

ON AIR

75
Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav

MANN KI BAAT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to the Nation

February 2022



CONTENTS

01	Message of Prime Minister	01
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02	Special Mentions by Prime Minister	15
----	---------------------------------------	----

2.1	Reclamation of cultural heritage, India's faith being restored	17
-----	---	----

2.2	Kili Paul and Neema Paul	21
-----	--------------------------	----

2.3	Surjan Parohi	25
-----	---------------	----

2.4	Marathi Bhasha Gaurav Diwas	28
-----	-----------------------------	----

2.5	Global recognition of traditional knowledge: Ayurveda	30
-----	--	----

2.6	Mission Jal Thal	38
-----	------------------	----

2.7	Vocal for Local	41
-----	-----------------	----

03	Media Scan	45
----	------------	----



My dear countrymen

Welcome to 'Mann Ki Baat' once again. Today, we will commence 'Mann Ki Baat' mentioning India's success. In the beginning of this month, India has been successful in bringing home an invaluable heritage of hers from Italy. This heritage is the over one thousand years old idol of Avalokiteshvara Padmapani. This idol was stolen a few years ago from Kundalpur temple, Devi Sthan of Gaya ji in Bihar. But after innumerable efforts, India has now got this idol back. Similarly, a few years ago the idol of Lord Anjaneyar, Hanuman ji was stolen from Vellore in Tamil Nadu. This idol of Hanuman ji was also 600-700 years old. Earlier this month, we retrieved this in Australia; our High Commission has received it.



Friends,

in our history of thousands of years, idols, one better than the other were always being made in various parts of the country; it also comprised reverence, capability, skill and was full of varied diversity. And the history of each of our idols also depicts the influence of their respective times. Not only were they a wonderful artistic example of Indian sculpture; our faith was also connected with them. But, in the past, many idols were stolen and kept being taken out of India. Sometimes in this country, at times in another, these idols were sold and for them they were just pieces of art. Neither did they have anything to do with their history, nor with reverence attached to them. It is our responsibility towards Mother India to bring home these idols. These idols embody a part of the soul of India; faith as well. They also have a cultural-historical significance. Realising this responsibility, India increased her efforts. And resultantly, it fostered a deterrent fear against the tendency to steal.



Reclamation of cultural heritage - India's faith being restored

The countries where these idols were stolen and taken away to, also started to feel now that it could also have immense significance in the diplomatic channel of soft power in relations with India. India's feelings are associated with it; India's reverence is attached as well, and, in a way, it creates a lot of strength in people-to-people relations as well.

Just a few days ago, you must have noted that the idol of Ma Annapurna Devi, which was stolen from Kashi, was also brought back. This is an example of the changing global outlook towards India. Till the year 2013, nearly 13 idols had been brought back to India. But, in the last seven years, India has successfully brought back more than 200 precious idols. Many countries such as America, Britain, Holland, France, Canada, Germany, Singapore have understood this sentiment of India and helped us to retrieve these idols.

When I went to America in September last year, I came across a lot of ancient idols and many artefacts of cultural importance there. Whenever any priceless heritage returns to the country, it is naturally a matter of great satisfaction for all of us, as an Indian, as the one who has reverence for history and archaeology, and the one connected with faith and culture.

Friends,

Talking about Indian culture and our heritage, today I want to introduce you to two people in 'Mann Ki Baat'.





Passion for Indian music among African creative admirers

These days, two Tanzanian siblings, Kili Paul and his sister Neema, are in the news a lot on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and I'm sure you too, must have heard about them. They have a passion, a craze for Indian music and for this reason they are also very popular. Their technique of Lip Sync shows how hard they work at it. Recently, a video of him singing our National Anthem 'Jana Gana Mana' on the occasion of Republic Day went viral.

A few days ago, he also paid a soulful tribute to Lata didi by presenting her song. I really appreciate these two siblings Kili and Neema very much for their wonderful creativity. A few days ago, he has also been honoured at the Indian Embassy in Tanzania. The magic of Indian music is such that it fascinates everyone.

I recall, a few years ago, singers-musicians from more than one hundred and fifty countries of the world, in their respective countries, in their respective costumes, made a successful presentation of 'Vaishnav Jan', the beloved bhajan of revered Babu, the favourite composition of Mahatma Gandhi.

Today, when India is celebrating the important festival of 75th year of its Independence, similar initiatives can be carried out regarding patriotic songs, wherein foreign nationals or famous singers from abroad are invited to render Indian patriotic songs. Not only this, if Kili and Neema in Tanzania can lip sync the songs of India in this manner. Aren't there many types of songs in my country, in many languages of our country... can't any Gujarati children do that with Tamil songs....some children of Kerala could do that with Assamese songs.... some Kannada children could do that with songs of Jammu and Kashmir! We can create such an environment in which we will be able to experience 'Ek Bharat-Shreshtha Bharat'. Not only this, we can definitely celebrate 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' in a novel way. I urge the youth of the country to make videos of the popular songs of Indian languages in their own way. You will become very popular! And ,the diversity of the country will be introduced to the new generation.

My dear countrymen,

just a few days ago, we celebrated International Mother Language Day. Those who are learned can give a lot of academic input about where the word mother tongue came from, how it originated. I would emphasise about mother tongue that as our mother moulds our life, in the same manner, mother tongue also shapes our life. The mother and mother tongue, both together strengthen the foundation of life; lending it permanence. Just like we cannot abandon our mother, similarly, we cannot leave our mother tongue either. I remember an incident of yesteryears, when I had gone to America, I would get a chance to visit different families.

Once I went to a Telugu family and I got to see a very happy scenario there. They told me that they had made a rule in the family that no matter how busy one were to be, if they were not outstation, then all the family members would have dinner sitting at the table together and equally compulsory on the dinner table was conversing in Telugu language only. This was also the rule for the children who were born there. Seeing this love for the mother tongue, I was highly impressed by this family.

Friends, even after 75 years of independence, some people are facing a mental dilemma due to which they have reservations with regard to their language, their dress, their food and drink, whereas, it is not like this anywhere else in the world.



International Mother Language Day

It is our mother tongue; we should speak it with pride. And, our India is so rich in terms of languages that it just cannot be compared. The biggest beauty of our languages is that from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, from Kutch to Kohima, hundreds of languages and thousands of dialects, which are different from each other but are mutually integrated...many languages – one expression. For centuries, our languages have been evolving whilst learning from each other and have been refining themselves, developing each other. The world's oldest language Tamil is in India and every Indian should be proud that we have such a significant heritage of the world. In the same way, many ancient scriptures are also there; their expression too is in our Sanskrit language.

The people of India are proud to be associated with 121 forms of mother tongues and 14 of these languages are spoken by more than 1 crore people in everyday life. Many European countries do not have a total population than the people who are associated with 14 different languages in our country. In the year 2019, Hindi was ranked third among the most spoken languages of the world. Every Indian should be proud of this too. Language is not just a medium of expression, but also serves to preserve the culture and heritage of the society. Surjan Parohi ji is doing similar work in Suriname to save the heritage of his language. He turned 84 on the 2nd of this month. His forefathers also went to Suriname years ago, along with thousands of workers, to earn a living.

Surjan Parohi ji writes very good poetry in Hindi; his name is considered among the national poets there. That is, even today Hindustan beats in his heart; there is a fragrance of the soil of India in his works. The people of Suriname have also built a museum in the name of Surjan Parohi ji. It is very heartening for me that in the year 2015, I had the opportunity to honour him.

Friends,

Today, that is, 27th February is also Marathi Bhasha Gaurav Divas.

“सर्व मराठी बंधु भगिनिना मराठी भाषा दिनाच्या हार्दिक शुभेच्छा।”

This day is dedicated to Marathi Kaviraj, Vishnu Vaman Shirvadkar ji, Shriman Kusumagraj ji. Today is also the birth anniversary of Kusumagraj ji. Kusumagraj ji wrote poems in Marathi, wrote many plays, and took Marathi literature to new heights.

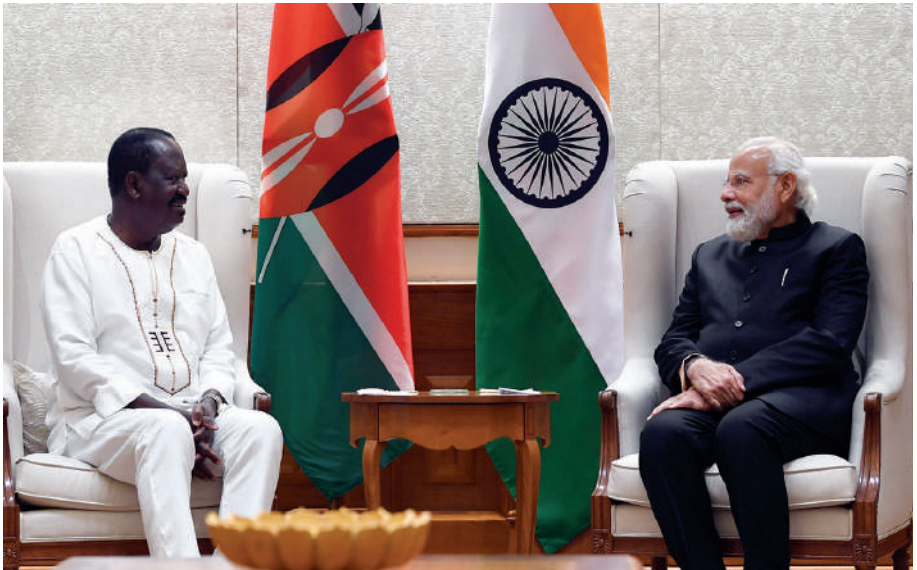
Friends, our languages have their own special characteristics; mother tongue has its own science. For understanding this science, emphasis has been laid on studies in the local language in the National Education Policy. Efforts are being made that our professional courses should also be taught in the regional languages. In Azadi Ka Amrit Kaal, we all should lend momentum to this effort together; this is a work indicative of self-respect. I would like you to know about the qualities of whatever mother tongue you speak and write something in it.



Friends,

A few days ago, I had a meeting with my friend and former Prime Minister of Kenya, Raila Odinga. This meeting was interesting but also very emotional. Since we are very good friends, we also discuss freely. While both of us were in a conversation, Odinga ji told about his daughter. His daughter Rosemary had a brain tumour and because of this she had to undergo surgery. However, one side-effect of this was that Rosemary almost lost her eyesight; she stopped seeing. You can imagine what must have happened to the daughter.... and we can also guess the condition of the father, we can understand his feelings.

