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**COMMITTEE
ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(2024-25)**

EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

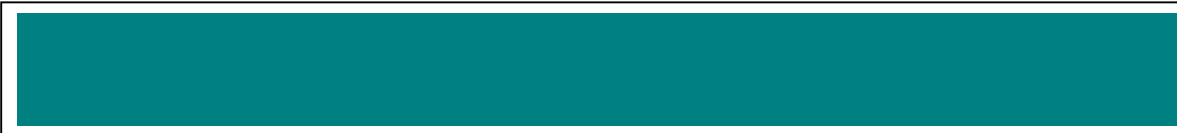
Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Twenty Seventh Report on the subject 'India's Engagement with G20 Countries'

SECOND REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

DECEMBER, 2024 / Agrahayana, 1946 (Saka)



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COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(2024-25)

(EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Twenty Seventh Report on the subject 'India's Engagement with G20 Countries'

Presented to Lok Sabha on 03 December, 2024
Laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 03 December, 2024



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

DECEMBER, 2024 / Agrahayana, 1946 (Saka)

COEA NO.--

Price: Rs.

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Published under Rule 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha
(_____ Edition) and printed by

CONTENTS

| | PAGE |
|--|-------|
| COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE (2024-25)..... | (ii) |
| INTRODUCTION..... | (iii) |
| Chapter I Report..... | 1 |
| Chapter II Observations /Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government..... | 15 |
| Chapter III Observations / Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's Replies..... | 63 |
| Chapter IV Observations / Recommendations in respect of which Replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and require reiteration..... | 64 |
| Chapter V Observations / Recommendations in respect of which Final Replies of the Government are still awaited..... | 65 |

APPENDICES

| | |
|--|----|
| I. Minutes of the Second Sitting of the Committee held on 25 October, 2024. | 68 |
| II. Analysis of Action Taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the Twenty Seventh Report of the Committee on External Affairs (17 th Lok Sabha)..... | 70 |

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (2024-25)

Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Chairperson

Lok Sabha

2. Smt. D. K. Aruna
3. Shri Vijay Baghel
4. Shri Mitesh Patel Bakabhai
5. Shri Abhishek Banerjee
6. Shri Arun Govil
7. Shri Deepender Singh Hooda
8. Shri Navaskani K.
9. Shri Kripanath Mallah
10. Shri Brijendra Singh Ola
11. Shri Asaduddin Owaisi
12. Shri Sanatan Pandey
13. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Panigrahy
14. Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad
15. Shri Y. S. Avinash Reddy
16. Smt. Aparajita Sarangi
17. Shri Arvind Ganpat Sawant
18. Ms. Praniti Sushilkumar Shinde
19. Ms. Bansuri Swaraj
20. Shri Akshay Yadav
21. Vacant

Rajya Sabha

22. Dr. John Brittas
23. Smt. Kiran Choudhry
24. Smt. Sagarika Ghose
25. Dr. K. Laxman
26. Ms. Kavita Patidar
27. Shri A. D. Singh
28. Kunwar Ratanjeet Pratap Narayan Singh
29. Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi
30. Vacant
31. Vacant

Secretariat

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Shri Anjani Kumar | — | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Smt. Reena Gopalakrishnan | — | Director |
| 3. | Ms. Maya Menon | — | Under Secretary |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Committee on External Affairs (2024-25) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Second Report (18th Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the Observations /Recommendations contained in the Twenty Seventh Report of the Committee on External Affairs (17th Lok Sabha) on the subject 'India's Engagement with G20 Countries'

2. The Twenty Seventh Report was presented to the Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 20 December, 2023. The Action Taken Replies of the Government on all the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report were received on 22 February, 2024 (English Version) and 06 August, 2024 (Hindi Version).

3. The Committee considered and adopted this Action Taken Report at their Sitting held on 25 October, 2024. The Minutes of the Sitting of the Committee have been given at Appendix-I to the Report.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Twenty Seventh Report of the Committee on External Affairs is given at Appendix-II.

NEW DELHI
25 November, 2024
04 Agrahayana, 1946 (Saka)

Dr. Shashi Tharoor,
Chairperson,
Committee on External Affairs

CHAPTER-I

This Report of the Committee on External Affairs deals with the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in their Twenty Seventh Report on the subject 'India's Engagement with G20 Countries' which was presented to the Lok Sabha and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 20th December, 2023.

2. The Action Taken Notes have been received from the Ministry of External Affairs on all the 32 observations/recommendations contained in the Report. These have been categorized as follows: -

(i) **Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:**

Recommendation Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11,12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32

Total- 30

Chapter-II

(ii) **Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies:-**

NIL

Total- 0

Chapter-III

(iii) **Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee and require reiteration: -**

NIL

Total- 0

Chapter-IV

- (iv) **Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited: -**

Recommendation Nos. 5 and 30

Total-2

Chapter-V

3. **The Committee desire that the final replies to the comments contained in Chapter-I and observations/recommendations contained in Chapter-V of this Report may be furnished to the Committee within three months of the presentation of this Report.**

4. The Committee will now deal with the action taken by the Government on some of their observations/recommendations that require reiteration or merit comments.

Recommendation No. 5

5. The Committee in their Twenty Seventh Report had observed/recommended as under:

The Committee note that over 30,000 delegates from G20 Member countries and invitee countries / international organizations participated in over 200 meetings held during India's G20 Presidency. During the Presidency, India engaged with all the G20 countries throughout the year bilaterally at ministerial and Leader's levels which helped in gaining consensual support on difficult and critical issues. The Committee further note that meetings of 40 different G20 mechanisms were held, including 13 Sherpa Track Working Groups, 8 Finance Track work streams, 11 Engagement

Groups, 6 Initiatives and 2 stand-alone Ministerial tracks. The Committee have been informed that G20 Members and guest countries wholeheartedly participated in these meetings/ deliberations and supported their outcome documents. The Committee are quite sure that these interactions at both working and Ministerial levels have paved way for deepening India's relationship with all G20 and Guest countries. The Committee, hence, urge the Ministry to actively work on a mechanism to proactively carry forward the ties formed during these interaction to next level and further strengthen India's diplomatic relations and engagement with the G20 and Guest countries.

6. The Ministry in its Action Taken Reply has stated as under:

'The G20 Presidency provided a unique opportunity to take forward our relations with the G20 and the invitee countries at different levels of government, thus deepening mutual understanding and paving the way for deepening bilateral cooperation with them in diverse fields.

After our successful G20 Presidency, India is building upon its relationships and strengthening its partnerships with G20 Members and Invitees in areas of common interest on a number of global issues, including in bilateral or regional discussions. Areas of new or stronger cooperation include digital public infrastructure; health; agriculture; education; energy transition; migration and mobility partnerships; culture; science and technology; and other fields of mutual interest covered in the G20.'

7. The Committee in their Twenty Seventh Report had urged the Ministry to actively work on a mechanism to carry forward the ties formed during G20 interactions to next level and strengthen further India's diplomatic relations and engagement with the G20 and Guest countries. The Committee note that though the Ministry, in its reply has assured that India is building upon its relationships and strengthening its partnerships with G20 Members and Invitees in areas of common interest on a number of global issues, including bilateral or regional discussions, they have not elaborated on the actions taken by them in this regard. It appears that

the Ministry still do not have any clear blueprint prepared about how they intend to go ahead in future. The Committee strongly believe that it is imperative that the Government take active interest in building on the relationships and partnerships formed during G20 and feel that an actively thought out policy plan in this regard would help in furthering the interests of the nation. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry actively work on preparing an action plan in this regard. Committee would also like to be kept apprised of action oriented steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Ministry in building and strengthening relations with G20 members.

Recommendation No. 11

8. The Committee in their report had observed/recommended as under:

‘India’s G20 Presidency saw several new initiatives and one among them was the Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group. Recognizing that the current economic choices and development pathways are not in line with the commitments to reduce risk contained in the Sendai Framework as well as the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement and, given the immense adverse economic impact of natural disasters nationally and globally, India took the initiative to establish this Working Group. The Indian Presidency of G20 recognized that disaster risk reduction is one of the central development issues of the 21st century. The Committee note that the Working Group aimed to integrate risk reduction measures into public and private sector investment decisions and policy making. Through sharing expertise and good practice, development of guidance documents and common approaches, the Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group supports G20 countries to develop and implement national policies that reduce risk today and build resilience against future shocks. The Committee have been informed that the DRR WG was led by NDMA from India’s side. The Committee are of the considered view that focus on disaster risk

reduction is a prerequisite for not only achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) but also for successfully implementing other climate responsive policies such as implementing the energy transition. The Committee are hopeful that the future presidencies are able to carry forward the key takeaways of the G20 DRR WG and bring about concrete implementation strategy for the same.'

9. The Ministry in its Action Taken Reply has stated as under:

'Under India's G20 Presidency, G20 member countries reaffirmed the importance of investing in multi-hazard early warning systems that enable and deliver early and anticipatory action as an essential component of disaster preparedness. G20 leaders committed to seeking universal coverage of early warning systems, welcoming the efforts of all actors and stakeholders. G20 member countries also urged for accelerating progress on Early Warning and Early Action through strengthening national and local capacities, innovative financing tools, private sector investment, and knowledge sharing. As a follow up, knowledge sharing compendium and case studies have already been action upon with contribution from the G20 Member Countries and International Organizations.

Brazil is continuing with the DRR Working Group and has retained the 5 priorities that were listed by the Indian Presidency. Hence, it is expected that work in this important field will retain the momentum that was gained under the Indian Presidency.'

10. Recognizing that disaster risk reduction is one of the central development issues of the 21st century, during its presidency, India had formed Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group with an aim to reducing the adverse economic impact of natural disasters nationally and globally and building resilience against future shocks. The Committee had hoped that the future presidencies would carry forward the key takeaways of Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group meetings and work out a concrete implementation strategy for the same. The Committee are encouraged to note that Brazil, during its presidency, is continuing with the DRR Working Group and has retained the 5 priorities that were listed by the Indian Presidency. The

Committee are hopeful that this initiative would, in the long run, assist India as well as the member countries to develop and implement national policies that reduce risk today and build resilience against future shocks. The Committee desire that they may be kept abreast of the developments and decisions taken in the meetings of Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group.

Recommendation No. 15

11. The Committee in their report had observed/recommended as under:

The Committee are happy to note that India has taken its G20 presidency 2023 as a significant opportunity to showcase the country's rich heritage of traditional medicine and its potential to contribute to global health and well-being. The New Delhi Leaders' Declaration recognized the potential role of evidence-based Traditional and Complementary Medicine in health and took note of international efforts in this direction. A G20 Traditional Medicine Compendium, which is a digital repository of traditional medicine knowledge and practices from G20 countries has also been launched during the presidency. The Committee, while welcoming the initiatives taken during the presidency to provide thrust to traditional medicine, urge that the Government boost its efforts to raise global awareness of the potential benefits of traditional medicine and promote its safe and effective use. The Committee further urge the Government to work on action-oriented plans to encourage integration of traditional medicine into mainstream healthcare systems both at national and international levels and also promote global cooperation on traditional medicine by entering into MoUs with other countries.

12. The Ministry in its Action Taken Reply has stated as under:

‘The G20 New Delhi Leaders’ Declaration recognized the potential role of evidence-based Traditional and Complementary Medicine (T&CM) and took note of international efforts in this direction, including WHO’s global and collaborating centres, and clinical trial registries.

