

Remarks by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the Opening Session of Second Global COVID Virtual Summit

Chennai, May 13 2022: President Biden Vice President Harris

Excellencies, Namaskar!

The Covid pandemic continues to disrupt lives, supply chains, and tests the resilience of open societies. In India, we adopted a people-centric strategy against the pandemic. We have made the highest ever

allocation to our annual healthcare budget.

Our vaccination programme is the largest in the world. We have fully vaccinated almost 90 percent of the adult population, and more than 50 million children. India manufactures four WHO approved vaccines and has the capacity to produce five billion doses this year.

We supplied over 200 million doses to 98 countries, bilaterally and through COVAX. India has developed low-cost COVID mitigation technologies for testing, treating and data management. We have offered these capabilities to other countries.

India's Genomics Consortium has contributed significantly



to the global database on the virus. I am happy to share that we will extend this network to countries

in our neighborhood. In India, we extensively used our traditional medicines to

supplement our fight against COVID and to boost immunity, saving countless lives.

Last month, we laid the foundation of "WHO Centre for Traditional Medicine" in India, with an aim to make this age-old knowledge available to the World.

Excellencies, It is clear that a coordinated global

response is required to combat future health emergencies. We must build a resilient global supply chain and enable equitable access to vaccines and medicines.

W T O rules , particularly TRIPS need to be more flexible. WHO must be reformed and strengthened to build a more resilient global health security

architecture. We also call for stream-lining WHO's approval process for vaccines and therapeutics to keep supply chains stable and predictable. As a responsible member of the global community, India is ready to play a key role in these efforts.

Thank you. Thank you very much.

CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF VISITS LADAKH

Chennai, May 13 2022: General Manoj Pande, Chief of Army Staff arrived at Leh on 12 May 2022 on his maiden visit to Ladakh region after assuming the reins of Indian Army.

The Army Chief was briefed on the security situation along the borders with special focus on Eastern Ladakh. The high level of operational readiness being maintained by the forces while maintaining a high tempo of capability development was highlighted.

Later, General Manoj Pande, Chief of Army Staff accompanied by Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief,



Northern Command and Lieutenant General A Sengupta, General Officer Commanding, Fire and Fury Corps called on Shri RK Mathur, Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Ladakh. This was followed by a detailed discussion on issues related to Civil-Military

of Indian Army in developmental activities in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

During his three day visit to Ladakh, General Manoj Pande, Chief of Army Staff will visit forward areas in Eastern Ladakh and interact with troops deployed along the Line of Actual Control in the most difficult and inhospitable terrain in the world.



cooperation and the role

Exports play a crucial role in realizing Atmanirbhar Bharat: Prahlad Joshi

Chennai, May 13 2022: Exports play a crucial role in realizing Atmanirbhar Bharat, said Shri Prahlad Joshi, Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Coal and Mines, who addressed the outreach Programme on India-UAE CEPA and India-Australia ECTA organized by Department of Commerce in Bengaluru today.

Shri Joshi, who was the Chief Guest at the event highlighted the various initiatives and reforms being undertaken by the Government of India to further improve the ease of doing business; the significant milestones achieved in the form of the record high annual exports of goods and services in the current year of around US\$ 674 billion; and finally delineated the immense advantages of the State of Karnataka.

The Department of Commerce, Government of India, in coordination with the Industries and Commerce Department, Government of the State of Karnataka, and the Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC), and other Apex Industry Bodies, Export Promotion Councils, Local Chambers of Commerce and Industry, organized a Stakeholders' Outreach Programme on India-United Arab Emirates Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) today, at Hotel Shangri La, Palace Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka.

States outreach programmes are part of series of concerted and coordinated efforts being



made by the Department of Commerce, Government of India, to sensitize and create awareness amongst exporters across the country on the conducive platform and the favourable trade ecosystem that is being created with conclusion of these landmark Trade Agreements with partners countries exhibiting significant trade complementarities with India. This particular outreach event was exclusively meant for local industry and exporters, particularly from the MSME sector, from the State of Karnataka. Given the importance of the event and the potential for immense benefits for the industry participants, the event witnessed participation of over 200 businessmen from the State of Karnataka, cutting across industry segments and sectors.

As part of the event, two panel discussions were also conducted with the participation from industry representatives. The panelists discussed ways and means of leveraging on the strengths of Karnataka, as a leading export hub, and optimizing the gains from the Trade Agreements in exports of

both goods and services. Further, there was participation from various sectors of industry such as Engineering, Pharmaceuticals, Gems and Jewellery, Textiles, IT&ITES, Mining & Minerals, Education services, and R&D etc.

