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A very warm welcome to you once again in the August episode of ‘Mann ki Baat’. I don’t recall if it has ever happened that in the month of Sawan, ‘Mann ki Baat’ programme was held twice, but, this time, the same is happening. Sawan means the month of Mahashiv, the month of festivities and fervour. The success of Chandrayaan has enhanced this atmosphere of celebration manifold. It has been more than three days that Chandrayaan has reached the moon. This success is so grand that any amount of discussion about it would be inadequate. When I am talking to you today, I am reminded of a few lines of an old poem of mine...

आसमान में ससर उठाकर
घने बादलों को चीरकर
रोशनी का संकल्प ले
अभी तो सूरज उगा है।

दृढ़ सनशचय के साथ चलकर
हर मुशकल को पार कर
घोर अँधेरे को मिटाने
अभी तो सूरज उगा है।

My family members, on the 23rd of August, India and India’s Chandrayaan have proved that some suns of resolve rise on the moon as well. ‘Mission Chandrayaan’ has become a symbol of the spirit of New India, which wants to ensure victory, and also knows how to win in any situation.

Friends, there has been one aspect of this mission which I specially want to discuss with all of you today. You might remember this time I have expressed from Red Fort that we have to strengthen Women-led Development as a national character. Where the might of women power is added, the impossible can also be
the daughters of a country become so ambitious, who can stop that country from becoming developed!

Friends, we have accomplished such a lofty flight. Today our dreams are big and our efforts are also big. Along with our scientists, other sectors have also played an important role in the success of Chandrayaan-3. Many countrymen have contributed in ensuring all the parts and meeting technical requirements. When everyone’s efforts converged, success was also achieved. This is the biggest success of Chandrayaan-3. I wish that in future too our space sector will achieve innumerable successes like this with collective efforts.

My family members, the month of September is going to be witness to the potential of India. India is fully prepared for the ‘G20 Leaders’ Summit’ to be held next month. Heads of 40 countries and many Global Organisations are coming to the capital New Delhi to participate in this event. This will be the biggest participation ever in the history of the G20 Summit. During the G20 presidency, India has made G20 a more inclusive forum. The African Union also joined the G20 on India’s invitation and the voice of the people of Africa reached this important platform of the world.

Friends, since India took over the presidency of the G20 in Bali last year, so much has happened that it fills us with pride. Moving away from the tradition of holding big events in Delhi, we took them to different cities of the country. About 200 meetings related to this were organised in 60 cities across the country. Wherever the G20 delegates went, people warmly welcomed them. These delegates were very impressed, seeing the diversity of our country and our vibrant democracy. They also realized that there are so many possibilities in India.

Friends, Our Presidency of the G20 is a ‘People’s Presidency’, in which the spirit of public participation is at the forefront. Among the eleven Engagement Groups of G20, Academia, Civil Society, Youth, Women, our Parliamentarians, Entrepreneurs and people associated with Urban Administration played an important role. In one way or the other, more than 1.5 crore...
people are associated with the events being organised across the country regarding this. In this effort of ours for public participation, not just one, but two world records have also been created. The participation of 1.25 lakh students from 800 schools in the G20 Quiz held in Varanasi became a new world record. At the same time, the Lambani artisans also did wonders. 450 artisans have showcased their skill and craftsmanship by creating an amazing collection of around 1800 Unique Patches. Every representative who came to the G20 was amazed to see the artistic diversity of our country. One such grand programme was organised in Surat. 15,000 women from 15 states participated in the ‘Saree Walkathon’ held there. This programme not only gave a boost to Surat’s Textile Industry, ‘Vocal for Local’ also got a fillip and also paved the way for Local to become Global. After the G20 meeting in Srinagar, a huge increase in the number of tourists to Kashmir is being seen. I urge all countrymen to come together to make the G20 summit successful and bring glory to the country.

My family members, in episodes of ‘Mann ki Baat’, we often discuss the potential of our young generation. Today, sports is one area where our youth are continuously achieving new successes. Today in ‘Mann ki Baat’, I will talk about a tournament where recently our players have raised the national flag. A few days ago the ‘World University Games’ were held in China. India displayed her best ever performance in these games this time. Our players won 26 medals in all, out of which 11 were Gold Medals. You will be pleased to know that even if we add all the medals won in all the World University Games that have been held since 1959, this number reaches only 18. In all these decades just 18 whereas this time our players won 26 medals. Hence, some young sportspersons, students who have won medals in the World University Games are currently connected with me on the phone line. Let me first tell you about them. Pragati, a resident of U.P., has won a medal in Archery. Amlan, a resident of Assam, has won a medal in Athletics. Priyanka, a resident of U.P., has won a medal in Race Walk. Abhidanya, a resident of Maharashtra, has won a medal in Shooting.

Modi ji : Namaskar my dear young players.
Young player : Namaste Sir.

Modi ji : It’s a nice feeling talking to you. First of all, I congratulate the team selected from the universities of India… you people have brought glory to the name of India. You have made every countryman proud through your performance in the World University Games. So first of all I congratulate you heartily.

Pragati : I am starting this conversation with you. First of all, tell me what had you thought when you left after winning two medals? And having achieved such a big victory, what are you feeling?

Pragati : Sir, I was feeling very proud, I was feeling so good that I had returned with my country’s flag hoisted so high… it is okay that once I had reached the Gold Fight, I had lost it and was regretting it. But the second time it was in my mind that if something happens now, I will not let it lower down. It has to flutter the highest in any situation. When we won the fight at the end, we celebrated very well on the same podium. That moment was very good. I was feeling so proud that I could not measure the feeling.

Modi ji : Pragati, you were facing a big problem physically. You emerged out of that. This, in itself, is a great inspiration for the youth of the country. What had happened to you?

Pragati : Sir, on the 5th of May, 2020, I had brain haemorrhage. I was on the ventilator. There was no surety whether I would survive or not and if at all, how would I survive? But certainly… yes, I had the inner courage that I have to
Modi ji : Amlan just tell me where did you practice mostly!

Amlan : Mostly I have practised in Hyderabad, Under Sai Reddy sir. Then after that there was a shift to Bhubaneswar and from there I started professionally sir.

Ok, Priyanka is also with us. Priyanka, you were part of the keep this together Race Walk Team. The whole country is listening to you today, and they want to know about this sport. Tell us what kind of skills are required for this. And what has been the trajectory of your career?

Priyanka : In an event like mine, it is very tough because there are five judges present. Even if we run, they will expel us or even if we get off the road a little, they will declare us out even if there is a jump. Or even if we bend our knees, they expel us and I was even given a warning twice. After that, I controlled my speed so much since somehow I had to win the team medal, at least from here. Because we have come here for the country and we do not want to leave empty handed.

Modi ji : Yes, and are father, brother and others all fine?

Priyanka : Yes sir, everything is fine, I tell everyone that you motivate us so much, really sir, I am feeling very good, because there is not even a lot of demand for a game like World University in India. It goes, but now we are getting so much support in this game also... we are seeing tweets... everyone is tweeting that we have won so many medals, so it is feeling very good that like Olympics, this too, is getting so much of encouragement.

Modi ji : Well, Priyanka, congratulations from my side. You have made a big name, let us talk to Abhidanya.

Abhidanya : Namaste Sir.

Modi ji : Tell me about yourself.

Abhidanya : Sir I am from Kolhapur proper, Maharashtra, I do both 25 metres sports pistol and 10 metres air pistol events in shooting. Both my parents are high school teachers and I started shooting in 2015. When I started shooting, there were not that many facilities available in Kolhapur. It takes one and a half hour to travel from Vadgaon to Kolhapur by bus, then one and a half hour to come back, and four hours of training, so like that, 6-7 hours for travelling and training, so I used to miss my school too, then Mummy-Papa said that beta, do one thing, we will take you to the shooting range on Saturday-Sunday, and the rest of the time you do other games. So I used to take a lot of interest in sports since childhood and then I have also done Taekwondo, in that too, I am a black belt, and after doing many games like Boxing, Judo, Fencing and Discus throw, I came to Shooting. Then I struggled a lot for 2-3 years and for the first time I got selected in Malaysia for the University Championship and I got Bronze Medal in that, so I actually got a push from there. Then my school made a shooting range for me... I used to train there and then they sent me to Pune for training. So there’s Gagan Narang Sports Foundation, Gun for Glory... I am training under it now... Gagan sir has supported me a lot and encouraged me for my game.

Modi ji : Well, if all four of you want to say something
to me, I would like to hear it. There should be Pragati, Amlan, Priyanka and Abhidanya. All of you are connected with me, so if you want to say something, I will definitely listen.

Amlan : Sir, I have a question sir.

Modi ji : Ji.

Amlan : Which sport do you like best sir?

