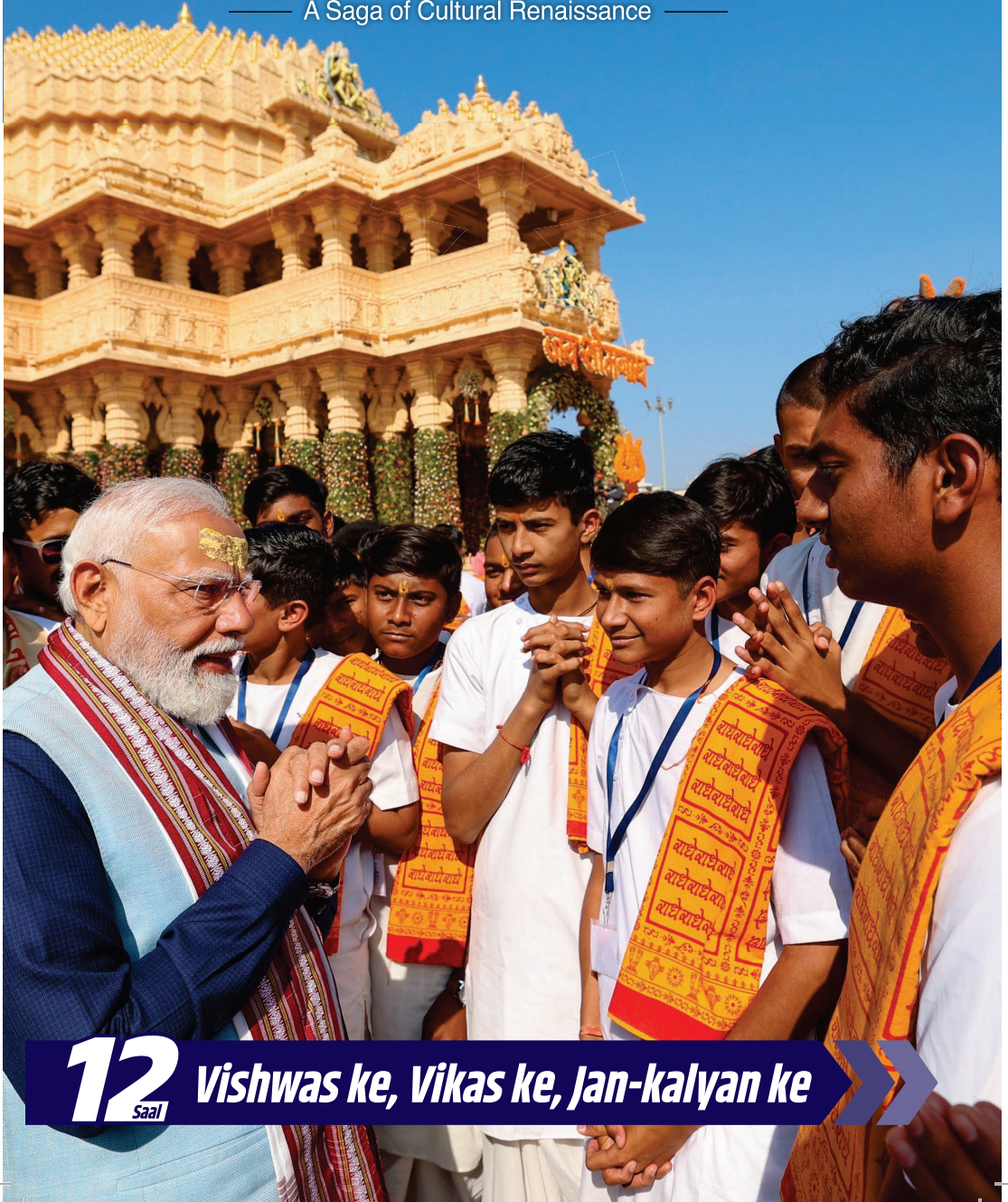


VIRASAT BHI VIKAS BHI

— A Saga of Cultural Renaissance —



12
Saal

Vishwas ke, Vikas ke, Jan-kalyan ke



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**CONSERVATION OF FORESTS
AND WILDLIFE**

GRAND-DIVINE-NEW

Virasat Bhi, Vikas Bhi

- A Saga of Cultural Renaissance -

"Whether it is national unity or the sense of civic duty, our cultural heritage also serves as a link in this. This is the strong link that connects not only the country but the entire world with India."

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

P rime Minister Narendra Modi spent many years in the pursuit of culture while living in the lap of nature. Today, the very essence of that pursuit is reflected in his thoughts and words, it has also emerged in the nation's policy.

His vision, while connecting India with its glorious past, has shown the path to a new future.

A Renaissance of Faith

Blessed is this 'Amrit Generation', which is witnessing—with its own eyes—the fulfilment of a wait that has spanned centuries.

The new, magnificent, and divine Ram Temple at Shri Ram Janmabhoomi in Ayodhya is not merely a construction; it represents the awakening of the nation's dormant consciousness.

Foreign invaders destroyed our temples and plundered our heritage. Yet, India's faith remained unbroken; rather, it has become even more intense today.

Kashi Vishwanath Dham, Mahakal Mahalok, Kedarnath Dham—all these are symbols of that renaissance. The Buddha Circuit and Ram Circuit are also developing rapidly.

Cultural heritage has now become the driving force of the nation. Embracing both the ancient and the modern, India is moving forward—this has been the greatest achievement of the past 12 years of victory and reconstruction.

Heritage on the soil of India

The priceless heritage that was snatched away by deceit and force during the colonial period is now returning to the homeland one by one. This is not merely a return of idols or artifacts; it is the return of our memory, the rebirth of our self-respect.

When identity is reclaimed, the nation's self-confidence is restored as well. That is why Prime Minister Modi says, 'If the country has to move forward, it must take pride in its heritage.'

Freedom from Colonial Mindset

Along with pride in our heritage, the great yagna for liberation from Macaulay's mindset of slavery has also been ignited. The goal of complete freedom from this colonial mindset has been set for the year 2035.

The new 'Kartavya Bhavan' stands as a testament to this new consciousness. The North and South Blocks are being transformed into the 'Yuge Yugeen Bharat' National Museum, where every citizen of the country will be able to witness India's glorious journey spanning thousands of years. This will not just be a building, but a pilgrimage of national pride.

Yoga: India's Gift to the World

In 2014, acting upon a proposal of Prime Minister Modi, the United Nations recognized International Day of Yoga. Today, crores of people across 190 countries practice yoga. This is the world's greatest recognition of India's spiritual power.

Nature and Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam

The sentiment of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is not limited to the human family alone, but extends to the entire creation. Embracing the theme of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future,' India has emerged as a global guide in environmental conservation as well.

Under Mission LiFE, a new path of harmony with nature has been shown to the world. Forest areas have expanded, and wildlife conservation has reached new heights. A civilization that has worshipped Panchatattva (the five elements) for centuries will also be the true protector of the Earth. India has proven this.

"For India, the meaning of 'Dharma' is the collective resolve to fulfill our duties! The goal of our resolves is the welfare of the world, the service of humanity."

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Heritage and Development: An Invincible Confluence

When a country's cultural heritage also attains global respect, in addition to its economic strength, only then the country truly becomes a superpower.

Today, India's culture and heritage stand at Himalayan heights on the global stage. It is this confluence of development and heritage, that will bring India to the forefront in the 21st century.

In the golden resolve of a developed India, culture and heritage is no longer just a chapter; they are the soul of the nation. With the strength of this soul, India's progress is invincible and infinite.

"India is not merely a nation; it is a grand tradition... a flowing stream of cultural values. India embodies that supreme philosophy— 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (The World is One Family)... Whenever a Sanatan temple is established in any other country, it enriches the values of that nation as well."

