G20 LEADERS' SUMMIT COUNTDOWN BEGINS

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ONE EARTH • ONE FAMILY • ONE FUTURE

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Startup20

INCLUSIVE, DECISIVE AND ACTION-ORIENTED

JULY 03-04, 2023 | GURUGRAM

Piyush Goyal

Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles; Leader of the House, Rajya Sabha

When India assumed the Presidency of the G20 on December 1, 2022, the Honorable Prime Minister Narendra Modi famously announced that India's Presidency of the G20 will be "inclusive, decisive, and action oriented". Looking back, we can safely say that Startup20, the only new Engagement Group launched during India's Presidency, has delivered on all three dimensions. Under India's leadership the group has gone from zero to one. It has produced a first ever Policy Communiquè for the G20 leaders comprising a compelling set of recommendations for weaving the national startup ecosystems into a global one. The cherry on the icing is, the Brazil Presidency has decided to carry the group forward next year.

Startup20 represents a vast canvas. The startup ecosystems across G20 nations add up to over 850,000 startups; 1600 unicorns; 20,000 incubators; and 41,000 investors such as Angel Investors, Venture Capitalists, and Private Equities. There are startups in all sectors of the economy. Every G20 nation today is supporting startups. The Startup20 Engagement Group set out to

harness this energy through an inclusive, decisive, and action-oriented agenda.

INCLUSIVE

Startup20 developed the Policy Communiquè through an intensely participatory process. Over four physical meetings in Hyderabad, Gangtok, Goa, and Gurugram, more than 500 international delegates from 25 countries and 1000 stakeholders from India participated. More strikingly, the Draft Policy Communiquè the group produced was opened up for public consultation. This move spurred something unexpected: across India and other nations over 40 startup meetings sprang up to discuss the document, resulting in over 800 comments from 15 nations. They represented views of startups, investors, ecosystem builders, policymakers, and more. It would not be an exaggeration to say that it was this process where no one was excluded that made the final step of building consensus painless.

Startup20 built itself up through deeply democratic processes. The very scaffolding comprising five task forces — foundation, alliances, finance, inclusion, and sustainability — emerged through an intensive brainstorm among over twenty five nations at the inception meeting in Hyderabad. Furthermore, the chairs and co-chairs of these task forces were elected by the groups. The result was, there was a deep sense of ownership to the task at hand.

Startup20 architected itself to listen to both top-down and bottom-up voices. Early on, the group recognized that, while its Task Force Councils, where the core policy topics were discussed and developed, comprised of subject matter experts and highly effective leaders, there needed to be a mechanism to hear the voices of the global ecosystems bottom-up, as that's where the real action takes place. To capture this energy, Startup20 created a platform called Startup20x, allowing ecosystems across G20 nations to co-brand and globalize their events. In the words of Mahatma Gandhi, Startup20x is created with the vision of 'Antyodaya' of the global startup ecosystem. This platform will continue as the presidency moves to Brazil.

DECISIVE

The overarching goal of Startup20 is to provide startups from G20 nations an equitable voice in the global economic discourse. As the work progressed, the group recognized the sincere efforts of every G20 nation to support startups, and has proposed decisive measures to weave the national startup ecosystems into a global one.

In its inception year, the group has called upon G20 leaders to raise their joint annual investment in the global startup ecosystem to US$ 1 trillion by 2030. To harmonize the global startup ecosystem, while retaining the autonomy of the national ecosystems and helping startups achieve full potential, the group has recommended (a) adopting a Global Startup Definition Framework and governance, and due diligence standards (b) creating channels to access global financing, market, and talent (c) emphasizing inclusive practices to support diverse and under-represented groups and (d) building capacity to identify and scale startups that address our common challenges such as achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

To implement these measures, it has proposed building a networked institution of existing nodal agencies across G20 nations. To measure the success of these joint actions of G20 nations the group has suggested four measures: ability to scout promising startups internationally, fund them collaboratively, mentor them contextually, and scale them globally.

The clarity and magnitude of this commitment by G20 as well as invited nations speaks for itself. Reaching an annual investment of US$ 1 trillion by 2030 amounts to an investment rate that is 2.5-3 times that of the average rate over the past years. The group has resolved that such a goal, while ambitious, is achievable with joint commitment.

ACTION-ORIENTED

The work of Startup20 has already produced several actionable outcomes. For the first time the world came together to produce a consensus-based Startup Definition Framework. The framework is based on the existing definitions of startups across the G20 countries, the academic literature, and expert consultations. Such a framework is intended to help stakeholders understand what makes an entity a "startup" in different parts of the world and how to "value" it. Demystifying this question is at the heart of addressing the fundamental challenge of bringing startup valuation in line with the real value.

Recognizing that the true potential of startups will not be realized until startup ecosystems establish a culture of accountability, transparency, and ethical behavior at all levels through self-governance, the group has produced a Startup Governance Framework. This framework is a comprehensive guide for startup founders to take practical measures to embrace corporate-like governance at early, mid, and mature stages. The framework aspires to ensure that governance need not be an afterthought no matter what is the stage of startup.

Leveraging the existing commitment of G20 nations towards meeting the sustainable development goals (SDGs), the group published a Framework for Identifying and Guiding SDG-focused Startups. This framework tackles the important challenge of identifying and fostering startups that are truly SDG-focused and proposes ways to scale them to global impact.

Acknowledging the importance of including the under-represented groups and communities on one hand, and the challenge of catering to the great diversity of who it is that is considered under-represented on the other, the group has produced a cataloging of Inclusive Practices Across G20 Nations when it comes to building innovation ecosystems.

Finally, to ensure that the above actions are taken consistently and effectively, the group has proposed an Architecture for a Global Networked Institution. This framework envisages a three-tier networked institution comprising a Global Network of Centers (GNC) that will weave together the existing regional nodes (RNs) via regional network centers (RNC) that acts as their nodal access point or point of contact.

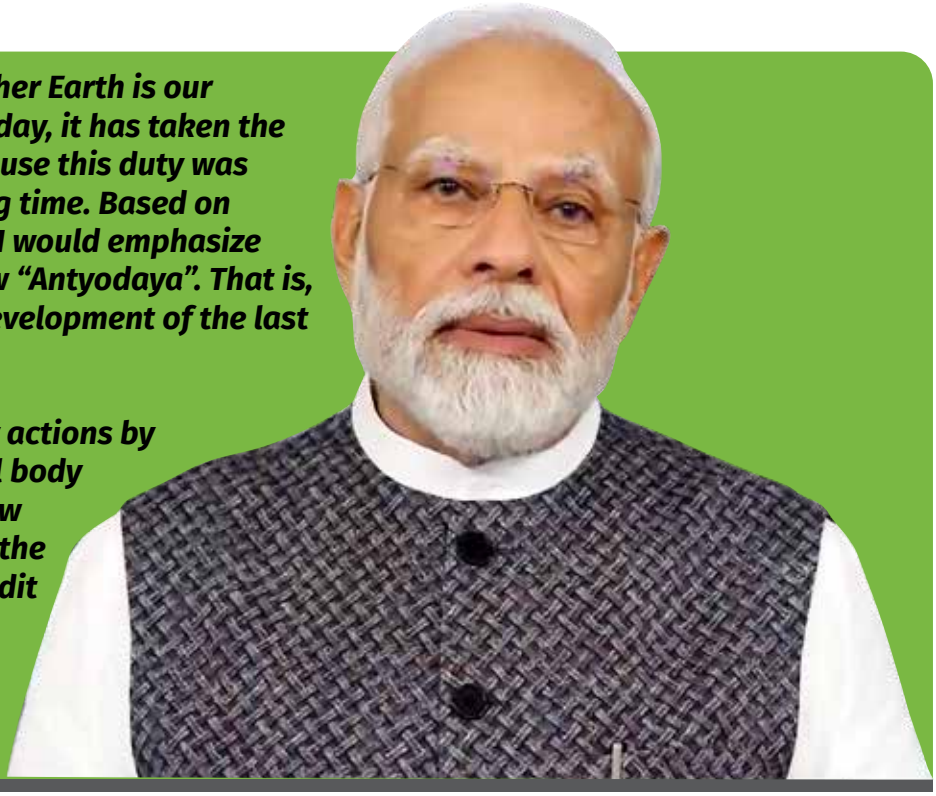
What Startup20 has achieved over the past six months lays the foundation for the next decade of work in building the global startup ecosystem. This is the power of fully embracing the philosophy undergirding India's G20 Presidency: One Earth, One Family, One Future. ■

Environment and Climate Sustainability Ministers' Meeting

JULY 28, 2023 | CHENNAI

"Protecting and caring for Mother Earth is our fundamental responsibility. Today, it has taken the shape of "Climate Action" because this duty was ignored by many for a very long time. Based on India's traditional knowledge, I would emphasize that Climate Action must follow "Antyodaya". That is, we must ensure the rise and development of the last person in society."

"In India, environment-friendly actions by any person, company or a local body will not go unnoticed. It can now earn them green credits under the recently announced "Green Credit Programme".



Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India

OUTCOMES

- **UNANIMOUS adoption of Outcome Document on Chennai High Level Principles for a Sustainable and Resilient Blue/Ocean-based Economy**
- **Launch of 2 Presidency Documents under the theme of Blue Economy, 4 Presidency Documents of Best Practices under the theme Land and Biodiversity, and Water resources management, 4 Presidency Documents under the theme Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy**
- **Launch of Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy Industry Coalition (RECEIC)**

Positive Outcomes & Promising Achievements

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE SUSTAINABILITY MINISTERS' MEETING

JULY 28, 2023 | CHENNAI

Bhupender Yadav

Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change; and Labour & Employment

The Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) wrapped up its work with the Environment and Climate Ministers' meeting on July 28, signifying a successful conclusion to their gathering.

On December 01, 2022, India assumed the G20 Presidency, aiming to build upon previous accomplishments and establish a path of ambition to lay the groundwork for the succeeding Presidency. Amidst a challenging global landscape, the ECSWG took up the vital role of driving G20 cooperation in addressing complex and multi-dimensional climate and environmental challenges. Aligned with India's G20 vision as laid out by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, ECSWG set forth on a mission to foster an integrated, comprehensive, and consensus-driven approach to combat climate change effectively.

At the outset, the ECSWG issued a comprehensive issue note outlining its primary objective: to strive for the restoration of degraded landscapes, the preservation of marine and terrestrial biodiversity, and the reduction of intensity of resource consumption and environmental footprint. To achieve sustainable climate, environment, and biodiversity goals, the ECSWG identified three key priorities. First, arresting land degradation, accelerating

ecosystem restoration, and enriching biodiversity. Second, promoting a sustainable and climate-resilient blue economy; and third, encouraging resource efficiency and circular economy. How climate change affects each of these subjects was dealt with. The thematic priorities embedded the consideration of principles of sustainable lifestyles, which also echoed the ethos of Mission LiFE, launched by PM Modi globally in 2021. By adopting an inclusive, ambitious and action-oriented approach, the ECSWG sought to convey a united message from the G20 nations to the world, underscoring the significance of these priorities.

The 1st G20 ECSWG meeting was held in Bengaluru from February 09-11, 2023, which saw active participation from delegates, demonstrating their support and dedication to collaboratively work towards the objectives of the three priority areas outlined by the Presidency. The 2nd G20 ECSWG meeting, which was held in Gandhinagar, involved extensive deliberations on various initiatives under the identified themes, along with a dedicated session focused on discussing the outline of the outcome document or the statement from the G20 Ministers to the world. The focus of this meeting was on Water Resource Management with a side event hosted, followed by thematic site visit to the Adalaj Vav, Sabarmati siphon, Sabarmati Riverfront and Narmada Main Canal, showcasing India's ancient water management practices and the nation's long-standing tradition of conserving water resources to the G20 delegates.

The 3rd G20 ECSWG meeting took place in Mumbai from May 21-23, 2023. It involved extensive discussions on the draft Outcome Document with deliberations tuned towards driving consensus amongst the G20 countries on various challenging topics. The theme of this meeting was based on the theme of Blue Economy. A Mega Beach clean-up was organised, raising awareness about community participation in safeguarding coasts and oceans. The event received overwhelming participation, and delegates pledged to protect beaches. Additionally, the Ocean 20 dialogue involved experts-led discussions on addressing ocean-related challenges.

In addition to the work conducted during in-person ECSWG meetings, our Presidency conducted over 45 virtual meetings, some lasting up to 7 hours or more, with G20 delegates, in order to gain maximum consensus before the final ECSWG meeting, given that the working group's mandate is vast and extensive. The aim was to deliberate meticulously, line-by-line, and find common ground among the 20 member nations on critical issues, while also considering perspectives provided by the invitee countries and international organisations.

The 4th G20 ECSWG meeting, along with the Environment and Climate Ministers' meeting, took place in Chennai from July 26 to 28. After seven months of dedicated efforts, intense negotiations, and round-the-clock deliberations at the 4th ECSWG meeting, India's Presidency achieved a significant milestone - the issue of Outcome Document and Chair Summary by the G20 Environment and Climate Ministers on July 28. This historic achievement saw unanimous agreement on 64 out of 68 paragraphs by all the G20 Environment and Climate Ministers. Moreover, they adopted the 'Chennai High-Level Principles on Sustainable and Resilient Blue/ Ocean-based Economy', marking a remarkable step towards fostering a sustainable and resilient ocean-based economy.

This is a landmark outcome for a number of reasons. India's Presidency was successful in facilitating agreement among G20 countries on recognising the importance of limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees, adaptation action and loss and damage, the upcoming global stocktake, economy wide emission reductions, and sustainable lifestyles to combat climate change. G20 ministers unanimously emphasised on the need for actions to address interconnected climate and environment challenges and reiterated G20's leadership role in tackling climate change and ambitious action

across all pillars of the Paris Agreement. In the domain of Mitigation, conversations emerged around aligning 2030 NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions) with the Paris Agreement, emphasizing Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDs), and engaging constructively in the Mitigation Work Programme. The G20 also stressed on the urgency to enhance cross-sectoral adaptation and building resilience to safeguard livelihoods and protect developmental achievements amid changing climate, especially in developing nations. Additionally, the significance of scaling finance for adaptation and the upcoming Global Goal for Adaptation was highlighted.

