

**G20 SECRETARIAT NEWSLETTER |** April 2023





### वशुंधेव कुटुम्बकम् ONE EARTH • ONE FAMILY • ONE FUTURE





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G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting

MARCH 01-02, 2023 | NEW DELHI

One Earth, One Family, One Future signals the need for unity of purpose as well as the unity of action"

"No group can claim global leadership without listening to those most affected by its decisions"

> Narendra Modi Prime Minister of India

he Indian Presidency hosted the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in two very productive sessions, which covered various dimensions of international cooperation. The meeting saw participation from all the G20 countries and the nine guest countries along with 13 international organizations. The presence of Foreign Ministers of 27 countries, apart from India, the chair, and two countries - the Republic of Korea

and Japan that were represented at the Vice Minister, the Minister of State level, made it the largest gathering of Foreign Ministers hosted by the G20 presidency.

The meeting began with a virtual address by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in which he offered strong guidance on what the Foreign Ministers should do at the meeting. To sum up what the Prime Minister said during the address, there were five important points.





One, he noted that multilateralism is under strain today, due to ongoing conflicts, and inability to foster international cooperation, which were its two primary tasks, it had failed. The second point he had made was that it was important to give a voice to the Global South, because the world was seeing a lot of countries actually regressing on their Sustainable Development Goals pathway.

The third point he made was that the discussions, which were just beginning at that time, were affected by the geopolitical tensions of the day, but he asked all Foreign Ministers to remember that they had a responsibility for those who were not in the room. Therefore, he urged to draw inspiration from India's civilizational ethos and focus not on what divides us but on what unites us. He then spoke about the challenges that should be addressed, which included, the impact of the pandemic, the lives lost in natural disasters, the breakdown of global supply chains, debt and financial crisis, challenges of resilience in healthcare systems, in infrastructure, in economies, and finally, he asked the Foreign Ministers to trust in the collective wisdom and ability, and to rise above their differences.

There were two sessions during the meeting and the discussions ranged from strengthening multilateralism,



ensuring food and energy security, and development cooperation. The second session was on counterterrorism, global skill mapping, humanitarian assistance and disaster response, as well as womenled development. The G20 ministers agreed to issue a common position where the G20 as a group came together and arrived at a consensus on many important issues which was adopted as a Chair Summary and Outcome Document.

The key takeaways from the Outcome Document and discussions include the strong sentiment which G20 countries expressed on the need to strengthen







"I commend the Indian Presidency and Foreign Minister Jaishankar for securing G20 consensus on a broad set of agreements"

Antony J. Blinken U.S. Secretary of State



UK stand united as friends and partners" **James Cleverly** 

"India and the

Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom



"The Indian presidency of the G20 rightly recalls that we have one world, one family and one future. To deliver successfully, we need to work together"

Josep Borrell **Fontelles** 

High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs

multilateralism in the context of the dramatic changes in the global order. The G20 recognized in the context of the UN, the essentiality of reforms and the need for reinvigorated multilateralism. Two, the important principles of international development cooperation, such as host country ownership, equal partnerships, tailoring such cooperation efforts with local needs, these were some aspects highlighted by the G20. They also touched upon the need for the Multilateral Development Banks to mobilize additional financing and welcomed efforts to provide additional financing for Sustainable Development Goals.

The Outcome Document also stressed upon the need to have reliable food and fertilizer supply chains as well as resilient and sustainable energy supply chains, which is a very important message in the context of global food and energy insecurity. The Foreign Ministers unequivocally condemned terrorism in all forms and manifestations and recognized that all acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable. They called for strengthening efforts to deny safe havens to terrorist groups, freedom of operations, movement and recruitment, as well as financial, material, or political support. The G20 also reflected upon the threats arising from the misuse of new and emerging technologies and highlighted the importance of strengthening international cooperation in that regard.

For the first time, the G20 Foreign Ministers considered









"We stand in solidarity with New Delhi's call to build a common future for humanity, which is especially important in the context of growing geopolitical confrontation. We share practical objectives of strengthening multilateralism & overcoming global economic crises"

**Sergei Lavrov**Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian
Federation



"China will continue to take an active part in the G20 agenda, and contribute more to promoting world peace and development and building a community with a shared future for mankind"

**Qin Gang**Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's
Republic of China

and discussed the topic of counter narcotics and called for inclusive and strong international cooperation in this regard. They also discussed the topic of global skills mapping and this was in the context of the changing nature of work. They recognized that well-integrated skilled workers benefit not only in their country of origin, but also the destination country where they may happen to be employed. The G20 also accepted the need to strengthen international cooperation in the field of humanitarian assistance and disaster risk reduction.



This will be further discussed in the working group on this particular subject, which has been newly set up by the Indian Presidency.

Women-led development is one of the key priorities of the Indian Presidency and has been personally highlighted by the Prime Minister. After due deliberations on the G20 table, the Foreign Ministers affirmed the need to put gender equality and empowerment of women and girls including their leadership at the core of our efforts for inclusive recovery.

Important discussions on global health were also held. The Outcome Document highlights the need for strengthening key aspects of global health architecture, support for the pandemic fund, and continued political attention to global health. It stresses the need for implementing the one health approach.

The Foreign Ministers addressed climate action in the context of common but differentiated responsibilities and urged developed countries to fulfill their





"Brazil is honored to join the "troika" and will strive to support the group's activities"

Mauro Vieira

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brazil



"With its collective influence, the G20 must be the catalyst for this renewed spirit of collaboration. This would ensure us to move forward to a peaceful, stable & prosperous world"

### **Retno Marsudi**

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia





"FMs at G20 India observed a moment of silence for the earthquake & renewed their condolences. We thanked for their support & solidarity"

Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye



"We have an opportunity to reflect anew on the world & future G20 nations want to help build"

### Penny Wong

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia

commitments to deliver on the goal of jointly mobilizing \$100 billion per year urgently and through 2025 to tackle climate change.

Despite the challenges of the divergent positions on the conflict in Ukraine, the G20 Foreign Ministers were able to come to a consensus on addressing the key challenges. As urged by the Prime Minister, we did focus more on what unites us than what divides us.

It has been India's endeavor to ensure that the voice of the Global South is heard on the G20 table and that is the reason why the Voice of the Global South Summit was organised in January this year in which 125 countries participated. The agenda for the Foreign Ministers' Meeting as well as the Outcome Document has very





"The fight against the international supply chains of illicit drugs, including fentanyl, requires a framework of international cooperation to combat everything from production to trafficking and illicit profits"

**Marcelo Ebrard C.**Secretary of Foreign Relations of Mexico



"The meeting served as a good opportunity for participating countries to share the view on the necessity to cooperate and demonstrate G20's leadership in addressing various challenges"

**Lee Dohoon**Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of
Republic of Korea



"With deep people-to-people ties, we are committed to delivering for our people, engaging through our Indo-Pacific Strategy"

**Mélanie Joly** Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada



"At the meeting of foreign ministers of the G20, Argentina demanded an improvement in financing conditions for the Global South"

**Santiago Cafiero** Minister of Foreign Affairs of Argentina



"Our message from this G20 is: The world wants peace. Because we only have one world, one family, one future. And we are working together that the G20 can live up to its ambition: Giving the world hope that the challenges of our times can be solved"

**Annalena Baerbock**Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany



"Dear Dr. S. Jaishankar, congratulations on this G20 India "One Earth, One Family, One Future" on global challenges, which we should all address unitedly and in compliance with international law"

**Catherine Colonna**Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France



"Confronting climate change requires continuing collective action, and improving the speed and effectiveness of multilateral frameworks in order to adapt to changing environments and new threats, and the leading economies represented by the G20 constitute a unique situation in addressing these concerns"

Prince Faisal bin Farhan bin Abdullah Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



"For the first time, you really had the smaller states - Maldives and Mauritius, being able in the context of the G20 meeting to set out some of the difficulties and constraints that they have faced with cyclones and other disastrous weather events"

Naledi Pandor Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa

clearly taken forward the priorities of the Global South.

The sessions had commenced with a minute of silence to pay respect to those who had lost their lives in the recent earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria. Lastly, the Outcome Document was truly a reflection of G20's commitment to face global challenges squarely and collectively. ■

\*\*Statement issued by External Affairs Minister prior to the media interaction on Foreign Ministers' Meeting



# REACTIONS Delegates of Invitee Countries

## **Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen**Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh

"We feel very honoured that India has invited us as a guest at the G20 Summit"



# Egypt

### **Sameh Shoukry** Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt

"Egypt is confident that India's active Presidency of G20 will contribute to containing the negative repercussions of international tensions on the global economy"



### **Alan Ganoo** Foreign Minister of Mauritius

"It was a very successful G20 meeting, and we are happy that we have been invited to this meeting"



Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

"As a G20 India guest, the Netherlands looks forward to engaging with partners from the Global South, exchanging ideas and finding common ground"



### Geoffrey Onyeama

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Nigeria

"I thank the Government of India for inviting Nigeria as a Guest Country"





### Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood Albusaidi Foreign Minister of Oman

"We are really grateful for the invitation to the G20 and thanks to India and particularly Prime Minister Modi for inviting Oman"



### **Vivian Balakrishnan** *Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore*

"Pleased to share Singapore's perspectives as a tiny city state at G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting at the invitation of India Chair"



Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain

"India is making a great effort to bring us together, to do the most, to allow us to express all points of view"



### H.H. Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan Minister of Foreign Affairs of

Minister of Foreign Affairs of United Arab Emirates

"I thank the Republic of India for organising the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi, and express my wishes for success during India's Presidency of the G20"





## SAI20 Seminar & Senior Officials Meeting

MARCH 13-15, 2023 | GUWAHATI



Girish Chandra Murmu
Comptroller and Auditor General of India

he SAI 20 Engagement Group, comprised of Supreme Audit Institutions from G20 member countries, recognizes the crucial role played by these institutions in enhancing governance systems to effectively address emerging challenges and promote positive impacts on citizens' lives. This group fosters an ecosystem in which SAIs collaborate

with multiple stakeholders to develop and implement strategies that advance transparent and accountable governance, while prioritizing people-centric policies. Under India's G20 presidency, the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) of India is leading the SAI20 Engagement Group.

