

# NEWSLETTER

(BRINGING YOU THE LATEST NEWS ON INDIA AND INDIA-ZAMBIA RELATIONS)



HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA  
LUSAKA

January 2024

**BHARAT SANDESH**

Issue- 16

## India celebrates 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day

**Hon'ble President Smt. Droupadi Murmu Addresses the Nation on the eve of 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day**



My Dear Fellow Citizens,

Namaskar!

My heartiest greetings to all of you on the eve of the 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day! My heart is filled with pride when I look back and see how far we have travelled despite adversities. The 75th year of the Republic is truly a historic milestone in the journey of the nation in many ways. This is an especially festive occasion, just as we celebrated the unique greatness and diverse culture of our nation during the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, when we completed 75 years of Independence.

The nation is in the early years of Amrit Kaal, the period leading to the centenary of Independence. This is the time of an epochal transformation. We are given a golden opportunity to take the country to new heights. Contribution from every citizen will be crucial to achieve our goals. For this, I will appeal to all my fellow citizens to abide by our Fundamental Duties enshrined in the Constitution. These duties are essential obligations of every citizen towards making Bharat a developed nation when it completes 100 years of independence. Here, I think of Mahatma Gandhi who had rightly said, “No people have risen who thought only of rights. Only those did so who thought of duties.”

Our National festivals are momentous occasions when we together look back and look ahead. If we look at the year since the last Republic Day, there is much to be pleased about. The successful organising of the Group of 20 Summit in the capital, under India's presidency, was an unprecedented achievement. What was all the more noteworthy was the way the people were involved in the G20 events. The ideas and inputs travelled not downwards from the top but upwards from the bottom. The magnificent event provided lessons for all in making citizens participants in strategic and diplomatic matters that are, in the final analysis, going to shape their own future. The G20 Summit also boosted India's emergence as the voice of the Global South, adding a necessary element to the international discourse.

My Dear Fellow Citizens,

India is moving ahead with confidence, which comes from and is also reflected by the robust health of the economy. Our GDP growth rate has remained the highest among major economies in recent years, and we have all reasons to believe that this extraordinary performance will continue in the year 2024 and beyond. What I find particularly noteworthy is that the same farsighted planning that fuels the economy has also given a push to the welfare drive to make the development inclusive in every sense of the term. The government had increased the scope of schemes to provide free food to the weaker sections of society during the pandemic days. These measures were later continued to extend a helping hand to the vulnerable population to come out of that crisis. Expanding the scope of that initiative, the government has decided to provide free food grains to over 81 crore people for five years. This may be the biggest welfare initiative of its kind in history.

In recent times, many conflicts have emerged around the world and several parts of it have been suffering from violence. When each of the two conflicting sides believes that it is right and the other is wrong, the way out should be found in the light of reason. Unfortunately, instead of reason, fears and prejudices have fueled passions, leading to relentless violence. There have been a series of humanitarian tragedies on a large scale, and we feel aggrieved over the human suffering. In such times, we recall Lord Buddha's words:

न हि वेरेन वेरानि, सम्मन्तीध कुदाचनम्  
अवेरेन च सम्मन्ति, एस धम्मो सनन्तनो

It means: "Not at any time are enmities appeased here through enmity but they are appeased through non-enmity. This is the eternal law."

India's ancient wisdom can also help the world find a way out of the global environmental crisis. I am glad to see India at the forefront of promoting renewable sources of energy and taking a leadership position in global climate action. India has launched the 'LiFE Movement' for adoption of environment-conscious lifestyle. The global community has appreciated our country's emphasis on individual behaviour-change for dealing with the issues of climate change. People everywhere can and must contribute by bringing their lifestyle in tune with Mother Nature. That will not only help save the planet for the generations to come but will also enhance the quality of life.

The period of Amrit Kaal is also going to be the period of unprecedented technological changes. Technological advances like Artificial Intelligence and machine learning have moved from headlines into our daily lives at a breathtaking speed. There are numerous areas of concern in the foreseeable future, but there are also exciting opportunities ahead, especially for the youth. They are exploring new frontiers. We need to do all we can to remove hurdles from their path and let them unleash their full potential. What they want is equality of opportunity. What they want is not the same old rhetoric of equality, but the realisation of our cherished ideal of equality.

