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### **President Of India Greets Mexico**

The President of India, H.E.Mrs.Pratibha Devisingh Patil, sent a message of felicitations to H.E.Mr.Felipe Calderón on the occasion of Mexico's Independence Day, conveying, "On behalf of the Government of India and the people of India and on my own behalf, it gives me great pleasure in conveying to Your Excellency, warm greetings and felicitations on the occasion of the National Day of Mexico. India and Mexico enjoy traditionally warm and friendly relations. Our Privileged Partnership has intensified and diversified in recent years, with exchange of high level visits and enhanced interaction at all levels. I am confident that under your leadership our bonds of friendship would be further deepened and strengthened in the near future. I also take this opportunity to convey to Your Excellency, my best wishes for your personal well-being, and for the continued prosperity and progress of the friendly people of Mexico."

In Mexico City, Ambassador Dinesh K Jain participated in the various functions to mark and celebrate the Independence, on September 15 & 16, and also earlier on the 13<sup>th</sup> in the event to observe the day of *Niños Heroes*. Mexico's Embassy in Delhi hosted a fiesta to celebrate the Independence Day. The event featured fashion shows by leading Mexican designers Pineda Covalin and sisters Paulina-Malinali, who displayed their latest collections, which was followed by a musical performance by Cabezas de Cera. "India and Mexico have always been known for their rich culture and traditions and there exists an affectionate bond between the two nations. No wonder, Mexican attires are popular among Indians, and vice versa," said Paulina. Her sister Malinali continued, "Mexican and Indian cultures are very similar. We love eating spicy food like Indians eat, and ever since we have stepped into the hotel, we have been ordering only Indian dishes. In fact, we Mexicans also use many spices in our food, and we are planning to pick up some Indian spices to take home with us." The sisters shared in unison that given a chance, they would love returning to India. "It feels great to be here. Indians have been very supportive and we have received a great response. We hope to return for the Lakme Fashion Week next year," they said. Pineda Covalin manager Pablo Alvarez Carreto said, "The next collection will be a mixture of both India and Mexico and we are looking forward to be a part of the Indian fashion week next year."

### **India Felicitates Belize on Independence Day**

Prime Minister Dr.Manmohan Singh conveyed the greetings and felicitations of the Government and people of India to Prime Minister Dean Oliver Barrow on the Independence Day of Belize. In his message, PM Singh said "It is satisfying to note that the traditionally warm and friendly ties between India and Belize are growing to our mutual benefit. Our cooperation is also strengthening through the India-SICA Dialogue Mechanism to which India attaches high importance. I am confident that our bonds of friendship would be further deepened and strengthened in the years to come." He also conveyed his best wishes 'for the continued progress and prosperity of the people of Belize.'

High Commissioner Dinesh K Jain participated in Belize's Independence Day celebrations, visiting there for the purpose from September 18-22. During the period he also had the privilege of hosting a dinner, along with Hony.Consul General Mr.Arun Hotchandani, in honour of Governor General Sir Colville Young, and Lady Young, and to call on Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Belize, Hon'ble Wilfred Elrington, and on Minister for Police & Security, Mr.Douglas Singh.

### **India Speaks For Asia-Pacific At the Senate**

Ambassador Jain echoed the shared sentiments of the Ambassadors and Missions of the Asia-Pacific region when he spoke in his capacity as Dean of the recently constituted Asian Ambassadors' Group at a Reception hosted by the Foreign Relations Commission Asia Pacific of the Senado on September 13. Thanking the Senate, in particular, its President Senator José Gonzalez Morfín, and the President of the Foreign Relations Commission Asia-Pacific, Senator Carlos Jiménez Macías, he recalled that the latter had led a Senate delegation to India last year, and the Mexican Congress had welcomed an Indian Parliamentary delegation led by the

Speaker of India's Lok Sabha, Mrs.Meira Kumar, in April. Amb.Jain hoped that the Asian Ambassadors' Group would have further similar opportunities for more regular, meaningful collective interaction with the leaders and principal institutions of Mexico, which would also contribute to promoting Mexico's own objectives of diversification and fostering the spirit of 'more Mexico in the world, more world in Mexico' articulated and espoused by President Calderon. He observed that Asia-Pacific countries shared a very strong empathy with Mexico, and their mercantile, cultural, and anthropological commonalities and ties went back a very long way. Mexico was a fellow member of the developing Group of 77, and its path-breaking growth and advance to the ranks of OECD members had been a source of pride and inspiration for many developing countries. Amb.Jain applauded that Mexico's contribution to global progress and welfare had been immense, such as the successful climate change conference COP-16 in Cancun last year, and expressed confidence that the G-20 Summit which Mexico will be hosting and chairing in 2012 will measure up to the world's high expectations from Mexico's wise and dynamic leadership. He said that increasingly Mexico and the Asia-Pacific region had a stake in each other's success, and on issues from global security to economic growth, shared common challenges and responsibilities. In conclusion, Ambassador extended the assurance that the Asian Ambassadors' Group would cooperate with Mexico's elected representatives and its institutions to advance bilateral and global shared objectives.

#### **Mexico Condemns Delhi Bomb Attack**

In keeping with its steadfast opposition to terrorism, Mexico condemned the 7<sup>th</sup> September bomb attack in New Delhi that claimed several lives. In a message to the Government of India, Mexico conveyed, "On behalf of the Mexican government, the Foreign Ministry expresses its strongest condemnation of today's attack in the Indian capital of New Delhi, and deeply regrets the loss of life and the many injuries caused by this unjustifiable act of violence. The government of Mexico conveys its sincere condolences and sympathy to the people and government of India, and reiterates its firm rejection of terrorism."

#### **India Condoles Death of Belize's Hero**

Amb.Dinesh K Jain conveyed to the Government of Belize India's heartfelt condolences on the sad passing away of the Right Honourable George Price, 'Father of Independence', and first Prime Minister of Belize. Ambassador noted that "India and Belize enjoy the best friendly relations, founded on numerous commonalities, and shared values of democracy, pluralism, and liberalism, among others. Right Honourable George Price was not only a national leader and hero of Belize, but a world statesman, highly regarded and esteemed in India as well, and his demise is a loss to humanity, and to the values that he strived lifelong to promote. The Government and people of India fully share the grief of the Government and people of Belize on his passing away, and also convey their condolences, support and sympathy to his family." India's Honorary Consul General to Belize, Mr.Arun Hotchandani, represented India at the State Funeral on the occasion, on September 26.

#### **India-Mexico Agriculture Cooperation to Get a Boost**

SAGARPA Vice Minister Mr.Mario Ruiz Funes led a Mexican delegation, comprising senior officials as well as business representatives, to visit India from September 18-24, and had fruitful discussions with their Indian counterparts in both public and private sector to further foster and promote agricultural R&D cooperation, and collaborations, as well as trade in agricultural produce, and investment by Mexican food processing majors in India.

India's agricultural cooperation in Mexico is set to scale further heights also following India's formal approval for the setting up of **Borlaug Institute for South Asia (BISA)**, in India, named in honour of the famous agronomist and Nobel Laureate, Dr.Norman E Borlaug, in collaboration with the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT). BISA would be a new state-of-the-art international agricultural R&D centre to boost agricultural productivity by adapting wheat and maize varieties able to thrive despite the challenges of

climate change, and increasing demand on scarce essential resources. BISA will be established at three sites—one each in Punjab, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

### **ITEC Day Celebrated With Mexican Alumni**

Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme, launched in 1964, in the spirit of sharing and South-South cooperation, as a vehicle for India to promote, toward greater friendly relations among the countries of the world and the widest cooperation, for mutual benefit, involves training programmes in India, or even in the partner countries, deputation of Indian experts, projects support including turnkey projects, and feasibility studies etc., with India underwriting all the costs directly associated with all these activities. Over the years, its training programmes now encompass a very wide range of development activities, founded on India's accumulating expertise, including those with political and social dimensions, technology - especially ICT, human resource development, and capacity building, and covers some 6,500 participants annually, from 161 countries, ranging over 270 courses, offered in 47 select centres of excellence and prestigious training institutes, and almost invariably incorporating tours to places of touristic, cultural, and professional interests in India, besides cultural activities together aimed at fostering appreciation and celebration of the cultural diversity. Aimed at providing a common platform for the ITEC alumni to get together in the ITEC spirit, ITEC Day is celebrated each year. Ambassador Jain hosted a Reception on the occasion, on September 30, welcoming Mexican ITEC alumni and their spouses, as well as Mexican students recipients of Indian scholarships for various academic courses in India. He observed that Mexico now already has well over 120 Mexican ITEC alumni, and the number of slots allocated annually to Mexico has grown to 15 now. The ITEC cooperation in Mexico has proceeded in a very happy and healthy manner for both sides. He thanked all those responsible in the Government of Mexico dealing with ITEC programme, directly or indirectly, in the Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores, and in particular Amb. Rogelio Granguilhomme, for their support and contribution. Belize is another beneficiary of ITEC, with an expanding ITEC programme. He said that the ITEC alumni and ICCR scholars are not only India's abiding friends, but also ambassadors of friendship and goodwill between the two countries, and requested them for contact particulars of any other ITEC alumni and scholars not present so that they too could be invited for the occasion next year. The occasion was celebrated his year with an exhibition of photographs taken by four of the ITEC alumni, namely, Ms. Odille Contreras, Ms. Maria Orendain, Ms. Rocío Jiménez, and Ms. Bárbara Cervantes, during their sojourn in India.

### **On India and BRICS Economies**

The Legal Investigation Institute at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), along with the Economic Commission of the Chamber of Deputies of the Mexican Congress, organised a seminar on the theme "BRICS: The difficult path between scepticism and wonder" on September 28-29 in Mexico City. The seminar featured renowned academics and experts, from Mexico as well as other BRICS countries, including several from India who spoke on the Indian economy in the 21st century, on agriculture in the context of the Indian economy, and the general framework of the Indian legal system. Counsellor Dinkar Asthana representing the Embassy, spoke on India and the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) economies, and observed that the bilateral dynamics between the grouping's members continued to be extremely important, briefly describing the broad contours and salient points of India's relationship with the other BRICS countries.

### **India at FITA-II**

India participated, for the second successive year in a row, in the second edition of the International Tourism Fair of the Americas (FITA-II), held at Bancomer Expo in Santa Fe, from September 22-25. The Indian participation was coordinated by India Tourism, Los Angeles office. The Indian pavilion had five leading tour operators/travel agents from India: Luxury India Holidays Pvt. Ltd., Diva Destination Management Services, ERCO Travel, Services International Ltd. and Top Travel & Tours. Besides, seven other Indian agencies also participated: Travelite (India), Vasco

Travel, Royal Expeditions, Atithi Voyages, Travel Corporation (India), AACP Tours and Incentives and Caper Travel Company. GDF Jefe, Sr.Marcelo Ebrard, in his inaugural address identified India as one of the emerging economies which Mexican companies should tap to promote tourism to Mexico. As part of the Indian participation, the Gurudev Tagore Indian Cultural Centre presented a cultural show, comprising classical dance performances of *Kathak* and *Odissi*, besides a *Sitar* recital, to an appreciative and applauding audience of Mexican enthusiasts. The event was concluded with a dinner hosted by Ambassador Jain, at which Ms.Annabella Arya, Director, India Tourism, Los Angeles, made an audio-visual presentation, 'Incredible India', to a select gathering of Mexican travel/tour agents and tourism media, covering the various aspects of India tourism: heritage sites, wildlife, art & culture, spiritual, adventure, as well as conventions and medical tourism.