T&CM is a high priority area for the Government, which is being taken forward at bilateral and multilateral fora, including through the Global Centre for Traditional Medicine, Jamnagar.’

13. **With a view to raising global awareness of the potential benefits of traditional medicine and promoting its safe and effective use, the Committee had urged the Government to work on action-oriented plans to encourage integration of traditional medicine into mainstream healthcare systems both at national and international levels and also promote global cooperation on traditional medicine by entering into MoUs with other countries. The Committee, however, note that the Ministry in their reply have merely stated that Traditional and Complementary Medicine is a high priority area for the Government, which is being taken forward at bilateral and multilateral fora and have not given any details regarding the steps taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendation of the Committee. The Committee are of the view that Traditional medicine systems have been contributing in new drug discoveries and have the potential to benefit mankind. They can be a cost-effective and accessible option for communities, especially in primary healthcare settings and there is indispensable need to preserve them as also make them modern, authentic, and global. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Government work on action-oriented plans to encourage integration of traditional medicine into mainstream healthcare systems. The Committee also desire that they may be apprised of the steps taken in this regard.**

Recommendation No. 16

14. The Committee in their report had observed/recommended as under:

The Committee understand that MAHARISHI initiative, mooted during India's Presidency aims to bolster research and awareness concerning agro-biodiversity, food security and nutrition aligning with the International Year of Millets 2023 (IYoM 2023) programme initiated by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). The focus was on millets and other underutilized grains with a view to providing an optimistic pathway for all nations to attain agricultural efficiency and food security. With the nations reeling under the catastrophic effects of COVID-19, conflicts, slowdowns and downturns, and climate change, India's additional vision to focus on agriculture production and consumption of millets is commendable. While appreciating the initiative, the Committee urge the Government to make concerted efforts to promote production and consumption of millets and other ancient grains within the country so that food security is assured for Indian citizens too. The Committee also hope that the successive presidencies too stress upon the need to build policies encouraging the production and consumption of millets and other ancient grains.

15. The Ministry in its Action Taken Reply has stated as under:

'The G20 Deccan High Level Principles (Deccan HLPs) on Food Security and Nutrition 2023, adopted under our G20 Presidency, emphasized the need to enhance availability and access to nutritious food and strengthening food safety nets. The G20 Millets and Other Ancient Grains International Research Initiative (MAHARISHI) was adopted under India's G20 Presidency with an international R&D Centre hosted at IIMR, Hyderabad.

The Deccan HLPs served as an input for the work of the Task Force to launch a “Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty”, to be created during the Brazilian presidency. The MAHARISHI initiative will also be taken forward by IIMR, Hyderabad, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.’

16. In their Twenty Seventh Report, the Committee had urged the Government to make concerted efforts to promote production and consumption of millets and other ancient grains within the country so that food security is assured for Indian citizens too. They had also hoped that the successive presidencies too would stress upon the need to build policies encouraging the production and consumption of millets and other ancient grains. The Committee are enthused to note that the Deccan High Level Principles on Food Security and Nutrition adopted during India’s G20 Presidency have assisted the Task Force to launching a “Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty”, which is to be created during the Brazilian presidency. The Committee desire to be kept apprised of the progress made in this regard during the Brazilian Presidency. The Committee are also hopeful that the MAHARISHI initiative will be successful in achieving goals of enhancing food security and nutrition not just in India but also globally.

Recommendation No. 17

17. The Committee in their report had observed/recommended as under:

India assumed G20 Presidency at a time when the world was riven by conflicts, chaos and crisis. Mindful of the challenges being faced, India set the agenda for

global policy cooperation to address these multifarious concerns. The Committee observe that the New Delhi Leaders' Declaration (NDLD) reflects the action-oriented approach taken by the Government as is evident from the range of outcomes that have come through in the document. While the G20 Outcome Documents of the previous years are heavily dominated by the agenda of the developed countries, the New Delhi Leaders Declaration has been successful in capturing the causes, priorities and concerns of the developing countries. The Committee are enthused to note that India has been successful in bringing together all G20 countries on the same page and have delivered 100 per cent consensus on the priorities set. With 83 paragraphs, 87 outcomes, 118 documents adopted, i.e. a total of 205 outcomes and documents, no dissent, no footnotes or Chair's Summary, New Delhi Leaders' Declaration symbolises an unprecedented global consensus on all key issues. The declaration reflects a uniquely Indian perspective of emphasizing universal, equitable and inclusive solutions to today's problems. The Committee underscore that NDLDs consensual nature is not only a testament to the trust India enjoy with all G20 partners but also a message for peace, dialogue, diplomacy and hope. The Committee, therefore, hope that it shape the global narratives in the coming years through the future Presidencies and bridge divides leading to a more inclusive human-centric development.

18. The Ministry in its Action Taken Reply has stated as under:

'The G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration (NDLD) set the way forward on a wide range of global issues, in the following areas:

- Strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth;
- Accelerating progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- Green development pact for a sustainable future;
- Multilateral Institutions for the 21st century;

- Technological Transformation and Digital Public Infrastructure;
- International Taxation;
- Gender Equality and Empowering All Women and Girls;
- Financial Sector Issues;
- Countering Terrorism and Money Laundering; and
- Creating a More Inclusive World.

By bringing consensus in 83 paragraphs of the NDLD, India's G20 Presidency brought multilateralism back to the centre stage and demonstrated its ability to bring developing and developed countries together on pressing issues confronting the world. The consensus arrived at in New Delhi on development, climate and environment, energy transitions, health, agriculture, digital economy, trade and investment, disaster risk reduction, employment, education, tourism and anti-corruption, as well as on building multilateral institutions for the 21st century and global financial architecture, will leave a lasting impact. During its G20 Presidency, India also amplified the priorities and voice of the Global South in the G20. At the New Delhi G20 Summit, the African Union was inducted into the G20 as a permanent member.

Some of the decisions taken in New Delhi are already fructifying. For example, G20 achievements on energy and climate in New Delhi, on tripling RE, developing hydrogen, and scaling up climate and energy finance, were echoed and carried forward at COP28 in UAE. The G20 message on AI on pro-innovation governance and regulation, has been cemented at subsequent international gatherings. MDB reforms, to help scale up climate and developmental finance, and making MDBs more representative, is now at the heart of the agenda of the international financial institutions. Mechanisms on women-led development, disaster risk reduction and Startups, created during our Presidency, are Brazilian priorities as well. G20 has emerged stronger and more purposeful during India's Presidency, shaping the global agenda more effectively.

The Brazilian G20 Presidency priorities are the following:

- Social inclusion and the fight against hunger and poverty
 - The Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty
- Sustainable development and energy transitions
 - The Global Mobilization against Climate Change
 - Energy Transitions
 - The Initiative on Bioeconomy

➤ Reform of global governance institutions

Brazil is also continuing with all G20 mechanisms of the Indian Presidency, including all Working Groups and Engagement Groups. In addition, Brazil has convened the Empowerment of Women Working Group and has created a new Engagement Group “Judiciary20”. Thus, Indian G20 Presidency outcomes and Brazilian Presidency priorities are well aligned, and are being taken forward.

Brazil has also taken up some new initiatives, such as Triangular Cooperation, Task Force on Climate Change and Task Force on Hunger & Poverty, which were agreed to by G20 members during the first Sherpa meeting. This reflects G20’s commitment to bridging divides leading to more inclusive human centric development.’

19. The Committee are aware that with the adoption of the New Delhi Leaders’ Declaration (NDLD) with 100 per cent consensus on the priorities set, India had successfully brought together all G20 countries and set the way forward on a wide range of global issues. The Committee have been informed that some of the decisions taken in NDLD are already fructifying. The Committee are also satisfied to note that various priorities which were created during Indian Presidency such as Mechanisms on women-led development, disaster risk reduction and Startups are being followed through by Brazil. The Committee would like to kept apprised of the outcomes of the various priorities initiated by India and carried forward during the Brazilian Presidency as also of the new initiatives taken up by Brazil.

Recommendation No.30

20. The Committee in their report had observed/recommended as under:

The Committee find that a \$20 billion India-Middle East-Europe Corridor (IMEC), which is an ambitious multi-pronged network aiming to connect goods and services between Europe and Asia—via the Middle East, was launched during G20

Summit in New Delhi. It has been informed that the said strategic project will comprise two separate corridors, the east corridor connecting India to the Arabian Gulf and the northern corridor connecting the Arabian Gulf to Europe. It will include a railway that, upon completion, will provide a reliable and cost-effective cross-border ship-to-rail transit network to supplement existing maritime and road transport routes – enabling goods and services to transit to, from, and between India, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel, and Europe. Along the railway route, participants intend to enable the laying of cable for electricity and digital connectivity, as well as pipe for clean hydrogen export. While looking at IMEC as a secure addition to trans-regional connectivity architectures, the Committee underscore that the global economic order is becoming more multipolar. Since the signatories of the MoU are mandated to meet soon to develop and commit to an action plan, the Committee desire to be apprised about the project outlays, the funding mechanisms, the monitoring systems, the implementation modalities and relevant timetables. The Committee further look forward to seeing the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor functional within the timelines and stimulate economic integration between Asia, the Arabian Gulf, and Europe.

21. The Ministry in its Action Taken Reply has stated as under:

‘On the sidelines of the G20 Leaders’ Summit, Leaders of India, European Union, France, Germany, Italy, Saudi Arabia, UAE and US announced an MoU committing to work together to develop a new India-Middle East Economic Corridor (IMEC).

The IMEC will comprise of two separate corridors, the east corridor connecting India to the Gulf and the northern corridor connecting the Gulf to Europe.

The corridor intends to increase efficiency, reduce costs, secure regional supply chains, increase trade accessibility, enhance economic unity, generate jobs, and lower greenhouse gas emission-resulting in a transformative integration of Asia, Europe and the Middle East. Its implementation and IMEC project details are in the process of being worked out.’

22. The Committee in their Twenty Seventh Report had desired to be kept apprised about the project outlays, the funding mechanisms, the monitoring systems, the implementation modalities and relevant timetables of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor. The Ministry, in their reply, have submitted that the implementation and the project details of the IMEC are being worked out. The Committee desire that they may be kept abreast of the progress made on the project.

Chapter-II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

(Recommendation (Sl. No.1))

The Committee note that the G20, founded in 1999 after the Asian Financial crisis of 1997-98 as an informal forum for the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors to discuss global economic and financial issues, was upgraded in 2008 to the level of the Heads of State/Government and, in 2009, designated as the 'premier forum for international economic cooperation'. Though the forum initially focused largely on broad macroeconomic issues, along the years, it has expanded its mandate of discussion and action to include almost all pertinent challenges that the world continues facing. The Committee are of the considered view that, over the years, the G20 has filled an important gap in the governance structure of the global economic system and acted as a catalyst for advancing action. The Committee are hopeful that the G20 Forum would continue to play an important role in shaping and strengthening the global architecture and governance on all international socio-economic issues of importance and get them linked to demonstrable policy action.

