

Notes from Davos: India first!

By Ajay Khanna, ET CONTRIBUTORS Last Updated: May 21, 2022, 05:12 PM IST

SHARE FONT SIZE SAVE PRINT COMMENT

Synopsis

To ensure that India gets maximum mileage of goodwill from this happy convergence of circumstances, the government undertook some planning. It convened a prep meeting chaired by Commerce and Industry minister Piyush Goyal on May 19. It was attended by Chief Ministers, Ministers and officials of the state governments, industry representatives and the Confederation of Indian Industry. The mission was very simple: speak in one voice.



Under the "India First" Campaign, India @ 75 is the theme for this year to celebrate Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav at Davos.

RELATED Notes from Davos: Hamara Bajaj This year may well be the "India Everywhere" moment again. Not only is <u>India</u> part of the global conversation, especially given its willingness to engage in pressing challenges to the world, India's participation may be the third largest at the <u>World Economic</u> <u>Forum</u>'s annual meeting in <u>Davos</u>.

Officially, 99 Indian delegates have registered with the WEF for the event. I believe this is an undercount,

ETPrime

Exclusive Benefits Are On Your Way Enjoy 63% Savings on 2 Year Membership

NRIs who turn up every year and the officials accompanying the delegations from six state governments plus <u>CII</u>, Invest India, Indian Embassy Teams. Take them all together and my guess is you are talking about 400-500 Indians.

To ensure that India gets maximum mileage of goodwill from this happy convergence of circumstances, the government undertook some planning. It ET Prime starts @ Rs 150/Month JOIN ET PRIME

Most Popular Stories

1. Arjun Waney has spread his empire of restaurants across the world, but has no plans to open one at home



Ad TIMES PRIME

davos: Notes from Davos: India first! - The Economic Times

2.

3.

cut

the state governments, industry representatives and the Confederation of Indian Industry. The mission was very simple: speak in one voice.

- duty cut: Petrol price slashed by Rs 8.69, diesel by Rs 7.05
- Govt waives import duty on some raw materials for steel industry, export duty on iron ore hiked up to 50%

India mulls \$13 billion extra

borrowing to offset fuel-tax



IT firms trying to win 5. attrition war with bonus. Esops



All you need is one membership. Join Times Prime @₹715

VISIT SITE



Under the "India First" Campaign, India @ 75 is the theme for this year to celebrate Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav at Davos. An excellent briefing note has been prepared and sent to all Indian delegation covering key talking points on economy by CII.

ET PRIME - TOP TRENDING STORIES



As gas prices double, consumer pays for 'nation building', ONGC, RIL laugh all the way to the bank



The challengers: Can fintech players trump traditional lenders with their version of 'credit' cards?

Subscribe to ETPrime

Besides the commerce minister, other Cabinet ministers who will be

(;)TOP TRENDING NEWS GST Verdict Cardless Withdrawals India Omicron Subvariants Hardik Patel Resignation

Popular in Company

India Inc's management 1. confidence improves post Covid, shows AIMA Management Capability **Development Index**





Situational Awareness Key 4 For Leadership In Crisis:



travelling to Davos are Hardeep Puri (Petroleum and Urban Development) and Mansukh Mandaviya (Health & Chemicals & Fertilizers). The delegation also includes N K Singh, chairman of the 15th Finance Commission, Amitabh Kant, CEO, Niti Aayog and Anurag Jain, Secretary, DPIIT. ET Online



Indian Addas!

The state governments' participation is a record number this year. Four southern states--Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana (how come Kerala missed out!)--and Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh will be led by either the Chief Minister or a cabinet minister. First time I notice that four Indian states--Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh (who says there is no bi-partisan consensus) --have come together on the Promenade, (the mall road of Davos) to host a common lounge. Telangana and Karnataka though have opted for their own lounges.