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

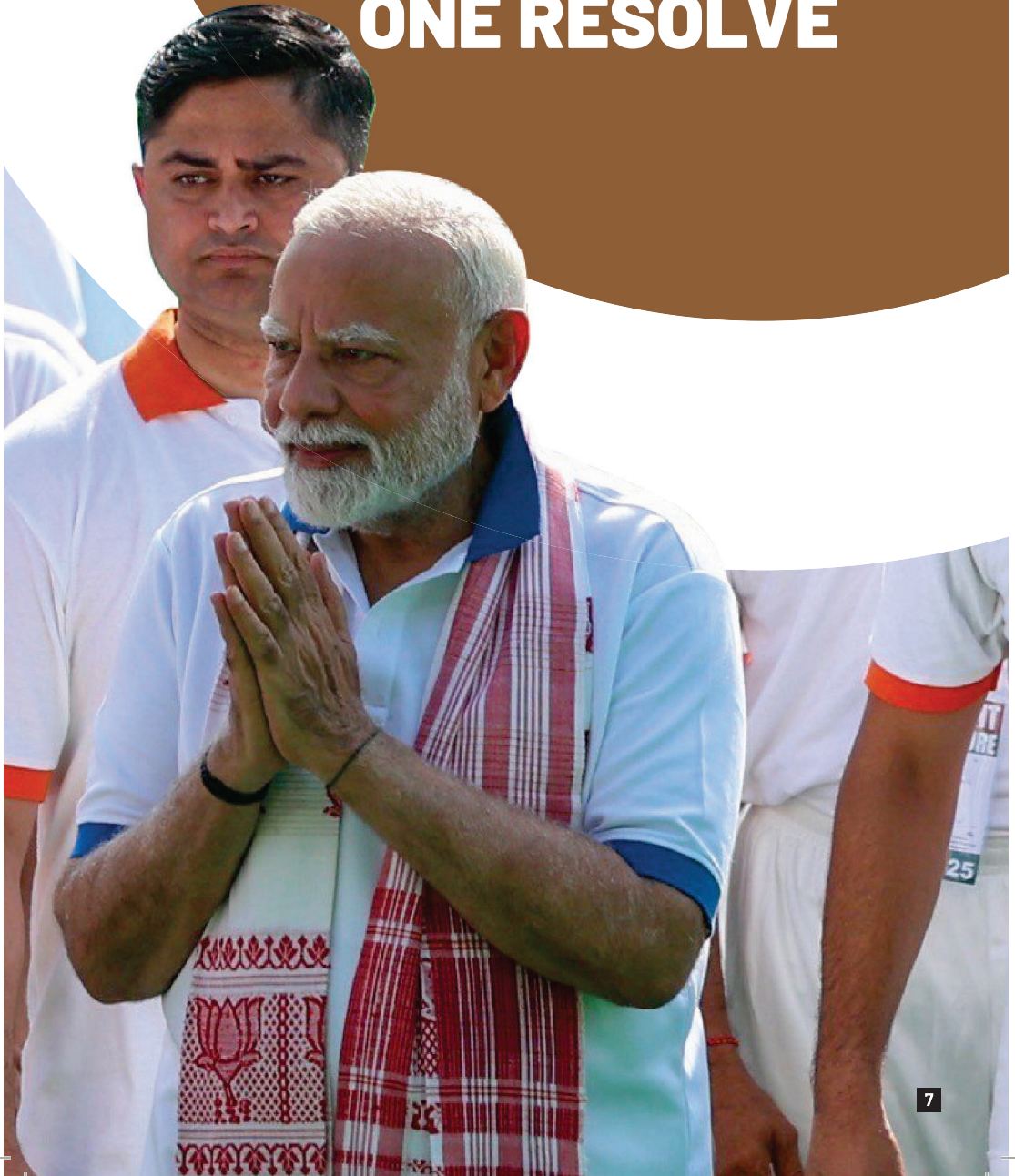






CHAPTER-1

ONE NATION, ONE HERITAGE, ONE RESOLVE



Yuge Yugeen Bharat National Museum

- Essence of 5,000 years of civilization, the world's largest museum
- Strengthening cultural, diplomatic and global identity
- Preservation of historical buildings
- A new dimension to education, research and cultural tourism

Sixth place in UNESCO World Heritage List

- Second place for India in UNESCO's Asia-Pacific region list
- Reflects India's rich heritage and global identity
- Promotes tourism and conservation



11 Classical Languages

- India's 11 classical languages, symbol of rich cultural heritage
- Boosts the preservation of ancient knowledge and literature
- India's historical and cultural heritage gets new recognition at the global level



Grand Statue of Nataraja

- The world's tallest statue of Nataraja—crafted from *Ashtadhatu* (an eight-metal alloy)—is installed at Bharat Mandapam
- It is an excellent example of traditional metal craftsmanship of the Chola era
- Nataraja symbolizes creation and cosmic balance
- A symbol of 'Incredible India'

National Maritime Heritage Complex

- The National Maritime Heritage Complex, currently under construction in Lothal, Gujarat, will showcase India's 5,000-year-old maritime heritage
- The objective of this initiative is to dignify and re-establish India's extensive maritime heritage
- The target for completing the first phase of this project has been set for July 2026

The Importance of Traditional Medicine

- Establishing AYUSH systems at the global level
- Providing leadership in global health issues related to traditional medicine
- Ensuring the quality, safety, effectiveness, and rational use of traditional medicine

44 UNESCO World Heritage Sites

- A Symbol of India's Rich Cultural and Natural Heritage
- Global Recognition for Cultural Heritage
- An Exemplification of India's Commitment to Heritage Conservation



First world-class Archaeological Experience Museum in Vadnagar

- In 2025, India's first Archaeological Experience Museum was established in Vadnagar
- A vast cultural complex spread over approximately 12,500 square meters
- State-of-the-art technology brings ancient civilization to life

Digital Heritage on the Global Stage

- Over 12 lakh antiquities and 11,000+ monuments have been digitally preserved
- This is a major achievement in the digitization of India's cultural heritage
- It promotes research, preservation, and public access
- It empowers heritage preservation through modern technology



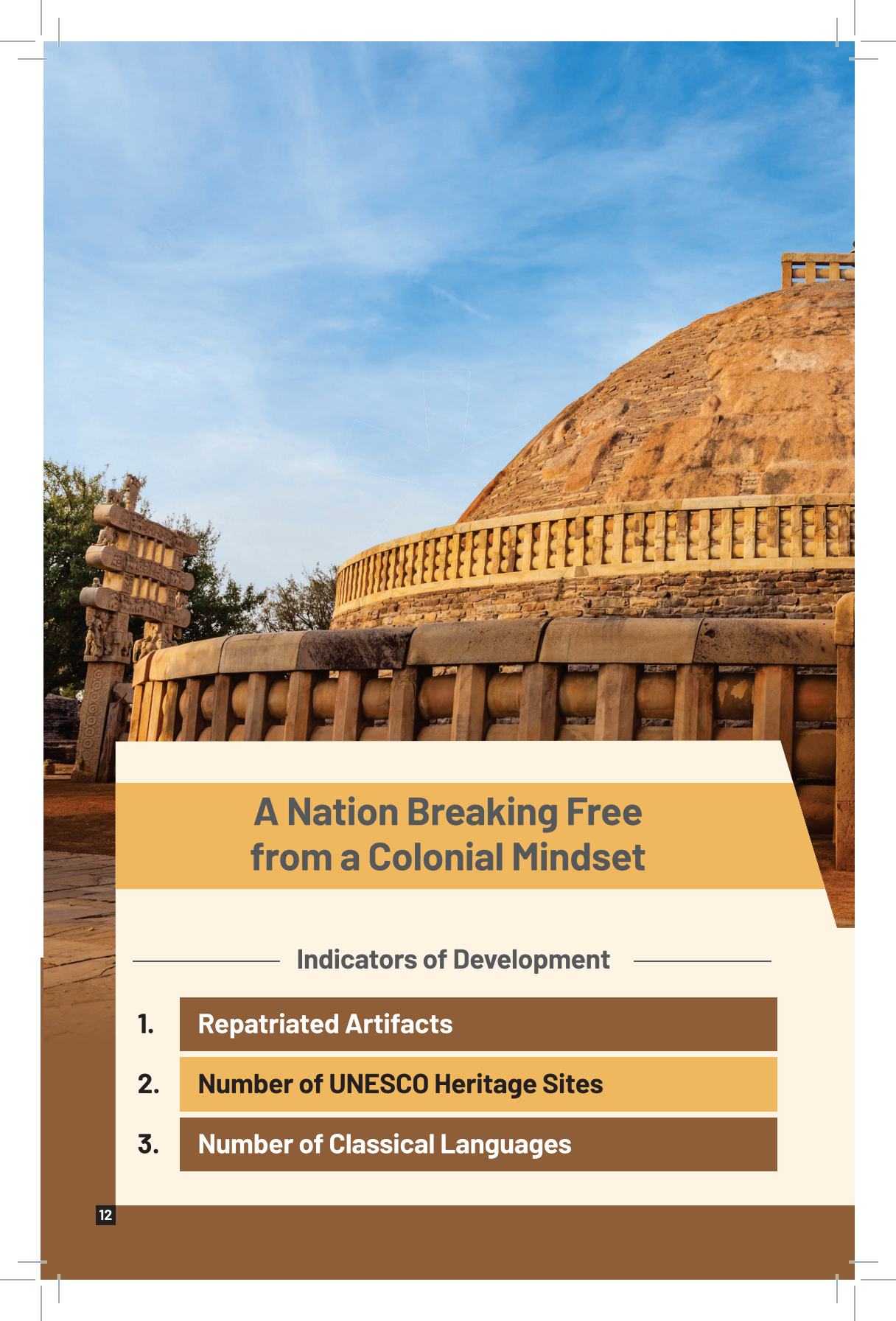
Yoga: India's 'Soft Power'

- More than 3 lakh people participated in the main event of the 11th Yoga Day, held in Visakhapatnam on June 21, 2025
- Two Guinness World Records were set during the 2025 event held in Visakhapatnam
- Yoga camps were organized at over 2,000 locations across 191 countries
- In 2025, more than 13 lakh people registered for yoga events in India
- This reflects global awareness regarding yoga and India's leadership in the field
- India's ancient wisdom receives international recognition