Modi ji : India should bloom a lot in the world of sports and that is why I am promoting these things as a lot, but hockey, football, kabaddi, kho-kho, these are games rooted to our land, in these, we should never lag behind. And I’m observing that our people, are doing well in archery, they are doing well in shooting. And secondly, I am seeing that our youth and even in our families also do not have that feeling towards sports which was there earlier. Earlier, when a child used to go to play, they used to stop, and now, times have changed and the success that you people have been achieving, motivates all the families. In every game, wherever our children are going, they return after accomplishing something or the other for the country. And such news is shown prominently in the country today...is also conveyed and also discussed in schools and colleges. Well! I felt very nice. Many many congratulations to all of you from my side. Many good wishes.

Young player : Thank you very much! Thank you Sir! Thank you

Modi ji : Thank you! Namaskar.

My family members, this time on 15th August, the country saw the power of ‘Sabka Prayas’. The efforts of all the countrymen turned the ‘Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan’ into a ‘Har Mann Tiranga Abhiyan’. Many records were also made during this campaign. The countrymen purchased tricolors in crores. Around 1.5 crore tricolors were sold through 1.5 lakh post offices. Through that, our workers, weavers, and especially women have also earned hundreds of crores of rupees. This time, the countrymen have created a new record in posting Selfie with the tricolor. Last year till August 15, about 5 crore countrymen had posted Selfie with the tricolor. This year this number has also crossed 10 crore.

Friends, At present, the campaign to evoke the spirit of patriotism ‘Meri Maati, Mera Desh’ is in full swing in the country. In the month of September, there will be a campaign to collect soil from every house in every village of the country. The holy soil of the country will be deposited in thousands of Amrit Kalash urns. At the end of October, thousands will reach the country’s capital Delhi with the ‘Amrit Kalash Yatra’. Amrit Vatika will be built in Delhi from this soil only. I am sure, the efforts of every countryman will make this campaign successful.

My family members, this time I have received many letters in Sanskrit language. The reason for this is that the Poornima of the month of Sawan, ‘World Sanskrit Day’ is celebrated.

सर्वेभय: सर्शर्-संसककृत- सदर्ससय हार्द् य: शुभकामना:

Many felicitations to all of you on World Sanskrit Day. We all know that Sanskrit is one of the oldest languages in the world. It is also called the mother of many modern languages. Sanskrit is known for its antiquity as well as its scientificity and grammar. Much ancient knowledge of India has been preserved in Sanskrit language for thousands of years. People doing research on subjects like Yoga, Ayurveda and Philosophy are now learning Sanskrit more and more. Many institutes are also doing very good work in this direction. Such as Sanskrit Promotion Foundation runs many courses like Sanskrit for Yog, Sanskrit for Ayurveda and Sanskrit for Buddhism. ‘Samskrita Bharati’ runs a campaign to teach Sanskrit to people. In this, you can participate in a 10 day ‘Sanskrit Conversation Camp’. I am happy that today awareness and pride in Sanskrit has increased among people. There is also a special contribution of the country in the past years behind this.
Bangalore. About 17 years ago, he was given a responsibility in the Sightseeing wing. Now people know it by the name of ‘Bengaluru Darshini’. Dhanpal ji used to take tourists to various tourist places of the city. On one such trip, a tourist asked him why the tank in Bangalore is called Senki Tank. He felt very bad that he did not know the answer. In such a situation, he focused on enhancing his own knowledge. In his passion to know his heritage, he found many stones and inscriptions. Dhanpal ji’s mind was so absorbed in this task that he also did a Diploma in epigraphy, i.e., the subject related to inscriptions. Though he is now retired, his passion to explore the history of Bengaluru is still alive.

My family members, you all know that the Dairy Sector is one of the most important sectors of our country. It has played a very important role in bringing

Many efforts are also being made to ensure that the whole country gets the benefit of this heritage of Telugu.

My family members, we have talked about tourism in many episodes of ‘Mann ki Baat’. Seeing things or places in person, understanding and living them for a few moments, offers a different experience. No matter how much someone describes the ocean, we cannot feel its vastness without seeing the ocean. No matter how much one talks about the Himalayas, we cannot assess its beauty without seeing the Himalayas. That’s why, I often urge all of you that whenever we get a chance, we must go to see the beauty and diversity of our country. Often we also see one more thing... despite having searched every corner of the world, we are unaware of many best places and things in our own city or state.

Many times it happens that people do not know much about the historical places of their own city. Something similar happened with Dhanpal ji. Dhanpal ji used to work as a driver in the Transport Office of Bangalore. About 17 years ago, he was given a responsibility in the Sightseeing wing. Now people know it by the name of ‘Bengaluru Darshini’. Dhanpal ji used to take tourists to various tourist places of the city. On one such trip, a tourist asked him why the tank in Bangalore is called Senki Tank. He felt very bad that he did not know the answer. In such a situation, he focused on enhancing his own knowledge. In his passion to know his heritage, he found many stones and inscriptions. Dhanpal ji’s mind was so absorbed in this task that he also did a Diploma in epigraphy, i.e., the subject related to inscriptions. Though he is now retired, his passion to explore the history of Bengaluru is still alive.

Friends, I am very happy to tell you about Brian D. Kharpran. He is a resident of Meghalaya and has a great interest in Speleology. In simple language, it means – study of caves. Years ago, this interest arose in him when he read several story books. In 1964, he did his first exploration as a schoolboy. In 1990, he along with his friend established an association and through this he started to find out about the unknown caves of Meghalaya. Within no time, he along with his team discovered more than 1700 caves in Meghalaya and put the state on the World Cave Map. Some of the longest and deepest caves in India are present in Meghalaya. Brian Ji and his team have also documented the Cave Fauna i.e. those creatures of the cave, which are not found anywhere else in the world. I appreciate the efforts of this entire team, as well as I urge you to make a plan to visit the caves of Meghalaya.
a big change in the lives of our mothers and sisters. Just a few days ago, I came to know about an interesting initiative of Banas Dairy of Gujarat. Banas Dairy is considered to be the biggest Dairy in Asia. On an average, 75 lakh liters of milk is processed here everyday. After this, it is also sent to other states. For the timely delivery of milk here to other states, until now the support of tankers or milk trains was availed of. But there were no less challenges in that too. Firstly, loading and unloading used to take a lot of time and often the milk also used to get spoilt. To overcome this problem, Indian Railways did a new experiment. Railways started a Truck-on-Track facility from Palanpur to New Rewari. In this, milk trucks are directly loaded onto the train. That is, the major problem of transportation has been overcome by this. The results of the Truck-on-Track facility have been very satisfactory. Earlier, the milk which used to take 30 hours to reach is now reaching in less than half the time. Due to this, whereas the pollution caused by fuel has stopped, the cost of fuel is also saved. Drivers of trucks have also benefited a lot from this, their life has become easier.

Friends, with collective efforts today, our dairies are also moving forward with modern thinking. How Banas Dairy has also taken a step forward in the direction of environmental protection is evident through the Seedball tree plantation campaign. Varanasi Milk Union is working on manure management to increase the income of our dairy farmers. The effort of Malabar Milk Union Dairy of Kerala is also very unique. It is engaged in developing Ayurvedic Medicines for the treatment of animal diseases.

Friends, today there are many people who are diversifying by adopting dairy. You must also know about Amanpreet Singh, who is running a dairy farm in Kota, Rajasthan. Along with dairy, he also focused on biogas and set up two biogas plants. Due to this, their expenditure on electricity has reduced by about 70 per cent. This effort of his is going to inspire dairy farmers across the country. Today many big dairies are focusing on biogas. This type of community driven value addition is very exciting. I am sure that such trends will continue throughout the country.

My family members, that’s all today in ‘Mann ki Baat’. The season of festivals has also arrived. Happy Raksha Bandhan as well to all of you in advance.
MANN KI BAAT

Special Mentions by Prime Minister
CHANDRAYAAN-3
INDIA’S SUCCESSFUL LUNAR MISSION

On the 23rd of August, India and India’s Chandrayaan proved that some suns of resolve rise on the Moon as well. ‘Mission Chandrayaan’ has become a symbol of the spirit of New India, which wants to ensure victory, and also knows how to win in any situation.

–Prime Minister Narendra Modi
(in ‘Mann ki Baat’ address)

“I reached my destination and you too!”

This message by Chandrayaan-3 scripted history, marking India’s first successful landing on the Moon. On 23rd August 2023, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) initiated the final step for the Moon landing—the Automatic Landing Sequence (ALS) of the Chandrayaan-3 Lander, Vikram, which soft-landed on the lunar surface, making India the fourth country in the world to land on the lunar surface and the first country ever to land near the south pole of the Moon, a region that has never been explored before.

