

# Modi meets leading business leaders in Malaysia, praises their role in 'Indian growth story'

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**KUALA LUMPUR:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday interacted with four leading industry leaders of Malaysia and appreciated the strong interest of the companies in the "Indian growth story."  
 "Prime Minister appreciated the growing B2B connections between India and Malaysia and the strong interest of Malaysian companies in the Indian growth story," a statement issued by the Ministry of External Affairs said.  
 Modi met with Tengku Muhammad Taufik, President and Group CEO of PETRONAS; Vincent Tan Chee Yoon, Founder of Berjaya Corporation; Amirul Feisal Wan Zahir, Managing Director of Khazanah Nasional Berhad; and Pua Khein Seng, Founder of Phison Electronics.  
 In his meeting with Tengku Muhammad Taufik, the Prime Minister discussed "strengthening energy part-



nerships and new opportunities in renewables and clean fuel, including green hydrogen and green ammonia," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal posted on social media. PETRONAS has a three-decade presence in India with a diversified portfolio across LNG, petrochemicals and emerging green energy solutions, he added.  
 Vincent Tan Chee Yoon conveyed to the PM that he looks forward to deepening Berjaya's footprint in India's dynamic services and consumer sectors, while Pua

Khein Seng spoke on Phison's desire to participate in the fast-growing tech and innovation ecosystem in India, including the semiconductor industry, he said.  
 In his meeting with the PM, Amirul Feisal Wan Zahir spoke about India's "economic transformation and its place as a high-potential market for investments," he added.  
 Modi highlighted the initiatives and reforms undertaken in India in recent years to promote ease-of-doing-business and create a stable, efficient and predictable business and policy

environment.  
 He called on businesses in Malaysia to explore the opportunities offered by India, particularly in the areas of infrastructure, renewable energy, digital technology, semiconductors, AI, and healthcare, among others.  
 The industry leaders appreciated the reforms

undertaken by the Government of India while expressing strong confidence in India's growth story.  
 "They conveyed their keen interest in increasing their business presence in India by expanding their investment portfolios and exploring joint ventures with Indian counterparts," it said.  
 Modi also interacted with CEOs from India and Malaysia.  
 "The CEO Forum has opened new opportunities in trade and investment for both our nations," he said.  
 PM Modi commended the convening of the 10th India-Malaysia CEO Forum in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday and expressed optimism that its deliberations will lead to deepening India-Malaysia trade and investment ties.

# PM protected interest of farmers, workers: BJP chief on India-US trade deal

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**NEW DELHI:** BJP chief Nitin Nabin on Sunday said that the Modi government "diplomatically and patiently" made the trade deal with the US, ensuring the interests of the farmers and workers remain protected.  
 Nabin said this at Ramleela Maidan while flagging off 500 e-buses along with Chief Minister Rekha Gupta and her Cabinet ministers.  
 The Modi government "diplomatically and patiently" made a trade deal with the US, said the BJP president.  
 "I congratulate Prime Minister Narendra Modi for this deal. He has protected the interests of the farmers, workers and enhanced the self-respect of the country," Nabin said.  
 He also congratulated the



Delhi chief minister, saying the 500 e-buses were a gift for the Delhi people who on February 8 last year handed over a massive victory to the BJP in Assembly polls. The BJP defeated AAP in the Assembly polls, winning 48 of the 70 Assembly seats, in the results announced on February 8, 2025.

The BJP government in Delhi has in last one year worked with zero tolerance towards corruption, accountable decision making and promoting digital governance, he said, lauding various initiatives such as the implementation of Ayushman Bharat Health Scheme.  
 The previous government in Delhi depended on "excuses", while the BJP government now believes in performance and working for the people.  
 The change is visible under the government run by the BJP, which always works to ensure creating hope and taking development to their doorsteps, he said, citing Atal Canteens opened in Delhi for meals to the needy people at a nominal price of Rs 5 per person.

# India aims for self-reliance in fruits, vegetables, flowers: Chouhan

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**BENGALURU:** Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Sunday said India has set a clear target of achieving self-reliance in the production of fruits, vegetables, and flowers, asserting that imports in these sectors would no longer be necessary.  
 Addressing a review meeting with officials at the ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IHR) here, Chouhan said the focus was on identifying high-demand crops and ensuring that their domestic production is profitable for farmers.  
 Outlining the government's approach, the minister said, "Our target is simple. We will not import fruits, flowers, and vegetables. We have to become self-reliant in these areas."  
 The Union Minister for Rural Development, Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare added that India had already made significant progress, calling current production levels "historic".  
 Referring to crops previously dependent on imports, Chouhan said, "We were importing avocados; now we have started producing them."  
 He stressed the need to extend this approach to other emerging crops, adding, "We have to become self-reliant in dragon fruits."  
 The minister said officials had been directed to identify fruits that must be produced domestically and promote their cultivation among farmers.