Honouring Tribal Heroes

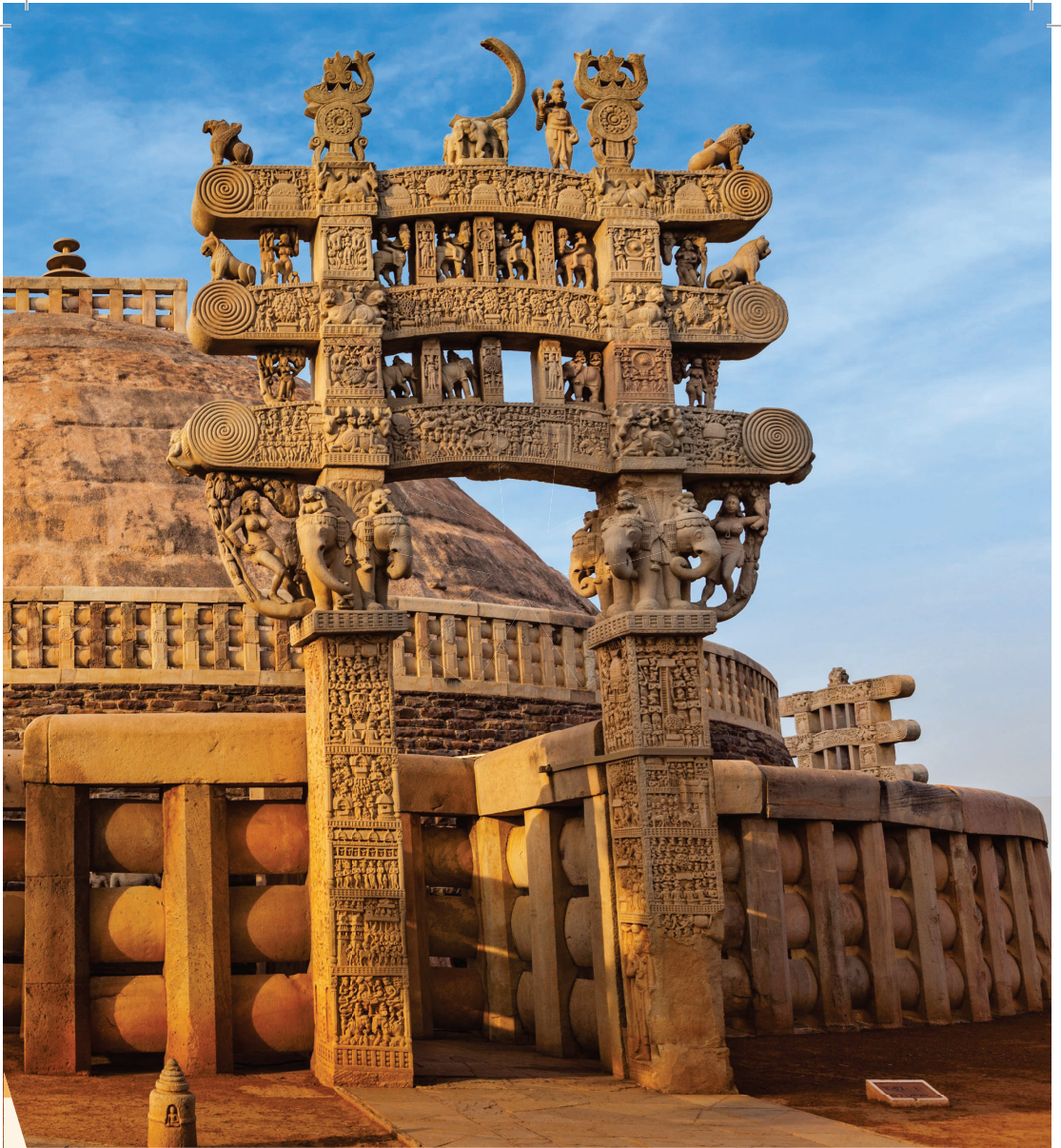
- 11 tribal freedom fighter museums dedicated to tribal heroes
- National recognition accorded to the contributions of tribal heroes
- Promoting the preservation of tribal culture and history
- Symbol of historical justice and cultural inclusion



A Nation Breaking Free from a Colonial Mindset

Indicators of Development

1. **Repatriated Artifacts**
2. **Number of UNESCO Heritage Sites**
3. **Number of Classical Languages**

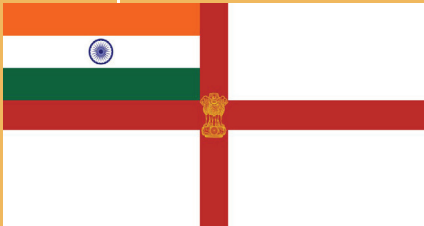



2014	2026
13	668
32	44
6	11

Freedom from a Colonial Mindset

YEAR	THEN	NOW
From Governance to Service		
2016	Race Course Road, New Delhi	Lok Kalyan Marg
2022	Rajpath & Central Vista Lawns (<i>Kingsway</i> was renamed <i>Rajpath</i> in 1947)	Kartavya Path
From Colonial-Era Budgetary Traditions to the Budget of a Atmanirbhar Bharat		
2017-18	Rail Budget (Presented Separately)	Now presented alongwith the Union Budget
2019	Budget carried in a leather briefcase	'Bahi-Khata' (Traditional Ledger)
Colonial names of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands removed		
2018	Ross Island, Andaman & Nicobar	Renamed Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Island
2018	Neil Island, Andaman & Nicobar	Renamed Shaheed Island
2018	Havelock Island, Andaman & Nicobar	Renamed Swaraj Island



YEAR	THEN	NOW
2022	Beating Retreat: Western Musical Instruments	Indian Musical Instruments Added: Sitar, Santoor, Tabla
2022	Indian Navy Ensign featuring St. George's Cross (in use since 1950)	New Ensign: An Octagon in Navy Blue and Gold, in honour of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj
		
2022	Tune 'Abide with Me' played at the 'Beating Retreat' Ceremony	'Ae Mere Watan Ke Logon'
2023	Mughal Gardens, Rashtrapati Bhavan	Amrit Udyan
2023	Sengol, Preserved in Allahabad Museum	Sengol installed near the Speaker's seat in the New Parliament Building
2023	21 unnamed islands of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Renamed after 21 Param Vir Chakra recipients
2024	Port Blair (named after British naval officer Archibald Blair)	Renamed Sri Vijaya Puram
2025	In the history of independent India, no coin had the image of Bharat Mata is depicted on it	A 100-rupee commemorative coin with the image of Bharat Mata was issued

Moving on the path of progress...

A journey of 12 years

The 'Panch Pran' (Five Pledges) of the Amrit Kaal

A Developed India, Freedom from a Colonial Mindset, Pride in Heritage, Unity and Civic Duty

'Adopt a Heritage' scheme

World-class amenities are being developed across 3,697 monuments through CSR initiatives



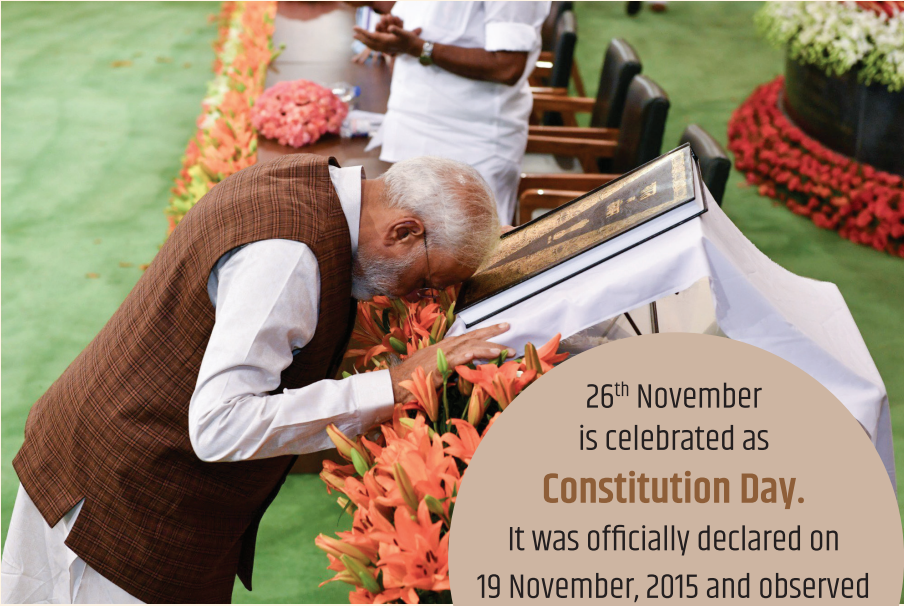
Archaeological Survey of India

the number of protected heritage sites in India has increased along with thousands of national monuments



India hosted the 46th session of the World Heritage Committee taking a leading role in global heritage conservation





26th November
is celebrated as
Constitution Day.
It was officially declared on
19 November, 2015 and observed
annually to mark the
adoption of the
Indian Constitution

Char Dham Road Project

has modernized and
streamlined connectivity to key
religious pilgrimage sites

June 25th has been declared "Constitution Murder Day"