### **Centre Of Indian Studies At Mexican University**

Prof.V.Shivkumar,

Educational Consultant to the Rector of the University of Kanchipuram in India, is on a year-long stint at the University of Colima (U de C), with the purpose of establishing cultural and academic linkages between U de and Indian universities. Shivkumar, an expert on Latin America and the Caribbean, has said that four years ago, when he was Director of the Centre for Latin American Studies at Goa University in India, the universities of Goa and Kanchipuram had signed a collaboration agreement with U de C, as part of which a doctoral student from India had performed an academic stay in Mexico in 2007 with the purpose of studying Mexican culture. "Now I come to Colima with the intention of starting a programme of Indian studies, because there is much that Mexico and India can do together." Shivkumar explained that the project for the establishment of the Centre of Indian and South Asian Studies was based on different work areas, among them a course on understanding India covering diverse aspects of India, like history, economics, politics, sociology and culture, at the Centre for Studies and Research for the Pacific Rim in U de C. The Gurudev Tagore Indian Cultural Centre would provide feature films and documentaries on India to complement the learning of the participants. Another proposed activity is to send students from U de C to Goa, Kanchipuram or other Indian universities to attend courses in economics, political science, foreign trade, etc. Other cultural and academic exchanges may include fostering ties in the areas of mutual strength through faculty exchanges, for example, Ayurveda, the ancient Indian system of medicine, to be introduced in the department of medicine at Colima.

### **Mexico School Celebrates 'Gandhi Jayanti'**

On September 30, Colegio

Mahatma Gandhi in Mexico City organised a function to mark the 142<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Gandhi Jayanti, falling on October 2. The event featured a video screening on Mahatma Gandhi's message of non-violence, and children recited sayings of Mahatma. The theme of the event was five Gandhian values—perseverance, love, respect, generosity and tolerance, on which the school's Rector Sr.Fernando Frias Castillo laid special emphasis. As part of the event, students, and Kate Asmara, who teaches Bollywood dance at the Gurudev Tagore Indian Cultural Centre in Mexico City, performed Bollywood dance sequences. Mr.Upendra Singh Rawat, Counsellor in the Embassy, spoke on the importance and relevance of Mahatma Gandhi's teachings of truth and nonviolence in modern times.

***The method of passive resistance is the clearest and safest, because, if the cause is not true, it is the resisters, and they alone, who suffer.***

**- Mahatma Gandhi**

### **The World Economy is in Trouble: PM**

Prime Minister Dr.Manmohan

Singh addressing the 66th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, on September 24, characterized the present time as of great uncertainty and profound change. He said, "Till a few years ago the world had taken for granted the benefits of globalization and global interdependence. Today we are being called upon to cope with the negative dimensions of

those very phenomena. Economic, social and political events in different parts of the world have coalesced together and their adverse impact is now being felt across countries and continents. The world economy is in trouble. The shoots of recovery which were visible after the economic and financial crisis of 2008 have yet to blossom. In many respects the crisis has deepened even further. The traditional engines of the global economy such as the United States, Europe and Japan, which are also the sources of global economic and financial stability, are faced with continued economic slowdown. Recessionary trends in these countries are affecting confidence in world financial and capital markets. These developments are bound to have a negative impact on developing countries which also have to bear the additional burden of inflationary pressures. Declining global demand and availability of capital, increasing barriers to free trade and mounting debt pose a threat to the international monetary and financial system. Questions are being asked about the efficacy of the Bretton Woods institutions. There has been unprecedented social and political upheaval in West Asia, the Gulf and North Africa...Terrorism continues to rear its ugly head and take a grievous toll of innocent lives. New threats to international security have emerged...Iniquitous growth, inadequate job and education opportunities and denial of basic human freedoms are leading to growing radicalization of the youth, intolerance and extremism...We have no choice but to meet these challenges. We will succeed if we adopt a cooperative rather than a confrontationist approach. We will succeed if we embrace once again the principles on which the UN was founded – internationalism and multilateralism. More importantly, we will succeed if our efforts have legitimacy and are pursued not just within the framework of law but also the spirit of the law...Societies cannot be reordered from outside through military force. People in all countries have the right to choose their own destiny and decide their own future. The international community has a role to play in assisting in the processes of transition and institution building, but the idea that prescriptions have to be imposed from outside is fraught with danger. Actions taken under the authority of the UN must respect the unity, territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of individual states. Correspondingly, governments are duty bound to their citizens to create conditions that enable them to freely determine their pathways to development. This is the essence of democracy and fundamental human freedoms.

“There are many other things that we can do. We must address the issue of the deficit in global governance. We need a stronger and more effective United Nations. We need a UN that is sensitive to the aspirations of everyone – rich or poor, big or small. For this the UN and its principal organs, the General Assembly and the Security Council, must be revitalized and reformed. The reform and expansion of the Security Council are essential if it is to reflect contemporary reality. Such an outcome will enhance the Council’s credibility and effectiveness in dealing with global issues. Early reform of the Security Council must be pursued with renewed vigour and urgently enacted. We should not allow the global economic slowdown to become a trigger for building walls around ourselves through protectionism or erecting barriers to movement of people, services and capital. Effective ways and means must be deployed to promote coordination of macroeconomic policies of major economies. The reform of governance systems of international financial institutions ought to be pursued with speed and efficiency. The development agenda must be brought firmly back to the centre stage of the United Nations’ priorities. We need a much more determined effort to ensure balanced, inclusive and sustainable development for the benefit of vast sections of humanity. Each of us can contribute to this task, but we can achieve far more if we act in partnership.

“In the last few decades India has lifted tens of millions of its people out of abject poverty. We are in a position to feed our population better, to educate them better and to widen their economic choices. But we still have a very long way to go. We wish to quicken the pace of India’s transformation in partnership with the international community. A fast growing India can expand the boundaries for the global economy. A democratic, plural and secular India can contribute to tolerance and peaceful co-existence among nations...The

fight against terrorism must be unrelenting. There cannot be selective approaches in dealing with terrorist groups or the infrastructure of terrorism. Terrorism has to be fought across all fronts...Nuclear proliferation continues to remain a threat to international security. The Action Plan put forward by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free and Non-Violent World provides a concrete road map for achieving nuclear disarmament in a time-bound, universal, non-discriminatory, phased and verifiable manner...India stands ready to play its part in this noble endeavour."

### **Growing Support for India For UNSC**

Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh has said that there is growing support for India's campaign for permanent membership of an expanded UN Security Council, but he was conscious that it was not a matter to be clinched any time soon. Speaking to journalists on board Air India One while returning from New York, he said India has support of 128 countries for its aspirations for a permanent seat in Security Council. As far as the support of permanent members of Security Council was concerned, US President Barack Obama already made his country's position clear when he visited India last November and the Russian leadership supports India. "The Chinese leadership is somewhat hesitant but not total opposition," he said. "I am not projecting that the permanent membership will fall in the lap of India tomorrow or day after," Singh said, adding that scheme of things will help India claim a permanent seat in the UNSC.

Separately, **Belize has become the latest country to support India as a permanent member of an expanded UN Security Council.** This was conveyed by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Belize, Honourable Wilfred Elrington, to Amb. Jain, during their recent meeting in Belize City on September 20.

South Korea too has said it would like India to become a permanent member of an expanded UN Security Council but it was not coming out in support because of certain other political dynamic. "We want India to join", South Korean Ambassador Kim Joong-Keun said at a function in New Delhi. "You have the right but there are some technical, procedural problems that we have," Kim said while replying to a question on South Korea's position on India's claim. The envoy noted that Korea was one of the leading members of the Uniting for Consensus (UFC), a grouping which is opposed to their joint bid for permanent seats of the Security Council. "The reason why Korea joined UFC is...not because of India."

India, which has completed its one-month tenure as the UN Security Council President, has demonstrated through its "constructive" approach to key issues like Syria and Libya that it will work to strengthen the top body when it becomes a permanent member. Expressing satisfaction over the way India handled the UNSC Presidency last month, the country's Permanent Ambassador to the UN Hardeep Singh Puri said that New Delhi's approach to key issues was "constructive" and it worked with a "voice of moderation, based on realism...We have also been able to demonstrate that as a country which aspires for permanent membership, when we get one on a more enduring basis we will actually work to strengthen the council."

India and other G4 countries (Brazil, Germany, India and Japan) are continuing to push for Security Council expansion. On September 23, the G4 Foreign Ministers held their meeting in the margins of the 66th Session of the UN General Assembly, to exchange views on Security Council reform, and reiterated their common vision of an enlarged Security Council for the 21st century, expanded in both the permanent and non-permanent categories of membership, taking into consideration the contributions made by countries to the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as the need for increased representation of developing countries in both categories, in order to better reflect today's geopolitical realities. They discussed the initiative to promote consultations with regard to their draft resolution, which has been widely supported from all regional groups of the UN, and this should be considered as the basis for further discussion to create the momentum

needed for real negotiations on this all-important matter. They expressed their determination to work in close cooperation with other Member States in a spirit of flexibility, and press ahead with all the necessary steps to achieve a concrete outcome in the current session of the UN General Assembly.

### **Strong Condemnation of India Terrorist Attack**

"The members of the Security Council condemned in the strongest terms the terrorist attack that occurred in Delhi, India, on Sept.7, causing numerous deaths and injuries," said a press statement read out by Nawaf Salam, the Lebanese Ambassador to the UN and monthly President of the 15-member Council. The Security Council "reaffirmed that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed...The members of the Security Council reiterated their determination to combat all forms of terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations." A bomb exploded at around 10:30 AM outside a gate of the Delhi High Court Complex, leaving 12 people dead and 76 more injured. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, and several leaders from all around the world, also voiced strong condemnation of the bomb attack in the Indian capital, expressing "solidarity with the government and people of India."

Speaking at a UNSG's Symposium on International Counter-Terrorism Cooperation in New York on September 20, Ambassador H.S.Puri, Permanent Representative of India and Chairman, Counter-Terrorism Committee, stated that terrorism today constitutes the most serious challenge to international peace and security. Some States, including India, have been victims of this scourge for several decades. The horrific events of 9/11 terrorists attack brought home to the western world its devastating consequences and changed the world profoundly thereafter. Today, terrorists are not only truly globalised, but are also waging an asymmetric warfare against the international community. They recruit in one country, raise funds in another and operate in others. They have global logistical and supply chains; they have developed transnational financial systems; they use the latest and most sophisticated technologies and have command and control mechanisms that are able to operate across continents on a real-time basis. Confronted with this global menace, the UN has developed a reasonably good legal framework, and States have been obligated, among others, to criminalize terrorist acts, deny terrorist safe havens and financial resources, and ensure that terrorists are brought to justice and cooperate with other States to bring terrorists to justice. Despite these substantive achievements, there has been no let up in terrorist violence and the world continues to confront the challenge emanating from the epicentres of terrorism. The central requirement of an effective counter-terrorism strategy is the necessary political will to squarely face the challenge of terrorism. No cause or grievance could justify terrorism and we need to adopt a holistic approach that ensures zero-tolerance towards terrorism. Where States have the institutions and capacities, they must clamp down on terrorism. The States which do not have technical and institutional capacities, especially in failed states, the international community should assist in building their capacities to counter-terrorism. Concerted international efforts are required to identify and expose the linkages that exist between terrorists and their supporters and to destroy terrorist safe havens, their financial flows and their support networks. The States need to implement the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy in an integrated manner in all its four pillars. Technical assistance, capacity building and sharing of best practices are vital components of successful collective strategies.

