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1. G20 ambassadors blow conch shells to welcome India's G20 Presidency at Swaraj Dweep, Andaman and Nicobar (Nov. 27, 2022)

G20 ambassadors blow conch shells to welcome India's G20 Presidency

40 countries which included the G20 ambassadors and invited guests from friendly countries blew conch shells (Shankh), which is considered auspicious as per Indian traditions on 26 November 2022, to welcome India's G20 Presidency at **Swaraj Dweep in Andaman and Nicobar Islands**. Swaraj Dweep was earlier known as **Havelock Island**.

The Union External Affairs ministry had invited Resident Heads of Missions of the G20 member countries, guest countries and International Organizations at the islands to attend the G20 curtain raiser event and preparatory meetings ahead of India taking up the presidency officially on 1 December.

As part of the event, G20 **India coordinator Harsh Vardhan Shringla** and **G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant** organised a yoga session on Kala Patthar beach for the delegates.

Indonesian President [Joko Widodo](#) on 16 November 2022 had officially handed over the G20 presidency to India at the end of a summit of the bloc's leaders in Bali.

Taking over the presidency, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Prime said it was a matter of pride for every Indian citizen. He said that "We will organise G20 meetings in different cities and states of our country. Our guests will get a full experience of India's amazing diversity, inclusive traditions, and cultural richness. We wish that all of you will participate in this unique celebration in India, the 'Mother of Democracy'.

G20 is a group of 19 leading developed and developing countries and the European Union .G-20 members constitute **60% of the world population, 80% of the World economy and 75% of world trade**.

Andaman and Nicobar Island

It is an archipelago in the Bay of Bengal. It consists of 300 **islands of Andaman** and **19 islands of Nicobar**.

The **Ten Degree channel** separates Nicobar Islands from Andaman Islands.

It became a Union Territory in 1956.

India's only active volcano is at Barren Island in the northern Andamans.

Cellular jail or Kala Pani is located in Port Blair is a National Museum where Britishers used to keep Indian freedom fighters like Veer Savarkar, Batukeshwar Dutt in isolation .

Capital of Andaman and Nicobar: **Port Blair** located on South Andaman Island.

Lieutenant Governor: **Admiral D K Joshi**

2. Indonesian President Joko Widodo handed over the G-20 presidency to Modi as the G 20 summit concludes in Bali (Nov. 16, 2022)

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The Indonesian President **Joko Widodo** formally handed over the G-20 presidency to Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** on 16 November 2022 at the conclusion of the two-day (15-16 November) **17th G-20 Summit in Bali**.

Prime Minister Modi said that India's presidency will be inclusive, ambitious, decisive, and action-oriented. He said that the country is taking the charge at a time when the world is grappling with geopolitical tensions, economic slowdown and rising food and energy prices.

India will officially assume the **G-20 Presidency from 1 December 2022**.

The **18th G-20 Leaders' Summit** at the level of heads of state/government is scheduled to be held on September 9-10, 2023 in **New Delhi**.

Modi also listed India's priorities for the G-20.

- Over the next one year, India will strive to ensure that the G-20 acts as a global prime mover to envision new ideas and accelerate collective action,"
- The sense of ownership over natural resources is giving rise to conflict today, and has become the main cause of the plight of the environment. For the safe future of the planet, the sense of trusteeship is the solution.
- Modi noted that [LiFE that is a 'Lifestyle for Environment'](#) campaign can make a big contribution to this. "Its purpose is to make sustainable lifestyles a mass movement." The prime minister emphasised that the benefits of development are universal and all-inclusive.
- Modi said the G-20 has to convey a strong message in favour of peace and harmony.
- "All these priorities are fully embodied in the [theme of India's G-20 Chairmanship](#) -- 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'," he said.

During the G-20 summit meeting the Prime Minister held meetings with various world leaders like British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, French President Macron, the American president Joe Biden and had a brief interaction with the Chinese President **Xi Jinping**. It was the first face to face between the Indian and Chinese leaders after the Galwan clash in June 2020 which led to the death of 20 Indian soldiers and many Chinese soldiers.

Issue of Russia and Ukraine and call for "This Era is not of War"

Russian President Vladimir Putin did not attend the meeting where the issue of Russia-Ukraine conflict divided the member countries of G-20. Western countries want an outright condemnation of Russia while others notably India and China are not in favour of condemning Russia.

However the final G-20 document which was issued later condemned "in the strongest terms the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine" and demanded "its complete and unconditional withdrawal" from Ukrainian territory.

It also used the phrase "This Era is not of War" and called for an end to the war. This phrase was used by Prime Minister Modi while meeting Vladimir Putin during the SCO meeting in Uzbekistan in September 2022. The statement was well received in Europe, which regards India as a close strategic partner of Russia.

G-20 Group

- Group of 20 or G-20 is a multilateral organisation which was set up in 1999.
- It consists of the world's major developed and developing countries.

- It consists of 19 countries and the European Union. The member countries are **Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom, and United States.**
- Italy was the President of the G-20 in 2021. Indonesia is the President for 2022 and India will be the President in 2023.
- The first Summit meeting of the leaders of the G-20 was held in 2008 at Washington, United States.
- The G20 has no permanent secretariat.
- G-20 members constitute **60% of the world population, 80% of the World economy** and **75% of world trade.**