It brings to mind
the 1975 Emergency



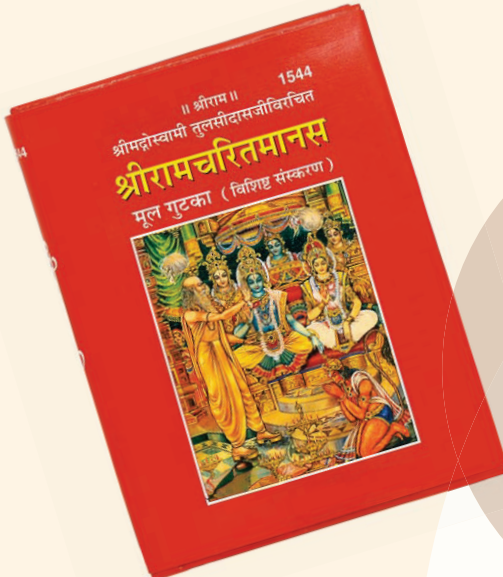
Digitization and
preservation
of heritage
through modern
technology

National Monument and Antiquities Mission

India has increased the
digitization of heritage

HRIDAY scheme is
promoting better facilities
and tourism development in
heritage cities

Pilgrimage Sites are being
developed and conserved
under the
PRASHAD Scheme
with an outlay of over
₹1,700 Crore



India's literary heritage
is honored by including
**Ramcharitmanas,
Panchatantra, and
Sahrdyaloka-Locana**
in MOWCAP

“

If we resolve to completely liberate ourselves from mental slavery, such self-confidence will awaken that no one will be able to stop us from becoming a developed India by 2047.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



Gyan Bharatam Mission

India is leveraging AI and cutting-edge technology to digitize over 1 crore ancient manuscripts. An allocation of ₹483 crore has been made for this landmark initiative

JATAN Software

An initiative by the Ministry of Culture in collaboration with C-DAC Pune to digitally preserve and manage the nation's museums and cultural heritage assets

Abhilekh Patal

A digital repository of the National Archives of India enabling online access to invaluable historical records and documents



Vande Mataram Campaign

The 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram was commemorated through postage stamps, commemorative coins, global outreach programmes, 25 short films, and the nationwide rendition of all six stanzas



Preserving Buddhist Heritage

India successfully halted the auction of 2,500-year-old sacred relics associated with Lord Buddha. The revered Piprahwa relics of Lord Buddha returned to India after 127 years

Celebrating India's Cultural Glory Across the World

- In 2024, the President of Turkmenistan unveiled a statue of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore alongside statues of 24 renowned poets from across the world. The honour was conferred during celebrations marking the 300th birth anniversary of Turkmenistan's national poet
- In June 2024, Suriname and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines celebrated their Indian heritage with great enthusiasm. In Suriname, June 5 is commemorated annually as Indian Arrival Day and Diaspora Day by the Indian community

For the First Time in India...

World Heritage Committee Meeting

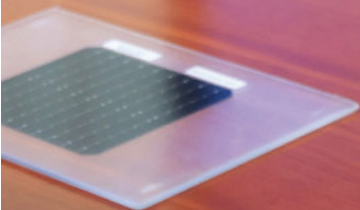
- On July 18, 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 46th Session of the World Heritage Committee at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi
- India hosted this prestigious global meeting for the first time. It manages all matters related to World Heritage and decides which sites to include in the World Heritage List





CHAPTER-2

FROM GREENERY TO PROSPERITY





The Rise of Green Energy

- India accelerated its renewable energy transition, reflecting its deep commitment to nature and sustainable development
- 3.6 times growth since 2014. India ranks third globally in renewable energy
- A record **54 GW** of renewable energy capacity added in Financial Year 2025-26

A New Era of Energy Efficiency

- Large-scale installation of supercritical and ultra-supercritical power units has significantly reduced **CO₂** emissions per unit of electricity generated

207 Lakh Tonnes of Plastic Waste Recycled

- Since the introduction of the 2022 **EPR** guidelines, 207 lakh tonnes of plastic packaging waste has been recycled

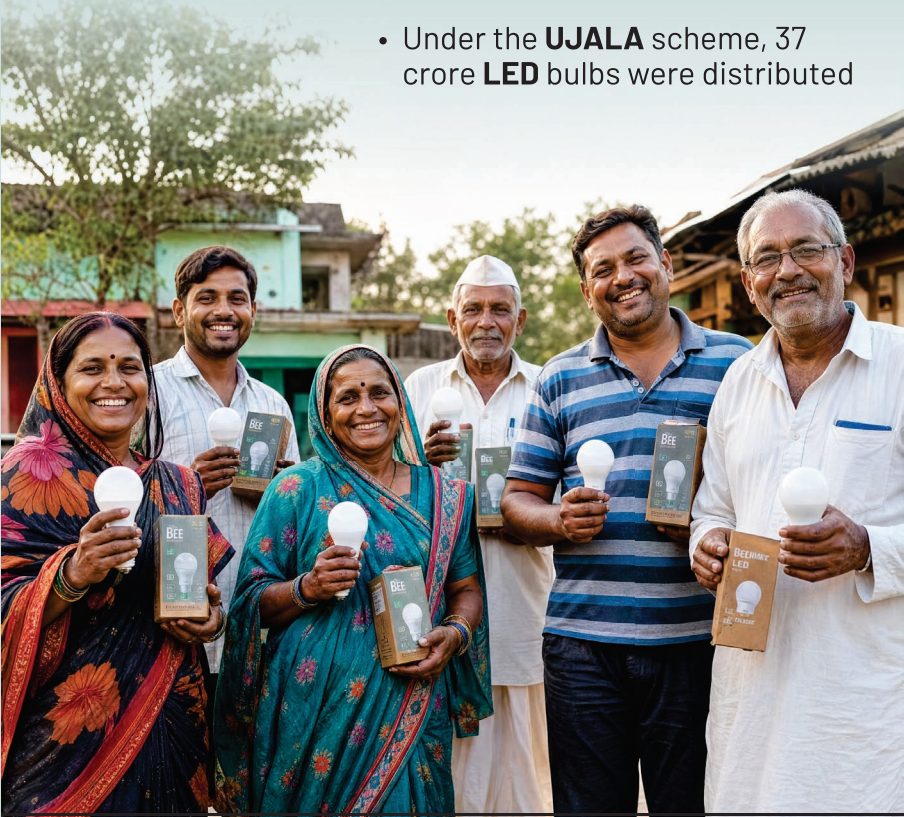
India Accelerates the EV Revolution

- With sales of 24.5 lakh **EV** in Financial Year 2025-26, India is emerging as one of the world's fastest-growing **EV** markets



LED Revolution

- Under the **UJALA** scheme, 37 crore **LED** bulbs were distributed



1,990 Crore Litres of Ethanol Capacity

- India's ethanol production capacity reached 1,990 crore litres by 2025
- Ethanol blending in petrol increased from 1.5% in 2014 to nearly 20% today
- This has resulted in foreign exchange savings of over ₹1.8 lakh crore

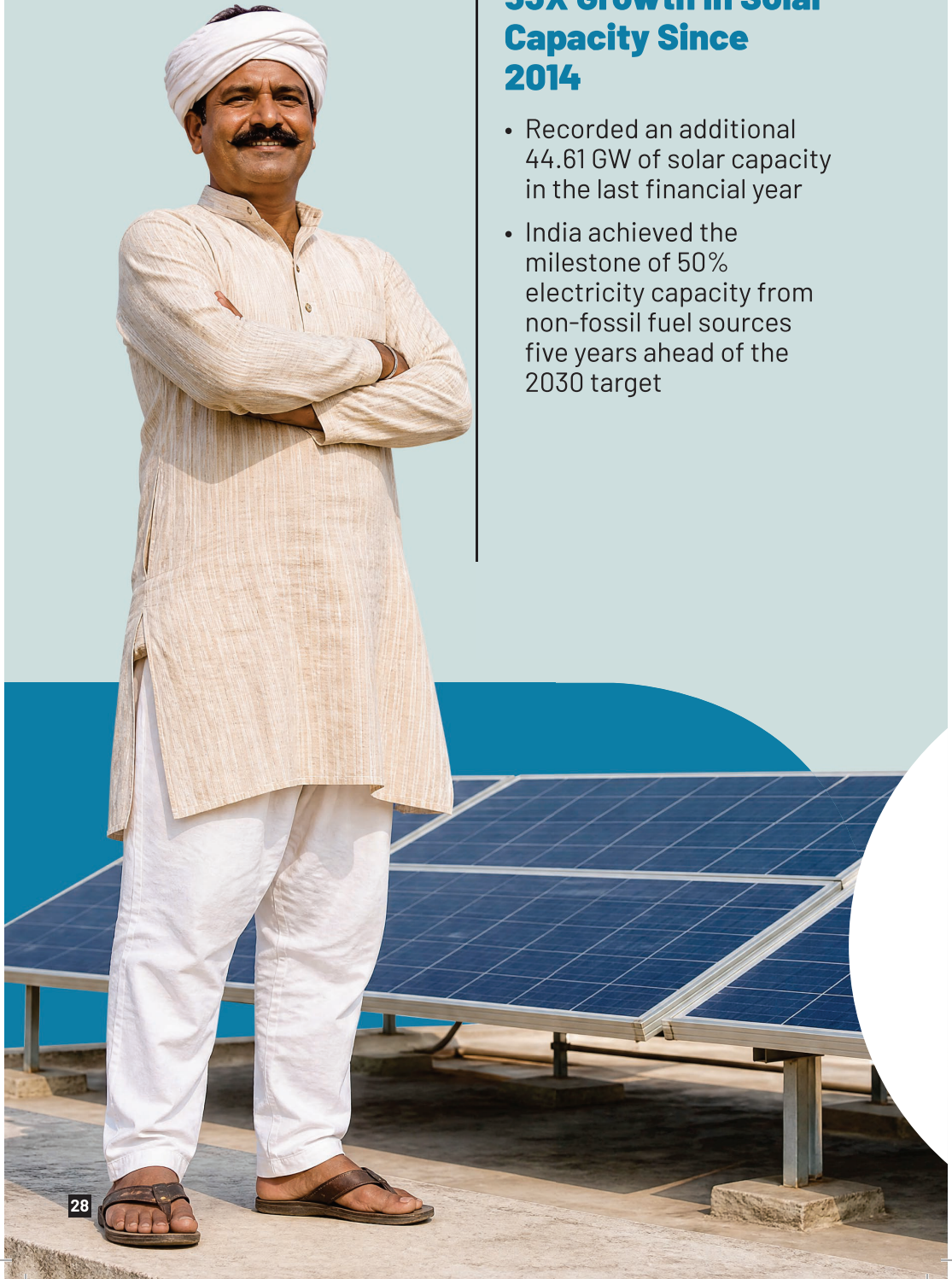
500% Increase in Solid Waste Processing Capacity Since 2014