### **Terror Camps Across Border Being Reactivated**

Calling for tighter security vigil in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK), Indian Prime Minister Dr.Manmohan Singh on September 16 warned that terrorists were waiting in camps across the border to infiltrate into the state. "There are reports of a large number of terrorists waiting in camps across the border and attempts to infiltrate into Jammu and Kashmir are increasing. Cross-

border terror camps are being reactivated...We need to be ever vigilant if infiltration attempts are to be foiled and security maintained," he said, adding that the security situation in the state had witnessed "a gradual, yet substantial" improvement in the recent months. "The national security situation continues to be uncertain. Recent terror attacks in Mumbai and Delhi are a grave reminder to great challenge posed by terrorists to our nation's security," PM said, noting that left-wing extremism had also claimed lives of many innocent people and policemen.

Asserting that there cannot be a "selective approach" in the fight against terrorism, India has expressed the hope that Pakistan would get "serious" in dismantling terror camps on its soil and live up to its pronouncements. "I am sure they will realise, and by now they should have (realised), that terrorism cannot be fought selectively," External Affairs Minister S.M.Krishna said after meeting his Pakistani counterpart Hina Rabbani Khar at a reception hosted by her in New York. Replying to a question that the US too is talking in the same voice as India on the terror network in Pakistan, Krishna said terrorism has to be fought across the board and not in a selective manner. Krishna said India has brought to Pakistan's attention and notice through dossiers on the terror threat that emanates from its soil. He said Pakistan had assured India that its territory "is not going to be used for any hostile activities" against India. Consequently, India has now specifically asked Pakistan to destroy the 42 terror camps operational there, saying that a resurgent Taliban could be a "security threat" to the country after US forces pull-out from Afghanistan. Defence Minister A K Antony also asked that "There are 42 terror camps which are still operational. We want all of them to be destroyed."

Separately, a report by a US think-tank has said that in its quest to maintain an "asymmetric" influence in its neighbourhood, Pakistan cooperates with the US to attack terror groups it considers hostile to it while simultaneously supporting outfits like the LeT, which it perceives as "beneficial" to its objectives. The report states that Pakistan's intelligence agencies support terrorist groups that target India, Afghanistan, and the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) coalition forces, killing and injuring not merely foreign civilians and soldiers, but also causing considerable damage to Pakistani society. In particular, terrorism has been used by Islamabad since the early 1990s as an instrument of "low-intensity conflict" to press New Delhi into "concessions on Kashmir." "There are no signs that the Pakistan military realises the harm the obsession with India is doing to their country. The Pakistan military will not abandon its fixation on India as the enemy, not least because most of the Pakistan army's dominance over domestic politics is tied to the maintenance of hostilities with India," the joint report by Council on Foreign Relations and Aspen Institute India said. Despite a miserable economic situation, Pakistan allocates a large percentage of its national budget to military spending, given the Pakistani military's argument that its conventional forces are inadequate to deter India, the 64-page report noted. Further, Islamic extremism is on the rise in Pakistan itself, which faces endemic violence and has suffered more terrorist attacks in the past decade than any other country apart from Afghanistan and Iraq. The country is showing alarming signs of systemic decline, the report titled 'The United States and India: A Shared Strategic Future' added. Pakistan comes across "as deliberately intractable" to India, which is frustrated and bitter that its repeated efforts to normalize relations with its next-door neighbour have yielded no results. "Despite domestic scepticism, the Manmohan Singh government has persisted in discussions with Pakistan on resolving bilateral disputes but in such a problematic bilateral climate, breakthroughs on India-Pakistan issues look infinitely remote. India-Pakistan relations are stuck and likely to remain so," the report said. However, it remains to be seen whether nearly 20 years of restraint on New Delhi's part in the face of persistent cross-border terrorist attacks from Pakistan will continue in the future too. "In any case, the conventional wisdom in India is that in the event of another major terrorist attack staged from Pakistan, it will be very difficult for the Indian government to avoid a military reaction in the face of enormous public pressure." The report suggests that military aid to Pakistan

by the US should be conditional on concrete anti-terrorist measures the Pakistan military must take against groups targeting India and the United States, including in Afghanistan. "The United States and India should begin classified exchanges on multiple Pakistan contingencies, including the collapse of the Pakistan state and the spectre of the Pakistan military losing control of its nuclear arsenal." The United States should also hold the Pakistan military to a much more exacting code of conduct, while doing all it can to avoid a sustained rupture of its relations with Pakistan, the report added.

In a related development, the Indian official spokesperson said, "India welcomes the designation by the U.S. Secretary of State of Indian Mujahideen (IM) as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) and as Specially Designated Global Terrorist. The U.S. designation reflects our shared commitment to combat terrorism, as well as, the strong and growing bilateral counter-terrorism cooperation, which is an important component of the India-U.S. strategic partnership. The designation also recognises that IM has links with Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Tayyiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammed (JEM) and Harakat ul-Jihad-i-Islami (HUJI), and notes that IM was responsible for dozens of bomb attacks throughout India since 2005 including playing a facilitative role in the 2008 Mumbai terrorist attack carried out by LeT. This underscores once again the destructive agenda of these organizations with trans-regional links and operations, and the responsibility of all countries in our neighbourhood and beyond, to join hands with the international community to root out the menace of terrorism, once and for all".

Earlier, USA also confirmed that IM "played a facilitative role in the 2008 Mumbai attack carried out by the LeT that killed 163 people, including six Americans". In actions that underscore the fact that US is no more indifferent to terrorist attacks on India, a media note from the State Department that accompanied the formal designation of IM as a global terrorist organization with links to Pakistan acknowledged that "these designations highlight the threat posed by IM not only to Western interests, but to India, a close US partner." The Indian populace has borne the brunt of IM's wanton violence and today's actions illustrate our solidarity with the Indian government," said Amb. Daniel Benjamin, the department of state's coordinator for counterterrorism, adding that "these designations play a critical role in our fight against terrorism and are an effective means of curtailing support for terrorist activities and pressuring groups to abandon terrorism." The Pakistan-backed Haqqani group, under commission from the ISI, is also suspected of executing the attack on the Indian embassy in Kabul in 2008 that killed a young Indian diplomat and a military attaché. The Haqqani group has been described as Pakistan's "strategic asset" by its Army chief Pervez Ashfaq Kayani. The two alleged IM operatives arrested by the Indian crime branch were part of the sleeper cells of the terror outfit and had received training in terror activities way back in 2000, sources said. "The duo has been questioned in the July 13 bomb blasts case," said a source, adding they were sent to Pakistan for terror training in 2000.

Separately, against the backdrop of the US assertion that Pakistan's ISI was helping terror groups in Afghanistan, PM Singh expressed the hope that the world would "wake up" to the realisation about which India had been talking about for long. There is a strong growing awareness that measures have to be taken to check these forces, Singh said. Gen Mike Mullen, Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff of the US, has said that there are "certain forces in Pakistan. It is not new to us. If fact, the world did not believe us earlier. I am quite certain that now the world will wake up to these forces." His statement came against the backdrop of America's assertion that ISI was helping Haqqani network terror group in launching attacks in Afghanistan. India's view on terrorism in the region is increasingly being "believed and subscribed to", Indian Ambassador to the US, Nirupama Rao also said, even as the Obama Administration stepped up pressure on Pakistan to rein-in Haqqani network, which allegedly has links with ISI. Rao said India has repeatedly said that one cannot have segmented approach when it comes to applying pressure on any terrorist groups. One has to deal with all the groups that threaten peace and stability in the region, she

argued. "India's point of view (on terrorism) is increasingly believed in and subscribed to," Rao said here at the panel discussion on India-US Strategic Relations organised jointly by FICCI and the Brookings Institute. Deputy Secretary of State, William J Burns said that US President Barack Obama has made it clear about the depth of US concern, not just about the Haqqani network, the threat that it poses to the United States, as well as to others in the region including Pakistan.

**The worsening security situation in Pakistan is also a cause for concern.** India has expressed fresh worries about the future of Pakistan in the wake of unchecked violence in Karachi in which more than thousand people have been killed in the last few months. India views Pakistan's plummeting security scenario and dithering economy as symptoms of a failing state. "Its 20% economy is informal, its state power is informal, its society works in strange ways, its state structure has already collapsed. However, Pakistan exists as an entity with Pakistan army, Jihadis and civilian government," said an unnamed government source. "India is also concerned about the safety of Pakistan nukes. New Delhi believes that the real danger to the arsenal is not from the Jihadis but from the guardians." India also said it was good that the US recognised the link between the Haqqani network and the Pakistan intelligence agency ISI, both of which have been blamed for the assassination of former Afghan President Burhanudin Rabbani. "We have always been saying it." External Affairs Minister S M Krishna said.

### **India on Conflict Prevention**

Addressing the UN Security

Council at the High Level event on conflict prevention, on September 22 in New York, EAM Mr.S.M.Krishna observed that if properly used, preventive diplomacy could become an essential element in the global community's response to some of the major challenges facing the international system today and help in conflict prevention. The UN Charter stresses the importance of adjustment or settlement of disputes by peaceful means. Over the last six decades, peaceful interventions by the UN have helped diffuse a number of conflict situations on a number of occasions. These interventions, wherever undertaken with impartiality, fairness and equity, have earned for the UN a reputation for effective mediation. The challenge before the international community is to build on this legacy. Contemporary threats to international peace and security differ qualitatively from those prevalent six decades ago. Intra-state and even borderless violence, low-intensity conflict, non-state actors and the terrorist-criminal-drug trafficking nexus threaten international stability and progress. Unfortunately, recent developments seem to indicate a worrying trend towards increased reliance on the use of force as a mechanism for resolving some of these conflicts. In many places use of force has prolonged conflicts—a situation where the cure turned out to be worse than the disease. The international community must not show undue eagerness for coercive arrangements in its hurry to bring peace. It, of course, goes without saying that the peaceful method is a more difficult one. The great Indian Emperor Ashoka noted three millennia ago that "To do good is difficult." Preventive diplomacy takes time and commitment. It requires the ability to discern realistic solutions. It needs to incorporate the forces for stability and progress in a particular situation. Actions undertaken within the framework of conflict prevention by UN entities must be designed to support and complement, as appropriate, the conflict prevention roles of national Governments. India has always opposed and will continue to oppose the use of force as the primary reaction to conflicts. As the major troop contributing country to UN peacekeeping operations India is more familiar than most with the limitations of force. There really is no sustainable alternative to political processes and that the primary focus of the UN should be the facilitation of a political settlement. Coercive measures should be avoided and used as a measure of last resort and implemented with extreme care and caution. Decisions to use force should be free of political motives. The humanitarian imperative of providing succour to the suffering should not be used to further political objectives. There are very good reasons why international law is based on the principle of consent. Efforts to circumvent this process are not prudent and cannot be expected to address the drivers of conflict on an

enduring basis. The time-tested principles of national consent, impartiality, fairness and equity in all conflict prevention activities that the UN may undertake need to be borne in the mind at all times.