It is, after all, their confidence that is building the India of tomorrow. Moreover, the mind of the youth is shaped by teachers, who are the real architects of the nation's future. I would also like to make a thankful mention of our farmers and labourers who toil silently and make a mighty contribution to creating a better future for the nation. On the eve of this auspicious occasion, India also gratefully salutes the members of our Armed Forces, Police and Para-military Forces, without whose valour and vigil we would not have scaled the great heights we have.

Before I conclude, let me offer my greetings to the members of the judiciary and civil services. My Republic Day greetings to the officials of India's missions abroad and the diaspora community! Let us all dedicate ourselves to serve the nation and fellow citizens in every way we can. My best wishes to all of you in this endeavour.

**Read more :** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1999687>



## Glimpses of 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day Celebrations



(Photo Courtesy : Press Information Bureau, Govt. of India)



## Glimpses of 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day Celebrations



(Photo Courtesy : Press Information Bureau, Govt. of India)

## Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi Inaugurates 10<sup>th</sup> Edition of Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit



Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi inaugurated the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024 at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The theme of this year's summit is 'Gateway to the Future' and included the participation of 34 partner countries and 16 partner organizations. Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister started by conveying his greeting for 2024. He reiterated the pledge to make India 'viksit' by 2047, making the next 25 years 'Amrit Kaal' of the country. "It is time for new dreams, new resolutions and continuous accomplishments", he said. He noted the significance of the first Vibrant Gujarat Summit of the 'Amrit Kaal'.

India is moving forward in the role of a 'Vishwa Mitra' in a fast-changing world. Today India has given the world confidence in achieving common collective goals. India's commitment, efforts and hard work for global welfare is making the world safer and prosperous. The World looks at India as an important pillar of stability. A friend who can be trusted, a partner who believes in people-centric development, a voice that believes in global good, an engine of growth in the global economy, a technology hub for finding solutions, a powerhouse of talented youth and a democracy that delivers", said the Prime Minister.

"The priorities and aspirations of India's 1.4 billion citizens and their belief in human-centric development coupled with the government's commitment to inclusivity and equality is a major aspect of world prosperity and development", the Prime Minister remarked. Today, the Prime Minister mentioned that India is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world while it lagged at 11<sup>th</sup> position 10 years ago. He also underlined that in the next few years, India will go on to become one of the top 3 economies in the world, as predicted by various rating agencies in the world. "Experts can analyze this, but I guarantee that India will become the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest economy in the world", Prime Minister emphasized. He further added that India has become a ray of hope for the world at a time when the world has witnessed multiple geopolitical instabilities. Reflecting on India's priorities whose glimpse can be seen in the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit, the Prime Minister mentioned sustainable industries, manufacturing and infrastructure, new age skills, futuristic technologies, AI and innovation, green hydrogen, renewable energy, and semiconductors. Prime Minister urged everyone to visit the trade show in Gujarat, especially the school and college students. Speaking about spending time in this trade show with His Excellency Nyusi and His Excellency Ramos Horta, the Prime Minister said that the trade show has showcased products made with world-class state-of-the-art technology in sectors like E-Mobility, Start-Ups, Blue Economy, Green Energy and Smart Infrastructure. He said that new opportunities are constantly being created for investment in all these sectors.

**Read more :** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1994793>



## Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi Inaugurates Atal Bihari Vajpayee Sewri-Nhava Sheva 'Atal Setu' in Navi Mumbai

**“ Today, the country has got one of the largest sea bridges in the world, the huge Atal Setu**  
This is also proof of our resolve that for India's development, we can even collide with the ocean and break the waves

PM Modi Lays Foundation Stone, Inaugurates Development Works at Navi Mumbai  
12 Jan 2024



**“ Today India's development is happening on two tracks simultaneously. On one hand, there are mega-campaigns to improve the lives of the poor, while on the other hand, mega-projects are going on in every corner of the country**

PM Modi Lays Foundation Stone, Inaugurates Development Works at Navi Mumbai  
12 Jan 2024