### **SAI20 Seminar**

With India assuming Presidency of the G20 in 2022-2023, the CAG has selected two priority areas viz. 'Blue Economy' and 'Responsible Al' for deliberations. In the run up to the SAI20 Engagement Group Senior Official Meeting in March 2023, the Comptroller & Auditor General of India hosted a seminar on the SAI20 priority area "Responsible Artificial Intelligence (AI)" at the CAG







Office, New Delhi on 22nd February, 2023. The event was attended by eminent personalities, including Secretary MeiTY, Chief Technology Officer of Microsoft India, and the Principal Commissioner of Income Tax Department. CAG emphasized the need for adoption of Audit Data Standards to carry out digital audits and highlighted the advantages of AI in areas like health, education, and taxation. Speakers also discussed the principles for responsible and ethical use of AI and the need for risk-based regulation of AI technologies.

Another seminar was organized by CAG of India to discuss the opportunities and challenges in the second priority area of the SAI20 Engagement Group, i.e. Blue Economy, on 27th February 2023 at the CAG Office in New Delhi. The seminar featured speakers including Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia, Chair of FICCI's Task Force on Blue Economy, Mr. Tapas Paul, Lead Environmental Specialist at World Bank, Dr. Purvaja Ramachandran, Director, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Dr. P Krishnan, Director, Bay of Bengal Project, Prof. S.K Mohanty, Research and Information System for Developing countries, and Mr. Avinash Mishra, Advisor, NITI Aayog. The speakers highlighted the need for a holistic approach integrating sustainable development goals and recommended scaling up efforts, developing study papers, and making recommendations on how governments could direct their efforts and policies for sustainable development of the Blue Economy of their nations.

### **SAI20 Senior Official Meeting**

The SAI20 Engagement Group Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) took place in Guwahati from March 13th to 15th,



"The crucial challenge for the SAIs of G20 nations would be to address the complexities involved in the governance of different sub-sectors of the Blue Economy and integrate various audit criteria into a single Auditing framework for a comprehensive assessment."

### **Girish Chandra Murmu**

Comptroller and Auditor General of India



2023, with participation from delegates representing SAIs of India, Australia, Brazil, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, and Türkiye, as well as guest SAIs from Egypt, Oman, and UAE, and representatives from the World Bank. On Day-1, Mr. Girish Chandra Murmu, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, emphasized the need increased collaboration for among SAI20 member countries on two priority areas, namely, Blue Economy and Responsible Artificial Intelligence (AI). These priorities align with India's G20 presidency's guiding principle of Vasudhaiva Kutumbkam, or "One Earth, One Family, and One Future."



During the SOM meeting in Guwahati, SAI India introduced and presented on the topics of Blue Economy and Responsible AI. The CAG briefed the participants on the concept of Blue Economy, which entails the sustainable use of ocean resources to create jobs, improve livelihoods, and foster economic progress. Responsible Al, on the other hand, requires a governance framework that considers what data can be collected and used, how AI models should be evaluated, and the best approaches for deploying and maintaining these models. In addition to SAI India, other participant SAIs, including G20 members, guest SAIs, and the World Bank, shared their insights and experiences on these important topics. On the sidelines of the meeting, the delegates were treated to Assam tea and had the opportunity to explore local products such as bamboo handicrafts and silk products, in support of the "vocal for local" initiative.

On the second day of the SAI20 Senior Official Meeting, Ms. Parveen Mehta, the Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General, introduced the Zero Draft of the SAI20 Communique to the participants. SAI India then provided a walkthrough of the draft, which was followed by interventions and contributions from the SAI20 member delegates. The discussions led to a clear roadmap for achieving results, such as the development of auditing principles, toolkits for efficient audits, and the finalization of the SAI20 Communique. The Heads of Departments from member SAIs, guest SAIs, and other invitees also delivered their general statements during the meeting. The event concluded with a Valedictory Address by the CAG of India and a Vote of Thanks by the Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General. Mr. Murmu expressed his optimism that the fruitful discussions will lead to the development of tangible outcomes, including auditing guidelines and toolkits that can be effectively utilized in audits. Ms. Mehta extended gratitude to all



"As SAI 20, we are entrusted with a significant responsibility, and it is vital that we use this platform to raise our voices, collaborate, and develop practical solutions to address the challenges related to Responsible Artificial Intelligence and Blue Economy."

Parveen Mehta
Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General











participants for their constructive discussions and active participation during the SAI20 Senior Official Meeting.

On the first evening, the delegates were treated to a magnificent cultural presentation at the Brahmaputra River Heritage Centre. The event featured traditional dances, such as the centuries-old "Sattriya," and folk dances like Bihu and Siphung performed by local artists. Additionally, a variety of exclusive millet dishes were served to commemorate the International Year of Millets. On the second evening, the delegates enjoyed a cruise along the Brahmaputra river to experience the vibrant culture and rich history of Assam.

The concluding day featured a visit to Pobitora National Park, known for its great numbers of Indian one-horned rhinoceros, followed by a visit to Kamakhya Temple in Guwahati to offer prayers to the revered goddess of desire. The successful event set the stage for the SAI20 summit in June, which is expected to have tangible audit products and the SAI20 Communique as its outcomes. ■



## A Call to Collective Action 2<sup>nd</sup> G20 Sherpa Meeting

MARCH30-APRIL 02, 2023 | KUMARAKOM



Amitabh Kant India's G20 Sherpa

here are many issues that divide nations of the 21st century, including compounding economic pressures and differences in political paradigms — but it is in the experience of a shared humanity and planet that we will find collaborative solutions to the foremost pressing problems of our time. The 2nd Sherpa Meeting, held in Kumarakom, Kerala, from March 30-April 02, was one such opportunity — with over 100 delegates

from G20 nations coming together to discuss avenues to bolster sustainable and inclusive development for all.

For its G20 Presidency, India has put forward a set of priorities that keeps the ancient philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' or "One Earth. One Family. One Future" at its core. These priorities build on a human-centric and planet-friendly approach to development by utilising existing frameworks, such as the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as new systems of rapid transformation, such as India's successful Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) model. At the same time, growth can no longer be traded off for sustainability. The Presidency is pushing for faster, greener, and more inclusive growth with minimal trade-offs. In addition, the Indian Presidency views women-led development as a crosscutting enabler of this holistic development, recognising







"Our G20 theme based on universal brotherhood, i.e., Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam or the 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' has found resonance across the world with all its encompassing inclusive

message capturing the diverse global challenges of the day"

V. Muraleedharan
Union Minister of State for External Affairs

the scale of impact made possible by harnessing the untapped potential of half the globe's population. This G20 Presidency, which comes at a critical juncture for the world, is also an opportunity for developing nations to have their voice heard in international fora, by using this platform to collectively advocate for reformed multilateral institutions that better understand and proactively respond to the contemporary realities of the Global South.

Since the first Sherpa meeting in Udaipur in December last year, 11 of the 13 Sherpa Track Working Groups and all of Finance Track workstreams have already met once and held detailed discussions on their priorities. The













second meeting continued this positive momentum and witnessed encouraging support for India's decisive, ambitious, inclusive, and action-oriented outcomes. Further, the meeting provided G20 delegates with an Indian experience unlike any other before — a journey

through the picturesque backwaters of Kumarakom. There is perhaps no place better suited to remind us of the harmony that exists between humankind and nature, and how we must act as responsible custodians of this precarious and precious balance.



### INDIA SHOWING THE WAY

## Financial Inclusion Through Digital Technologies



Harsh Vardhan Shringla

G20 Chief Coordinator

he repeated waves of the Covid-19 pandemic have eroded decades of progress made towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

During its G20 Presidency, India aims to use this powerful global platform to share the best practices to get the world back on track to achieve the stipulated targets.

And to achieve this, there is a major focus on financial inclusion under India's G20 Presidency.

According to the UN Capital Development Fund, Financial Inclusion is a key enabler to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

In the past few years, India has harnessed the potential of digital technologies to accelerate financial inclusion, transforming itself from a cash-based economy to one that accounts for almost 40% of all real-time digital payments in the world.

The spike in digital payments has led to a corresponding increase in spending on public infrastructure and social welfare in terms of health, food security, and DBTs.

It is in this context that India aims to share its laudable experiences, especially with the partners of the emerging economies who stand to gain immense social and economic dividends from such an approach.

As our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi stated in his opening remarks at the Concluding Leaders' Session of the Voice of Global South Summit, "Digital public goods developed by India in fields like electronic-payments, health, education, or e-governance, can be useful for many other developing countries."

It is in line with this vision that the 2nd G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion Meeting was preceded by 'Knowledge and Experience Exchange Programme







for the Emerging Economies of the Global South' on March 04-06, 2023. On the agenda was discussion on the benefits of Digital Public Infrastructure led financial inclusion for emerging economies.

During my keynote address to participants from over 40 countries and regional organisations from the Global South, I highlighted India's financial inclusion success story and the way it has transformed the lives of Indians, contributing to national growth. We believe that leveraging digital innovations such as Digital IDs, Digital Payment Systems and digital credit registries can lead to a paradigm shift in the development journeys of other countries, just as we in India have experienced.

Through its digital public infrastructure known as the India Stack, India has revolutionized access to finance. With Aadhaar leading to the creation of more than 1.36 billion Digital IDs, banks can now instantly verify a customer's identity through the Aadhaar database and speedily open accounts for people across India - in rural and urban areas - with almost no paper work involved.

Concurrently, the Government launched the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana in 2014, through which more than 460 million beneficiaries have been brought into the formal banking network. An impressive 56% of those currently with bank accounts are women.

The scheme has proven to be a cornerstone of the Government's people-centric economic initiatives such as direct benefit transfers, financial assistance distributed during Covid-19, benefits to farmers dispatched directly into their accounts under the PM-KISAN scheme, dispensing increased wages under MGNREGA besides life

and health insurance cover. It is equally commendable that this financial inclusion movement has harnessed the gifts of digitalization, making India one of the fastest growing FinTech markets in the world with an estimated size of \$150 billion by 2025.