G20 Ministers also noted the role of development choices for prosperity and wellbeing of current and future generations. For the first time in G20, all members expressed their determination to end plastic pollution, including in the marine environment. An action-oriented roadmap for the restoration of forest fire and mining impacted areas, given these are biodiversity rich, has been established, marking the first instance of such an initiative in an international forum. The Gandhinagar Implementation Roadmap aided by the Gandhinagar Information Platform aims to provide a global template for restoration. Through this outcome, G20 members reiterated their commitment to achieve the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework's 2030 mission to take urgent action for halting and reversing biodiversity loss, and its 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature, and supported implementation of several of its targets.

Despite significant progress, certain areas proved challenging for the G20 to reach a consensus. Key issues, such as achieving net zero energy systems, tripling renewable energy capacity, phasing down unabated fossil fuels, and ensuring access to low-cost financing for developing countries among others remained subjects of diverse viewpoints. While some G20 members stressed on the urgency to achieve a global peaking of emissions by no later than 2025 and reducing emissions by 60% by 2035 compared to 2019 levels, the importance of developed countries reaching net zero status by 2040 was emphasized.

Our Presidency also created a wealth of knowledge in this working group with the development of 10 presidency documents. The leaders thanked India's Presidency for its efforts in developing the compendiums of best practices in water management, mining affected areas, and forest fire impacted areas, conducting technical study on 'Accelerating the transition to a sustainable and resilient blue economy', and technical documents on important topics like Knowledge Exchange on Circular Economy in Steel Sector, Extended Producer Responsibility, Circular Bioeconomy. To strengthen the G20 Global Land Initiative, the Presidency also came up with 'Gandhinagar Implementation Roadmap' and 'Gandhinagar Implementation Framework' for voluntary adoption by G20 members.

The launch of an industry-led Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy Industry Coalition (RECEIC) marked a significant milestone under India's G20 Presidency. On the sidelines of the 4th ECSWG meeting, the industry coalition was launched in the presence of G20 Environment Ministers from 8 countries. Thanking the Indian Presidency for its efforts in launching RECEIC, G20 Ministers also invited the G20 Resource Efficiency dialogue to engage with RECEIC and leverage synergies in future.

The ECSWG and Ministerial Meeting concluded on a positive note, with all G20 Ministers showing unity in their commitment to tackle urgent global climate and environmental challenges. The successful outcomes achieved at ECSWG have laid a strong foundation for the upcoming COP and the next G20. ■

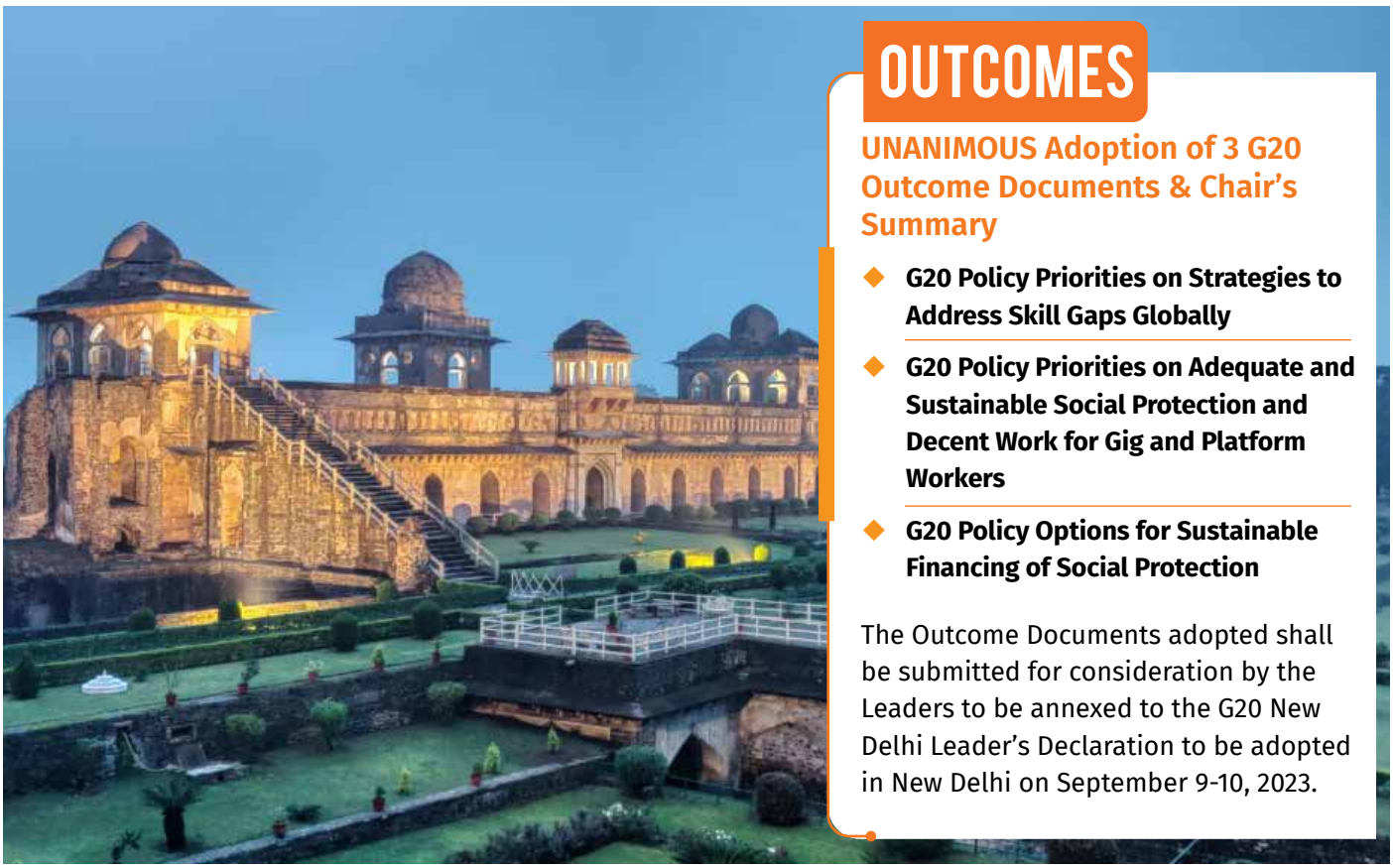
Labour and Employment Ministers' Meeting

JULY 21, 2023 | INDORE

"In this era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, technology has become and will remain the core driver for employment. It is fortunate that this meeting is happening in a country that has had the experience of creating a large number of technology jobs during the last such technology-led transformation."

"Mobile workforce is going to be a reality in the future. Therefore, it is now time to globalize the development and sharing of skills in the true sense. The G20 must play a leading role in this."

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India



OUTCOMES

UNANIMOUS Adoption of 3 G20 Outcome Documents & Chair's Summary

- **G20 Policy Priorities on Strategies to Address Skill Gaps Globally**
- **G20 Policy Priorities on Adequate and Sustainable Social Protection and Decent Work for Gig and Platform Workers**
- **G20 Policy Options for Sustainable Financing of Social Protection**

The Outcome Documents adopted shall be submitted for consideration by the Leaders to be annexed to the G20 New Delhi Leader's Declaration to be adopted in New Delhi on September 9-10, 2023.

A Historic Leap

LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT MINISTERS' MEETING

JULY 21, 2023 | INDORE

Bhupender Yadav

Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change; and Labour & Employment

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had at the very outset said that India's G20 agenda will be inclusive, ambitious, action-oriented, and decisive. The Labour and Employment Ministers' (LEM) meeting for the G20 Employment Working Group (EWG), which concluded in Indore on July 21, succeeded in furthering this agenda.

Under India's G20 Presidency, the Indore LEM meeting marked a significant milestone with the adoption of the Outcome Documents and Chair's Summary. The Outcome Documents reflect the collective resolve of the G20 countries to address the pressing labour challenges facing the world of work today.

The EWG's mandate is to address priority labour, employment and social issues to develop strong, sustainable, balanced, inclusive and job-rich growth.

The group's work is crucial in shaping labour policies and practices across the G20 countries, impacting two-thirds of the global population.

Under the Indian Presidency, the EWG identified three priority areas:

- **Addressing global skill gaps**
- **Gig and platform economy and social protection**
- **Sustainable financing of social protection**

World over, these issues are emerging as challenges for national governments. Under the Indian Presidency, four EWG meetings in Jodhpur, Guwahati, Geneva, and Indore preceded the LEM meeting. These meetings were instrumental in shaping the discussions and outcomes of the LEM meeting.

The LEM adoption of the Outcome Documents has been a landmark achievement. In a historic move, the G20 LEM made progress in fostering consensus on broader political issues. For the first time in India's Presidency, the G20 members in the LEM meeting agreed on the crucial paragraph, which speaks about respect for multilateralism and international law and the purposes and principles of the UN Charter. PM Modi's message which stated that 'today's era must not be of war' was also agreed to by consensus by all G20 in para 16 of the Outcome Document. This is a significant acceptance of India's appeal for peace and it steered the G20 process towards a robust consensus.

The Outcome Documents represent a roadmap to address challenges across the three EWG priority areas. Mega-trends, such as digitisation, demographic changes, and green transitions have aggravated global skill gaps, as echoed in the first G20 EWG priority area. The Outcome Document 'G20 Policy Priorities on Strategies to Address Skill Gaps Globally' includes commitments by the G20 nations on basic comparable indicators in respective national surveys for collection and analysis of skill gap data.

These datasets will be captured on the 'ILO & OECD's Skills for Jobs Database portal' whose services, as agreed, will be extended to all the G20 countries. Another outcome is an agreement to develop an international reference classification of occupations — a first globally. These outcomes will benefit the G20 population by

Rajwada Palace

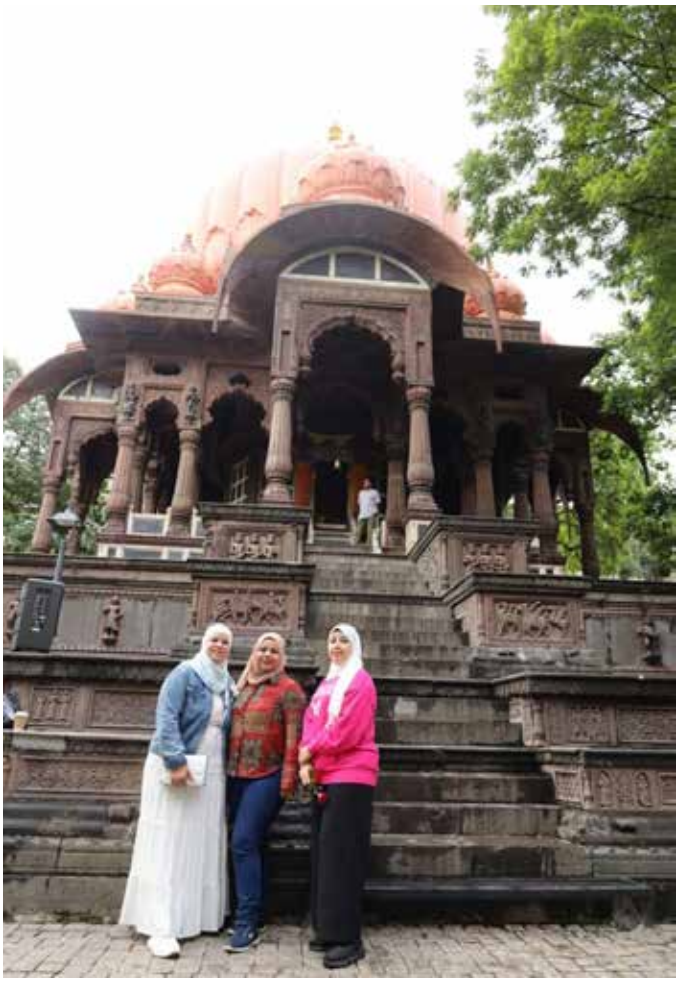
Mandu Fort

facilitating cross-country comparability, benchmarking, optimal skilling, re-skilling and up-skilling, and mutual recognition of skills and qualifications. PM Modi captured the importance of these outcomes well in his address at the G20 LEM Meeting, when he said, "Mobile workforce is going to be a reality in the future. Therefore, it is now a time to globalise the development and sharing of skills in the true sense."

The gig and platform economy has spurred a new form of work where the workers participate outside the formal employer-employee relationship. This exponentially increasing workforce largely remains outside the ambit of social protection. The issue of social protection for these workers has therefore been selected as the second G20 EWG priority area under the Indian Presidency. The 'G20 Policy Priorities on Adequate and Sustainable Social Protection and Decent Work for Gig and Platform Workers' includes a pledge to provide adequate social protection for all workers, irrespective of classification. Other outcomes include shared responsibility of all parties for sustainable financing of social protection and social protection across borders for online platform workers through bilateral or multilateral agreements. These will help such workers tide over stresses across the life cycle. In India alone, 7.7 million gig and platform workers are set to benefit from this.

The 'G20 Policy Priorities on Adequate and Sustainable Social Protection and Decent Work for Gig and Platform Workers' includes a pledge to provide adequate social protection for all workers, irrespective of classification.

The most recent version of the World Social Protection Report 2020-22 by ILO revealed that only 46.9% of the world's population receives the benefits of at least one social protection programme. The third EWG priority area under the Indian Presidency



Boliya Sarkar Chhatri

acknowledges the financing gap in ensuring social security coverage for the respective G20 country populations. The outcome document, 'G20 Policy Options for Sustainable Financing of Social Protection', includes a menu of policy options, including contributory and non-contributory mechanisms to ensure sustainable financing of adequate social protection for all. G20 countries may adopt these as per their respective national circumstances. This will enable people globally to avail gainful employment with adequate social protection for all, leading to resilient and inclusive economic development.

The G20 EWG also took the opportunity to showcase the rich cultural and culinary heritage of Indore, in particular, and Madhya Pradesh, in general, through a range of cultural and wellness activities. The Cultural Evening provided an immersive experience of Madhya Pradesh's vibrant cultural diversity with traditional music, dance, and artistic performances. A captivating Heritage Walk was organised around the historic city centre of Indore. A first in the history of LEM meetings, the sessions were interspersed with regular yoga breaks to rejuvenate the delegates.