Reply of the Government

G20 has emerged stronger and more purposeful after India's successful G20 Presidency in 2023 and the unanimous adoption of a substantive G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration (NDLD). The NDLD set out the way forward on a wide range of areas of global priority, as follows:

- Strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth;

- Accelerating progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- Green development pact for a sustainable future;
- Multilateral Institutions for the 21st century;
- Technological Transformation and Digital Public Infrastructure;
- International Taxation;
- Gender Equality and Empowering All Women and Girls;
- Financial Sector Issues;
- Countering Terrorism and Money Laundering; and
- Creating a More Inclusive World.

India continues to remain closely engaged with the G20, even after the New Delhi Leaders' Summit in September 2023. A virtual G20 Leaders' Summit, under the chairship of the Prime Minister, was held on 22 November 2023, to review the NDLD outcomes and accelerate progress on them. Following the virtual Summit, the following way forward for the G20 was articulated:

- Support the development agenda
- Fulfil aspirations and priorities of Global South
- Promote reforms in global economic and governance structure to make them bigger, better, effective, representative and future ready
- Affordable finance to developing countries
- Undertake Debt Restructuring in transparent manner
- Implementation of Action Plan for 2030 SDGs
- Prioritize food security, health security and sustainable development
- Climate action and just, easy and affordable climate finance
- Focus on women-led development, skilled migration pathways and development of MSMEs

- Working together with the spirit of One Earth One Family One Future for global peace and prosperity

Following concrete steps on Global South's climate priorities were also outlined at the virtual Summit:

- Climate Action and Climate Justice, with greater focus on Adaptation
- Easy and affordable Climate Finance for vulnerable countries
- Raising climate finance from billions to trillions
- Just, inclusive and affordable energy transition
- Focus on Alternate fuels, including through Global Biofuels Alliance
- G20 High-level Principles on Hydrogen
- Tripling of Renewable energy capacity by 2030
- Promotion of Pro-planet approach, including Mission LiFE

Brazil assumed the G20 presidency on 1 December, 2023 and is continuing with all the G20 mechanisms, including all Working Groups and Engagement Groups, of India's G20 Presidency. The main G20 priorities outlined by Brazil are (i) social inclusion and the fight against hunger and poverty, (ii) energy transitions and the promotion of sustainable development in its economic, social, and environmental dimensions and (iii) reform of global governance institutions. These are well aligned with India's G20 Presidency priorities and outcomes.

Overall, G20 is indeed taking forward specific and demonstrable policy actions in diverse areas, towards which India is lending its full support.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.2)

The Committee note that the Group of Twenty (G20) comprises of 19 countries (namely Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Türkiye, United Kingdom and United States) and two regional bodies: the European Union and the African Union (as of 2023). Thus, the G20 members represent around 85% of the global GDP, over 75% of the global trade, and about two-thirds of the world population. In addition to the member countries, each G20 Presidency invites other guest countries and international organizations (IOs) to participate in the G20 meetings and Summit. Each year, one country from a different group assumes the G20 Presidency and steers the G20 agenda for one year and hosts the Summit. The Committee are given to understand that the presidency plays a key role in shaping the agenda and the host country typically identifies a set of priorities/ issues to be discussed during its term after seeking inputs from other member countries to ensure that the agenda reflects a broad consensus and addresses the most pressing global economic challenges. The Committee note that every country during its Presidency tries to give a special character and orientation to the G20 reflecting its own priorities. According to the Committee, what makes G20 a unique forum is that no one country dominates the agenda and the developing countries too can display their political, economic and intellectual leadership on a par with the most powerful countries. Having each country hold the presidency from time to time also increases ownership and trust between the countries. The Committee, hence, hope that building broad consensus within the G20 and gathering technical support from key international organizations will help in successful implementation of resolutions during subsequent presidencies.

Reply of the Government

The consensus achieved in New Delhi among all G20 members on a wide range of global challenges will continue to be reinforced by India and further developed during the Brazilian Presidency and beyond. A number of International Organizations are invited regularly to G20 meetings, including the UN, IMF, WB, WHO and WTO, and will continue to be involved in the G20, to participate in its deliberations and to help implement G20 outcomes.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.3))

The theme of India's G20 Presidency was "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth · One Family · One Future". The colours in the G20 Logo – saffron, white and green, and blue have been drawn from the vibrant colours of India's national flag and the logo juxtaposed planet earth with the lotus, India's national flower. The Earth reflects India's pro-planet approach to life, one in perfect harmony with nature. The Committee note that the logo and the theme together conveyed a powerful message of India's G20 Presidency by upholding just and equitable growth for all in the world. The Committee appreciate that the Government has been able to successfully steer discussions as well as build consensus on global agenda under its G20 theme of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' towards creating a more inclusive world, which is quite evident in the various outcomes of the New Delhi Leaders Declaration. The Committee, while complimenting the Government on having delivered the message of unity to the world, despite numerous divisive challenges the world has been

facing, desire that the message championed by India during her presidency is taken forward with more passion in future presidencies too.

Reply of the Government

During its Presidency, India has been able to steer discussion as well as build consensus on global agenda under its G20 theme of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam including on (i) Strong, Sustainable, Balanced and Inclusive Growth; (ii) Accelerating Progress on SDGs; (iii) Green Development Pact for a Sustainable Future; (iv) Multilateral Institutions for the 21st Century, (v) Technological Transformation and Digital Public Infrastructure; (vi) Gender Equality and Empowering All Women; (vii) Financial Sector Issues; (viii) International Taxation; (ix) Countering Terrorism and Money Laundering; and (x) Creating a More Inclusive World.

India as a member of the Troika during the Brazilian Presidency is fully supportive of building consensus on the key priorities of G20, especially those of developing countries, while steering through the geo-political situation. During its Presidency, India championed the voice of the global south and will continue to do so during the Brazilian and the South African Presidency.

During the first G20 Sherpa meeting held in Brasilia from 11-13 December 2023, the importance of working unanimously to amicably resolve the differences and keep the focus on tackling contemporary socio-economic challenges was highlighted. Brazilian side also conveyed their intention of convening two G20 Foreign Ministers meetings, one in February 2024 and another in September 2024. These will deliberate on the way forward in the G20 substantive discussions, while discussing the impact of geopolitical disputes, in order to enable G20 to function fully and effectively.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.4)

The Committee have learnt that over 200 meetings were held during India's G20 Presidency of which 21 were Ministerial meetings, 4 Sherpa meetings, 75 Working Group meetings, 50 Engagement Groups and Initiatives meeting and 70 Side Events. These meetings were held in 60 Indian cities covering all 28 States and 8 Union Territories. The States, in collaboration with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), curated and organized cultural programmes for the delegates showcasing their local music and dance forms. The delegates were also taken on excursions which generally included cultural and heritage sites demonstrating the rich and ancient cultural history of India. 300+ cultural events involving 18000+ artists were organized during the G20 Presidency. Additionally, delegates were presented with gifts and memorabilia, which notably featured products emblematic of the "One District, One Product" (ODOP) initiative from their respective regions. Various exhibitions were also organized on the sidelines of working group meetings, ministerial meetings, Sherpa meetings and the Summit. The Committee are appreciative of the 'Pan India' approach taken by the Government whereby unique opportunity was provided to showcase the culture, food, tradition and vibrancy of each region. The Committee feel that this overall endeavour reflects the Government's commitment to cooperative federalism. The Committee are of the considered view that beyond the immediate advantages of this grand international affair, this Pan India approach has paved the way for giving global visibility to the Indian States and Cities. The upgraded infrastructure, enhanced connectivity, and elevated service standards established for conducting the events can become lasting assets which, in the long run, would bring about enduring impact transcending fleeting economic advantages. The Committee urge upon the Government to proactively consider a plan of action to channel the benefits that India would reap in the coming years.

Reply of the Government

Under India's Presidency, G20 meetings were held in 60 cities across the country covering all States and UTs. The cities and meeting venues were suitably spruced up by concerned local authorities for the meetings.

The various G20 meeting venues, including the Bharat Mandapam for the G20 Leaders' Summit, Yashobhoomi for the P20 Summit, as well as conference facilities across the country, are being promoted and utilized on priority for other national and international level meetings.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.6))

The Committee note that a key element of India's G20 Presidency was taking the G20 closer to the public and making it truly a 'People's G20'. To realize this, the Government had planned and organized various *Jan Bhagidari* (people's participation) activities throughout the year which involved citizen engagement and large-scale public participation. The Committee are given to understand that the 200 plus meetings scheduled across 60 cities of all the States and Union Territories saw the involvement of nearly 30,000 delegates and over 100,000 participants in related side events. The Committee also note that numerous 'Jan Bhagidari' activities were held across universities, institutions and civil society, touching more than 7 crore people. These activities included programs in educational institutions, festivals, awareness rallies, selfie with monument contests, essay & quiz competitions, workshops, marathons, cleanliness drives and Yuva Samvaad. Civil 20 alone touched more than 45 lakh people worldwide. Several Working Groups and Engagement

Groups made collective endeavours to boost public involvement. The Committee appreciate that these efforts have led to two world records as a testament to the strengthened public engagement. The first record was set when 125,000 students from 800 schools in Varanasi participated in the G20 quiz, making it a global achievement. Simultaneously, 450 Lambani artisans demonstrated their exceptional skills and craftsmanship by crafting an impressive collection of approximately 1,800 distinct patches, showcasing the dynamic and inclusive spirit of India's G20 Presidency. The Committee are pleased to note that through the active participation of people from all States and UTs, India's G20 has truly been a People's G20. The G20 events have brought together not only civil society but also self-help groups, small rural initiatives and local action groups, hitherto delinked to global dialogue and narratives. The Committee are truly appreciative of India's citizen-centric model of Jan-Bhagidari mooted as a new diplomatic tool which succeeded in realizing the essence of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' with active public participation. The Committee urge the Government to continue with its efforts to conduct more and more such Jan Bhagidari activities involving active public participation in future too so that the true spirit of democracy trickles down to the grass root level.

Reply of the Government

India's Presidency was truly a 'People's G20' exemplified through numerous 'Jan Bhagidari' activities, held across universities, institutions, civil society, youth and women, touching more than 7 crore people. These activities included programs in educational institutions, festivals, awareness rallies, selfie with monument contests, essay & quiz competitions, workshops, marathons, cleanliness drives and Yuva Samvaad. Civil 20 alone touched more than 45 lakh people worldwide.

Citizen participation in various events and activities on G20 themes, such as LiFE, climate change, sustainable development and cultural heritage, as well as modules on G20 subjects in educational institutions, are being constantly encouraged. A total of 7 large webinars on G20 NDLD outcomes and takeaways, involving think tanks, students, private sector and state governments, were held by concerned GOI Departments/Institutions (DEA, NITI, MEITY, MHA and MoWCD, with participation by MEA) in November-December 2023.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (SI. No.7)

The Committee note that the G20 India consisted of two parallel tracks - the Finance Track and the Sherpa Track. The Sherpa Track consisted of 13 working groups that focused on socio-economic issues such as agriculture, anti-corruption, climate, digital economy, education, employment, energy, environment, health, tourism, trade and investment, culture and disaster risk reduction. The Committee find that a new Working Group on Empowerment of Women was decided during India's Presidency. The Finance Track had 8 working Groups which focused on fiscal and monetary policy issues such as the global economy, infrastructure, financial regulation, financial inclusion, international financial architecture, and international taxation. Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors lead the Finance Track while Sherpa lead the Sherpa Track. The representatives from the relevant ministries of the member countries as well as from invited/guest countries and various international organisations participate in such thematically oriented working groups. The Sherpa oversees negotiations over the course of the year, discussing agenda items for the Summit and coordinating the substantive work of the G20. In addition, there were Engagement Groups which brought together civil societies, parliamentarians, think tanks, women, youth, labour, businesses and researchers of the G20 countries. These Engagement Groups, comprising nongovernment participants from each G20

member country provide recommendations to the G20 Leaders and contribute towards the policy-making process. The Committee desire that the priorities set by India through these working groups and engagement groups are picked up by the member countries and relate them with their aspirations while drawing from India's core strengths.