Undoubtedly, a robust and citizen-centric Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) plays a major role in achieving multiple national goals which include financial inclusion, social security, health insurance, digital transactions and easy access to credit while providing the building blocks for a productive, resilient and equitable society.

India's success in navigating through the pandemic was also aided in a large measure by its home-grown and transparent DPI, which served as an efficient medium for the flow of resources to the needy.

This has been widely recognised by the international community and referred to by the International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva, who pointed out that India had distributed \$37 billion equivalent in rupees digitally to beneficiaries, cutting out intermediaries through improved identification and targeting of the needy.

In the days ahead, as we work towards setting the world back on its high, sustainable and resilient growth path, digital financial inclusion will play a key role in achieving this goal.

India's own example is what lies at heart of our dedicated efforts to make a strong case for digital financial inclusion for progress in the economies of our developing partner countries. ■



## Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting

### MARCH 06-07, 2023 | HYDER ABAD



**Chanchal C Sarkar** 

Economic Advisor, Department of Economic Affairs



Dr Monica Thind

Director, G20

he 2nd meeting of the G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPFI) Working Group was held on March 06-07, 2023 in Hyderabad, Telangana. Prior to the meeting, two side events were also organized. As a side event, the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, with the support of Better Than Cash Alliance (BTCA), organized an 'Experience and Knowledge Exchange Programme on Advancing Financial Inclusion through Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for the Emerging Economies of the Global South' in Hyderabad on March 04-06, 2023. Another event, a symposium on 'Digital Innovations in Payments and Remittances' was held on March 06, 2023.

The GPFI Plenary meeting took place over two days, and productive discussions were held on the agenda, which included leveraging Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for financial inclusion and productivity gains, digital financial inclusion, Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) finance, and data harmonization. The GPFI members also participated actively in a dedicated workshop held to brainstorm on the preparation of the new Financial Inclusion Action Plan (FIAP), which will be finalized in 2023 for implementation over three years from 2024 to 2026. Advancing financial inclusion through the implementation of FIAP is a core function of GPFI, and the new FIAP 2023 will be formulated during India's G20 Presidency. The meeting also saw the announcement of the long-term GPFI Co-Chairs India and Italy; the tenure of the new Co-Chairs will commence in 2024 for a period of three years. It is expected to promote and facilitate DPI-led financial inclusion as India is one of the longterm Co-Chairs of GPFI.

As part of the series of events being organized by the







"This event is an important, vital and integral part of our outreach under the G20's Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion...during its G20 Presidency, India will focus on issues that are not only globally relevant, but those that will make a difference to the lives of the people of the Global South"

Harsh Vardhan Shringla Chief Coordinator, G20 India

Indian Presidency for showcasing DPI and also with a view to voice the concerns of the Global South in the G20 GPFI deliberations, an experience and knowledge exchange programme for the emerging economies of the Global South was organized. The objective of the programme was to fruitfully engage with these countries by providing them a platform to exchange their development experiences in the field of financial inclusion, by providing India an opportunity to share its DPI-led financial inclusion success story with them and to gain insights on their expectations from and aspirations for the financial inclusion work being undertaken by GPFI. This one of its kind event was truly aligned with the spirit of the G20 financial inclusion agenda, which aims at advancing financial inclusion beyond the G20 as well. The event brought together representatives from 17 countries and 9 regional organizations of the Global South. The event saw the active participation

of representatives from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Jordan, Malawi, Maldives, Nepal, Oman, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam. Poland also participated in the event as a guest country. The event also had representatives of Regional Organizations of the Global South, namely, the Asian Development Bank, the African Union Commission, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF), the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB), the Gates Foundation, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and Smart Africa. This event was also designed to provide an opportunity for the Global South delegates to interact and engage with the G20 delegates. For this purpose, a joint excursion and a symposium were also organized. The Global South delegates were also addressed by Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Chief Coordinator, G20 India, and Shri Ajay Seth, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and India's

G20 Finance Deputy, on March 4 and March 5, 2023, respectively.

The delegates from Global South showed keen interest in the rich presentations that were made to them on the DPI-led stack-based approach to financial inclusion adopted by India. The event also provided valuable insights on the digital financial inclusion efforts being made by the countries of the Global South like Jordan's digital identity platform and payment infrastructure, Ethiopia's national digital payment strategy and Telebirr mobile money service, Eastern Caribbean's CBDC pilot and digital literacy, Bangladesh's bank-led model





"I want to congratulate the Government of India for bringing all those different countries...Smart Africa, it's the first time that we are participating in this event. And I have heard from the different panels the voice of the emerging markets. So, my plea here today is for the G20 countries to do like India in the subsequent meetings"



### **SMART AFRICA**

for financial services, and Thailand's Prompt Pay real-time payment system. The African Union and the Philippines showcased their progress in integrating digital payments to enhance trade, tourism, and e-commerce, with Africa's Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPPS) and the Philippines' PESO Net and InstaPay as examples. While DPI as a powerful means to rapidly advance finance inclusion was well appreciated, concerns were raised by the Global South countries, mainly with regard to affordable financing, scalability and interoperability of DPI, regulating Bigtech, addressing de-platforming, ways to mitigate risks associated with digital innovations for financial inclusion including DPI. The event contributed significantly to deepening the understanding of the digital financial inclusion efforts being made in these countries and the challenges faced by them. That in the GPFI meeting, many G20 countries and International Organisations (IOs) acknowledged the significance of the event and called for bringing the voice of emerging economies to the financial inclusion work is a testimony to the powerful impact of the event.

The Global South delegates were also taken on an exclusive tour to 'Shiliparamam' the arts and crafts village in Hyderabad, where they were introduced to the rich art and crafts heritage of India.

An international symposium on 'Harnessing Digital Innovations in Payments Systems for Financial Inclusion, Resilience, Productivity Gains, and Inclusive Growth' was held on March 06, 2023. Representatives from international organisations namely BTCA, Smart Africa, Women's World Banking, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Reserve Bank of India participated in the symposium. It was attended by GPFI delegates as also the representatives of the Global South countries. Around 50 countries and international Organizations participated in the symposium. The symposium emphasized the importance of efficient,



reliable, and accessible digital payment systems in promoting economic growth and development. India's efforts in fostering trust in digital payment systems were highlighted, along with the country's continuous growth in digital payment transactions.



On March 05, the arrival day of GPFI delegates, a guided tour to the historic Golkonda fort was arranged. The visit to the fort saw participation of delegates from the countries of the Global South as well. As part of the 'RatriBhojPar Samvad', a vibrant cultural programme was organized for the delegates in which energetic dancers mesmerized the audience with their exhilarating performance.

The second GPFI meeting thus concluded with fruitful discussions on the different work areas of GPFI, including the preparations for the new FIAP. ■



## Sustainable Finance Working Group 2nd Meeting

MARCH21-23,2023 | **UDAIPUR** 

### **SESSIONS**

Mechanisms for Mobilisation of Financial Resources for Climate Finance

Delegates at Fateh Sagar Lake in Udaipur

Enabling
Finance
for the
Sustainable
Development
Goals

Capacity
Building
of the
Ecosystem
for financing
towards
Sustainable
Development

### **WORKSHOPS**

Non-Pricing Policy Levers to support Sustainable Investment

Enabling
finance
for the
Sustainable
Development
Goals

3 DAY MEETING 93 DELEGATES

10 INVITEE COUNTRIES 18 INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS



## **Education Working Group** 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting

MARCH15-17,2023 | AMRITSAR



K. Sanjay Murthy

Chair, G20 Education Working Group & Secretary, Dept. of Higher Education, Ministry of Education

he Second G20 Education Working Group (EdWG) meeting and seminar under India's G20 Presidency held its deliberations in Amritsar, Punjab from March 15-17, 2023. The meeting focussed on 'Strengthening research and promoting innovation through richer collaborations' in addition to extensive discussions on the other three priority areas of 'Building Capacities, Promoting Life-long learning in context of Future of work', 'Ensuring Foundational Literacy and Numeracy especially in the context of blended learning' and 'Making Tech-enabled learning more inclusive, qualitative and collaborative at every level'. Delegates from G20 member countries, invitee countries and International organisations such as UNICEF, UNESCO and OECD participated wherein they shared their best practices for strengthening research and innovation.

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the power of a multidisciplinary approach, in which various fields such as science and technology, pharmaceuticals, and medical research, among others, all collaborated for the benefit of society. This resulted in increased industry-academic collaboration, interdisciplinary research in areas such as infectious diseases and mental health, as well as numerous opportunities for further innovation. Global crises demand new-age mind-sets and collaborative thinking. This is why we had identified Research and Innovation as one of the four priority areas to be discussed in education track meetings during India's G20 Presidency.

There was broad agreement at the 2nd EdWG meeting on the need for increased mobility and institutional partnerships among G20 member countries, invitee countries. international organisations. presentation was also made by a representative of the Research Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) highlighting their priority areas in order to ensure synergy and to distinguish the focus on research and innovation between the EdWG & RIIG. In order to create a more prosperous and sustainable future for all, initiatives such as promoting open science practices, supporting research funding programmes, establishing demand-based educational programmes for the labour market, improving research capabilities for innovations, and global multi-partner collaborations were discussed. Going forward, there is a need to strengthen and scale up academic collaborations to strengthen the research ecosystem in educational institutions.

The Government of India under Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's leadership is committed to advancing the research ecosystem of India's Higher Education system. A number of schemes, fellowships, and programmes are in place through the Department of Higher Education, the Ministry of Education, and other Ministries/Departments. Schemes such as Impacting Research Innovation and Technology Impactful Policy Research in Social Science (IMPRESS) , Scheme for Transformational and Advanced Research in Sciences (STARS), Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC), National Initiative













"Collaborations between universities across countries can enhance sharing of knowledge and culture by facilitating vocational trips and student exchange programmes"

**Bhagwant Mann**Chief Minister of Punjab

for Design Innovation (NIDI), Research Park Establishment, Unnat Bhārat Abhiyān (UBA), Training and Research in Frontier areas of Science and Technology (FAST), ASEAN Fellowship, Prime Minister's Research Fellows (PMRF) among many others have been designed to improve research in Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) in order to realise the vision of development through innovation.