In hospitals all over the world... there was not any major country in the world, where he had not tried his best for the treatment of his daughter. He searched the big countries of the world, but, there was no success and in a way, giving up all hopes, there was an atmosphere of despair in the entire household. Meanwhile, someone suggested him to come to India for Ayurveda treatment and even though he had tried a lot and was tired, yet he thought that let's try once again... see what happens! He came to India, started getting his daughter treated at an Ayurvedic hospital in Kerala.



The daughter stayed here for a long time. The effect of this Ayurvedic treatment was such that Rosemary's eyesight returned to a great extent. You could imagine, as if a new lease of life was given and light came back into Rosemary's life. As the new light has come in the whole family, Odinga ji was so emotional while telling me this and he wished that the knowledge and science of Ayurveda of India, should be brought to Kenya.



Growing relevance of traditional Indian knowledge- Acknowledging the miraculous Ayurveda

The type of plants that are used in it will be cultivated by them and he will do his best to get more people to benefit from it. It is a matter of great happiness for me that from our land, our tradition has alleviated such a great suffering from someone's life.

You will also be happy to hear this. Which Indian would not be proud of it? We all know that not only Odinga ji but lakhs of people across the world are reaping similar benefits from Ayurveda.

Prince Charles from Britain is also one of the big admirers of Ayurveda. Whenever I meet him, he definitely mentions Ayurveda. He is also aware of many Ayurvedic institutions of India.

Friends, in the last seven years a lot of attention has been paid to the promotion of Ayurveda in the country. The formation of the Ministry of AYUSH has further strengthened our resolve to popularise our traditional methods of medicine and health. I am very happy that in the last few years many new start-ups have emerged in the field of Ayurveda. The AYUSH Start-up Challenge started earlier this month. The goal of this challenge is to identify and support the start-ups working in this field. I urge the youth working in this field, that they should take part in this challenge.



Friends,

Once people are determined to do something together, they do wonderful things. There have been many such big changes in the society, in which public participation, collective effort, has played a significant role. One such mass movement named “Mission Jal Thal” is underway in Srinagar, Kashmir. This is a unique effort to clean the lakes and ponds of Srinagar and restore their old glory. The focus of “Mission Jal Thal” is on “Kushal Saar” and “Gil Saar”. Along with public participation, a lot of help of technology is also being taken in this. To find out where there has been encroachment, where illegal construction has taken place, a formal survey of this area was carried out. Along with this, a campaign to remove plastic waste and clean up the waste was also launched.

In the second phase of the mission, a lot of effort was also made to restore the old water channels and 19 springs filling the lake. In order to spread more and more awareness about the importance of this Restoration Project, local people and youth were also made Water Ambassadors. Now the local people here are also taking efforts for increasing the number of migratory birds and fish in “Gil Saar Lake” and are also happy to see it. My heartiest congratulations to the people of Srinagar for this wonderful effort.

Friends, the ‘Clean India Mission’ started by the country eight years ago, with the passage of time, it expanded manifold and new innovations were also added.



Attaining sustainability through people’s participation:
Jal Thal mission dedicated to conservation of
land and waterbodies

Wherever you go in India, you will find that some effort is being made for cleanliness everywhere. I have come to know about one such attempt in Kokrajhar, Assam. Here a group of morning walkers have taken a very commendable initiative under the 'Clean and Green Kokrajhar' mission. All of them gave a motivational message of cleanliness by cleaning the three kilometre long road in the new flyover area. Similarly, under the 'Clean India Campaign' in Visakhapatnam, cloth bags are being promoted instead of polythene. People here are also campaigning against Single Use Plastic products to keep the environment clean. Along with this, these people are also spreading awareness to segregate the waste at home. The students of Somaiya College in Mumbai have also included beautification in their campaign of cleanliness. They have decorated the walls of Kalyan railway station with beautiful paintings. An inspiring example from Sawai Madhopur in Rajasthan has also come to my notice. The youth here have started a campaign named 'Mission Beat Plastic' in Ranthambore, in which plastic and polythene have been removed from the forests of Ranthambore. This spirit of Sabka Prayas, everyone's effort strengthens public participation in the country and when there is public participation, even the biggest goals are definitely met.

'Clean and green Kokrajhar' Mission



My dear countrymen,

Just a few days from today, **International Women's Day** will be celebrated all over the world on the 8th March. We have been sharing many examples related to the courage, skill, and talent of women in 'Mann Ki Baat'. Today, whether it is Skill India, Self Help Group, small or big industries, women have taken the lead everywhere. Wherever you see, women are dispelling old myths. Today, in our country, From Parliament to Panchayat, women are reaching newer heights in different fields. In the Army too, daughters are now playing responsibilities in new and bigger roles and are protecting the country. Last month on Republic Day, we saw that daughters were flying modern fighter planes too. The country also lifted the restrictions on the admission of daughters in Sainik Schools, and daughters are taking admission in Sainik Schools all over the country. Similarly, look at the startup world, in the recent years, thousands of new startups opened in the country. About half of these startups have women in director roles. In the recent past, decisions like increasing maternity leave for women have been taken. The country is trying to give equal rights to sons and daughters by fixing a common age for marriage. Due to this, the participation of women is increasing in every field.



Emancipation of women and changing perceptions: Indian women getting empowered

You must be noticing another major change happening in the country. This change is the success of our social campaigns. Take the success of 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao', today the sex ratio in the country has improved. The number of girls going to school has also improved. With this we also have a responsibility that our daughters do not drop out of school. Similarly, women in the country have got freedom from open defecation under the 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan'. A social evil like triple talaq is also coming to an end. Ever since the law against triple talaq has come into being, there has been a reduction of 80 percent in triple talaq cases in the country. How are all these changes happening in such a short span of time? This change is coming because women themselves are now leading the change and progressive efforts in our country.

My dear countrymen, tomorrow the 28th of February is 'National Science Day'. This day is also known for the discovery of Raman Effect. Along with CV Raman ji, I pay my respectful tribute to all the scientists who have contributed significantly in enriching our scientific journey.

Friends,

technology has secured an important place in our lives in the realm of ease and simplicity. Which technology is good and what is the better use of that technology, we are well acquainted with all these subjects. On this Science Day, I urge all the families to definitely start with small efforts to develop a scientific temperament in their children.

But, it is also true that the basis of that technology, the underlying science is something that we neglect in conveying to the children of our family.

Now, for example – poor vision improves after wearing glasses, vision improves with clarity, Children can easily be explained on the science behind it. It's not that one should restrict oneself to just looking at the glasses and enjoying. Now you can simply explain to the child on a small piece of paper. Now the child uses a mobile phone... how does a calculator work, how does a remote control work, what are sensors?



Future of India in Science and Innovation: Current accessibility creating capacities in future

Along with this, are such scientific elements also discussed in the house? Maybe we can easily explain these things behind the everyday functioning of the household, what is the inherent science behind a phenomenon. In the same way, have we ever indulged in stargazing together with the children? There must have been conversations about stars in the night. Different constellations appear, tell them about them. By doing this, you can create a new interest in children towards physics and astronomy. Nowadays, there are also many apps through which you can locate the stars and planets, or, you can identify the star which is visible in the sky and can also know about it. I will also tell our startups that you should employ your skills and scientific character in the work related to nation-building. This is also our Collective Scientific Responsibility towards the country. Like, nowadays I see that our startups are doing very well in the world of virtual reality.

My dear countrymen,

This time too, we discussed many subjects. Many festivals are lined up in the coming month of March like Shivratri. A few days later we will all will start preparing for Holi. Holi is a festival that unites us all. In this festival, all differences between near-dear ones and strangers, big and small, rancour and envy disappear.



That is why it is said that the colours of love and harmony are thicker than the colours of Holi. Along with Gujiya in Holi, there is a unique sweetness of relationships as well. We have to strengthen these bonds further, and relations are not only with the people of our family but also with the people who are part of your larger family. You have to remember the most important way to do so. This is the way of celebrating the festival through 'Vocal for Local'. You should buy local products on festivals, so that the lives of the people living around you also become colourful and vibrant. The success with which our country is fighting the battle against Corona and

moving forward is imparting enthusiasm to the festivals manifold. With this very zeal, we have to celebrate our festivals, and at the same time, we have to maintain our caution. I wish you all a very Happy festival season. I will always be waiting for your words, your letters and your messages.



VOCAL FOR LOCAL



Make in India to Making for the world: Initial steps towards Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan

MANN KI BAAT

Special Mentions by Prime Minister





RECLAMATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

India's faith being restored

“India has been able to bring in one of its valuable treasures from Italy. This treasure is a over thousand years old statue of Avalokiteshvara Padmapani. This idol was stolen a few years ago from the Kundalpur temple of Gaya ji in Bihar. But after many efforts, now India has got this statue back.”

Prime Minister Narendra Modi
(in his 'Mann Ki Baat' address)

It is incredible to be able to get back our precious heritage, the message is definitely changing. I am an eyewitness to the talks where the Indian side made it very clear that for the world it would be mere artefacts but for India, they are the idols of our gods. It is an extremely emotional, spiritual and cultural heritage for us.

Amish Tripathi
Litterateur

The Ministry of Culture, which is involved in preserving and developing the cultural heritage of India, is working tirelessly to give special attention to the objects and places of cultural importance. The Ministry of Culture has taken up the work of saving the precious gems of arts and crafts that have survived from being destroyed by the tyrants. In this regard, the Ministry of Culture has given impetus to the efforts of bringing back the objects of ancient culture and faith, sent abroad by art smugglers from India, continuously for hundreds of years. According to them, the Ministry of Culture is working closely with the Ministry of External Affairs to bring back antiquities that have heritage value and local importance. Faith in those that have been taken away from their ancestral inheritance will be re-established.

In his Mann Ki Baat address this month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi mentioned these efforts and started his address with the good news that we are bringing home a centuries-old heritage, which is Avalokiteshvara Padmapani.



Avalokiteshvara Padmapani

Important works, which were taken away from India to other countries, are being brought back to the country by the Modi government. In this respect on February 1, 2022, the idol of Lord 'Avalokitesvat Padmapani' of the 8th-12th century was recovered. Then, it was handed over to the Indian Consulate in Milan, Italy.

On the recovery of the idol, the Indian Consulate said that the idol was stolen in the year 2000 after being preserved for nearly 1200 years at Devasthan Kundalpur Temple, Kurkihar (Bihar). This idol of Avalokiteshvara Padmapani, made of stone, dates back to the 8th-12th century. In the idol, Lord Buddha is standing with a lotus in his left hand.