**First-of-its-kind FEATURES!**

- 1,11,700 MT Reinforcement Steel  
Equivalent to 14 Eiffel towers!
- Largest steel deck
- 1,16,000 MT Structural Steel  
Equivalent to 4 Howrah Bridges
- 85,000 km Steel Wires  
Equal to 2 trips around the equator
- AI-powered traffic monitoring




Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi inaugurated Atal Bihari Vajpayee Sewri-Nhava Sheva **Atal Setu** in Navi Mumbai on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Atal Setu has been constructed at the cost of more than Rs 17,840 crores and is about a 21.8 km long 6-lane bridge having about 16.5 km length over the sea and about 5.5 km on the land. Atal Setu has been constructed at a total cost of more than Rs 17,840 crore. It is about a 21.8 km long 6-lane bridge having about 16.5 km length over the sea and about 5.5 km on the land. It is the longest bridge in India and also the longest sea bridge in India. It will provide faster connectivity to Mumbai International Airport and Navi Mumbai International Airport and will also reduce the travel time from Mumbai to Pune, Goa and South India. It will also improve connectivity between Mumbai Port & Jawaharlal Nehru Port.

## Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi Addresses NCC Cadets and NSS Volunteers

**“ Daughters have the ability to improve the society and country.**  
In different periods of history, the daughters of India have laid the foundation of many big changes with their intent & dedication

PM Modi's interaction with NCC & NSS Volunteers  
24 Jan 2024



Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi addressed the NCC Cadets and NSS Volunteers on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Prime Minister reiterated that 'Nation First' should be the guiding principle of the Amrit Generation. The Prime Minister also told the young audience never to allow despair to set in their lives. Stressing the importance of every small contribution, Prime Minister, stressed “Yahi Samay hai Sahi Samay hai, Ye Aapka Samay Hai - This is the right time, this is your time.” Stressing the importance of the present moment, the Prime Minister asked the youth to impart strength to their resolve to achieve the goal of Viksit Bharat and to expand the horizon of knowledge so that Indian geniuses could give new direction to the world and gain new capabilities so that India could solve the world's problems. He elaborated on the steps for creating new avenues for youth to

realize their full potential and mentioned creating new opportunities in newly opened sectors. Shri Modi gave examples of creating new opportunities in the space sector, push towards Ease of Doing Business, creating a private sector in the defence industry, establishing the National Research Foundation and creating modern educational facilities to cater to the 21st century. The Prime Minister also mentioned reforming the education system in India which allows attaining higher education in the mother tongue and not being bound to a particular stream or subject. Encouraging the youth to engage in research and innovation, the Prime Minister mentioned Atal Tinkering Labs which inspire creativity and innovation. He underlined that the government has created new opportunities for girl students who want to make a career by joining the army. “Now, girl students can also be admitted to various Sainik schools”, the Prime Minister said urging them to move forward with full confidence. “Your efforts, your vision, your potential will take India to new heights, he added.

**Read more :** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1999185>

## Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi Addresses All India Presiding Officers' Conference



Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi addressed the All India Presiding Officers' Conference on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Reflecting on the importance of learning from the Constituent Assembly, Prime Minister stated, "There is much to learn from our Constituent Assembly. Constituent Assembly members had the responsibility to form a consensus among various thoughts, subjects, and opinions, and they lived up to it." Highlighting the role of the attending Presiding Officers, Prime Minister urged them to draw inspiration from the ideals of the Constituent Assembly once again. "In your respective tenures, strive to leave a legacy that can serve as a heritage for future generations", he emphasized.

Speaking on the need to enhance the functionality of legislative bodies, Prime Minister stated, "Enhancing the efficiency of legislative assemblies and committees is crucial in today's scenario where vigilant citizens scrutinize every representative." Addressing the issue of maintaining decorum within legislative bodies, Prime Minister remarked, "The conduct of members in the house and the conducive environment therein directly impact the productivity of the assembly. Concrete suggestions emanating from this conference will be instrumental in enhancing productivity." He added that conduct in the House by the representatives decides the image of the House. He lamented the fact that parties instead of curtailing the objectionable behaviour of their members come out in their support. "This is not a good situation for either the Parliament or the Assemblies", Prime Minister said.