Launched on LVM3-M4 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, the spacecraft began its journey on 14th July 2023. Chandrayaan-3, which consisted of two parts — the propulsion and the Lander-Rover modules, was developed indigenously exhibiting India’s striking technological capability. Apart from its vision of demonstrating end-to-end capability in safe landing and roving on the lunar surface, Chandrayaan-3 also aimed to carry out various in-situ scientific experiments about the Moon’s atmosphere, soil, and minerals. The successful landing of the Vikram Lander has paved the way for India’s future landing missions and other technological progress in interplanetary exploration.

India’s space journey, from launching its first sounding rocket to a successful Lunar Mission, has been remarkable. The growth of the Indian space sector is a testament to the grit and determination of thousands of scientists, engineers, and technicians who believed in Dr Vikram Sarabhai’s vision that “we must be second to none in the application of advanced technologies to the real problems of man and society”. With successful space missions in recent years, India has now taken the brand of ‘Make in India’ to the Moon. ISRO’s various projects including the Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM), ‘AstroSat’—India’s first dedicated Space Astronomy Observatory, IRNSS—India’s own regional navigation satellite system (also known as NavIC) are not only demonstrating India’s capabilities in space technology, but also establishing India as a pioneer in the global space sector. Furthermore, ISRO has signed agreements and MoUs with several countries and international organisations for joint missions and technology transfers.

However, the potential of the space sector is much greater than just launching satellites or exploring space. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, ISRO has taken giant steps in the direction of connecting space applications and technology with every aspect of governance as well. Today, space applications are increasingly used in fields like agriculture, water resources, land use/land cover, rural
development, earth and climate studies, geosciences, urban infrastructure, disaster management support, and forestry.

To empower the field of space by enabling the participation of the Indian private sector, IN-SPACe (Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre) was created to enable policy changes by the Government and provide a level playing field for private companies and start-ups. Presently, ISRO is working with over 150 space startups that have emerged within a short span of time, and with continued support from the Government and private sector participation, India is set to leave an indelible mark in the domain of space exploration and technology worldwide.

In the 104th episode of ‘Mann ki Baat’, the Prime Minister highlighted the important role played by women scientists of ISRO for the Chandrayaan-3 Mission and hailed the power of women-led development. He said, “Many women scientists and engineers have been directly involved in this entire mission. When the daughters of a country become so ambitious, who can stop that country from becoming developed?” Today, women scientists have carved a niche for themselves in Space, Nuclear Science, Drone and Nano-technology and many other crucial scientific projects.

Aligning with the Prime Minister’s vision, the Government has made significant efforts to put Nari Shakti at the forefront of India’s development journey. To empower women innovators to lead the nation, the Government has introduced various schemes and programmes like the Industrial Research Fellowship for Women, Women in Science and Engineering—KIRAN scheme, the CURIE programme, ‘Vigyan Jyoti’ programme to encourage meritorious girl students, the Indo-US Fellowship for Women in STEMM programme and the GATI initiative. With the impetus provided by the Government, women in science in India are today breaking barriers and making significant strides, not only in their respective scientific fields but also in inspiring future generations of women to pursue careers in STEMM.

The quantum leap, witnessed by the Indian space sector in the last few years, has inspired scientific curiosity among the youth and has encouraged them to be a part of this glorious scientific and technological journey.

“The Mission was challenging because we had a lot of new technology to demonstrate as the landing is totally different compared to other remote sensing satellites. Ultimately, when we touched down is when we felt that we had finally done it.”

-Kalpana Kalahasti
Associate Project Director, Chandrayaan-3
Chandrayaan-3, India’s third lunar exploration mission took off on LVM3-M4 launcher. This successful landing on the lunar surface is expected to support ISRO’s future interplanetary missions, scaling new heights for India’s space missions.

**Timeline of Chandrayaan-3**

- **JULY 14, 2023**
  - LVM3-M4 vehicle successfully launches Chandrayaan-3 into orbit

- **AUG 1, 2023**
  - Chandrayaan-3 completes its orbits around the Earth & is inserted into the trans-lunar orbit towards the Moon

- **AUG 5, 2023**
  - Lander Module separated from the Propulsion Module

- **AUG 17, 2023**
  - Chandrayaan-3 successfully inserted into lunar orbit

- **AUG 23, 2023**
  - India makes a soft landing on the South Pole of the Moon & communication link is established with MOX-ISTRAC

- **AUG 24, 2023**
  - Chandrayaan-3 rover Pragyan ramps down from Vikram Lander. India takes a walk on the Moon

**Vikram Lander**
- Has a Mission Life of 1 Lunar day (14 Earth days) and carries 3 payloads
  - **RAMBHA-LP** (Lunar Mass Hydrogen Analyser)
    - To measure the surface plasma density and its changes with time.

  - **ChaSTE** (Chandrayaan Surface Thermophysical Experiment)
    - To measure the thermal properties of lunar surface near polar region

  - **ILSA** (Instrument for Lunar Seismic Activity)
    - To measure seismicity around the landing site and delineating the structure of the lunar crust and mantle

**Pragyan Rover**
- Has a Mission Life of 1 Lunar day (14 Earth days) and carries 2 payloads
  - **APXS** (Alpha Particle X-Ray Spectrometry)
    - To determine the elemental composition of lunar soil and rocks around the lunar landing site

  - **LIBS** (Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy)
    - To derive the chemical composition and infer mineralogical composition to further our understanding of Lunar surface

**Propulsion Module Payload**
- **SHAPE** (Spectro-polarimetry of HAstable Planet Earth)
  - Experimental payload to help identify earth-like exoplanets in future
WORLD APPLAUDS INDIA’S HISTORIC MOON LANDING

Congratulations to India for the historic landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the Moon. This is a remarkable achievement and a significant step forward for the Indian space program.

The successful lunar landing of India’s Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft represents a significant leap for collective scientific progress. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Prime Minister @narendramodi and the people of India for this historic achievement in service of humankind.
It is a very well understood lesson in the Space fraternity that if you do not have the courage to take the risk, you are not going to achieve anything. We understand that there could be either failures and disappointments or success and glory, but we still need to keep doing our work. The failure in landing softly the last time gave us enough data to analyse and understand the weaknesses in the system. We understood the gaps and worked to extend our efforts towards creating more simulation, creating the boundary operations and covering all the possibilities we could dream about. So, we were really confident this time.

The payloads onboard had assigned tasks. After the landing, the Rover had two important instruments related to Moon mineralogy to identify the elemental composition—Alpha Particle X-ray Spectrometer (APXS) and Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS). We have gained a lot of information. Like, Sulphur is only an indication of an element which we never expected to be there in this large quantity. We discovered so much in terms of distribution of elements at multiple locations. Another payload ChaSTE gave us very different findings of the temperature distribution. We found that there is a very drastic change in the temperatures from top to just 10 cm below itself. We also looked at the ionic presence there and found it to be much lesser than we expected. The seismic activities were very interesting, we found that there are activities happening inside the core of the Moon. All of this needs to be exactly measured and studied over a period of time to make sure there are no errors. So, when we actually tell the world about our findings that are extraordinary and momentous, we are seen with great respect.

ISRO’s new mission Aditya L1 has been launched with the objective to observe the Sun closely for a longer period of time and to understand its effect on Earth. For this purpose we have put a coronagraph, UV telescope, soft X-Ray, hard X-Ray, particle measurement devices and magnetism detecting device which will give us a wide range of observations which cannot be detected by naked eyes. These observation capabilities are going to be the leading instruments in the world.

I believe that the Prime Minister is a space buff. He understands the critical value of technology and its applications in society, nation, and governance which he has well-articulated during his interactions with us. He has envisioned changing the Indian landscape through space reforms by bringing in private entrepreneurs and space start-ups alongside undertaking new missions like the Gaganyaan. Our service sector, from communication to remote sensing, has also expanded due to our strengthened satellite capacity. I am very thankful to him.

The demonstration of our soft landing capacity reflects our nation’s technological strength and that there is no shortage of knowledge or technology in India. Now, we should be looking at further Moon missions, Mars landing missions and we may also work on getting sample returns from the Moon. I believe that it is possible that one day we can get a human into a space flight to the Moon and Mars. The next series of tests for Gagayaan will take place this year. I want the next generation to think bigger and beyond in this Amrit Kaal.
It is a remarkable success — a momentous occasion which we all have to celebrate because as a country, we are the first to be on the south pole of the Moon and also the fourth country to accomplish a soft landing on the lunar surface. So, it is definitely a joyous moment and an outcome of immense and untiring efforts of our entire team.