The Prime Minister also shared the information regarding the recovery of the Idol in his February 2022 'Mann Ki Baat' address. Local residents and historians believe that when Nalanda University was flourishing, Kurkihar used to be a center of arts and crafts. The local people are very happy with the information on the recovery of this idol, which was stolen about 20-22 years ago.

In 2005, the Government of India sent two sculptures to the World Sculpture Exhibition. The local resident Prof. Surendra Prasad Singh says that Kurkiharis not just a village, it is a history, to which Buddhist and ancient history legends are also associated.

Local residents Sanjeev Kumar, Bhushan Singh, Vibhuti Kumar, Sadhusharan Singh, Anil Singh, Awadh Bihari say that many more things can come to the fore if this citadel is excavated.

It is a matter of great happiness that in addition to the prosperity of Kashi, the Hon'ble Prime Minister has taken a big step to bring back the idol of Maa Annapurna from Canada and restore it to Kashi.

Anand Tyagi

Vice Chancellor,
Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth

This idol was stolen from the Ghat 108 years ago. This idol has come back due to the efforts of our beloved Prime Minister.

Priest Amarnath Upadhyay

Kashi Vishwanath Temple



Maa Annapurna

The historical statue of Maa Annapurna, believed by various scholars to be of different times, was stolen about 109 years ago. This idol was stolen from the Annapurna temple in Varanasi around 1913 and became part of the McKenzie Art Gallery collection of the University of Regina, Canada. The Vice Chancellor of the University, while correcting the mistake, handed over this statue to Ajay Bisaria, the High Commissioner of India in Ottawa last year and Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath restored it to its original place with full honours.

Prof. Suman Jain, who is affiliated with the Department of Ancient History, Culture and Archeology, Banaras Hindu University, believes that Annapurna Maa has always been associated with the splendour of Kashi, and it is believed that Lord Vishwanath came to Kashi on the request of Maa Parvati and it is Maa Parvati who is seated here in the form of Maa Annapurna.

Dr. Meenakshi Singh, associated with the Department of Ancient History, Culture and Archeology of Banaras Hindu University, believes that both Baba Vishwanath and Maa Annapurna have always been the center of faith of Kashi.

Amarnath Upadhyay, the priest of Kashi Vishwanath temple, became emotional with the restoration of Maa Annapurna.

With the restoration of the cultural heritage of India, lakhs of devotees are diving into the ocean of faith and are continuously engaged in worship.

Anand Tyagi, the Vice Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, emphasizes the deep beliefs, the locals have on Maa Annapurna. One most common belief is that no one sleeps hungry in the Kashi region due to the blessings of Maa Annapurna. As her devotees are always there to provide food for hungry people. In this way, the ongoing efforts for the return of artefacts and sculptures of various cultural and spiritual importance to India are being highly appreciated by the people.

This city of Kashi has been blessed. We all thank Hon'ble Prime Minister for establishing Maa Annapurna ji in Kashi and for his resolve to bring back the country's heritage from every corner of the world.

Dr. Meenakshi Singh
Banaras Hindu University



KILI PAUL & NEEMA PAUL

“Recently, on the occasion of Republic Day, a video of two Tanzanian siblings, Kili Paul and Neema Paul singing our national anthem ‘Jana Gana Mana’ had become very viral. A few days back, he had also paid a soulful tribute to Lata didi by singing a song. I greatly appreciate this brother and sister duo, Kili and Neema, for this wonderful creativity.”

Prime Minister Narendra Modi
(in his ‘Mann Ki Baat’ address)

India is a country of selfless and pure-hearted people. Once Indians start liking you, they do not think about things like class, country, level and this is what makes India special.

Kili Paul

Kili Paul and Neema Paul are clear examples of the heights your love can take you to.

Hundreds of kilometers away from India, this brother and sister duo of the East African country, Tanzania would have hardly thought that the Prime Minister of a large country like India would include them in his speech.

This unimaginable thing became true when Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his monthly address ‘Mann Ki Baat’ of February 2022, spoke about them and their affinity for Indian culture.

During the discussion on the topic of mother language and pride, special mention was made of Kili and Neema. Belonging to the famous Masai tribe of Tanzania, Kili and Neema came into limelight a few days back due to their love for Bollywood on various social platforms and after one of their videos made on an Indian song went viral. They became an internet sensation overnight.



Kili and Neema live in the outskirts of the economic capital of Tanzania, **Dar-es-Salaam**, (par es salaam) and are farmers by profession.

Shortly before this, Kili and Neema Paul of Tanzania showed their respect for India and Indians by making a video of our national anthem "Jana Gana Mana" by lip-synching on the occasion of Republic Day in Tanzania. Kili Paul was felicitated by the High Commissioner of India, Binay Pradhan.

While millions of people are loving the lip-synching videos of their Bollywood songs on the internet, the hard work of the Paul brother and sister for a language they don't understand is visible.

Thank you very much for giving us love, India. We will not disappoint you and will try to do our best for you continuously.

Kili paul

It is his passion for Indian music that has probably made Kili a superstar so quickly.

After the mention of the Prime Minister, both the siblings who have been everywhere on the internet are still bewildered. In an interview given to an African news agency, Kili said that he has been a fan of Bollywood movies and music since childhood. He started making such videos just for the purpose of entertainment. He did not even know that he would be liked so much on the Internet. Before making any song track video, he practices its lyrics for at least two days. Regarding their hard work they say, "When you like to do something, it becomes very easy to learn it".

26-year-old Kili and 23-year-old Neema are seen dressed as per Maasai culture in their videos. The duo do ancestral work like animal husbandry for a living and hail from a humble background.

Neema then says that Kili's passion for music can be appreciated from the fact that there is no electricity in their village and Kili has to go to the nearby town of Lugoba daily to charge his phone. But even after that, his love, energy and passion for making such videos is increasing day by day.



Indian High Commissioner Binay Pradhan presenting the citation to Kili Paul

Exclusive conversation with Kili and Neema Paul

Kili and Neema Paul, brother and sister duo living in a small village in Tanzania, were surprised when they heard their mention in Mann Ki Baat by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and when the Indian High Commissioner in Tanzania honoured them with a citation. This was such a moment in his life which he was unable to express in words.

It was unimaginable for him to be praised and honoured by the Prime Minister of India. Kili says that India is a country of selfless and pure-hearted people. Once Indians start liking you, then things like class, country, level do not come to mind and this is the greatness of India. According to Kili, if the Prime Minister, who is the leader of such a large country, talks about an ordinary person in his address, it is a big thing in itself. That is why Kili is soon going to thank the Prime Minister in his own style.

Having an association with Indian films and music since his childhood, Kili is a fan of action films.

In the interview, he also spoke dialogues of some recent films in his own style.

As Kili grew up, he learned that his favourite songs were not sung by the actors they were filmed on, they were just lip-synced. This inspired him to start making lip-sync videos.

The hard work of Kili and Neema, who have reached over 3 million fan following, can be gauged from Kili's reaction when asked how his family, friends and neighbours view his fame. The answer was surprising.

According to Kili, people in his society do not have smartphones, nor are they interested in the Internet. The people of the Maasai civilisation lead a life based on animal husbandry and live in their own small world, they do not pay attention to what is happening in the rest of the world.

In such a situation, what would have been the struggle to make Kili's passion come true is well understood. In his message to Indians, Kili says, "Thank you so much for showering us with love. We will always try to do the best for you."

The Prime Minister who is the head of such a large country, when he is talking about an ordinary person, it is a big thing in itself.

Kili Paul



**Scan the QR code to
hear Kili and Neema
Paul's full conversation**

SURJAN PAROHI

“**Surjan Parohi ji is doing similar work in Suriname to preserve the heritage of his language. Surjan Parohi ji writes very good poetry in Hindi, his name is taken among the national poets there. That is, even today Hindustan beats in his heart, there is a smell of Hindustani soil in his work. The people of Suriname have also built a museum named after Surjan Parohi.**”

Prime Minister Narendra Modi
(in his 'Mann Ki Baat' address)

I am very proud that we, in the country of Suriname have kept alive the Indian culture. Our ancestors have also created a Sanatani language by mixing Dutch, Hindi and Surinamese with the former Hindi language, Awadhi, Maithili, Bhojpuri, in which we also communicate.

Sandeep Umrao
Member, Suriname Hindi Council

Shri Surjan Parohi is a famous poet and writer, who is championing the Hindi language in Suriname, a country located in the South American continent, far away from India.

Shri Surjan Parohi ji, rich in versatility, is also a famous sculptor of Suriname. He has composed many poems, books, and plays as well as directed them himself.

The songs written by him are extremely popular among Surinamese of Indian origin. He specializes in writing poems with equal skill in the Surinamese, Hindi, Dutch and Saranan Tongo languages. Parohi ji, who has exhibited his art by participating in many exhibitions, has received dozens of awards for his achievements. His favourite themes, such as national awareness and the unity of all Surinamese, on which he has written poetry and plays in a mixture of Saranen Tongo, Dutch, Hindi and Surinamese, have been highly appreciated by the public.

Through his poetry, we can clearly see how his association with India and its culture is displayed. Bringing Hindi alive in Suriname, Shri Parohi ji has played a major role in maintaining the relevance of Hindu culture and Hindi language in Suriname. He has received over 50 awards in Suriname and other countries for his contribution to literature. On 30 January 2022, Suriname Hindi Council and Vidya Niwas Sahitya Sansthan, Suriname honoured him with the 'Sanskriti Ratan Samman' award through the Ambassador of India to Suriname, Shri Shankar Balachandran. Shri Surjan Parohi ji named his house "Hastinapur" which was the capital of Kaurava dynasty and the story of Mahabharata was written in its own right. This reflects his fascination for Indian culture and its origin. Shri Parohi's grandfather in 1895 came to Suriname as an immigrant from India and today the words of Surjan Parohi are building a bridge between India and Surinamese people.



