen automatically. We are waiting to cheer you on as you return home with medals."

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