Delivering the welcome remarks, Dr. Abhay Sinha, Director General, SEPC provided an overview of the two recently concluded landmark trade agreements, viz., India-UAE CEPA and India-Australia ECTA and succinctly highlighted the benefits that can accrue to the exporters from the State of Karnataka.

Shri Darpan Jain, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, delivered a comprehensive presentation, which elaborated on the various aspects of the Trade Agreements and explained in detail the concessions on goods and services exchanged by India with the UAE and Australia, measures incorporated for facilitation of bilateral trade, safeguards that have been placed to protect the Industry, and projected gains in exports, GDP, and employment across various sectors,

particularly the labour intensive ones. A need to diversify India's services export basket, presently dominated by IT/ITeS, was emphasized and potential benefits in various services sectors arising from these FTAs were highlighted. These include Professional Services, Business Services, Audio Visual Services, Education Services, Health Services, Fintech etc.

Shri Dr E.V.Ramana Reddy, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, provided an overview of the Industrial profile of Karnataka and also spoke about the huge latent potential of the State, which is already a powerhouse of IT/ITES, ranking first in the country in IT/ITES exports. He also expressed optimism at the prospect of the State deriving benefits from these Trade Agreements on the back of its own immense advantages. He also shared a statistical snapshot of Karnataka, including an overview of the macroeconomic indicators, external sector performance, and a summary compilation of top goods and services exported from the State.

Participants at the event exhibited enthusiasm at the prospects of deriving immense benefits from the Trade Agreements and committed to forging newer trade relationships with importers in these partner countries with an objective to increase their market shares across sectors and Industries. For more details of the Agreements, please visit the following official websites.



Rotary Club of Chennai Infocity along with Poorvika Foundation, Chennai donated 2 dialysis machines & an auto to Jains Kewal Chand Mohanbai Daga Diaysis Centre situated at Taylors Estate 2nd street Kodambakkam, Chennai 600024. The handing over ceremony was held on 11-05-2022 wednesday morning 09.00 a.m by our Rotary District governor J.Sridhar RI Dist 3232. Rotary has donated 108 Dialysis machines so far in this Rotary year.

The function began with lamp lighting by Mrs.Indu Lakshmi, Mr.Deva, Mr.Arunachalam, Mrs.Mini Rajesh and Dr.Sucharita. The function was presided over by Mr.Ashok Kumar Mehta of Jain Medical Society and K.Shivakumar, General Manager, Poorvika Mobiles were the Guest of Honours.



The machines will be used in providing dialysis for poor patients, living in and around Kodambakkam. Jain Hospital will be extending all services at free of cost for the needy patients. The hospital is generally known for their charitable services in Kodambakkam. Rotary actively involves its members in community services and developmental activities. President of Chennai Infocity R.Ramalingam, their advisor K.G.K Raghunathan, President Elect Deva, Founder Member P.Sridhar, Health Director Srinivasa Rao & Youth Services Director Venkatesan Natrajan & other Dist and Club members were also present along with Jain Society Secretary Sagarmal Lodha, Chairman Kishore Jhambor & Its treasurer Atul Lodha and medical staff. Other main dignitaries who attended the function were Mr.Tushar, Past President Infocity, Mr.Chandragupta, Dr. Sucharita and other Club Presidents.

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Minister of State for Textiles Darshana Jardosh Inaugurates 'Gartex Texprocess India' in Mumbai

Chennai, May 13 2022: Union Minister of State for Textiles & Railways, Darshana Jardosh inaugurated 'Gartex Texprocess India' and marked the launch of India's leading textile and garment manufacturing trade fair in Mumbai, today.



During the interaction with the media, MoS Textiles spoke about the contribution and role played by Textile Industry in the country. "Textile sector contributes 10% of the manufacturing production, 2% of the India's GDP and 15% of the country's export earnings," she said.

The Minister also spoke about the positive impact of the recent cabinet nod for PLI Scheme for Man Made Fabric (MMF) segment and Technical Textiles at an outlay of Rs. 10,683 Crore. "67 players came forward and 61 have already got approvals," she informed.

Smt. Jardosh also spoke about the need for Indian textile industry, mostly dependent on cotton fabric to pay attention to the global market where man-made fibre (MMF) occupies 75% share. She also appreciated the interest shown by the industry in denim fabric and remarked that the younger generation will be attracted to this.