"I have told officials to identify fruits that need to be produced in India. We will encourage farmers to grow them," he said, underlining that profitability would be the key driver.  
 "Farmers will take up production only if it is profitable," he added.  
 On vegetables, Chouhan said India does not face any compulsion to import. "In terms of vegetables, there is no need for imports," he said.  
 Highlighting post-harvest challenges, the minister said shelf life remained a major concern for farmers.  
 "Another problem faced by our farmers is shelf life. They want to increase the shelf life of tomatoes," Chouhan said, adding that similar demands were emerging for other crops.  
 "Now they are asking to extend the shelf life of custard apples," he said.  
 Reiterating the broader vision, Chouhan said self-reliance in agriculture was essential for a self-reliant India.  
 "To achieve this, we have to be self-reliant in vegetables and flowers as well. We will not import them," he said, adding that research would focus on farmer-friendly varieties capable of delivering profits.  
 Earlier, speaking at the three-day International Trade Fair 2026, Chouhan said the government's focus is not only on production but also on value addition and exploring new markets to boost farmers' income.  
 He lauded the Karnataka

government for its performance in implementing the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme and for leading pigeon pea (tur daal/togari) production.  
 "The quality of pigeon peas, especially the 'Bheema' variety, is excellent. The taste is just marvellous. However, the per-hectare productivity is below the national average and needs to be increased," Chouhan said.  
 The minister assured Karnataka Agriculture Minister N Chaluvarayaswamy that the Government of India would support the state's efforts to increase pulse production.  
 He also stressed the importance of using quality seeds and proposed the establishment of 25 'seed villages' in the state where farmers would grow only seeds.  
 "If you encourage farmers through 'model demonstrations', we will provide an incentive of Rs 10,000 per hectare," Chouhan said.  
 He announced that Rs 25 lakh would be provided by the Centre to set up 'daal mills' in Karnataka and sanctioned Rs 191 crore to the state under the Pulse Mission. "I have not come to Karnataka empty-handed. Under the Pulse Mission, I have brought a sanction letter for Rs 191 crore. Along with this, Rs 154 crore under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) will also be released soon," he said.

# ICC deputy chair arrives in Lahore for talks with PCB over India match boycott

**■ AGENCY**  
**KARACHI:** Imran Khwaja, deputy chair of the International Cricket Council, arrived in Lahore on Sunday evening for crucial talks with PCB officials as efforts to resolve the standoff over Pakistan's proposed boycott of the high stakes T20 World Cup match against India gather pace.  
 Khwaja, who represents Singapore in the ICC, is an influential figure in the world governing body and has voting rights on the board as an associate member director.  
 A source close to the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) confirmed Khwaja has been nominated by the ICC board as a mediator on the controversial subject.  
 "He has been in talks with Mohsin Naqvi for a while now and he is reaching Lahore today to first talk

to the PCB chief and also the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) President, Aminul Islam before the virtual meeting this evening," the source said.  
 Aminul is already in Lahore and has met Naqvi on Sunday. Aminul is expected to be part of the discussions aimed at persuading Pakistan to reconsider its decision not to play India in Colombo on February 15.  
 The two officials -- Khwaja and Aminul -- were greeted at the airport by senior PCB officials and then driven to the Gaddafi Stadium where they are scheduled to meet with the board's chief Mohsin Naqvi.  
 A PCB source said that Khwaja and Aminul, after their discussion with Naqvi, will have a meeting with some ICC governing board members virtually later Sunday.

The source said the ICC was doing its best to convince PCB to get permission from its government for the February 15 match.  
 Aminul reached Lahore ahead of Khwaja and his arrival is significant because the dispute between the PCB and ICC began because of the apex body's decision to replace Bangladesh with Scotland after the former refused to play their World Cup matches in India citing security reasons.  
 Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif recently said that Pakistan's decision to not play against India was taken to show solidarity with Bangladesh, whose request to move their matches from India to Sri Lanka was rejected by the ICC. Naqvi has not com-

mented much on the instructions from the government to boycott the India match but a reliable source said the situation has changed after the Sri Lanka cricket board sent an email to the PCB, urging them to end the boycott. ICC CEO, Sanjog Gupta has also been to Colombo to meet with the President of the Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC), Shammi Silva who sent the email to Naqvi to play the India match in the World Cup.  
 The ICC has already sought an explanation from Pakistan on how the 'Force Majeure' clause can be invoked to justify the team's refusal to play the T20 World Cup match against India after the PCB tried to wriggle out of the situation by putting the

onus on its government.  
 But there is a glimmer of hope now as PCB has approached the ICC for deliberations, as per an ICC Director, who feels that the marquee clash will eventually take place.  
 The ICC is currently engaging with the board in a structured manner to explore possible resolutions, with a view that the interest of the game must supersede unilateral action.  
 Sri Lanka Cricket has warned PCB to reconsider its decision citing huge financial losses for all stakeholders.  
 The trigger for Bangladesh's withdrawal was the release of their pacer Mustafizur Rahman from the KKR squad on BCCI's instructions.