The India lounge, hosted jointly by DPIIT, Invest India and CII, is where it used to be good old days: Café <u>Schneider NSE -6.60 %</u>. During the now famous 'India Everywhere' campaign in 2006, this was called the Indian Adda (sharing a photo of Indian adda from 2011 when President Clinton dropped by)



ETPrime

Exclusive Benefits Are On Your Way Enjoy 63% Savings on 2 Year Membership

India Inc

CII, a WEF partner, will be led by its new President, Sanjiv Bajaj, another Davos regular like his late father. In addition, the crème de la crème of India Inc--Mukesh Ambani, Gautam Adani, N Chandrasekaran, Sunil Mittal, Pawan Munial. Shyam Bhartia. Hari Bhartia. Kumar M Birla. Shobana Kamineni.

Most Popular Opinion

- **1**. Why it is impossible to continue with GST law in its present form
 - 🗑 By Manmohan Sethi
- New Aussie rules apply for MNCs
 By M Shumi Akhtar
- 3. Fuel a long-term strategy for oil now

Not to be Missed

Akasa Air shares picture of its first aircraft



Biden says a US recession not inevitable



Rains bring down temperature in Delhi



Not running your TW a/c: Musk to Pune techie



ET Prime starts @ Rs 150/Month JOIN ET PRIME

Consumer, F&B cos see summer supply crunch



Notes from Davos: The Swiss connection

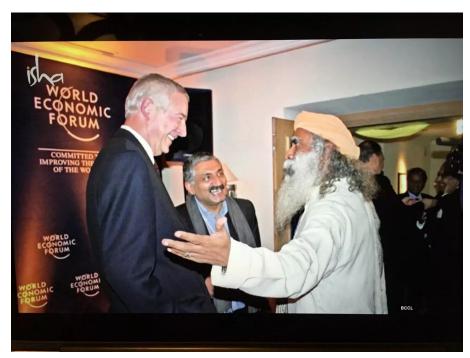


https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/company/corporate-trends/notes-from-davos-india-first/articleshow/91705457.cms

davos: Notes from Davos: India first! - The Economic Times

Sumant Sinha to name a few. Some of the first timers I see from India are Ashish Singhal (CoinSwitch kuber), Shanti Raghavan (Enable India), Pranshu Singhal (karo sambhav) – both winners of <u>Jubilant NSE 2.07 %</u> Bhartia – Schwab Foundation Social Entrepreneur Award, Nitin Kamath (Zerodha), Gaurav Mehta (Dharmalife), Ronnie Screwvala (Upgrad) to name a few.

I am delighted to see Sadguru – Founder of Isha Foundation will be back in Davos. Sharing an old picture of Sadguru with me when he went for the first time. I don't recall the year any more!



There are several sessions on India or with Indian speakers. This is huge and a welcome change from say just two decades ago when every business speaker from India included in the main programme, was a cause for celebration. The India oriented initiatives include one on climate action.

This is over and above several parallel India focused sessions lined up by CII, Invest India and State governments

ETPrime

Exclusive Benefits Are On Your Way Enjoy 63% Savings on 2 Year Membership

The Dig Ficture

Officially, the 51 st Annual Meeting (53 rd if you include the last two virtual ones) begins on Sunday. It is for the first time ever the annual meeting is being held in this Ski resort in summer.

About 2,500 global leaders are expected to converge for the first in-person meeting after the once in a century pandemic struck the world two years ago.

SBI keen to sell stressed power, other loans



Fuel dealers warn OMCs against supply cuts

Amazon's smartphone biz up 30% in 2021



Yogi Govt to launch family ID card



Saudi Arabia bans travel to 16 countries



General Atlantic to invest \$2 bn in India



UGC extends application dates for NET



Qutub Minar at centre of Gyanvapi-like row



Prestige to invest Rs 7,500 cr in Mumbai



ET Prime starts @ Rs 150/Month JOIN ET PRIME

What are the key climate themes at Davos?



Experts on SC's GST ruling on ocean freight



heads of state and in addition, you have 300 public figures and 782 speakers representing 1,754 organizations from all over the world.

I believe there are around 100 unicorns, innovators and Tech pioneers over 50 social entrepreneurs (now called innovators), 48 young global leaders (less than 40 years' old), 69 global shapers (under 30) and 41 civil society representatives. More than 200 leaders from NGO's, academics, labor organizations and faith-based and religious groups representing civil society; this is over and above the 400 media leaders and reporting persons who will converge in Davos over the weekend.