The EWG's mandate is to address priority labour, employment and social issues to develop strong, sustainable, balanced, inclusive and job-rich growth.

The LEM meeting under the G20 Indian Presidency is a crucial milestone. As a testament to the spirit of international cooperation, the 20 G20 countries converged on global labour-related issues and agreed on steps, collectively and at the national level, to address them. The outcomes of the LEM meeting are a step forward in the right direction, but efforts must continue to develop public policies to promote decent work and labour welfare for workers across the world. After all, we constitute 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'. ■

Committed to Advancing Global Research and Innovation for a Better Tomorrow

RESEARCH MINISTERS' MEETING

JULY 05-06, 2023 | MUMBAI

Dr Jitendra Singh
Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology

The G20, an intergovernmental forum comprising 19 countries and the European Union (EU) works to address major issues related to the global economy, such as international financial stability, climate change mitigation, and sustainable development. It consists of most of the world's largest economies, including both industrialized and developing nations.

India assumed the Presidency of G20 in 2023 starting from Dec 1, 2022 until Nov 30, 2023. During its G20 Presidency period, India strived to maintain the continuity of the inter-year agenda under the Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) and Research Ministers Meeting.

Working under the Presidency-theme of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or 'One Earth, One Family, One Future', India identified 'Research and Innovation for an Equitable Society' as the main theme of RIIG during its Presidency. RIIG Meetings were planned to provide platforms for stakeholders at all levels to share ideas and create new partnerships to elevate Research and Innovation as a tool to achieve socio-economic equity.

Policy Approach and Objective

Government policymakers have an inherent focus on designing frameworks that would generate new markets and sustain macro-economic growth. These mission driven frameworks largely enable the Research–Innovation ecosystem, that leads to creation of new technologies, strengthening the socially beneficial nature of research and innovation. However, more efforts are needed to extend the research and innovation benefits towards achieving socio-economic equity, by enabling greater public participation in setting up research priorities. Through RIIG, G20 member countries proposed to address areas of common interest and working on developing sustainable solutions for science-driven equity.

PRIORITY ISSUES AND THEMES FOR DISCUSSION

- Materials for Sustainable Energy
- Circular Bio-economy
- Eco-innovations for Energy Transition
- Scientific Challenges and Opportunities towards achieving a Sustainable Blue Economy

RIIG CONFERENCES

Inception meeting, Kolkata, February 9-10, 2023

The Inception meeting of the Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG), was held in Kolkata, to discuss research and innovation for an equitable society. A total of 36 foreign delegates representing twenty countries and International Organisations, participated in the Inception meeting. About 40 Indian delegates and special invitees from various scientific departments and organisations of Government of India participated in the meeting.

Conference on Materials for Sustainable Energy, Ranchi, March 16-17, 2023

The discussions focused on understanding the fundamentals of material development and bottlenecks to achieve efficient large-scale green energy generation and storage. Materials for Sustainable Energy Storage, Solar Energy Utilisation and Photovoltaic Technologies, Materials and Processes for Green Energy, Policies and Programmes for EV Implementation were some of the sub-themes discussed.

MAJOR OUTCOMES

The panel discussion on the theme elaborated on the critical need for participating countries in the area of energy and recommended a future roadmap.

Conference on Eco-innovations for Energy Transitions, Dharamshala, April 19-20, 2023

The meeting focused on eco-innovations for energy transitions, and deliberated institutional frameworks for greater permeability of affordable innovation in 'Energy Research' to grassroot levels.

MAJOR OUTCOMES

Mechanisms for joint research programs could be developed among academic institutions in Member nations, with a focus on mobility in Energy Research.

Conference on Circular Bio-economy, Dibrugarh/Itanagar, March 24-25, 2023

The deliberations held on the bio-based circular carbon economy with emphasis on the utilisation of biogenic materials and/or bioprocesses by adopting nature-based interventions within the economic system catalyses circularity making the ecosystem more resilient. The discussions provided an opportunity to deliberate and enhance commitments of actions and pledges from key stakeholders towards building a sustainable and circular bio-economy. The meeting focused on connecting thematic issues on agriculture, decarbonisation in industry, Bio-Energy and Bio-resource Management.

MAJOR OUTCOMES

This conference marked an important milestone in preparing a roadmap for establishing a transition towards the circular bio-economy.

Conference on Scientific Challenges and Opportunities towards achieving a Sustainable Blue Economy, Diu, May 18-19, 2023

The discussions were held for building appropriate frameworks and processes that recognise and accommodate various values of nature that underpin our social and economic wellbeing, through Blue Economy. Contemporary topics in Marine Biodiversity, Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning, New and renewable off-shore energy were discussed.

MAJOR OUTCOMES

- Foster knowledge exchange between G20 members on Sustainable Blue Economy
- How can next-generation technologies support policy and governance to enhance ocean biodiversity conservation and improve coastal and marine spatial planning?

RIIG Summit/Ministerial meeting, Mumbai, July 5-6, 2023

The finalisation of the Chair's Summary and Outcome Document marked the culmination of the G20 research engagements that took place through a series of meetings in different parts of India during India's G20 Presidency in 2023. As the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology I chaired the G20 Research Ministers' Meeting (RMM) on July 05, 2023. More than 100 foreign delegates including Research Ministers from 29 G20 members, invited guest countries and international organisations participated and re-affirmed the critical role of research and innovation for enabling inclusive and sustainable development and resolved to support all efforts for transforming research and innovation systems to respond to the changing world of the 21st century and address the challenges of tomorrow. ■

B20 Surat Meet

JULY 01, 2023 | SURAT

"In just 10 years, India has ascended to being the world's fifth largest economy, ranking third in smartphones and sixth in cars. It stands as the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables, first in dairy production and home to the third largest startup ecosystem."

Sarbananda Sonowal
Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways

OBJECTIVE

To foster dialogue, collaboration, and innovation among global business leaders and policymakers of the G20 countries.

PLENARY SESSIONS

Opportunities for Trade and Investments in Diamond, Textile and Chemical Industries for Global Value Chain

Building a More Inclusive Future: Advancing Financial Inclusion for Economic Empowerment

EXCURSION

Diamond cutting facility SRK Empire

Surat Diamond Bourse

Energy Ministers' Meeting

JULY 22, 2023 | GOA

"The world looks up to this group to advance sustainable, just, affordable, inclusive, and clean energy transitions. While doing this, it is important that our brothers and sisters in the Global South are not left behind."

"We must ensure low-cost finance for developing countries. We must find ways to bridge technology gaps, promote energy security, and work on diversifying supply chains. And, we must strengthen collaboration on the 'fuels for the future'. The 'High-level Principles on Hydrogen' are a step in the right direction."

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India

OUTCOMES

- G20 Energy Ministers adopted High Level Voluntary Principles on Hydrogen
- Ministers took note of Presidency's initiative to launch Global Biofuels Alliance

"We agreed that the pace of energy transition needs to be increased. 85% of all capacity addition in the past year has been in renewables. We are also of the view that any energy transition or climate action has to happen taking into account the national circumstances of each country. We emphasized the need for sharing of technology, and for low-cost financing especially for developing countries so that no one is left behind. We felt that access to energy is a major aspect to be looked at by the world community, given that 730 million people in the world do not have energy access and this needs to be urgently addressed."

R K Singh
Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy

'Goa and other states are geared towards achieving Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi ji's Five-Fold strategy for achieving India's Net Zero Commitment by 2070. Goa has developed the Clean Energy Roadmap, a blueprint to decarbonize all sectors by 2050. RE and EE interventions to decarbonize will soon be introduced and implemented in sectors like Tourism, Transport, Industry, Health, Agriculture, Fisheries as well as cooking. By the year 2050 or even much earlier, Goa will ensure 100% Renewable Energy Based electricity supply to all demand sectors. Goa is committed to transform tourism into a Green tourism sector.'

Dr Pramod Sawant
Chief Minister, Goa

Forging the Future Amidst the Past

3rd SHERPA MEETING

JULY 13-16, 2023 | HAMPI

Amitabh Kant
India's G20 Sherpa

In the captivating city of Hampi, Karnataka, the 3rd Sherpa Meeting under India's G20 Presidency unfolded against the backdrop of ancient ruins and cultural splendour. Over 120 delegates, including Sherpas and Heads of Delegations from G20 members, invitee countries, and International Organizations (IOs), convened from July 13-16, 2023. Their mission? To engage in crucial discussions and co-author the Leaders' Declaration, a pivotal document to be adopted by G20 leaders at the New Delhi Summit in September.

Guided by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of inclusivity, ambition, and decisive action, we dedicated three days to negotiate transformative, action-oriented initiatives that encompassed (i) Accelerated, Inclusive, Sustainable, and Resilient Growth, (ii) Accelerating Progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), (iii) Green Development Pact for a Sustainable Future, (iv) Multilateral Institutions for the 21st Century, (v) Technological Transformation and Digital Public Infrastructure, (vi) Gender Equality and Empowering All Women and Girls.

Emphasizing inclusivity as a core value, the Indian Presidency proposed the admission of the African Union to the G20 fold, recognizing the significance of amplifying the voices of emerging countries and those from the Global South within the forum. This spirit of openness and collaboration exemplified India's commitment to

embracing diverse perspectives and forging partnerships across borders.

Delegates expressed appreciation for India's ambitious draft New Delhi Declaration, particularly its emphasis on women empowerment, and extended support to initiatives aiming at achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls. Notably, a new working group dedicated to women's issues will convene during Brazil's G20 Presidency next year, backed by broad-ranging support.

This strategic move not only showcased a steadfast determination to address gender disparities but also reinforced the G20's commitment to realizing inclusive development goals on a global scale.

Beyond the formal discussions, the Sherpas embraced the spirit of camaraderie through bilateral meetings, fostering stronger relationships, aligning priorities, and building trust. Additionally, an informal Sofa Talk session provided a congenial environment for open dialogue, promoting collaboration and mutual understanding amongst the delegates.

Amidst intense deliberations, we immersed ourselves in the rich heritage of Hampi. The UNESCO World Heritage site unveiled magnificent Dravidian-style temples, intricate designs, and monuments. Delegates marveled at the digital exhibition at the Hampi museum, showcasing the city's grandeur and legacy while combining modernity with history.

Exploring historical sites such as the Vijaya Vittala temple, Yeduru Basvanna complex, and the Virupaksha temple, Sherpas witnessed the grandeur of Hampi's bygone era. Vibrant cultural performances, including a mesmerizing display by Ghatam maestro Pandit Vikku Vinayakram and his troupe at the majestic Vijaya Vittala

Temple showcased South India's percussion traditions.

As the sun set over the enchanting ruins of Hampi, G20 Sherpas and delegates carried the weight of our discussions alongside vibrant cultural experiences and the profound historical significance of this extraordinary city. Driven by collaboration and determination, India's G20 Presidency hopes to help pave the way for inclusive global prosperity.

I extend heartfelt gratitude to the Government of Karnataka and the Central Government for their unwavering support and tireless efforts in providing an enchanting home for this meeting. Special recognition is due to the dedicated team of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and the Tourism Ministry for orchestrating a truly unique and unforgettable Indian experience for all the delegates. ■

Bharat Mandapam

A UNIQUE VENUE FOR A UNIQUE G20 PRESIDENCY

Harsh Vardhan Shringla
India's G20 Chief Coordinator

July 26, 2023, was a momentous day for all the Indians as our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated 'Bharat Mandapam' to the nation, an architectural masterpiece which finds its place among the top exhibition and convention complexes in the world. While declaring it as the venue for the G20 Summit, the Prime Minister confidently asserted that the world will witness India's strides and growing stature from 'Bharat Mandapam'. True to the needs of 21st century and aspirations of a New India, the 'Bharat Mandapam' is a realisation of the Prime Minister's vision of having world-class infrastructure for hosting meetings, conferences and exhibitions in the country.

The essence of 'Bharat Mandapam' and its relevance for our robust democracy lies in its name. 'Bharat Mandapam' is inspired by the 'Anubhav Mandapam' of Bhagwan Basaveshwara, often referred to as the first Parliament of the world, and represents a democratic platform for debates, discussions, and expression of ideas. Therefore, while inaugurating this unique marvel of New India, Prime Minister Modi weighed in on its symbolic value by stating, "As we celebrate Amrit Mahotsav on 75 years of independence, 'Bharat Mandapam' stands as a beautiful gift from us, the Indians, to our democracy."

An example of the grandeur of this complex lies in the fact that its multi-purpose hall and plenary hall have a combined capacity of 7000 people, making it even larger than the seating capacity of the iconic Sydney Opera House in Australia. Envisioned as the perfect destination to host large-scale international exhibitions, trade fairs, conventions, conferences, and other prestigious events, the complex has the provision of over 5,500 vehicle parking spaces. Additionally, ease of access through signal-free roads ensures the convenience of visitors. A venue of this stature equipped with advanced facilities is

"In a few weeks, this very venue will host events connected to the G20, with the presence of leaders from the world's major nations. The rising strides of India and its growing stature will be witnessed by the entire world through this grand 'Bharat Mandapam'."

"The hosting of G20 meetings in various cities led to the creation of new facilities and modernization of existing ones, benefiting the country and its citizens. This is a prime example of good governance."

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India

indeed a fitting destination to host the culmination of India's "ambitious" Presidency at the G20 Leaders' Summit in New Delhi.

A defining feature of India's G20 Presidency has been the unmatched scale and spread of the meetings organised throughout the country. Our Prime Minister had envisioned taking G20 meetings to every part of the country to showcase India's cultural diversity and tourism potential to the world, and resultantly, the G20 has reached more than 50 cities of India. This noble venture made each and every Indian an active participant in India's G20 Presidency. But also, quite significantly, these meetings led to enormous developmental activities in the host cities as new facilities were built in many cities for G20 meetings and old facilities were modernised. This approach has made our G20 a truly People's G20, taking inspiration from our Prime Minister's commitment to make India developed by following the spirit of "Nation First, Citizen First".