The Ministry of Education's (MoE) Innovation Cell organises several national and international Hackathons on

a regular basis to foster a culture of product innovation and a problem-solving mindset. The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), the Government of India's own ranking system for HEIs modelled after international ranking systems, also has a weightage assigned for the important aspect of Research. Initiatives such as 'I-STEM' national portal for sharing

Research and Development facilities, 'Vigyan Jyoti' scheme to encourage women in

STEM fields and mega R&D Fairs such as 'IInvenTiv' ensure resource accessibility, gender inclusion and provide visibility to all the innovations on a global scale.

Aligning with the National Education Policy 2020







(NEP 2020) to create a vibrant research and innovation culture, initiatives such as the National Research Foundation (NRF) and Indian Knowledge Systems Divisions (IKS) were announced. NRF was announced to fund, coordinate, and promote the research ecosystem across the HEIs. IKS has been established by the MoE to conduct interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research on all aspects of Indian Knowledge systems as well as to update and disseminate IKS knowledge for future innovations and societal applications. It would suffice to say that India is committed to promoting research collaborations and is willing to explore and develop mechanisms for strengthening research and promoting innovation through richer collaborations within the G20 nations and beyond.

On the side-lines of the main working group meeting, a seminar and a multimedia exhibition was also organised at Khalsa College by IIT Ropar with collaborative inputs from prominent HEIs such as IISc Bengaluru, IIM Amritsar and TISS Mumbai. The Seminar on March 15, 2023, began with a presentation from Prof. Govindan Rangarajan, Director IISc Bengaluru on 'Research Initiatives in G20 countries' with inputs provided by G20 members and invitee countries in the seminar. The seminar also included two Panel Discussions, one on 'Research in Emerging and Disruptive Technologies, Industry - 4.0' chaired by Prof. Rajeev Ahuja, Director, IIT Ropar, and second one on, 'Research in Sustainable Development Goals' chaired by Dr. Shalini Bharat, Director, TISS Mumbai. The panel discussion saw participation from France, the United Kingdom, Australia, India, Oman, South Africa, UNICEF, China and UAE. The seminar highlighted India's opportunity to establish itself as a leader in research and innovation globally. It also discussed the role of various stakeholders in promoting research on emerging

innovations, their impact on education systems, and society.



During their visit to Amritsar, the delegates also visited the Golden Temple and experienced Punjab's vibrant culture through various traditional dance and musical performances. In keeping with Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision for the International Year of the Millets, all dinner/lunch menus included Millet counters. providing delegates with unique culinary experiences. The outcomes of the first and second Education Working Group Meetings, which were held in Chennai and Amritsar, respectively, as well as the two upcoming education track meetings, will be used to develop the final outcome documents to be shared at the Ministerial meeting in Pune. These Outcome Documents, which include the Report and the Compendium, will serve as a guideline for the development of numerous educational and employment opportunities of mutual interest to G20 nations.



## **UPDATES**

### MARCH 01-03, 2023 | AIZAWL, MIZORAM

he second of the four B20 conferences scheduled in the North East states of India was organised in Aizawl, Mizoram. The conference comprising more than 100 Indian delegates and 38 international delegates discussed the 'Opportunities for Multilateral Business Partnerships in Urban planning, Infrastructure, Bamboo, Startups, Skill Development, Nursing and Paramedics'.







"The availability of explorable resources like bamboo, coffee, wheat and locational advantage offer the opportunity of investment in eco-friendly products"

**Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh**Minister of State for External Affairs and Education



"Investments in processing industry for horticulture and forest based products available in Mizoram can be immensely profitable"

**Zoramthanga** *Chief Minister of Mizoram* 



"The North East has huge potential in the area of Nursing and Paramedics"

Som Parkash Minister of State for Commerce & Industry

### MARCH15-17,2023 | GANGTOK, SIKKIM

he third B20 Conference was held in Gangtok, Sikkim, recognised as the "world's first organic state" by the World Book of Records London. During the conference, the delegates explored 'Opportunities for Multilateral Business Partnerships in Tourism, Hospitality, Pharmaceutical and Organic Farming'. The B20 event provided a unique opportunity to showcase the vibrant Organic Farming of the state to the world.

Delegates visited the splendid Rumtek Monastery near Gangtok





"Sikkim is the core of India that promotes globalization of locals, including indigenous knowledge development practices, gender equality, community partnerships, and zero-carbon climate conservation"

Prem Singh Tamang (Golay)

Chief Minister of Sikkim



## **Infrastructure Working Group**

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting

MARCH28-29,2023 | VISAKHAPATNAM









**57** Delegates

G20 Member Countries

8 Invitee Countries

International Organisations







### Delegates visit Mudasarlova lake

It has a 2 MW floating grid connected Solar Power plant established with zero land footprint and reducing evaporation in drinking water reservoir. This solar plant saves ₹13 million power cost annually for the local government and sub project contributes to climate change mitigation by averting 3,080 MT CO2 emission every year

Delegates visit Jindal Urban Waste Management (Visakhapatnam) Limited

It has an operational capacity of 1,200 MT per day with solid waste sourced from 5 municipalities. The plant has a capacity of 15 MW power generation



Delegates visit Smart Water Management system deployed in Northwest Visakhapatnam for sustainable and inclusive Water Management and supply







## ACCELERATING UNIVERSAL ENERGY ACCESS

## Reaching The Last Mile



Alok Kumar

Secretary, Ministry of Power

ndia has provided energy access to all the households in the country, including regions in higher Himalayas, isolated desert, and deep forests after overcoming numerous challenges. We have reached every village and every household. This was made possible through a slew of policy initiatives and programs by the Government of India.

### **SAUBHAGYA**

The Saubhagya Scheme for universal access was launched in October 2017 with the objective to achieve universal household electrification by providing electricity connections to all un-electrified households in rural areas and all poor households in urban areas in

the country.

A one of its kind last mile connectivity scheme, it has benefited a total of 28.6 million households, which were connected with electricity in a record time of 18 months, helping India achieve the target of 100% household electrification.

The electricity connection to households included the release of electricity connections by drawing a service cable from the nearest pole to the household premise, installation of an energy meter, wiring for a single light point with LED bulb, and a mobile charging point. For households located in remote and inaccessible areas, solar power packs of 200 to 300 watt and battery backup with 5 LED lights, 1 DC fan, 1 DC power plug along with repair and maintenance for 5 years were provided.

This was a massive challenge as many villages were in challenging geographic terrains - from the high-altitude regions of the Himalayas, where even poles, conductors etc had to be carried across on ponies and by helicopters to remote villages in the desert areas of Rajasthan.

India's success in providing universal access has been the largest expansion of access in the history of the energy sector of the world. While the set objectives of the scheme have been achieved, India has continued its work of providing 24x7 quality power supply to all.

### **UJALA**

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) in 2015 to provide LED bulbs to domestic consumers at an affordable price, making it the largest LED distribution programme in the world. In late 2016, UJALA's scope was expanded to include other high-use household appliances such as tube lights and ceiling fans. All this is realized through a zero-subsidy model.

The programme targets energy efficiency in lighting as it offers an enormous opportunity to save energy. Most of the lighting needs in the domestic and public sector are met by conventional lights, including highly inefficient incandescent bulbs. LEDs provide better light output than conventional light and are 88% more energy efficient as compared to incandescent bulbs.

The initiative has been extremely effective in achieving its objectives, covering all Indian states and territories, resulting in deployment of 1.63 billion LED lighting and



leading to a reduction of 106 million tonnes of CO2 emissions. This helped drive down the procurement price of LEDs by nearly 90% from the earlier levels. It is credited with bringing about the fastest LED price reductions in the world, which helped transform India into the fastest growing LED market.

The programme design includes stringent quality control measures, including after-sale and warranty servicing, transparent reporting with real-time data available on a public dashboard, and robust MRV processes, which have built trust in the programme and further enhanced its deployment and impact. The UJALA Program is also recognized for its transparency, a publicly accessible dashboard which tracks each new LED bulb, LED tube light, or energy efficient ceiling fan distributed under UJALA in real-time.

This is a completely 'Made in India' success story through innovative policy measures and has become a case study in top business and management schools. UJALA is a successful example of making a technologically advanced and green product affordable and easily accessible to all consumer segments of the market.

### **Gram UJALA**

Building on the UJALA Scheme, the Government has rolled out Gram Ujala in 2021- a customized programme for rural India, based on carbon finance.

The programme will enable better illumination, at an affordable price of ₹10/bulb. This will help improve quality of life, financial savings, create more economic activity, better safety for rural citizens and help in achieving a sustainable future. The Gram UJALA programme will have a significant impact on India's climate action resulting in energy savings of 2,025 million KWh/year and CO2 reduction of 1.65 million T CO2/year.

A pilot project is currently underway.

### **UJJWALA**

The availability of clean cooking fuel was a major challenge for rural households in India for many years.

LPG connections were concentrated in urban and semi urban areas, with most connections in middle-class and

upper middle-class households. Due to limited access to LPG, low-income households use traditional fuel such as coal, kerosene, cow-dung cakes, and timber for cooking. These resulted in serious health issues for women and children such as respiratory illnesses, pulmonary and lung diseases, due to the indoor air pollution that the traditional cooking fuel causes.

With Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) – launched in May 2016, the Government aimed to maximize the usage of LPG for cooking in rural and low-income households. Benefiting more than 95 million households in the country, the scheme has become an example in ensuring energy access, helping mitigate climate change, and improving family health. The scheme has particularly been empowering for women, as it reduces their



drudgery, the time spent in the kitchen, and improves their overall health.

