IN SEYCHELLES, PM CALLS FOR 'CLIMATE JUSTICE' FOR GLOBAL SOUTH

Vision to make Indian Ocean 'ocean of opportunity': Modi

● Talks reflected on expanding ties across defence and maritime security

DIVYA A
New Delhi, June 28

Prime Minister Narendra Modi receives the 'Guardian of the Blue Horizon' from Seychelles President Patrick Herminie, on Sunday PTI

INDIA ENVISIONS AN Indian Ocean where maritime security is ensured alongside economic prosperity and where partnership is not based on size, but on mutual respect and trust, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is on a three-day visit to Seychelles, said on Sunday.

"Our vision is to make the Indian Ocean an Ocean of Opportunity," he said, after delegation-level talks with Seychelles President Patrick Herminie, during which the two sides reviewed the full spectrum of bilateral cooperation and exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual interest.

Addressing the National Assembly later in the day, Modi said the Global South, especially island nations, was the most impacted by climate change and called for climate action guided by "fairness, responsibility and equity". He said those who had contributed the least to climate change should not bear the greatest burden of its consequences. "This is the essence of climate justice," he said.

Modi, the guest of honour for Seychelles' National Day celebrations, was conferred with the honorary 'Guardian of the Blue Horizon' title for his commitment to environmental conservation and sustainable development.

The key outcomes of the talks reflected the broadening of New Delhi's engagement with the strategically located Indian Ocean archipelagic nation, expanding cooperation across defence and maritime security to connectivity, capacity building, development partnership, digital payments, space, healthcare, agriculture and education.

"We believe the Indian Ocean is our shared home. Its security, sustainability and prosperity are our shared responsibility," Modi said after the talks.

He said the two sides discussed making bilateral economic cooperation more resilient and future-ready. "We will continue to explore new opportunities for the industries of both our countries. Work will also be done to enhance connectivity between India and Seychelles," he said.

In his statement, Herminie said: "As maritime neighbours, security in the Indian Ocean region remains central to our relationship. We reaffirmed Seychelles' special place in India's Mahasagar vision. We affirmed our commitment to counter piracy, drug trafficking, illegal fishing, and cross-border crime."

He also acknowledged India's support in strengthening the country's maritime capabilities through surveillance, hydrography and defence capacity building.

"Development partnership has been a strong pillar of India-Seychelles relations, guided by Seychelles' priorities. I was especially pleased to pursue discussions on the announcement of the Special Economic Package of $175 million (₹1,650 crore approximately) from India," Herminie said.

Army to establish, operationalise first Integrated Battle Groups next month

AMRITA NAYAK DUTTA
New Delhi, June 28

The creation of the IBGs is part of a larger restructuring plan of the Army, which includes the creation of Bhairav battalions, Rudra brigades, Divyastra batteries and Shaktibaan units

THE ARMY IS set to establish and operationalise its first Integrated Battle Groups (IBG) by next month, marking a significant transformation under which self-contained, agile, brigade-sized fighting units will be carved out of the Panagarh-based XVII Corps — the mountain strike corps (MSC) facing China — for swift deployment in mountainous areas, The Indian Express has learnt.

Sources privy to the development told The Indian Express that the earlier plan was to create four IBGs under the two divisions operating under the XVII MSC — the 59 Division and the 23 Division — by September. However, this is now learnt to have been advanced to July 1.

It had first been reported in January this year that the long-drawn plans to create IBGs had gathered pace and may be implemented soon.

According to the existing plans, four IBGs and a fire support group will be created under the XVII MSC. Each of the five will be commanded by a Major General rank officer. Each IBG will comprise over 5,000 troops, with 12-13 units, and may have a Brigadier-rank officer as the Chief Operations Officer.

While the four IBGs will be created from the two divisions of the XVII MSC, the fire support group comprising artillery platforms will likely operate directly under the corps headquarters. The newly created Divyastra batteries of the Army could be placed under this group.

Each IBG will have battalions of infantry, artillery regiments, as well as elements of the Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers (EME), Combat Engineers, Army Service Corps, and a field hospital or others.

The creation of the IBGs is part of a larger restructuring plan of the Army, which includes the creation of Bhairav battalions, Rudra brigades, Divyastra batteries and Shaktibaan units. The Rudra brigades, commanded by a Brigadier, will also have multiple elements, but will be dependent on the division for more support. IBGs will be larger in size and more self-contained and independent in nature.

These will be the first IBGs of the Army — a move proposed in one of the four studies initiated by then Army Chief General Bipin Rawat on the restructuring of the Army. The plans to establish IBGs have been under discussion for about seven years now.