The Mission was challenging because we had a lot of new technology to demonstrate as the landing is totally different compared to other remote sensing satellites. We really had to come out with all the new technologies required for soft landing. We could demonstrate to a great extent during Chandrayaan-2 and again bouncing back for demonstrating success in Chandrayaan-3, we really had to first look at what really went wrong and had to understand what were the improvements required and how we have to rebuild this spacecraft. So, in the initial phase, it was crucial to understand what needs to be done and after that we started our actual work of building the spacecraft. We had to do all the required tests and simulations. The simulations were exhaustive accounting all the possible dispersion cases which could be possible. We had to foresee what could go wrong and we had to build a satellite which could handle all such cases.

Moments before the landing, I was there along with the project director of the Chandrayaan-3, Dr. P Veeramuthuvel. There are four critical phases — rough breaking, altitude holder followed by fine breaking and the terminal face. Crossing each phase was a sigh of relief. Particularly, when we saw some critical phases like the altitude hold phase and the most important hovering phase when the Lander was hovering and the velocity was killed, you could hear everyone from our team applaud (in the Mission Control Room). Ultimately, when we touched down is when we felt that we had finally done it.

The Prime Minister named the landing point as Shiv Shakti. Our chairman said it is rightly coined because the project director is Shiva and the associate project director Shakti.

Similarly, we have so many men and women working across the centres as part of the team — all are Shakti and Shiva actually. I think this is a beautiful name to represent equal contribution by men and women, particularly in this project.

Apart from the scientific and engineering background, there are so many women from various other fields like administration, finance, fabrications and many other fields who have contributed a lot to this project. These are tough moments at work but we have to handle it with a calm mind. And this is where family support plays a main role. They are our strength. At our office we have our team, our seniors supporting. But family plays a major role in balancing these together.
THE WOMEN WHO MADE CHANDRAYAAN-3 POSSIBLE

In the 104th episode of ‘Mann ki Baat’, the Prime Minister highlighted the crucial role played by women scientists of ISRO in the success of the Chandrayaan-3 Mission. On August 26, 2023, he also met several female scientists of the Indian space agency, Doordarshan talked to a few women scientists to know about their experience.

Vanitha Muthayya
Project Director Chandrayaan-2 & Deputy Director, Payloads and Data Management, Chandrayaan-3

“For Chandrayaan-2, I started working in 2013. So, the work has been done over the course of nearly seven years. When (in 2019) we were not able to soft land on the Moon, my team was heartbroken. At that time, the Prime Minister was a source of support and encouragement and that spurred our team to do much better and the second time we were very sure that we were going to make it. When the landing happened, all of us were elated. We did not just land but also had our Rover roll down from the Lander, a moment that will be in our memory forever. The whole team — all the men and women — each one of them does their job diligently. Even if 99.99% of them do their best and that 0.01% person does not do the job efficiently, the whole mission fails. So, the entire team has to be taken along and we have to ensure that the best is coming out of everybody.”

Kalpana Aravind
Associate Director, Laboratory for Electro-Optics Systems (LEOS), ISRO

“I work in the LEOS, where we make sensors. Once we reach the Lunar Orbit, at the separation and landing time we need some navigation sensors, which have to measure position and velocity. We learnt a lot from Chandrayaan-2 and improved it further to get a better performance this time. The landing was a very joyous moment. I had tears in my eyes as it was like my baby had landed on the Moon. Last time, we could not test the Rover. So, when it rolled out of the Lander, I felt as if my grandkid had come. The Prime Minister was with us last time and this time too, in both our moments of despair and joy. This is my best launch ever and it is my best gift from ISRO also that I can take as I will be retiring next year.”

Nigar Shaji
Programme Director, ISRO & Project Director, Aditya-L1 Mission

“The landing of Chandrayaan-3 is the best in my career. It was a very relaxing and joyous moment and a testimony of ISRO’s team work. I have been working on Aditya-L1 since 2016. I was given a chance to orchestrate the entire project. Last August, I took over as the Programme Director for Low Earth Orbits and Planetary Platforms. The higher management has the trust and confidence in me to hand over both the responsibilities which shows how ISRO treats women and that there is no glass ceiling here. Everyone who has the caliber and capability will be given an opportunity to deliver the goods. The fact that the country’s Prime Minister himself motivates us works as a tonic. Him coming all the way here and inspiring us is a real boost to put our best efforts and bring further laurels to the country.”
India’s G20 Presidency
Inclusive, Ambitious, Decisive, & Action-oriented

If there is one word to describe India’s G20 Presidency, it is inclusivity. Following its philosophy of ‘Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam’ in letter and spirit, India has shown the world the importance of having ‘One World, One Family, One Future’ to collectively reflect and act on the shared prospects of the world.

The 18th G20 Leaders’ Summit concluded with a 100 per cent consensus on a range of issues of prime concern to the world community, such as sustainable development, technological transformation, gender equality, women empowerment, digital public infrastructure, and world peace. With 112 outcomes and presidency documents, India has more than tripled the substantive work from previous presidencies. By bringing every stakeholder on one common platform, India ensured that the solutions reached at the New Delhi Summit address the concerns of both the developed and the developing parts of the world.

India’s G20 Presidency was a presidency of many firsts. Several new initiatives were taken by India to make the group of 20 meetings and deliberations more inclusive than before. India, along with the leaders of Singapore, Bangladesh, Italy, the USA, Brazil, Argentina, Mauritius and the UAE, launched the ‘Global Biofuels Alliance’ with the aim to serve as a catalytic platform, fostering global collaboration for the advancement and widespread adoption of biofuels. The India-Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor, ushering in a new era of connectivity from Europe to Asia that will facilitate global trade, cooperation on energy and digital connectivity, was also launched on the sidelines of the Leaders’ Summit.

“A big congratulations and thanks to the Prime Minister because I think what has been achieved in this G20 is something which is unprecedented. First and foremost, his focus on Sabka Saath, making sure that the African Union becomes a part of the G20 is in itself the biggest take away.”

—R Dinesh
President, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
A new official Engagement Group, Startup20, was established under India’s G20 Presidency, that shall act as a dialogue forum with the G20 nations’ startup ecosystem and aspires to create a global narrative for supporting startups.

The Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group, established under India’s G20 Presidency, aims to integrate disaster risk reduction across the work of the G20 and in its support to developing countries. The newly-launched ‘G20-Chief Science Adviser’s Roundtable (G20-CSAR)’ aims to create a space for voluntary knowledge and resource sharing, and exchange of best practices in the science advice process.

Women-led development, counter narcotics, and traditional medicine emerged as new focus areas. In a significant stride towards global healthcare innovation, the World Health Organization (WHO) and India’s G20 presidency jointly unveiled the ‘Global Initiative on Digital Health’ (GIDH), recognising the need of a common framework to integrate all initiatives by consolidating efforts and investments made in the digital health space and creating a comprehensive digital health ecosystem.

The launch of ‘MAHARISHI (Millet and other Ancient Grains International Research Initiative)’, the first conference on cyber security in the G20, and the stress on the importance of LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) principles also garnered the world’s attention on India spearheading the global narrative.

However, India’s G20 Presidency’s inclusivity was not just limited to the Leaders’ Summit held at New Delhi but was also reflected in the way all the G20 meetings were conducted over a period of nine months. In the run up to the G20 Leaders’ Summit, India hosted over 200 meetings, in 13 Sherpa Track Working Groups, 8 Finance Track Workstreams, 11 Engagement Groups, and 5 Initiatives across the country. Moving away from the tradition of holding colossal events in the capital city, India’s G20 Presidency involved all the States and Union Territories, making it a pan-national event and experience.

The meetings, organised in 60 cities across the country, had over one lakh delegates, from around 125 nationalities, getting to visit different regions of India and witness the country’s demography, democracy and diversity. Interacting with them were over 1.5 crore people of India that were involved in these programmes some way or the other, making India’s G20 year an exemplar of Jan Bhagidari. As stated by the Prime Minister, the underlying goal behind the decentralisation of the activities related to G20 was to invest in capacity building in the citizens, the institutions and the cities. Every meeting gave the people of India, from all walks of life, the opportunity and the confidence to deliver a world-class event.
India made sure that the delegates’ experience does not remain limited to attending meetings, but that they also get to bask in the incredible diversity of the country. From Lambani Art of Karnataka, Ganga Aarti in Varanasi, the heritage sites of Rajasthan, snake boat race of Kerala, to Bihu dance in Assam — every State and UT left a unique cultural stamp on the minds of the delegates.

A Crafts Bazaar was set up in the Bharat Mandapam on the sidelines of the G20 Leaders’ Summit in New Delhi. And emphasising the message of ‘Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam’ and the Culture Working Group’s hallmark campaign ‘Culture Unites All’, a ‘Culture Corridor - G20 Digital Museum’ was conceptualised to represent and celebrate the shared heritage of G20 members and invitee countries. A first-of-its-kind ‘museum in the making’ had on display pages of Panini’s Ashtadhyayi (a sixth century treatise of Sanskrit grammar), the UK’s Magna Carta, Mona Lisa from France, Mrs. Ples, the common name for a 2.5 to 2.8 million years-old fossil skull that was discovered in the Sterkfontein Caves in South Africa, among many other objects of cultural and historical significance.