### **India Resumes Presidency of G-24**

India took over on September 22 the presidency of the G-24 group of 24 developing countries after a gap of 28 years and said it would use the multilateral platform to build stronger South-South cooperation. "G-24 has an important role to play in fostering dialogue amongst developing countries and in supporting a more inclusive approach in global economic and financial cooperation," Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee said after taking over the presidency, who was also the finance minister in 1983-84 and thus chaired the G-24. He said, "The role of developing countries which had stalled for many years is now experiencing a major and fundamental rise. The global economy has become much more interconnected and with it we are facing the need for much better coordinated and concerted actions...I believe that many of our countries possess extremely good practices that can be studied and emulated in others. Let us use the platform of G-24 to build stronger South-South cooperation links for our people's common benefit." Members of G-24 group are spread equally over Asia, Africa and Latin America. From the Asian region, the members include Iran, Lebanon, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Syria. There are eight members each from Africa and Latin America. Established in 1971, the group is tasked with coordinating the position of developing countries on monetary and development issues, particularly issues on the agendas of the IMF and the World Bank.

### **US-India Relationship Among World's Most Important**

"President Barack Obama's Administration has sought to build upon the deepened US engagement with India begun by President Bill Clinton in 2000 and expanded upon during much of the past decade under President G W Bush," says the Congressional Research Service (CRS) in its latest report 'India: Domestic Issues, Strategic Dynamics and US Relations'. An independent and bipartisan wing of the US Congress, the CRS prepares periodic reports on issues of interest to the US lawmakers. The 94-page report was released for US lawmakers on September 1. "This US-India diplomacy was most recently on display in July 2011, when the second US-India Strategic Dialogue session saw a large delegation of senior US officials visit New Delhi to discuss a broad range of global and bilateral issues," it said. "Many analysts view the US-India relationship as being among the world's most important in coming decades and see potentially large benefits to be accrued through engagement on many convergent interests. Bilateral initiatives are underway in all areas." Observing that South Asia emerged in the 21st century as increasingly vital to core US foreign policy interests, CRS said India, the region's dominant actor, with more than one billion citizens, is often characterised as a nascent great power and 'indispensable partner' of the US, one that many analysts view as a potential counterweight to China's growing clout. Since 2004, Washington and New Delhi have been pursuing a "strategic partnership" based on shared values and apparently convergent geopolitical interests, it said, adding that numerous economic, security, and global initiatives, including plans for civilian nuclear cooperation, are underway. The latter initiative—first launched in 2005 and codified in US law in 2008—reversed three decades of US non-proliferation policy. Also in 2005, the US and India signed a 10 year defense framework agreement to expanding bilateral security cooperation. The two countries now engage in numerous and unprecedented combined military exercises, and major US arms sales to India are underway. "The value of all bilateral trade tripled from 2004 to 2008 and continues to grow; significant two-way investment also flourishes. The influence of a large, relatively wealthy, and increasingly influential Indian-American community is reflected in Congress's largest country specific caucus. More than 100,000 Indian students are attending American universities," the report said.

The Indo-US strategic partnership is a "defining and indispensable" collaboration for the 21st century, President Obama has said, and **the two countries share a dynamic and**

**broad relationship that serves to advance peace and prosperity in Asia and the world.** He conveyed this to new Indian Ambassador to the US, Nirupama Rao, at the credentials presentation ceremony at the Oval Office, White House. "He said the two countries enjoy a natural friendship and that the India-US partnership has proven to be dynamic and broad and serves to advance peace and prosperity in Asia and the world." Rao, in her remarks, conveyed warm greetings from the President and Prime Minister of India to him and First Lady Michelle Obama, adding that India was greatly encouraged by his strong personal commitment to take the bilateral strategic partnership forward.

The US also hopes for India's greater engagement globally. "We are counting on India's rise not just as an economic partner but as a global power—one that engages everywhere from Latin America to the Middle East to East Asia," Deputy Secretary of State William J Burns said in his remarks on 'Is there a future for the US-India partnership?', organised jointly by India's apex business chambers federation, FICCI, and Brookings Institute, a Washington-based eminent American think tank. India's leadership in promoting a more stable South Asia—its multi-billion dollar assistance commitment to Afghanistan, its determination to re-engage and normalise trade with Pakistan, and its joint projects to boost infrastructure and capacity in Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and the Maldives—offer the hope of a more peaceful future for the region and the world, he said. For US and Indian policymakers, a successful transition in Afghanistan is a shared imperative and an area of increasing cooperation. "Success in Afghanistan depends on ensuring that...certainly includes India. With coalition forces drawing down, Afghanistan will need extensive private investment and economic linkages with its neighbours," he said. Even with no direct access to India's rising middle class market, Afghanistan already sends one-quarter of its exports to the country, he said, adding that imagine what will be possible when transit and trade agreements extend outward to India and Central Asia, and Afghan traders are able to shift goods directly to the markets of Mysore and Mumbai. "India can be its economic engine," Burns said. The US and India have a mutual stake in supporting a stable and more integrated South Asia...we must also work together as the strategic centre of gravity for world affairs shifts toward the Asia-Pacific region, where India has a vital role to play, he said. "It is precisely for this reason that the US and India decided to launch a strategic dialogue on the Asia-Pacific in 2010. Since then, this mechanism has emerged as a model for the type of engagement and dialogue that we need to identify new areas of cooperation and to pursue complementary strategies," he said. Burns said India has built a vast network of bilateral economic cooperation agreements and security arrangements in the Asia-Pacific with traditional American allies like Japan, South Korea, and Australia, and with its other partners, like Singapore, Indonesia and Vietnam. "We are launching a new US-India-Japan trilateral consultation on regional issues. India's outreach is growing, moving toward a comprehensive vision for the East Asia region—a 'Look East' policy that is becoming an 'Act East' policy," he said. The official said the 21st century Asia-Pacific the Obama Administration seeks is one in which India, the US and China all enjoy good relations. "...we know that, as this century advances, fewer and fewer global problems will be solvable without constructive cooperation among our three great countries. To paraphrase India's National Security Advisor, I have no doubt that Asia and the world are big enough for the three of us, if we want them to be. We will all benefit from enhanced collaboration in the years ahead," he said.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (**NATO**) **is also seeking greater engagement with India.** Even as it charts out roadmaps for a sizeable US-led military training mission in Afghanistan till 2024 and a post-conflict role in Libya, NATO wants a deeper engagement with India in fields ranging from counter-terrorism and anti-piracy to cyber-security and ballistic missile defence (BMD). "It's important for India and NATO to have a dialogue...it will ultimately depend on India where it wants the relationship to go," said US permanent representative to NATO, Ivo H Daalder, adding that senior alliance officials were in touch with their Indian counterparts on it. The dialogue will establish how India and NATO can

work together to promote security and tackle new emerging threats. "We already do so in places like Afghanistan...We can think about other places we may be doing that," added Daalder. "Nato, for instance, is getting into BMD technology in a major way...We can share knowledge, train together...We, after all, face similar threats," said another senior official, adding that the alliance was now shaping "a special partnership" with even Russia.

### **India's Unequivocal Support for Palestinian State**

In the context of the Palestinian bid for UN membership, India has reiterated its absolute 'unequivocal support' for a Palestinian state. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, in New York to address the UN, sent a letter on September 19 to Palestinian Authority president Mahmoud Abbas assuring him of India's full support at the UN. Noting that India was the first non-Arab State to recognize Palestinian state as far back as 1988, Amb.Puri said PM Singh had in his letter reiterated that India will support the Palestine cause. 'India's support for Palestine state is 100 percent, unequivocal,' Puri said in response to a question and if it comes to a vote 'India will vote for it the General Assembly and the Security Council.' 'There is no question of India coming under pressure on the Palestine question,' he said.

### **India Supports Libya Transitional National Council**

India has extended support to the acceptance of credentials of the delegation of the Transitional National Council of Libya led by its President Mustafa Abdel Jalil to attend the forthcoming UN General Assembly session in New York. India has been in contact with the Transitional National Council in Benghazi and Cairo. India has also participated as an observer in the Libyan Contact Group meeting in Istanbul in July and recently at the Minister of State level at the Paris Conference on Libya jointly organised by France and UK on September 1. India also participated in the High Level Meeting on Libya scheduled to be held in the margins of the UNGA on September 20, called by the UN Secretary General. In this meeting, India reiterated its willingness to extend all possible assistance to the people of Libya in their political transition, rebuilding and reconstruction activities. Indian Cd'A to Libya, currently based in Tunis, has formally established contact with the TNC Mission in Tunis. India has given humanitarian assistance of \$1 m through UN-OCHA to Libya and assistance of another \$2 million is being processed.

### **Indian Humanitarian Assistance to Horn of Africa**

India will provide humanitarian assistance of \$8 m to the countries afflicted with severe famine and drought in the Horn of Africa, i.e., Somalia, Kenya and Djibouti. The assistance will be provided through the World Food Programme. India has also contributed \$1.5 m to the AU Trust Fund on Somalia and \$0.5 m to the UN Trust Fund. This is part of the assistance announced by Prime Minister of India for augmenting the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) at the India-Africa Forum Summit-II in Addis Ababa, in May this year. India would be cooperating with Somalia in capacity building in areas such as fisheries, IT and agriculture. India is also considering extending technical assistance to Somalia in developing a counter piracy policy and strategy. India is firmly committed to the progress and development of Africa. India's economic package of \$5.7 b for the African countries, over the next three years, is demonstrative of her time-tested ties and commitment.

Separately, India has offered to provide doctors for fire victims in Kenya. India has offered experts to assist in the treatment of the Sinai slum fire victims. Kenya airways has offered to fly to Nairobi for free the experts from India. Meanwhile the Indian Navy is expected to assist in searching for and retrieving any more bodies that could still be in the River Ngong which passes through the slum.

### **Historic Accords Between India and Bangladesh**

Prime Minister Dr.Manmohan Singh paid a historic visit to Bangladesh, from September 6-7, bringing the countries closer in a wide array of new important understandings, agreements, and cooperation. The bilateral talks led by him and his host, Prime Minister Mrs.Sheikh Hasina, were held in an extremely warm, cordial and friendly atmosphere reflecting the excellent

bilateral relations and friendship. They reiterated the shared faith in and commitment to the values of secularism, democracy and social justice, and recognised that the destinies of the peoples of the two countries were interlinked in their search for peace, prosperity and stability, having entered a new phase in bilateral relations with a pragmatic and practical approach based on sovereignty, equality, friendship, trust and understanding for the mutual benefit of their peoples and collective prosperity of the region. The two sides signed historic accords on Cooperation for Development, on Demarcation of the Land Boundary and Related Matters (which paves the way for settlement of the long pending land boundary issues including the undemarcated areas, territories under adverse possession and exchange of enclaves, based on ground realities, further contributing to amity and harmony in border areas and create a conducive environment for enhanced bilateral cooperation), as well as on facilitation of overland transit traffic, on Renewable Energy Cooperation, on Conservation of the Sundarban, on Conservation of the Royal Bengal Tiger of the Sunderban, on Cooperation in the field of Fisheries, on Mutual Broadcast of Television Programmes, between Jawaharlal Nehru University and Dhaka University, and between their institutes of fashion technology. Notably, they welcomed the progress on the principles and modalities of interim agreements on sharing of waters of Teesta and Feni Rivers on fair and equitable basis, to be concluded at the earliest. They also expressed satisfaction at their ongoing cooperation and understanding on security related issues and reaffirmed unequivocal and uncompromising opposition to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including insurgency. They agreed to promote trade, investment and economic cooperation in a sustainable manner and facilitate trade by road, rail, inland waterways, shipping and air, and India announced the decision to remove all 46 textile lines which are of interest to Bangladesh from India's Negative List for LDCs under the provisions of SAFTA, thereby reducing the applicable duty rate to zero with immediate effect, besides their agreement to identify and remove all barriers to unfettered bilateral trade. As regards the utilisation of the \$1 b Line of Credit extended by India, it was noted that it would significantly enhance infrastructure and capacities in Bangladesh, financing a number of projects identified by Bangladesh. Dr. Singh announced further grant to Bangladesh for several cooperation and developmental projects and other initiatives. They reiterated the importance of an effective multilateral system, centred on a strong United Nations, as a key factor in tackling global challenges, the need to pursue the reform of the main UN bodies, including the Security Council. PM Hasina reiterated their support for India's candidature for permanent membership of an expanded and reformed UN Security Council.