Spotlight on Ukraine

Given the stand of the western world on the ongoing conflict it is only natural for the WEF to give a big shoutout to embattled Ukraine.

Accordingly, President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine will deliver a special address on Monday. This plenary session, in the main congress hall, will be chaired by Prof Klaus Schwab and the President is likely to join virtually. Beyond the showstopper, several other heads of state and government will be present. This includes the Emir of Qatar, President of European Commission, Federal Chancellor of Germany, Prime Ministers of Spain and Greece, Secretary General of NATO, President of Israel.

Answering Trolls

One perception of this annual rendezvous of global heavy hitters is that it is a wanton and lavish gathering of the rich. And that precious little of global use came out of these meetings.

A paper published on the <u>blogs</u> of the London School of Economics argues that indeed it is no longer a cozy, incestual club of "out-of-touch (man), someone who insulated himself from ordinary people and those who think differently".

The authors, Shawn Pope and Patrica Bromley, trawled through a trove of press releases issued by the WEF for the last eight years to argue that the WEF

ETPrime

Exclusive Benefits Are On Your Way Enjoy 63% Savings on 2 Year Membership

complaint about Davos Man was that he was full of empty rhetoric. His meeting was derided as an intense, gregarious affair, repeated every year without anything of substance to show for it. Davos Man chats while the world burns. Yet this complaint is ringing less true.

Davos Man is now more action oriented. The WEF has reimagined its annual

India Inc urges states to cut fuel tax



ATM transactions: PNB earns Rs 645 crore



Rs 500-cr projects to route through NPG



How to build wind turbines faster



A-Z of applying to universities in Canada



PV industry to surpass FY19 volumes: Tata



Covid-19: India reports 2,226 new cases



Petrol and diesel prices today: New rates



Bitter wheat harvest for Indian farmers



ET Prime starts @ Rs 150/Month JOIN ET PRIME

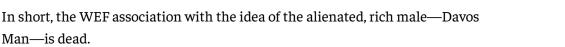


Raj govt slashes VAT on petrol & diesel



Export duty on iron ore hiked

NEXT STORY



More when I land in Davos! As they say watch this space.

(The author is with Jubilant Bhartia Group and Co-Founder of PAFI)

(Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are that of the writer. The facts and opinions expressed here do not reflect the views of www.economictimes.com.)