Apart from culture, the G20 visiting world also witnessed the social transformation that is going on in India — be it the country’s Digital Public Infrastructure, women-led development, social and financial inclusion. The delegates also got to understand that many of the solutions that the world needs today, in terms of disaster management, and sustainable lifestyle, are already being successfully implemented in India on the grassroot level. Beyond a GDP-centric view of the G20, there is an acknowledgment that India can lead the world with its human-centric philosophies and policies.
G20 ENGAGEMENT GROUPS

G20 under India’s Presidency has 11 Engagement Groups, comprising non-government participants from each G20 member. These groups provide an opportunity to deliberate and engage in rich discussions on a plethora of important issues and contribute towards the policy-making process.

1. **Business20 (B20)**
   Established in 2010, B20 is among the most prominent Engagement Groups in G20, representing the global business community. The B20 aims to deliver concrete actionable policy recommendations on issues of global economic and trade governance.

2. **Civil20 (C20)**
   Launched as an official G20 Engagement Group in 2013, C20 provides a platform to bring forth a non-government and non-business voice to G20 to promote social and economic development with the vision that no one should be left behind.

3. **Labour20 (L20)**
   First established during the French Presidency in 2011, L20 convenes trade union leaders from G20 countries and provides analyses and policy recommendations aimed at addressing labour-related issues.

4. **Parliament20 (P20)**
   Started during Canada’s Presidency in 2010, it is led by Speakers from Parliaments of G20 countries with the aim to bring a parliamentary dimension to global governance, raise awareness, and build political support for international commitments.

5. **Science20 (S20)**
   Comprising the national science academies of the G20 countries, S20 was initiated during Germany’s Presidency in 2017. It presents policymakers with consensus-based science-driven recommendations formulated through task forces comprising international experts.

6. **Supreme Audit Institutions20 (SAI20)**
   SAI20, introduced by the Indonesian Presidency in 2022, is a forum to discuss the important role played by SAIs globally in ensuring transparency and accountability, and in promoting cooperation among the G20 members.

7. **Startup20**
   Established under India’s G20 Presidency in 2023, Startup20 intends to create a global narrative for supporting startups and enabling synergies between startups, corporates, investors, innovation agencies and other key ecosystem stakeholders.

8. **Think20 (T20)**
   Initiated during the Mexican Presidency in 2012, T20 serves as an “idea bank” for the G20 by bringing together think tanks and high-level experts to discuss relevant international socio-economic issues.

9. **Urban20 (U20)**
   U20, established in 2017 during the Argentine Presidency, provides a platform for city leaders to discuss issues related to urbanisation, SDG goals, and the impact of climate change on cities.

10. **Women20 (W20)**
    W20 was founded in 2015 during Turkey’s Presidency with the objective is to ensure that gender considerations are mainstreamed into G20 discussions to formulate policies and commitments that foster gender equality and economic empowerment of women.

11. **Youth20 (Y20)**
    Y20, which was held for the first time in 2010, provides a platform for youth to express their vision and ideas on G20 priorities, and develops a set of recommendations that are presented to G20 leaders.
All-Inclusive G20 for Humanity

A big congratulations and thanks to the Prime Minister because I think what has been achieved in this G20 is something which is unprecedented. First and foremost, his focus on Sabka Saath, making sure that the African Union becomes a part of the G20 is in itself the biggest takeaway. Equally important is the focus in terms of making sure the aspirations of the Global South are well covered.

India’s G20 Presidency has been a pinnacle of achievement. Each step has been path-breaking making sure that we have full consensus across the board. We have to congratulate the Prime Minister and thank him for taking the lead.

The Prime Minister, in his ‘Mann ki Baat’ spoke about the journey of G20 in the country and the manner in which over 220 meetings took place across 60 locations. It was a brilliant move. The visiting delegates got exposed to different facets of India and got to see the infrastructure development which has taken place in the country. This also got the whole country excited for the outcome of the Summit. There have been corollary benefits as well from the perspective of future investments.

If I look at the theme of CII for this year, it speaks about sustainable growth, making sure that we build trust, not just within the industry and between industry and the Government, but also between industries and all its stakeholders. So, the G20 vision of ‘One Earth, One Family, One Future’ resonates very well with how we, from an industry perspective, look at this and I think it actually sets a clear acceptable paradigm in the way in which India, Indian companies, Indian industry will deal with all of its stakeholders, not just in India but also with all of its global linkages.

The diverse Indian industry is today ready to balance its aspirations for accelerated development and the green commitments. The ‘Global Biofuels Alliance’ is also a very welcome step that will help address the gap meeting our climate goals without sacrificing the opportunities of growth.

The India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) is an exciting development and the advantage it brings is that the governments are committed to it and the private sector of all of these countries will get an opportunity to participate.

The most important point which is part of the G20 Declaration as well is to make sure that we can finance this growth in a sustainable manner. From the B20 perspective, we also look at whether there is an opportunity to create a pool of capital arising out of the current CSR model which has been developed by India to make the country a potential seed fund attracting further growth opportunity. And the industry and the Government has to come together to make sure that we are able to provide the financing for that.

India’s stature has transformed in the world and economic affairs. India’s words and inputs are being listened to. There are takeaways for the youth as well. A new generation of entrepreneurs is coming up in the country and startups have made an exceptional mark in India’s economy.
G20 INDIA
AN EXEMPLAR OF JAN BHAGIDARI

The Prime Minister, in the 104th episode of ‘Mann ki Baat’, underlined the fact that India’s G20 Presidency was a People’s Presidency, which saw the spirit of jan bhagidari across the country. Lakhs of people came together to take part in unique events and in the process, some world records were also made. Let’s have a look.

Lambani Artisans Set Guinness World Record

The 3rd G20 Culture Working Group (CWG) Meeting in Hampi, Karnataka, set a Guinness World Record for the ‘Largest Display of Lambani Items’. 450 female artisans showcased their skill and craftsmanship by creating an amazing collection of a total of 1,755 unique Lambani embroidery items. These featured a wide variety of stitch designs, mirror work, and coloured threads. This world record aligns with the 3rd priority of India’s G20 CWG – ‘Promotion of Cultural and Creative Industries and Creative Economy’ and draws attention to India’s broader commitment towards preservation and promotion of the country’s living heritage and cultural diversity. Practised in Karnataka, Lambani embroidery is recognised and protected through the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

Saree Walkathon

In a laudatory effort to popularise India’s textile traditions, Surat witnessed a Saree Walkathon, where 15,000 women from 15 States participated donning their traditional sarees. Organised in collaboration with the ‘Fit India Movement’, the walkathon had women from all walks of life draped in various kinds of sarees walking a distance of three kilometres to promote fitness and health. The idea was to also promote Surat’s rich textile industry and its skilled artisans by encouraging the spirit of being Vocal for Local. As remarked by the Prime Minister, the event not only gave a boost to ‘Vocal for Local’ but has also paved the way for the Local to become Global.

Record Participation in G20 Quiz

Varanasi has entered the record books for the “Maximum Participants in a Quiz Contest at Multiple Locations”. The record-breaking quiz contest, held on April 13, 2023, was simultaneously organised at 784 different venues across the district, with about 1.25 lakh student participants. The quiz questions were related to India’s G20 Presidency and covered various topics, including international trade, global economy, and sustainable development. Doordarshan team talked to the District Magistrate of Varanasi, S Rajalingam to get more insights.

“Several G20 events were organised in Varanasi. But the most important component was public participation. What is G20, what is its importance, how India’s role is increasing in the world – we made a comprehensive public participation action plan to spread this information to the public, especially to the children. Government and private, all the schools were brought on a single platform. First of all, a literature on G20 was made available to all, after which a quiz competition was conducted. There were multiple levels of the competition, online and then offline, and lakhs of children participated in this competition. Through this, information related to the G20 reached the parents of the students and other people as well. Recognising the participation of so many children, the India Records Academy also gave us a certificate. One benefit of children from Government and private schools coming together was that they got the opportunity to learn a lot from each other. Often we see that if there is no participation of people in the programmes, then it remains just a Government programme and the people of the district have nothing to do with it. But an important component of G20 was jan bhagidari and I am glad that everyone participated in the quiz competition with great enthusiasm. I would like to thank the Prime Minister for mentioning this in ‘Mann ki Baat’.”
India’s G20 Presidency
A People-Centric Approach

There are two things which are very unique about India’s Presidency. First is that India has been able to showcase the ‘Incredible India’ as the mother of democracy with all its glory, diversity and variety to the world at large. We have had more than 220 meetings across 60 cities throughout the length and breadth of the country in all States and Union Territories. In addition, we also showcased the various delegates that have come to India, our very rich and varied culture, customs, traditions, art and architecture, and our cuisine.