Surjan Parohi thanking the Prime Minister through this Poem

“ मैं महामहिम दूतावास और
भारत के प्रधानमंत्री को धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

ये सदयुग द्वार त्रेता नहीं, कलयुग है
यहां न गंगा जमुना सरस्वती त्रिवेणी है,
न हिमालय की चोटी है
यहां न रामकृष्ण का अवतार हुआ है,
न ऋषि मुनि का जन्म हुआ है,
ये पूरब नहीं ये पश्चिम है
यह भारत नहीं यह देश सूरीनाम है
हमारे पूर्वज भारत से आये हैं
उनका एक बूंद में लेकर
बोल रहा हूँ बता रहा हूँ,
मेरा अपना कुछ नहीं
जो मैंने पढ़ा है, सुना है, देखा है,
वही दोहरा रहा हूँ
संत कबीर की वाणी है,
यह झीनी चदरिया प्रभु आपने बीनी है,
मैं इसे बेदाग लौटा रहा हूँ,
मेरा अपना है कुछ नहीं।
धन्यवाद के पात्र है देने वाले
मैं भिखारी हूँ, लेता गया,
और आप दानवीर है देते गए
इतना सम्मान मुझे मिला है,
देते देते मुझे समुंदर बना दिया है,
समुंदर किसी की प्यास बुझा नहीं सकता।
अगर कृपां रहता तो किसी की प्यास बुझाता

आप सब को धन्यवाद है, आपका
मीधा-साधा सेवक, सुरजन पुरोही, नमस्ते।,,



Poem by Surjan
parohi Scan QR code
to listen



On the occasion of Shri Surjan Parohi's 84th birthday, the Ambassador of India to Suriname, Shri Shankar Balachandran, unveiled the statue of Shri Parohi on 2 February 2022, and inaugurated the 'Surjan Parohi Museum'.

The basic principles of Sanatam Dharma are still alive in Suriname. The biggest confirmation of this is that the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, who follows the principles of Lord Shri Ram Chandra ji, has mentioned the national poet of the country of Suriname, Shri Surjan Parohi ji, in his address. He has also named his many poetic and theatrical performances and showed his respect for Parohiji's literary, religious, social work and cultural activities.

Pandit Nitin Jagabandhan
Chairman Shri Sanatan
Dharma Mahasabha, Suriname

Many Surinamese people learn Hindi through Indian Movies and All India Radio. So Hindi is still alive in Suriname.

Sharmila Ramratan
Resident, Suriname

“Friends, today, February 27, is also Marathi Bhasha Gaurav Diwas.

“सव मराठी बंधु भगगथनना मराठी भाषा दिनाच्या हार्दिक शुभेच्छा।”

This day is dedicated to Marathi poet, Vishnu Baman-Shirvadtat, popularly known as Kusumagraj ji. Today is also the birth anniversary of Kusumagraj ji. Kusumagraj ji wrote poems in Marathi, wrote many plays, and took Marathi literature to new heights. ”

Prime Minister Narendra Modi
(in his ‘Mann Ki Baat’ address)

MARATHI BHASHA GAURAV DIWAS



India is a unique link between linguistic and cultural equality and diversity.

Hindi is the top most spoken language in India and Marathi language is the first choice of about 7.1 percent of Indians. Just as Hindi Diwas is celebrated to show pride in Hindi, Marathi Gaurav diwas is celebrated in the same way to bring the importance of Marathi language to the masses.

Marathi Language Day is celebrated every year on 27th February to ensure larger spread of Marathi language and to maintain its pride and honour for centuries.

Marathi Bhasha Gaurav Diwas was started on the birthday of senior Marathi poet Vishnu Vaman Shirvadkar "Kusumagraj ji", who played an important role in the cultural and literary offerings of Marathi language. Poet Kusumagraj ji, who has made an unprecedented contribution to the culture and language in the Marathi region, has also made tireless efforts for the expansion of Marathi. He was an eminent Marathi poet, playwright, novelist, short story writer and humanitarian. He wrote 16 volumes of poems, three novels, eight volumes of short stories, seven volumes of essays, 18 plays and six one-parts, all of which focused on social themes such as freedom, justice and poverty.

He has also been honoured with 'Jnanpith Award' for his literary contribution. After his death in 1999, his birthday is celebrated as Marathi Bhasha Gaurav Diwas on 27 February in his memory since 2013.

Marathi litterateur Rekha Bhandare expressed her thoughts on Kusumagraj ji.

The revered Vishnu Vaman Shirvadkar "Kusumagraj ji" has made a great contribution in the field of Marathi literature. His reputation in Marathi literature is like that of a grandfather. The foundation of his literature was based on human values. He was a great human being and an exceptional writer. This humanity within him made him humble. He was a prodigious, brilliant, energetic talent. He has written more than 50 books. His contribution to all forms of literature is immense. His contribution in poetry, drama, story, novel, fine-essay, review, philosophy, journalism, language thought, literary thought is unparalleled.

As a poet of humanity and full of strong national sentiments, he has secured a special place not only in Marathi literature but also in the whole world literature in composing such poetry. His poems and plays have influenced the depths of society. He understood the power of the word and also explained it to the society.

Our respected Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi spoke his mind about Kusumagraj ji a few days back. Sensitivity towards humanity and society, these qualities are ingrained in both these great personalities. Whatever this is, I find this a pleasant coincidence. As a Marathi citizen, I feel proud to hear his words about revered Kusumagraj ji.

Rekha Bhandare
Litterateur

GLOBAL RECOGNITION OF TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AYURVEDA

“Odinga ji was so emotional while telling me this and he wished that the knowledge and science of Ayurveda of India, should be brought to Kenya. The type of plants that are used in it will be cultivated by them and he will do his best to get more people to benefit from it. ”

Prime Minister Narendra Modi
(in his Mann Ki Baat address)



Indian culture is the world's most ancient, deep and esoteric culture. Its abundant knowledge and lifestyle remain a mystery to the west even today.

The fame of Indian knowledge can be gauged from the fact that students from all over the world used to come to our educational centres to get education, and the precious gem of this mine of knowledge is 'Ayurveda', which protects health.

The word ayurveda, which is derived from the combination of two words, Ayu + Veda, means 'The Science of Life'. Ayurveda has evolved from various Vedic mantras, in which the basic elements/philosophy of the world and life, diseases and medicines have been described.

The knowledge accumulated by ancient saints Vagbhata, Sushruta, Chyavan, Charaka, etc. has been used in India to treat illness and health philanthropy.

In this sequence, the uniqueness of Ayurveda medicine has been experienced, this time by Ms. Rosemary Odinga, daughter of former Prime Minister of Kenya, Mr. Raila Odinga. In 2017, Rosemary had to undergo a surgery due to an ailment of the optic nerve. Her vision was greatly affected post-surgery and this became a big reason of worry for her family.

To get her vision treated, Rosemary received treatment in many medically advanced countries of the world, but she did not get any relief.

Rosemary mentions that she was without much hope when she came to India's Sreedhareeyam Ayurvedic Eye Hospital and Research Centre in 2019-20. The results of her treatments in other countries had demoralized her. Situated in Koothattukulam in Ernakulam District of Kerala, this Ayurvedic eye hospital not only increased the morale of Rosemary but helped her regain her lost eye-sight within a few weeks of treatment. This brought boundless happiness to her family.



Her father, Raila Odinga became a fan of Ayurvedic treatment and requested Sreedhareeyam to open one branch in Kenya. According to Kenyan news sources, Raila Odinga wants the Kenyan people to get the benefits of this traditional, simple and side-effect free school of medicine i.e. Ayurveda, and he is working towards this goal. As Prime Minister Narendra Modi informed the country about this in his address, Raila Odinga had discussed this subject with him.

Shri Dharmendra Kumar's mother is undergoing her treatment in Sreedhareeyam Ayurvedic Eye Hospital and Research Centre. She lost the sight of her left eye due to diabetes. He turned to Ayurveda for this treatment as Allopathy had no cure for her condition. Today, his mother is 70% better than before. He considers this as nothing less than a miracle and wants Ayurveda to be popularised so that other patients can also benefit from it.

Keeping this in mind, the Ministry of AYUSH has done a lot for the promotion of Ayurveda in recent years.

Koothattukulam's councilor Mr. Sunil Kumar expressed his gratitude to the Prime Minister on this subject. He also said that with the help of the Centre and State government, Koothattukulam will develop fast and Ayurveda will again get its place in the mainstream school of medicines.



The Irreversible Tipping Point of Global Ayurveda

Sarbananda Sonowal
(Minister, Ministry of Ayush)

The country's AYUSH Minister, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, has shared information about some of those efforts to bring in greater visibility to the aura of Ayurveda, which is shining on global stage.

The efforts of the Ministry of AYUSH in the recent past have seen quite significant applause from the highest echelons of political and constitutional authorities of the country. The rivulet of independent identity of the Ministry came to the surface of existence just 7-8 years ago, but the inherent strength of these Indian systems of healthcare and well-being, coupled with the zeal and vision of a very committed team took an exponential growth path which has influenced the mindset of not only the Indian masses but the world community as well. And all this is well deserved too.

The symbols of respectable growth of the AYUSH sector have become emphatically visible over the last 3-4 years and the efficacy of mainly Ayurveda and Yoga has been acknowledged by the world during the COVID times.

Had it not been for the visionary support and strategic push to AYUSH by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the synergised support garnered through governmental and non-governmental stakeholders would not have been possible, neither the international aura of AYUSH would have so rapidly gained the sheen and shine it has now. The sentiment of the whole government of India was aptly reflected in the address of Hon'ble President of India during his speech to the joint session of the parliament when he lauded government's efforts in bringing in the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM) to India.



The fact that in a very short span of time, AYUSH ministry has collaborated with more than 50 countries for the promotion of Ayurveda, Yoga and other Ayush streams. The global academia and research fraternity is realising the strength and efficacy of Ayurveda and other Ayush streams against the backdrop of most challenging health issues the humanity is facing currently. The variety and range of topics on which these collaborations have been based varies from pure science to futuristic experimental domains of applied sciences.

The efficacy of Ayurvedic interventions during COVID times has definitely convinced the world that it is a potential solution to some of the toughest health problems of mankind. As a broad consequence of this realisation, many collaborative research projects have been initiated with some of the world's renowned medical research institutions, which speak about the growing influence of Ayurveda in the changing world health research scenario.



When the American Herbal Pharmacopeia last year signed an MoU with Pharmacopeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy (PCIMH) digitally, it laid the foundation of a very significant pathway which is sure to have far reaching consequences for Indian traditional medicines in both USA and whole Europe—of course it symbolised the growing importance of the need to come on a common ground, worldwide, for uniform pharmacopeial standards for traditional medicine.