- Massive expansion in waste processing capacity has strengthened environmental protection across the country



64% Reduction in Diesel Consumption

- Railway electrification since 2016-17 has led to a 64% reduction in diesel consumption in Indian Railways



53X Growth in Solar Capacity Since 2014

- Recorded an additional 44.61 GW of solar capacity in the last financial year
- India achieved the milestone of 50% electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel sources five years ahead of the 2030 target



FASTag

From Long Queues to Seamless Mobility

- **FASTag** has reduced waiting time at toll plazas by 93%
- Average waiting time has come down from 12 minutes to less than 47 seconds
- This has led to fuel savings worth crores of rupees annually

Nearly 37 lakh Homes Illuminated Under PM Surya Ghar Scheme

Free electricity scheme empowering households

- Installed capacity under the scheme reached 10.87 GW, with subsidies worth ₹19,480 crore released to beneficiaries



Increase in energy efficiency

Indicators of development

1. **Expansion in Renewable Energy Capacity**
2. **Record Growth in Solar Energy Capacity**
3. **Increase in Wind Energy Generation Capacity**
4. **Rapid Expansion of Solar Power Generation**
5. **Major Growth in Wind Turbine Manufacturing Capacity**
6. **Rise in Solar Module Manufacturing Capacity**
7. **Ethanol Blending Capacity**

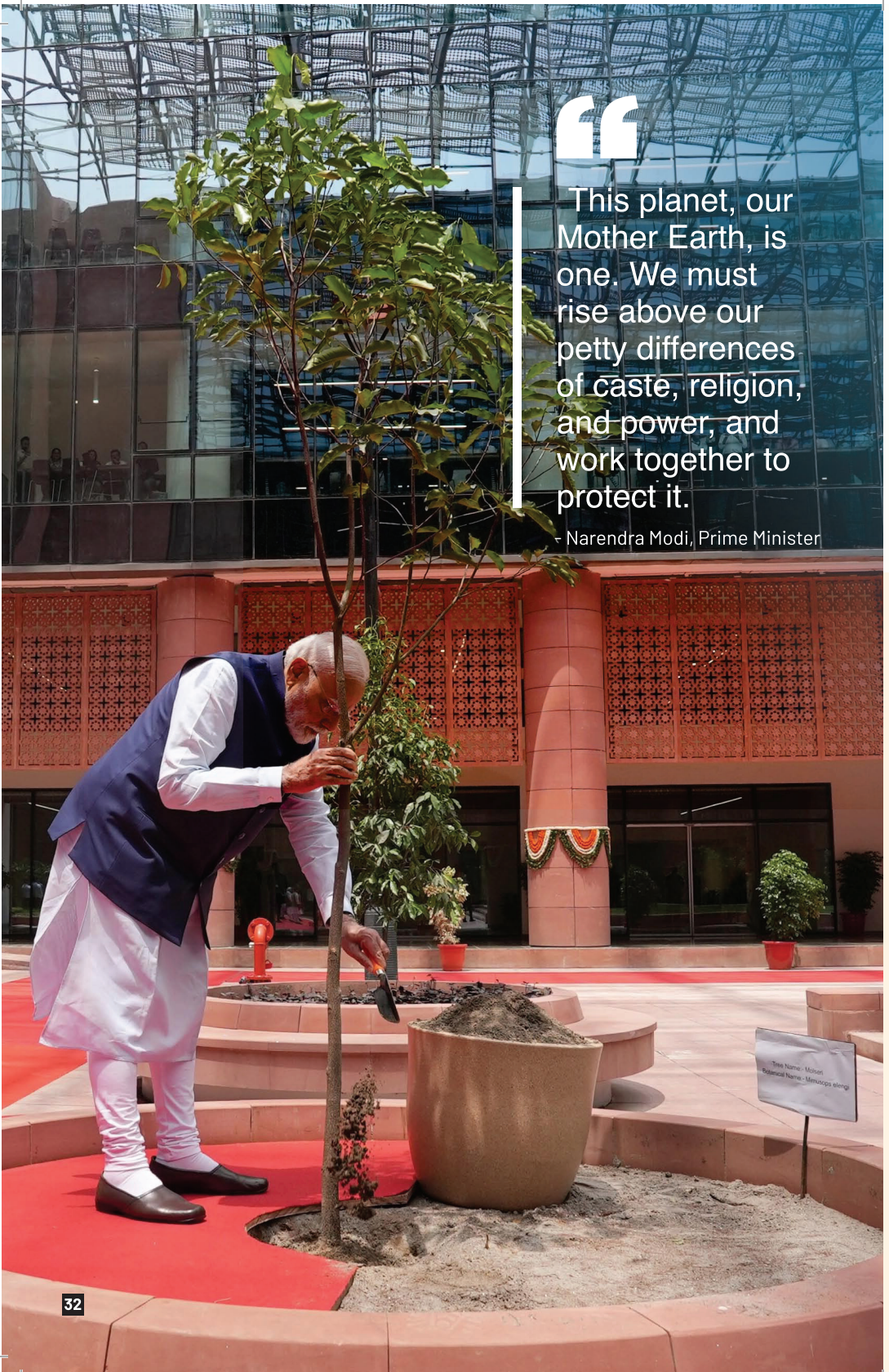


2014 (Then)	2026 (Now)
76 GW	283 GW
2.82 GW	150.26 GW
21 GW	56.09 GW
2.3 GW	172 GW
10 GW	24 GW
4,780 MW	8,780 MW
1-1.5%	20%

“

This planet, our Mother Earth, is one. We must rise above our petty differences of caste, religion, and power, and work together to protect it.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



Moving on the path of progress...

A journey of 12 years

Mission LiFE

launched by Prime Minister Modi at COP26, was unanimously adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly in 2024, reinforcing India's leadership in promoting sustainable lifestyles globally

Before 2014, India was often seen as a reluctant voice in environmental discussions. But now India is considered to be a global leader in environmental issues

The **World Economic Forum** has encouraged countries to learn from India's development model to achieve more effective climate action outcomes

Prime Minister Narendra Modi received the United Nations

'Champions of the Earth'

award, the organisation's highest honour for global leadership in environmental conservation and sustainable development



Since the 2015 Paris Agreement, India and the United States have made substantial progress in advancing shared climate goals and clean energy partnerships



United Nations
Secretary-General
**António
Guterres
praised**

India's climate initiatives, describing them as "fantastic"

India and France jointly launched the **International Solar Alliance**, benefiting nearly 100 crore people with affordable and clean solar energy



Under the **Swachh Bharat Mission**, toilets reached nearly every rural household, significantly improving sanitation, public health, and dignity



PM Ujjwala Yojana

freed lakhs of women from smoke-filled kitchens, transforming the quality of life in rural households

Under the PM Kusum Yojana,

farmers provided with 25+ lakh solar pumps by March 2022.

An increase of 118 times in number of pumps provided



In Rajasthan, one of the world's largest solar parks was developed, strengthening India's position as a global renewable energy powerhouse



FAME Scheme

Incentives provided for the purchase of around 20 lakh electric vehicles; **5,500+ e-buses** deployed under this scheme

Following its Net Zero declaration, India launched **Carbon Credit Trading Scheme**

intensifying its focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and individuals can voluntarily participate in it

India has raised its renewable energy generation targets for 2035. The country now aims to achieve 60% non-fossil fuel-based electricity capacity, reduce carbon emissions by 47%, and create an additional carbon sink of 350 to 400 crore tonnes through expanded forest and tree cover

To strengthen clean energy infrastructure, ₹20,000 crore has been allocated over the next five years for carbon emission reduction initiatives.

