



Independence Day 2025: PM Modi's Announcement from Red Fort

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Why it's in the spotlight

- India is celebrating its **79th Independence Day**. On this occasion, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** addressed the nation from the Red Fort **for the 12th consecutive time**.
- In his **103-minute speech**, he highlighted issues concerning **farmers, women, youth and national security**. The most significant announcement was the launch of **Mission Sudarshan Chakra**, aimed at enhancing **national defense and security**.



What is Mission Sudarshan Chakra?

Prime Minister Modi explained that in an era of **increasing technological use**, India requires a **robust security shield**.



- By **2025**, strategic areas, civilian zones, hospitals, railway stations and religious sites will be equipped with this advanced **technical security system**.
- Over the next **10 years**, Mission Sudarshan Chakra will be developed into a **powerful weapon system inspired by Lord Krishna**.
- Its main objective is to **neutralize enemy attacks** and ensure that **citizens feel safe**.

Warning to terrorists and enemies

From the Red Fort, PM Modi sent a **clear message**:

- “If enemies make any move, our army will not remain silent. India will give a **resolute response**.”
- This statement reflects a **firm stance against terrorism and cross-border threats**.

Prime Minister's Viksit Bharat (Developed India) Plan

- In his address, PM Modi referred to **Developed India 2047**, stating that the goal is to make India a **developed nation by 2047**.
- He also announced the **Prime Minister's Developed India Plan**, focusing on **social and economic development objectives**.

Mention of Emergency

- PM Modi discussed the **Emergency (1975-77)**, saying: "We must never forget that during that period, democracy was strangled, suppressed, and betrayed."
- He called upon citizens to **collectively safeguard democracy and unity**.

High-Power Demography Mission

- The Prime Minister expressed concern over **changes in the country's demography**:
 - "The country's demography is being altered through deliberate schemes."
 - "Intruders are taking over tribal lands, creating a national security threat."
- To tackle this challenge, the government has launched the **High-Power Demography Mission**.

Tackling Naxalism

- Prime Minister Modi stated that **Naxalism is now limited to just 20 districts**, compared to over 125 districts previously affected.
- The **tribal communities** suffered the most during the height of Naxal violence.
- The government acted with a **firm hand** while also serving the tribal population.
- He highlighted, "Earlier, hearing the name Bastar reminded people of Naxalism, but today, the youth there are making India proud at the Olympics."

Praise for RSS

- For the first time from the Red Fort, PM Modi **praised the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)**.
- He said the organization has been dedicated to **nation-building for the past 100 years**.
- PM Modi **saluted the commitment of RSS workers** to the nation.

Obesity: A Major Challenge

- The Prime Minister warned that **obesity is becoming a serious challenge for the country**.
- He noted that in the coming years, **one in three Indians could be affected by obesity**.
- He urged people to **reduce cooking oil consumption by 10%**.

Government at Your Doorstep

- The Prime Minister stated that citizens **no longer need to roam from office to office to claim their rights**.
- Today, the **government reaches the doorstep of the poor**.
- Around **25 crore people** have overcome poverty and joined the **emerging middle class**.

Vocal for Local and Indigenous Products

- PM Modi emphasized that “**Prosperous India**” should be the mantra.
- He urged **youth and political parties** to make “**Vocal for Local**” a part of their lives.
- Small shop owners were encouraged to display boards reading: “**Swadeshi Products Sold Here**”.



Prime Minister's VIKSIT BHART ROJGAR YOJNA (Developed India Employment Scheme)

PM Modi announced a **₹1 lakh crore** employment scheme for youth.

- Under this scheme, **first-time private sector employees** will receive **₹15,000** from the government.
- The scheme **came into effect from 15th August**.

CABINET APPROVES EMPLOYMENT LINKED INCENTIVE (ELI) SCHEME

Outlay: Rs 99,446 Crore

- Aims to incentivize the creation of more than **3.5 Crore jobs** in 2 years.
- Benefits of the Scheme would be applicable to jobs created between 1st August 2025 and 31st July, 2027.
- The first-time employees will get one month's wage (**up to Rs 15,000/-**)

For more details, scan the QR code

Diwali Gift: Tax Reforms

- PM Modi announced **new GST reforms by Diwali**.
- The reforms aim to **reduce the tax burden on ordinary citizens**.
- Daily essentials will become **more affordable**, boosting the economy.