Ministry of AYUSH through its International cooperation cell is rigorously involved in diverse activities for the promotion of AYUSH globally. As of now, the Ministry of AYUSH has collaborated with more than 50 countries for the promotion of Ayurveda, Yoga and all Ayush streams by virtue of signing of the country-to-country MoU, research collaborations, MoU for establishing academic chairs of Ayush in foreign universities, setting up of Ayurveda/Ayush hospitals/academic institute, setting up of the herbal garden, exchange of experts, the deputation of Ayush experts, organising workshops, conferences etc.

Moreover, every year 104 seats are allocated to foreign countries coming from different parts of the world to learn Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani etc, the respective Ayush systems. The students are provided scholarships, tuition fees, to and fro airfare etc. to study Ayush systems in India.

As of now, the Ministry of AYUSH has signed 25 Country-to-Country MoUs for Cooperation in the field of Traditional Medicine and Homoeopathy with Nepal, Bangladesh, Hungary, Trinidad & Tobago, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mongolia, Turkmenistan, Myanmar, WHO- Geneva, Germany (Joint declaration), Iran, Sao Tome & Principe, Equatorial Guinea, Cuba, Colombia, Japan (MoC), Bolivia, Gambia, Republic of Guinea, China, St Vincent and The Grenadines, Suriname, Brazil and Zimbabwe. Under these MoUs, the Ministry is conducting various activities for the promotion of Ayush.

Apart from this, 32 MoUs for undertaking Collaborative Research / Academic collaboration have been signed with foreign institutes/universities and 14 MoUs for setting up AYUSH Academic Chairs have been signed with foreign institutes at Australia, Mauritius, Latvia, Hungary, Slovenia, Armenia, Russia, Malaysia, South Africa, Bangladesh, Thailand etc. Moreover, 37 AYUSH



Information Cells have been set up in 34 countries to disseminate authentic information about AYUSH systems of Medicine. Ayurveda day, International Day of Yoga (IDY) etc. are also being celebrated every year through Ayush Information Cells.

The re-designated WHO Collaborative Center (WHOCC) at Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar has been given extension for another four years, from April 2021-April 2025. This collaboration started way back in 2013 in recognition of the knowledge based expert services and specialties of ITRA in the field of Ayurveda. WHO designated the Institute as Collaborative Center for Traditional Medicines in the field of Ayurveda previously in May 2013 for four years. Considering the valuable contribution by the institute during the period of designation, it was re-designated as WHO Collaborative Center (WHOCC) for another four years from April 2017 to April 2021, which got further extended till April 2025.

Under the ambit of this, ITRA has taken many activities like Rationalization and Standardization of Health Promotion Guidelines of Ayurveda, Development of Standard Ayurveda Treatment Protocols for Lifestyle Disorders, : Organization of Orientation Training Programmes for Foreign and National Medical Professionals and WHO Fellows & Officials on Scientific Aspects and Evidence-based uses of Ayurveda, Development of a Base Paper for Regional Consultation on Enhancing Communication between Traditional Medicine Practitioners and Modern Medicine Practitioners, Development of Strategic Measures and Capacity Building Programme for strengthening of Pharma vigilance of Traditional Medicines, Training on Clinical Research Methodology for Traditional Medicine, Support WHO in the development of “WHO Benchmarks for Practice in Ayurveda and Panchakarma”.

Ministry is involved in collaborative research activities with many countries like a randomised double-blind placebo-controlled Crossover study of individualised Ayurveda management in sub-optimally controlled Type 2



diabetes mellitus has been taken up between Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), Ministry of AYUSH, the Government of Republic of India and University of Latvia (UL) and Arya Vaidya Pharmacy, Baltics SIA (AVP). Various studies have been initiated. CCRAS is also in collaboration with the Department of Neurology and Complementary Medicine, Lutheran Hospital, Hattingen, Germany. Letter of intent has been signed between the CCRAS and Office of Cancer Complementary and Alternative Medicine (OCCAM), National Cancer Institute, NIH, Dept. of Health & Human Services, Government of the USA.

This Covid-19 pandemic has given the opportunity to the globe to think seriously on the prevention and wellness aspect. “Swasthasya Swasthya rakshanam” is the prime focus of the community these days. This concept is very well defined in the Charaka Samhita, one of the prime scriptures of Ayurveda.

For the sake of going a little deeper in detailing the growing influence and the strength of the Ayush system in mitigation of COVID-19 and the outcome of the clinical trials conducted on Ayush formulations for mitigation of COVID-19 in India, let me reiterate a few things. The Ministry of Ayush, with the collaboration of foreign reputed institutes/organizations from USA, UK, Germany, Brazil, and South Africa has initiated clinical trials on mutually identified Ayush formulations for the mitigation of COVID-19. The All India Institute of Ayurveda and London School of Hygiene & Tropical

Medicine (LSH&TM), UK has signed an agreement for conducting the randomised, placebo-controlled double-blind trial study on “Ashwagandha for promoting recovery from Covid-19 in the UK” on 22 July 2021, which has been duly approved by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) and certified by WHO-GMP.

It is being conducted and monitored as per the internationally recognized GCP (Good Clinical Practices) guidelines. Furthermore, All India Institute of Ayurveda is involved with Frankfurter Innovations ZentrumBiotechnologie GmbH (FIZ), Frankfurt Germany for “Understanding the molecular mechanism of Guduchyadi tablets in combating COVID-19 infection- In-vitro & in-vivo study”. A Tripartite MoU signed between All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), Future Vision Instituto, and University of Sao Paulo, Brazil on Cooperation and Collaboration in the Field of Ayurveda.

Under the Agreement for Performance of Work between World Health Organization and Institute of Teaching and Research In Ayurveda, has been finalized for the project –“To review Ayush interventions on COVID-19 in India: A living systematic review” (Timeframe: 20 January 2021 to 10 August 2021), the final draft of which has been submitted to WHO SEARO.)



The Ministry of Ayush developed a mechanism for accreditation schemes for Ayurveda courses running across the globe and which are not covered under any regulatory body to bring the uniformity and standardisation of Ayurveda education globally. Under the ambit of this, the Ministry has recognised Ayurveda & Yoga courses conducted by Maharishi European Research University, Netherlands. Ministry is also exploring possibilities for the Establishment of European Institute of Ayurvedic Sciences (EIAS) in University of Debrecen, Hungary (UD)

The Ministry has deputed an Ayurveda Expert at Yoga and Traditional Medicine Centre, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan and is in process for deputation of an Ayurveda expert at Panchakarma centre established at Cuba. And also exploring the similar kind of opportunities in other countries as well.

This is not an exhaustive narration, but it suffices, I feel, to give a broader idea that the growth of Ayurveda, based on its innate potential for the wellbeing of humanity on a scientific basis, has moved ahead of the irreversible tipping point.



MISSION JAL THAL

“Friends, once people decide to do something together, they do wonderful things. There have been many such big changes in the society, where public participation and collective efforts have played a big role. One such mass movement named “Mission Jal Thal” is going on in Srinagar, Kashmir. This is a unique effort to clean the lakes and ponds of Srinagar and restore their old glory. I congratulate the people of Srinagar for this wonderful effort.”

Prime Minister Narendra Modi
(in his ‘Mann Ki Baat’ address)

Under ‘Mission Jal-Thal’ in district Srinagar, massive work has been taken up for the renovation of water bodies. Mission Jal Thal is not only about the government department but involves participation from civil societies and community as well.

Ejaz Asad
DC, Srinagar

Thanks to Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji for highlighting the Mission Jal Thal of Srinagar. Our beautiful lakes are inextricably linked with the country's history, culture and customs.

To preserve the natural heritage, commendable work has been done by Ejaz Asad, (Deputy Commissioner) and his team.

Manoj Sinha
Lieutenant Governor of
Jammu and Kashmir

“ कौन कहता है आसमां में सुराख नहीं हो सकता, एक पत्थर तो तबीयत से उछालों यारों ”

These lines by Hindi poet Dushyant Kumar are a mirror of human nature and efforts. If efforts are made together, then nothing is impossible and it is clearly visible in Srinagar.

The ‘Mission Jal-Thal’ was started in the year 2021 by the district administration in Srinagar. The objective was to rejuvenate the Gil Sar and Khushal Sar twin lakes located in the downtown area of Srinagar.

Until about 50 years ago, it was a thriving ecosystem and a great and prominent tourist destination. But in the last few years, due to dumping of waste in the lakes and massive dumping of sewage, its condition became worse. At the same time, tourism in the lakes' area declined and a large part was encroached upon as the region was plagued by terrorism over the years.

The 'Jal-Thal' project, which started to revive the lakes from this situation, was based on two pillars - use of latest technology and public participation. Latest technologies like Water Masters were used to remove the encroachments in a record time of 100 days.

Under this scheme, the water bodies and springs that fill the lakes were cleaned to revive the natural flow of water and to raise the water level in the lakes. Also a massive community engagement drive was conducted to bring all the stakeholders together.

Local influential people and youth leaders were appointed as 'Water Ambassadors' to create community awareness about the importance and benefits of the restoration project.

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha thanked the Prime Minister for highlighting the extraordinary efforts of Mission Jal Thal and lauded the people and the Srinagar district administration for displaying deep cultural sensitivity towards the environment.



Renovation of Khushal Sar and Gill Sar Lake

This scheme has brought a remarkable change in the ecological sector of the region. About 60 canals connected to the lakes have been renovated. After more than 30 years, migratory birds have started returning to these lakes. Lotus cultivation will also be resumed in the lakes in the coming days.

After the rejuvenation, the tourism department has developed a view point at Gilkadal to attract tourists and to make this place a tourist center again. The long-term goal of this scheme is to revive the ancient water circuit in Kashmir from Dal to Wular Lake and convert it into a national waterway.

This campaign to return the lakes to their old form will be inspiring for all to take steps forward in the direction of conservation of other lakes and water sources.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his 'Mann Ki Baat', mentioned about Khushal Sar and Gil Sar lakes. It has encouraged all of us and we will aim to keep the lake clean by serving it forever.

Abdur Rehman
Resident, Srinagar

Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his 'Mann Ki Baat' mentioned Khushal Sar and Gil Sar lakes. This has encouraged all of us. I request people to take care of these lakes at least once a week.

Shaukat Hussain
Resident, Srinagar

A unique campaign of cleanliness in Visakhapatnam



The people of Visakhapatnam are trying to make the Prime Minister's cleanliness campaign a success with their efforts. In the city, instead of polythene bags, cloth bags are being promoted. Not only this, people are also campaigning against single use plastic to keep the environment clean. They are also creating awareness about segregation of waste at homes.



Scan QR Code
to know more about the ongoing
mass movement in Srinagar
under Jal Thal Mission.