It was not only beneficial to showcase India to the delegates, but it also took India’s richness across the world and the collateral benefit of increased tourism is being seen. I have seen reports that after the meeting of the Tourism Working Group (T20) in Jammu and Kashmir, the foreign tourist arrivals there have increased and I am sure this is true of most places. The beauty is that we were able to take G20 to even some of the remote corners of the country.

The second unique achievement is that we were able to take G20 to all corners of a country, to all sections of our society. This is important because very little was known about G20 by the common man. After India’s Presidency, I think a large number of people across all segments — the youth, women, students and public at large — would have come to understand what G20 is.

The Prime Minister is absolutely correct when he describes India’s Presidency of the G20 as the ‘People’s Presidency’. I have already alluded to this in a manner by saying that we have tried to take our Presidency to the length and breadth of our country, to all corners of India, and to all sections of a society. There are, apart from the official tracks under the Finance and the Sherpa track, a number of Engagement Groups. The S20 or the Startup 20 is an Indian contribution and will be a lasting contribution to the G20 process. I myself have been involved with the outreach to the students by way of what is called G20 University Connect Engaging Young Minds programme, which is anchored by the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) and the Ministry of External Affairs. We took this programme to almost 100 universities across the country. So, as the Prime Minister said, it is truly a People’s Presidency.

imbalance with regard to Africa. The G20 has only one African country that is South Africa. So, first of all, India has tried to redress this deficit by inviting 3 out of our 8 special guests or invitees from Africa — Mauritius, Egypt, and Nigeria. India has also addressed the deficit in a sustainable and lasting manner by ensuring full membership of the African Union in the G20. I think this was one a major achievement of India’s Presidency and a major outcome of the New Delhi Summit. In addition, it sits very well with India’s overall theme of ‘Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam’, or ‘One Earth, One Family, One Future’. It also resonates brilliantly with our cross-cutting priority of the Global South. In fact, this is the first expansion of G20 in the 24 years of its existence since 1999 and hence I think it is a major achievement and something that we should be proud of.

The G20 is broadly balanced between developed and developing countries or Emerging Markets and Developing Countries (EMDCs). However, there was a big
J&K’s Wholehearted Contribution in G20

The G20 Tourism Working Group meeting that took place in Srinagar in May, I believe, was a historic event. 57 representatives from 27 countries participated in it and the event was a success. Our administrative colleagues cooperated enthusiastically, while the people of Jammu and Kashmir, more than one crore 30 lakh citizens, have contributed fully in making that event a success. It is being discussed not only in the entire country but also outside the country. It is clearly visible that after this meeting our tourist influx has increased significantly and especially the foreign tourist influx has increased by 59 per cent. Jammu and Kashmir has not only achieved success in organising international-level events but has also achieved new milestones. Today Jammu and Kashmir is globally connected.

I heartily thank the people associated with this event. An important meeting of G20 was recently held in Delhi, in which the Heads of States participated. The Prime Minister has given a message to the whole world – ‘One Earth, One Family, One Future’ which has been appreciated by the whole world. I think the way India undertook Vaccine Maitri during Covid has increased India’s fame all over the world. The New Delhi Summit was successful and the G20 countries were able to take a positive stance on global problems such as environmental challenges, economic development, terrorism, and economy. A new identity of India has been created and after this meeting I feel that India will be able to establish its identity as a global superpower. On my own behalf and on behalf of the public, I express my gratitude to the Prime Minister.

Democratization of G20– India’s Uniqueness

This is the 18th G20 Summit but there has not been any which has been so democratic, reaching out to more than a billion people in India and inviting the world to visit and see India and participate in different parts of India. I think there should be no doubt that what we have done is game changing and I hope that this will be the way the other G20 countries will also take it. We also helped create other groups in areas of civil society interest, the youth, technology, research, women and spirituality. Inclusivity, or if I may say democratising the G20 has really been a hallmark of India’s run up to the Summit and India’s Presidency. When the G20 organising team came up with India’s G20 logo, some people said that we should patent or trademark this and that only those who take permission should be allowed to use it. But it was decided to give the logo to our partners. Today, it has become such a common public good for people. That is the reason why, the man on the street knows about this. The people are happy that India is being recognised by the world. They are happy that their country is a country of great importance in the world.
INDIA'S SPORTING PROWESS ON THE GLOBAL STAGE

"India displayed her best ever performance this time in World University Games held in China. Our players won 26 medals in all, out of which 11 were Gold Medals. If we add all the medals won in these Games that have been held since 1959, this number reaches only 18, whereas this time our players won 26 medals."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi (in ‘Mann ki Baat’ address)

The country has produced exceptional athletes and achieved success in various sports. Support from organisations like Sports Authority of India (SAI) and Athletics Federation of India (AFI), along with Government initiatives, has been crucial. At the World Athletics Championships 2023 in Budapest, Neeraj Chopra won India's first-ever World Athletics Championships gold medal in Men's Javelin. Along with that, the Men's 4x400m Relay Team, consisting of Muhammed Anas Yahhya, Amoj Jacob, Muhammed Ajmal, and Rajesh Ramesh, achieved a remarkable feat by breaking the Asian record and securing a 5th-place finish. India's journey in the World University Games has also been nothing short of inspiring. Abhidnya Patil secured the gold medal in Air Pistol Shooting whereas Priyanka Goswami clinched silver in Race Walking.

Amlan Borgohain ran his best time of the season to win bronze in the men's 200m event and Pragati bagged gold and silver for India in Archery. Chess prodigy R Praggnanandhaa finished second in FIDE 2023 World Cup.
“I am very happy that PM sir personally talked to every athlete and I feel so good about India’s development in sports that we are being noticed by the Prime Minister. He motivated and encouraged us to go ahead and bring more medals for India and I hope that I will bring glory to India in the upcoming 2024 Olympics. I have always wanted to play for the country and the Sports Authority of India is doing so much for the athletes. Initiatives like Khelo India Youth Games, Khelo India University Games and Target Olympic Podium Scheme have been a huge support to the athletes.”

Abhidnya Patil, Air Pistol Gold medallist

“It felt good to be encouraged by the Prime Minister for World University Games because people know about the Olympics, Commonwealth, Asian Games but very few know about the World University Games. We are getting support from our family as well as the Sports Ministry, Sports Authority of India and Government of India. I thank everyone for the encouragement. The atmosphere towards sports has changed because this time the medal tally of University Games is the highest and before our departure, University Games were not as recognised as they are now.”

Priyanka Goswami, Race Walking Silver medallist

“I was thrilled to have a conversation with the Prime Minister. His inspirational words and his personal interaction with athletes are truly motivating. He shared valuable tips on maintaining our mental well-being. I’m currently at the National Camp located in Pune, specifically at the Army School Institute. Here, we athletes don’t have to worry about anything related to our training. This centralised support system allows us to focus solely on our practice. The Prime Minister’s commitment to encouraging our nation’s athletes is remarkable.”

Amlan Borgohain, Sprinting Bronze medallist

“In May 2020, I fell seriously ill, and I received incredible support from the Government and Khelo India. My coaches were instrumental in motivating me to recover and regain my strength. I owe my success to my coaches, SAI, Khelo India, and my parents, who supported me. Khelo India has played a pivotal role in my journey, and I’ve participated in multiple Khelo India games, even ranking fourth in Pune. This achievement earned me a chance to compete in an ISSF tournament in Bangladesh.”

Pragati, Archery Gold medallist
VICTORY LAP FOR MEN’S 4X400M RELAY TEAM

India scripted history at 2023 World Athletics Championships where the Men’s 4x400m Relay team finished 5th at Budapest, Hungary.

“For the first time, India entered the finals and finished fifth. The support from SAI, AFI and the Government have enabled our performance. We now aim for an Olympic medal.”

—Rajesh Ramesh

“I have been training in the SAI – LNCPE under the Central government. The government is taking initiative for the growth of the sector. Year after year the Central Government & SAI have been supporting the athletes.”

—Muhammed Anas Yahiya

“Indians are not inferior to any team, we can do the best, we have the confidence and now are fifth in the world. We are targeting better performance in Asian games.”

—Muhammad Ajmal

PRAGGNANANDHA’S CHESS BRILLIANCE SHINES

Another great achievement was by 18-year-old Chess prodigy R Praggnanandha whose brilliant performance in the International Chess Federation (FIDE) World Cup, made him world’s youngest player to reach the Chess World Cup final. He has also become the second Indian after Viswanathan Anand to reach the final in Chess World Cup history.

“Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa met the Prime Minister at his residence and thanked him for his words of encouragement.

“I am very happy to know that my name has been taken in ‘Mann ki Baat’ and I think this way a lot of people will recognise chess and I’m thankful to our honourable Prime Minister. We had a very nice conversation. I really enjoyed discussing various things with him regarding my chess training and the tournament. To the young chess players, I would advise them to play without any fear which is very important.”

—Amoj Jacob
India’s linguistic diversity, boasting over 19,000 languages and 1,369 recognized mother tongues, reflects its rich culture and history. This diversity promotes inclusivity and cultural pluralism while preserving unique literature, art, music, and traditions associated with each language. Languages like Sanskrit and Telugu have profoundly influenced Indian culture.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted this linguistic importance in the 104th episode of ‘Mann ki Baat’, mentioning World Sanskrit Day and Telugu Language Day.

**SANSKRIT**

The Linguistic Treasure of Ancient India

For thousands of years, Sanskrit has preserved the ancient knowledge of Indian civilization. Sanskrit, spanning millennia, safeguards India’s ancient wisdom and heritage. Its preservation transcends language; it safeguards India’s history and cultural wealth, ensuring accessibility for generations. Therefore, promoting and preserving this ancient language is vital for India’s holistic development. The government instituted World Sanskrit Day, observed on Sravana Poornima (Poornima Day), which celebrated in 1969 for the first time. In 2023, World Sanskrit Day was observed on August 31, 2023.

**TELUGU**

From Classical Roots to Modern Resonance

Telugu, the Dravidian language native to Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, serves as the official language in these states and is also designated as one of India’s classical languages. With a literary heritage spanning centuries, Telugu has gained international acclaim, leading to the establishment of dedicated university departments worldwide. Rooted in rich cultural traditions, Telugu’s folk literature and performing arts offer insights into the region’s history. Telugu language and culture continue to thrive, serving as wellsprings of creativity and enriching India’s diverse cultural landscape. Telugu Language Day, celebrated annually on August 29, coincides with the birth anniversary of the eminent Telugu poet, writer, and linguist, Shri Gidugu Venkata Ramamurthy.

Telugu is the 4th most spoken language in India with about 8.11 crore native speakers (as per the 2011 Census).

- The Government of India has announced to provide Medical and Engineering education in regional languages including Telugu.

- The Indian Government has authorized multiple SSC examinations to be conducted in 13 regional languages, including Telugu, starting from January 2024.

In 2008, the Indian Government recognised Telugu as a classical language.

‘Rajasekhara Charitramu’ is the first book that was printed in Telugu.
SAMSKRIT PROMOTION FOUNDATION

"Researchers in fields like Yoga, Ayurveda, and philosophy are increasingly learning Sanskrit. Institutes like the Sanskrit Promotion Foundation offer specialized courses in Sanskrit for Yoga, Ayurveda, and Buddhism."

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi (in ‘Mann ki Baat’ address)

The Samskrit Promotion Foundation (SPF) is a dynamic organisation committed to revitalising Sanskrit. SPF collaborates closely with academic institutions, NGOs, and diverse sections of society to promote Sanskrit education. Recognising Sanskrit’s historical significance in India’s rise and cultural preservation, SPF offers accessible courses for people of all backgrounds. Their unique “Sanskrit for Specific Purpose” programme enables professionals to explore Sanskrit based on their interests through an E-learning platform.

Provides more than 26 unique courses on Sanskrit

Translated Mathematics, Science and Social Sciences NCERT textbooks of class 1st-10th to Sanskrit

Facilitating more than 20,000 students through Sanskrit tutorial

Transformed 4 remote villages into vibrant Sanskrit Gram

Propagating Sanskrit through 4,500 centres across 26 countries worldwide

Organised the first ever World Sanskrit Book Fair @Bangalore in 2011 and Sahityotsava @Ujjain later in 2013

Trained over 1 crore people in Sanskrit through 1.2 lakh Sambhashan Shibir and trained over 1,35,000 teachers

SAMSKRITA BHARATI

“Much ancient knowledge of India has been preserved in the Sanskrit language for thousands of years, and organizations like ‘Samskrita Bharati’ run campaigns to teach Sanskrit to people, ensuring the continued accessibility and dissemination of this valuable heritage.”

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi (in ‘Mann ki Baat’ address)

Founded in 1981, Samskrita Bharati is a non-profit organisation dedicated to preserving, promoting, and sharing the Sanskrit language, its rich literature, traditions, and knowledge systems. Samskrita Bharati extends its reach across state capitals, district headquarters, and grassroots levels to promote Sanskrit education and ensure its widespread availability. They collaborate with global Sanskrit institutions to facilitate the worldwide dissemination of Sanskrit knowledge.
Imparting Knowledge and Preserving Culture through Sanskrit

Sanskrit is undeniably an important language of India. Since India gained independence, Sanskrit has played a pivotal role in coining new words in all Indian languages, particularly in fields like science and technology. Many Sanskrit words have been integrated into Indian languages in the past, and they continue to be in use today. When Indian languages share common words and phrases, it facilitates better understanding among people. Moreover, the sound and sentence structures of many Indian languages bear a resemblance to Sanskrit. Therefore, the incorporation of Sanskrit words into Indian languages can contribute to their further development and refinement.

The Ministry of Education has established a specialized division known as the Department of Indian Knowledge Traditions, also referred to as the Indian Knowledge System. Recently, they introduced the National Education Policy, NEP-2020, which emphasizes the inclusion of lessons about Indian knowledge traditions in all school subjects and higher education. The responsibility for implementing this policy falls under the purview of the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) department. Additionally, research centres are being set up in various parts of the country under the IKS department, with funds being provided for research projects. Currently, people are accessing Indian knowledge in languages other than Sanskrit, but it is advisable to delve into it in Sanskrit, as that is the original language. The primary focus of the IKS department is on conducting research and applying its findings to the subject matter.

Thinking about the youth, I would like to mention that if you search for Indian Knowledge System on Google, you can find more information on the website called AICTE. In today’s technologically advanced world, there are numerous tools available for translating different languages. These tools can translate text, speech, and even conversations. Some of these tools have been developed by organizations such as AICTE and IIT Mumbai. Currently, English is often used as an intermediary language during translation. This presents an excellent opportunity for Sanskrit scholars to establish Sanskrit as an intermediary language in the translation process. By using Sanskrit as a medium, translators can enhance the quality of translations, opening up numerous job opportunities in the future for those proficient in Sanskrit.

I would like to share two important messages with you. First and foremost, Sanskrit scholars should incorporate the use of the Sanskrit language into their everyday lives—whether at home, work or while interacting with others. Sanskrit should become an integral part of all aspects of our lives, including business and social situations. It’s essential, however, to use simple Sanskrit that is easily comprehensible to everyone, rather than the complex Sanskrit, used by experts. This approach will bridge the gap between the language spoken by the common people and the poetic and classical Sanskrit.

Secondly, those of us who hold a deep affection for Sanskrit must take proactive steps. We cannot rely solely on large corporations like Google or Microsoft, or the Government, to do everything for promoting Sanskrit. Instead, we must focus our efforts across various domains. Furthermore, we need to reshape people’s perceptions about Sanskrit. Institutions cannot confine their efforts within their own boundaries; they must reach out to society and share Sanskrit with everyone. Only then will the profound knowledge contained in Sanskrit become accessible to all.

Recently, on August 31, 2023, the world celebrated ‘World Sanskrit Day.’ During his address on ‘Mann ki Baat,’ Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated and discussed the various campaigns and efforts of ‘Samskrita Bharati,’ an organization aimed at increasing awareness about Sanskrit. Our Doordarshan team talked to Chamu Krishna Shastry, the Co-founder of ‘Samskrita Bharati’ about the importance of Sanskrit language and its contribution in the society.
A Tapestry of Wonders

“I often urge all of you that whenever we get a chance, we must go to see the beauty and diversity of our country. Despite having searched every corner of the world, we are unaware of many best places and things in our own city or State.”

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi (in ‘Mann ki Baat’)

India’s civilization offers a diverse tapestry of experiences. With its rich heritage and numerous attractions, it is a top global tourist destination. It welcomes travellers with the promise of myriad experiences, including cuisines, religions, arts, crafts, music, natural wonders, ethnic communities, and history.

But many a times, people are not aware of the historical places of their own city. In 104th ‘Mann ki Baat’, the Prime Minister shared inspiring stories of Dhanpal and Brian D. Kharpran, who are promoting unexplored heritage sites if India.

“Since the 1990s, I’ve been part of an extraordinary cave exploration journey in Meghalaya. Our team, the Meghalaya Adventurers’ Association, has uncovered 1,700 caves, some among the longest and deepest in India, including a 31-km cave and the world’s longest sandstone cave at 25.3 km. We’ve mapped 537 km of cave passages.