Renewable energy received a 24% increase in budgetary allocation, with a strong push for batteries and other clean energy technologies

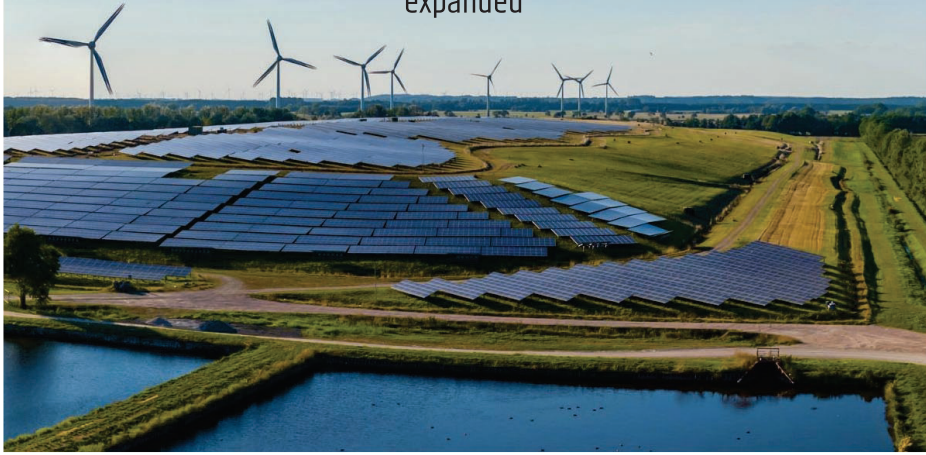


SHANTI Act 2025

Now private sector participation has been opened up in the nuclear energy sector. A target of 100 GW has been set for 2047

Green Energy Corridor programme

regions with a renewable energy potential of 345 GW have been identified, while transmission infrastructure is being rapidly expanded



National Green Hydrogen Mission

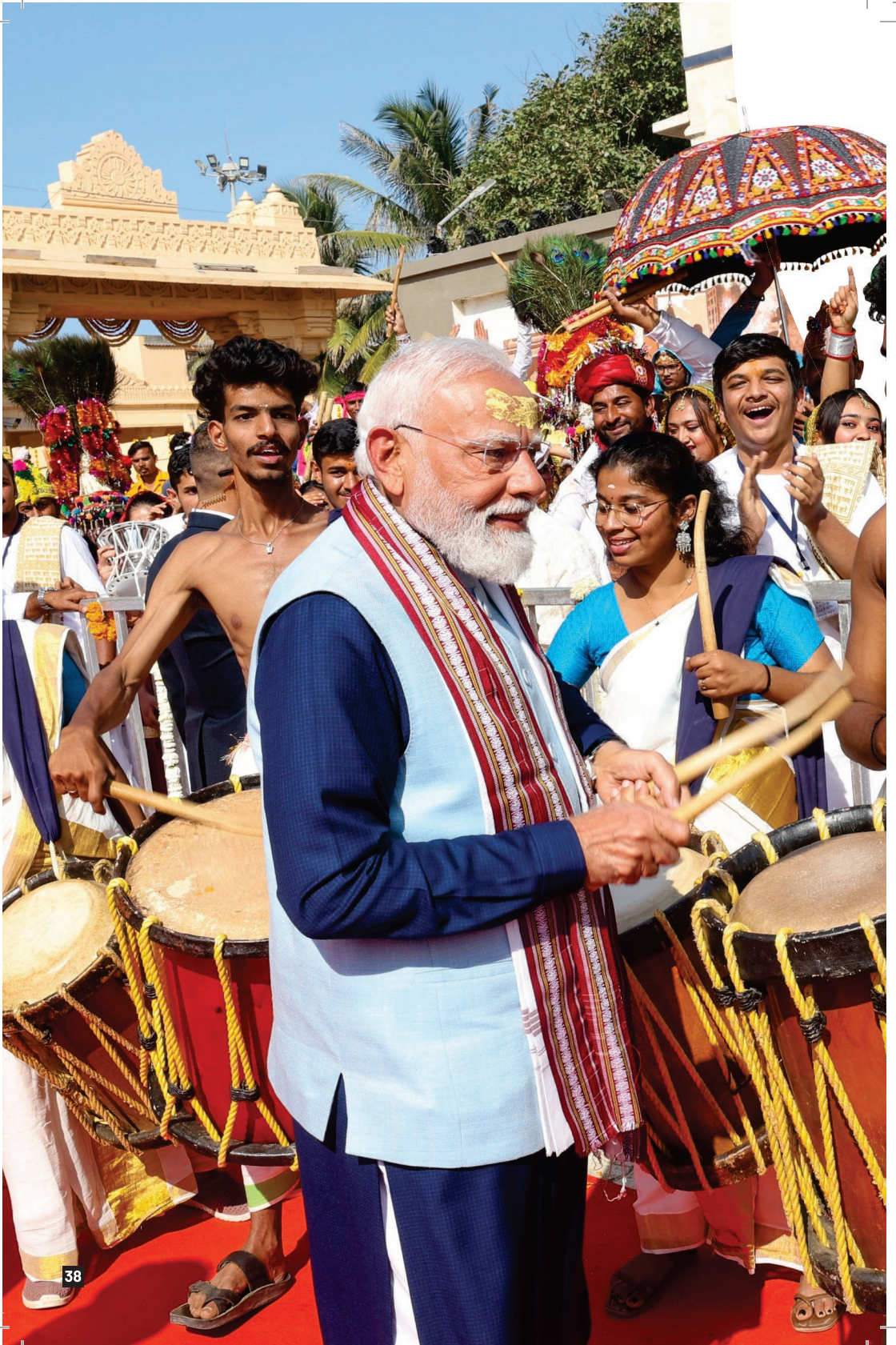
Green Hydrogen Certification System has been launched. A total of 122 standards have been adopted to regulate and strengthen the entire hydrogen value chain



Geothermal Energy Policy 2025

Aims to accelerate the exploration, development, and large-scale utilization of geothermal energy across the country





CHAPTER-3

CULTURAL RENAISSANCE



Taking India's Cultural Heritage to the World

- 210 cultural delegations promoted India's rich cultural heritage across the globe
- Under 21 schemes, over 4,000 scholarships are awarded annually to students from 192 countries

Sacred Relics of Lord Buddha Return to India

- The sacred relics of Lord Buddha, discovered in 1898 at Piprahwa in Uttar Pradesh, were brought back to India

'Har Ghar Tiranga' Becomes a People's Movement

- In 2022, the Tricolour was hoisted at over 23 crore homes across the country
- The fourth edition of 'Har Ghar Tiranga' in 2025 witnessed the upload of 75 lakh selfies with the National Flag
- 18 crore pledges were taken for 'Swachh Sujal Gaon', making it one of the world's largest citizen-led participatory movements for clean and water-secure villages



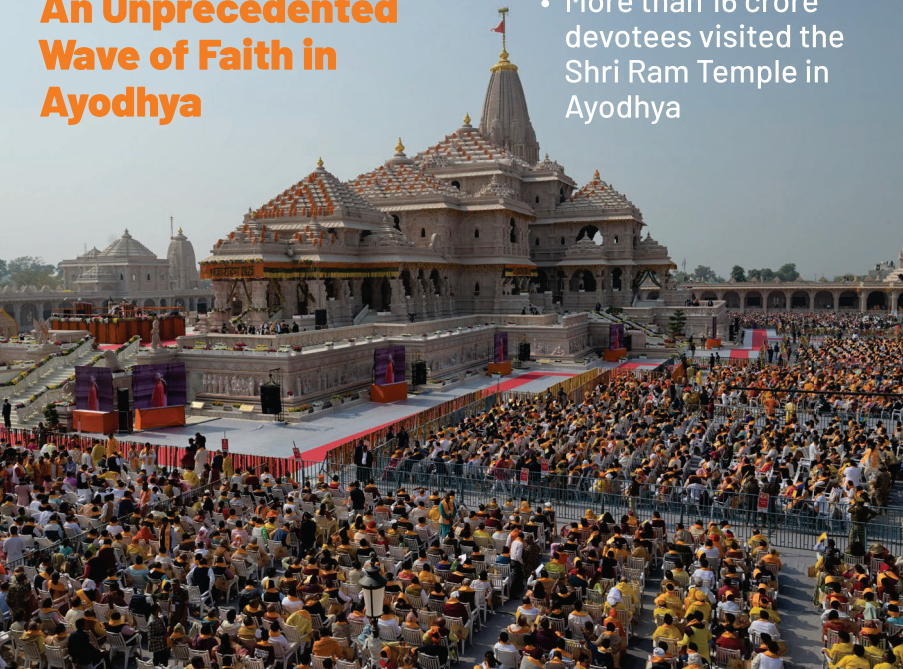
Spiritual Tourism Strengthening the Economy

- Contributes nearly 2.5% to India's GDP



An Unprecedented Wave of Faith in Ayodhya

- More than 16 crore devotees visited the Shri Ram Temple in Ayodhya



Statue of Unity Emerges as a Global Attraction

- Attracted over 2.5 crore tourists by October 2025



Global Recognition for Yoga

- In December 2014, with the support of 177 countries, the United Nations declared 21st June as the International Day of Yoga – the highest support ever received for a proposal in **UNGA** history



Mahakumbh 2025: A Historic Gathering of Faith

- Witnessed the participation of more than 66 crore devotees

Kalagram: A New Centre for Art and Culture

- A dedicated cultural complex developed by the ministry of culture across 10.24 acres in Prayagraj