Reflecting on evolving norms in public life, Prime Minister emphasized the need for accountability. "In the past, allegations of corruption against a member of the house would lead to their ostracization from public life. However, we now witness public glorification of convicted corrupt individuals, which is detrimental to the integrity of the executive, the judiciary and the constitution," he remarked. Prime Minister stressed the importance of discussing and providing concrete suggestions on this matter during the conference.

Referring to Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, Prime Minister encouraged discussions on suggestions aimed at enhancing women's participation and representation. "Efforts to empower women and increase their representation must be amplified in committees in a country like India," he stated. Similarly, he stressed the need to increase the participation of youth in the committees. "Our young representatives must get maximum opportunity to put their views and participation in policy-making", he emphasized.

In conclusion, Prime Minister recalled the concept of One Nation-One Legislative Platform put forward in his 2021 address to the Presiding Officers and expressed happiness that Parliament and State Assemblies are working on this goal through E-Vidhan and Digital Sansad Platforms.

**Read more :** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2000048>



## Snapshots on India's Economic Growth

“

**India is focusing on every aspect of semiconductors like never before.**

You need successful tech firms that make money & grow and become world leaders and India has a track record of doing that

**Chris Miller,**  
Author of Chip War



“

**India is at a very special moment for a number of reasons.**

Particularly because it's not burdened by an excessive amount of debt and it is now at the takeoff point

**Ray Dalio,**  
Founder of Bridgewater



“

**There is a lot of optimism about India.**

Be it demographics, cost of living, easing inflation, spending power of the country, a lot of things are going really strong for India

**Ling Hai**  
President of Asia Pacific, Europe, Middle East & Africa, Mastercard



“

**India is making progress on innovation and has piloted new scalable ideas**

India did a great job of using the G20 meeting to highlight the great work they have done & it( Digital Systems) made things in financial transactions, health and education more efficient by avoiding middlemen

**Bill Gates**  
Co-founder of Microsoft



**"India has put a tremendous digital infrastructure**

which will it take an AI leap. There is nothing but upside for India and the world is seeing it.

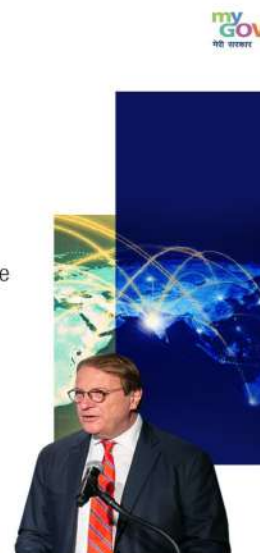
**Bob Moritz,**  
PwC Global Chairperson



**"India will be at the top of the list of countries**

that are going to shape the future. There is no place in the world where you don't find India present in business, politics or technology"

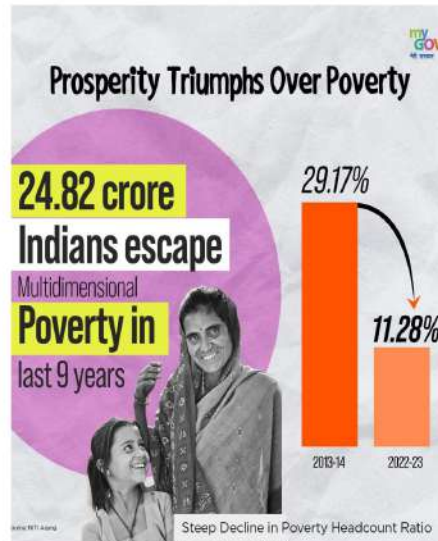
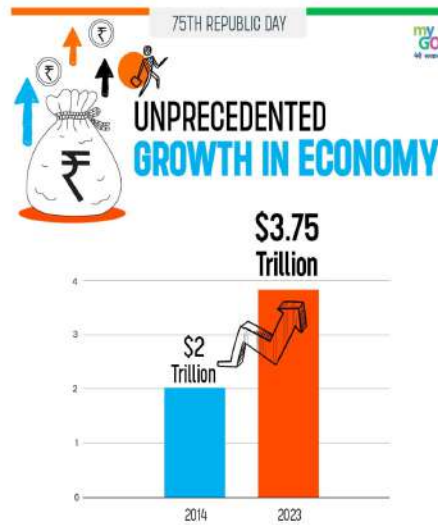
**Fred Kempe**  
President & CEO of Atlantic Council