# AJKPC raises development issues of Nagrota Assembly, announces dharna

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC), a registered organisation working for grassroots democracy in Jammu and Kashmir, has raised several development-related demands concerning the Nagrota Assembly Constituency.  
 AJKPC President Anil Sharma, along with local representatives and residents of Nagrota today addressed a press conference in Jammu and appealed to the J&K Government to take immediate steps to resolve long-pending public issues.  
 While speaking to the media, the AJKPC leadership said that people of Nagrota continue to suffer due to lack of basic facilities. Among the key demands are the establishment of SDM offices at Dansal and Nagrota, and granting teshil status to Jindrah Niabat.  
 AJKPC President demanded the upgradation of the New Primary Health Centre at Jindrah into a 24x7 CHC hospital and Sub-District Hospital status for the Dansal Primary Health Centre.  
 He also sought the setting up of accident hospitals and



new PHCs at Krishanpur (Manwal), Surinsar, Sagoon and Athem.  
 The organisation also demanded construction of a new and safe building for Government Degree College Jindrah. An ACB inquiry was sought to identify those responsible for the unsafe college building and the alleged misuse of public funds.  
 Raising employment concerns, Sharma demanded job preference for local youth in the 15 FAD (Field Ammunition Depot), Jindrah. He stated that many locals had given their land for the depot and were promised employment opportunities.  
 Other demands include beautification of Surinsar Lake, construction of the Jhajjar Koli artificial lake project, and immediate posting of teachers, lecturers, librarians and other staff in government schools and col-

leges of Nagrota.  
 For the convenience of pensioners and government employees, AJKPC demanded establishment of a teshil treasury at Block Dansal, as the remote location causes hardship in official work and pension-related matters.  
 The AJKPC leadership said that if the government fails to act on these genuine demands, the organisation will be forced to hold an agitation to seek justice for the people of Nagrota. They have given 2 weeks ultimatum to the J & K government to address all the issues.  
 Other prominent people were Rakesh Sharma, Chandra Mohan, Sham Lal Mund, Bhagat Ram, Sahil Sharma, Som Raj Sharma, Mani Ram, Chandermoli Sharma, Deepak Kumar, Rameshwar Sharma, Junaid Panch, Sanjay Jamwal and Hridayesh Singh Jamwal.

# Guru's guidance illuminates the heart, Says Sant Satguru Madhu Paramhans

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** Sant Satguru Madhu Paramhans Sahib of Sahib Bandgi, while delivering a spiritual discourse to a large congregation at Rakhbandhu in Jammu, emphasized that a true Guru is essential for purifying the human heart and removing the darkness of ignorance that clouds spiritual understanding.  
 Addressing devotees, Sant Satguru Madhu Paramhans Sahib said, "Without a Guru, a person's heart cannot be purified. The Guru brings the light of knowledge that removes the deep darkness present within every human being."  
 He explained that the "heart" mentioned in spiritual teachings does not merely refer to the physical organ but to the inner consciousness where impressions, tendencies, and the soul's awareness reside.  
 Using the analogy of darkness and light, he noted that just as a person cannot see or walk properly in complete darkness, the human being cannot understand truth without spiritual guidance.  
 "Ignorance is like darkness. When the Guru provides the light of wisdom, the path of righteousness becomes visible," he said.  
 Highlighting the importance of the Guru in spiritual tradition, Sant Satguru Madhu Paramhans Sahib referred to historical and mythological examples, stating that even great personalities such as Lord Rama accepted Sage Vashishtha as their Guru. "If divine incarnations and great sages sought guidance from a Guru, ordinary human beings cannot expect to progress without spiritual mentorship," he remarked.