The Minister emphasized that developing textile machinery is the need of the hour. She spoke about how innovation in textile machinery can add value for many especially

women who play a major role in this sector. She also stressed the need to equip women by providing them with proper skills to meet the growing demands for ready-made garments especially those made with denim fabric in future.

She encouraged the industry and scientists to come forward with their innovations and to engage in research that can bring solution.

The Minister also appreciated the organisers of the exhibition which has been expanded from Delhi to Mumbai and for creating an international level show in India that brings fabric

to fashion on a single platform. "The exhibition ensures that it creates the demand of country's textile cluster. It will provide opportunity to domestic manufacturers to identify the right technology and thereby help the growth of Indian textiles," she said.

More than 100 brands were on display at the launch edition with specially curated segments - Fabrics & Trims, Denim Show and Screen Print India showcasing trendy displays. More than 25 top Indian denim mills also showcasing their collections at the fair. The Minister also took a tour of the trade fair.

The media interaction was followed by a CXO panel discussion with the various industry leaders.

The platform aims to reunite the Indian textile industry for exchange of technologies and solutions to reduce India's import dependency of textile machinery.

Dalmia Bharat Reaffirms South Region Commitment through Ongoing Tamil Nadu Investments Cement major's state investments already created over 4000 job opportunities Company launches customer offer on its all retail 'Dalmia Cement' Brands



Chennai, May 13 2022: Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited, a leading Indian cement major and a subsidiary of Dalmia Bharat Limited, has launched a customer offer on all its retail 'Dalmia Cement' brands. This has reaffirmed its South India commitment through capital investments in Tamil Nadu (TN). While the company has already created almost 4000 employment opportunities through investments done in the last few years. It recently signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the TN Government to invest Rs. 2600 crore in the next four years.

According to the facilitation MoU, Dalmia Cement (Bharat) will install two Greenfield Grinding Units of 2.0 MTPA each. The company is not only committing capital for setting up capacity but as a responsible citizen, also furthering its commitment towards

environmental stewardship and sustainability through the planned installation of Renewable Power capacity of ~22 MW. The expansion of renewable power is also in line with the vision of the company to use 100% renewable energy by 2030. The company further plans to capitalize on its category-wide dealer and sub-dealer network that currently stands at 11000+ strong in Southern & western states of India to ensure that increasing demand from the state is being adequately met. This follows DCBL's contribution in significant projects across TN such as Kudankulam Nuclear Power project Chennai Metro Rail project, Pamban Bridge and Trichy Airport.

Commenting on the company's commitment to nation building through its investment in Tamil Nadu, Mr. Sanjay Wali, Sr. Executive Director DCBL said, "We

are grateful to the Tamil Nadu Government for providing us with the opportunity to play an active role in the state's industrial and infrastructural progress. As we further invest in the state and participate in its economic growth story, we are confident that the employment generated through our investments and our social transformation initiatives will help create a progressive and self-sustainable ecosystem."

Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited has also introduced exciting new offers for its growing customer base in the South region. Customers can now avail of the 'Every Home Happy Offer' special deal, which is applicable on all retail 'Dalmia Cement' brands that provide strength, durability and is eco-friendly.

"Our discerning customers across South India are increasingly opting for construction solutions for their building requirements, be

it commercial or personal, that doesn't just ensure foundational strength but also help sustain the environment for generations to come," said Mr. Sunil Aggarwal, Regional Director, South, DCBL. "We therefore introduced this offer for our Independent Home Builders to reward them for placing their trust in our offerings and for supporting us as we strengthen our regional presence."

Dalmia Cement (Bharat) is on an accelerated growth path through a mix of organic & inorganic opportunities. Through its investment in Tamil Nadu, the company is looking at expanding its operations while consolidating its position in its existing markets. More details regarding the 'Every Home Happy Offer' customer offer are available on <http://www.dalmiadspoff.com>. Dalmia Cement representatives will inform winners about their rewards!

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, and Chemicals and Fertilizers Dr Mansukh Mandaviya addresses a round table meeting with top corporate hospitals

Chennai, May 13 2022: Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, and Chemicals and Fertilizers Dr Mansukh Mandaviya today addressed a round table meeting with top corporate hospitals at Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi.