Reply of the Government

G20 is a premier agenda setting body of the World. G20 declarations and commitments resonate across the world and are carried forward by concerned international organisations and sovereign governments, through specific actions and concrete steps. Though G20 declarations are not legally binding, some indicative timelines, such as tripling of renewable energy globally from current levels by 2030, halving the gender digital divide by 2030 and setting of a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) for Climate finance in 2024 are mentioned in the G20 New Delhi Leaders' Document (NDLD) itself. Deliverables and outcomes of G20 are implemented domestically by sovereign governments or internationally through various bilateral, plurilateral or multilateral agreements and commitments, while taking into account national circumstances. India will continue to advocate and emphasize on the importance of full and timely implementation of NDLD outcomes at various bilateral and multilateral fora.

From the issues and priorities set forth by the Brazilian G20 Presidency, it is evident that many important priorities discussed during our Presidency and the related outcomes are being taken forward meaningfully. These include progress on SDGs, DPis, women empowerment, reform in multilateral institutions, and just energy transitions. Several of these, such as DPI, affordable energy transition and responsible consumption and production, draw upon India's strength.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.8))

The Committee understand that G20 has no permanent secretariat and is chaired annually by the rotating Presidency. Accordingly, on assuming Presidency, India set up a full-fledged Secretariat of about 80 people with Shri Harsh Shringla, former Foreign Secretary, as the Chief Coordinator. Shri Amitabh Kant was India's Sherpa. India's G20 Secretariat which operated out of Sushma Swaraj Bhawan in New Delhi was responsible for organising and coordinating G20 meetings across the country during the course of India's Presidency. The Committee have also been apprised of the important role played by all other Ministries under the Government of India and the support they provided to the G20 secretariat. The Committee note that the resounding success of India's G20 Presidency owes a lot to the officials who took every challenge they faced as opportunities to shape the needs of the G20 Presidency. The Committee, while wholeheartedly appreciating and acknowledging the tireless efforts and efficiency of the Indian officials, look forward to similar team efforts in future also in taking India to further heights in the international arena.

Reply of the Government

As noted by the Committee, our G20 Presidency's success can be attributed to the entire G20 team working with singularity of purpose, under the overall guidance from Hon'ble Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister.

A number of officers at different levels of seniority of the Union and State governments were involved in the substantive and logistical aspects of our G20 meetings, and have gained experience. It would be Government's endeavour to put in similar efforts in future international events.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.9))

The Committee note that the 18th G20 Summit was successfully conducted at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi during 9-10 September, 2023. It was the culmination of all the G20 processes and meetings held throughout the year among ministers, senior officials, and civil societies. The G20 Leaders' Declaration was adopted at the G20 New Delhi Leaders' Summit, stating their commitment towards the priorities discussed and agreed upon. 26 Leaders at HOS/G level, five others at Premier/Ministerial level and 11 Heads of International Organizations participated in Leaders' Summit, including all P5 countries and accounting for 85% of global GDP, 75% of world trade and 2/3rd of world population. G20 India 2023 was the highest profile international gathering independent India have had in her history. The theme of our G20 Presidency "One Earth, One Family, One Future", drawing upon our age-old belief of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', was endorsed by all. With over 200 meetings in 60 Indian cities in all our States and UTs, across 40 different mechanisms including Sherpa and Finance Track Working Groups, as well as Engagement Groups and 30,000 delegates, the size, scale and scope of India's G20 Presidency was truly unprecedented. The Committee are extremely happy to find that around 70 bilateral meetings were held with the G20 countries by India on the sidelines of the G20 summit. The Committee recommend that the engagement with the G20 countries during its presidency may be pursued further at bilateral and multilateral fora towards mutual benefit on issues of common interest.

Reply of the Government

The G20 Presidency provided a unique opportunity to take forward our relations with the G20 and the invitee countries at different levels of government, thus deepening the understanding at a functional level.

India continues to participate actively in various G20 meetings under the Brazilian Presidency and will do so in the future as well.

After our successful G20 Presidency, India is building upon its relationships and strengthening its partnerships with G20 Members and Invitees in areas of common interest on a number of global issues, including in bilateral and multilateral discussions, these include diverse areas like on Digital Public Infrastructure; health; agriculture; education; energy transition; migration and mobility partnerships; culture; women-led development; and science and technology.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.10))

The Committee note that India's G20 Presidency priorities were inclusive and grounded, with broad areas of substantive deliberations comprising inclusive and resilient growth; progress on SDGs; green development and LIFE; technological transformation and public digital infrastructure; reforming multilateral institutions; women-led development; and international peace and harmony. Our G20 priorities were rooted in our national developmental priorities and India could take a cross-cutting, action-oriented approach to interconnected issues, including gender equality, education, health and environmental sustainability. The Committee appreciate the vision behind the priorities and hope that all the member countries have had their share of takeaways from our Presidency.

Reply of the Government

While the G20 agenda and priorities under our G20 Presidency were broadly set by us, they were taken forward with the agreement of all the G20 members, taking into account positions, concerns and aspirations of all Members. These priorities, while being of

importance to India, resonated with the countries of the global South and, found support from all the G20 Members.

The declarations and outcome documents were drafted through deliberations and negotiations between the G20 countries with inputs from international organisations, thereby ensuring that different interests and positions were adequately incorporated, and decisions and outcomes were adopted by consensus.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.11))

India's G20 Presidency saw several new initiatives and one among them was the Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group. Recognizing that the current economic choices and development pathways are not in line with the commitments to reduce risk contained in the Sendai Framework as well as the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement and, given the immense adverse economic impact of natural disasters nationally and globally, India took the initiative to establish this Working Group. The Indian Presidency of G20 recognized that disaster risk reduction is one of the central development issues of the 21st century. The Committee note that the Working Group aimed to integrate risk reduction measures into public and private sector investment decisions and policy making. Through sharing expertise and good practice, development of guidance documents and common approaches, the Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group supports G20 countries to develop and implement national policies that reduce risk today and build resilience against future shocks. The Committee have been informed that the DRR WG was led by NDMA from India's side. The Committee are of the considered view that focus on disaster risk reduction is a prerequisite for not only achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) but also for successfully implementing other climate responsive policies such as

implementing the energy transition. The Committee are hopeful that the future presidencies are able to carry forward the key takeaways of the G20 DRR WG and bring about concrete implementation strategy for the same.

Reply of the Government

Under India's G20 Presidency, G20 member countries reaffirmed the importance of investing in multi-hazard early warning systems that enable and deliver early and anticipatory action as an essential component of disaster preparedness. G20 leaders committed to seeking universal coverage of early warning systems, welcoming the efforts of all actors and stakeholders. G20 member countries also urged for accelerating progress on Early Warning and Early Action through strengthening national and local capacities, innovative financing tools, private sector investment, and knowledge sharing. As a follow up, knowledge sharing compendium and case studies have already been action upon with contribution from the G20 Member Countries and International Organizations.

Brazil is continuing with the DRR Working Group and has retained the 5 priorities that were listed by the Indian Presidency. Hence, it is expected that work in this important field will retain the momentum that was gained under the Indian Presidency.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

Recommendation (Sl. No.12)

The Startup 20 Engagement Group is another addition to the G20 under India's presidency. The group is a dedicated platform within the G20 framework that focuses on facilitating dialogue, promoting innovation, and fostering growth in the startup ecosystem. Comprised of representatives from various countries, the group strives to develop and implement policies that support startups, entrepreneurs, and ecosystem builders worldwide. The Committee are aware that earlier in the G20

meetings, the Business20 engagement group handled all discussions related to startups. Since the G20 nations are at the forefront of innovation and entrepreneurship with over a million startups, the Committee hail the Government's initiative to bring about first of its kind dedicated platform for startups under the G20 umbrella. The Committee are enthused to note that apart from being accepted by the world leaders for continuation in the G20 architecture, Brazil, the country that holds the next presidency of the G20 has announced at the Gurugram Shikhar Summit that they will take the group of Startup 20 forward wholeheartedly. The Committee are hopeful that this initiative will enhance collaborations with other G20 countries in scaling up Indian innovations, promote the Indian startups' sector and usher in infrastructure development. The Committee desire to see the formation of an international network of entrepreneurs, investors and mentors helping new businesses grow by providing them with a platform for exchange of ideas, best practices and R&D partnerships. The Committee desire to be apprised of the developments in this regard.

Reply of the Government

The Startup20 Engagement Group initiated under India's G20 Presidency, emerged as the voice of the global startup ecosystem bringing together varied stakeholders on a common platform. Startups need a thriving and favourable environment to scale up rapidly. Policies, frameworks, and regulations at the national and international platforms need to keep pace with innovation. The Startup20 EG fostered a global narrative for enabling synergies between startups, corporates, investors, innovation agencies and other key ecosystem stakeholders. It brought startups from G20 member countries together, to develop actionable guidance in the form of building capacities, identification of funding gaps, enhancement of employment opportunities, achievement of SDG targets & climate resilience, and growth of an inclusive ecosystem.

The Brazilian Presidency is continuing with the Startup20 Engagement Group, and it is expected that it will continue to act as an effective international network of entrepreneurs and garner support of investors and mentors helping new businesses grow by providing them with a platform for exchange of ideas, best practices and R&D partnerships. “Atal Innovation Mission”, the Indian lead in StartUp20, supported by DPIIT, will continue to emphasize the importance of a robust international StartUp ecosystem, and advocate and support the implementation of the outcomes of “StartUp20” deliberations. [DPIIT to convey concurrence/comments]

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.13))

Taking note of the complex challenges posed by AI generated cyber-attacks, malware, information manipulation, scams, etc. and the rising need to protect individuals, organizations and society from the same by framing robust rules coupled with digital infrastructure, the Ministry of Home Affairs conducted the Cyber Security Conference wherein, for the first time, the G20 Members held discussions on new and emerging threats in the area of non-fungible tokens, crypto assets, AI and metaverse. The Committee note that the Conference adopted an outcome document in which G20 countries have agreed to strengthen international cyber security cooperation including mutual assistance, sharing of experiences and shared cyber standards for the private sector. The Committee feel that to deal with new and emerging traditional and nontraditional challenges, brought about by terrorism, terror financing, radicalization, narco-terror links, etc., capabilities of nations and international organizations to deal with AI generated concerns required to be strengthened. Since technology has transcended all conventional geographical, political and economic boundaries, it is essential to create a robust operational

system using a coordinated and cooperative approach on the use of various virtual assets. The Committee, therefore, urge the Government to organize more such conferences to address the challenges of AI generated cyber attacks through sharing of information by nations, organizations and stakeholders.