Another fascinating aspect of 'Bharat Mandapam' is impressive fusion of the traditional and the modern. The rich cultural heritage of India shines through sculptures, installations, murals, paintings and tribal art forms from different regions of the country that adorn the Convention Centre even as the shape of the building itself

resembles a Shankha (conch shell). The complex is also equipped with modern facilities such as 5G-enabled fully Wi-Fi-covered campus, 10G Intranet connectivity, interpretation rooms equipped with cutting-edge technology to support 16 different languages, among many others. This uniqueness strongly resonated in our Prime Minister's words: "Bharat Mandapam is a call for India's capabilities and new energy of the nation, it is a philosophy of India's grandeur and willpower".

While dedicating this paragon of engineering, architecture, and tradition to 1.4 billion Indians, the Prime Minister gave us the mantra of "Think Big, Dream Big, Act Big". The last decade will go down as a chapter of unprecedented socio-economic transformation in the history of our country. Today, India is a pioneer in digital technologies, we are making impressive strides in renewable energy building the world's largest Solar Wind Park and actively working towards producing Green Hydrogen at a large scale. Through our G20 Presidency, we have shared our experiences with the world and showcased our achievements in education, health, green energy, digital public infrastructure, women-led development, and financial inclusion. Going forward, as we advance towards hosting the G20 leaders in September this year, we also give new wings to our goal of becoming a developed nation from the venue of the G20 Summit - 'Bharat Mandapam'.■

Imagining a Cyber Success World

G20 CONFERENCE ON CRIME AND SECURITY IN THE AGE OF AI, NFTs AND METAVERSE

Ajay Kumar Bhalla
Union Home Secretary, Government of India

Rajesh Kumar
CEO, Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre, Ministry of Home Affairs

The universalism of traditional Indian philosophy is encapsulated in the motto of India's G20 Presidency *"Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam"*. Mentioned in the ancient scriptures *Maha Upanaishad* and *Hitopadesh*, this message aptly captures the global interconnectedness that defines the modern day cyberspace.

The G20 is essentially a forum for economic cooperation created to address major issues related to the global economy, such as international financial stability, climate change mitigation and sustainable development. Crime and security have traditionally not been discussed under the aegis of G20. However, security of the cyberspace

"Cyber security is no longer confined to the digital world only. It has become a subject of national security - global security."

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India

where, a major share of global economic activity and transactions take place,deserves due attention of the global leadership. The issues involved are intrinsically linked to several of the priorities for the G20 in the year 2023. These include inclusive and resilient growth, technological transformations, public digital infrastructure, strengthening multilateral institutions, etc.

It is with this background in mind that India decided to host a G20 Conference titled “Crime and Security in the age of NFTs, AI and Metaverse” as a part of its Presidency. Organised on 13th and 14th July, 2023 by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Government of India at Gurugram, Haryana, the conference was a collaborative multi-agency effort which in a way reflected the expanse of the issues involved. Unlike a traditional G20 conference, this was a multi-organizational effort. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, National Security Council Secretariat, Ministry of External Affairs, Central Bureau of Investigation, and Department of Telecommunication

were partners from within the government. National Forensic Science University, Rashtriya Raksha University, and Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham pitched in as academic partners. Data Security Council of India (DSCI) was the industry partner and M/s Grant Thornton a knowledge partner. Interpol and UNODC were the international collaborators for the event. Coming together of so many agencies indicates the relevance of the conference, readiness of the agencies to work together and thus augurs well for the preparedness for cybersecurity challenges.

This conference brought under one roof, a spectrum of stakeholders of cyberspace for intense discussions on a range issues. Those in attendance included 75 foreign delegates, 31 international speakers and Subject Matter Experts, Secretaries and senior functionaries of Government of India, Chief Secretaries, Director General of Police,officials of the cybersecurity establishment, Law Enforcement Officers, Chief Information Security Officers of various central organizations, representatives of sectoral regulators, legal fraternity, banks and financial institutions, fintech, ICT service providers, academia and industry bodies. Over 1200 delegates and invitees attended the conference in person and over 24000 witnessed it online.

In the plenary session,participants were unanimous in their concerns about the threats posed by new and emerging technologies and the need for concerted global efforts to address these challenges.The outcomes of the plenary sessionwere captured in the Chair's Summary which reflected the essence of the opinions expressed by various countries and organizations.

Setting the tone for the conference while inaugurating it, Honourable Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah exhorted the delegates to work towards the following objectives:

- Achieving convergence in legislative framework to deal with digital offences and establishing mutual assistance mechanisms for apprehending and prosecuting cybercriminals.
- Establishing modalities for cross border mutual assistance for Threat intelligence sharing and real time response.
- Creating a common platform for sharing best practices, coordinating regulation and defining global benchmarks through cooperation.

- Creating a dedicated common 24/7 channel for checking digital financial frauds which would effect preventive, protective and recovery action.

and together work towards achieving a "Cyber Success World".

Over the two days six technical sessions were held where domain experts from across the world deliberated on various topics covering a vast gamut of issues of crime and security in the context of new and emerging technologies exemplified by AI, NFTs and Metaverse. The sessions were titled:

i. Internet Governance - National Responsibility and Global Commons

ii. Securing Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) amidst Unprecedented Scale of Digitization - Design, Architecture, Policies and Preparedness

iii. Extended Reality, Metaverse and future of Digital Ownership - Legal and Regulatory Framework

iv. AI: Challenges, Opportunities and Responsible Use

v. Connecting Dots in the Dark Net: Challenges of Crypto Currency and Dark-net

vi. Criminal Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) – Evolving a Framework for International Cooperation

These sessions were participative and elicited a range of viewpoints from the speakers and delegates.

Thanks to the Digital India vision of the Hon' Prime Minister,India is fast emerging as a world leader in adoption of digital technologies. There has been an exponential rise in the volume of mobile computing devices, financial transactions, development of a whole new ecosystem of Open Access Digital Public

Infrastructure, the India Stack. These developments have also been accompanied by rising incidents of cybercrime and breaches in cybersecurity as elsewhere in the world. Concurrently, India is emerging as a global Cyber Security hub with an ecosystem of over 250 product companies generating over a billion USD in revenue. An exhibition held along with the conference, provided opportunity for the established companies, unicorns and the start-ups to showcase their Cyber Security products and services before the delegates coming from across the world and different organizations from within India.

The timing of this conference is significant, as it was held a few weeks before the United Nations' Ad Hoc Committee takes up for discussion the Zero Draft of the UN Convention on Criminal Use of Information and Communication Technologies. This convention, when adopted, would provide an international framework for criminalizing misuse of ICT, defining jurisdictions, procedures for enforcement, international cooperation including evidence sharing, data exchange, legal assistance, 24/7 network, technical support and implementation mechanism. During the Conference India emerged as the voice of the Global South to articulate their concerns during the forthcoming UN negotiations and in other fora for an equitable stake in internet governance making international frameworks broad-based. Pitching for a negotiated multilateral global convention under the UN, in his address Shri Amit Shah encouraged the member countries to use the proposed convention for speedy evidence preservation, investigation assistance, capacity building and strengthening national Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs).

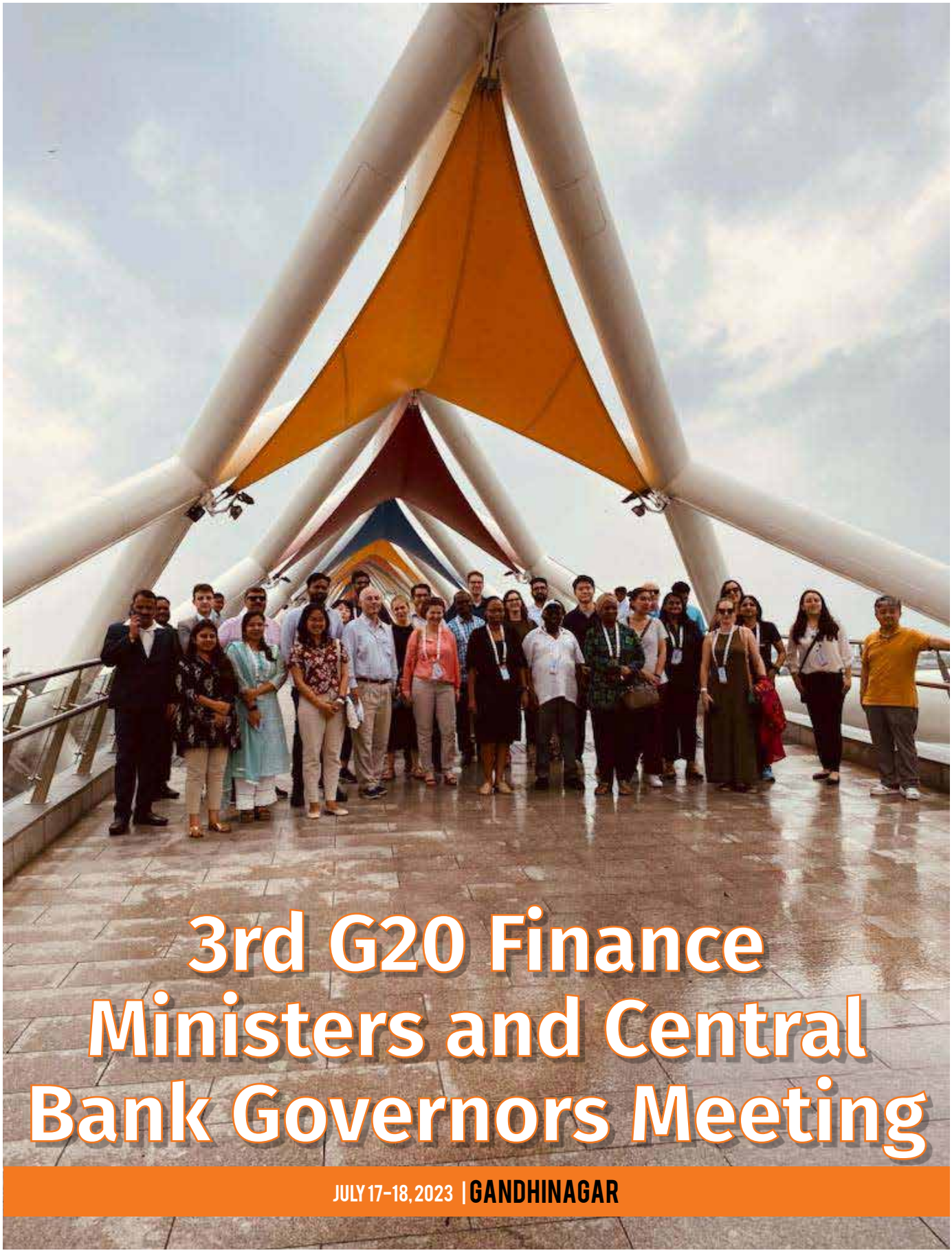
During the conference the "Cyber Volunteer Squads", drawn from seven premier educational universities, were flagged off. These student-volunteers,who gained valuable insights into issues of cyber space and hands on experience of such events, go back to their campuses and undertake programs to spread cyber awareness amongst the public, identify and flag malicious content, aid law enforcement efforts using their expertise and launch volunteer enrolment drive. This "Whole of Society" effort of the Ministry of Home Affairs is aimed at enlisting community participation in building a cyber resilient society.

The Chair's Summary released at the end of the deliberations succinctly captured the leitmotif of the conference:

"While emerging technologies such as AI, Big Data, Cloud Computing and other have high potential for creating economic opportunities, and are neutral in nature, these could increase vulnerabilities and expand attack vectors and hence there is an urgent need that these advanced technologies are used ethically, in ways that respect international law, with malicious actors being prevented from exploiting them for criminal and terrorist purposes. It is critical to strengthen and develop capacities of individual states, international organizations and relevant stakeholders to better respond to traditional, non-traditional and new and emerging challenges, including terrorism and its financing, money laundering, misinformation and disinformation".

During the technical session on AI, talking about the unchartered evolutionary trajectory of Artificial Intelligence, NASA's Chief Advisor on Artificial Intelligence, Omar Hatamleh borrowed a term from evolutionary biology; *exaptation* "the process by which features acquire functions for which they were not originally adapted or selected". During this conference, G20 witnessed an exaptation. This essentially economic bloc, took cognizance of the threats posed by the new and emerging technologies in the cyberspace, came together to improve their understanding of the issues and vowed to address the collective concerns with the sense of urgency it warrants.

Through this initiative under its G20 Presidency, India has made cyber security and crime a global priority, sending a clear message that it is committed to making the cyberspace future safe for this one family that inhabits this one earth. It is hoped that such conferences become a permanent fixture in the G20 Calendar in the years to come. ■



3rd G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting

JULY 17-18, 2023 | GANDHINAGAR

The Third G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting, chaired by Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman and Governor of Reserve Bank of India Shaktikanta Das, was held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. During the meeting, members discussed the key deliverables of the Finance Track under India's G20 Presidency for 2023. The members also discussed the global economic outlook and risks, including macroeconomic implications of food and energy insecurity as well as climate change and endorsed the 'G20 Report on Macroeconomic Risks Stemming from Climate Change and Transition Pathways'. There was a recognition of the need for strengthening Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to address global challenges of the 21st century, and in this context members appreciated the efforts of the G20 Independent Expert Group on Strengthening MDBs constituted by the Indian Presidency earlier this year. With regard to managing global debt vulnerabilities, a significant

"India's G20 Presidency has brought Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) agenda to the table. Members acknowledged the significant role of DPI in rapidly advancing financial inclusion & productivity gains, thereby transforming the lives of the poor in the country."

Nirmala Sitharaman
Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs

THEMATIC SESSIONS

- Global Economy and Global Health
- Sustainable Finance and Infrastructure
- International Financial Architecture
- International Taxation
- Financial Sector & Financial Inclusion

"There is great potential for Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) to facilitate easier, smoother and seamless cross-border payments. There is a need to take this agenda forward."