Centre moots two-rate GST system as part of PM Modi's 'Diwali gift'

FinMin considering 2 slabs – standard and merit - for GST, with special rates on select few items

GST

- **GST = Goods and Services Tax**
- It is a **single indirect tax** applicable on the sale of goods and services in India.
- **Purpose:** To eliminate different tax rates and complexities across states and make India a country with a **unified tax system**.

Through Which Constitutional Amendment Did GST Come into Effect in India?

- **101st Constitutional Amendment (The Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016)**
- This amendment came into effect on **1st July 2017**, marking the introduction of GST in India.
- The amendment granted both **the Centre and the States the power to levy tax equally** and **merged various earlier taxes** (like Central Excise, Service Tax, and VAT) into a single tax.

Key Features of GST

1. **Unified Tax System** – Consolidation of VAT, Excise, Service Tax, etc.
2. **Destination-Based Tax** – Tax is levied in the state where the final consumption occurs.
3. **Input Tax Credit (ITC)** – Businesses can offset the tax already paid against their future tax liability.
4. **Online and Transparent Process** – Returns and payments are completely digital.

Types of GST

1. **CGST (Central GST)** – Tax for the Central Government.
2. **SGST (State GST)** – Tax for the State Government.
3. **IGST (Integrated GST)** – Tax on inter-state supply of goods or services.

GST Rates (General Classification)

- **0%** – Essential goods (e.g., grains, milk)
- **5%** – Basic necessities and general goods
- **12%, 18%** – Industrial and mid-range goods
- **28%** – Luxury goods (e.g., cars, juice machines)

GST Council

- **Establishment:** Under the 101st Constitutional Amendment
- **Main Purpose:** To decide **GST rates, policies, and rules**.
- **Members:**
 - Finance Ministers of the States and the Centre
 - **Chairperson:** Union Finance Minister
- **Functions:**
 1. Determining tax rates
 2. Proposing changes in tax rates
 3. Formulating policies for GST implementation

Objectives of GST

1. Simplify and make the tax system transparent
2. Eliminate double taxation
3. Transform India into a **unified domestic market**
4. Increase tax collection and promote economic growth

Example

- A trader from Maharashtra sells goods to Gujarat:
 - **IGST** is paid to the Centre.
 - The Gujarat trader receives **ITC** (Input Tax Credit) against the tax paid.

Steps Towards a Self-Reliant India

- The Prime Minister urged youth to **create their own platforms**.
- He emphasized the need for India to become **self-reliant in areas like food, EV batteries, and other sectors**.
- He highlighted that **millions of startups** are becoming a **source of India's strength**.

Self-Reliance in the Space Sector

- Prime Minister Modi stated that India is **working towards building its own space station**.
- Over **300 startups** are **actively working in the space sector**.
- He also announced that **India will develop its own Made-in-India jet engine**.

Samudra Manthan – Exploring New Energy Reserves

- The Prime Minister said the country is on a mission to **discover new oil and gas reserves**.
- This initiative has been named **“Samudra Manthan”**.
- The goal is to **reduce import dependency** and provide **new energy for development**.

Semiconductors and Clean Energy

- PM Modi remarked that **semiconductor development was neglected 50–60 years ago**.
- Now, India is **working in mission mode**, and the **first Made-in-India chip will be launched this year**.
- India aims to **increase nuclear energy capacity tenfold by 2047**.

Self-Reliance as a Mark of Strength

- The Prime Minister highlighted that at the time of independence, **food scarcity was a major challenge**, but today India is **self-reliant in grains**.
- He cited **Operation Sindur**, where **Made-in-India weapons surprised the enemy**.

Water and Blood Will Not Flow Together

- PM Modi referred to the **Indus Water Treaty**, stating it had **caused losses for India**.
- He emphasized that **Indian farmers have the right to use river water**.

Warning to Pakistan

- The Prime Minister declared that India **will no longer tolerate terrorism or nuclear threats**.
- The **Indian Army will respond on its terms and timing** against any enemy action.

Mention of Operation Sindur

- PM Modi **saluted the brave soldiers** involved.
- He noted that after the **massacre in Pahalgam**, the **army was given full authority**.
- The destruction in Pakistan was **so extensive that new revelations are still emerging**.

Tribute to Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee

- The Prime Minister paid homage on his **125th birth anniversary**.
- He stated that **revoking Article 370 is a true tribute to Mukherjee**.

Test of Nature

- PM Modi highlighted that **natural disasters are testing the nation**.
- Both **state and central governments are actively engaged in relief and rescue operations**.

