



वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्

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INDIA'S RISING INFLUENCE

G20 SUMMIT PUTS INDIA ON THE WORLD STAGE

India's G20 Presidency has indeed marked a diplomatic turning point and a monumental success that reverberates across the world stage. As one of the world's fastest-growing economies, India has risen as a potent force, and its unwavering commitment to advocating for the concerns of the Global South has earned it the title of a Vishwamitra, a universal friend and mediator.

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India's G20 Presidency stands as a monumental achievement in the annals of global diplomacy. At its core, this success is attributed to the transformative vision of the Prime Minister of India to decentralise and democratise the G20 process. This approach not only left an indelible mark but will also become the enduring legacy of India's G20. Moreover, the adoption of the catalytic and

comprehensive New Delhi Leaders' Declaration further underscores India's diplomatic prowess. India's G20 Presidency has thus cemented its place at the international high table and raised its stature as a global champion of peace.

The G20 is among the most influential groupings in today's world order, as it represents around 85% of the global GDP, over 75% of global trade, and about two-thirds of the world population.



approach, each state had the opportunity to leave an indelible cultural imprint on the minds of visiting delegates, who would return to their home nations as cultural ambassadors for India's rich and unique cultural heritage. It was a profound exchange that transcended diplomatic formalities and fostered genuine connections among nations.

This transformative approach not only welcomed the world to India but also allowed India to project its best practices on the global stage. The smooth symphony of cooperative federalism required to host over 200 international meetings in 60 cities showcased India's organisational prowess and collaborative spirit to the world. This gathering of nations transcended the ordinary, evolving into an unforgettable presidency that left an indelible mark on both India and the world.

India inherited this prestigious presidency at a particularly challenging moment in world history. The international order was beset with a unique set of crises; the impact of the Covid pandemic, exacerbated by the Ukraine conflict, brought about the threat of global recession, high inflation, and energy, food, and debt crises.

Amidst this canvas of uncertainties, bold leadership was critical. India needed to rise to the occasion, and it did so extraordinarily. The Prime Minister had pledged in Bali last year that ours would be an 'inclusive, ambitious, decisive, and action-oriented' presidency, and as we entered the final month of our presidency, India's G20 has more than lived up to that pledge. India has set a precedent for a more inclusive and interconnected world order.

India prioritised a human-centric and democratic approach during its presidency, a critical decision in the face of strong geopolitical and ideological divisions that cut across the G20. The Prime Minister thus embarked on India's G20 journey with a mission to showcase our nation's celebration of diversity and demonstrate how this diversity can serve as a unifying force on the global stage.

To effectively achieve this, over 200 G20 meetings were held across the length and breadth of India, in every single state and union territory. This way, G20 delegates could get a first-hand experience of what each diverse part of India has to offer. Through this expansive pan-India

It was the Prime Minister's faith in India's potential that fuelled this monumental exercise. By harnessing whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches, an India previously unseen was unveiled. He intentionally called to organise the G20 meetings in cities that had not previously garnered global attention, including those in the North-East region. This visionary move resulted in a transformative effect on these States and Union Territories, elevating them to the status of proficient hosts for world-class conferences, equipped with the necessary physical infrastructure. This urban metamorphosis, with enhancements, additions, and aesthetic improvements in host cities,

G20 Summit New Delhi

Landmark initiatives launched

Global Biofuel Alliance

India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)



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India has made it a 'People's G20'

crores of people have been associated with the Presidency, over 200 meetings have taken place in more than 60 cities.

PM Modi at the 'One Earth' Session, G20 Summit, 9 September 2023



bestowed many states with newfound confidence and global visibility.

Moreover, this spotlight also placed often underestimated tourism prospects on an international platform while simultaneously reinvigorating traditional handicrafts that languished during the Covid-induced hiatus.

The Prime Minister has often said that the new world order must focus on human-centric globalisation. India's transformation of the G20 into a 'People's G20' exemplified this philosophy in action. Over 1.5 crore citizens participated in the G20 process through *Jan Bhagidari* or Citizens Engagement events. The G20 University Connect Programme directly involved 101 universities and lakhs of students across the country, and even India's G20 logo itself was crafted from the collective ingenuity of thousands of Indians. Thus, every single

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citizen became a stakeholder in India's G20 Presidency.

Spanning 37 different areas of human endeavour, including education, agriculture, trade, culture, and women's development, the Jan Bhagidari initiative brought global ideals to everyday lives. To further expand the accessibility and reach of India's G20 efforts, comprehensive G20 information was made available through the dedicated G20 website and mobile application, monthly newsletters, and social media. The result of this nationwide participation was the unprecedented popularity and celebration of India's G20. India's G20 logo thus became a ubiquitous symbol of national pride.