VOCAL FOR LOCAL

“ Along with Gujiya in Holi, there is also a unique sweetness of relationships. We have to strengthen these bonds further and we have to strengthen these relations not only with the people of our family but also with those people who are part of your big family. The best way to celebrate the festival is with 'Vocal for Local'. You should buy local products at festivals, so that the lives of the people living around you are filled with colors.”

Prime Minister Narendra Modi
(in his 'Mann Ki Baat' address)

HOLI

A new campaign has been started by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the country, which he has named "Vocal for Local". When this mission started, the word Vocal for Local was new to the people and many people of the country were not aware of the meaning of Vocal for Local and its benefits.

Often referring to Vocal for Local in his addresses, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had given this mantra to the country so that the country would continue to move towards economic self-reliance.

The main objective of Vocal For Local is to strengthen the country's economy and make the country self-reliant. Prime Minister Narendra Modi keeps requesting the people of the country to become self-reliant now and stop depending on the products of other countries. Things should be produced in the country itself and the people of India should buy more and more of these products.



Due to Modi ji's Vocal for Local inspiration, now the people of the country are refraining from buying cheap foreign products and are buying those products which are made in the country. In this way, the small entrepreneurs working at the regional level are not only getting continuous encouragement, but the economic value of the practices hidden in our festivals is also being made aware to all.

The Prime Minister continues to spread the spirit of Vocal for Local in his speeches. Last year, even before Diwali, in his 'Mann Ki Baat' address, the Prime Minister had urged everyone to say, "Remember: shopping means being vocal for local. If you buy local, your festival will be illuminated as well as there will also be light in the house of an artisan, a weaver etc." The Prime Minister had expressed confidence that "the campaign which we all have started together will be even stronger in festivals this time."

In the same light, this year also, just before Holi, the Prime Minister's request to the country for 'Vocal for Local' will not only help our micro, cottage and small entrepreneurs to be established, but also the outflow of the currency to foreign companies will be curtailed.

Following his call of 'Make in India', these small steps being taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is showing the path towards a self-reliant India, are not only making India economically empowered, but through public participation, this feeling is being fulfilled. The people who are becoming vocal are taking these objectives towards the pinnacle of success.

The views expressed by the public on this subject was that this appeal of the Prime Minister has become an inspiration and stimulated the public mind. Doordarshan has tried to reach out to the public and seek their views on this subject after the Prime Minister's Mann Ki Baat address on February 27.



Enthusiasm among the people in Kaithal, Haryana

Ordinary residents of the area believe that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given the slogan of Vocal for Local in the interest of the people of the country. He said that if we buy foreign goods then our country's money goes abroad and if we buy indigenous goods then our country's money will remain in our country.

A citizen said that Vocal for Local will increase the means of business in the country and the country will become strong. Many citizens are also appealing to other people to buy only indigenous goods by adopting Vocal for Local on the request of the Prime Minister. The shopkeepers of Kaithal, Pulkit Mittal and Mohit said that they are not selling any foreign goods on the appeal of the Prime Minister, and that the appeal of the Prime Minister's Vocal for Local is also showing a lot of impact on the general public. Every customer now demands only indigenous goods. If we promote indigenous goods, a lot of employment opportunities will be created in our country. It will not only help India to prosper but also make it economically stronger.

The shopkeepers clarified that in this year's festival of Holi, all the indigenous goods were available in the market, whether it was pichkari or other items. He said that we are selling completely indigenous goods. The general public has also accepted the slogan of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Vocal for Local which is in the interest of the people of the country, so we all should sell and buy only indigenous goods.

Local residents shared their views with the team that reached the markets of Kaithal district of Haryana and Rajnandgaon district of Chhattisgarh to see the ground situation of the effect of Vocal for Local.

The enthusiasm of the public is showing the success of the appeal of the Prime Minister on Vocal for Local. These reactions from different parts of the country makes it clear that people have woken up and they too have geared up to strengthen the country's economy and make India self-reliant through Vocal for Local.

Our earthen goods are made here and sold here. If we do not buy foreign goods at all, then our money will remain in the country. We completely agree with the words of the Hon'ble Prime Minister. He has thought a lot for our India.

Mohit

Merchant, Kaithal

In the festival of Holi, we will appeal to the common people to use Indian colours so that our economy becomes strong. If the business class will be happy, other people will be happy as well, only then the Prime Minister's slogan of Vocal for Local will be able to take shape.

Himanshu Garg

Resident, Kaithal



Swadeshi goods boom in Chhattisgarh's Rajnandgaon

Vocal for Local is also popular among the people of Chhattisgarh and this Holi its colour was everywhere. This time, indigenously made pichkaris were being sold in the market. According to local businessman Atul Pandey, shops were decorated for the festival of Holi. Indigenously manufactured pichkaris were booming in the market, as well as the demand for herbal gulal made by the women's group was also in full swing.

Apart from the colours, indigenous delicacies made people's mouths water. Indigenous dishes like Tetari, Gujiya not only appealed to the people but the business community was also very happy with the sale of traditional indigenous dishes.

Our Young friends should convey this message to every household, every person, every youth, so that all the youth of the country adopt the formula of Vocal for Local. This will strengthen poor people and small businesses to flourish.

Sandeep Kumar
Resident, Kaithal







MANN KI BAAT

Media Scan



G Kishan Reddy @kisha... · 27/02/22

"Till the year 2013, about 13 idols came back home to India.

But, in the last seven years, India has successfully brought back more than 200 precious statues.

- PM Shri @narendramodi during #MannKiBaat.



साल 2013 तक करीब-करीब 13 प्रतिमाएं भारत आयी थीं | लेकिन, पिछले सात साल में 200 से ज्यादा बहुमूल्य प्रतिमाओं को, भारत, सफलता के साथ वापस ला चुका है |

Media Scan



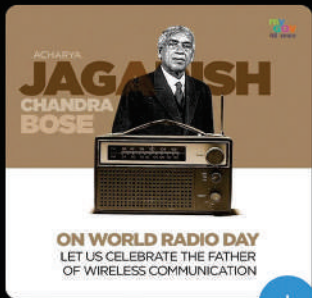
Shikhand Sibal @shikhand

8th century statue of Avalokiteshwara Padamapani which belongs to Devasthan Kundulpur Temple, Bihar found in Milan, Italy. It has been missing since 2000 & was handed over to Indian consulate in Milan.



MyGovIndia @mygovindia

This #WorldRadioDay, let's celebrate Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose, the father of wireless communication & how radio has always played a pivotal role in bringing us closer, especially with our PM @narendramodi's most loved #MannKiBaat.



14 241 630



Nityanand Rai @nityana... · 27/02/22

Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi ji's #MannKiBaat with the Nation.



BJP @BJP4India PM Shri Narendra Modi's #MannKiBaat...

1 3 16

Media Scan



Office of Mr. Anurag Th... - 27/02/22

As a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, youth can make videos of popular songs of Indian languages in their own way - PM Shri @narendramodi ji

#MannKiBaat
#AzadiKaAmritMahotsav



अगर संगठन/ग्राम में मिलीने श्रम-नीज बरत के गीतों को ड्रम प्रसार से Lip Sync करा सकते हैं तो क्या भीरे देश में, हमारे देश की कई भाषाओं में, कई प्रकार के गीत हैं क्या हम कोई मुजराती बच्चे तमिल गीत पर करें, कोई केरल के बच्चे अरभिया गीत पर करें, कोई कर्नाड बच्चे जम्मू-कश्मीर के गीतों पर करें। एक ऐसा मॉडर्न बना



इस आज़मदी के अगुए मन्दिरेम को एक नए तरीके से उत्तर बना सकते हैं। मैं देश के नौजवानों से आह्वान करता हूँ, आइए, फिर भारतीय भाषाओं के जो popular गीत हैं उनको आप अपने तरीके से video बनाइए, बहुत popular हो जायेंगे आप। और देश की विविधताओं का नया पैट्टे को परे

151



Sunil Deodhar

Highlighted the notable efforts of Mr. Soerdjan Parshi, who hails from Suriname and has done exceptional work in celebrating Indian culture and traditions. #MannKiBaat

Narendra Modi
Amit Shah
JPNadda
Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)
PMO India
Ministry of Culture, Government of India
See less

Ministry of Tribal Affairs... - 18/02/22

Share your ideas and suggestions for this month's 'Mann Ki Baat' programme which will take place on the 27th!
#MannKiBaat

27TH FEBRUARY 2022
MANN KI BAAT

Record your valuable inputs on Toll Free Number 1800-11-7800, or write on MyGov forum and NaMo app.

Harsh Sanghavi @sangh... - 26/02/22

Are you all ready to listen Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi Ji's #MannKiBaat?

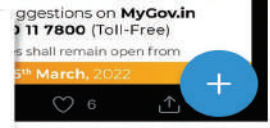
Let's start the last Sunday of the month with his inspiring words.

Stay Tuned, tomorrow 11AM onwards.

PRIME MINISTER
SHRI NARENDRA MODI JI'S
MANN KI BAAT
27 FEBRUARY, SUNDAY | 11:00 AM

Media Scan

Er. Bishweswar Tudu @Bishwes... · 1d
 Know of any extraordinary, inspirational stories about India? Share with Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi Ji for his upcoming #MannKiBaat episode on 27th March 2022. Dial 1800117800 or submit your stories here: mygov.in/group-issue/in...





G Kishan Reddy @kisha... · 22/02/22

Share your ideas and suggestions for this month's #MannKiBaat - A program the Nation looks forward to.

Record your suggestions by dialling 1800-11-7800 & share them with PM Shri @narendramodi Ji or write at MyGov Forum or NaMo App.



Media Scan



Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nis...