Our journey began with limited equipment and expertise, at the same time, British cavers arrived in Meghalaya. Sparking international collaboration, we shared knowledge, organised joint expeditions, and since 1995, we have conducted international cave expeditions as part of the Abode of the Clouds Project, benefiting from expertise and equipment while assisting our British friends.

There’s potential for multiple areas to connect, forming a massive cave system. Every expedition reveals 20 to 30 new caves. Caving in Meghalaya remains an ongoing journey of exploration, scientific discovery, and a deep appreciation for the hidden underground world.”

Brian D. Kharpran, Meghalaya
THE JOURNEY OF A DRIVER TURNED EPIGRAPHIST AND HISTORIAN

“I served 17 years as a driver and guide for Bangalore Darshani Tours from 2006 until my retirement three months ago at the Bangalore Transport Service. On our dedicated bus ‘Bangalore Darshani’, my role was to share the city’s rich history and explain inscriptions to visitors.

During these tours, passengers often asked about the intriguing names of Bengaluru’s roads, concealing hidden histories known mainly to historians and inscription enthusiasts. One notable inquiry was about Sankey Tank. Though, I didn’t initially have the answer, subsequent research revealed it was named after a Chief Engineer in the Mysore Government who built a lake. This incident fuelled my passion to uncover more historical mysteries. To gain a deeper understanding, I immersed myself in Bengaluru’s history, pursued a diploma in epigraphy, and delved into the history of each location.

After retirement, I’m dedicated to sharing the significance of inscriptions with a broader audience. I’ve had the privilege of learning from distinguished historians, including Dr. Devarakonda Reddy, the President of Karnataka Itihasa Academy.

To decode inscriptions, I refer to various works by BL. Rice, a British historian, archaeologist, and educationist, aiding in their translation and understanding. Alongside my mentor, Narasimha Sahab, we’ve explored numerous sites, discovering 100-120 inscriptions. Our ultimate goal is to install informative boards at these locations, ensuring this historical treasure is accessible to all, including villages, temples, and schools.”

Dhanpal, Bengaluru

EXPLORE AND PROMOTE THE HIDDEN GEMS OF YOUR CITY

- Plan themed city **walking tours** with friends or family. Themes can include history, street art, or food
- Organise a **picnic or gathering** at an offbeat location. Discover its hidden stories, capture memories, and enjoy with loved ones
- Discover and promote talented **local artisans, offering workshops** for people to learn and create together
- Plan **community events** in less-explored city areas, such as art exhibitions, cultural festivals, or music performances
- Discover hidden **history** of the city through **research**, local historians, and site visits. Share lesser-known stories
- Organise **photography contests** featuring unexplored city locations to inspire people to discover and capture hidden gems
- Create a **website or use social media** to highlight hidden gems. Share articles, videos, podcasts & encourage community contributions
- Share photos of lesser-explored sites and **encourage others to participate**. Encourage friends and relatives from other cities to showcase their area’s unexplored beauty
- Initiate a social media campaign using #KnowYourCityKnowYourIndia hashtag & invite friends to share their discoveries
BALANCING PROGRESS AND NATURE
SUSTAINABLE DAIRY PRACTICES IN INDIA

The significance of the dairy sector extends far beyond mere economic statistics, as it has been a catalyst for profound transformations in the lives of countless women. It has empowered mothers and sisters across India, providing them with not only a source of livelihood but also an avenue for economic independence and social advancement. Sustainable practices in dairy farming have emerged as a beacon of hope for both the industry and the planet. These practices not only prioritise the well-being of dairy cattle but also seek to reduce resource consumption, minimise waste, and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

VARANASI MILK UNION’S SUSTAINABLE COMPOSTING

Manure management involves the efficient collection, treatment, and utilisation of organic waste to enhance soil fertility and reduce environmental impacts. By adopting methods like composting, biogas production, and vermicomposting, India’s agricultural sector promotes circular economy principles, minimises waste, mitigates greenhouse gas emissions, and contributes to sustainable and resilient food production systems. Varanasi Milk Union is dedicated to enhancing dairy farmers’ income through effective manure management, turning waste into wealth while promoting sustainable agricultural practices.

MALABAR MILK UNION’S AYURVEDIC ANIMAL MEDICINE

Ayurvedic medicine for animals combines ancient wisdom with modern farming. It employs natural remedies from the holistic Indian system to enhance dairy livestock’s well-being, aiding digestion, immunity, and overall health. By reducing synthetic antibiotics and chemicals, it fosters animal welfare and sustainability. This aligns with eco-friendly farming, ensuring high-quality dairy products while nurturing a healthier ecosystem. Malabar Milk Union Dairy is using natural remedies, reducing reliance on synthetic drugs and antibiotics, minimising environmental impact, and focusing on holistic animal health.

“Disease management is a major issue faced by dairy farmers. To fight the issue, we’ve developed an Ayurveda medicine cooperating with NDBD. We developed and popularised Ethnoveterinary Medicine, a ready-to-use medicine which is being produced commercially and distributed in different States. This ayurvedic medicine will tackle diseases in cattle like the lumpy skin disease.”

— KS Mani, Chairman, Malabar Regional Co-operative Milk Producers’ Union
BANAS DAIRY'S SEEDBALL TREE PLANTING

Seedball tree planting is an innovative and eco-friendly approach to reforesting and preserving the environment. By encapsulating tree seeds in nutrient-rich balls, these green initiatives promote sustainable afforestation, combat deforestation, and contribute to India’s biodiversity conservation efforts. Banas Dairy’s Seedball Tree Planting initiative exemplifies their commitment to environmental stewardship. Through this innovative project, they sow the seeds of sustainability by distributing seedballs in various regions.

GAU ORGANICS SUSTAINABLE BIOGAS FARMING

Sustainable dairy farming via biogas is revolutionising agriculture by capturing Methane from cow manure and organic waste, curbing emissions and supplying clean energy. Biogas systems transform waste into valuable resources, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and power farms while reducing reliance on fossil fuels. The nutrient-rich digestate left behind serves as eco-friendly fertiliser, enhancing soil fertility and crop production. Gau organics in Kota, Rajasthan is taking efficient steps towards environment and increased income for farmers.

We founded Gau Organics in 2016. Our focus was to make the dairy industry more sustainable. Farmers used to face a lot of power problems. We used technology and installed two 40 KW biogas plants to make our dairy farm sustainable. Due to this, the farmers are no longer just dependent on milk business for income. We generate revenue from cow dung, vermicompost, vermiwash, and through earthworms. Electricity generated through biogas can prove beneficial for a farmer. Today, we can guide farmers to make dairy business more sustainable and profitable. Apart from milk, focus should be on cow dung, cow urine, and biogas generated from them. As more educated farmers join this whole campaign, a different ecosystem and new business opportunity will open in the agriculture and dairy industry.

—Amanpreet Singh, Co-founder, Gau Organics

—Shankar Chaudhary, Chairman, Banas Dairy of Gujarat
Women have handled key roles in space programme, says PM

PM Modi, in an interview, strongly defended women's roles in space programmes. He said that in space, women are just as important as men. He further added that women have been doing essential roles in space programmes, including launching satellites and conducting research. He praised women for their contribution and said that they have played a vital role in making India's space programme a success.

B'luru history buff in PM's Mann Ki Baat

A feature on retired Bengaluru Metrorail Transport Corporation (BMRCL) employee, a B'luru history buff, is now being broadcast in Mann Ki Baat. The show is on the role of women in the space programme. The show was hosted by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi. The show highlighted the importance of women in the space programme and how they have contributed to the success of India's space programme.

Inviting Africa to India's space programme

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, has invited African countries to participate in India's space programme. He said that India is open to collaborating with African countries in the field of space technology and hopes to establish strong ties with them.

Sanskrit has preserved India's ancient knowledge: PM

PM Modi, during his Mann Ki Baat, spoke about the importance of Sanskrit in preserving India's ancient knowledge. He highlighted the role of Sanskrit in the development of modern languages and said that it is an important component of India's cultural heritage.

India's space programme's future

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, has spoken about India's space programme in Mann Ki Baat. He said that the programme is moving in the right direction and is achieving its goals. He added that India is working towards self-reliance in the field of space technology and hopes to achieve many more milestones in the future.
चंद्रयान-3 मिशन की सफलता नए भारत के जगह का प्रतीक

मातीतील खेलामध्ये भारत पुढे हुईं

चांद पट भी उगाते हैं संकल्प के दूरजन: मोदी
PM Modi hails Indian athletes' performance at World University Games in Mann Ki Baat

Hindustan Times
Mann ki Baat: Meet Meghalaya’s Brian D Kharpran who found special mention on PM Modi’s show

Outlook
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