This unique approach to the G20 continued to shine at the historic New Delhi Leaders' Summit. The adoption of the G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration was an extraordinary achievement, especially considering the geopolitical divisions within the grouping. Even under normal circumstances, complex multilateral processes like G20 negotiations often go down to the wire. However, despite ideological differences and complex geopolitics, the Prime Minister announced a consensus among member nations during the first half of the first session of the Leaders' Summit.

A crucial element for the successful and unanimous Leaders' Declaration was his steadfast commitment over the last decade towards cementing India's identity as a reliable partner on the global stage. His decade-long, unwavering dedication to reminding the international community of our shared humanity also seamlessly translated into the theme India selected for its tenure as the chair of the G20: '**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.**'

Rooted in our cultural ethos, this transformative philosophy of 'One Earth One Family One Future' united the G20. As the 'Mother of Democracy', India successfully exemplified how collaborative action catalyses global change while also fostering 'healing, harmony, and hope for all'.

An impressive 112 outcomes and presidency documents were produced under India's leadership, more than doubling the substantive work of previous presidencies.

The 83-paragraph declaration symbolises a concerted effort to address global challenges while embodying a spirit of collaboration, cooperation, and shared responsibility. It is a historic and path-breaking declaration that has heralded a golden age of human-centric globalisation.

It was India's mission to share its best practices with the world, and this has been achieved successfully in the adopted declaration. The New Delhi Leader's Declaration has a significant India footprint with the adoption of 'The Deccan High-Level Principles on Food Security and Nutrition', 'The Chennai High-Level Principles for Blue/Ocean Economy', 'The Goa Roadmap for Tourism', 'The Gandhinagar Implementation Roadmap for Land Restoration', and 'The Jaipur Call for Action to Enhance MSMEs Access to Information'.

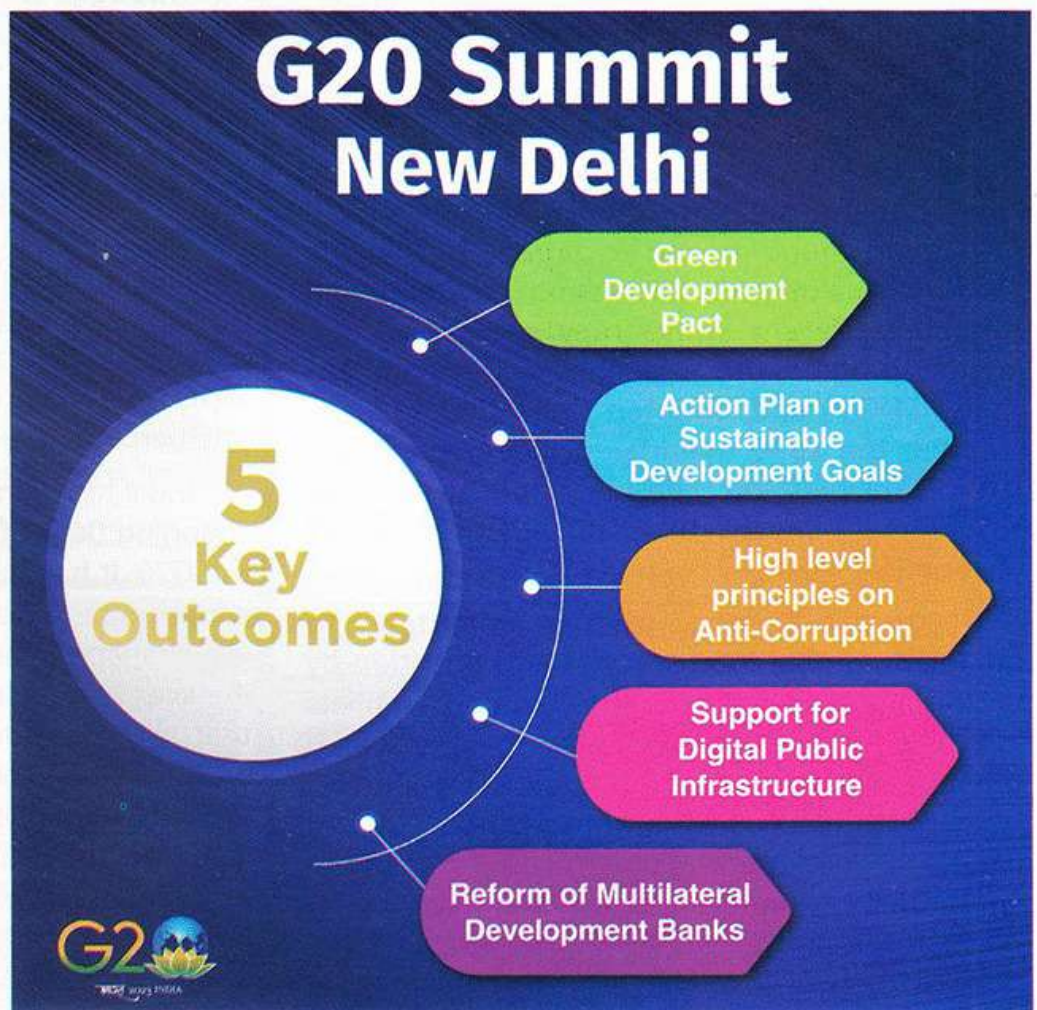
As the chair of the G20, India spearheaded efforts to secure consensus among member nations on ambitious and practical solutions, aligning with its domestic priorities, including climate action, digital public infrastructure, sustainable development, and inclusive governance.