Shaktikanta Das
Governor, Reserve Bank of India

priority area for 2023, G20 Members actively deliberated on how to strengthen multilateral coordination to effectively address the deteriorating debt situation and facilitate coordinated debt treatment for debt-distressed countries. The G20 encouraged the efforts of the Global Sovereign Debt Roundtable (GSDR), chaired by India, IMF and the World Bank, towards strengthening communication among key stakeholders to facilitate effective debt treatment.

The Ministers and Governors lauded India's pioneering efforts in leveraging Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) to accelerate financial inclusion as they also acknowledged the transformative role of DPI in rapidly advancing financial inclusion and productivity gains. While noting that harnessing DPIs can help countries to leapfrog their development trajectories, the members unanimously endorsed the 'G20 Policy Recommendations for Advancing Financial Inclusion and Productivity Gains through Digital Public Infrastructure developed under India's G20 Presidency. ■

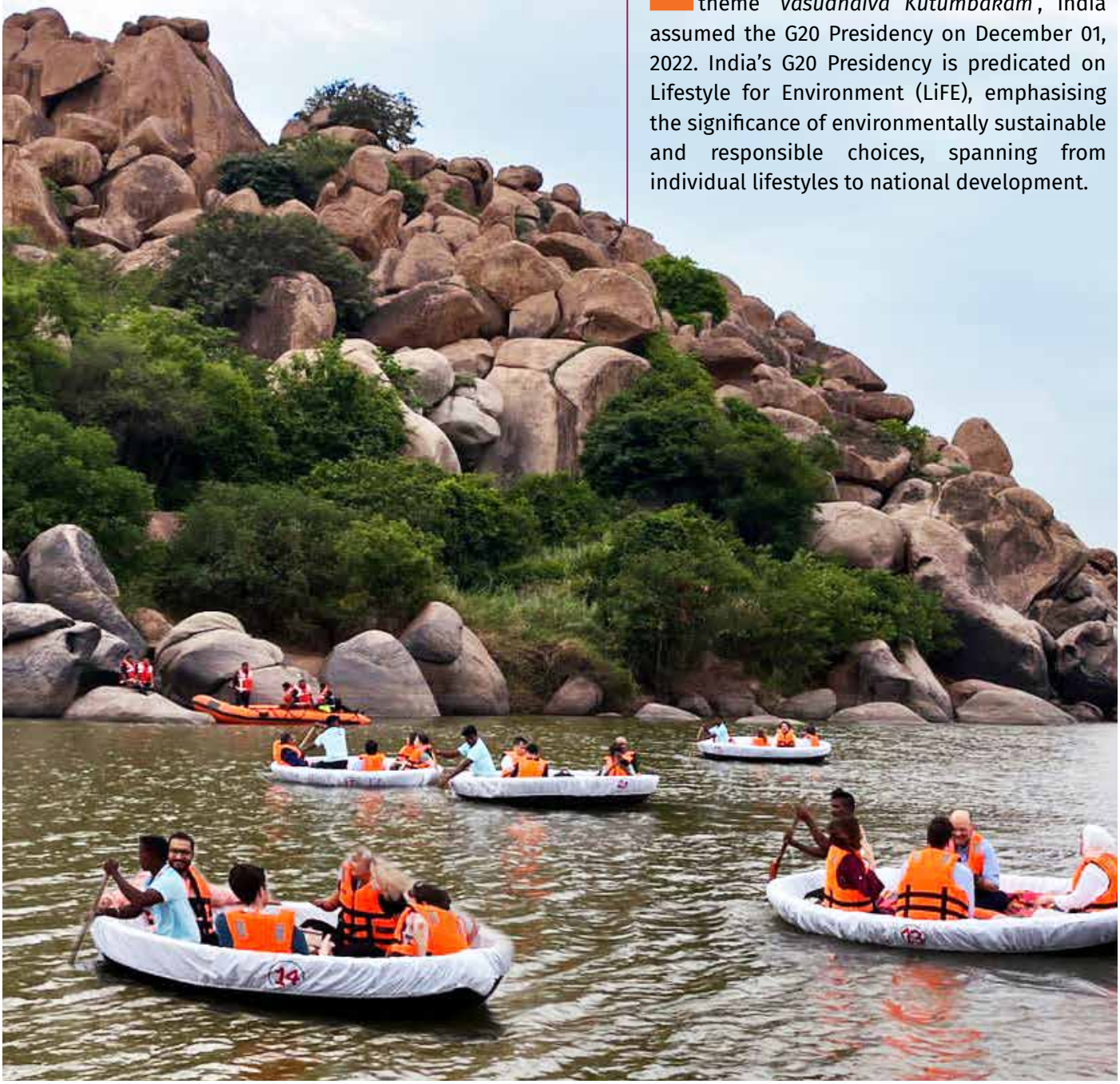
Inclusive Diplomacy Encouraging Cultural Collaboration

3rd CULTURE WORKING GROUP MEETING

JULY 09-12, 2023 | HAMPI

Govind Mohan
Secretary, Ministry of Culture

Embodying the concept of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future', through the theme *'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'*, India assumed the G20 Presidency on December 01, 2022. India's G20 Presidency is predicated on Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE), emphasising the significance of environmentally sustainable and responsible choices, spanning from individual lifestyles to national development.



The CWG, under India's G20 Presidency, strives to position culture at the heart of policymaking by articulating and enhancing collaboration on the four priority areas - Protection and Restitution of Cultural Property, Harnessing Living Heritage for a Sustainable Future, Promotion of Cultural and Creative Industries and Creative Economy, and Leveraging Digital Technologies for the Protection and Promotion of Culture.

The 3rd CWG meeting under India's G20 Presidency was organised from July 09-12, 2023 in Hampi, Karnataka, with the participation of representatives from G20 members, invitee countries, and invited international organisations. Continuing the momentum from the First CWG meeting in Khajuraho in February 2023, the expert-driven Global Thematic Webinars in March-April 2023 and the Second CWG meeting in Bhubaneswar in May 2023, the draft declaration was discussed during the third meeting in Hampi.

Shri Pralhad Joshi, Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Coal and Mines, addressed the delegates at the inaugural session of the 3rd CWG meeting and appreciated the insights, comments, and feedback on the text of the Draft 1 of the Joint Ministerial Declaration, highlighting that they will prove instrumental in shaping our shared vision for an inclusive and sustainable future. The 3rd CWG meeting consisted of sessions to discuss the text of Draft 1 of the Joint Ministerial Declaration and the Terms of Reference of the CWG. These sessions, spread over two days, entailed inputs by G20 members, guest nations, and international organisations. At the end of the sessions, an update on G20 Cultural Projects and the Global Thematic Webinar Report to be launched at the Culture Ministers' Meeting was given.

"We have progressed from identifying and deliberating the four priorities to seeking consensus on the action-oriented recommendations that would be a significant step in placing culture at the heart of policymaking."

Pralhad Joshi
Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs & Coal and Mines

Recognising the unique yet interconnected nature of diverse cultures, highlighting the commonalities that bind societies together, the 'Culture Unites All' campaign was launched at the first G20 CWG meeting in Khajuraho. It aims to serve as a call to embrace and celebrate the shared elements among diverse cultures worldwide. By valuing and promoting cultural diversity as a source of strength, the campaign aims to foster unity and appreciation among nations.

As a part of the hallmark campaign 'Culture Unites All', CWG of India's G20 Presidency, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, set the Guinness World Record for the 'largest display of Lambani items' during the 3rd G20 CWG meeting at Hampi, Karnataka. Over 450 Lambani women artisans and cultural practitioners associated with Sandur Kushala Kala Kendra came together to create these items using GI-tagged Sandur Lambani embroidery. This display titled 'Threads of Unity' celebrated the aesthetic expressions, living heritage and identity of the Lambani community. This initiative is

Exhibition on Lambani embroidery patches set a Guinness World Record for the 'Largest Display of Lambani Items'

congruent with the third priority of the CWG, 'Promotion of Cultural and Creative Industries and Creative Economy', as it spotlights the rich artistic tradition and design vocabulary and the economic empowerment the craft brings to the women of the Lambani community.

An exhibition titled 'Woven Narratives' was curated by the G20 CWG under India's Presidency in Hampi Art Labs with the support of JSW Foundation. This specially curated exhibition was inaugurated during the G20 Sherpa Meeting by Shri Amitabh Kant, India's G20 Sherpa.

Engaging with the third priority of the CWG, the exhibition 'Woven Narratives' focused on Indian handlooms as one of the important sectors of the cultural and creative economy of the country. Handlooms across the regions of India may be seen as forming specific economic sectors, while expressing varied individual, social and cultural meanings for the communities involved in their production, trade, and use. The selection of textile-exhibits represented India's diverse geographical, distinct ecologies and creative contexts by narrating their histories and design features, as well as the aesthetic and technical connections some of them share with other parts of the world. Handwoven textiles, in this way, became metaphors for both national identities as much as for the recognition of shared global cultures.

The delegates also embarked on an excursion to the Hampi Group of Monuments, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It included guided tours of several sites like the Vijaya Vittala Temple and the Royal Enclosure. They also experienced the delightful coracle ride on the scenic Tungabhadra River. The delegates were treated to a captivating percussion recital by the esteemed Guru Shri Vikku Vinayakram and a graceful Indian classical dance performance by Guru Radha and Raja Reddy troupe directed by Guru Kausalya Reddy. The delegates

Queen's Bath, Hampi

also participated in Yoga and meditation sessions at the Hazara Rama Temple.

Looking forward and building on the discussions in the 3rd G20 CWG, the 4th CWG concludes the negotiations on the Joint Ministerial Draft which has been through multiple reviews indicating a thorough process of taking the membership's view into consideration to achieve consensus on action-oriented outcomes of the priority areas with the aim of placing culture at the heart of global policies.

Additionally, an exhibition 'Domains of Wonder' has been conceptualised for the 4th G20 CWG meeting in Varanasi, aligning with the CWG's fourth priority: 'Leveraging Digital Technologies for Protection and Promotion of Culture'. Through the integration of immersive technology, custom-produced visuals and music, it is envisaged to showcase the limitless possibilities of representing culture through leveraging technology. 'Domains of Wonder' aims to bring together enchanting tales from across the globe, weaving a tapestry that celebrates the diversity of human imagination and expressions.

Another cultural project, 'Sur Vasudha' or a treasure trove of melodies celebrates the rich musical knowledge and heritage of G20 member nations and invitee countries. As a universal language, music unites people across cultures. In the spirit of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam,* the concert will incorporate the music and musical instruments from the G20 members and invitee countries. This shared platform for musicians aims to promote inclusion and diversity, and encourage exchange of ideas and international collaboration through music.

The 4th G20 Culture Working Group meeting is set to convene in Varanasi from August 23-25, 2023, which will be followed by the Culture Ministers' Meeting, scheduled for August 26, 2023. ■

Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group
A new working group
Under India's G20 Presidency

1st Meeting	2nd Meeting	3rd Meeting
Gandhinagar	Mumbai	Chennai
Mar 30-Apr 01, 2023	May 23-25, 2023	July 24-26, 2023

PRIORITIES

- Global Coverage of Early Warning Systems
- Disaster and Climate Resilient Infrastructure
- Financing Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Disaster Response System
- Ecosystem-based Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction

"Over the last few years, in India we have completely transformed the way disaster risk reduction is financed. We now have a predictable mechanism for financing not just disaster response but also disaster mitigation, preparedness and recovery."

"The time for incremental change has passed. We need transformation of local, national and global systems for preventing the creation of new disaster risks and effectively managing existing disaster risks."

Dr P K Mishra
Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister

"Disaster Risk Reduction is not just a policy issue but a moral imperative. Growth and progress and disaster risk reduction are two sides of the same coin."

Amitabh Kant
India's G20 Sherpa

Final G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group Meeting

OUTCOMES

- G20 Members accepted relevant action points under the 5 priority areas
- Commitment to prevent new & reduce existing disaster risks
- G20 Members agreed to accelerate efforts to enhance universal coverage of multi-hazard early warning systems and transforming them to early action
- G20 Members emphasised the need for investments in disaster & climate resilient infrastructure
- G20 Members recognised the need to strengthen public-private partnerships
- G20 Members stressed on the urgent need to increase financing for Disaster Risk Reduction

Working Together As A Unified Whole

CIVIL20 INDIA SUMMIT 2023

JULY 29-31, 2023 | JAIPUR

Mata Amritanandamayi (Amma)
C20 Chair

Civil20 (C20) is the official Engagement Group of the G20 that provides a space for Civil Society Organisations (CSO) to voice the people's aspirations with the G20 world leaders. Under the guidance of its Chair Sri Mata Amritanandamayi, a world-renowned humanitarian and spiritual leader, and Sherpa Amb. Vijay Nambiar, the Secretariat RMP, partner institutions Vivekananda Kendra and Satsang Foundation, led by Sri Mata Amritanandamayi, the C20 fulfilled its role in bringing together the staggering number of CSOs in a country as diverse as India and formulating the Policy Pack for the purview of the G20. Over the past 8 months, C20 reached out to more than 4.5 million people, including representatives of small grassroots and large-scale CSOs, government representatives, multilateral agencies such as the UN, experts, academics, youths, students, and other

The Policy Pack released at the C20 Summit

G20 Working and Engagement Groups, who participated in an unprecedented number of events and outreach campaigns organised by C20. More than 1,300 events, including policy dialogues, chaupals, samajshalas, in-person workshops, and online webinars, were conducted from January until July 2023. Mass outreach campaigns (Jan Bhagidari) focusing on various areas such as health (999 Challenge), environment (Seedball Campaign), democracy (Democracy Light), gender equality (Million Lights) and technology (GLIDES) were conducted across India and abroad. Overall, 154 countries participated, illuminating the globe with the C20 tagline "You are the Light." In addition, 427 social workers across 43 countries conducted a Worldwide Grassroots Survey between February 24 and March 15, 2023. Over 8,000 completed surveys were analyzed. Our hope is to recommend a future worldwide survey of ordinary people who would be representative of the population of each country. It should tackle current events and be relevant to contemporary issues, and could be used as preliminary information gathering in the planning process of the C20 policy recommendations.

