

आ नो भद्राः क्रतवो यन्तु विश्वतः
ऋग्वेद -1.89.

Let noble thoughts come to us from all directions in the universe.

Vol. 19, June 2022

Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the G7 Summit in Germany

At the invitation of German chancellor Olaf Scholz, PM Narendra Modi visited Germany for the G7 Summit on 27th June 2022. Discussions were focused on climate, energy, food security, health, gender equality and more. In the G7 session on climate, energy & health, PM Narendra Modi highlighted India's efforts for green growth, clean energy, sustainable lifestyles & global well-being.



Narendra Modi
@narendramodi

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At the G-7 Summit with world leaders.



1:18 PM · Jun 27, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

English Translation of Prime Minister's remarks at the session on 'Stronger Together: Addressing Food Security and Advancing Gender Equality' at G7 Summit in Germany:

"We are meeting amid an atmosphere of global tension. India has always been in favour of peace. Even in the present situation, we have constantly urged for the path of dialogue and diplomacy. The impact of this geopolitical tension is not just limited to Europe. The rising prices of energy and food grains are affecting all the countries. The energy and security of developing countries is particularly at risk. In this challenging time, India has supplied food grains to many countries in need. We have dispatched about 35,000 tonnes of wheat as humanitarian aid to Afghanistan in the last few months. And even after the heavy earthquake there, India was the first country to deliver relief materials. We are also helping our neighbour Sri Lanka to ensure food security.

I have some suggestions on the subject of global food security. First, we must focus on the availability of fertilizers, and keep the value chains of fertilizers smooth at a global scale. We are trying to increase the production of fertilizers in India and seek cooperation from G7-countries in this regard. Second, India has immense agricultural manpower compared to the countries of the G7. Indian agricultural skills have helped give new life to traditional agricultural products like cheese and olive in some of the countries of the G7. Can the G7 create a structured system for the widespread use of Indian agricultural talent in its member countries? With the help of traditional talent of India's farmers, food security will be ensured to G7 countries.

Next year, the World is celebrating the International Year of Millets. On this occasion, we should run a campaign to promote a nutritious alternative like millets. Millets can make a valuable contribution to ensuring food security in the world. Finally, I would like to draw the attention of all of you to the 'natural farming' revolution taking place in India. Your experts can study this experiment. We have shared a non-paper on this subject with all of you.

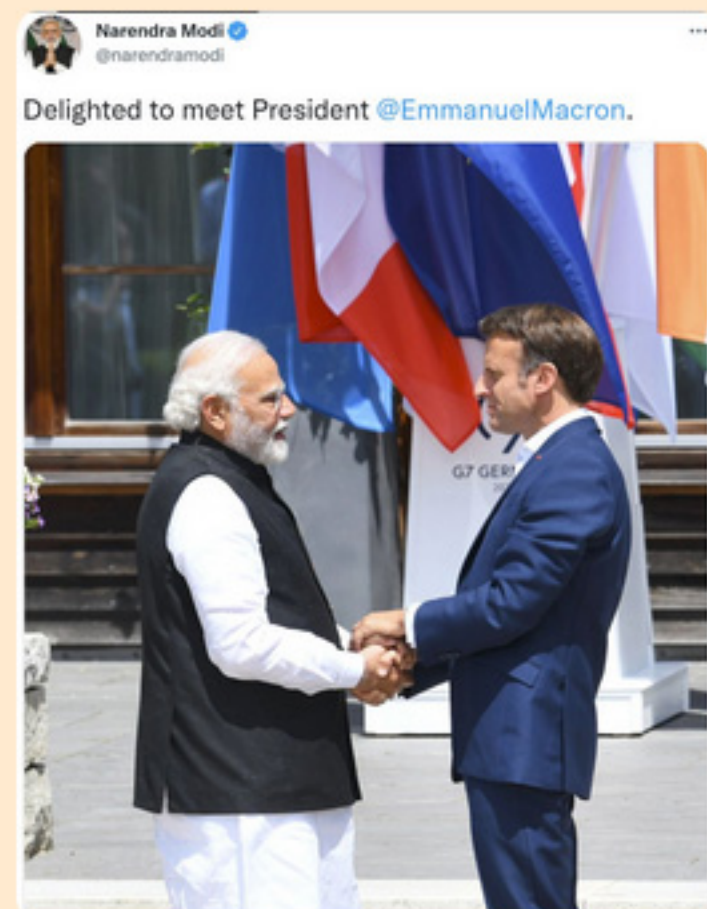
Excellencies,

Where gender equality is concerned, today, India's approach is moving from 'women's development' to 'women-led development'. More than 6 million Indian women frontline workers kept our citizens safe during the pandemic. Our women scientists made a big contribution in developing vaccines and test kits in India. More than one million female volunteers in India are active in providing rural health, whom we call 'ASHA workers'. Just last month, the World Health Organization honoured these Indian ASHA workers with its '2022 Global Leaders Award'.