These plans of capability development are premised on capacity, and not a threat-based model.

AYODHYA RAM TEMPLE DONATION 'THEFT'

Police search houses of eight arrested men

MANISH SAHU
Lucknow, June 28

TWO DAYS AFTER arresting eight people on allegations of theft and embezzlement of funds and valuables donated to the Ram temple in Ayodhya, police on Sunday carried out searches at the residences of all eight accused, who are currently in judicial custody.

"The searches were carried out as part of the investigation to gather evidence," a senior police officer said.

This came a day before the accused, identified as Avinash Shukla, Lavkush Mishra, Anukalp Mishra, Manish Kumar Yadav, Karunesh Pandey, Ramashankar Mishra, Ram Shankar Yadav alias Tinnu Yadav, and Subhash Srivastav, were due to be produced before the court after their three-day judicial custody.

The police team first reached the residence of the main accused, Tinnu Yadav, who worked as a driver for Champat Rai

Police said they had previously recovered ₹79.8 lakh from seven of the eight arrested men during the course of the investigation.

On Sunday, eight police teams searched the premises where the accused had been living in Ayodhya. Police teams verified their addresses before carrying out the coordinated action.

They first reached the residence of the main accused, Tinnu Yadav, who worked as a driver for Champat Rai. Rai had recently stepped down as general secretary of the Shri Ram Janmbhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust.

Another accused, Srivastav, a retired bank employee, reportedly supervised donation-counting shifts in the temple's Pilgrim Facility Centre. The other six accused counted the cash and valuables offered by devotees.

As GST turns 10, focus shifts to AI-driven compliance, faster refunds, data sharing

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, June 28

Government is using tech to simplify compliance for MSMEs, while integrating GST, income tax and customs databases

AS INDIA ENTERS the tenth year of rollout of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), the focus is shifting from implementation to efficiency through use of artificial intelligence (AI), data sharing and process simplification to reduce compliance costs, speed up refunds and tighten enforcement.

The government is increasingly using technology to simplify compliance, particularly for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), while integrating GST, income tax and customs databases to improve risk assessment, curb tax evasion, and reduce manual intervention.

GST implementation helped broaden the tax base, strengthened compliance and increased revenues, making the indirect tax regime one of India's most significant economic reforms.

Introduced on July 1, 2017, GST replaced a complex system of 17 central and state taxes and 13 cesses with a unified indirect tax framework. The reform, rolled out after years of negotiations between the Centre and states, was aimed at creating a common national market and reducing cascading taxes.

The registered taxpayer base has expanded from 6.65 million at launch to about 16 million in 2026, reflecting increased formalisation of the economy.

GST was introduced as a four-tier structure of 5, 12, 18 and 28 per cent. A cess was levied over and above the 28% rate for luxury, sin and demerit goods. As the GST system matured over the years, with stability in revenues and technology backend, besides increasing the registered taxpayer base, policymakers decided it was time for a rate rationalisation.

Starting September 22, 2025, a next-gen GST with a two-tier structure was launched by placing most goods and services into two slabs — 5% for essential items and 18% for standard goods and services.

A separate 40% slab was kept only for luxury and demerit goods. Following the rate cut, prices of most items went down, resulting in savings for people.

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NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS
Mandatory Transfer of Equity Shares of the Company to the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF)

This Notice is published pursuant to Section 124(6) of the Companies Act, 2013 and Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 read with relevant circulars and amendments thereto ("IEPF Rules"). The Company is mandated to transfer all shares in respect of which dividend(s) have not been paid or claimed for seven consecutive years to the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority ("IEPF Authority").

The Company has communicated individually to the concerned shareholders whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF Authority in case those who have not en-cashed any of their dividend(s), remaining unpaid / unclaimed for last seven (7) consecutive years, by the next due date of transfer i.e. **September 27, 2026.** The details of such shareholders including their folio number or DP and Client ID and number of shares due for transfer are also available on the Investors section of the Company's website at https://wheelsindia.com

The concerned shareholders have been advised to make their claim latest by **September 27, 2026** for the unclaimed dividends in respect of shares held by them in writing to the Company or to the Company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent, M/s. Cameo Corporate Services Limited, "Subramanian Building", No.1, Club House Road, Chennai – 600002; Telephone: 044-28460390 / 91 / 92 / 93 / 94; e-mail ID: investor@cameoindia.com. If the Company does not receive any communication from the concerned shareholders, the Company, shall with a view to complying with the requirements set out in the Rules, dematerialize and transfer the shares to the IEPF authority by way of corporate action by the due date as per the procedure stipulated in the said Rules.