### **India's Nuclear Safety Record Impeccable**

At a High Level Meeting on Nuclear Safety and Security, held on September 22 in New York, India's Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ranjan Mathai said in a statement that following the Fukushima nuclear incident, there is a strong expectation that global safety standards, implementation and crisis response procedures will be further strengthened, consolidated and updated in a continuous manner based on a scientific and objective analysis of the lessons learned. India views nuclear energy as an essential element of its national energy basket. We are committed to taking forward our three stage nuclear programme based on a closed fuel cycle. We envisage a major expansion of nuclear energy in the coming decades – 20,000 MW by 2020, and projected to grow to 60,000 MW by 2030. Our nuclear safety track record has been impeccable over 345 reactor years of operation but we recognize the importance of continuous improvement and innovation in our nuclear safety standards and practices covering the entire range of activities—citing, design, construction, operation and up-gradation. The Prime Minister of India has underscored that safety of our nuclear plants is a matter of the highest priority. The Government has undertaken a number of measures. Six safety review committees have looked into various aspects of nuclear safety and while detailed reviews are being evaluated, certain enhanced safety measures are already being implemented. All reactors, whether indigenous or imported will, without exception, meet the enhanced safety standards. Safety evaluation reports and follow-up measures are being put

in the public domain to enhance transparency and boost public confidence. There is increased focus on emergency preparedness and response to a nuclear accident which are beyond design basis accidents (BDA). There is need for strengthened international cooperation, setting of new standards, peer reviews, sharing of experiences with a new emphasis of cooperation among all stakeholders- government, operators, regulators, industry, scientific and research bodies. A new international safety regime should be evolved on the basis of consultations and consensus through an inclusive and transparent process. India will actively contribute to international efforts for enhanced nuclear safety standards and practices, evolved through consultations, based on a scientific and objective approach that allows sharing of scientific knowledge and technology relating to nuclear safety, promotion of innovation and investment in new technologies and increased transparency and capacity building that allows timely response to nuclear accidents should they occur. India is establishing a Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership to facilitate international cooperation and assist in building global capacity in areas such as Advanced Nuclear Energy Systems, Nuclear Security, Radiation Safety, and the application of Radioisotopes and Radiation Technology.

### **India to Push for Kyoto Protocol's Extension**

India has said developed nations have not fulfilled their promise on the issue of transferring technology to developing countries to meet carbon emission goals. Environment Minister Jayanthi Natarajan said developed nations were hesitant to vow for such a step during discussions on climate change-related issues. "The transfer of technology is the most important issue. And developed countries took the responsibility under the Montreal Protocol, which has not yet happened under other discussions that we are having," she said, while addressing International Ozone Day celebrations in New Delhi. She said the widely ratified Montreal Protocol dealing with the issue of ozone layer depletion could serve as a model of global cooperation while addressing serious environmental concerns. Her remarks came a day after she made it clear that India will press for developed nations to agree to a second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol on reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the Durban conference on climate change later this year. Sharing details of informal ministerial consultation on climate change held in South Africa, Natarajan said all developing countries are looking forward for operationalization of decisions taken at the climate change conference in Mexico last year. "One of the important principles enshrined in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change is the principle of common but differentiated responsibility and a concrete manifestation of this principle is the Kyoto Protocol. Our endeavour is to strive for developed countries to agree to extension of it," she said. "For the Durban Conference of Parties, we look forward to the operationalization of Cancun decisions and to ensure that some of the issues relating to the Bali Roadmap are not lost sight of," Natarajan said. "Issues related to finance, technology transfer, adaptation and forestry are key deliverables for the Durban Conference," she added. India also said it won't accept any legally binding limits on emission of greenhouse gases. For India, "there's no question of any legally binding cuts," she added.

### **Indian Coast Guard Set to be World's Largest**

The Indian Coast Guard is poised to be the world's largest force protecting the territorial waters with a large number of ships and aircraft to be inducted in it in near future, Defence Minister A K Antony has said. "By 2018, the Indian Coast Guard will be the biggest force among all such forces in the sector," he said after the Coast Guard Commanders' Conference. Antony said that at present 156 ships and boats of different sizes were being built for the force along with 12 new Dorniers and different types of helicopters. The force is also going to establish a chain of 46 coastal radars in the first phase by 2012. "An important project to tighten our coastal security is the establishment of 46 chain of static sensors atop the lighthouses along our coastline. Once it is in place, it will boost our real time maritime domain awareness," he said, adding that 36 such radars will be installed in the mainland and the remaining in the Andaman and Nicobar and the Lakshadweep Islands territories.

***When you cease to think of yourselves as slaves, it will become impossible for anyone to enslave you.***  
- Mahatma Gandhi

### **India To Become World's Third-Largest Economy**

India is expected to overtake Japan to become the world's third-largest economy in 2011 in terms of gross domestic product (GDP), measured on the basis of purchasing power parity (PPP). In 2010, the Japanese economy was worth \$4.31 trillion, with India trailing closely at \$4.06 trillion. The International Monetary Fund estimates that Japan's economy will contract 0.7% this year while India's will grow at 8.2%. It is estimated that the Indian economy would grow to almost \$5 trillion by end-2011. "India should overtake Japan in 2011 to become the third-largest economy in the world at purchasing power parity," said Sunil Sinha of premier Indian credit ratings organization CRISIL.

On the economic front, the **core sectors** comprising crude oil, petroleum refinery products, coal, electricity, cement, steel, fertilizers and natural gas **grew 7.8% in July**, year on year, the fastest pace in 15 months, led by steel, electricity and cement, the three sectors growing at over 10%. India's foreign exchange (forex) reserves have risen to hit an all-time high of \$320.78 b for the week ended Sep 2, official data showed, following rise for the third consecutive week.

**India's merchandise exports rose** to \$29.3 b in July, up **82%** from a year earlier. Data issued by the Ministry of Commerce showed that exports during April-July, the first four months of the current fiscal year, rose 54% to \$108.4 b. Imports jumped 52% to \$40.4 b in July, driven by a 58% rise in non-oil imports to \$28.9 b. Oil imports increased 37% to \$11.4 b. India's July trade deficit widened to \$11.1 from \$10.5 b a year earlier. Exports from the world's fourth-largest economy have been climbing steadily, driven by increased government support to exporters to tap into new markets in Latin America and Africa, which are helping offset slowing demand from traditional regions such as the US, Europe and Japan. The government is targeting merchandise exports of \$300 b in the current fiscal year through March 2012, compared with last year's all-time high of \$245.9 b. Some traditional items such as gems & jewellery showed unfettered demand even at the time of the 2008 global economic crisis and may help keep demand for Indian exports aloft. Also, the basket of commodities has now grown substantially with engineering goods and chemicals as well as pharmaceutical products steadily gaining prominence in Indian exports.

**India's grain exports** are expected to drag down the global prices. India's return to the wheat and ordinary rice export market after more than three years will push down prices for buyers in Southeast Asia and Africa, trading executives and analysts have said. The Indian Government has allowed exports of at least 2 mT each of wheat and rice, relaxing a ban on shipments due to burgeoning stocks following a string of bumper harvests. There is ample global supply of wheat but availability of high quality grades is tight because rains and heat damaged some crops in Australia and the US. "The phones haven't stopped ringing since the government made the announcement, and the prices of some wheat grades in Gujarat and Rajasthan are up by \$8.68-13.02 a tonne," a Mumbai-based trading executive said, which is among the cheapest in the world. Russian wheat is currently offered around \$290/ton, FOB, while Australian Standard White is quoted at \$310/ton. India will capture a significant portion of the parboiled rice export market from Thailand, former president of Thai Rice Exporters Association, Chookiat Ophaswongse added.

The textile and garments' sector has been a traditional area of India's strength. **India is fast emerging as a major player in technical textiles.** The Indian technical textiles industry is projected to grow to \$31.4 b by 2016-17 from \$12.67 b in 2010-11, with healthcare and infrastructure sectors accounting for a major chunk of the consumption, according to Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Ernest

& Young. On August 25, inaugurating the first international exhibition and conference on technical textiles jointly organized by Government of India and FICCI in Mumbai, "Technotex 2011", India's Textiles Minister Anand Sharma, also Commerce and Industries Minister, observed, "The emerging sector of technical textiles has been identified as one of the thrust areas of textiles development...Four more Centres of Excellence for non-woven textiles will be set up, in addition to the existing four..." Technical textiles are specialised textile products having varied industrial applications, including textiles for automotive applications, medical textiles, geo-textiles, agro-textiles used for crop protection and protective clothing for fire fighters, bullet-proof jackets and space suits.

**India's vintners** are also **breaking into the global market**, with Indian wines hitting UK shelves and India slowly gaining a reputation as a wine-producing nation. Waitrose has become the first British supermarket to stock wines from India on its shelves. The supermarket has started selling two brands of Indian wine in its shops. Due to their spicy and floral aromas, the wines will be marketed as the perfect accompaniment to curry, said Matt Smith, Waitrose's wine buyer. He described the white Ritu Viognier as a "crisp, aromatic wine with floral and peach aromas", while the red Zampa Syrah is a "rich dark-fruited wine with a hint of pepper and a spicy finish". Both wines are made from traditional grape varieties grown in the Maharashtra region of Western India. 'Ritu' means 'season' in Sanskrit. The white wine is produced by United Breweries, the vast Indian brewer that also makes Kingfisher lager. Smith said that Indian wine has improved markedly over the last five years. "India is starting to make wine that is interesting." Smith said that the soil conditions and high ground in certain areas produce high-quality grape harvests. "...there are areas where the soil is good; it is clay and limestone, which encourages the vines to dig down and work hard. Vines need relatively poor soil. They like stones." At a recent wine fair in London, Indian producers had a strong presence. "India is arriving as a wine nation...it is definitely a country to watch over the next five years," said Smith.