India has not merely navigated but steered the changing tides of the global order as the leader of the G20. It has demonstrated its mettle in dealing with complex international issues while leading the way in shaping the future.

A key priority of India's G20 Presidency was to create a more inclusive world where the voice of the Global South could no longer be overlooked. The greatest achievement in this regard was the acceptance of India's proposal to welcome the African Union as a permanent member of the G20. With the African Union now a permanent member of the G20, a promise Prime Minister had made to Senegal President and former AU President Macky Sall last year, India has succeeded in

making the G20 among the most representative international groupings that exists today, one that truly reflects the realities of the 21st century.

India led the creation of a Global Digital Public Infrastructure Repository, a 'virtual stack' where non-G20 and G20 countries alike can voluntarily share their open-source mechanisms to drive a mutually beneficial ecosystem. Its proposal to



REVIVING ANCIENT GRAINS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE:

MAHARISHI

Millets And other Ancient grains International Research Initiative

featured at MACS G20



create 'One Future Alliance' was also welcomed, which is a voluntary initiative aimed at building capacity and providing technical assistance and adequate funding support for implementing digital public infrastructure in low and middle-income countries.

Sustainable and inclusive growth was prioritised in the declaration with the G20 committing to strengthen global value chains, aid developing countries, and encourage sustainable investment, alongside addressing skill gaps and promoting decent work. They recognised the lagging progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and adopted an action plan to expedite the 2030 Agenda, including the High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development, which is based on the Government's 'Mission LiFE'.

Furthermore, the G20 committed to enhancing global food security and nutrition by welcoming India's proposal for the G20 Millets and other Ancient Grains International Research Initiative (MAHARISHI), which focuses on climate-resilient grains. Furthermore, India's strong leadership in climate action secured a resolute commitment from developed countries within the G20, assuring that they will uphold their promise to provide \$100 billion annually from

2020 to 2025, starting in 2023.

Among India's priorities was also to reform multilateral institutions, and an incredible achievement in this regard was the G20 committing to reform Multilateral Development Banks and address global debt issues.

New initiatives, such as Startup 20, Disaster Relief Reduction Group, and meetings on Cyber Security, also reflected India's proactive approach during its G20 Presidency.

India's G20 Presidency has indeed marked a diplomatic turning point and a monumental success that reverberates across the world stage. India, with its dynamic leadership under the Prime Minister, has showcased its remarkable ability to bridge global cleavages. As one of the world's fastest-growing economies, it has risen as a potent force, and its unwavering commitment to advocating for the concerns of the Global South has earned it the title of a *Vishwamitra*, a universal friend and mediator.

Through visionary leadership, inclusivity, and a resolute commitment to addressing global challenges, India has orchestrated a transformative era of cooperation and collaboration. It has not only been a torchbearer of its own interests but has astutely considered the collective good, recognising that the interconnectedness of nations requires shared responsibility. By prioritising the developmental agenda within the G20, India has paved a roadmap towards a more resilient and inclusive economic order, setting the stage for a prosperous and equitable future for all.

India has not merely navigated but steered the changing tides of the global order as the leader of the G20. It has demonstrated its mettle in dealing with complex international issues while leading the way in shaping the future. As India passes the torch, it leaves behind a formidable legacy of leadership that will continue to exert a profound influence on the G20 and the world, shaping a brighter and more harmonious path forward for generations to come. In this transformative journey, India's rise as a global leader is not just a matter of prestige but a testament to its unwavering commitment to forging a better world for all. □