The C20 guiding principles include its global character, transparency, independence, collaboration, human rights, inclusiveness, continuity, and predictability. This year, C20 covered a wide range of priority issues for civil society through the following 16 Working Groups: 1. Integrated Holistic Health: Mind, Body, and Environment; 2. Sustainable & Resilient Communities: Climate, Environment and Net Zero Targets; 3. Education and Digital Transformation; 4. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment; 5. Technology, Security, and Transparency; 6. Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE); 7. Preservation and Conservation of Traditional Arts, Crafts and Culture; Traditional and Innovative Ways of Livelihood and Employment; 8. Human Rights as Human Values; 9. Revival of Rivers & Water Management; 10. Sewa – Sense of Service, Philanthropy and Volunteerism; 11. Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam – World is One Family; 12.

"The scale of threats we face and opportunities we have are colossal. The immensity of the tasks ahead of us requires all of us, the governments and the CSOs, G20, C20 and everyone else to work together for creating a better world."

Rajnath Singh
Union Minister of Defence

During the Valedictory Session, Amma handed over the C20 flag and held up the Brazilian flag to symbolise the passing of the baton from India to Brazil, next year's G20 host

Diversity, Inclusion, Mutual Respect; 13. SDG 16+ and Promoting Civic Space; 14. Delivering Democracy – Retrospect and Prospects; 15. Disability, Equity, Justice (DEJ); 16. Special Committee on Financial Issues.

The C20 Chair's leadership provided many unique and valuable contributions, including a basis strongly rooted in compassion and humanistic values guiding the journey. C20 India's ethos of inclusivity and collaboration was manifested in inviting all participating CSOs to share worldwide best practices (udaharans) and white papers; all are published and freely available. This indicates the spirit of the G20 theme — One Earth, One Family, One Future — an ethos that can only be achieved through working collectively with open mutual sharing.

On the 29th, 30th and 31st of July, 2023, C20 successfully held its Final Summit in Jaipur, with more than 1,090 delegates from India and around the globe participating.

A 240-paged Policy Pack encapsulating policies from the 16 Working Groups, developed in collaboration with more than 5,400 CSOs, was released, representing the culmination of the work of C20.

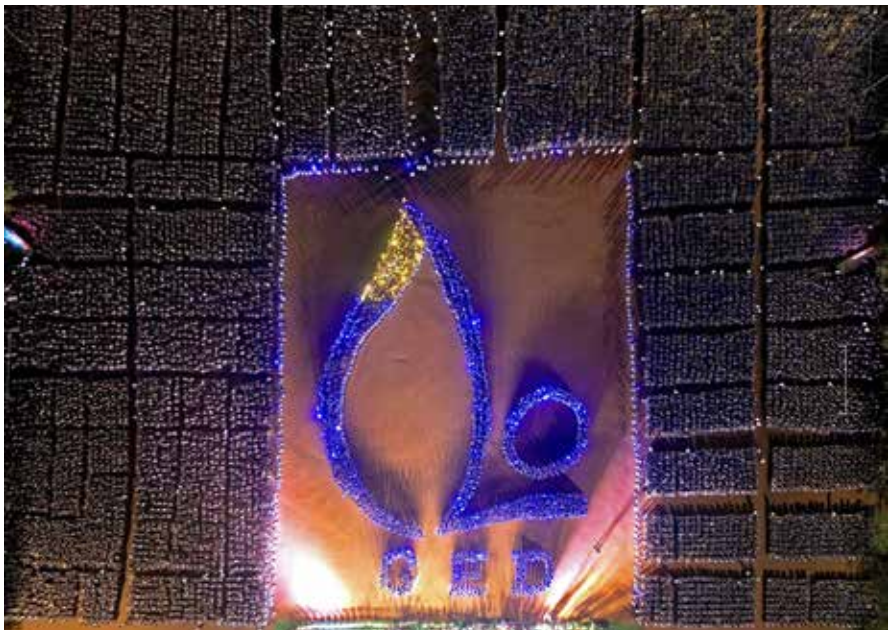
Dignitaries attending the Summit included Shri Rajnath Singh, Honourable Minister of Defence, Government of India; Shri Kalraj Mishra, Honourable Governor of Rajasthan; Smt. Shakuntala Rawat, Honourable Minister of Industry, State Enterprises & Devasthan, Government of Rajasthan; Mr. Shombi Sharp, Resident Coordinator, United Nations; Smt. Vasundhara Raje, Vice President, BJP; Dr. Niklaus-Samuel Gugger, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Switzerland; Amb. Abhay Thakur, G20 Sous-Sherpa, among others.

" As the world is making efforts to tackle the challenges of climate change, it is also essential to look back at our Indian culture, which has a tradition of worshipping trees and connecting them with the divine. We need to embrace the ancient traditions of nature conservation and promote awareness for future development."

Kalraj Mishra
Governor of Rajasthan

The Summit spanned three days, with an inaugural session followed by five plenary panel discussions with keynote speakers from across the world and 20 breakout rooms dedicated to the themes of the 16 Working Groups. The Summit concluded with a resounding Valedictory Session. Each Working Group conveyed its findings and policy recommendations to be submitted to the G20 for a better future. Crosscutting recommendations included promoting collaboration between civil societies and governments, multilateral and multi-stakeholder efforts, and enhancing public knowledge of pressing issues. The Summit involved more than 180 civil society organisations and 300 international delegates from 40 countries.

The C20 Chair Amma said, "One of the key insights that arose from the deliberations was that, in order to ensure the long-term existence and safety of humanity, it is necessary to embrace certain overarching values and principles, and work together as a unified whole. Indeed, the emergence of such a sentiment can be seen as a positive sign, opening the path for hope." ■



30,300 students conducting the C20 Logo formation in Bhubaneswar, Odisha

For last year's words belong to last year's language And next year's words await another voice

SCIENCE20 SUMMIT

JULY 21-22, 2023 | COIMBATORE

Ashutosh Sharma
Co-Chair, Science20[1]

It was sometime around autumn the previous year when we started our first discussions on the Science20 theme for our Presidency. I was brought into the discussion early on, immediately after I became President Elect of the Indian National Science Academy. I fondly remember deliberating on terms and ideas over and over with colleagues across the country. I have been a great supporter of the democratic process of crowdsourcing ideas, it makes the process more inclusive and diverse. Many interesting and useful ideas emerged; some of them got us excited, and finally what passed the sieves on the importance and relevance were three main pillars of our scientific and cultural modernity.

One, that our societies can only develop sustainably if we have clean and responsible sources and technologies for energy. Of course, the sources or technologies must be distributed inclusively, justly, and equitably. The notion of justice and the mechanisms of its implementation in the clean energy transition thus soon became central to our discourse.

The second thing that reached its pinnacle was the universal and holistic understanding of health. We have learnt in our experience and understanding that a lot of wisdom is stored in sources that remain hidden, not because it can't be deciphered and even advanced further, but because we arrogantly ignore it. This irrational distaste keeps us from utilizing ideas that can be of potential benefit to humankind. Therefore, we decided that we need to deliberate on a holistic understanding of health and have an inclusive approach to how we deal with healthcare. The central notion of inclusivity does not limit itself to creating a holistic system of approach, but also of delivering it to the last person out there, and that's why holistic health needs to be universal.

Delegates at the Inception meeting in Puducherry

The Landmark Clean Energy meeting delegation sharing smiles at Agartala

Introduction talk being delivered by Prof Narinder Mehra at Lakshadweep

The third and the foundational argument that we decided to place at the global stage for debate is the nature of interactions of science with society and culture. The first realisation was that there's an acute need to make a myriad of these connections first, which are often limited to science reaching society through industry and its products. There's a need for strengthening the interfaces of science with society, as well as inventing new ones. For example, by working together with the ecosystems of invention (science) and innovation (socio-economic impact) in a seamless manner.

These three ideas are seemingly disjointed, that is what all of us thought but then we realised that in the context of global modernity, all of them amalgamate in the notion of sustainable development which then became the exhorted theme. We decided that we would consider these ideas for strongly encouraging sustainable development, but with what lens and which context?

I fondly remember the Prime Minister mentioning, I believe it was at the Indian National Science Congress, that, "the pursuit of *vigyan* (i.e. Science) is fulfilled through achievement of two objectives. The first is, generation of profound or disruptive knowledge. The second is consumption of that knowledge for socio-economic good". Throughout the process, we kept reminding ourselves of that. But there was one more thing. It was the generation watching us and their generations to come.

When I looked back to my tenure not only as an academic but also as a scientific bureaucrat, I went through layers and layers of reflections, both internally and with colleagues. We all kept revolving around disruptions, disruptive science and technology. Just when the boom of generative AI happened late in 2022, it was a pleasant realisation, that disruptions need to be the key to our context. Therefore, the theme of the year became 'Disruptive Science for Sustainable Development'. This was later revised to be called 'Transformative Science for Sustainable Development' when several of our colleagues from member-state academies reached out to us. The term disruption had a perception issue and therefore, we revised it to transformative.

The notion of disruptive science is pioneering or groundbreaking research or innovations that bring about transformational advancements, characterized by exponential growth potential, immense scalability, and unprecedented speed of impact. It revolutionizes existing paradigms, propelling breakthroughs across various disciplines. By rapidly challenging conventions and unlocking new possibilities, disruptive science drives radical positive change, fostering societal progress and addressing complex challenges with remarkable efficiency and effectiveness.

Having said that, disruptive science stands in stark contrast to the concept of "business as usual", which has proven insufficient in accelerating development, achieving sustainability, or ensuring responsibility. While disruptive science fosters transformational advancements with exponential growth potential and scalability, the traditional approach tends to maintain existing paradigms, inhibiting radical positive change.

Disruptive science's unprecedented speed of impact challenges conventional practices and unlocks novel possibilities, enabling remarkable efficiency in addressing complex challenges. "Business as usual" often lacks the agility and innovative spirit necessary to keep up with the dynamic demands of society and the environment, hindering its ability to drive long-lasting progress and positive societal impact which will become the legacy

Delegates joining for a group picture after deliberations at Bhopal

Discussion on clean energy at Science20 Summit, Coimbatore

and the burden of the current generation.

To us, youth was of paramount importance to the process, because truly it is their world now, we are just custodians handing over the charge to them. We ran the entire process making us accountable to the generation that is watching us, by having them in the process, and walking a mile with them so that they can run the next cycles for the generations to come.

Through this year's process, recognizing the role of transformative science in advancing sustainable development, the S20 affirmed the role of strengthening international cooperation to help achieve clean energy for a green and just future, universal holistic health, and having better pathways for connecting science to society, culture and heritage. This is in line with past G20 and S20 declarations and will also build upon efforts already being undertaken by the G20 member states. Such cooperation is expected to accelerate global transformation towards sustainable development.

We have agreed to create a mechanism for just and equitable energy access that aims to greatly accelerate clean energy efforts across the developing world, thereby ensuring that the ongoing clean energy transition truly leaves no one behind.

We acknowledged that there needs to be an improved understanding of universal and integrative holistic health with focus on well-being and wellness rather than specific dimensions of health. Generation and dissemination of accurate health information and strengthening microbial surveillance and prediction systems, monitoring wildlife, veterinary populations and human communities are all important to enable early detection and prediction of potential pathogens with pandemic potential.

We agreed to initiate a Global Digital Heritage Initiative, which is aimed at preserving global heritage, both tangible and intangible, through the application of digital and cyber-physical technologies. This initiative will represent a paradigm shift in the way we harness the transformative potential of science and technology to both preserve and broaden access to the rich heritage and culture from all G20 countries and other parts of the world.

We also agreed to initiate an international consultative mechanism between scientists, policymakers, and government on Emerging Technologies, which will serve as a critical venue to generate and disseminate knowledge and insights to help navigate the interfaces between science, technology, law, and policy. This, in turn, will promote responsible and inclusive governance of disruptive technologies and ensure that we can enhance the tremendous potential benefits of such innovations for all, while anticipating and minimizing the risks from them.

In this time of transition, it was a great exercise to conduct G20 science deliberations in a rapidly changing country, amidst global lack of stability, with the youth of the world watching us and holding us accountable. We may have invented a new language which was required for the new world, in which poetry will be written by the generations to come, when we are lost in time. ■

Delegates interacting with Sadhguru at Science20 Summit, Coimbatore

Trade & Investment Working Group

3rd MEETING

JULY 10-12, 2023 | KEVADIA

Department of Commerce
Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Government of India

The The 3rd meeting of the Trade and Investment Working Group (TIWG) under India's G20 Presidency concluded in July in Ekta Nagar (Kevadia), Gujarat. Over 75 delegates from G20 members, invitee countries, regional groupings and international organisations gathered to initiate text-based negotiations on the key deliverables related to spurring integration of MSMEs in global trade, developing a mapping framework for Global Value Chains (GVCs) and enunciating principles for a seamless transition to paperless trade.

On the first day, a seminar on Trade Infrastructure was organised by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry. The seminar had two thematic panel discussions on the Role of Logistics in Expanding Global Value Chains and MSME Integration with GVCs. Eminent speakers from India and abroad discussed processes and methods to strengthen physical and digital infrastructure that can lead to a robust logistics ecosystem, thus supporting international trade. The seminar was followed by a guided tour of the Statue of Unity, Ekta Mall and Sardar Sarovar Dam, and a gala dinner hosted by the State Government for all G20 delegates.

On the substantive front, TIWG is pursuing five priority issues related to trade and investment, namely:

- Trade for Growth and Prosperity
- Resilient Trade and GVCs
- Integrating MSMEs in Global Trade
- Logistics for Trade
- WTO Reforms

During the first two meetings held in Mumbai and Bengaluru respectively, the above priority issues were extensively discussed among the G20 member/invitee countries. Presentations made by the Knowledge Partners during the first two meetings outlined the outcomes emerging from these priorities.

Based on the suggestions and interventions expressed during the first two TIWG meetings, Indian Presidency has formulated action-oriented and concrete key

deliverables which include:

- High-Level Principles on Digitalization of Trade Documents
- Call for Action to foster integration of MSMEs in Global Trade
- G20 Generic Framework for Mapping Global Value Chains (GVCs)

The above deliverables were welcomed by the G20 countries, and during the next two days of the meeting, intense negotiations on the proposals made by the Presidency on these deliverables ensued. Particularly, High-Level Principles on Digitalization of Trade Documents and Call for Action for integrating MSMEs in global trade were discussed on July 11, 2023. On the next day, outcome pursuant to developing a G20 Generic Framework for Mapping Global Value Chains (GVCs) was deliberated. It was agreed that such a framework would serve as a useful reference to pursue coordinated policy actions among countries to enhance GVC resilience.