An anecdotal indication of a vibrant Indian economy is the **world's highest growth rate in July in the domestic air passenger traffic**. "Brazil and India recorded the highest growth rates of 17.8 and 20.6% respectively. Both were stronger than June's performance," the International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced in its traffic results which showed that the global passenger travel was up 5.9% over the same period last year. Another sign of a bustling economy is India's over 858.4 m mobile phone subscriber base, with 6.67 m alone added in July, according to official data. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) said the wireless user base grew 0.78%, from 581.7 m in June. Wireless subscription in urban areas increased from 562.12 m in June 2011 to 565.71 m at the end of July and rural subscription increased from 289.57 m to 292.65 m during the same period. Overall tele-density in India reached 71.59%. In addition, according to study by TSYS, the global market leader in providing electronic payment services to financial institutions and companies, India has the potential to emerge among the top five economies in the world for electronic payments and transactions "India will climb...to be one of the world's top five generators of non-cash payments by 2017," says the study, noting that in India consumers increasingly conduct electronic payment transactions with either plastic cards, or mobile phone-based applications. Electronic card transactions - debit, credit and prepaid - are growing at double-digit rates with debit cards' compounded annual 45.5% driving the growth. This market trend is being driven by a population of more than 1.2 b, 350-400 m of which are part of the burgeoning middle class, growing annually at 5%.

India's '**millionaire club**' is also set to witness a major boom as their numbers are expected to more than double to 4,03,000 by 2015 on the back of a robust economic growth and impressive returns from stock and property markets. The total wealth of these millionaires, having minimum investible assets of \$1 m, is also estimated to more than double to about \$2.5 trillion by 2015, a report on Asian wealth market has said. Investment banking major CLSA said in its report, titled 'Wealthy Asia', that there were a total of

173,000 millionaires in India at the end of 2010, with total wealth of \$949 b. For 2015, the report forecasted the country to have as many as 403,000 HNWI's (High Net Worth Individuals). CLSA said that wealth growth in India was expected to be "extremely strong" on the back of strong economic growth and robust returns from key asset classes. "The stock market should provide almost 14% annual returns, while we estimate Indian properties to rise on an average close to 5% per annum," it said. The report, which tracked the wealth market in entire Asia excluding Japan, said that India accounted for 15% of total HNWI population in the region, the second largest.

**India has earned kudos from several WTO members**, including Mexico, Turkey, Brazil, China, Pakistan and the European Union, **for pursuing bold trade and development-friendly initiatives** despite serious economic and social challenges. During India's trade policy review meeting at the WTO, which provides a platform for members to review New Delhi's overall trade and macroeconomic policies, India's commerce secretary Rahul Khullar outlined about the government's trade and macro-economic reforms in the face of raging global economic crisis. India's average applied tariffs are currently around 8.9%. The government has also streamlined its customs procedures and trade facilitation measures during the last four years since the last trade policy review in 2007. "Developing countries need to address their core concerns of food and livelihood security, besides promoting rural development, while undertaking liberalization commitments," Khullar said. "It is important for India and other developing countries to be able to protect the interests of their nascent and vulnerable industries," he said, arguing that "the development interests of such industries cannot be sacrificed at the altar of mercantilist demands, which seem utterly oblivious to the fate of millions of people living on truly meagre incomes. He said India is disappointed at ongoing attempts to "sidestep the core issues and come up with a new agenda" at this juncture. "India is a very influential country," said Mexico's trade envoy Ambassador Fernando de Mateo; the two-way trade between Mexico and India has increased by seven times to \$3 b.

### **For Japan, India is the Place to Invest in**

Japan's new Prime Minister, Yoshihiko Noda, said on September 6 that India is a promising investment destination and more and more Japanese companies look at investing in India. While addressing a gathering of over 2,000 businessmen from India and Japan at the India-Japan global partnership summit 2011, Noda said, "Japan is looking forward to further its trade and investment ties with India and more and more Japanese firms look forward to investing in India...More than 700 Japanese companies have already been doing business in India and even more companies look to India as a promising investment destination," adding that he looks forward to further increase of trade and investment between the two countries. Noda said that Japan would like to contribute to further development of India, which is already showing an incredible rise. In particular, he mentioned about the Delhi-Mumbai freight and industrial corridor project (DMIC), which has been promised a \$4.5 b Japanese assistance. Talking about the bilateral relations, Noda said, "The India-Japan comprehensive economic partnership agreement, which came into force in August is a symbol of such economic relationship...Next year marks the 60th anniversary of our bilateral diplomatic relations and I look forward to further strengthening of our bilateral ties in the coming years." Stating that both India and Japan share universal values like democracy, rule of law and market economy, Noda said "We are determined to see Japan and India - the two largest democracies in Asia - to further deepen their cooperation based on the strategic global partnership that the two countries announced in 2006."

### **India 'Critical to America's Success'**

"Washington must also immediately start discussions with India to end in a bilateral free trade agreement strengthening our relationship with a friend who will prove to be critical to America's success in the 21st century," said Republican presidential aspirant Jon Huntsman. A former governor of Utah, Huntsman served the first two years of the Obama administration as top American

diplomat to China. "It is in the strategic interest of the United States to reach trade agreements with the world's largest economies that share our values," he said in a major policy speech on "job plan" in the country. "Thus, the United States should take the lead in initiating free trade agreements with Japan, India and Taiwan, among others. We must begin to send a message to the world that we will once again lead on trade liberalization."

**Corporate America has emerged as a strong votary of closer linkages with India.**

As India's top Cabinet Ministers and industry leaders landed in Washington for crucial talks with their US counterparts, Corporate America urged the Obama Administration to embrace India as a knowledge partner. "India's leadership has arrived in the US this week. American business and government officials should reach out and remind them of the promise of the US-India partnership - a close friendship that will shape the economic destiny of the 21st Century," said Ron Somers, the President of the US-India Business Council. "We must embrace India as our knowledge partner by endorsing movement of technical professionals, an activity essential to our common, bright future," he said. "Acknowledging that American companies can more effectively compete on the world stage by teaming with their Indian counterparts is a smart way to start this constructive conversation. Such knowledge partnering will propel growth, enabling our companies to maintain their primacy. A 'win-win' dynamic of job creation will accrue to both sides," Somers said, reminding the American leadership that India is implementing bilateral trade agreements with several countries, which would result in lost opportunities for US firms unless steps were taken. Observing that the November 2010 India visit of US President Obama was historic, Somers said to take the relationship to an entirely new level, the next step should be to forge a Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) between the countries. "This will protect US investment into India, where our firms can tap into India's vast market, while providing an incentive for Indian investment flowing into the United States," he said. In this regard, Somers cited Reliance Industries' investment in Pennsylvania and Texas, as well as Essar's \$1.5 b investment in Minnesota and West Virginia. The Tata Group will also be more inclined to increase investment in the US, as will Wipro, Mahindra, Infosys, Wellspun, Ranbaxy, Thermax and a dozen other companies, the USIBC President said. Boeing has already sold nearly \$20 b in civilian and military aircraft to India in the last five years, including a recently clinched \$4.1 b deal for supply of transport aircraft to India. Lockheed Martin concluded a similar sale of aircraft to India last year, he added. Furthermore, the US Export-Import Bank is on the verge of achieving financial closure for one of the world's largest combined cycle gas-fired power plants based in India, which will use GE turbines. Honeywell, UTC, Caterpillar and even California almond and pistachio farmers all have similar export stories to share. "The bounty is limitless," he emphasised.

In a joint US Congress-German Bundestag meeting in New Delhi, India's Minister of Commerce & Industry, Mr. Anand Sharma said, "We need to engage more not less." Indian industry, particularly the IT sector has been concerned over increasing resistance to outsourcing in the developed world. Sharma said the US policy makers need to be sensitised about the mutual advantages of the outsourcing. "[I]t is well documented that for every job that is outsourced there are higher end jobs created in the outsourcing economies," he said. He said there was a need to avoid protectionist tendencies in the developed economies. Sharma expressed hope that the US will restore the preferential market access for Indian goods like gems & jewellery under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP). On foreign direct investment (FDI), Sharma said the trend is looking good 'after a disappointing last year and India hoped to make up for the lost ground this year.' India's FDI increased by 133% to \$13.44 b in the first quarter of the current fiscal year.

Data released by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics also suggests that fears of Indian tech firms taking away good American jobs may be exaggerated, with the IT industry having some of the lowest unemployment rates in the world's largest economy. The US IT unemployment rate dropped from 4.7% to 3.8% between March and May this year. In the

same period, total unemployment rose from 8.9% to 9.1%, according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. The unemployment rate in computer and mathematical occupations (which includes IT) came down from 4.3% in August last year to 3.7% in August this year. But now, with unemployment in the technology sector only a third of the US average, IT firms see a ray of hope. "Around 3-4% of unemployment in a sector actually means that there is a shortage of the right people to hire and not a shortage of jobs. Technology companies in the US are hiring because the sector is doing well and because these companies are undergoing a transformation as they move towards cloud computing, mobility and virtualisation etc. The issue about outsourcing and visas is misplaced," Nasscom President Som Mittal said.

### **India To Add 3,500 MW Of Renewable Power**

India will be adding about 3,500 MW of renewable power during the current fiscal, making a capital investment of about \$5.9 b, according to Renewable Energy Minister Farooq Abdullah. "It is envisaged that a power generation capacity of around 3,400 MW (grid-interactive) and 130 MW (off-grid / captive) from various renewable energy sources, mainly wind, solar, biomass and small hydro, will be added in the country during the current financial year 2011-12". According to Abdullah, the wind energy sector had attracted foreign direct investment of almost \$310 m over the past three years. In the renewable energy sector, wind energy has emerged as the fastest growing category. India's installed wind power capacity was 14,723 MW as of July and it is targeting addition of 2,400 MW this fiscal, ending March 31. The Government allows 100% FDI in the renewable energy generation and distribution projects including wind energy. While half of the capital investment would be towards wind energy, investments in solar power are expected to be about \$1.83 b. Other renewable sources like small hydropower and bio-power would have investments of about \$610 m and \$510 m respectively. Additional investment of about \$203 m is envisaged in deployment of decentralized renewable energy systems/ devices like biogas plants, solar water heating systems and SPV lighting systems in remote villages/ hamlets. The government has created a contingency fund for solar power projects if state utilities fail to make payments. India is aiming to build solar energy facilities in the country with a total generating capacity of 20,000 MW by 2022. A large number of solar energy parks are planned in Gujarat to meet the rising demand for power and to help reduce the use of fossil fuel. The Asian Development Bank for instance has approved a \$100 m loan for a solar power transmission project in Gujarat costing about \$137 m at the Charanka Solar Park in Patan in Gujarat.

India is on the way to joining an elite club which today has only the US and Japan among its members. India will launch on October 12 **a satellite dedicated to studying climatic and atmospheric changes** in the tropical regions. The project is a collaboration between the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and the French space agency. India, hence, becomes only the second country to launch such a space mission after the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM), the joint space mission between the US-based National Aeronautics Space Administration (NASA) and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), designed to monitor and study tropical rainfall. While the TRMM spacecraft in a similar low orbit is at an inclination of 35 degrees to the equator, Megha-Tropiques will orbit at a low inclination of 10-20 degrees to north-south of the equator to enhance observational capability of the rapidly-developing tropical systems and will enable monitoring of weather and climate over the entire tropical regions, ISRO Chairman K Radhakrishnan said. "If all goes well, we will launch the satellite on October 12 to an orbit of 870 km with an inclination of 20 degrees to the equator to study the lifecycle of convective systems and their role in the energy and moisture budget of the atmosphere in tropical regions," he said. Megha-Tropiques, the satellite, is made of two words—Megha which stands for cloud in Sanskrit and 'Tropiques' which is French for tropics. ISRO is giving the final touches to the ambitious Indo-French advanced tropical climate monitoring satellite, expected to be launched from the Sriharikota spaceport, SHAR. As a joint venture between the two countries, the ISRO will bear the launch cost. The satellite payload is also shared between

the two countries, as also the three instruments aboard the satellite. About 30 minutes after lift-off, the ISRO's telemetry, tracking and command network (ISTRAC) will take control of the satellite and the instruments on-board will be switched on during the following three weeks. The 1,000-kg satellite will be launched onboard the 230-tonne Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) from the spaceport at Sriharikota, SHAR. The satellite will carry an Imaging Radiometer Microwave Analysis and Detection of Rain and Atmospheric Structures (MADRAS), a six-channel humidity sounder (SAPHIR), a four-channel Scanner for Radiation Budget Measurement (SCARAB) and GPS Radio Occultation System (GPS-ROS).