If all the elected leaders in India from local government to national government are counted, more than half of them are women, and the total number will be in millions. This shows that Indian women are fully involved in real decision-making today. Next year, India is going to chair the G20. We will maintain close dialogue with G7-countries on other issues, including post-COVID recovery, under the G20 platform.

Thank you.'

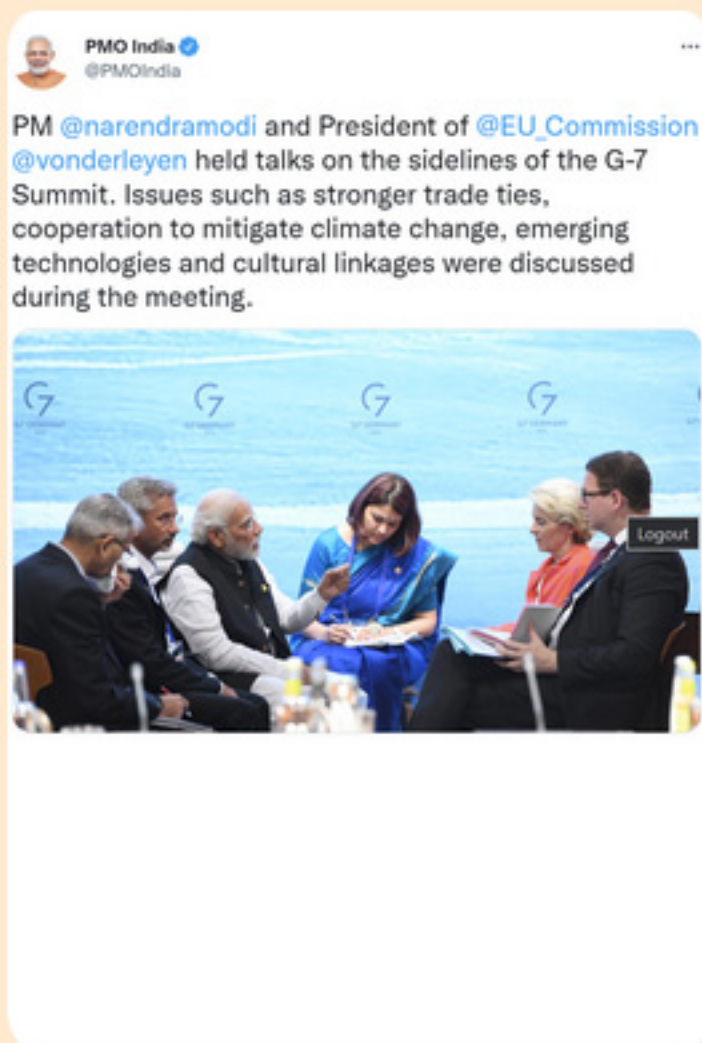
DISCLAIMER – This is the approximate translation of Prime Minister's remarks. Original remarks were delivered in Hindi.



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi met the President of the European Commission, H.E. Ms. Ursula von der Leyen, on 27 June 2022 on the sidelines of the G-7 Summit in Schloss Elmau, Germany

Prime Minister recalled President Von Der Leyen's productive visit to Delhi in April 2022 during the Raisina Dialogue. The leaders expressed happiness on the resumption of negotiations on the Trade, Investment and GI Agreements between India and EU. They reviewed India-EU engagements in various sectors, including digital cooperation, climate action and technology & innovation.

Both leaders also exchanged views on contemporary global and regional developments.



India and EU re-launch negotiations for India-EU Free Trade Agreement



In a joint event held at the Headquarters of the European Union (EU) at Brussels on 18th June 2022, Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal, and Mr. Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice-President of European Commission formally re-launched the India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations. Besides, negotiations were also launched for a stand-alone Investment Protection Agreement (IPA) and a Geographical Indicators (GIs) Agreement.

Last year, in the India and EU Leaders' Meeting held in Porto on 8th May 2021, an agreement was reached for resuming negotiations for a balanced, ambitious, comprehensive and mutually beneficial FTA and starting fresh negotiations on the IPA and a separate agreement on GIs. Both partners are now resuming the FTA talks after a gap of about nine years since the earlier negotiations were left off in 2013 due to difference in the scope and expectations from the deal.

The Delhi visit of the European Commission President Ms. Ursula von der Leyen in April 2022, and the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's recent visit to Europe accelerated the FTA discussions and helped in defining a clear roadmap for the negotiations.

This would be one of the most significant FTAs for India as EU is its second largest trading partner after the US. The India-EU merchandise trade has registered an all-time high value of USD 116.36 Billion in 2021-22 with a year-on growth of 43.5%. India's export to the EU jumped 57% in FY 2021-22 to \$65 billion. India has a surplus trade with EU.

Considering that both partners have similar fundamental values and common interests and are two of the largest open market economies, the trade deal will help to diversify and secure the supply chains, boost economic opportunities for our businesses, and bring significant benefits to the people. Both sides are aiming for the trade negotiations to be broad-based, balanced and comprehensive, based on the principles of fairness and reciprocity. There will also be discussions on resolving the Market Access Issues which are impeding the bilateral trade.