Reply of the Government

In July 2023, India's G20 Presidency successfully organized a G20 Conference on "Crime and Security in the Age of NFTs, AI and Metaverse". The importance of international cooperation to tackle new and emerging threats was also emphasized in the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in March 2023.

Under the Brazilian G20 Presidency, as part of the Digital Economy Working Group, a seminar on information integrity and trust in the digital environment will be held in April/May 2024.

Government has regularly held conferences, seminars and outreach events on cyber security and cyber crime challenges. The need to counter deepfake attacks was also voiced at the G20 virtual Summit in November 2023, and a GPAI (Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence) Summit was organised by MEITY in December 2023.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.14)

Recognizing the important role that women play in driving sustainable and equitable development, India, during her Presidency, have shifted focus from 'gender equality and women's empowerment' to 'women-led development'. The Committee welcomes the initiative and note with immense satisfaction that all G20 members have agreed to encourage women-led development and remain committed to enhancing women's full, equal, effective and meaningful participation as decision makers for addressing

global challenges inclusively. The Committee have been informed that G20 also agreed to halve the global digital gender divide; drive gender-inclusive climate action; secure women's food security, nutrition and well-being. The Committee understand that the first meeting of this new Working Group on Empowerment of Women will be convened during the Brazilian G20 Presidency. The Committee are of the considered view that the women-led development agenda can be further escalated only through formulation and implementation of specific transformative solutions and policies at both at national and global levels. This requires a multi-pronged approach that addresses structural barriers, promotes women's economic participation and ensures access of women to quality education, health care and digital resources. While appreciating the strong precedent set during the Indian Presidency, the Committee hope that the subsequent presidencies further develop this focus by recognising women not just as beneficiaries, but as active agents of change. The Committee also desire to be apprised about the first meeting of the working Group which will be convened in the near future during the Brazilian G20 Presidency.

Reply of the Government

The Indian G20 Presidency had identified Women-led Development as one of its key priorities. Under the section on "Gender Equality and Empowering all women and girls", the New Delhi Leaders' Declaration encouraged women-led development and reiterated commitment to enhancing women's full, equal, effective, and meaningful participation as decision makers. The G20 also agreed on creating a new Working Group on Empowerment of Women to support the G20 Women's Ministerial during the Brazilian G20 Presidency.

The Brazilian G20 Presidency, in its Issue note on Empowerment of Women Working Group (EWWG), outlined its EWWG priorities as Equality, Confronting Misogyny and Violence, and

Climate Justice, thereby mainstreaming the discussions recognising women not just as beneficiaries, but as active agents of change. The first meeting of the EWWG was held in virtual mode on 17-18 January, 2024, and the Women Ministerial meeting is planned for 10th October, 2024 in Brasilia. Equality; Confronting misogyny and violence; and, Climate Justice are the three priorities of this Working Group under which deliberations happened during the first EWWG meeting. India was represented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in this meeting. Brazil invited India to commence the discussion and India presented its Country Statement on the themes, outlining Government of India's initiatives and reaffirming its efforts in endeavour to achieve equality, confront misogyny and violence and climate justice, while underscoring the foundations laid during India's presidency on women-led development. The meeting was attended by all G-20 members as well as observers, including Bangladesh, Norway, Portugal, Nigeria and international organizations such as UNDP, UNFPA, WHO, FAO, UNESCO, ILO, OAS (Organization of American States) and ECLAC. It was conveyed during the meeting that the potential dates of the 2nd meeting of EWWG will be intimated soon.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.15))

The Committee are happy to note that India's has taken its G20 presidency 2023 as a significant opportunity to showcase the country's rich heritage of traditional medicine and its potential to contribute to global health and well-being. The New Delhi Leaders' Declaration recognized the potential role of evidence-based Traditional and Complementary Medicine in health and took note of international efforts in this direction. A G20 Traditional Medicine Compendium, which is a digital repository of traditional medicine knowledge and practices from G20 countries has also been launched during the presidency. The Committee, while welcoming the initiatives taken during the presidency to provide thrust to traditional medicine, urge

that the Government boost its efforts to raise global awareness of the potential benefits of traditional medicine and promote its safe and effective use. The Committee further urge the Government to work on action-oriented plans to encourage integration of traditional medicine into mainstream healthcare systems both at national and international levels and also promote global cooperation on traditional medicine by entering into MoUs with other countries.

Reply of the Government

The G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration recognized the potential role of evidence-based Traditional and Complementary Medicine (T&CM) and took note of international efforts in this direction, including WHO's global and collaborating centres, and clinical trial registries.

T&CM is a high priority area for the Government, which is being taken forward at bilateral and multilateral fora, including through the Global Centre for Traditional Medicine, Jamnagar.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.16))

The Committee understand that MAHARISHI initiative, mooted during India's Presidency aims to bolster research and awareness concerning agro-biodiversity, food security and nutrition aligning with the International Year of Millets 2023 (IYoM 2023) programme initiated by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). The focus was on millets and other underutilized grains with a view to providing an optimistic pathway for all nations to attain agricultural efficiency and food security. With the nations reeling under the catastrophic effects of COVID-19, conflicts, slowdowns and downturns, and climate change, India's additional vision to focus on agriculture production and consumption of millets is commendable. While

appreciating the initiative, the Committee urge the Government to make concerted efforts to promote production and consumption of millets and other ancient grains within the country so that food security is assured for Indian citizens too. The Committee also hope that the successive presidencies too stress upon the need to build policies encouraging the production and consumption of millets and other ancient grains.

Reply of the Government

The G20 Deccan High Level Principles (Deccan HLPs) on Food Security and Nutrition 2023, adopted under our G20 Presidency, emphasized the need to enhance availability and access to nutritious food and strengthening food safety nets. The G20 Millets and Other Ancient Grains International Research Initiative (MAHARISHI) was adopted under India's G20 Presidency with an international R&D Centre hosted at IIMR, Hyderabad.

The Deccan HLPs served as an input for the work of the Task Force to launch a “Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty”, to be created during the Brazilian presidency. The MAHARISHI initiative will also be taken forward by IIMR, Hyderabad, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.17))

India assumed G20 Presidency at a time when the world was riven by conflicts, chaos and crisis. Mindful of the challenges being faced, India set the agenda for global policy cooperation to address these multifarious concerns. The Committee observe that the New Delhi Leaders' Declaration (NDLD) reflects the action-oriented approach taken by the Government as is evident from the range of outcomes that have come through in the document. While the G20 Outcome Documents of the previous years

are heavily dominated by the agenda of the developed countries, the New Delhi Leaders Declaration has been successful in capturing the causes, priorities and concerns of the developing countries. The Committee are enthused to note that India has been successful in bringing together all G20 countries on the same page and have delivered 100 per cent consensus on the priorities set. With 83 paragraphs, 87 outcomes, 118 documents adopted, i.e. a total of 205 outcomes and documents, no dissent, no footnotes or Chair's Summary, New Delhi Leaders' Declaration symbolises an unprecedented global consensus on all key issues. The declaration reflects a uniquely Indian perspective of emphasizing universal, equitable and inclusive solutions to today's problems. The Committee underscore that NDLDs consensual nature is not only a testament to the trust India enjoy with all G20 partners but also a message for peace, dialogue, diplomacy and hope. The Committee, therefore, hope that it shape the global narratives in the coming years through the future Presidencies and bridge divides leading to a more inclusive human-centric development.

Reply of the Government

The G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration (NDLD) set the way forward on a wide range of global issues, in the following areas:

- Strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth;
- Accelerating progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- Green development pact for a sustainable future;
- Multilateral Institutions for the 21st century;
- Technological Transformation and Digital Public Infrastructure;
- International Taxation;
- Gender Equality and Empowering All Women and Girls;
- Financial Sector Issues;

- Countering Terrorism and Money Laundering; and
- Creating a More Inclusive World.

By bringing consensus in 83 paragraphs of the NDLD, India's G20 Presidency brought multilateralism back to the centre stage and demonstrated its ability to bring developing and developed countries together on pressing issues confronting the world. The consensus arrived at in New Delhi on development, climate and environment, energy transitions, health, agriculture, digital economy, trade and investment, disaster risk reduction, employment, education, tourism and anti-corruption, as well as on building multilateral institutions for the 21st century and global financial architecture, will leave a lasting impact. During its G20 Presidency, India also amplified the priorities and voice of the Global South in the G20. At the New Delhi G20 Summit, the African Union was inducted into the G20 as a permanent member.

Some of the decisions taken in New Delhi are already fructifying. For example, G20 achievements on energy and climate in New Delhi, on tripling RE, developing hydrogen, and scaling up climate and energy finance, were echoed and carried forward at COP28 in UAE. The G20 message on AI on pro-innovation governance and regulation, has been cemented at subsequent international gatherings. MDB reforms, to help scale up climate and developmental finance, and making MDBs more representative, is now at the heart of the agenda of the international financial institutions. Mechanisms on women-led development, disaster risk reduction and Startups, created during our Presidency, are Brazilian priorities as well. G20 has emerged stronger and more purposeful during India's Presidency, shaping the global agenda more effectively.

The Brazilian G20 Presidency priorities are the following:

- Social inclusion and the fight against hunger and poverty
 - The Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty

- Sustainable development and energy transitions
 - The Global Mobilization against Climate Change
 - Energy Transitions
 - The Initiative on Bioeconomy
- Reform of global governance institutions

Brazil is also continuing with all G20 mechanisms of the Indian Presidency, including all Working Groups and Engagement Groups. In addition, Brazil has convened the Empowerment of Women Working Group and has created a new Engagement Group “Judiciary20”. Thus, Indian G20 Presidency outcomes and Brazilian Presidency priorities are well aligned, and are being taken forward.

Brazil has also taken up some new initiatives, such as Triangular Cooperation, Task Force on Climate Change and Task Force on Hunger & Poverty, which were agreed to by G20 members during the first Sherpa meeting. This reflects G20’s commitment to bridging divides leading to more inclusive human centric development.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.18))

The Committee note that the first of its kind ‘Voice of the Global South Summit’ convened by India which saw the participation from 125 countries, heralded a new dawn of multilateralism. The Committee further note with immense satisfaction that during her Presidency, India has effectively utilized the G20 platform to successfully mainstream the concerns of the global south in international discourse. Moreover, the NDLD have clearly highlighted India’s ability to bridge and straddle across

geopolitical divides, between the West and the East, between developing and developed countries. The Committee are aware that the latest IMF forecast has confirmed that in the foreseeable future, over two-thirds of the global growth will come from the Global South as this is the region that will provide the labour force and the investment opportunities to drive the bulk of global growth for the rest of the century. As such, addressing the concerns of the Global South would contribute towards greater global resilience and strengthening of the international order. The Committee, hence, desire that the New Delhi Leaders' Declaration become a springboard for the developing countries to take their rightful place in shaping the global narrative. The Committee also desire India to continue its bilateral and multilateral engagements in the G20 platform and play a greater role in global affairs in future too.

Reply of the Government

During its G20 Presidency, India constantly amplified the Voice of the Global South. The G20 virtual Leaders' Summit on 22 November 2023 was preceded by the second Voice of the Global South Summit on 17 November 2023, attended by around 130 countries of the Global South.