Remarkable Success of the Swadesh Darshan Scheme

- 75 projects were completed with an impressive 99% delivery rate



First ₹100 Commemorative Coin Dedicated to Bharat Mata

- For the first time in independent India, a commemorative coin dedicated to Bharat Mata was issued
- To mark the glorious 100-year journey of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, the Government of India also released a special postage stamp and commemorative coin
- The ₹100 coin features the national emblem on one side and on the other side is a grand image of Bharat Mata in Varada Mudra (boon-granting posture) with a lion, being revered by RSS volunteers



Promotion of Indian Languages

- Under the Indian Language Book Scheme, 22,000 textbooks have been prepared in 22 Indian languages



A New Chapter in Cultural Renaissance

Development Benchmarks

1. **Increase in Cultural Investment**
2. **Devotees Visiting Kashi Vishwanath Dham**
3. **Kedarnath Temple: A Growing Centre of Faith**
4. **Rising Participation in the Char Dham Yatra**
5. **Historic Participation in the Kumbh Mela**



2014 (Then)	2026 (Now)
₹2,094 Crore	₹3,550 Crore
55 Lakh	1.47 Crore
40,000 Devotees	16 Lakhs Devotees
24 Lakhs Devotees	54 Lakhs Devotees
12 Crore	66 Crore

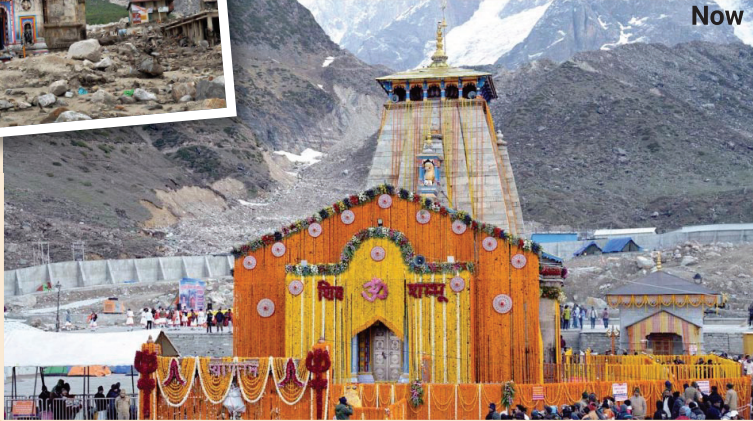
Somnath



Maa Kalika Devi Pavagarh



Kedarnath



Shri Ram Temple



Forging Ahead on the Path of Progress... A Journey of 12 Years

The World's Tallest Nataraja Statue at Bharat Mandapam

A Grand Symbol of India's Cultural
Consciousness and Spiritual Heritage

Grand Celebration of the Adi Thiruvathirai Festival

Held in 2025 at Gangaikonda
Cholapuram to commemorate the
birth anniversary of the Chola Emperor
Rajendra Chola I



The Sengol Receives National Honour

On August 14, 1947, the Sengol
was handed over to Pandit
Jawaharlal Nehru; in 2023, it was
installed in the new Parliament
building

The Religious Flag of the Ram Temple

The Sun—emblazoned with golden
threads—and the symbol of the
Kovidaar tree convey a message
of Indian tradition, spirituality, and
prosperity



Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat

Cultural exchange among all States and Union Territories lends new strength to national unity

The Kashi Vishwanath Corridor emerges as a hub of cultural consciousness

Devotees arriving from across the country have established it as a powerful symbol of India's civilizational identity

Construction of Grand Temple Corridors

Pilgrimage sites such as Kashi Vishwanath, Mahakal Lok, and Kamakhya developed as modern spiritual and economic hubs



Honouring Unsung Heroes

Padma Awards – In these prestigious honors, greater emphasis is placed on service and contribution than on status; the nomination process is open to ordinary citizens



National Mission on Cultural Mapping

Comprehensive digital documentation of India's folk traditions, arts, and heritage, including 'Mera Gaon Meri Dharohar' (My Village, My Heritage)

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

A grand celebration of patriotism through public participation, marking the completion of 75 years of independence

Kashi Tamil Sangamam

It emerged as the world's largest cultural event, bridging the ancient cultural streams of the Ganga and Dravidian civilizations

India's Growing Recognition in UNESCO World Heritage

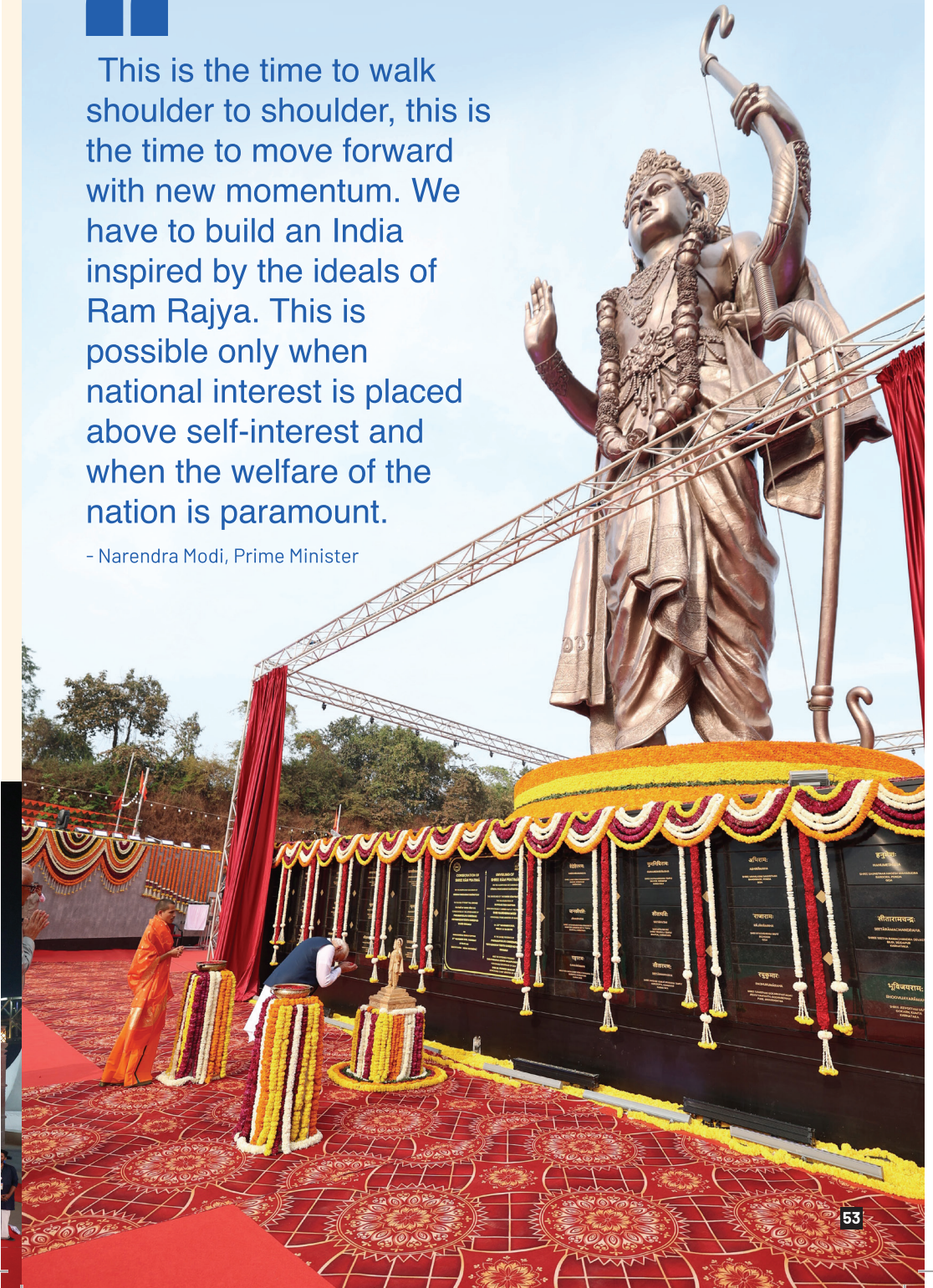
With the inclusion of new sites every year since 2014, India has joined the ranks of the world's leading nations in terms of heritage sites



“

This is the time to walk shoulder to shoulder, this is the time to move forward with new momentum. We have to build an India inspired by the ideals of Ram Raja. This is possible only when national interest is placed above self-interest and when the welfare of the nation is paramount.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



Global Engagement Scheme

India's rich cultural heritage finds representation on the global stage through three powerful mediums:

- The 'Festival of India' showcases the country's artistic and civilizational heritage to a global audience
- Assistance provided to Indo-Foreign Friendship Cultural Societies strengthens people-to-people ties
- Contributions extended to inter-governmental organizations reinforce multilateral cultural engagement
- Together, these three pillars present India's distinct cultural identity on the global stage, strengthen international relations, and render tourism meaningful and purposeful



Somnath Swabhiman Parv

Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived at the Somnath Temple in Gujarat

On this occasion, PM Modi stated that this site stands as a living symbol of the continuity of India's spiritual faith and cultural heritage