**Delhi Metro has become the world's first railway network to earn carbon credits from the UN** for helping cut greenhouse gas emissions. The transport system has helped reduce pollution levels in the city by 630,000 T a year, a UN release said. If not for the Metro, the 1.8 million people who use it daily would have travelled by cars, buses or motorbikes, adding to pollution. It will now get \$9.5 m in carbon credits annually for seven years. And as the number of passengers increase, so will this figure. Carbon credits are generated by a UN-run scheme called the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). The UN statement said, "No other Metro in the world could get the carbon credit for the above because of the very stringent requirement to provide conclusive documentary proof of reduction in emissions." Every passenger who uses the Metro instead of cars or buses helps reduce greenhouse emissions by approximately 100 gm of carbon-dioxide for every trip of 10km and that helps in reducing global warming, the UN said. Delhi's hi-tech metro system was launched in 2002. Parts of the network are underground while some sections use elevated tracks. The system, which covers some of the city's most congested streets, is seen as the answer to Delhi's traffic chaos and has helped in lowering air pollution levels.

With environmental consciousness growing wider, India's private sector has realised that it is good business sense to present an environmentally conscious and responsible image to customers. Leading **Indian luxury hotel chain ITC Hotels**, for example, secured the US Green Building Council's LEED platinum rating for all its luxury hotels making it **one of the greenest luxury hotel chains in the world** with regard to environmental norms, including energy, water and waste efficiency. The platinum certification has been conferred to the ITC properties in New Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Agra. ITC executive director Nakul Anand said that the platinum rating exemplified the ITC credo of responsible luxury. "This coveted feat uniquely positions ITC as the first hotel chain in the world to have all its luxury hotels accorded the highest green rating," he added.

India's ever innovative private sector has seized the opportunity to offer environmentally sustainable, technologically innovative and commercially viable solutions for catering to the energy requirements of the rural and urban poor, and thereby promote use of local resources. 'Growithus Consulting and Marketing' has developed 'energy cakes' made from sponge iron industrial waste. A piece of cake weighing 900 grammes can burn up to three and a half hours at 700°C and is an efficient source of energy. Hence the cakes can be used by households and businesses for cooking, heating and manufacturing. Importantly, these cakes are smokeless and can be easily produced by women's groups at the village level. Another company "Luminous Power Technologies Limited," a provider of power backup solutions for home, commercial, telecom towers & renewable energy systems has launched LED (light emitting diode) based Solar Lighting Solution, a low cost solution for rural home lighting requirements. Its energy efficient LED based design with a single light output is at par with 11W compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) and can provide light output ranging between 11 to 102 hours, offering benefits such as reduced air pollution and safety from kerosene lighting led accidents.

### **India's Big Firms for Global Expansion**

Two of India's largest family-run groups plan to invest billions of dollars around the globe as they seek to boost revenues by expanding in fast-growing emerging markets and by acquiring distressed assets of companies based in developed markets. Aditya Birla Group, India's aluminium to

retail and mobile telephony conglomerate, plans investments of \$17 b across its 33 companies aimed at almost doubling the group's revenues to \$65 b by 2015. Godrej, one of India's oldest conglomerates, said it would invest several billion dollars in developing markets in an effort to boost the company's sales by at least 10 times to \$30 b by 2020. Kumarmangalam Birla, chairman of the family owned group, and Adi Godrej, the 68-year-old chairman of eponymous Indian consumer goods-to-palm oil group Godrej, said that the bulk of the investments would be rolled out over the next two to five years. The aggressive moves come as the groups seek to meet the demands of India's fast-growing economy amid a global scramble to tie up mineral resources. Both conglomerates have a record of big-ticket global expansions, reflecting the changing face of corporate India. Companies have for decades been content to stay at home but now are cash rich and increasingly looking for opportunities overseas, where inflation and interest rates are lower and valuations are attractive following the 2008 financial crisis. When Birla took the reins in 1995 from his late father, Aditya Vikram Birla, the group was India-centric and generated \$2 b in revenues. Today, following 22 acquisitions, the group is a multinational worth \$35 b, operating in 33 countries and generating more than 60% of its revenues overseas. The 44-year-old Birla said the majority of the investment—about \$10 b—would go to developing greenfield projects at its aluminium and cements companies, and to securing resources such as copper and coal needed to meet the nation's rising demand for construction materials for nascent infrastructure projects. The remaining \$7 b will be invested in Birla's mobile phone carrier, its pulp business, and its viscose staple fibres unit. Godrej said the group plans to expand heavily in Africa, Asia and Latin America through a series of acquisitions."

### **Indian Mining Companies Big on Growth**

Intierra Resource Intelligence notes that by mine output, India is the fourth largest producer of zinc, and the sixth largest producer of lead. However, the actual impact of Indian commerce on global mining is felt far more widely. Recent Indian mining investment has been broad-based, sizeable and reflects a willingness to invest in early stage and pre-feasibility projects. Intierra's CEO, Peter Rossedeutsch, notes this trend and provides a typical example: "Tata Steel has been very active building a mining company to help feed its steel business. In the last four years it has bought into projects in Canada (Taconite Magnetite Project) and Mozambique (Benga Colliery), where it now partners with Rio Tinto. Tata is also looking for more projects in Australia and North America." Other notable Indian companies targeting investment are Adani Enterprises and Jindal Power and Steel. Adani has invested over US\$2 b purchasing Linc Energy's Bowen Basin tenements and also buying the Abbott Point Coal Terminal. Jindal operates the El Mutun iron ore mine in Bolivia and is also active in Madagascar. ArcelorMittal, listed in New York and 40% owned by the Mittal Family in India is the largest steel producer in the world. It has operating iron ore and coal mines in Canada, Brazil, Kazakhstan, Russia, USA, **Mexico**, Liberia, Algeria and Bosnia Herzegovina. Last year ArcelorMittal successfully acquired Baffin Iron Ore Mines and recently made a joint bid with Peabody to acquire Macarthur Coal in Australia's Bowen Basin. Bombay-listed Sterlite Industries recently bought Anglo American's zinc interests in South Africa, Namibia and Ireland for US\$1.338 b, increasing the group's immediate zinc/lead annual profits by 20%. The Black Mountain mine in South Africa was also acquired for US\$346 m and has 4 years of reserves, contributing roughly US\$73 m a year to profit before tax. Elsewhere, government-owned NMDC has been active in Australia where it bought into the Wonarah Phosphate Project and bid for Legacy Iron Ore. Hindalco Industries is exploring bauxite deposits in Cameroon with a view to increasing supply to its alumina refineries. Rossedeutsch summarizes the situation: "There is a lot more to come from India. The money is available, the understanding of where to look for resources is improving and the intent is clear and strong."

### **India Medical Tourism Approaching \$2.3 Bn**

India's world-class medical technology, coupled with a skilled medical workforce, will ensure that the Indian medical tourism industry is worth \$2.34 b, and the number of foreign patients visiting the

country crosses 3.2 m by 2015, said a report "Emerging Trends In Domestic Medical Tourism Sector" prepared by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM). The report estimates the current worth of Indian medical tourism industry at around \$1 b with about 850,000 foreign patients visiting India for treatment annually. Top notch facilities, especially in sectors like cardiology, joint replacement, orthopaedic surgery, transplants etc. at very reasonable prices, are certain key factors making India a favoured destination. "High quality medical care at a fraction of a price people would traditionally pay in developed countries is the basic reason behind this surge in number of patients flocking to India for treatment purposes...We propose developing 'Multispecialty Health City' on public-private partnership basis at 10 centres across the country," ASSOCHAM said. Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, West Bengal, and New Delhi are fast emerging as India's best medical centres with facelifts, dental and Botox treatment, tummy tucks, eye care etc. - the most sought after treatments. Further, with holistic medicinal services like yoga, meditation, ayurveda, allopathy, etc., India offers a plethora of facilities difficult to match in other countries. "Ayurveda is increasingly becoming popular as a non-surgical treatment for various ailments among the patients hailing from abroad," said the study. India gets the most number of foreign patients from the Middle East, followed by the US, Europe and people from neighbouring countries like Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Afghanistan and others.

***If you want something really important to be done, you must not merely satisfy reason, you must move the heart also.***  
**- Mahatma Gandhi**

### **Literacy Rate To Touch 80% By 2015**

The Government of India has expressed hope that the country's literacy rate will touch 80% by 2015 with the success of programmes like *Saakshar Bharat* mission. "The average literacy, which is 74%, will reach 80-85% by 2015. This is a big achievement," HRD Minister Kapil Sibal said at an international conference on women's literacy. He said while more than 4 m people have been empowered through *Saakshar Bharat*, including women, in the coming times 70 m adults will benefit. The centrally-sponsored programme was launched September 2009 with an aim to further promote and strengthen adult education especially of women. The 3-day conference resolved to forge alliances for regional and sub-regional cooperation to meet the goals set particularly in the areas of capacity building, assessment protocol, training and research. It was attended by the highly-populated E-9 countries of Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, **Mexico**, Nigeria, Pakistan, and SAARC countries.

**Internet usage in India is also set to explode**, with its mammoth mobile subscriber base coupled with the downward trend in smartphone prices. Google expects India's internet users to triple by 2014 as telecom carriers invest in high-speed wireless infrastructure and smartphones become cheaper, a report has said. Google's country head in India, Rajan Anandan, a former Microsoft executive, told the Wall Street Journal that the company forecasts India will reach at least 300 m internet users by 2014, up from about 100 m now. With just 8% of its 1.2-b population online, India is already the third-largest internet market by users, behind China and USA. Anandan said he expected the next 200 m Indian web users to mainly access the Internet on the high-speed wireless networks that carriers are in the process of rolling out countrywide.

In addition, the World Wide Web Consortium's (W3C) India office was inaugurated on September 15. W3C is engaged in development of common protocols on the web, developing of standards and recommendations for web access. The establishment of new W3C India office space gives it a permanent entity and would play more active and crucial role in proliferation of W3C standards among ICT industry and users to make India truly a knowledge-based society. W3C has 19 offices worldwide, which deal into promotion,

proliferation and adoption of W3C standards and its implementation according to local languages and culture.

### **Sonia Gandhi, Ratan Tata Among World's Most Influential**

India's Sonia Gandhi and industrialist Ratan Tata are among the world's "50 most influential people", along with German chancellor Angel Merkel who was ranked no.1, according to a survey by UK-based magazine New Statesman. The list, however, features a number of controversial figures including the chief of the Pakistan Army Gen Ashfaq Parvez Kayani, the Republican Tea Party leader Michele Bachmann, and Al-Qaeda's "spiritual leader" Anwar al-Awlaki. "Italian-born Sonia Gandhi is widely considered as one of the most powerful politicians in India, becoming the longest-serving president in the history of the Indian National Congress on being reelected for the fourth time in September 2010," the magazine said, highlighting the fact that she is daughter-in-law of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Tata was hailed as a symbol of "India's emergence as an international powerhouse" and credited with giving Indian business a global reach with the acquisition of the British steel manufacturer Corus and the prestigious Jaguar Land Rover car by the Tata Group. His statement that his successor need not be an Indian is described as a "sign that his is a truly global business."