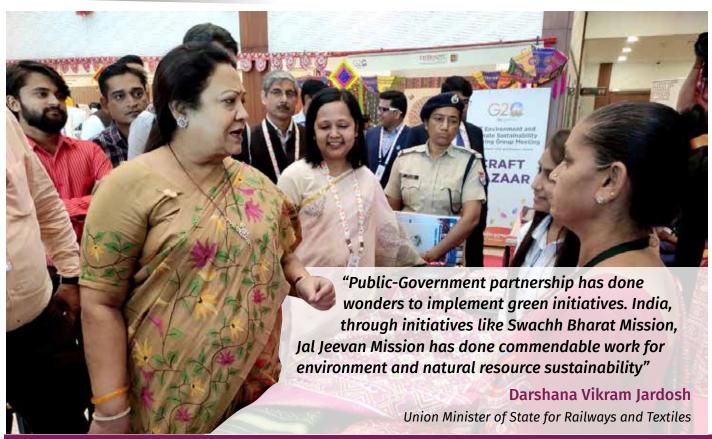
The initial target to provide 80 million deposit free LPG connections was achieved in September 2019, seven months ahead of the targeted date. To cover remaining households under the scheme, Ujjwala 2.0 was rolled out in Aug. 2021 to provide additional 10 million LPG connections with a stove and a free first refill. This target was achieved in January 2022. Per capita consumption of PMUY beneficiaries has increased from 3.01 refills in 2019-20 to 3.66 refills in Financial Year 2021-22 (till Feb 2022).

The Scheme has helped in increasing the LPG coverage from 62% in 2016 to 99.8% in 2021. The International Energy Agency has hailed it as a "major achievement" in improving the environment and health of women. ■



# **Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group**2nd Meeting

MARCH 27-29, 2023 | **GANDHINAGAR** 



Showcasing India's ancient water management practices







All the G20 countries agreed on the pressing need for concerted global efforts and the immediate action required







## INDIA'S GREEN PUSH Paperless Legislative Houses



**Gudey Srinivas** 

Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

he Government of India launched the Digital India Programme in 2015 with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. In line with this vision, the Government identified 44 Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) for implementation under Digital India. E-Vidhan is one such Mission Mode Project (MMP) being implemented by using the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) platform developed on the theme of 'One Nation-One Application' to make the legislative houses of all the States/UTs paperless. The objective is to streamline all the processes for information exchange with different State Government Departments and to publish allowed content on the public portal on a real-time basis.

As per the Scheme for NeVA Project, financial assistance is being given to the State/UT Legislatures in the form of grant-in-aid to enable them to transform themselves into 'Digital Houses' so as to transact entire business on digital platform including laying of all the papers, documents and reports electronically. Bihar Council, Nagaland Assembly, Tamil Nadu Assembly, Meghalaya Assembly, Haryana Assembly, Uttar Pradesh Assembly, Uttar Pradesh Council, Mizoram Assembly, and Sikkim Assembly have already gone live and are completely on



Inauguration of NeVA in Bihar Legislative Council on November 25, 2021, & transaction of business during Winter Session-2021 of Bihar Legislative Council





NeVA implementation in Haryana Assembly during the session, August 2022



Functioning of Uttar Pradesh through NeVA

board the NeVA platform.

NeVA enables automation of the entire law-making process, tracking of decisions, documents and sharing of information. For example, NeVA envisages electronic delivery of all the Papers to be laid in the House in e-Book format through the display devices installed on the seats of the Members. It also provides data analysis, information processing and comparative studies of all the State Legislative Bodies to ensure reliability, efficiency, transparency and accountability of all stakeholders.

NeVA seeks to integrate all the stakeholders like State/ UT Governments, Assembly Secretariats, Legislators, Citizens on a single digital platform and allows free flow of information among them without any barriers. It provides ICT tools to help MLAs in preparing them for meaningful participation in the legislative debates & law-making process and empowering them to handle it smartly and efficiently.

Through the e-Constituency module of NeVA, citizens are connected with their representatives through an ICT based grievance redressal mechanism which would promote e-Democracy. Additionally, based on the results available from a pilot project E-Vidhan, first implemented

in Himachal Pradesh Assembly, it can be said that NeVA has the potential to save approximately ₹340 crores per year from all State/UT legislatures, and by saving several thousand tons of papers can save lakhs of trees annually, thereby promoting cleanliness and reducing

A democracy of
1.3 billion people
has been voting
without paper.
And now a push
towards making
the elected work
without paper

considerable amount of carbon emission. Thus, NeVA project is in line with the "Go Green" initiative and "Swachh Bharat Mission" of the Government of India.

During its G20 Presidency, India aspires to foreground its belief in a human-centric approach to technology and facilitate greater knowledgesharing in priority areas

like digital public infrastructure. The National e-Vidhan application will fulfill the aspirations by providing a digital legislature platform which will ensure the delivery of public services (information dissemination) through public portals and dashboard to ensure reliability, efficiency, transparency and accountability of all stakeholders.



### **L20 INCEPTION MEETING**

MARCH19-20.2023 | AMRITSAR



he Labour20 (L20) Engagement Group under India's G20 Presidency held its Inception Meeting in Amritsar, Punjab with participation of trade union leaders, labour studies experts and delegates from 20 nations. As the final outcome of the two-day deliberations, two Joint Statements were adopted: one calling for resolving the question of portability of social security among G20 nations as a first step towards universalisation of social security, and another for plugging the gender gap in the global workforce.





"Universal social security and its portability across the world is an important issue"



Bhupender Yadav Union Minister for Labour and Employment



### RIIG CONFERENCE MARCH 02-03,2023 | RANCHI

he Conference encompassed inaugural, technical and valedictory sessions, a plenary lecture on "Strategy towards Low-Carbon Transition driving India towards Net-Zero", special sessions for interventions, suggestions and presentations by the foreign delegates and a Panel Discussion. The deliberations focussed primarily on three priority areas, viz., a) 21 st Century Challenges Related to Energy Materials & Devices, b) Solar Energy Utilisation and Photovoltaic Technology, and c) Materials and Processes for Green Energy.

Twenty foreign delegates from ten G20 member countries, six invited guest countries and an international organisation joined the Conference. From India, 38 delegates and special invitees from scientific departments, research and academic institutions and industry participated in the RIIG Conference. ■













# Trade & Investment Working Group 1st Meeting

MARCH28-30,2023 | MUMBAI

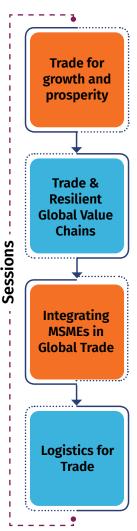


"It is incumbent upon us to see how we can expand world trade; trade amongst ourselves and friendly nations; fair, equitable, transparent and rules-based trade"

**Piyush Goyal**Union Minister of Commerce & Industry



Over 100 delegates discussed pathways for accelerating global trade and investment, while simultaneously progressing towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals





Discussions on the role of banks, financial institutions, development finance institutions and export credit agencies in closing the trade finance gap, and how digitalisation and fintech solutions can improve access to trade finance.

The 1st G20 Trade and Investment Working Group (TIWG) Meeting Calls for Collaboration to Achieve Inclusive and Resilient Trade

he 1st Trade and Investment Working Group (TIWG) Meeting under India's G20 Presidency took place in Mumbai from March 28–30, 2023. With over 100 delegates from G20 member countries, invitee countries, regional groups and international organizations, the deliberations focussed on accelerating global trade and investment. The four priority issues that were discussed during the meeting revolved around attaining prosperity through inclusive trade and sustainable development, building resilient Global Value Chains, integrating MSMEs into global trade and designing an efficient logistics ecosystem. Theme-based experience zones on spices, millets, tea and coffee were set up at the venue, and an exhibition

#### **NEWSLETTER**







"India's G20 Presidency is about setting the tone for encouraging trade and investment in keeping with the principles of broad-based growth"

**Dr Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad**Union Minister of State for Finance

on textiles was also on display for the delegates to get a glimpse of India's

rich heritage. A cultural program was organized for the G20 delegates alongside the Gala dinner on April 29, 2023.

On March 28, an International Conference on Trade Finance was organized. The conference featured panel discussions on the role of banks, development finance institutions and export credit agencies in providing solutions for an emerging global landscape, and on finding ways to harness digitalization and fintech solutions to improve access to trade finance. The seminar was followed by a guided tour of the Bharat Diamond Bourse to provide a first-hand background to the delegates on the intricacies of trade in natural and lab-grown diamonds.

The TIWG meeting was formally inaugurated on March 29 by Minister of State for Finance Dr. Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad. He emphasized that the G20 member countries must aim to build inclusive trade for development by creating resilient global supply chains.

During the two days of deliberations, the agenda and priorities put forward by the Indian Presidency were well received by the member countries. Delegates reiterated the need for greater cooperation and collaboration among G20 member countries to diversify existing value chains,



accelerate participation of firms from developing countries and least developed countries (LDCs) into GVCs, arrive at shared outcomes for ensuring access to adequate finance and information for MSMEs and lowering barriers for MSMEs in digital trade platforms.

In his concluding remarks on March 30, 2023, Minister for Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal reiterated that the Trade and Investment Working Group (TIWG) has an important role in formulating concrete outcomes for inclusive growth that drives trade and investment across Global South, and not merely for the G20 countries. He strongly advocated for equitable distribution of benefits of global trade among all countries, including developing and LDCs in order to progress towards a new world that is driven by collaboration, sustainable growth and solutions-oriented mindset. While reminiscing Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision for India's G20 agenda of inclusive, ambitious, decisive and action-oriented economic growth, Shri Piyush Goyal stated that India has taken up G20 Presidency amidst a

challenging geopolitical and macro-economic environment. He underlined that as the year 2023 marks 75th year of India's independence, this is an opportune time for the country to share its ancient wisdom with the world to forge consensus on intractable trade and investment related issues, following the motto of "One Earth, One Family and One Future". ■



the Bharat Diamond Bourse The largest diamond bourse in the world

Delegates at





# INDIA CRAFTING GLOBAL CONSENSUS Amidst Crisis of Multilateralism



**V. Srinivas** 

Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances Author of G20@2023, The Roadmap To Indian Presidency

rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the G20 Finance Ministers & Central Bank Governors meeting in February and the G20 Foreign Ministers' meeting in March. In his address to G20 Finance Ministers & Central Bank Governors, he said that the onus of bringing back stability, confidence and growth to the global economy was on the custodians of the leading economies and the monetary system of the world. Later, addressing the G20 Foreign Ministers, the Prime Minister said it must be acknowledged that multilateralism is in a crisis today and global governance has failed in preventing future wars.