During the three days of meeting in Kevadia, an experience zone was set up by the Tea Board of India, and an exhibition zone was set up by DPIIT and National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC). The experience zone displayed India's rich heritage of tea, aromatic spices, millets and coffee, and the exhibition zone showcased India's initiative in strengthening trade infrastructure and logistics. The viewing galleries set up at the exhibition zone included achievements of PM Gati Shakti, and a demo of NICDC's Multimodal Connectivity, National Logistics Policy and Unified Logistics Interface Platform.

The fourth and final TIWG meeting will be held in Jaipur on 21st & 22nd August, 2023 and followed by the Trade and Investment Ministers' Ministerial Meeting at the same venue on 24th & 25th August, 2023. ■

Leveraging the New Space Era for Economic Growth

SPACE ECONOMY LEADERS MEETING

JULY 06-07, 2023 | BENGALURU

Dr Pawan Goenka
Chairman, IN-SPACe

The field of space technology has made a profound impact on the quality of living of the human race and the world's dependence on space and space assets is growing day by day. Space Technology plays a significant role in furthering social well-being and sustainable growth. Thus, it has a very crucial role in achieving the 17 global Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and creating equitable prosperity for all.

Having said that, I believe that space activities also have a huge potential to move beyond the pillars of development and national prestige to profitable business and economy, and in fact, become a significant contributor to economic growth. Globally, these are very exciting times for the space industry, and we are witnessing a major transformation. The

"The future development of humanity lies in our collective ability to responsibly harness, pool resources, and utilise space technology towards achieving sustainable development goals and improving the lives of common man."

Dr Jitendra Singh
Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology

space sector is entering into a new era – from extra-terrestrial exploration to declining launch costs to highly advanced earth observation capabilities. In this new era, the opportunity presented by the space sector for private industries is huge. The current $447 billion industry is expected to cross $1 trillion by 2040 (Source: Morgan Stanley). To fully leverage this opportunity, it is imperative for nations to come together and collaborate on multiple fronts in the space sector.

Hence the focus of the 4th Edition of the G20 Space Economy Leaders Meet (SELM) organized in Bengaluru on July 6-7, 2023, by the Department of Space, under India's G20 Presidency, was in line with the overall objective of fostering collaboration through bilateral and multilateral partnerships. This year's SELM theme was "Towards a New Space ERA (Economy, Responsibility, Alliance)", echoing the relevance of New Space in shaping the global economy. The future of the space economy is closely linked to the advancement of New Space Era. Even though the New Space is growing steadily, the growth needs to be sustained through well-thought-out governmental policy interventions, to enable conducive policy regimes for enhanced space industry collaborations globally. The deliberations in G20 SELM were instrumental in creating a common understanding among the participating countries on the significance of Economy, Responsibility, Alliance in the new space era.

This global event in Bengaluru witnessed the participation of heads and senior representatives of space agencies of 18 G20 countries, 8 invited countries and an international organization (International Telecommunication Union) to deliberate on the efforts of respective nations to advance the space economy. Apart from these, 32 overseas and 53 Indian companies engaged in space activities also actively participated in the two-day deliberations. Thirty Indian space industry start-ups were provided an opportunity to showcase their capabilities at a space exhibition, along with Exhibits from ISRO/DOS and Government of Karnataka.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State, PMO; S&T; Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions; Department of Space; and Department of Atomic Energy, addressed the esteemed delegates during the inauguration. The Hon'ble Minister of State highlighted how India has made a quantum jump in the field of space in the last nine years, and efforts have been made to diversify the applications of space. Mr. Amitabh Kant, India's G20 Sherpa; Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs & Education; Shri S Somnath, Secretary, DOS/Chairman of ISRO; and Dr Pawan Goenka, Chairman, IN-SPACe also addressed the audience during the inaugural.

On Day one, July 6, Heads of delegations presented their official statements aligned with the theme of the SELM during the Space Agency session. Second day

"A prosperous space economy can help us better target our focus on ensuring food security for all, undertaking timely and responsible climate action, providing good healthcare as well as quality education for all, especially the Global South."

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

was dedicated to the space industry. In the first half, representatives from selected space industries from the participating nations delivered their statements, shedding light on the theme of the SELM. An industry connect session in the second half, anchored by IN-SPACe, provided one of a kind, valuable platform for participating private sector companies to present their profiles and highlight their areas of specialization. A total of 53 companies out of which 31 were from India participated in this session.

More than 50 formal meetings involving leaders of space agencies and industries from India and abroad on the sidelines of this event, facilitated the exchange of ideas and the exploration of potential partnerships in the areas of local manufacturing of space grade components, launch services, promoting downstream application using satellite data, collaboration in space station, ease of supply chain activities, crucial technology transfer and many more.

With the strong momentum in the global private space industry, India is well-prepared to participate and contribute. The Government of India had announced the space sector reforms 3 years back and opened the space sector for private industry participation. The Indian Space Policy provides a much-awaited framework for active private sector participation for domestic as well as foreign space companies. The upcoming revised FDI policy for space sector will enable ease of business

"When we speak of the space economy we encompass not only the upstream and downstream activities but also the derived benefits of space."

Amitabh Kant
India's G20 Sherpa

for private companies bringing foreign capital into the country. I believe global partnerships for India will play a crucial role for access to technology, markets, investment opportunities, and access to talent.

In the Indian context, the SELM was instrumental in showcasing the New Space Age of India to the world. All the participants appreciated the advances India is making in scientific explorations and in facilitating private sector participation in the space economy. There was a significant interest amongst companies outside India to participate in the new opportunities in the Indian space sector. ISRO and IN-SPACe are working closely with the Department of Space and the Ministry of External Affairs, to further the actions and potential collaboration opportunities that emerged during the two-day deliberations between the G20 nations. ■

Moving From Intention To Action

URBAN20 MAYORAL SUMMIT

JULY 07-08, 2023 | AHMEDABAD

Praveen Chaudhary
U20 Sherpa

As the City Sherpa of Ahmedabad, the chair city for U20 2023 cycle, I am delighted to thank the Mayors, Governor, Hon'ble Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, G20 Sherpa, special invitees, and partners who made this event a great success. It is indeed an honor to have this U20 2023 cycle led by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation with support from NIUA and the global convenors (C40 and UCLG).

The goal of the sixth cycle of U20 is to move from "Intention to Action". Echoing the G20 theme of "One Earth, One Family, One Future", we want to encourage more ambitious cooperation between national governments, cities, citizens, and other stakeholders to achieve the

" It is the need of the hour to integrate the ever-increasing urbanization with sustainable development, climate change, public services, and solutions to traffic-related issues."

Bhupendra Patel
Chief Minister of Gujarat

"Cities are going to be central to achieving various global goals related to sustainability, inclusivity and climate resilience."

Hardeep Singh Puri
Union Minister for Housing & Urban Affairs

"Our belief is that the growth & development, upliftment of people above the poverty line, & climate action are directly correlated to cities. Therefore, cities must lead the way in sustainable development."

Amitabh Kant
India's G20 Sherpa

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Agreement and the Kunming-Montréal Global Biodiversity Framework within this 'Decade of Action'. We urge national governments to acknowledge the crucial role local and subnational governments play in realizing the 2030 Agenda as shown by the Voluntary Local Reviews and that could be reinforced by the Global Stocktake at COP28.

Therefore, our Communiqué puts forth strategic recommendations under the six categories, namely: Encouraging Environmentally Responsible Behavior; Ensuring Water Security; Accelerating Climate Finance; Championing 'Local' Culture and Economy; Reinventing Frameworks for Urban Governance and Planning; and Catalyzing Digital Urban Futures to solicit global support and national interventions that enable cities to take further action in addressing the pressing challenges faced by our planet. In addition, the U20 Communiqué calls for an urgent overhaul of conventional financial structures like multilateral development banks (MDBs), which have been in place since World War II, to ensure city governments can directly access urgent climate finance, recommends green jobs creation, and creation of enabling conditions to attract private sector investors and spur the sustainable development of cities.

I am glad to mention that the Communiqué of U20 2023 was endorsed by 105 mayors and leaders of cities across the globe which is the highest among the six U20 cycles. I am also proud to mention that the U20 Mayoral Summit had the largest participation among the six U20 cycles. There were more than 132 foreign delegations across 50 cities, 300+ partners and urban experts, and overall, more than 650 participants.

I have been proud to champion greater collaborative dialogue between nations and cities under the 2023 U20 forum. I believe that by working together, sharing our experiences, and learning from one another, we can make our cities, and the world, a better place for all. I am confident that together, we can make a lasting positive impact on the global agenda of sustainable urban development. ■

Jan Bhagidari

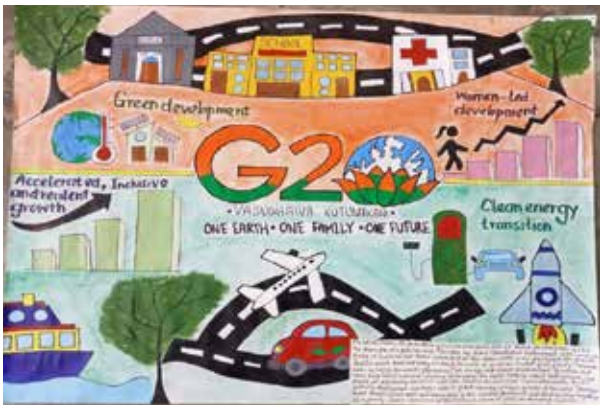
G20 ART COMPETITION

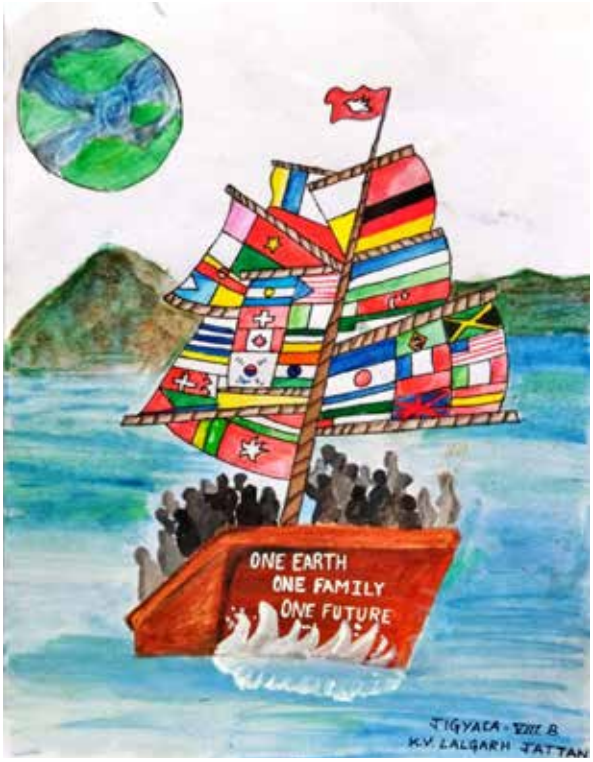
JULY 2023

300+
Schools Participated

1500+
Finalists Selected

A sneak peek into the vision of G20 from the lens of school children





G20
वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम
ONE EARTH ONE FAMILY ONE FUTURE
KENDRIYA VIDHYALAYA BHANDUP
ERANSH JAIN
7 'D

G20
We Are UNITE

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam
ONE EARTH ONE FAMILY ONE FUTURE
G20

ONE EARTH
ONE FAMILY ONE FUTURE
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भारत 2023 INDIA

G20
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
VASUDHAIVA KUTUMBAKAM

G20
UNITING HUMANITY
One Earth, One family, One future

वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम
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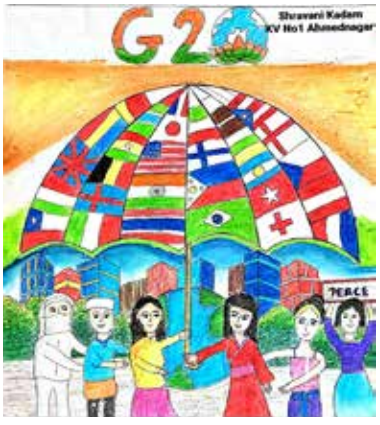
INDIA 2023


G20
PEACE

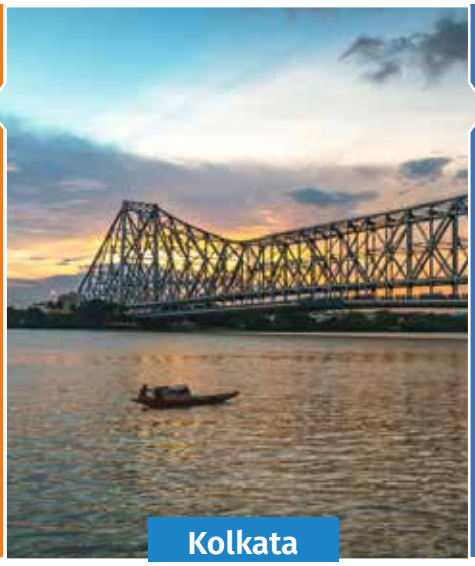
G20

COMING UP | AUGUST 2023

Anti-Corruption Working Group

3rd Meeting | Aug 9-11, 2023

The city of joy, Kolkata is all set to welcome G20 delegates for the 3rd meeting of the Anti-Corruption Working Group. The 2nd meeting in Rishikesh, Uttarakhand, witnessed consensus on three high level principles, namely, 'Promoting Integrity and effectiveness of Public Bodies and Authorities responsible for Preventing and Combating Corruption'; 'Strengthening Law Enforcement related International Cooperation and Information Sharing for Combating Corruption' and 'Strengthening Asset Recovery Mechanisms related to Corruption'.