मातृभाषी अरु मातृी
मातृभाषी अरु मातृी
अपना अक्षरकेषर अरु चरी मातृी ।
मातृी अरु पीठसिवाय सरीय सुरु सुरु सुखेन...।
अखिर कुषुषर सार अरुसिरी विरु संविवर ।
अरुसिरी संविवर ।
अरुसिरी



Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nis... @DrRPNishank

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मातृभाषा दिवस की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं!
यह अत्यंत गर्व का विषय है कि यशस्वी प्रधानमंत्री श्री @narendramodi जी द्वारा संस्तुत #NEP2020 में हमारे देश की सभी मातृभाषाओं के संरक्षण एवं संवर्धन पर विशेष बल दिया गया है।



Office of Tejasvi Surya From 13 idols until 2013, in the last 7 years, PM Sri @NarendraModi gov't has brought back 200+ precious idols to India

This speaks of the man's commitment to Sanatana Dharma

#MannKiBaat

1/n

14 158 1,057

Show this thread



Office of Tejasvi Surya 27/02/22 Women are dispelling old myths & reaching newer heights in diverse fields

Initiatives of PM Sri @narendramodi gov't. has brought social changes through decisions on common age for marriage, #TripleTalaq, access to sainik schools & #BetiBachaoBetiPadhao campaign

#MannKiBaat

5/n



Bhupender Yadav @bya... · 27/02/22

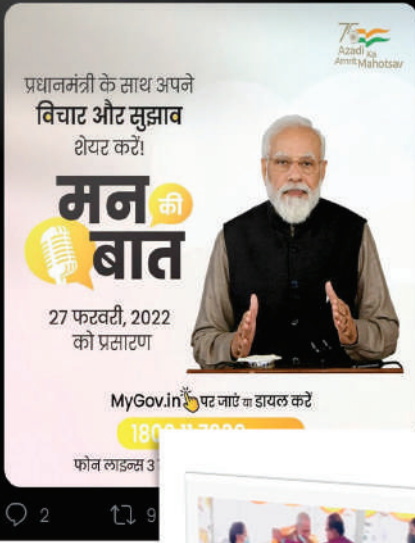
Listening to PM Shri @narendramodi ji's #MannKiBaat at the @BJP4Delhi office today.



14 103 433



Arjun Ram Meghwal @a... · 25/02/22 ...
 This month's 'Mann Ki Baat' will take place on the 27th! #MannKiBaat



75th Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

प्रधानमंत्री के साथ अपने विचार और सुझाव शेयर करें!

मन की बात

27 फरवरी, 2022 को प्रसारण

MyGov.in पर जाएं या डायल करें
 1800-11-7000

फोन लाइन्स 3

Media Scan



Sunil Desai @s...
 Highlighted the notable efforts of Mr. Soerjan Parsh, who hails from Saurashtra and has done exceptional work in celebrating Indian culture and traditions. #MannKiBaat

Narendra Modi
 Amit Shah
 J.P. Modi
 Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)
 PMO India
 Ministry of Culture, Government of India
 See less



Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal...
 एक बार जब लोग मिलकर के कुछ करने की ठान लें, तो वो अद्भुत चीजें कर जाते हैं।

'मिशन जल थल' नाम का एक जन आंदोलन कश्मीर के श्रीनगर में चल रहा है।

यह श्रीनगर की झीलों और तालाबों की साफ-सफाई और उनकी पुरानी रौनक लौटाने का एक अनोखा प्रयास है।

#MannKiBaat



2 4 34



Sourabh Choudhary @... · 27/02/22 ...
 Just like the sibling duo of Kili & Neema, I urge everyone, especially kids from different states to make lip-syncing videos of popular songs (from a state different than theirs). We'll redefine 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' & popularise Indian languages:
 @narendramodi
 #MannKiBaat



6 174 227

Take pride in mother tongue, says Modi in Mann ki Baat

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, 27 February

Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi on Sunday called upon youngsters to make videos of famous Indian songs in different languages that will not only make them popular but also showcase the country's diversity to the new generation.

In his monthly Mann Ki Baat broadcast, Modi highlighted a number of issues, including the cases of triple talaq going down by over 80 percent following a law banning the practice, and also urged people to develop scientific temperament among children. "Even after 75 years of Independence, there are people who have dilemmas and reservations regarding their language, dress, food and drink, whereas it is not like this anywhere else in the world," Modi said.

"People should speak their language with pride, he said, adding India is incomparable in its richness of languages.

"As a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, youth can make videos of popular songs of Indian languages in their own way," he said, adding that people of one state making videos with songs of another state will make them experience "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat" (One India, great India). "I would emphasise about mother tongue that as our mother moulds our life, in the same manner, mother tongue also shapes our life.

"The mother and mother tongue, both together strengthen the foundation of life, lending it permanence. Just like we cannot abandon our mother, similarly, we cannot leave our mother tongue either," Modi said.

The world's oldest language Tamil is in India and every Indian should be proud of this significant heritage, he said. In the same way, many ancient scriptures have found expression in Sanskrit, the PM added in his monthly address.

Take pride in Tamil, says Modi

PM stresses language diversity of India

DEVESH K. PANDEY
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said every Indian should be proud of Tamil, the world's oldest living language.

Emphasising the importance of the mother tongue in his *Mann Ki Baat* radio show, Mr. Modi said, "The mother and mother tongue both together strengthen the foundation of life, lending it permanence. Just like we cannot abandon our mother, similarly, we cannot leave our mother tongue either."


"Our India is so rich in terms of languages that it is incomparable ... hundreds of languages, thousands of dialects are different from each other but are mutually integrated... many languages, one expression," he said.

He said the country was proud to be associated with 121 forms of mother tongues, 14 of which are spoken by over one crore people in everyday life.

In 2019, Hindi was ranked third among the most spoken languages of the world. "Every Indian should be proud of this, too," Mr. Modi said, highlighting the contribution of Surjan Parohi, a famous Hindi poet from Suriname, whose forefathers had gone there along with thousands of workers to earn a living.

Indian music

During his address, Mr. Modi praised two Tanzanian siblings, Kili Paul and his sister Nima, who were passionate about Indian

 Our India is so rich in terms of languages that it is incomparable

music. A few days ago, Kili was honoured at the Indian Embassy in Tanzania.

Talking about the growing influence of Ayurveda, the Prime Minister said the former Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Odinga's daughter had almost lost her eyesight to a surgery for brain tumour. Having tried everywhere else, he finally got her treated at an Ayurvedic hospital in Kerala. Her eyesight returned to a great extent. Mr. Odinga now wanted to introduce Ayurveda in Kenya.

Referring to International Women's Day on March 8, Mr. Modi said women in the country were taking the lead role in every sector.

"Last month, on Republic Day, we saw that daughters were flying modern fighter planes too. The country also lifted the restrictions on the admission of daughters in Sainik Schools... about half the start-ups have women in director roles," he said.

In the recent past, decisions like increasing maternity leave were taken. The country was trying to give equal rights to sons and daughters by fixing a common age for marriage.

The Prime Minister, ahead of National Science Day on February 28, paid tribute to C.V. Raman. He urged people to instil scientific temperament in children.

ମନ କା ବାତ୍: ସ୍ୱଳ୍ପ ଭାରତ ଅଭିଯାନରେ

ଲୋକଙ୍କ ଯୋଗଦାନକୁ ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ ପ୍ରଶଂସା

ନୁହେଁନା, ୨୭/୨: ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ଶରଦ୍ଧା ମୋଦୀ ଚିତ୍ତିବୋଧ ଦାକ୍ଷ ମନ କା ବାତ୍ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମରେ ଶୁଭ ଭାରତ ଅଭିଯାନରେ ଲୋକଙ୍କ ଯୋଗଦାନ ଖୁସୀ ପଢ଼ିବାର ବନ୍ଦନରେ ନେତା ଦେବାନନ୍ଦ ଦାସଙ୍କଦ୍ୱାରା ଶୁଭ ପ୍ରଶଂସା କରିଥିଲେ। ପ୍ରଧାନମନ୍ତ୍ରୀ ୮୬ତମ ମନ କା ବାତ୍ ଚଳେଇ ବାର୍ଷିକୀରେ ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶ ଦେଇ, ଭାରତରେ ବ୍ୟସ୍ତ ମାଧ୍ୟାହ୍ନଭୋଗ ଯେ ଲୋକମାନଙ୍କର ଏକ ସ୍ତୋତ୍ରାଂଶୁରୀ ପ୍ରଦର୍ଶ୍ୟ କରିଛନ୍ତି। ଚଳେଇକାଳରେ ଯୁଦ୍ଧମାନେ "ପୁଣିକ-ମୁକ୍ତି ଅଭିଯାନ" ଆରମ୍ଭ କରିଛନ୍ତି। ରାଜ୍ୟର ଲୋକଙ୍କୁ କୋମଳ "ପୁଣିକ-କରି ଆମି ଲୋକାର ସ୍ତା କରୁଛନ୍ତି। ଏପରି ଆନୁଷ୍ଠିକ ଚଳେଇ ଆମ ଲୋକମାନଙ୍କୁ ମଧ୍ୟପ୍ରେରଣା ଦେଖିବା ସ୍ୱଳ୍ପ ଲୋକ ଅତି ଚଳେଇ ମୁକ୍ତି, ନିର୍ମଳ ଓ ପୁଣିକ ଆଦର୍ଶ-ମୁକ୍ତି କରିବେ ଲୋକା କରିବେ ଚଳେଇ ଆମେ ଭାରତକୁ ପୁଣି ମୁକ୍ତି କରିବେପାଇଁ ଲୋକ ସେ କରିବିଲେ। ସେ ପୁଣି କରିବେ ଚେ, ଦିଶାକ୍ଷୟପାଇଁ ଭାରତକୁ ଶୁଭ ଭାରତ ଅଭିଯାନରେ ପଢ଼ିବି ଦେବାନନ୍ଦ କରନ ଦେବାନନ୍ଦ ଦାସଙ୍କଦ୍ୱାରା ଗୁରୁତ୍ୱ ଦିଆଯାଇଛି। ଗୋପାଳ ଲୋକମାନଙ୍କେ ଅନେକାନ୍ତ-ଦେବଦାନଦେବାନନ୍ଦ ପୁଣିକ ଦିଶରାଜେ ଅଭିଯାନ କଲେଇଛନ୍ତି। ଏମି ଅଭାଗ ପ୍ରଶଂସାକାରୀ ଲୋକ ମୋଦୀ କରିଥିଲେ।

भारत से चोरी 14 धरोहरें आस्ट्रेलिया से आ रही वापस

वी के सुक्क • नई दिल्ली

आस्ट्रेलिया के राष्ट्रीय कला संग्रहालय (एनजीए) में रखीं भारत की 14 धरोहरें वापस आ रही हैं। इनमें पीतल और पत्थर की मूर्तियों के अलावा पेंटिंग व कुछ तस्वीरें भी शामिल हैं। ये धरोहरें 1989 से 2009 के बीच एनजीए के पास पहुंची थीं। ये इनकी तस्वीरें करने वाले सुभाष कपूर के माध्यम से वहां पहुंची थीं। अभी जो धरोहरें वापस आ रही हैं उनमें भगवान की मूर्तियां भी हैं। भारतीय पुरातत्व सर्वेक्षण (एएसआइ) का कहना है कि ये धरोहरें आस्ट्रेलिया से भेजी जा रही हैं। इनके एक माह के अंदर दिल्ली पहुंचने की उम्मीद है।