### **West Bengal is Now 'Paschim Banga'**

The Indian state of West Bengal will now be known as "Paschim Banga" after state lawmakers voted unanimously in favour of the name change. The state becomes the latest among Indian places to have their anglicised titles dropped and replaced by a name drawn from the local or regional language. "Paschim Banga" is a literal Bengali-language translation of West Bengal. The state parliamentary affairs minister Partha Chatterjee explained that the state was tired of its position at the bottom of the official alphabetical lists of India's 29 states. "We wanted a change in the name of the state to get administrative advantage."

(...continued from the previous issue)

### **India's Contribution To Human Advancement - Past Inspires Present**

#### **Philosophy, Language, and Realm of Ideas**

- Indian philosophy spans diverse schools of thought, concepts and ideas, ranging from theistic to atheistic. Every conceivable strand of thought has been analyzed and debated threadbare in India's myriad *darśanas* or philosophies. The ideas of meditation, renunciation, religious tolerance and non-violence originated in India.
- The theory of *karma* is rooted in Indian philosophical traditions. As an aside, the game of snakes & ladders originated in India. The ladders in the game represented virtues and the snakes vices. The game was played with cowry shells and dice. In time, it underwent several modifications, but its meaning remained the same, i.e., good deeds take people to heaven and evil to a cycle of rebirths.
- Sanskrit is a highly systematic and precise language, particularly suited for expressing and discussing scientific, abstract and intellectually subtle ideas.
- The favourite intellectual pastime of chess is of Indian origin.
- The world's first university was founded in Takshila (in undivided India) in the 6th century BC, followed by the Nalanda University, where several thousand students from all over the world, including Greece, Persia and China, received education in a wide range of subjects.

It is not for nothing that ex-Ambassador of China, Hu Shih, observed, "India conquered and dominated China culturally for 20 centuries without ever having to send a single soldier across her border."

**Indeed, India in its history of several millennia, has never invaded any other nation.**

**Modern Indians** have regained the dynamism and vitality of their ancient forebears:

- India is the world's largest democracy and the fourth largest economy. It was the first democracy to elect a woman Prime Minister.
- Indian professionals are much sought after worldwide for their competence and skills. There are, for instance, over 3.22 million Indians in the US, where 12% of scientists are Indians, as are 36% of NASA, 34% of Microsoft, 28% of IBM and 17% of INTEL.
- India is a nuclear power and one of the select global players in the multi-billion-dollar space commerce. India has developed sophisticated long range missiles and nuclear submarines.

India is, in the words of Mark Twain, "...[T]he one land that all men desire to see, and having seen once, by even a glimpse, would not give that glimpse for the shows of all the rest of the world combined." Noted twentieth century British historian Arnold Toynbee was more candid in his tribute to India, "It is already becoming clearer that a chapter which has a western beginning will have to have an Indian ending if it is not to end in the self destruction of the human race. At this supremely dangerous moment in history the only way of salvation for mankind is the Indian way." *(concluded).*

### **Hollywood Comes to India, Bollywood Looks Abroad**

After 25 years since its last visit, the James Bond movie franchise is returning to India. After authorities granted on-location shooting permits in New Delhi, Mumbai and Goa, Indian media reported the film may include a sequence in crowded markets and on a train. Even the star of the still-unnamed 23rd film in the series about a dapper British super spy, Daniel Craig, is expected to sign on as the official ambassador of Indian Railways and appear in a TV commercial. But the new Bond film is not the only movie planning to use India as a location. Indian authorities gave permission to more than 20 foreign filmmakers to shoot in India last year. Some of the high-profile projects include Michael Winterbottom's *Trishna*, and Ang Lee's *Life of Pi*, an adaptation of the famous novel. *Eat, Pray and Love*, starring Julia Roberts, was also partly filmed in India. Entertainment analyst Komal Nahata says the global profile that India has acquired in recent years is enticing more filmmakers. "...a lot of people come here, a lot of people hear about it," she said. "India is on the world map in a big way. Therefore also, India becomes easy to identify with." But Nahata also says more foreign films are basing plots in India. *Trishna* is the tragic love story of a rich businessman and a rickshaw driver's daughter; *Life of Pi* is the story of an Indian in Pondicherry. Analysts also say more film producers may have begun looking at India in the wake of the runaway success of the 2008 Oscar-winning film *Slumdog Millionaire*, by a British filmmaker. Home to the thriving Hindi movie industry known as Bollywood, India is also an easy place to pick up good technical talent to stage a project. However, while an increasing number of international projects come to India, Bollywood is headed in the opposite direction. Most of the big-ticket Hindi film productions are being shot overseas in destinations ranging from Singapore to New Zealand and Ireland to cater to the taste of Indian audiences who also enjoy stories set in exotic locations, far from home.

### **New York Times Launches 'India Ink'**

The influential US daily, New York Times, launching a new website, [nytimes.com/indiaink](http://nytimes.com/indiaink), has announced that it would provide a distinct perspective on the news and events that matter most to Indians and those who follow news about India, both in the subcontinent and abroad. Initially access to India Ink will be exempt from the Times's digital subscription packages. India Ink is edited by the Times in India and the International Herald Tribune (IHT) in Hong Kong, led by lead writer Heather Timmons who has covered business in India for the daily for the last four years. It features contributions from the journalists based in New Delhi and Mumbai as well as contributions from top writers in India and the Indian diaspora, the Times said. "India is a vibrant country with a wealth of urgent news and compelling stories," says Jill Abramson, Executive Editor of the New York Times. "India Ink is an exciting expansion of

The Times's global reach...Expanded coverage of India is a natural fit for The New York Times and its Global Edition, the IHT," said Stephen Dunbar-Johnson, publisher of the International Herald Tribune. "We are delighted to better serve our readers and advertisers in India and abroad who care deeply about news in the region."

**They said It...**

"We view India as one of the most important and dynamic markets in the world, with forecasts of it becoming the third largest automotive market by 2020."

- **Philippe Varin, Chairman, Managing Board, PSA Peugeot Citroën**

***I know of no greater sin than to oppress the innocent in the name of God.***  
**- Mahatma Gandhi**

**TRADE ENQUIRIES FROM INDIA**

<b>Company</b>	<b>Interest Areas</b>
<b>SUTURES INDIA</b> No.472-D, 13th Cross, 4th Phase, Peenya Industrial Area, Bangalore-560058 Tel: (91 80) 41868000, Fax: (91 80) 41171056 Contact: Ms.Edwina Antony Email: edwina@suturesin.com Web: www.suturesin.com, www.truskinglove.com	All kinds of surgical sutures, Hernia mesh, Bone wax, Surgical gloves & tapes
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<b>HBL POWER SYSTEMS</b> No. 8-2-601, Road No.10, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad-500034 Tel: (91 40) 23355575, 23355085, Fax: (91 40) 23355048 Mob: (91) 8418244640, 8418244574, 8418244627 Contact: Mr.Prabhaker Nittla, Global Account Manager Email: prabhaker@hbl.in, contact@hbl.in, Web: www.hbl.in	Nickel cadmium, Lead acid & Lithium batteries for different applications
<b>AZRA INTERNATIONAL</b> Plot No.50 A, Lane No.4, Behind Geejgarh Vihar, 22 Godown, Jaipur-302006 Mob: (91) 9887700722, 9694591640 Contact: Mr.Mohd. Azim Khan Email: azrainternational@gmail.com	Handicrafts, Gift items, Wood furniture, Sterling Silver & Imitation Jewellery
<b>SS EXPORT HOUSE</b> A-4, Indrapuri, Lal Kothi, Jaipur-302015 Tel: (91 141) 2741773, Fax: 2742613, Mob: (91) 94114079855 Contact: Mr.Ajay Rathore Email: ssehindia@gmail.com, sales@ssexport.com Web: www.ssexport.com	Granite, Marble, Slate, Sandstone, Limestone, Mosaic, Cobble, Tumbles, Garden stoneware

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<p><b>GODSON AUTO</b> Opp. Raniya Village, Malerkotla Road, Ludhiana-141003 Tel: (91 161) 2813254 Fax: 2813253, Mob: (91) 9876199056 Contact: Mr.Inderjit Singh, Sales Director Email: exportgodsonindia@gmail.com, Godson55@rediffmail.com Web: www.godsonauto.co.in</p>	<p>Auto parts, U-bolts, Wheel bolts, Tractor linkage parts, Nuts, Bolts &amp; Threaded rods</p>
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<p><b>TENPLUS INTERNATIONAL</b> C-8A, Dayanaand Colony, Lajpat Nagar-IV, New Delhi-110024 Tel: (91 11) 26444998 Contact: Mr.Mahavir Prasad, Email: tenplusinternational@gmail.com</p>	<p>Costume jewellery, Steel Kitchenware, Beach Footwear</p>
<p><b>PURE AND SURE</b> A-129 D/E Road No. 9C, Vishwakarma Industrial Area, Jaipur-302012 Tel: (91) 9460386201 Contact: Mr.Bhuvnesh Ashaliya Email: pureandsure.india@gmail.com, info@growmoreorganic.com Web: www.growmoreorganic.com</p>	<p>Oilseeds, Peanuts, Mustard, Soybeans, Moringa Oleifera, Drumstick Seeds, Sesame Cookies</p>
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<p><b>PALIWAL HOME FURNISHINGS</b>                  Plot No.185, Sector 25, Part-II, Huda, Panipat-132103                  Tel: (180) 6538185, 2670288, Fax: 2671415, Mob: 9812061623                  Contact: Mr.Vibu Paliwal, CEO                  Email: ab7@eth.net, paliwalhome@bsnl.in                  Web: www.paliwalhomefurnishings.com</p>	<p>Cotton &amp; jute mats &amp; rugs, bathmats, Cushions, Bedcovers, Table mats and Napkins</p>

**Gurudev Tagore India Cultural Centre Events**

The Lerma Campus of the Autonomous Metropolitan University (UAM), in collaboration with the Gurudev Tagore Indian Cultural Centre (GTICC), is organizing a festival of Indian Films, from September 28-November 21, with a view to give exposure to the students of the universality to the richness and diversity of Indian culture, which bears several similarities to Mexican culture. The festival was inaugurated jointly by the Rector of the University and the Director of the Indian Cultural Centre on September 28. The GTICC has provided the 9 popular Bollywood films, subtitled in Spanish, for the festival: *Jhoom Barabar Jhoom, Chakde India, Dil to pagal Hai, Dhoom-2, Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge, Bunty Aur Babli, Parineeta, Kal Ho Naa Ho, and Guru.*

On September 28, Ms.Garima Bhargava, Kathak teacher at GTICC, gave a 40-minute performance at the Universidad Politécnic del Valle de México (UPVM), organized at UPVM's request to give an exposure to the students to the cultural heritage of other countries and develop respect for cultural diversity.



**India Pavilion at FITA-II**



**Sak Nikte performing Indian an Odissi recital at FITA-II**