Kolkata

Anti-Corruption Ministers' Meeting

Aug 12, 2023

The magnificent city of Kolkata, also the cultural capital of India, will host the first ever in-person Anti-Corruption Ministerial meeting. This meeting will drive the G20 agenda of bolstering the international fight against corruption. The Anti-Corruption Working Group focuses on public and private sector integrity and transparency, bribery, international cooperation, asset recovery, beneficial ownership transparency, vulnerable sectors and capacity-building.

Digital Economy Working Group

4th Meeting | Aug 16-18, 2023

The 3rd Digital Economy Working Group Meeting in Pune witnessed discussions on security for a safe, resilient & trusted digital economy. Various aspects such as capacity building for children & youth, and countering potential security threats were also discussed. During the 4th DEWG meeting G20 delegates will endeavor to work towards the vision of digital transformation and the global digital economy as a means of fostering innovation and delivering public services in a secure cyber environment through a digitally skilled workforce.

Bengaluru

Digital Economy Ministers' Meeting

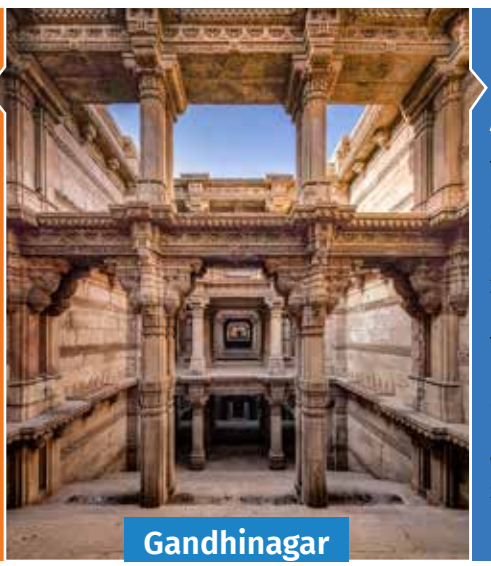
Aug 19, 2023

The Digital Economy Working Group was established in 2021, offering inspiration and broad guidance to policymakers on harnessing the digital potential of economies. Under India's G20 Presidency three priority areas have been identified, viz,. Digital Public Infrastructure, Cybersecurity in the Digital Economy, and Digital Skilling. The aim is digital transformation to enhance public participation and realize inclusive social and economic growth.

Health Working Group

4th Meeting | Aug 17, 2023

This working group under India's G20 Presidency has identified the following priorities - health emergencies prevention, preparedness and response with a focus on antimicrobial resistance and One Health framework, strengthening cooperation in the pharmaceutical sector with a focus on access and availability to safe, effective, quality and affordable medical countermeasures (Vaccines, Therapeutics and Diagnostics), and Digital Health innovations and solutions to aid universal health coverage and improve healthcare service delivery.


Gandhinagar

Health Working Group Ministers' Meeting

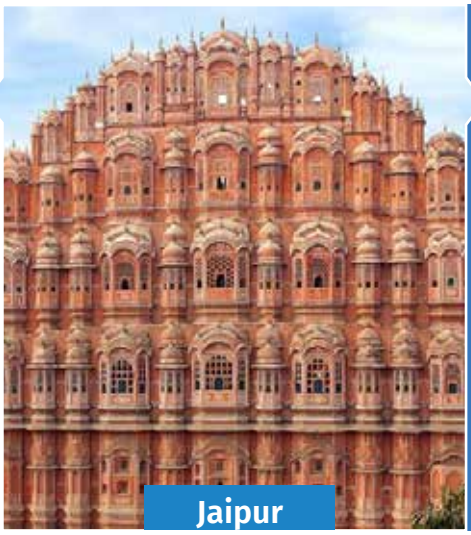
Aug 18-19, 2023

The Health Working Group Ministers' meeting will also take place in the smart city Gandhinagar. The Health Working Group was established under the German Presidency in 2017 to enhance dialogue and inform the G20 Leaders on important global health issues. The group deliberates upon issues concerning preparedness of health systems for health emergencies, One Health approach, Digital Health, Universal Health Coverage, Compliance with International Health Regulations, Sustainable Financing, etc.

Trade & Investment Working Group

4th Meeting | Aug 21-22, 2023

The Trade & Investment Working Group entails five priority areas, namely, Trade for Growth & Prosperity, Resilient Trade and GVCs, Integrating MSMEs in World Trade, Logistics for Trade and WTO Reforms. During the 4th Meeting of the TIWG in August, inputs of the G20 member & invitee countries will be solicited on the Presidency's proposals and suitably incorporated while drafting the Ministerial Communiqué.



Jaipur

Trade & Investment Ministers' Meeting

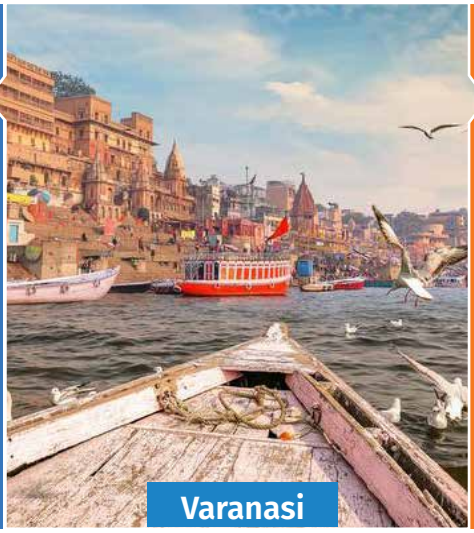
Aug 24-25, 2023

The Trade & Investment Ministers' meeting will also be held in Jaipur in which the ministerial communique drafted during the 3rd TIWG meeting will be officially adopted. The Trade and Investment Working Group focuses on subjects including strengthening the G20 trade and investment mechanism, promoting global trade growth, supporting the multilateral trading system, promoting global investment policy cooperation and coordination, and promoting inclusive and coordinated global value chains.

Culture Working Group

4th Meeting | Aug 24-25, 2023

The ethereal city of Varanasi is all set to host the 4th meeting of the Culture Working Group. During the 3rd meeting in Hampi, deliberations reaffirmed critical areas for collaborative action to further develop tangible recommendations and best practices for Sustainable Development. The 4th meeting will not only steer the G20 discourse on key priority areas, but it will also work towards adopting ' culture' to renew multilateral and multicultural cooperation at all levels with an aim to forward this ideal and inform future global cultural policies and initiatives.



Varanasi

Culture Ministers' Meeting

Aug 26, 2023

India's G20 Culture Track has recognised four priority areas, namely, Protection and Restitution of Cultural Property, Harnessing Living Heritage for a Sustainable Future, Promotion of Cultural and Creative Industries and Creative Economy, and Leveraging Digital Technologies for the Protection and Promotion of Culture. The G20 Culture Ministers met for the first time in 2020 in Riyadh and highlighted culture's cross-cutting contribution to advancing the G20 agenda.

Gandhinagar

Ministerial Meeting on Women Empowerment

August 2-4, 2023

Situated on the banks of the Sabarmati River, Gandhinagar, the capital of Gujarat, will be hosting the Ministerial Meeting on Women Empowerment. India's Presidency is prioritizing women-led development. It aims to transform challenges into opportunities accelerating the shift towards women-led entrepreneurship and greater inclusion of women in the workforce. The first Ministerial conference on Women's empowerment was held in 2020 during the G20 Presidency of Italy.

Gandhinagar

Joint Health-Finance Ministers' Meeting

August 19, 2023

Three meetings of the Joint Finance and Health Task Force have concluded successfully in a virtual mode under India's G20 Presidency. The Joint Health and Finance Ministers' meeting will now be held in Gandhinagar on August 19. The Bali Leaders' Declaration 2022 extended the mandate of the Task Force to continue the collaborations between Finance and Health Ministries for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response.

Gandhinagar

Chief Science Advisors Round Table

2nd Meeting | August 27-29

The G20-CSAR initiative aims to bring together Chief Science Advisers and their counterparts from G20 member countries and invited countries to address global science and technology policy issues. The second meeting of G20-CSAR, scheduled to take place in August 2023 in Gandhinagar, will serve as a platform to discuss and find solutions for long-standing and anticipated issues related to scientific research, technology development, and deployment.

Media Coverage

Labour Ministers of G20 Nations to Focus on Skill Gaps, Gig Workers

Our Bureau

New Delhi: Labour ministers of G20 nations on Friday resolved to address skill gaps globally, provide adequate and sustainable social protection and decent work for gig and platform workers and work out policy options for sustainable financing of social protection.

In the outcome document adopted at the G-20 labour and employment ministers meeting in Indore, labour ministers of all G-20 nations vowed to ensure an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future of work while endorsing the work done by the employment working group.

Ministers vow to ensure inclusive, sustainable and resilient future of work

"The outcome document adopted today shall be submitted for consideration by the leaders to be annexed to the G-20 Summit Declaration to be held in New Delhi on September 9-10, 2023," the ministry of labour and employment said.

"We recognise that the ongoing impact of the pandemic, rising cost ...

19 nations join India to launch Global Biofuels Alliance

Times News Network

New Delhi: Nineteen countries agreed to stand with India as initiating members of Global Biofuels Alliance, even as New Delhi's bid to expand the deployment of biofuels as low-carbon pathway received support from within and beyond G20.

"True success of Global Biofuels Alliance will depend on moving this project from a project of the government to the project of the people," an oil ministry statement quoted Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri as saying after consultations on the alliance held on the sidelines of the G20 14th energy transition ministerial meeting in Goa on Saturday.

The statement quoted US energy secretary Jennifer Granholm recognising the establishment of alliance as a critical step in their biofuels journey with the aim of moving from "test tube to test drive and field to fuels".

The biofuels initiative is part of 'Fuels for Future' tag for one of the G20 priority areas identified under India's presidency

... across policy, technology and implementation. The forum also recognised that overcoming challenges such as feedstock management, developing standards and technological innovations will require a collaborative approach and welcomed the initiative to create global alliance.

The biofuels initiative is part of 'Fuels for Future (3F)' tag for one of the G20 priority areas identified under India's presidency. The scale of biofuels potential can be judged from International Civil Aviation Organisation estimating that more than 600 billion litres of sustainable aviation fuel is required to replace all fos...

G20 Panel for Low-cost Funds to Aid Energy Transition Tech

Working group aims to double rate of energy efficiency improvement

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Panjim: The G20 Energy Transition Working Group has agreed to work towards low-cost financing for energy transition technologies, doubling the rate of energy efficiency improvement, and technological gaps in the transition.

"Some breakthrough is there in doubling the rate of energy efficiency. The members have taken note of a voluntary action plan," Power Secretary Pankaj Agarwal said.

The group has taken note of the Green Hydrogen Innovation Centre as well as the Global Biofuels Alliance, he said addressing the media after a day of deliberations.

The members also noted voluntary action plans proposed by India for lowering the cost of finance for energy transition and doubling the rate of energy efficiency improvement, Additional Secretary Ajay Tewari said.

The group is working on a joint communique for the Energy Transition Ministerial Meeting on July 22. The nations consented for an aim to work towards facilitating access to low-cost finance for clean energy technologies.

The deliberations may continue till Friday to discuss the remaining ...

Push for Energy Efficiency

Group takes note of Green Hydrogen Innovation Centre

Members take note of Global Biofuels Alliance

GREEN HYDROGEN TERMS STILL BEING DELIBERATED UPON

Deliberations could continue till Friday

ON THE TABLE

Green H2 terms, role of transnational grid interconnections, principles for collaboration on critical minerals for energy transitions being discussed

... tions, and principles for collaboration on critical minerals for energy transitions were among the major ...

... for faster energy transition was also agreed upon, the official said.

Cooperation in promoting the use of sustainable biofuels through collaboration between producers, consumers, and interested countries was also accepted, the official said.

The significance of accelerating the pace and scale of commercial deployment of mature clean energy technologies including solar, wind, hydropower and pumped storage, carbon capture utilisation and storage, and nuclear energy, were also agreed upon, as per the official.

Other technologies like electrolysers, bioenergy with carbon capture and storage, direct air capture, high-efficiency fuel cells, and small modular reactors, among others, will likely be accelerated.

Cooperation in promoting use of sustainable biofuels through collab...

G20 transition to clean energy should include Global South: PM

He said no talk about the future, sustainability and development can be complete without energy

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday told G20 Energy Ministers that the world looks up to them to advance a sustainable, just, affordable, inclusive, and clean energy transition, but while doing so, they should take Global South along and ensure low cost finance for developing countries.

G20 EWG meeting begins in Indore

Focus is on finalisation of the Ministerial Declaration and Outcome Documents, and consolidating efforts of the three previous meetings

Tap Jobs in AI, IoT, Robotics, Drones: PM Modi to G20

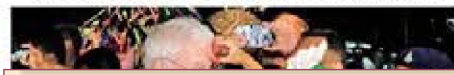
SKILLING, RE-SKILLING AND UP-SKILLING

India pushes climate justice, digital shift proposals at G20

GOVT PROPOSAL FOR AFRICAN UNION'S MEMBERSHIP ADDED IN DRAFT STATEMENT

In G20, India is pushing for global cooperation

जी-20 मीटिंग : मांडू में मेहमानों का शाही स्वागत, भोजन में परोसे पारंपरिक व्यंजन



'Substantial progress on Preamble, gender equality'

Q&A

AMITABH KANT

PM proposed inclusion of African Union in G20: Kant

G20 Sherpa of India Amitabh Kant said PM Narendra Modi has proposed inclusion of the African Union in the G20 member states during India's chairmanship of the G20 Presidency which was fully supported by all the member states at the Third Sherpa meeting. Speaking here on Saturday, Amitabh Kant said if African countries join the G20, it will be like joining by most of the world and it is like a platform for the world's largest economy.

The Sherpa meeting in Hampi has succeeded in making a full draft of the agreement to be implemented in the final meeting of the G20 leaders to be held in Delhi on September 9 and 10. "In this meeting, India placed several proposals before the G20-member countries. These proposals are important in shaping global agen...

... das and finding solutions to current global problems. The agreement points of the summit in India are more important than the agreements made in the previous G20 Summits and will contribute to the economic transformation of developed and developing countries," he said.