Read Now





Power generation doubles on imported coal

FONT SIZE

SAVE

SHARE

tax on fuel



COMMENT

Synopsis

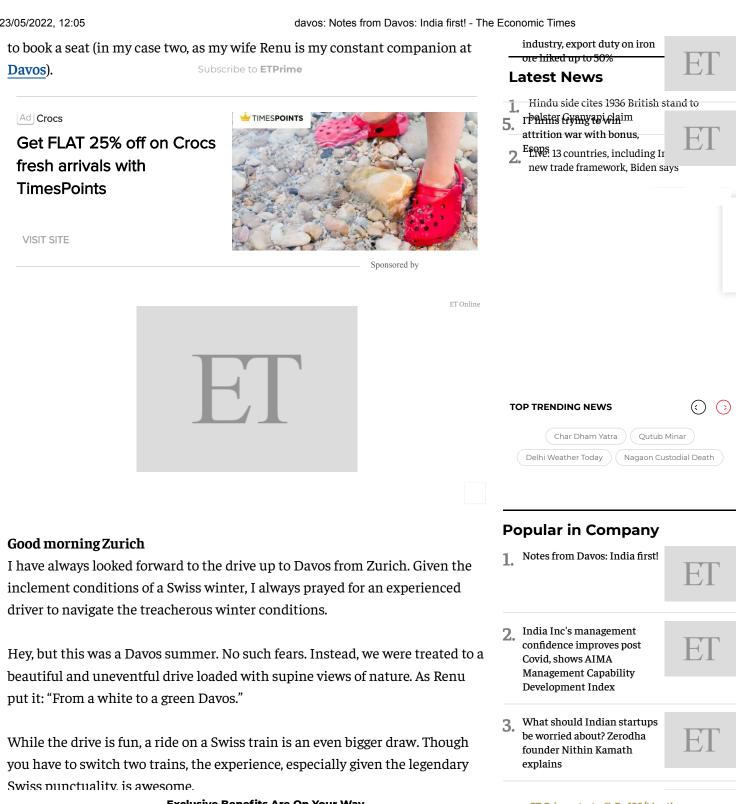
By Ajay Khanna, ET CONTRIBUTORS

The population of Davos, estimated at about 10,000 (numbers India can conjure in a few blocks), survive on the business generated by ski tourism—which extends from end-November till April. Claudia, a German living in Davos for over 11 years, says the town all but shuts down in off-season. They do get an odd tourist engaged in hiking or biking. The residents therefore are delighted at this summer treat to their business.

READ MORE NEWS ON

Last Updated: May 23, 2022, 10:40 AM IST





ETPrime

Exclusive Benefits Are On Your Way Enjoy 63% Savings on 2 Year Membership

Α μαγυς συμμμει

Davos and Klosters are twin ski resorts. Both towns thrive in winter when visitors arrive in droves. Summer therefore is the lean season.

In fact I recall a visit to Davos in the summer of 2005. It was a ghost town. Restaurants, hotels, local transport, including taxis, were off the grid.

ET Prime starts @ Rs 150/Month JOIN ET PRIME

leaders' minds

Situational Awareness Key For Leadership In Crisis: Jayant Sinha to ETILC Members



the Mall Road (a standard feature at Indian hill stations) in Davos is the Promenade.

About three kilometres long, the Promenade connects the two train stations in Davos: Davos Dorf and Davos Platz. And this stretch is where all the action is.

The population of Davos, estimated at about 10,000 (numbers India can conjure in a few blocks), survive on the business generated by ski tourismwhich extends from end-November till April.

Claudia, a German living in Davos for over 11 years, says the town all but shuts down in off-season. They do get an odd tourist engaged in hiking or biking. The residents therefore are delighted at this summer treat to their business.

The Business Opportunity

Like in winter, the best means of moving around is the shuttle service deployed by the World Economic Forum (WEF). The WEF Congress is the centre, and the blue, yellow, and red lines converge here. The drivers are all local.

The cafes and eateries that dot the Promenade have been temporarily closed. Their space is being used to host company, country, and state pavilions.

These lounges provide the perfect spot to mingle and network—the dharma of Davos.

We walked into a very welcoming Saudi tourism lounge on the promenade and took in the breath-taking décor. The ambience and the warm welcome made Saudi coffee taste that much better. (See pictures)



ETPrime

Enjoy 63% Savings on 2 Year Membership

Renu on the Saudi Cafe on Promenade

Celeb spotting

I bumped into the young Maharashtra minister Aditya Thackeray who had turned up early to formally throw open the Maharashtra lounge.

Most Popular Opinion

- 1. Why it is impossible to continue with GST law in its present form
 - 👘 🛛 By Manmohan Sethi
- 2. New Aussie rules apply for MNCs 🚯 By M Shumi Akhtar
- 3. Fuel a long-term strategy for oil now

Top Category Deals



Latest News

ET Online

- Hindu side cites 1936 British stand to bolster Gvanvapi claim
- Live: 13 countries, including India, to join new trade framework, Biden says
 - ET Prime starts @ Rs 150/Month JOIN ET PRIME

Covid Fears

Yes, the threat of the covid-19 pandemic may have receded, but the WEF managers are not taking chances. They continue to stick to the drill.

Accordingly, one had to upload vaccination certificates, take an RTPCR before boarding the flight; another test within 24 hours of picking up your credentials. Better safe than sorry.

The Badge of Honour

Once in Davos, the WEF badge is your passport. It is your means of access to the Congress centre, events, and hotels. Since everyone sports one, you also find an awful lot of time navel gazing (to catch the name) as you go about your business of networking.

Once the registration is done—a process so incredible smooth and efficient you are handed your delegate bag. It includes a foldable umbrella (There is something about WEF and umbrellas; recall a special session in Myanmar, several years ago, where we handed this beautiful umbrella with motifs drawn from the country). Keeping with their commitment to green, the umbrellas are made from waste and one hundred percent recycled PET plastic bottles!