The G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration articulated solutions to key issues of interest to developing countries, such as welcoming the African Union as a permanent member of the G20; deliberations on ways to advancing financial inclusion; unlocking trade for growth; accelerating progress on achievement of SDGs; strengthening Global Health and delivering quality education; emphasis on climate and sustainable finance, mainstreaming sustainable development including through Mission LiFE; a call for reinvigorating multilateralism; working towards implementing clean, sustainable, just, affordable and inclusive energy

transitions; emphasizing on technological transformation and Digital Public Infrastructure, gender equality and women-led development, and creation of a more inclusive world.

The NDLD has amplified the voice of the Global South significantly. Focus on LiFE, climate finance, MDB reforms, SDG Action Plan and digital public infrastructure are some examples.

After the Italian presidency in 2021, four consecutive global south countries (Indonesia, India, Brazil, South Africa) are steering the G20 agenda and focussing on issues of significance of the global south. The approach of the Indian Presidency is being taken forward by the Brazilian Presidency and can be expected to be continued by the South African Presidency as well. The priorities of Brazil are well aligned with the NDLD outcomes that India has delivered on the issues of priorities to the developing world. As a member of the Troika, India will continue to support Brazil and play a constructive role in shaping the G20 narrative going forward.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.19)

With an aim to creating a more inclusive world, where the voice of the Global South would no longer be overlooked, India, during its Presidency, had proposed for inclusion of African Union, one of the largest regional groupings comprising of developing countries in the G20. With the acceptance of India's proposal to welcome the African Union as a permanent member, the G20 has encompassed 80% of the global population. The Committee hope that the inclusion of the AU as a member of G20 would be the first step towards amplifying the voice of the developing countries in the G20 and fosters a more comprehensive dialogue on global challenges and opportunities. The Committee further desire that India's efforts towards inclusion of African Union in G20 would go a long way in strengthening our multifaceted relations

with African countries which in turn would reflect in positive outcomes for India during our political campaigns in the global arena.

Reply of the Government

The inclusion of African Union, one of the largest regional groupings of developing countries, in the G20 at the New Delhi Summit, reflected India's endeavour of championing the voice of the Global South.

African Union, with 55 African Member States, plays a pivotal role in driving political and economic development on the continent, with its primary aim being the promotion of African integration and increased collaboration among African nations, all in pursuit of peace, security, and prosperity for the people of the continent. AU's inclusion in the G20 as a permanent member will further strengthen India's multifaceted relations with African countries, and contribute towards growing support for Indian initiatives at multilateral fora.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.20))

At the time of India taking over Presidency of G20, amongst other political, economic and social crisis, the Russia-Ukraine crisis was the most disruptive global geopolitical event. Prior to the Summit itself, differences were mounting among the G20 members on a range of issues but most intensely on the situation in Ukraine. Given the fact that 14 Ministerial meetings had failed to bring about a consensus on the issue, the biggest challenge of the New Delhi Summit was to come up with a consensus based joint communiqué at the end of the gathering. The Committee note with immense satisfaction that India has successfully achieved the historic consensus on this geo-political issue at the G20 New Delhi Summit. The consensus

marked a historical reversal of the growing divergence and dissonance among the members and demonstrated the implicit desire of the global community to avoid conflict and reach resolutions through negotiations. The Committee are enthused to note that what could not be achieved at the United Nations and at the United Nations' Security Council could be achieved by India during her Presidency. India could also bring on to the table, countries from G7, Russia and China. The Committee are of view that the NDLD, on the issue, has demonstrated to the world, the ability of the Indian negotiators and the Government to drive consensus among the most powerful countries in the world. The Committee, while appreciating the herculean efforts on the part of the Indian team of negotiators, hope that India's role as the consensus builder would act as a catalyst towards securing permanent seat in the UNSC and enable India to play a greater role in the global politics in the coming years.

Reply of the Government

India, during its Presidency of the G20, brought to the forefront the need for multilateral reforms, including reforms of international financial institutions as well as UN reforms, including in the context of achieving Agenda 2030. A reference to UNGA 75/1, on UN reforms, was agreed for the first time in a G20 Leaders' Summit by consensus.

The Indian Presidency also amplified the voice of the Global South, and inducted the AU as a permanent member of the G20. By doing so, India's G20 Presidency and outcomes have buttressed India's international position and credentials for its due and greater say in international fora.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.21)

The Committee note with immense satisfaction that India's Presidency has successfully brought to the forefront the need for multilateral reforms, including reforms of international financial institutions as well as UN. It has brought out the gap between the needs of the 21st century multilateral setting and the institutions of the 20th century. The Committee have been informed that the reference to UNGA 75/1 (call for UN reforms) was agreed to for the first time in the G20. The Committee while, welcoming the move, desire that the upcoming chairs of the grouping, Brazil and South Africa too, carry forward the call for multilateral reforms and place them as their presidential priorities.

Reply of the Government

The Brazilian G20 Presidency priorities include multilateral reforms, are well aligned with India's priorities and outcomes, and are listed as below:

- Social inclusion and the fight against hunger and poverty
 - The Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty
- Sustainable development and energy transitions
 - The Global Mobilization against Climate Change
 - Energy Transitions
 - The Initiative on Bioeconomy
- Reform of global governance institutions

Given the amplification of the voice of the Global South and the induction of the AU in the G20 during India's Presidency, and given the shared agenda and outcomes of India and

Africa voiced at various multilateral fora, the broad alignment between India's G20 Presidency outcomes and South Africa's priorities can be expected to continue.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.22))

The Committee note that the G20 Common Framework for Debt Treatments is an agreement between the G20 and Paris Club countries to coordinate and cooperate on debt treatments on request for 73 low-income countries that are eligible for it. Since its launch in 2020, till the beginning of India's G20 Presidency in December 2022, three countries namely, Chad, Zambia and Ethiopia have requested for debt restructuring under the Common Framework and each of these cases are at various stages of formalization. The Committee find that under the Indian Presidency, efforts were taken to explore options for providing debt treatment for middle-income countries facing debt vulnerabilities too, though not eligible for debt restructuring under the Common Framework. The Committee have been informed that, as proof of its commitments towards this initiative, an official creditor committee for Sri Lanka was set up in April 2023, co-chaired by India, Japan, and France. The Committee welcome the initiative and feel that this coordination has the potential to serve as an effective model for addressing debt challenges in other similarly placed middle-income countries. The Committee, hence, desire that the resolution during India's Presidency become a driving force against global debt vulnerabilities.

Reply of the Government

The fourth meeting of the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) under India's Presidency, held in Marrakesh in October 2023, provided a clear mandate to step up the implementation of the Common Framework in a predictable, timely, orderly and

coordinated manner. Ministers called for continued discussion on policy-related issues linked to the implementation of the Common Framework for making appropriate recommendations. The FMCBG also encouraged the efforts of the Global Sovereign Debt Roundtable (GSDR) participants to strengthen communication and foster a common understanding among key stakeholders, both within and outside the Common Framework, for facilitating effective debt treatment.

Building on the progress achieved on the debt agenda during the Indian Presidency, the Brazilian Presidency in 2024 plans to take forward the work areas under the priority “Addressing sovereign debt issues”.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.23))

One of the key achievements of the G20 Finance Track was on strengthening Multilateral Developing Banks and reforming the multilateral financing architecture to address the shared global challenges of the 21st Century. During India’s Presidency year, a roadmap for an updated MDB ecosystem with milestones and timelines, touching upon all aspects of MDB evolution, including incentive structure, operational approaches and financial capacity for making MDBs better equipped to finance a wide range of SDGs was arrived at. The Committee find that this initiative, which had started under the previous presidency, has got a huge impetus and successful achievement under our presidency with the release of a report of the Independent Expert Group which touches upon the extent of financing required by the world to meet shared prosperity goals and global challenges as well on how Multilateral Development Banks can catalyse private capital to take care of development needs and global challenges. The Committee further note that in the

fourth meeting of the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors held in Marrakesh in October 2023, there was a complete consensus about the New Delhi Leaders' Declaration. In order to take further the vision that the Indian presidency articulated for the future of the Multilateral Development Bank architecture, the Committee urge the Government to deliberate on the Independent Expert Group (IEG) recommendations and suggest a way forward to implement them under the 2024 Presidency of Brazil.

Reply of the Government

Under the Indian Presidency, focused discussions were held on several aspects of MDB evolution, including incentive structure, operational approaches, and financial capacity for making MDBs better equipped to address the global challenges of the 21st century and the development needs of low and middle-income countries. 2 key deliverables of the Indian Presidency were the Report of the G20 Independent Expert Group (IEG) on Strengthening MDBs and the G20 Roadmap for the implementation of the recommendations of the G20 Independent Review of Multilateral Development Banks' Capital Adequacy Frameworks (CAF).

The two volumes of the IEG Report provide recommendations to make MDBs better, bigger and bolder by, *inter alia*, suitably modifying their operating models, mobilising more private capital, and scaling up financing at an affordable cost. The CAF Roadmap, endorsed by G20 Leaders at the New Delhi Summit, provides an update on the efforts undertaken by the MDBs to improve their capital adequacy frameworks for boosting their investing capacities.

At the G20 FMCBG meeting in October 2023, the Ministers welcomed the Report of the G20 Independent Expert Group on Strengthening MDBs and called on the International Financial Architecture Working Group of the G20 to deliberate on the IEG recommendations

in consultation with MDBs and suggest a way forward for better, bigger and more effective MDBs, including ways to work together better as a system.

Building on this mandate and the outcomes of the Indian Presidency, namely, the two volumes of the Report of the G20 Independent Expert Group on Strengthening MDBs and the

G20 Capital Adequacy Framework (CAF) Roadmap, the Brazilian Presidency has developed the contours of their MDB agenda for the G20 in 2024 with a G20 Roadmap for better, bigger, and more effective MDBs as the proposed deliverable..

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.24)

The Committee note that the world is sliding back on Sustainable Development Goals and only 12 per cent of the SDGs are on track. Recognizing the lagging progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), India, during its G20 Presidency has taken up ‘Accelerating Sustainable Development Goals’ as one of the key priorities. The G20’s 2023 Action Plan calls for the G20 countries to undertake very strong steps towards achievement of all SDGs, including digital transformation; gender equality and empowerment of women; and implementing sustainable, inclusive and just transitions globally. The Action Plan seeks to accelerate achievement of all SDGs in all regions by promoting collaboration among G20 work streams and aims to enhance international partnerships with all developing countries, the UN and other relevant International Organisations. The Committee hope that this would help address the challenges faced by developing countries, including bottlenecks in financing for development, and help in fostering strong collective actions for powering sustainable development, climate and environment actions in an

interconnected manner around the world. The Committee also note with immense satisfaction the launch of Global Biofuel Alliance during India's Presidency to ensure reliable supply of critical minerals for clean energy transition. The Committee hope the initiative would go a long way in building a sustainable and equitable global ecosystem.

Reply of the Government

During the Indian presidency, G20 Development Ministers deliberated upon ways of accelerating achievement of SDGs and synergies between the development, environment and climate agendas. The G20 2023 Action Plan to Accelerate Progress on SDGs, envisaged as a multi-year living document, highlights the need for addressing the SDG's financing gap with adequate resource mobilization. Going forward, the G20, under the extended leadership of developing countries - Indonesia, India, Brazil, and South Africa – and with the support of developed countries, will continue with efforts towards making speedy progress in achieving the SDGs and fostering a more interconnected and resilient global community.

The Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA), launched at the G20 New Delhi Leaders' Summit, envisages collaboration among GBA members and with relevant existing regional and international agencies in the fields of bioenergy, bioeconomy, and energy transition.

The Brazilian Presidency has prioritized Biofuels under the energy transition agenda, and has also created a new Bioeconomy initiative. India will engage with partner countries of GBA, as well as relevant G20 mechanisms, on global adoption of biofuels.

The G20 voluntary proposal on Critical Minerals, are also being pursued by the Government at relevant bilateral and multilateral fora with identified partner countries around the globe.

Thus, the deliverables of the Indian Presidency on SDGs, Biofuels and critical minerals are being taken forward in the G20, as well as at other relevant fora.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.25))

The Committee note with immense satisfaction that during the Indian G20 Presidency, the trade and investment group has successfully built consensus on five concrete action-oriented outcomes. The highlights of the G20 trade and investment outcome documents were regarding building resilient and sustainable global value chains, promoting and fostering link between foreign enterprises and domestic companies, integrating the micro and medium enterprises in global trade by creating one-stop hub for MSMEs, underscoring the importance of reduced entry barriers on digital platforms, and recognition of importance of WTO's aid for trade initiatives to enable developing countries and LDCs to effectively participate in the global trade. The Committee have been informed that all but one para pertaining to geo-political issues were adopted unanimously. The Committee find that in comparison with the outcomes of earlier presidencies, India's Presidency has proven to be the most successful since inception of the trade working group in 2016, with five outcomes and three endorsements, making it a total of eight. The Committee are sure that the agreed outcomes would have positive impact on India's bilateral trade with our partners. The Committee, hence, urge the Government to actively utilize the leverage gained during the G20 deliberations to foster cooperation and build consensus on

trade and investment related matters and work on mutually beneficial trade agreements.

Reply of the Government

The G20 Trade and Investment working group under the Indian Presidency accomplished consensus on Indian TIWG deliverables of G20 Generic Framework for Mapping Global Value Chains (GVCs), High Level Principles on Digitalization of Trade Documents, Jaipur Call for Action for enhancing MSMEs' access to information, Presidency's Compendium on MRAs for Professional Services, G20 Standards Dialogue. Notably, Presidency's Compendium on MRAs was prepared by collating the best practices from G20 members and was made available at <https://commerce.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Compendium-of-Best-Practices-on-MRAs-for-Professional-Services-Indias-G20-Presidency.pdf> Moreover, a G20 Standards Dialogue was also held on 2nd& 3rd November 2023. Around 750 delegates from global standard setting bodies participated in the two-day event. Further, India is supporting the initiatives taken by International Trade Center, Geneva in upgrading the Global Trade Helpdesk into a One Stop Hub. A G20 webinar in this regard was organized on 6th November, 2023 in which national and international experts including representatives from ITC participated in a panel discussion. Over 2000 in-person and virtual attendees joined the webinar from MSMEs, industry bodies, think tanks and academia.

Currently, as part of G20 Troika, India is working closely with the Brazilian Presidency to carry forward the work done under the Indian Presidency.

Besides, India is leveraging its accomplishments in the G20 to work on mutually beneficial trade agreements with identified partner countries/regions including EU, UK.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.26)

The Committee note that, as per the World Bank Report, India will need to invest \$840 billion over the next 15 years—or an average of \$55 billion per annum—into urban infrastructure if it is to effectively meet the needs of its fast-growing urban population. Currently, the central and state governments finance over 75 per cent of city infrastructure, while urban local bodies (ULB) finance 15 per cent whereas only 5 per cent of the infrastructure needs of Indian cities are being financed through private sources. The Committee understand that to meet the increasing demand for infrastructure investments, extra budgetary contributions from Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) and the private sector are also essential. The Committee note that the principles for financing cities of tomorrow as formulated by the G20, and endorsed by the Leaders in the New Delhi Declaration, provide for 23 principles spread over five broad areas of planning and financing, namely, planning, maximising investment efficiency, creating a conducive environment for attracting private investment, strengthening institutional preparedness and augmenting technical and institutional capacities. The Committee hope that these principles will be instrumental in guiding the global infrastructure agenda and desire that the same would provide the thrust needed to build capacity, create bankable projects, provide for transparency in procurement process etc. which would ultimately facilitate the flow of finance for financing smart cities of tomorrow.

Reply of the Government

G20 Finance Ministers met during the fourth FMCBG meeting at Marrakech in October 2023, and endorsed the G20/World Bank report on Enablers of Inclusive Cities. They noted the updated 2023 Infra Tracker tool and the report on Infrastructure taxonomies.

The discussion on the global infrastructure agenda on the basis of the principles on financing cities of tomorrow, adopted during India's Presidency, are expected to be taken forward in the Infrastructure Working Group of the G20.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.27))

Cognisant of the pivotal role that Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) can play in accelerating financial inclusion, the G20 India Presidency identified DPI as one of its priority areas. Accordingly in the G20 Finance Track, the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPII) working group steered the priority of leveraging DPI for advancing financial inclusion and productivity gains. Using the lessons learnt from India's success with India Stack and building on evidence from global examples, the GPII developed the G20 Policy Recommendations for Advancing Financial Inclusion and Productivity Gains through Digital Public Infrastructures. The Committee understand that the 2023 G20 Financial Inclusion Action Plan endorsed by the G20 Leaders identifies the promotion of open, interoperable, reliable, inclusive and secure digital infrastructures, including DPI, for rapidly advancing financial inclusion of individuals and MSMEs. The Committee view this as a major achievement especially in view of the fact that these policy recommendations will be filling a global vacuum by successfully bringing in a framework on digital public infrastructure which will allow countries across the world to develop and deploy digital public infrastructure. The Committee are also enthused to note that the Government has been successful in showcasing India's digital public infrastructure with its identity system Aadhar along with the payment platform UPI, as role model throughout our G20 Presidency. The committee hope and desire that India's efforts would, in the long run, help in

lowering transaction costs, catalyse innovation, foster competition and interoperability, enhance individual user experiences and choice, and provide avenues to address the risks inherent to Digital Financial Services (DFS). The Committee also desire that India's plan to build and maintain a Global Digital Public Infrastructure Repository (GDPIR), a virtual repository of DPI voluntarily shared by G20 members and beyond, too take shape at the earliest and strengthen the financial well-being of G20 countries.

Reply of the Government

India has already developed Global DPI Repository (GDPIR) (www.dpi.global) to host DPI solutions from different countries and enable their easy discoverability and adoption. At present, the repository has more than 50 DPI solutions from 16 countries.

At the virtual G20 Summit in November 2023, Hon'ble Prime Minister had announced creation of the GDPIR and a Social Impact Fund (SIF) for DPI implementation in global south countries. The SIF is proposed as a government-led, multi-stakeholder effort to accelerate DPI systems implementation in the global south, to which India has committed an initial USD 25 million³. Brazilian G20 Presidency is continuing to pursue Digital Public Infrastructure as a priority in the Digital Economy Working Group. Our efforts to further promote DPI bilaterally and multilaterally at relevant fora are continuing.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.28))

The Committee note that at present, a comprehensive crypto regulatory framework is not in place in most G20 countries. G20 member countries vary in their levels of crypto asset regulation. The Committee further note that prior to India taking over G-20 Presidency, the G20 discussions on potential risks associated with crypto assets

were limited to addressing concerns related to financial stability and financial integrity. The Committee find that India, during its G20 Presidency, has played a crucial role in building consensus on internationally coordinated policies for crypto assets. During India's G20 presidency, discussions on potential risks were significantly broadened to encompass macroeconomic risks arising from crypto assets especially the risks specific to emerging markets and developing economies (EMDEs) with inputs from the IMF, UNCTAD and the BIS. The Committee note with immense satisfaction that these collective efforts have culminated in the G20's adoption of a Synthesis Paper prepared by the IMF and the Financial Stability Board (FSB). The policy and regulatory recommendations in this Synthesis Paper, the Committee note, would serve as the global baseline for any regulatory framework on crypto assets. The Committee also note that the Synthesis Paper contains a 'Policy implementation roadmap'. The Committee are of the view that the paper provides valuable guidance, not just to the G20 but also to the non-G20 jurisdictions in moving forward with clearer policies on crypto assets. In such a backdrop, the Committee urge the Government to evaluate these recommendations and bring about a comprehensive regulatory framework for crypto assets at the earliest and strive with G20 members for swift implementation of the reporting framework for crypto assets to make sure that such non-financial assets are not used by tax evaders to conceal their unaccounted wealth.

Reply of the Government

The G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration (NDLD) had welcomed the IMF-FSB Synthesis Paper on crypto-assets. Thereafter, at the fourth G20 FMCBG meeting at Marrakech in October 2023, G20 Finance Ministers adopted the Roadmap proposed in the Synthesis Paper as a G20 Roadmap on Crypto Assets. This detailed and action-oriented Roadmap

aspires to achieve the common goals of macro-economic and financial stability and to ensure effective, flexible, and coordinated implementation of the comprehensive policy framework for crypto assets.

The G20 Finance Ministers also supported the ongoing work and global implementation of FATF standards on crypto assets.

These outcomes are being implemented nationally by Governments, subject to national circumstances, and are being taken forward at relevant international financial fora.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.29))

The Committee note that India, along with Singapore, Bangladesh, Italy, USA, Brazil, Argentina, Mauritius and UAE, have launched the Global Biofuel Alliance on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in New Delhi. This alliance of Governments, International Organizations and Industry has been initiated by India as G20 Chair with the intention to expedite the global uptake of biofuels through facilitating technology advancements, intensifying utilization of sustainable biofuels, shaping robust standard-setting and certification through the participation of a wide spectrum of stakeholders. The alliance will also act as a central repository of knowledge and an expert hub. The Committee, while noting that the alliance has brought together the biggest consumers and producers of biofuels, consider it as a paradigm shift in sustainable energy and economic strategy. The Committee are sure that the alliance will help accelerate India's existing biofuel programme, ease the fiscal strain imposed by oil imports, provide for additional opportunities for growth of Indian industries in the form of export of technology, expertise and equipment. The Committee note that the global ethanol market is predicted to grow at a fast pace and hence foresee a very

strong potential for growth of biofuels in the future creating a huge opportunity for India. The Committee urge the Government to address the challenges that might come in the way of the sustainability of the alliance through constant engagement with the member countries and strive towards placing itself in a position to successfully reap the benefits of this growth in future.

Reply of the Government

The Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA) was launched in presence of the leaders of 9 countries i.e. India, Singapore, Bangladesh, Italy, USA, Brazil, Argentina, Mauritius and UAE and with the support of additional 10 countries, on the sidelines of the G20 Summit held in New Delhi, in September 2023. Since its launch, through our efforts, GBA has continued to grow in stature and is receiving multifaceted and multistakeholder support from producers and consumers, nascent yet interested countries. As a result of these efforts the Alliance now boasts a membership of 23 countries.

The GBA is aimed at facilitating cooperation and intensifying the use of sustainable biofuels, including in the transportation sector. It places emphasis on strengthening markets, facilitating global biofuels trade, development of concrete policy lesson-sharing and provision of technical support for national biofuels programs worldwide.