- He performed the Mahapuja and Kumbhabhishek, thereby reaffirming India's spiritual traditions and civilizational glory
- The Somnath Swabhiman Parv (May 8–11, 2026) was celebrated as a commemoration marking 1,000 years since the first recorded attack on the Somnath Temple in 1026
- The present-day Somnath Temple was reopened to devotees on May 11, 1951; the year 2026 marks the completion of 75 years since that event

Somnath Amrit Mahotsav

PM Modi participated in the Somnath Amrit Mahotsav



Budget 2026-27

- A pilot scheme for the skill development of 10,000 tourist guides across 20 iconic tourist destinations
- Upgradation of the National Council for Hotel Management and Catering Technology into the 'National Institute of Hospitality'
- Creation of a National Destination Digital Knowledge Grid
- Development of 15 archaeological sites as public tourist destinations
- Incentives and Viability Gap Funding for the indigenous manufacturing of seaplanes to boost regional air connectivity and tourism







CHAPTER-4

CONSERVATION OF FORESTS AND WILDLIFE



India Ranks First with 99 Ramsar Sites

- India's Ramsar network has expanded by more than 276%, increasing from 26 sites in 2014 to 99 sites at present

More than 1 lakh Eco-Clubs

- More than 1 lakh Eco-Clubs are functioning across the country

6 crore people participated in Mission LiFE activities

- By December 2025, more than 6 crore people participated in over 34 lakh programmes and 4.96 crore pledges were taken

India ranks third globally in terms of annual forest growth

- India ranks 9th globally in total forest area, and 5th among the top countries in carbon sinks

Over 200 crore tonnes of carbon sink created

- More than 200 crore tonnes of carbon sink have been created through forest cover in the country

Aravalli Green Wall Campaign

- In the first year of the Aravalli Green Wall Campaign, 36,000 hectares of land were restored to greenery

Expanding scope of tiger conservation

- Spread over 85,000 square kilometers, the tiger reserves constitute 2.3% of the country's total land area
- Number of tiger reserves have increased to 58 from 46 in 2014



Steps Towards a Green India

- Forests and trees now cover more than 25% of the country's land area

620 Urban Forests

- 620 urban forests have been created in 28 states and 3 Union Territories



Mangrove Restoration

- Planting and restoration work has been carried out over more than 22,000 hectares of degraded mangrove areas

Expansion of Biodiversity Conservation Areas

- More than 5% of the country's area has been designated as protected areas to conserve biodiversity

'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' (A Tree in the Name of Mother)

- Under the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign, over 260 crore saplings have been planted



Impact of the last 12 years of the NDA government

Development-related Statistics

- 1. Increase in the number of Ramsar Sites**
- 2. Increase in the tiger population**
- 3. Incidents of rhino poaching**
- 4. Increase in the leopard population**
- 5. Expansion of protected areas in the country**
- 6. Increase in Forest CO₂ Absorption Capacity**

After 70 Years Return of the Cheetah to India

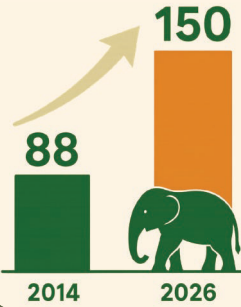


0
2014

30

2026
(Till 2025)

Increase in the Number of Elephant Corridors



2014 (Then)

2026 (Now)

26	99
2,200	3,600
43	0
7,000	13,000
700	1,100 (Till 2025)
6.6 Gigatonnes	7.2 Gigatonnes

Forging Ahead on the Path of Progress...

A Journey of 12 Years

In 2025, the proposal submitted by **India at Ramsar**—aimed at "promoting the wise and sustainable use of wetlands"—was accepted

In 2025, at the seventh session of the **United Nations Environment Assembly**, India's proposal regarding the "better management of wildfires worldwide" was adopted

In 2024, India achieved a major milestone by satellite-tagging a **Ganges dolphin** for the first time in Assam

The **International Big Cat Alliance**, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2023, has garnered support from numerous countries across the world





Lakhs of people across the country joined the **"Save Wetlands Campaign"** launched for the proper utilization of wetlands and the protection of Ramsar Sites

Vultures play a crucial role in maintaining a healthy environment. They prevent the spread of diseases. To save the declining vulture population, several vulture breeding centers have been established in India

The **"MISHTI"** initiative, launched to redevelop mangrove forests along India's coastlines, achieves major success



Launched in 2015, the National Mission on Himalayan Studies has emerged as a major hub for the sustainable development of the Himalayan region

Under the Green Skill Development Programme—initiated to foster green and environment-related skills across the country—lakhs of students have received training

In 2021, India launched the National Marine Turtle Action Plan to protect marine turtles and their habitats

The National Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Strategy and Action Plan has been formulated to reduce conflict between humans and wild animals

In 2019, India became the first country to launch a

Cooling Action Plan

This will reduce cooling requirements, conserve energy, and promote new technologies





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India must remember the
mantra 'Prakriti Rakshati
Rakshitah' - meaning, nature
protects those who protect
nature

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



**A new scheme
has been launched to
ensure the safety of
tigers outside Tiger
Reserves and to mitigate
human-wildlife
conflict**

Madhya Pradesh's Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary and Gujarat's Banni Grasslands have been selected as new sites for cheetah rehabilitation

The foundation stone for the National Wildlife Referral Centre was laid in Junagadh to improve wildlife health management

A Gharial Conservation Project has been launched to boost their declining population

A National Implementation Framework for the Conservation of Sloth Bears has been launched



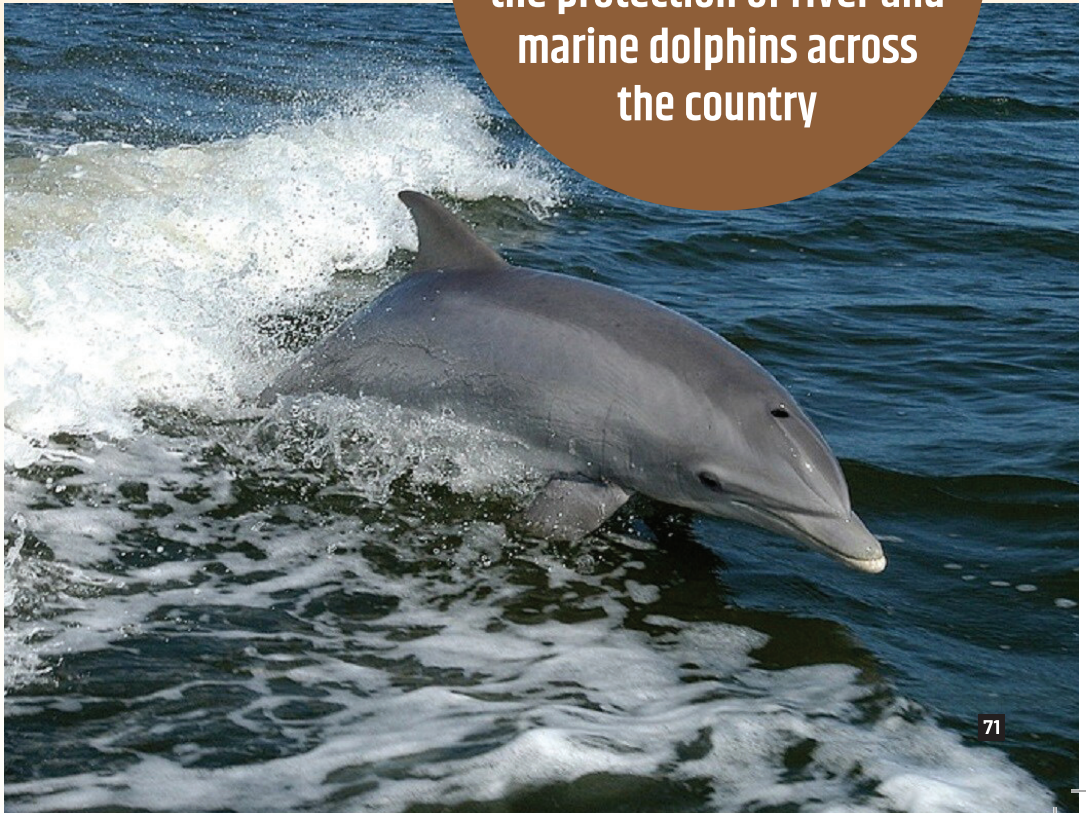
**A National Conservation
Action Plan has been
launched to enhance
the protection of the
Great Indian Bustard**

PARIVESH 2.0

A new digital platform by this name has been launched, making the monitoring and management of clearances related to the environment, forests, wildlife, and coastal areas easier



The Action Plan for Project Dolphin (Phase-2) has been implemented to strengthen the protection of river and marine dolphins across the country



A next-generation DNA sequencing facility has been launched at the **Wildlife Institute of India** in Dehradun to facilitate better research on wildlife and strengthen conservation plans

Under the **Forest (Conservation and Augmentation) Amendment Rules, 2025**, the process of establishing land banks for plantation on degraded and government forest land has been simplified



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When new generations connect with their history, their faith, and their cultural values, the nation's inner strength is further fortified. Be it modernity or heritage, in India, no one can separate the two. In India, they are not mutually exclusive; rather, they are forces that advance together.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister





GOVERNMENT OF INDIA