Sunday was the kick off eight Davis circle - the private event I mentioned with Prof .Klaus Schwab hosting the event . He surprised me by asking to make a comment on my experience with Davos over the years . Followed by the big

ETPrime

Exclusive Benefits Are On Your Way Enjoy 63% Savings on 2 Year Membership

I met young Swiss entrepreneur who is making robots to cut the famous Swiss cheese- Raclette (see picture) this is a unique feature of the forum as mentioned earlier notes where apart from the famous names you meet young entrepreneurs, global shapers, over 100 unicorns this year & so on! ET Prime starts @ Rs 150/Month JOIN ET PRIME





The last entry on my diary was the first Indiaspora dinner up in a beautiful chalet in hotel Schatzalp. This is for the first time Indiaspora are doing an event to bring together Indians from all over the world at this beautiful ski resort! Met many prominent Indians at this well curated dinner!

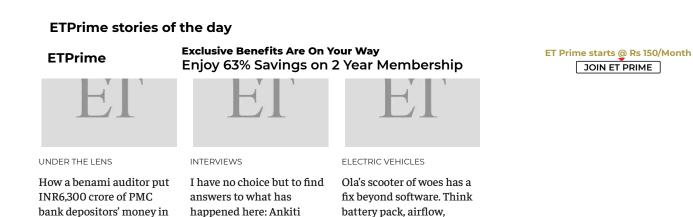
So much for the fun and games. From Monday it is showtime folks.

(The writer is with Jubilant Bhartia Group & Co-founder of PAFI)

(Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are that of the writer. The facts and opinions expressed here do not reflect the views of <u>www.economictimes.com</u>.)



(Catch all the **Business News**, **Breaking News** Events and **Latest News** Up **...more**



Subscribe to **ETPrime**

ET Search News, Stock Quotes & NAV

22 mm 3 r cu c

Trending Now

Char Dham Yatra | Qutub Minar Excavation | Delhi Weather Today | Arjun Singh | Petrol Prices Today | NSE | Petrol Excise Duty | Delhi Weather Today Live Updates | GST Verdict | Sensex Today | Nikhat Zareen | Cardless Withdrawals | Sunil Jakhar | Ministry of Corporate Affairs | Defence | Economy | Headlines Today

Popular Categories

 India
 Decoded
 Web Stories
 Morning Brief Podcast
 Newsblogs
 Economy
 Industry
 Politics
 Company
 Defence
 International

 International
 ET Evoke
 Elections
 ET Explains
 Sports
 Science
 Environment
 ET TV
 Latest News

Hot On Web

 Steel Stocks Today
 Tata Steel Share Price
 Sensex Today
 Elon Musk News
 Delhi Weather Today
 Net Exam
 Arjun Singh
 Amazon
 Petrol Price today
 Petrol Vat Reduce
 Delhi Weather Today Live Updates
 PM Kisan eKYC Deadline
 Cardless Cash Withdrawal
 Binance Coin Price
 What are balanced mutual funds
 Global markets
 Mutual funds

In Case You Missed It

Sensex Today | Assam Flood | Delhi Weather Today | Deepika Padukone Cannes | Assam Custodial Death | NSE | Fuel Prices Cut | Diesel Excise Duty | Delhi Weather Today Live Updates | Petrol Price Reduce | Cardless Withdrawals | GSTVerdict

Top Calculators

 Standard Deviation Calculator | Income Tax Calculator | Age Calculator | Time Calculator | BMI Calculator | GPA Calculator |

 Statistics Calculator | Fraction Calculator | Diabetes Risk Calculator | Date Calculator | Log Calculator

Top Searched Companies

 MRPL Share Price
 Maruti Suzuki Share Price
 Hariom Pipe Industries Ltd Shar...
 RBL Bank Share Price
 Railtel Corporation Of India Ltd ...
 Solara Active Pharma Share Price
 IndusInd Bank Share Price
 Hero MotoCorp Share Price