इनके एक माह के अंदर दिल्ली पहुंचने की है उम्मीद, इसमें पीतल और पत्थर की मूर्तियों के अलावा पेंटिंग व कुछ तस्वीरें भी शामिल हैं।

यह चौथी बार है जब एनजीए ने कपूर से खरीदी धरोहरें भारत सरकार को लौटाई हैं। इनमें कंसे या पत्थर की छह मूर्तियां, पीतल की मूर्ति और छह तस्वीरें आदि शामिल हैं। आस्ट्रेलिया और भारत के अच्छे संबंधों का ही परिणाम है कि आस्ट्रेलिया अपने खर्च पर इन धरोहरों को वापस लौटा रहा है। भारत में पहुंचने पर इन मूर्तियों और तस्वीरों का एएसआइ अध्ययन कराएगा। यह भी पता लगाया जाएगा कि ये धरोहरें कहाँ से चोरी की गई थीं।

एनजीए ने कपूर की आर्ट 'आफ फास्ट गैलरी' की 22 कलाकृतियों के लिए पिछले कुछ वर्षों में 1.7 करोड़ डॉलर खर्च किए। इसमें 11वीं सदी की चोल कालीन कंसे की मूर्ति शिव नटराज भी शामिल थी। जब भारतीय पुलिस ने 2012 में कपूर को गिरफ्तार किया तो चुराई गई धरोहरों में शिव की नटराज की मूर्ति को भी सूचीबद्ध किया गया। इस मूर्ति को दक्षिण भारत में एक मंदिर से चुपचाप गंगा था। जिसे 2014 में तत्कालीन आस्ट्रेलियाई पीएम टोनी एबार्ट ने भारत के प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी को सौंपा था। सुभाष कपूर को इंटरपोल ने 2011 में जर्मनी में गिरफ्तार किया था और उसे 2012 में भारत लाया गया। आजकल वह तमिलनाडु की जेल में बंद है।

PM lauds Vizag's cloth bag efforts

Visakhapatnam: Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his 'Mann Ki Baat' address on Sunday lauded the efforts of Vizagites in embracing the cloth bag culture instead of polythene bags. The Prime Minister also mentioned the intense garbage segregation efforts being carried out in Vizag.

"People here are campaigning against single use plastic products to keep the environment clean. People are also spreading awareness to segregate the waste at home," said Modi in 'Mann Ki Baat'. TNN

MANN KI BAAT

Triple talaq a 'social evil', 80% drop in cases since law enacted: PM Modi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 27

TERMINING TRIPLE talaq a "social evil", Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said that there has been a drastic 80 per cent decrease in such cases since a law was enacted against the practice in September 2019.

In his monthly 'Mann Ki Baat' programme, the PM, while underlining the "success" of the government's programmes for women empowerment, said, "In the recent past, decisions like increasing maternity leave for women have been taken. We are trying to give equal rights to sons and daughters by fixing a common age for marriage," he said, adding that due to this the participation of women in every field is increasing.

"Take the success of 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao', today the sex ratio in the country has improved. The number of girls going to school has also improved. In this, we also have a responsibility that our daughters do not drop out of the school. Similarly, women in the country have got freedom from open defecation under the 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan'," Modi added.

All this, he said, was possible in such a short span of time because women themselves were leading the change in the country.

The PM also appreciated the role of Indian scientists in the fight against the coronavirus, saying, "Due to their hard work, it was possible to manufacture a made-in-India vaccine which helped the whole world a lot. This is the gift of science to humanity."

Flagging the issue of smuggling of antique idols out of India,

Modi, referring to the country's history of making idols, said, "Not only were they a wonderful artistic example of Indian sculpture but our faith was also connected with them. It is our responsibility towards Mother India to bring home these idols. They idols embody a part of the soul of India."

India, he claimed, has created a deterrent fear against the tendency to steal and the countries where these idols were taken away to also started to feel that it could have immense repercussions in diplomatic relations with India. "This is an example of the changing global outlook towards India. Till 2013, just 13 idols were brought back to India. But in the last seven years, India has successfully brought back more than 200 precious idols," he said.

The PM also praised Tanzanian hip sync artists Kili Paul and his sister Neema Paul. "Recently a video of Kili singing our National Anthem on the occasion of Republic Day went viral" and a few days ago he also paid a soulful tribute to Late Munge Shkar by presenting her song," he said.

Appealing to the country's youth to make videos of popular songs of Indian languages in their own way, the Prime Minister said, "You will become very popular! And the diversity of the country will be introduced to the new generation."

Prime Minister Modi also emphasised the importance of one's mother tongue, saying "as our mother moulds our life so does our mother tongue, just like we cannot abandon our mother, we cannot leave our mother tongue either."

MANN KI BAAT

Modi asks start-ups to use their skills, scientific character for nation building

OUR BUREAU

New Delhi, February 27

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday asked the start-ups in the country to use their skills and scientific character for "nation building".

Addressing the 86th episode of his monthly radio programme Mann Ki Baat, Modi underscored that this is also "our collective scientific responsibility towards the country". Hailing the efforts of startups in the field of "virtual reality", Modi also called upon them - in the era of virtual classes - to set up a "virtual lab" keeping in mind the considerations of children.

Scientific temperament

"Through virtual reality, we can also make children experience chemistry lab at home. I urge teachers and parents to encour-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi

age students and children to ask questions and look for answers along with them," he said.

Meanwhile, on the occasion of the National Science Day, which falls on February 28, Modi asked families to develop "scientific temperament" in their children. "Friends, technology has made our life easier and simple. Which technology is good and how to make better use of a particular technology, we are familiar with all these. But it is also true that we don't pay attention to ap-

prise children in our family as to what is the basis of that technology what is the science behind it," Modi said. He suggested that scientific issue be discussed at home and noted that it is possible to explain the science behind several issues in everybody's daily lives.

Modi appreciated the role of Indian scientists in the fight against Covid-19.

"It is because of their hard work that the production of made in India vaccine was possible, which has helped the entire world. This is the gift of science to humanity," he said.

Modi said that India has been successful in bringing back invaluable artefacts. "After 2014, India brought back over 200 precious idols from nations like the US, Britain and Canada," Modi said.

MANN KI BAAT

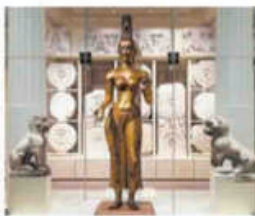
'India doing its best to fly stolen antiques back'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

INDIA has been successful in bringing back over 200 stolen antiquities and idols in the last seven years, PM Narendra Modi said on Sunday.

"The history of each of our idols also depicts the influence of their times. Not only they are a wonderful artistic example of Indian sculpture; our faith is also connected with them. But, in the past, many idols were stolen and kept being taken out of India," the PM said in his radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat', adding that it has become the responsibility of government to bring back all the stolen idols and antiques.

"Till 2013, nearly 13 idols had been brought back to India. But, in the last seven years, India has successfully brought back more than 200 precious idols. Many countries such as America, Britain, Holland, France, Canada, Germany, Singapore have understood the sentiment of India and helped us to retrieve these idols."



The PM highlighted the return of an idol of Avalokiteshvara Padmapani from Italy that was stolen from Kundalpur temple in Bihar's Gaya district. Another case was the 700-year idol of Lord Anjaneyaa Hanuman - stolen from Vellore in Tamil Nadu - that was brought from Australia.

Modi also outlined the importance of mother language in the context of the recently celebrated International Mother Language Day (Feb 21). Indians are proud to be associated with 121 forms of mother tongues and 14 of these languages are spoken by more than 1 crore people, he said.

Speak mother tongue with pride: PM in Mann Ki Baat

New Delhi, Feb. 27:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday called upon youngsters to make videos of famous Indian songs in different languages that will not only make them popular but also showcase the country's diversity to the new generation. Modi praised Tanzanian siblings Kili Paul and Neema who, he said, have created ripples on social media by lip-syncing several Indian songs, including the country's national anthem on Republic Day.

In his monthly Mann Ki Baat broadcast, the PM highlighted a number of issues, including the cases of triple talaq going down by over 80 percent following a law banning the practice, and also urged people to develop scientific temperament among children.

Even after 75 years of Independence, there are people who have dilemmas and reservations regarding their language, dress, food and drink, whereas it is not like this anywhere else in the world, Mr Modi said.

People should speak their language with pride, he said, adding India is incomparable in its richness of languages.

With the International Mother Language Day being observed recently, Modi referred to Tanzanian Kili Paul and his sister Neema and spoke of their passion for Indian songs, including their tribute to legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar.

— PTI

The Indian EXPRESS

Cases of triple talaq decreased by 80 per cent after enactment of law: PM Modi in Mann Ki Baat

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Mann ki Baat: PM Modi lauds Tanzania's Internet sensations Kili and Neema Paul

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Vizag's cloth bag finds a mention in PM Narendra Modi's Mann Ki Baat

Business Standard

Take pride in mother tongue, says PM Narendra Modi in 'Mann ki Baat'



Role of Indian scientists in fight against Covid-19 is praiseworthy: Modi

TIMES NOW

Mann Ki Baat: India successfully brought back over 200 invaluable artifacts in last 7 years, says PM Narendra Modi

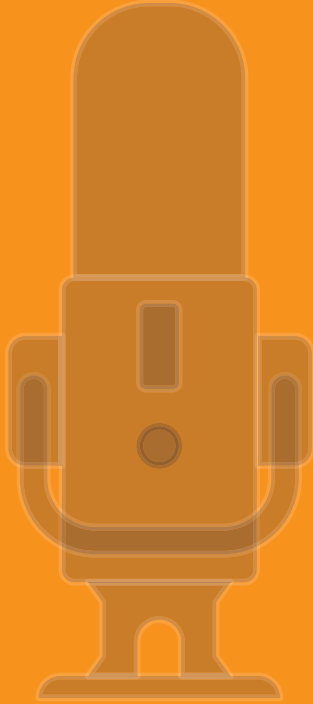


Mann Ki Baat | 'Bhasha Anek, Bhaav Ek', PM Modi Asks Indians To Take Pride In Country's Linguistic Diversity



Mann Ki Baat: Languages preserve culture and heritage, says PM Modi | As it happened

ON AIR



**Ministry of
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