

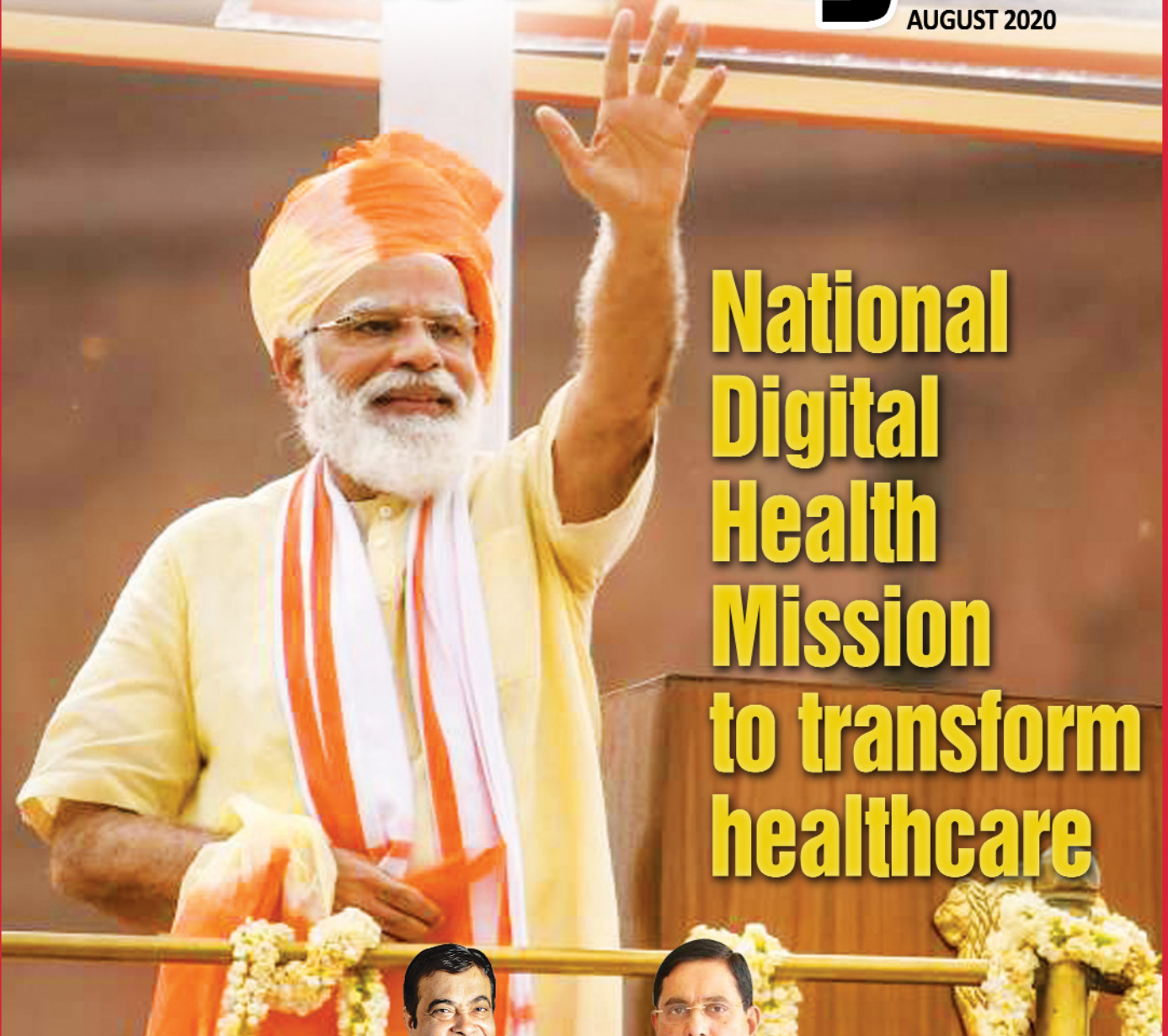


India wants reciprocal trade with the world: Piyush Goyal
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FICCI is the voice of India's business and industry, reaching out to over 2,50,000 companies. Established in 1927, it is India's oldest and largest apex business organisation. FICCI serves its members from large (domestic and global companies) and MSME sectors as well as the public sector, drawing its strength from diverse regional chambers of commerce and industry.

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From The Secretary General

WHILE the government is relaxing restrictions on different activities, the rise in COVID cases on the one hand and curbs imposed by a number of states on the other, is making the situation even more challenging for the government and the industry. However, the government's continued push for reforms with industry's support is fuelling optimism and the strength to fight back.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his address to the nation on the occasion of India's 74th Independence Day announced that every Indian will be issued a unique health ID under the National Digital Health Mission. Amidst the current crisis, the importance of the healthcare sector was also highlighted by the Prime Minister in his address. FICCI has been working in this area for long and we congratulate the government for taking forward this initiative. The 'completely technology-based' initiative is set to revolutionize the health sector.

The launch of 'Transparent Taxation-Honouring the Honest' platform is also a landmark development. This is another milestone in the journey of tax reforms and will tremendously boost the confidence of the taxpayers in the country. FICCI commends the government and will continue to provide inputs to the Ministry of Finance and Department of Taxation.

During the month, Piyush Goyal, Minister for Commerce & Industry and Railways, in his address at the webinar on India Virtual FMCG Supply Chain, stressed on the need of reciprocal trade with other countries.

FICCI also organized 18th FICCI CSR Awards, where 8 companies were conferred with the FICCI CSR Awards, another 8 companies with Jury Commendation Certificates and 18 finalists were acknowledged with an appreciation plaque by Anurag Thakur, Minister of State for Finance and Corporate Affairs.

FICCI, jointly with the Indian Army, organized a webinar on 'Army Make Projects-2020'. The Secretary, DDP, Ministry of Defence invited the Indian industry to invest and explore opportunities in the defence sector. The announcement of 101 Defence items for embargo on imports and the policy measures that will provide the much-needed impetus to make India 'Atmanirbhar' in the defence sector are steps in the right direction.

FICCI also congratulates RBI for its steps towards the resolution of loans in the monetary policy by announcing restructuring of MSME loans that were standard category till March 1, 2020.

The chamber lauds the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 that looks well-structured and seems to have captured most of the important aspects of education.

The month also witnessed the presence of eminent personalities like Nitin Gadkari, Minister for MSMEs, Road Transport & Highways; Pralhad Joshi, Minister for Mines, Coal & Parliamentary Affairs; Prahlad Singh Patel, Minister of State for Tourism and Culture (IC); Dr Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (IC), Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, Prime Minister's Office; Jawaharbhair Pethalajibhai Chavda, Minister of Tourism, Govt of Gujarat, in FICCI webinars.

Let us remain positive and hope that in the coming months the mortality rate due to COVID-19 will drop further, which will lessen the fear of the disease and facilitate the opening of the economy further.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Dilip Chenoy'. The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Dilip Chenoy