(Photo Courtesy : MyGov Portal, Govt. of India)



## Snapshots on India's Economic Growth



(Photo Courtesy : MyGov Portal, Govt. of India)



## Snapshots on India's Economic Growth

### Rising FDI and Greenfield Investments

India witnessed a 10% increase in FDI flows in 2022, ranking as the **third-largest** host for greenfield projects globally

Source: UN DESA

### India's Stock Market Set to Defy Expectations

India Shines as Morgan Stanley's Top Pick

Morgan Stanley forecasts **Sensex** to soar to 86,000 by Dec 2024

Goldman Sachs Raises Nifty's Bar

Ups Nifty 2024-end target to 23,500

### Revitalizing the Labour Market

India's labour market shows significant **recovery**, with labour force participation reaching its highest rate since the pandemic began

Source: UN DESA

### A Hub for Investments

2023 marked a year of strong investment performance in India, spurred by government-led infrastructure projects and increasing multinational investments

Source: UN DESA

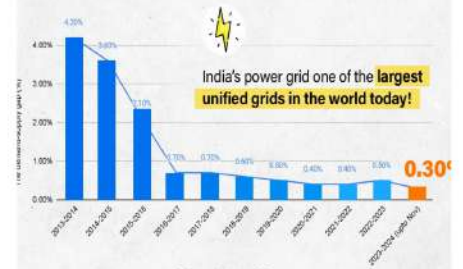
### INDIA'S SUN-SATIONAL SPACE ODYSSEY!

ADITYA-L1, India's first solar observatory

REACHES *its* DESTINATION!!

New India setting new milestones in Space Exploration!

### New India: From Power Deficient to POWER-SUFFICIENT!



### A NEW RECORD IN INDIA'S DIGITAL REVOLUTION

UPI Transactions Cross 100-billion Mark in 2023



### India Among Top 5 in Global Academia

Number of Indian Universities in the World University Rankings 2024



India is the 4th best represented nation in the World University Rankings 2024

### India's Satellite Launches Skyrocket!

Number of Satellites Launched in India



(Photo Courtesy : MyGov Portal, Govt. of India)



## Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi Addresses the 109<sup>th</sup> Episode of 'Mann Ki Baat' (28<sup>th</sup> January 2024)



My dear countrymen, Namaskar. This is the first 'Mann Ki Baat' program of 2024. There is a new enthusiasm, a new wave in Amritkaal. Two days ago, all of us countrymen celebrated the 75th Republic Day with great pomp and fervour. This year our Constitution is also attaining completion of 75 years... and the Supreme Court is also completing 75 years. These festivals of our democracy further strengthen India as the Mother of Democracy.

My dear countrymen, this time the parade of 26th January was awesome, but the most discussed element was seeing Women Power in the Parade... when the women contingents of Central Security Forces and Delhi Police started marching on Kartavya path, everyone was filled with pride. On Seeing the Marching of the women's band and seeing their tremendous coordination, people in the country and abroad were thrilled. This time, out of the 20 contingents that marched in the Parade, 11 were of women. We saw that even in the tableaux that went by, all the artistes were

women. About one and a half thousand daughters took part in the cultural programs that took place. Many female artistes were playing Indian musical instruments like Conch, Nadaswaram and Nagada. The tableau belonging to DRDO also attracted everyone's attention. It showed how woman power is protecting the country in every field - water, land, sky, cyber and space. India of the 21st century is thus moving ahead with the mantra of Women Led Development.

My dear countrymen, in 'Mann Ki Baat' we highlight the efforts of those countrymen who are working selflessly to strengthen the society and the country. In such a situation, when the country has announced the Padma Awards three days ago, it is natural to discuss such people in 'Mann Ki Baat'. This time too, Padma honors have been conferred upon many countrymen who, by connecting with the grassroots, have worked to bring about big changes in the society. Friends, I am very happy that the system of Padma awards has completely changed in the last decade. Now it has become the People's Padma. There have been many changes in the system of conferring the Padma awards. People even have a chance to nominate themselves now. This is the reason why this time 28 times more nominations have been received compared to 2014.