While the proposed IPA would provide a legal framework for cross-border investments to enhance the confidence of investors, the GI pact is expected to establish a transparent and predictable regulatory environment, to facilitate trade of GI products including handicrafts and agri-commodities. Both parties are aiming to negotiate all the three agreements in parallel and conclude them simultaneously. The first round of negotiations for all the three agreements was held from 27th June to 1st July 2022 in New Delhi.

India earlier this year has concluded FTAs with Australia and the UAE in a record time. The FTA talks with Canada and the UK are also underway. The FTA negotiations are part of India's broader strategy to forge balanced trade agreements with key economies and revamp existing trade pacts to improve trade and investment.

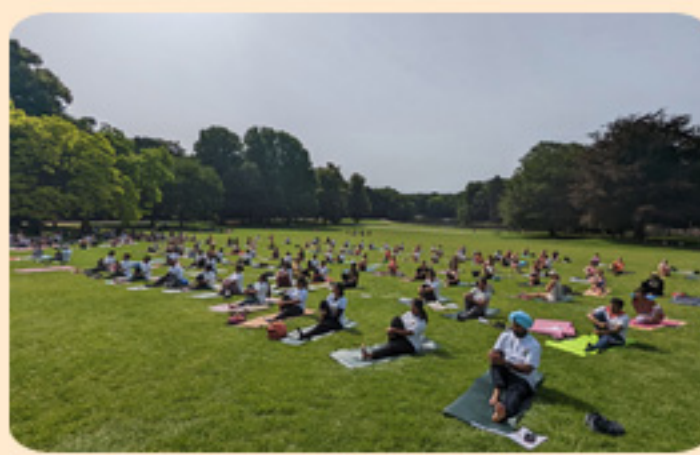
Glimpses from the visit of the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Mr. Piyush Goyal to Brussels



Minister Mr. Piyush Goyal inaugurated the event 'Mango Mania' in Brussels, Belgium on 18th June 2022. The event showcased a wide variety of Indian mangoes from across our country. People across the globe relish the sweetness of this fruit grown by the toil of our farmers.

Also Minister Piyush Goyal met the CEOs and Business leaders of Europe. He was delighted to meet the CEOs & business leaders of Europe from across industries. He invited them to Invest in India as the country emerges as one of the world's most preferred and promising destinations.

Celebrations of the 8th International Day of Yoga in Belgium and Luxembourg

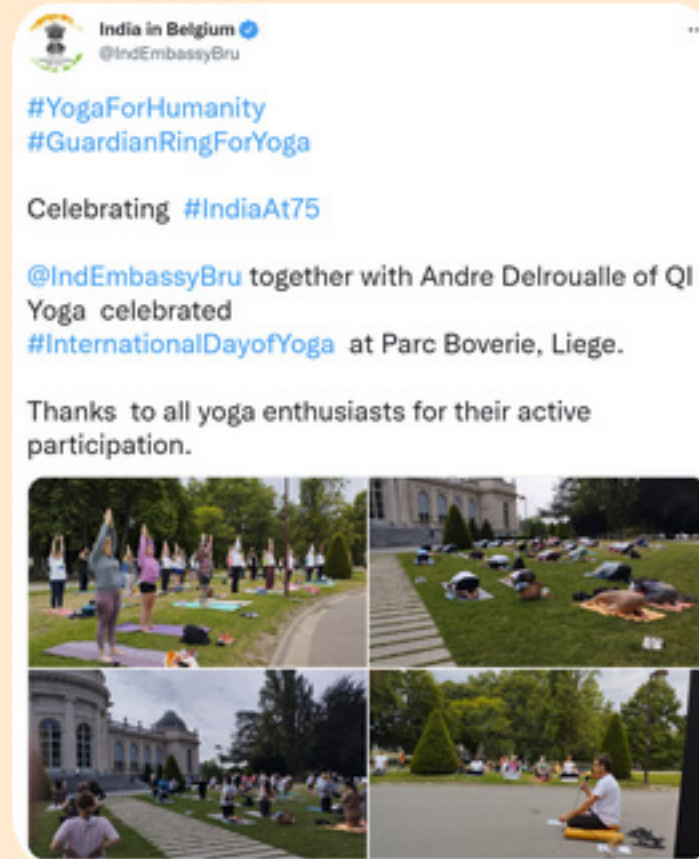


Embassy of India Brussels, together with Art India, organized the Brussels Yoga Fest in serene surroundings of the iconic Bois de la Cambre park, Brussels. Event was graced by presence of Minister Piyush Goyal and Ambassador Santosh Jha. Hundreds of Yoga enthusiasts joined the fest for Yoga exercises. Indian food festival along with Indian dance and music added to the festivities.



Other events in Luxembourg, city of Enghien, Liege and Antwerp





Inauguration of the AIPL Cricket tournament in Antwerp by Ambassador Santosh Jha



Promoting trade ties