In case shareholders wish to claim the shares / dividend after its transfer to IEPF, a separate application has to be made to the IEPF Authority using the web-based form IEPF-5, as prescribed under IEPF Rules and the same is available along with all details at the IEPF website at www.iepf.gov.in

For Wheels India Limited
Sd/-
K V Lakshmi
Company Secretary

Place : Chennai
Date : 29.06.2026

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the **73rd Annual General Meeting** ("AGM") of the shareholders of the Company will be held on **Wednesday, the 22nd July 2026 at 10.00 A.M.** IST through **Video Conferencing** ("VC") / Other Audio Visual Means ("OAVM") as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) Circular No.03/2025 dated 22nd September 2025. Hence, Members can attend and participate in the ensuing AGM through VC/OAVM.

Notice of the AGM, together with the Annual Report for the financial year 2025-26, will be sent only in electronic form, in accordance with the relaxation granted by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) Circular No.03/2025 dated 22nd September 2025, to all the shareholders whose names appear on the Register of Members / list of Beneficial Owners as received from National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) / Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL) as at the close of business hours on 19th June 2026 and who have registered their email id with the Company/Depositories. Members may note that the Notice of the AGM and Annual Report 2025-26 will be available on the Company's website at www.sundaramfinance.in and website of the National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.nseindia.com respectively. The instructions for joining the AGM are provided in the Notice. Members attending the Meeting through VC/OAVM shall be counted for the purpose of reckoning the quorum under Section 103 of the Companies Act, 2013.

In compliance with the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013, read with the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, the Company has offered electronic voting facility (remote e-voting) for transacting the business through Central Depository Services (India) Limited [CDSL] to enable the Members to cast their votes electronically. Additionally, the facility for voting through electronic means shall also be made available at the time of the meeting and Members attending the meeting who have not already cast their vote by remote e-voting shall be able to exercise their right at the meeting. Detailed procedures for remote e-voting and e-voting at the meeting are provided in the Notice.

Members whose names appear on the Register of Members / Register of Beneficial Owners maintained by the Depositories as on the cut-off date for voting, i.e., **15th July 2026,** shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting / e-voting at the AGM. Any person, who acquires shares of the Company and becomes a member after despatch of the Notice but before the cut-off date for voting i.e., 15th July 2026, may obtain the login Id and password by sending a request to helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com or contacting our Registrars & Share Transfer Agents, viz. Cameo Corporate Services Limited, "Subramanian Building", No. 1, Club House Road, Chennai 600 002. Phone: +91 044 28460390 (5 lines); Fax: +91 044 2846 0129; Email: investor@cameoindia.com.

The remote e-voting commences on Friday, the 17th July 2026 (9:00 A.M.) and ends on Tuesday, the 21st July 2026 (5:00 P.M.).

Members will not be able to cast their vote electronically beyond the said date and time (i.e. after 5 p.m. on Tuesday, 21st July 2026) and the remote e-voting module shall be disabled for voting by CDSL thereafter.

Mr. T. K. Bhaskar, Partner, H & B Partners, Advocates, Chennai, has been appointed as the Scrutinizer for the e-voting process/e-voting at the AGM.

The Members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting may attend the meeting but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again.

In order to register the email ids/bank details, Members are requested to send the relevant information to the (a) depository participants (if the shares are held in the demat mode) or (b) Company's Registrar and Transfer Agents, viz., Cameo Corporate Services Limited by submitting Form ISR-1 (if the shares are held in physical mode).

The Notice of the AGM, together with the Balance Sheet, Statement of Profit & Loss, Auditors' Report and Board's Report, have been hosted on our website www.sundaramfinance.in, NSE's website www.nseindia.com and CDSL's website www.cdslindia.com.

Notice is also given pursuant to Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013, read with Regulation 42 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The Record Date for reckoning the eligibility of the shareholders for receiving the Final Dividend is proposed to be fixed as 6th July 2026. The dividend, if declared at the meeting, will be paid on or after 23rd July 2026.

All grievances in connection with the facility for voting by electronic means may be addressed to Central Depository Services (India) Limited, (CDSL), A Wing, 25th Floor, Marathon Futurex, Mafatlal Mill Compounds, N M Joshi Marg, Lower Parel (East), Mumbai - 400013 (email - helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com / Tel: 1800225533).

For Sundaram Finance Limited
P N SRIKANT
CCO & Company Secretary

Chennai
29th June 2026

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Chief Administrative Officer