 Tata Consumer Share Price
 Deepak Nitrite Share Price
 Price
 IndusInd Bank Share Price
 IndusInd Bank Share Price

Top Definitions

Crowding Out Effect | Systems Design | Price Floor | Capital Market | Market Concentration

Top Commodities

Silver Rate | Crudeoil Rate | Nickel Rate | Naturalgas Rate

ETPrime	Exclusive Benefits Are On Your Way Enjoy 63% Savings on 2 Year Membership	ET Prime starts @ Rs 150/Month JOIN ET PRIME
I ne Challengers Can Fintech	Pl Rising Construction And Land C Groters Ex Founders New Vention	u vvny ine Approval Ot ine First
Cigarette Wheat Dividend Ho	w How Ocean Containers Became A	

Top Story Listing

Epf | Sensex Crash | Coronavirus In Bangalore | Uidai | Lic

Top Slideshow

Lemon Tree Target Rs 84 | Restaurant Brands Asia Target R... | Hdfc | Other Covid Variants Detected | Tcs | Lemon Tree Target Rs 84 |

23/05/2022, 12:05

davos: Notes from Davos: India first! - The Economic Times

Top Trending Topics

Johnny Depp | Cleveland Abduction | Cryptocurrency Market | Bitcoin Crash | Sri Lanka Political Crisis

Top Videos

 Nsg Team Defuses Explosive De...
 Et Awards For Corporate Excelle...
 Amway India Running A Pyrami...
 Stocks In Focus Ril Wipro Hdfc ...
 Ril Frl Deal Cancelled Key Implic...
 Watch A Local Train Derails In C...
 Its Very Heartening To Watch Th...
 Experts Take Should You Invest I...

 Ambuja And Acc Cements Up F...
 Lic Ipo All You Need To Know Abo...

Private Companies

Reliance Smsl Limited | Wheelseye Technology Private L... | Krishnaiah Projects Private Limi... | Ocean Sparkle Limited | Shreyash Retail Private Limited

Popular Articles

 Nifty May Find Support Around ...
 Pnb Increases Fd Interest Rates ...
 Cyclone Wont Make Landfall In ...
 Lic Ipo Subscribed 17 Times On ...
 Lic Ipo Subscribed 15 Times On ...
 India To Step Up Assistance As S...
 Nifty50 Likely To Remain Weak I...
 There Could Be More Weakness ...

 Tata Power Net Profit Up 31 At R...
 Nepal Invites Tenders From India...
 Nepal Invites Tenders From India...

Most Searched Articles

Sun Emits Massive Solar Flare W... | Covid 19 Three Times More Leth... | Both Hdfc Hdfc Bank Good Buy... | Tata Electronics Set For Semico... | These Are The Easiest Ways You C...

ET Verticals

Auto News | Retail News | Health News | Telecom News | Energy News | IT News | Real Estate News | Marketing & Advertising News | Technology News | CFO News | IT Security News

More From Our Network

Pune Mirror | Bangalore Mirror | Ahmedabad Mirror | ItsMyAscent | Education Times | Brand Capital | Mumbai Mirror | Times Now | Indiatimes | महाराष्ट्र टाइम् | ವಿಜಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ | Go Green | AdAge India | Eisamay | IGN India | IamGujarat | Times of India | Samayam Tamil | Samayam Telugu | Miss Kyra | Bombay Times | Filmipop | MX Player | Newspaper Subscription | Times Prime | Colombia | NBT Gold Podcast | Ei Samay Gold Podcast | MX ShareKaro App | MX TakaTak App

Other Useful Links

 About Us
 Archive
 Subscribe to ET Prime
 Book your Newspaper Subscription
 Create Your Own Ad
 Advertise with Us

 Terms of Use & Grievance Redressal
 Privacy policy
 Contact Us
 RSS
 DNPA Code of Ethics
 Longwalks App

Follow Us On:	Download ET App:	SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER

Copyright © 2022 Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd. All rights reserved. For reprint rights: Times Syndication Service

ETPrime

Exclusive Benefits Are On Your Way Enjoy 63% Savings on 2 Year Membership

ET Prime starts @ Rs 150/Month JOIN ET PRIME