The world faces the risk of moving back on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as developing countries grapple with unsustainable debt while trying to ensure energy and food security to their people. It is in this backdrop, India's G20 Presidency has tried to give a voice to the Global South. The G20 has a critical role to play in finding the right balance between growth and efficiency on one hand and resilience on the other.

The G20 Finance Ministers' meeting in Bengaluru on February 24-25, 2023 and the G20 Foreign Ministers' meeting in New Delhi on March 01-02, 2023 concluded with the Chair's Summary and Outcome Document. The Ministerial Meetings deliberated on current global challenges, sought to strengthen multilateralism, food and energy security, ambitious climate and environmental action, global health, disaster risk reduction as also gender equality and women's empowerment.

The G20 Ministerial meetings recognized the need for





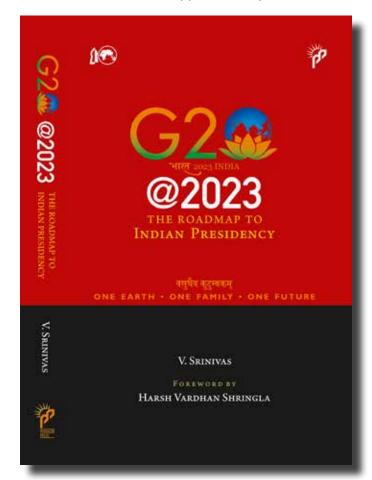


revitalised multilateralism to address contemporary global challenges. There was commitment to reforming the WTO, strengthening Multilateral Development Banks, and creating a strong quota based, adequately resourced IMF. The Resilience and Sustainability Trust received pledges of \$ 44 billion. The G20 called for further pledges to the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust to meet the demands of vulnerable countries. There was unanimous support for implementation of

the OECD/G20 two-pillar international tax package, the Common Framework for Debt Treatment beyond the DSSI, calls for adequate climate financing and the post pandemic global health architecture led by WHO. The Financial Stability Board's work on crypto-assets was to continue as also the FATF's efforts to combat money laundering and terrorism financing through stronger asset recovery standards.

India's G20 Presidency seeks to showcase the nation's strengths in digital infrastructure, direct benefits transfer, digital health and pharmaceuticals. The novel ideas include the addition of a new engagement group Startup20 to spur innovations across borders and facilitate in achieving the SDG targets and the Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) campaign for the future of the planet. India has created a secure, trusted and efficient public digital infrastructure in its digital payments ecosystem which has been developed as a free public good. India's development journey offers many templates to other developing countries in digital connectivity, financial inclusion and immunisation of children.

India's G20 Presidency has arrived 17 years after the commencement of Leaders' Summit and is one of the most significant milestone moments of Indian democracy. In times when there is a crisis of multilateralism, India is seeking to craft broader global responses to the challenges. The theme of the Indian Presidency is 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' – 'One Earth, One Family, One Future', and the agenda is one of healing, harmony and hope. In the land of Gandhi and Buddha, India's civilizational ethos to focus on what unites us and not what divides us is expected to enable the global resolve to come together.





# Engaging Young Minds through G20 University Connect

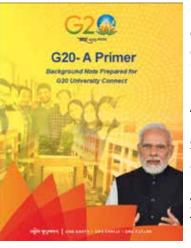




Muktesh Pardeshi
Special Secretary, G20 India

ndia has assumed the Presidency of the G20 at the beginning of its 'AmritKaal'. In another happy coincidence, this is also the moment when India, with one of the youngest populations in the world, looks at a demographic window of opportunity. Given this, there has been a special effort to put the youth at the forefront of our G20 Presidency. In line with this vision, a G20 University Connect programme has been visualized. This unique initiative is being jointly steered by the Ministry of External Affairs and Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) to engage with students from 75 universities in approximately 56 locations across India.

On December 01, 2022, the day when India officially took over the G20 Presidency, a special G20 University Connect launch event was organized at the G20 Secretariat. This event brought students from 75 universities across the



country together interact with a panel of some of the most distinguished experts in the country including Dr. S.Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister and Dr. P.K. Mishra, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister. On the occasion. Dr. Mishra hailed the young students as "the torch-bearers of our rich heritage and culture"

#### **NEWSLETTER**



and "India's cultural ambassadors" motivating them to participate in India's G20 Presidency. The excitement of the young students was visible in their interaction with the External Affairs Minister during which they posed many probing questions ranging from geopolitical to climate issues.

The G20 University Connect was conceptualized as a marathon of on-campus lectures by academics, former diplomats and subject matter experts during which they interact with young students. The effort in these lectures is to include the youth in the G20 process, sensitize them about the critical issues at the focus of our G20 Presidency and apprise them about their relevance and impact upon them. Until the end of March 2023, 32 such lectures have been organized in universities across the country. Not being limited to only the top universities in metropolitan cities such as IITs and IIMs, G20 University Connect is proactively reaching out to our relatively less-exposed academic centres such as Rajiv Gandhi University in Itanagar, Mizoram University in Aizawl and Pondicherry University in Port Blair.

The focus at these events has been to inculcate interest among students through lectures, model G20, essay competitions, and other interactive activities. When students learn about the relevance of our G20 Presidency from the top diplomats of the country, it motivates them to take up leadership roles. This was seen when Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla, Chief Coordinator for India's G20 Presidency, delivered special lectures at IIM Calcutta and Symbiosis International University, Pune. In March, I too had the fortune of delivering the keynote address at my alma mater Patna College, Patna University where I had done my I.A. in early 1980s. During my interaction with the curious students about the priority areas of India's G20 Presidency and their subsequent importance, I was truly impressed by the deluge of ideas that came from the students themselves. It was quite evident to me that our dedicated and motivated younger generation can positively impact the success of our G20 Presidency. In order to give background information about G20 - its history, structure and agenda, an interesting Primer has been brought out by RIS. This booklet is now available in five languages and can be downloaded from G20 website.

As we move ahead with our Presidency in the subsequent months, these University Connect programmes will cover many more states and regions. This makes the G20 Presidency an opportunity to nurture change-makers

















32 Univ

Universities covered

31

Cities

210

Hours of lectures and interactive sessions by Diplomats & Academics

150,000

Students engaged

and leaders who can contribute to a sustainable and resilient growth, a major need of the hour. Our youth is central to the vision of 'AmritKaal' which includes a technology-driven and knowledge-based economy. In this regard, G20 University Connect successfully engages them as relevant stakeholders and active participants in India's G20 Presidency.

The University Connect has become an attractive component of the overall people-centric approach of India's G20 Presidency. Universities, colleges and schools are increasingly getting involved in organizing many educational events such as lectures, quizzes, debates, sport events to inculcate a sense of participation and learning amongst students. ■



# **C20 INCEPTION MEETING**

### MARCH20-21,2023 | NAGPUR, MAHARASHTRA





G20 Sous Sherpa Under Secretary G20



Swati Paul Consultant

G20



"Indian society is standing on three important pillars- ethics, economy, ecology and environment"

> **Nitin Gadkari** Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways

ighlighting the transformative power of international conversations and importance of exchanging dialogues to drive global transformation, the Civil20 (C20) Inception meeting was held in Nagpur, Maharashtra, on March 20-21, 2023. C20, one of the vital official Engagement Groups of the G20, provides a platform for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) around the world to voice the aspirations and concerns of the people to the G20 leaders.

The C20 inauguration was chaired by Mata Amritanandamayi Devi, Chair, C20 India 2023. Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi was the Chief Guest. The Guest(s) of Honour included Devendra Fadnavis, Deputy



"There is a need to have a robust system of civil society so that the voice of the last man is heard by the Government"

**Devendra Fadnavis** Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra

Chief Minister, Maharashtra; Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, Vice Chairman, Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (the C20 India 2023 Secretariat); Ambassador Vijay Nambiar, C20 Principal Coordinator (Sherpa); Troika Members of C20 -



#### **NEWSLETTER**



Ahmad Maftuchan, C20 Sherpa, Indonesia 2022 and Alessandra Nilo from GESTOS, Brazil; as well as Nivedita Bhide, Vice President, Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari.

True to its motto "You Are The Light", symbolizing the flame of hope, self-motivation and altruistic service, C20's Inception Meeting, displayed the real prowess of Indian CSOs' positive and proactive role in all spheres of Indian society. The Inception Meeting witnessed engaging and substantive deliberations amongst various **CSOs** represented by participants from around 26



countries, out of which 113 were international delegates.

The C20 Inception Meeting explored issues noteworthy in the realization of a better society. Discussions were held, over two days, on the topics of balancing development with environment, promotion of human values and the role of civil society in promoting human development as well as civil societies being the drivers of innovation and technology.

The said deliberations and presentations deeply resonated with India's overall G20 priorities. Various exchanges, at the four plenary sessions, reaffirmed that CSOs can play a major role in solving modern-day problems such as realization of net-zero commitments and attainment of the targets outlined in the Sustainable Development Goals.

Overall, the Inception Meeting highlighted the need for everyone to abide by the universal law of inclusion, as the C20 Chair Mata Amritanandamayi Devi stressed that the future belongs not to single entities, but to those who cooperate and mingle. Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi opined that under its G20 Presidency, India should raise the voice for more effective representation of the Global South. 'Voice of Nagpur' – a compilation of representations from 40 CSOs in Nagpur – was handed over to the C20 Chair by Shri Devendra Fadnavis.

C20 Principal Coordinator Vijay K. Nambiar summarized the C20 Inception discussions and presented a detailed





report of the various activities, undertaken so far, by the C20 Secretariat at the Valedictory Ceremony held on the second day. Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways was the Chief Guest and Additional Secretary (G20) & Sous Sherpa Amb.









Abhay Thakur was the Guest of Honour at the ceremony.

Shri Nitin Gadkari stressed that India is focusing on green growth and is committed towards ecology and environment, while preserving its spirituality. He added that value-based education and the family system are India's biggest strengths. He spoke about India's achievements in the fields of energy transition, sustainable development and circular economy.