Speaking at the occasion, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya highlighted the need to strengthen the approach of hospitals to collaboratively provide high-quality healthcare services to the deserved population of the country. He stressed that the various challenges stated by the hospitals can be resolved through the collective efforts of the government and the stakeholders. He stated "We can study the

best practices across the globe; however, India should focus to design its own model to establish a cost-effective and high-quality healthcare ecosystem.

He also added that "We need to make health accessible, affordable, and patient-friendly". He emphasized the

contributions of the hospitals to the successful implementation of any Public Health scheme. The government is taking various initiatives like Heal in India, and Heal by India to promote medical value tourism. He also highlighted the need to strengthen the approach of hospitals to collaboratively provide high-quality

healthcare services and assured the industry of full support in realising Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of Universal Health Coverage.

Shri Rajesh Bhushan, Union Health Secretary said, "During the transition phase, various hurdles can occur which shall be resolved over the course of the journey". To achieve the same, regular feedback from all the stakeholders is paramount. It is the top priority of the Govt to stabilize the system."

Dr. Vinod Paul, Member (Health), NITI Aayog, Dr R S Sharma, CEO, NHA, and Senior Officials from Health Ministry and NHA were present.

Ashwini Vaishnav flags off Jaipur-Delhi Sarai Rohilla-Jaipur Sainik Express

Chennai, May 13 2022: Ashwini Vaishnav, Union Minister of Railways, Communications, Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India flagged off the Train No. 14021/14022 Jaipur-Delhi Sarai Rohilla-Jaipur Sainik Express via video conferencing from Rail Bhavan today. Sainik Express is now extended to Delhi Junction with increased frequency from tri-weekly to daily. It will boost the rail connectivity of Shekhawati region of Rajasthan (Sikar and Jhunjhunu districts). On this occasion, public representatives along with senior railway officials were present at Sikar station.



will facilitate our Sainik brothers to visit the Capital city."

Sikar and Jhunjhunu districts of Rajasthan come under Shekhawati region. This train service is especially popular among soldiers. The soldiers residing in this

area use Railways for transportation. In view of this, since the time of meter gauge, this rail service between Jaipur-Delhi via Sikar is being operated in the name of Sainik Express. With the expansion of this rail service daily and up to

Delhi, rail transport will be available to the soldiers and the general public up to Delhi and connectivity will be established through available rail services to go beyond Delhi to the destination.

Chennai, May 13 2022: Breathing is the most natural of human functions. But when, much like the scars we have on our skin from other injuries, scarring in your lungs happen making the tissue stiff and difficult to get oxygen into your blood. This leads to shortness of breath, eventually making it hard for the person to do even the simplest activities like walking. This tissue thickening is called Pulmonary Fibrosis. All over the world, including India, the most common form of interstitial lung disease (ILD) diagnosed Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF). 44% of patients with IPF are smokers, although some cases are familial pulmonary fibrosis.

There is no cure for damage caused to the lungs. But pulmonary therapy and medications can sometimes offer improvements in quality of life. Lung transplants now offer hope to some patients with progressing pulmonary fibrosis.

Head CTVS, Heart & Lung Transplant, Fortis Hospital, Vadapalani



However, there are a few simple things one can do to prevent lung tissue scarring:

1. Don't smoke This one is a no brainer. If you are a smoker, then quit today! It is the primary cause of lung cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), damages lung tissue, affects skin health and causes bad breath.
2. Avoid indoor and outdoor pollutants In busy cities this may be hard to avoid. But have

your home checked for mold and radon, and make sure you wear a mask to protect your lungs against harsh chemicals.

3. Stay up to date with adult immunizations including flu and pneumonia vaccines. Vaccines help to fight the diseases effectively and keep us healthy. It also reduces inflammation caused by avoidable illnesses.
4. Exercise Fitting 30 minutes of exercise 4 times a week can keep those lungs pumping and

make sure to breathe deep.

5. Avoid Pigeon Excreta Pigeon faeces contains faecal ammonia that can initiate respiratory disorders

6. Avoid Unwanted Radiation Exposures This can cause radiation damage to tissues

7. Avoid these Medications bleomycin, cyclophosphamide, amiodarone, procainamide, penicillamine, gold (dust), nitrofurantoin and silica should be avoided. Medicines used for rheumatoid arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease and patients receiving chemotherapy are at high risk for developing IPF

With the ongoing COVID 19 wear masks and maintain social distance - While the long-term impact of COVID-19 on our lungs isn't yet completely known, those affected severely during the first two bouts of COVID have shown lung stiffening and scarring.