He further explained that the mind and the heart function differently. The brain manages worldly information, while the deeper inner consciousness stores impressions and tendencies that influence behavior from childhood. According to him, these inner impressions create confusion and emotional disturbances when left unchecked.  
 "The waves of thoughts arise in the mind, but the heart must learn to discriminate between right and wrong. This discrimination awakens through the Guru's teachings," he said.  
 Quoting ancient spiritual wisdom, he added, "Where the sun, moon, stars, and fire cannot illuminate, the Guru lights that inner space." He stressed that the purification of the heart means developing clarity, self-discipline, and the ability to rise above negative impulses through spiritual practice and remembrance of the Divine Name.  
 The discourse concluded with a call to devotees to follow the path of devotion, moral conduct, and regular spiritual practice under the guidance of a realized Guru.  
 Devotees present at the gathering expressed deep appreciation for the teachings and resolved to incorporate the message of inner purification and spiritual awareness into their daily lives.

# Indian goods to gain edge over China, others in US market after tariff cut to 18 pc: Goyal

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**NEW DELHI:** Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Sunday said Indian goods will have a competitive advantage in US markets compared to products from China and other competitor countries, which face higher levies, following the reduction in reciprocal tariffs to 18 per cent.  
 India and the US have finalised a framework for the first phase of the bilateral trade agreement, which is expected to be signed by mid-March.  
 Goyal said reciprocal tariffs (RTs) on India are now among the lowest compared to its competitor nations.  
 These countries include China (35 per cent), Thailand (19 per cent), Myanmar (40 per cent), Cambodia (19 per cent), Bangladesh (20 per cent), Indonesia (19 per cent), Brazil (50 per cent), and Vietnam (20 per cent).  
 With lower tariffs, India's labour-intensive sectors, such as textiles, leather and footwear, handicrafts, chemicals, and gems and jewellery, will be more competitively priced in the US market compared to these nations.  
 "So, we have to see our competitive advantage over others. And comparatively, India's RTs amongst our peer countries, emerging market economies, and developing countries are amongst the lowest.  
 "So, therefore, we have an advantage over China's 35 per cent, and we are 18 per cent," he told PTI Videos in an interview.

He added that the comparative advantage always gives a country an edge in global markets.  
 "The important thing is competitive advantage. Even when we reduce our tariffs (for US goods), it's about competitive advantage," he said.  
 Goyal also dismissed criticism that New Delhi conceded too much by accepting the 18 per cent tariff while offering duty concessions to American goods.  
 He was replying to a question whether India reducing its customs duties, while the US is only cutting its reciprocal tariffs, puts India at a disadvantage.  
 "I don't think this is a material issue at all. When some people talk about it or try to highlight this, it only reflects that they don't understand international trade and they're only trying to mislead the people," he said.  
 He added that businesses, exporters and industry associations understand these issues and have welcomed the agreement.  
 "...because they realise the massive trade advantage that this is going to give India. And it will ultimately help our farmers. We are today one of the largest exporters of farm products...we are exporting 55 billion dollars of farm and fish products every year: 5 lakh crores. All of that is income for our farmers...It'll certainly give them a much bigger value for the farm produce, and farmers' incomes will increase," Goyal said.

**DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS KATHUA**  
 E-mail: sspkathua@jkpolice.gov.in  
**LOOK OUT NOTICE**  
 Fax/Phone No.: 01922-234010

On 04-02-2026, an information received at PS Lakhapur through reliable source that one unidentified male dead body age about 49/50 years has been found in Ranjeet Sagar Dam near village Nalama Teshil and District Kathua under suspicious circumstances and accordingly, an inquest proceeding U/S 194 BNSS has been initiated at PS Lakhapur vide DDR No. 31 dated 04-02-2026 to ascertain the cause of death.

During the course of enquiry, adequate efforts have been made to establish the identity of deceased which is still unknown and dead body is presently kept in Mortuary Room, Govt. Medical College Kathua for identification/post mortem.

As such, Look out Notice of deceased is being submitted for publication in the leading News with the appeal that anybody having clue/information about his identity may inform us accordingly. The description of Roll/Photograph of deceased is as under:-

DESCRIPTION ROLL	PHOTOGRAPH
Name	Unknown,
Parentage	Unknown,
Permanent Address	Unknown,
Age	About 49/50 years,
Height	5'-8"
Eyes	-
Face	Round
Colour	Wheatish
Identification mark	Nil
Religion	Not Known
Attire	Blue Pent/Blue Zipper

Any information related to his identity may be communicated on following contacts:-

- DPO Kathua- 01922-234010 (Phone/Fax)
- dpokathua@jkpolice.gov.in (Mail ID)
- PCR Kathua- 01922-234311 (Phone/Fax)
- Police Station Lakhapur-- 01922-285028.

**DIP/J-11188/25**  
**Dated:- 07/02/2026**

**Sd/-**  
**Sr. Superintendent of Police,**  
**Kathua.**