Friends, today it is a matter of enthusiasm for the country that while the voting percentage is decreasing in many countries of the world, the voting percentage in India is increasing. In 1951-52, when elections were held for the first time in the country, only about 45 percent of the voters cast their votes. Today this figure has increased significantly. Not only has the number of voters increased in the country, but turnout has also increased. The government has also made amendments in the law so that our young voters can get more opportunities for registration. I am also happy to notice that many efforts are being made at the community level to increase awareness among voters. At some places people go door to door and tell voters about voting.

My dear countrymen, today India is attaining new heights every day in the world of sports. To excel in the world of sports, it is imperative that players get as many opportunities as possible to play and well organized sports tournaments are held in the country. With this thought in mind, new sports tournaments are being organized in India today. Many innovative efforts have also been undertaken to inspire students and spread awareness about exam related stress. I urge all of you, especially the youth & students to join in record numbers tomorrow. I too would love to talk to you. With these words, I take leave of you in this episode of 'Mann Ki Baat'. See you again soon. Thank you.

**Read more :** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2000167>

## High Commission celebrates 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day



High Commission celebrated the 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024. High Commissioner Mr. Ashok Kumar unfurled the National Flag & read out the address by Hon'ble President Smt. Droupadi Murmu to the nation. Hon'ble Mr. Douglas Syakalima, Minister of Education, Republic of Zambia was the guest of honour. Hon'ble Minister and High Commissioner planted a tree in High Commission premises on the occasion. A special edition on India-Zambia relations was launched. High Commission also set up an India corner showcasing ODOP, handicrafts, Ayurveda items and millets. Cultural performances on patriotic themes were also the part of event. The winners of various activities organised by the High Commission during celebration of Vishwa Hindi Divas were felicitated. A large section of Indian diaspora and friends of India attended the event.



**H.E. Mr. Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia and Mrs. Mutinta Hichilema, the First Lady congratulate on the occasion of 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of India**





## High Commission celebrates Vishwa Hindi Divas (World Hindi Day)




High Commission celebrated Vishwa Hindi Divas on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024. High Commissioner Mr. Ashok Kumar read the message of Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi on the occasion. Various activities viz. poem recital, doha recital etc. were organized during the celebrations.



High Commissioner Mr. Ashok Kumar handed over foodstuff and assorted items to four NGOs viz. Youth in Action for Disability Inclusion in Zambia (YADIZ), Home of Happiness for Children with Disabilities, Little Assisi Special School, Missionaries of Charity, Lusaka as part of charity. The beneficiaries appreciated High Commission's support, expressed their gratitude and urged to continue supporting them (18 January 2024)



## Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi interacts with Students, Teachers and Parents at "Pariksha Pe Charcha 2024"




Stop paying attention to who is doing what around you.

**Keep your Focus on YOU!**


What YOU are,  
What YOU do,  
What YOU practice,  
is what will decide your future.

PM Modi during Pariksha Pe Charcha




No matter how deep the water is, the one who knows how to swim will sail through. In the same way, **no matter how difficult the question paper is**, if you have practised well, you will perform well

PM Modi during Pariksha Pe Charcha



Teachers play an important role in reducing the stress of children. Therefore there should **always be a positive relationship between teachers and students**

PM Modi during Pariksha Pe Charcha



You should **try to practice meditation**, you will not have a problem in the exam hall

PM Modi during Pariksha Pe Charcha



High Commission organised live telecast of Pariksha Pe Charcha interaction by Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi. Students, teachers and Mission's officials witnessed the live telecast of Pariksha Pe Charcha interaction.

## BHARAT TEX 2024

# 11<sup>th</sup> International Engineering Sourcing Show

## Global Exhibition on Services (GES)

 [www.hcizambia.gov.in](http://www.hcizambia.gov.in)



 [www.fb.com/HCIZambia](https://www.facebook.com/HCIZambia)



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