Amb. Abhay Thakur, in his valedictory address, highlighted the power of dialogues conversations among international stakeholders for achieving Indian civil society's messages such as being conscious of duty alongside rights, as well as coming up with realistic answers to today's problems. He said that India's G20 Presidency coincides with the beginning of Amrit Kaal, and that the Indian C20 team should engage more actively with the global civil society during the year ahead, using the C20 platform. He outlined the Government of India's G20 priorities and emphasized that Indian CSOs have enormous grassroots mobilization and collaboration skills, and have demonstrated a robust people-to-people connect, which can be emulated globally.

The Inception Meeting closed with a renewed vigour and confidence amongst the participating CSOs and it outlined the uniqueness of C20 India 2023 being the 'spiritual beacon' for the civil society, around the globe. Nagpur's rich history and culture was also showcased in the form of an extravagant light and sound show at Futala Lake, spectacular cultural performances featuring Vidharbhachi Lokdhara folk performance and tribal dance featuring artforms such as Gondhal, Lawani and Chitkor dance at Telankhedi Garden. The C20 delegates also visited the Pench Tiger Reserve and Gau Vigyan Anusandan Kendra, Deolapar, as part of an excursion. They also celebrated Gudi Padwa and bid adieu to Nagpur with fond memories of generous hospitality extended by the people of Nagpur city, famously known as the 'Orange City' and the 'Tiger Capital of India'. ■



# **Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group**

# 1st Meeting

MARCH30-APRIL 01, 2023 | GANDHINAGAR



Ashish Kumar Sinha
Joint Secretary, G20

ujarat's Gandhinagar hosted the G20 delegates for the first meeting of the Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRRWG). Delegates had focused deliberations on a number of topics and exchanged best practices with each other. The newly created DRRWG, part of the Sherpa Track, aims to reduce the loss of life and properties in the event of future calamities.

Usually, G20 members are reluctant to add any new work streams; however, the proposal for DRRWG was supported by everyone—which indicates the need for international collaboration for effective preparedness and handling of disasters.

Disasters know no boundaries and their impacts spill

"G20 platform offers the world a unique opportunity to exercise imagination and find innovative ways to address the problem of disaster risk"



#### Dr P K Mishra

Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister of India

across sectors and supply lines, fomenting poverty and inequality along the way. Growing disasters around the world - both hydro - meteorological events accentuated by climate change and the massively destructive geophysical hazards- threaten lives and livelihoods. Reportedly, not only do disasters kill more people in the developing and least developed countries but also inflict more damage on their economies, as compared to their advanced counterparts. As the disaster management efforts are cross-sectoral and multi-disciplinary, they are critical for the achievement of sustainable development, apart from combating emergencies.

India has supported major disaster response, reconstruction, and recovery programmes internationally. India stood in solidarity with the Turkish people













"India has been investing in developing the technology and promoting innovation in building disaster resilient infrastructure"

**Devusinh Chauhan** Union Minister of State for Communications

(Operation Dost) when a devastating earthquake struck Türkiye and Syria in February. India also undertook Operation Samudra Maitri in 2018 to help tsunami-hit Indonesia, and Operation Maitri in 2015 during the Nepal earthquake. India is known to be a first responder, a net security provider, and a nation whose Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) response is quick and available to neighbours as well as others.

Through the Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group, the G20 would be able to, inter alia, evolve a framework for deeper engagements to promote 100% coverage of the early warning systems, which are especially helpful for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS); common principles on facilitating early action financing; gain greater access to financing for reducing disasters; and develop innovative technological solutions to address disaster risks and recovery.

As India seeks to emerge as the voice of the Global South, the establishment of the DRRWG is an expression of our country's soft power. The DRRWG signals India's rightful leadership strengthening international cooperation around disaster risk reduction, as was done through the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure. ■



## STARTUP 20 SIKKIM SABHA

MARCH18-19,2023 | GANGTOK, SIKKIM -



Chintan Vaishnav
Chair, Startup20

he overarching goal of the Startup20 is to propose a policy framework that achieves two objectives simultaneously: (a) the harmonization of global startup ecosystems to facilitate their working together, (b) to do so without compromising the freedom of national ecosystems to grow the way they see feasible.

To achieve its objectives, Startup20 has established three task forces that focus on critical areas essential for the development of a thriving startup ecosystem. These task forces include Foundations and Alliances, Finances, and Inclusion and Sustainability.

The Foundation and Alliances Task Force aims to promote a global community of knowledge sharing among startup ecosystems and bridge the knowledge gap between G20 member countries and economies through partnerships, startup ecosystems and emerging economies. Startups impact and improve existing markets through innovative products and services or may introduce, create new markets for existing solutions through innovative business models. Startups work in diverse markets and sectors leading to multiple definitions being adopted defining





"Startups in today's world have emerged as key drivers of economic growth, job creation and innovation"

Som Parkash

Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry



"Startup20 is the perfect opportunity for bringing together and interacting with all the stakeholders in a single platform"

Prem Singh Tamang (Golay)

Chief Minister of Sikkim

them and their work across geographies. The main objectives of this taskforce are: to harmonize the global startup ecosystem through consensus-based definitions, and enable more industry players across G20 nations to work with Startups and co-create solutions, create supportive policies for industry players and government organizations to work with startups, and to provide country point of contact for sustained collaboration.

The Startup20 Engagement Group had its Inception Meeting in Hyderabad from January 27-29, 2023, where 80 international and 100 Indian delegates from 25 countries came together to discuss the objectives and outcomes as framed in the Official Issue Note. The group attracted a diverse set of members from the startup ecosystems worldwide including startups, investors, incubators and accelerators, innovation agencies, industry representatives, multilateral organizations, and country missions. The gathering represented delegates from the G20 countries as well as nine observer countries.

The second meeting of Startup20 took place on March 18-19, 2023 in Gangtok, Sikkim, and again brought together delegates from G20 member and invitee countries. This gathering offered a unique opportunity to showcase the North East of India's growing and distinctive startup ecosystem. The success of this event built upon the agenda established in Hyderabad, which received immense support from all attendee delegates of G20 nations.

The interactions so far have produced a set of concrete recommendations that now will be sharpened through public consultations with startups around the world to ensure that their voices are indeed reflected in what will ultimately be the Communiqué.







# COLLABORATE & INNOVATE

# Robust R&D To Take On Future Pandemic Threat



Dr Renu Swarup

Former Secretary to Government of India Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology

esearch and Innovation are today globally recognised as the key drivers of sustainable economic growth. Research & Development (R&D) is a continuous process which is required not only to develop new solutions for current challenges, but also to take up cutting edge technological development for

the future. Innovation is the key pillar of R&D to tackle key challenges and find novel solutions for meeting domestic and global demands. Countries around the world are increasingly investing in R&D and innovation for building the required capacity to develop science and technology based solutions to boost productivity and address pressing developmental challenges. The World Bank data shows that the global average investment in R&D as a percent of GDP increased from 2.2% in 2018 to 2.6% in 2020.

The OECD 2020 data on R&D investment by G20 countries shows Korea as the highest spender having invested 4.8% of GDP in R&D, followed by the USA at 3.5% and Japan at 3.3%. Among the G20 nations, several governments have introduced policies to stimulate innovation to unleash the true potential of deploying science and emerging technologies to address local challenges and develop innovative products that not only transform national economies, but also shape modern societies globally.

The statement of the G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering in 2022 also emphasised that, "building a strong research and innovation ecosystem



Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare Dr Mansukh Mandaviya unveiling world's first intranasal COVID-19 vaccine, iNNCOVACC in the presence of Union Minister of State for Science and Technology Dr Jitendra Singh



is an important agenda of the G20 Presidency in responding to global crises and challenges. To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), members of the G20 countries need to demonstrate strong leadership and collaboration in research and innovation as a driving force in finding solutions to global problems." This is true not just for our collective response towards COVID but also for our response to be prepared for future pandemics.

The pandemic has highlighted the need for nations to be prepared to respond to health crises. The last three years were marked by challenges posed by COVID-19 pandemic and the role science played in responding to these challenges. The pandemic tested our resilience and we witnessed how science and technology took giant strides to help the global community to mitigate the impact of the virus. The learnings and successes, such as ramping up indigenous testing capacities, building local indigenous strengths for manufacture of raw material and components to minimise import dependency and collaboration across sectors and communities for innovation and development of indigenous vaccines, genomic surveillance, has helped us build a stronger

ecosystem to fight health India's crises. success story of diagnostic self sufficiency in less than two months and the largest portfolio of vaccines developed in the shortest time frame has given us the confidence of having a much stronger sciencebased response to any challenge we may face in the future.

pandemic has highlighted the need nations prepared to respond to health crises. The last three years were marked by challenges bv posed COVID-19 pandemic and the role science played in responding to these challenges.

For a research ecosystem to deliver successes, there are three pillars - capacity, cutting edge technologies and collaboration. The G20 members have emphasised on all these during the pandemic. It is, however, important that this robust ecosystem which has delivered so effectively during the crisis is sustained & developed further to take on future challenges.

The ecosystem today allows for very effective collaboration between countries and importantly between academia and industry. A key unique feature of this collective war we fought against the pandemic was the



global recognition of sharing of data. From the virus gene sequence data which allowed vaccine development at an unprecedented speed, to global genomic surveillance data sharing which allowed us to track the virus and its numerous fast evolving mutations, data and knowledge sharing was critical to this success.

The G20 Bali declaration in November 2022 stated, "We recognize the need for strengthening local and regional health product manufacturing capacities and cooperation as well as sustainable global and regional research and development networks to facilitate better access to VTDs globally, especially in developing countries, and underscore the importance of public-private partnership, and technology transfer and knowledge sharing on voluntary and mutually agreed terms."

SARS-CoV-2 is not the last disease we are fighting a war against. Humans will be challenged by a large number of pathogens & other health priorities and the focus will remain on science based solutions to mitigate those challenges. This robust ecosystem which we have built is now ready to deliver. The G20 is an opportunity for countries to agree on building a Collaborative Research and Innovation Hub which further strengthens this agenda and works towards fulfilling our aim of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam - One Earth, One Family, One Future".