The GBA envisages work in collaboration with and to complement relevant existing regional and international agencies as well as initiatives in the bioenergy, bioeconomy, and energy transition fields more broadly, including the Clean Energy Ministerial Biofuture Platform, the Mission Innovation Bioenergy initiatives, and the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP).

GBA has strived to work with countries and international stakeholders to identify challenges faced by the various stakeholders of the alliance. In this context, two meetings of the GBA Temporary Executive Committee (TEC) (comprising of country members of the alliance has been convened and three meetings with the other stakeholders including an “Industry

perspectives on expectations from GBA” on 3rd December 2023 at COP28 in Dubai, multistakeholder roundtable at the World Economic Forum chaired by Union Minister, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Housing and Urban Affairs and at India Energy Week 2024. These events attracted participation from diverse international organizations specializing in biofuels. The Brazilian Presidency has prioritized biofuels with Energy Transitions Working Group and has started a new Bioeconomy initiative. India is also advocating and is engaging with partner countries on global adoption of biofuels through these mechanisms of the G20.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.31)

The Committee understand that the effectiveness of G20 resolutions largely depend on how the member countries implement them. Since the G20 serves as a platform for dialogue and coordination, its impact varies based on the specific issues and the actions taken by its member states in response to emergent global situations. In G20, arriving at a consensus is very critical as what has been agreed to in G20 will then be quoted for every other multilateral discussion. The Committee further find that that G20 resolutions in the past have had very major global impact, whether it was in handling the 2007 financial crisis, avoiding competitive currency devaluation, ensuring equitable distribution of vaccines, diagnostics, and treatments during Covid 19 pandemic; addressing debt situation in several countries through Debt Service Suspension Initiative; addressing climate change or promoting sustainable development, etc. Since G20, as a forum for major economies, has the potential to influence global economic policies, the Committee hope and desire that the relevance and impact of G20 resolutions in addressing pressing global issues will amplify in the future.

Reply of the Government

Important outcomes on SDGs, LiFE, digital public infrastructure, food security and nutrition, renewable energy, critical minerals, global health, skilled migration pathways, climate and development finance, MDB Reforms and many more, were achieved in New Delhi. These need to be taken forward and implemented, domestically by national governments, and globally by concerned international organizations, as well as through various bilateral and multilateral agreements. The priorities of the Brazilian G20 Presidency are well aligned with the G20 NDLD, and continue to amplify the concerns and voice of the Global South.

Since G20 is a gathering of world Leaders of leading economies comprising 85% of the global GDP, 75% of world trade and 2/3rd of the world population, its decisions carry a lot of weight. The momentum we achieved in New Delhi, in the form of a very substantive Leaders' Declaration adopted by consensus on all its 83 paragraphs, reinforcing multilateralism, will continue to be sustained and built upon, under the collective guidance of G20 Leaders.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.32))

The Committee understand that G20 being a premier agenda setting body of the world, its declarations and commitments resonate across the world and are carried forward by concerned international organisations and sovereign governments through specific actions and concrete steps. Though G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration (NDLD) is not a legally binding document, it is seen that some indicative timelines, such as tripling of renewable energy globally from current levels by 2030, halving the gender digital divide by 2030 and setting of a New Collective Quantified Goal for Climate finance in 2024 are mentioned in the NDLD itself. The Committee

hope that India being a member of the troika, alongside South Africa and Brazil, can ensure the continuity and definitely strive for implementation of resolutions especially as developing countries have a lot of synergy with the priorities that India had chosen for her Presidency. In 2026, the Presidency will move to the USA which has also been supportive of India's priorities and of the issues concerning the developing countries. As regards other deliverables and outcomes, these are implemented domestically by sovereign governments or internationally through various bilateral, plurilateral or multilateral agreements and commitments, while taking into account national circumstances. The Committee, hence, recommend that G20 related Ministries of Government of India follow up on NDLD outcomes in their respective functional areas and participate actively in future Presidencies to take the agreed NDLD agenda forward. The Committee also desire that India's bilateral engagement with each of the G20 countries should be escalated availing of all opportunities for the same.

Reply of the Government

The G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration (NDLD) and its specific Ministry-wise outcomes have been circulated to concerned line/nodal ministries (**Annex I**), in order to take them forward and push for their implementation. Several inter-ministerial meeting are being regularly held to follow up on the G20 NDLD. The Brazilian G20 Presidency's Issues note and G20 Calendar have been circulated to all concerned ministries and stakeholders (**Annex II**), in order to enable and ensure their active participation in G20 meetings.

All G20-related Ministries are expected to follow up Indian G20 Presidency outcomes in their respective working group/track, as well as actively participate in future G20 meetings under successive Presidencies, to pursue NDLD objectives.

The achievements and takeaways of G20 NDLD are also being regularly pursued at relevant bilateral and multilateral fora.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

CHAPTER-III

OBSERVATION/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT

-NIL-

CHAPTER- IV

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

-NIL-

CHAPTER-V

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED

(Recommendation (Sl. No.5))

The Committee note that over 30,000 delegates from G20 Member countries and invitee countries / international organizations participated in over 200 meetings held during India's G20 Presidency. During the Presidency, India engaged with all the G20 countries throughout the year bilaterally at ministerial and Leader's levels which helped in gaining consensual support on difficult and critical issues. The Committee further note that meetings of 40 different G20 mechanisms were held, including 13 Sherpa Track Working Groups, 8 Finance Track work streams, 11 Engagement Groups, 6 Initiatives and 2 stand-alone Ministerial tracks. The Committee have been informed that G20 Members and guest countries wholeheartedly participated in these meetings/ deliberations and supported their outcome documents. The Committee are quite sure that these interactions at both working and Ministerial levels have paved way for deepening India's relationship with all G20 and Guest countries. The Committee, hence, urge the Ministry to actively work on a mechanism to proactively carry forward the ties formed during these interaction to next level and further strengthen India's diplomatic relations and engagement with the G20 and Guest countries.

Reply of the Government

The G20 Presidency provided a unique opportunity to take forward our relations with the G20 and the invitee countries at different levels of government, thus deepening mutual understanding and paving the way for deepening bilateral cooperation with them in diverse fields.

After our successful G20 Presidency, India is building upon its relationships and strengthening its partnerships with G20 Members and Invitees in areas of common interest on a number of global issues, including in bilateral or regional discussions. Areas of new or stronger cooperation include digital public infrastructure; health; agriculture; education; energy transition; migration and mobility partnerships; culture; science and technology; and other fields of mutual interest covered in the G20.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

(Recommendation (Sl. No.30))

The Committee find that a \$20 billion India-Middle East-Europe Corridor (IMEC), which is an ambitious multi-pronged network aiming to connect goods and services between Europe and Asia—via the Middle East, was launched during G20 Summit in New Delhi. It has been informed that the said strategic project will comprise two separate corridors, the east corridor connecting India to the Arabian Gulf and the northern corridor connecting the Arabian Gulf to Europe. It will include a railway that, upon completion, will provide a reliable and cost-effective cross-border ship-to-rail transit network to supplement existing maritime and road transport routes – enabling goods and services to transit to, from, and between India, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel, and Europe. Along the railway route, participants intend to enable the laying of cable for electricity and digital connectivity, as well as pipe for clean hydrogen export. While looking at IMEC as a secure addition to trans-regional connectivity architectures, the Committee underscore that the global economic order is becoming more multipolar. Since the signatories of the MoU are mandated to meet soon to develop and commit to an action plan, the Committee desire to be apprised about the project outlays, the funding mechanisms, the monitoring systems, the implementation modalities and relevant timetables. The Committee further look forward to seeing the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor functional within the timelines and stimulate economic integration between Asia, the Arabian Gulf, and Europe.

Reply of the Government

On the sidelines of the G20 Leaders' Summit, Leaders of India, European Union, France, Germany, Italy, Saudi Arabia, UAE and US announced an MoU committing to work together to develop a new India-Middle East Economic Corridor (IMEC).

The IMEC will comprise of two separate corridors, the east corridor connecting India to the Gulf and the northern corridor connecting the Gulf to Europe.

The corridor intends to increase efficiency, reduce costs, secure regional supply chains, increase trade accessibility, enhance economic unity, generate jobs, and lower greenhouse gas emission-resulting in a transformative integration of Asia, Europe and the Middle East. Its implementation and IMEC project details are in the process of being worked out.

[File No. AA/Parl/125/103/2023 dated 22/02/2024]

NEW DELHI

25 November, 2024

04 Agrahayana, 1946 (Saka)

Dr. Shashi Tharoor,

Chairperson,

Committee on External Affairs

MINUTES OF THE SECOND SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(2024-25) HELD ON 25 OCTOBER, 2024

The Committee sat on Friday, 25 October, 2024 from 1430 hrs. to 1640 hrs. in Committee Room No. 2, Extension Building, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

Present

Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Chairperson

Lok Sabha

2. Shri Mitesh Patel Bakabhai
3. Shri Arun Govil
4. Shri Sanatan Pandey
5. Smt. Aparajita Sarangi
6. Shri Arvind Ganpat Sawant
7. Ms. Praniti Sushilkumar Shinde
8. Ms. Bansuri Swaraj

Rajya Sabha

9. Dr. John Brittas
10. Smt. Kiran Choudhry
11. Smt. Sagarika Ghose
12. Dr. K. Laxman
13. Shri A. D. Singh
14. Kunwar Ratanjeet Pratap Narayan Singh
15. Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi

Secretariat

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri Anjani Kumar | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Smt. Reena Gopalakrishnan | - | Director |
| 3. | Ms. K. Muanniang Tunglut | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. | Ms. Maya Menon | - | Under Secretary |

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

| | | | |
|----|----------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1. | Shri Vikram Misri | : | Foreign Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Randhir Kumar Jasiwal | : | JS(XP) |
| 3. | Shri Nagaraj Naidu Kakanur | : | JS(AMS) |
| 4. | Ms. Pratibha Parkar | : | JS (Parl & Coord.) |
| 5. | Dr. Suresh Kumar | : | JS (WANA) |
| 6. | Ms. Priyanka Sohoni | : | DS (FSO) |
| 7. | Shri Abhishek Upadhyay | : | DS (FSO) |

2. At the outset, Chairperson welcomed the Members to the Sitting of the Committee and apprised them of the agenda for the day.

3. xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx

4. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration the Draft Report on Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Twenty Seventh Report of the Committee on External Affairs (17th Lok Sabha) on the subject 'India's Engagement with G20 Countries' and adopted the same without any modifications.

5. xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx

6. The Committee authorized the Chairperson to finalize the Action Taken Reports incorporating the suggestions made by the Members and present the same to Parliament.

7. xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx

8. xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx

9. xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx

10. xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx

The Committee then adjourned

(The witnesses then withdrew)

A verbatim proceedings of the Sitting has been kept on record.

(Vide Para 4 of Introduction of Report)

**ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE OBSERVATIONS/
RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE TWENTY SEVENTH REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (18TH LOK SABHA)**

- (i) Total Number of Recommendations 32
- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government.
- Recommendation Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11,12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32,
- Total-30**
Percentage:- 93.75%
- (iii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies.
- Nil
- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee and require reiteration.
- Nil
- (v) Observation/Recommendation in respect of which final reply of Government is still awaited.
- Total-02**
Percentage: 6.25%