# **Agriculture Working Group**

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Agricultural Deputies Meeting

MARCH 29-31, 2023 | CHANDIGARH

A platform for countries to come together and work towards a sustainable future for agriculture and food security



#### **Sessions**

Food Market Situation & Outlook Status &
Developments
in Agricultural
Market
Information
System

Vision for the Future Evolution of the Initiative Identifying Capacity Building Needs & Strategies Asia's Role in Regional & Global Food Security The Impact of Financial Factors on Importing Countries









"Agriculture Working Group during India's G20 Presidency will help in building a consensus on the way forward for sustainable global agriculture, keeping in mind the spirit of One Earth, One Family, One Future"

Som Parkash Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry





# **Anti-Corruption Working Group**1st Meeting

MARCH 01-04, 2023 | GURUGRAM

he first meeting of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) under India's G20 Presidency was hosted in Gurugram, Haryana from March 01-04, 2023. Over 90 delegates from 20 member countries, 10 invitee countries and 9 International Organizations attended the meeting and shared their experiences in anti-corruption initiatives.

On the first day of the ACWG, a Side Event was held on Leveraging Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to curb corruption in the public sector, an area in which India's recent initiatives like the GEM Portal and DBT have been globally recognized. During this event, leading experts from India showcased how India has adapted the power of ICT to curb corruption in public service delivery.

"There were in-depth discussions on several key areas for crackdown on economic offenders at the international level, and on institutional framework to deal with corruption and mutual legal assistance"







#### **NEWSLETTER**





"Corruption is a complex social, political, and economic challenge affecting all countries, and in a globalized world corruption has ramifications well

# Dr Jitendra Singh Union Minister of State for PMO & Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

beyond the G20"

During the three days, intensive and productive deliberations were held on several key focal areas pertaining to Asset Recovery, Fugitive Economic Offenders, formal and informal channels of cooperation for information sharing, institutional frameworks for combating corruption and mutual legal assistance, among others. The presentations and interventions of country delegates and experts from UNODC, OECD, Egmont Group, INTERPOL and IMF enriched the discussions. Italy, cochair of the G20 ACWG, reaffirmed its staunch support for India's agenda at the G20 ACWG while highlighting the need to engage with civil society and the business community as part of a multi-stakeholder approach that is required to effectively fight against corruption.

The meeting also led to progress in discussing the High-Level Principles on Improving Information sharing for fighting Corruption and related economic crimes, Strengthening Asset Recovery Mechanisms, Strengthening Law Enforcement Cooperation for Action against Corruption and related economic crimes, and Promoting Integrity and Effectiveness of Public Bodies responsible for Preventing and Combating Corruption.

In Gurugram, G20 delegates were given a flavor of India's rich culture, heritage and cuisine and were also taken for a visit to Haryana's Sultanpur National Park, a paradise for birdwatchers where 90 migratory bird species arrive every year in search of feeding grounds and to spend the winter. The delegates were also taken to Pratapgarh Farms in Jhajjar, where they were welcomed with the traditional Haryanvi turbans.

The second and third ACWG meeting will be held in Rishikesh from May 25-27, 2023 and in Kolkata from August 09-11, 2023, respectively, to build upon the discussions of the 1st ACWG meeting. ■











# Framework Working Group

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting

MARCH 24-25, 2023 | CHENNAI

he 2nd G20 Framework Working Group (FWG) meeting under India's G20 Presidency successfully concluded in Chennai with G20 delegates discussing the global economic outlook.

Around 87 delegates from G20 member countries, invitees, and international organizations attended the meeting and agreed on the way forward for

"Some of the goals that Indian G20 Presidency is pursuing includes international cooperation to address macroeconomic impact

of food, climate change and energy transitions"

V Anantha Nageswaran

Chief Economic Adviser Government of India important deliverables for the year, including those on macroeconomic consequences of food and energy insecurity and climate change and transition pathways.

The discussions also highlighted the difficult tradeoffs countries face as they balance short-term energy security with long-term structural reforms for the

transition to cleaner energy. Ensuring availability and accessibility of critical minerals to facilitate smoother transition as well as generating domestic savings to meet investment needs and thereby boost economic growth for the

transition were also issues that informed the discussions.

the discussions.

On the sidelines of this meeting, a panel discussion on "Macroeconomic Impacts of Climate Change and Transition pathways" was also organized in collaboration with the UAE. The session aimed to develop a collective understanding of the challenges facing countries during the climate transition and initiate a discussion on the macroeconomics around climate policy action and transition pathways.

An outreach program with IIT Chennai and Madras School of Economics was also held in the run-up to the meeting.

The delegates also had the opportunity to experience the rich cultural heritage of Tamil Nadu during an excursion to a few landmark places in Chennai.





# COMING UP April 2023

### Energy Working Group

2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting April 02-04, 2023

Gandhinagar, the dynamic and vibrant capital city of Gujarat, will be hosting the 2nd Energy Transitions Working Group Meeting to carry forward the discussions on global best practices for supporting Just, Affordable, and Inclusive energy transitions. The first Energy Transitions Working Group Meeting was held in Bengaluru from February 05-07, 2023.



# **Tourism Working Group**

2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting April 01-03, 2023

Located on the banks of the Mahananda River and at the Himalayan foothills, Siliguri in West Bengal will be hosting the delegates for the 2nd Tourism Working Group Meeting from April 01-03, 2023. The lush green tea gardens and majestic snowcovered Himalayas of Siliguri and Darjeeling will be a treat for the delegates. This meeting will take forward the deliberations of the first meeting of the Tourism Working Group under India's G20 Presidency which was held from February 07-09, 2023 in Rann of Kutch, Gujarat.



# **Employment Working Group**

2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting April 03-05, 2023

Famed as the "Gateway to North East India", Guwahati will be hosting the 2nd Employment Working Group Meeting in April to make meaningful progress in creating more opportunities for decent work and inclusive growth for all. The discussions will build upon the outcomes of the First Employment Working Group meeting held in Jodhpur from February 02-04, 2023.



### Development Working Group

2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting April 06-09, 2023

Kumarakom, a cluster of little islands on the Vembanad Lake in Kerala, will be hosting the 2nd Development Working Group Meeting in April. The **Development Working Group has** been acting as the custodian of G20 'development agenda' since its inception in 2010. The 1st **Development working meeting** was held in Mumbai in December 2022 with a focus on India's key priorities relating to accelerating progress on the SDGs, Lifestyle for environment and data for development.



### Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors

2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting April 12-13, 2023

The 2nd Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting during India's G20 Presidency will be held in Washington D.C., the capital city of the United States of America and also home to the headquarters of many important international organisations. The 1st G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting was held in Bengaluru, the IT capital of India from February 24-25, 2023.





# Digital Economy Working Group

2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting April 17-19, 2023

Popularly known as the 'City of Pearls', Hyderabad, the capital of Telangana will welcome the delegates for the 2nd Digital Economy Working Group Meeting to be held from April 17-19, 2023. The 1st DEWG meeting which took place in Lucknow, showcased India's digital transformation journey, and brought together G20 members, key knowledge partners, and guest countries to discuss digital public infrastructure, cybersecurity, and digital skilling.



### Health Working Group

2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting

April 17-19, 2023

Goa, the smallest state of India, and the home to some of the most overwhelming beaches will be hosting the G20 delegates for 2nd Health Working Group Meeting. The Health Track of the G20 India Presidency will comprise four Health Working Group Meetings and one Health Ministerial Meeting. India has identified three priorities for the G20 Health Track.



### Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists

April 17-19, 2023

Varanasi, one of the world's oldest, continuously inhabited cities will be welcoming G20 delegates for the Meeting of **Agricultural Chief Scientists** (MACS) from April 17-19, 2023. It is an initiative of the agricultural ministers of the G20 States to address central questions in fields of agriculture and nutrition. Under India's G20 Presidency, the meeting will focus on food security and nutrition, digital agriculture and sustainable agri value chain, resilient agri-food systems, public private partnership in agriculture

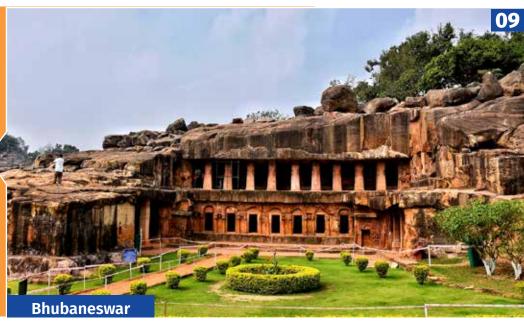


# **Education Working Group**

3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

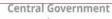
April 24-27, 2023

Bhubaneswar, the capital of Odisha, will be hosting the **3rd Education Working Group** Meeting from April 24-27, 2023. The Education Working Group will host a total of four meetings under India's G20 Presidency, with the last one to be held in Pune, Maharashtra on June 20-21, 2023. During its deliberations, the Education Working Group will prioritise inclusive, equitable, relevant and quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all.





# **Media Coverage**



#### শ্রেষ্ঠ আসন?



# President with prowess



### India shines in the G20 presidency



# REUTERS

#### How India's G20 presidency can set an example in prioritising water action

dia is already on a mission to achieve SDG 6 targets. It can leverage in rainability of these initiatives, and offer support to other countries



Indian Express

# 'अन्नदाता' होतीय 'ऊर्जादात

ना. गडकरी; 'जी २०' माध्यमातून भारत जगाला दिशा देण



a standabili when urgent action is needed to address growing global poverty, ind

#### રશિયા જી-૨૦માં ભારતની સફળતા આડે રોડું બને છે?

વડા મથન નેન મોડીને છ-10 વિડેટ કહ્યું હતું કે પુરું મુક્ત કારણે વૈચિક મનમે છ-10મેં માલમાંટ વિડેટમંદ્રીઓ તેમના

#### Working hand in hand to showcase India

## ഒരു ഭൂമി-ഒരു കുടുംബം-ഒരു ഭാവി





Deepika



