



As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahosav, Embassy of India, Beirut organized various activities in the month of May 2022.

Embassy News



Community Outreach!

Ambassador of India Dr Suhel Khan and the Embassy officers interacted on April 20, 2022 with a group of 500 Indian construction workers employed by the local contractors at the US Embassy construction project in Beirut. Embassy of India thanked the US Embassy in Lebanon for facilitating such interaction.



Lebanese participation in 36th AAHAR – The International Food and Hospitality Fair, New Delhi

A Lebanese delegation, consisting of 6 members, participated in the 36th AAHAR – International Food and Hospitality Fair, organized by India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) from April 26 to 30, 2022. This is second such delegation in food and agriculture sector from Lebanon in the current year. During the visit the Lebanese buyers attended several B2B meetings with Indian exporters.



Ambassador Dr. Suhel Ajaz Khan attended Anzac Day Dawn Ceremony

Ambassador of India Dr Suhel Ajaz Khan attended Anzac Day Dawn Ceremony organised by the Australian Embassy on April 25, 2022 at the Commonwealth Cemetery, Beirut.

Embassy News



Signing of Contract between Choueiry Group & Hinduja Group

Choueiry Group in Lebanon recently signed a contract with Hinduja Group for bringing Ashok Leyland Trucks to Lebanon. It is yet another example of diversifying trade and economic engagement between India and Lebanon.



Meeting with Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (LCEC)

A meeting was held on May 18, 2022 between the Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (LCEC) and Mr. P. Pattabhi, Second Secretary (Cons&Com), to discuss the prospects for Indian technologies in the booming solar market in Lebanon. Indian technologies are already available in the residential solarPV market, and India's companies are very interested in the ongoing utility-scale solar projects in Lebanon.



Lebanese participation at the International Gem & Jewellery Show

A Lebanese delegation consisting of 13 business persons participated at the International Gem & Jewellery Show organised by GJEPC India from 10-12 May at Jajpur, Rajasthan. They also had B2B meetings with Indian exporters.

Embassy News



'Know India Day' event

The Embassy of India, Beirut organised 'Know India Day' event at the Embassy premises on May 5, 2022 where students from Institut of Moderne du Liban participated. The students found it very interesting to know about Indian culture, cuisine, geography, etc. The event included screening of short film, presentation on India, short film on Yoga and Bollywood dance.

Ambassador of India to Lebanon Dr. Suhel Ajaz Khan addressed the students and led the Q&A Session. Ambassador Khan also thanked the management of the Institute in taking initiative to collaborate with the Indian Embassy. Ambassador also presented books about India to Teachers and Students.

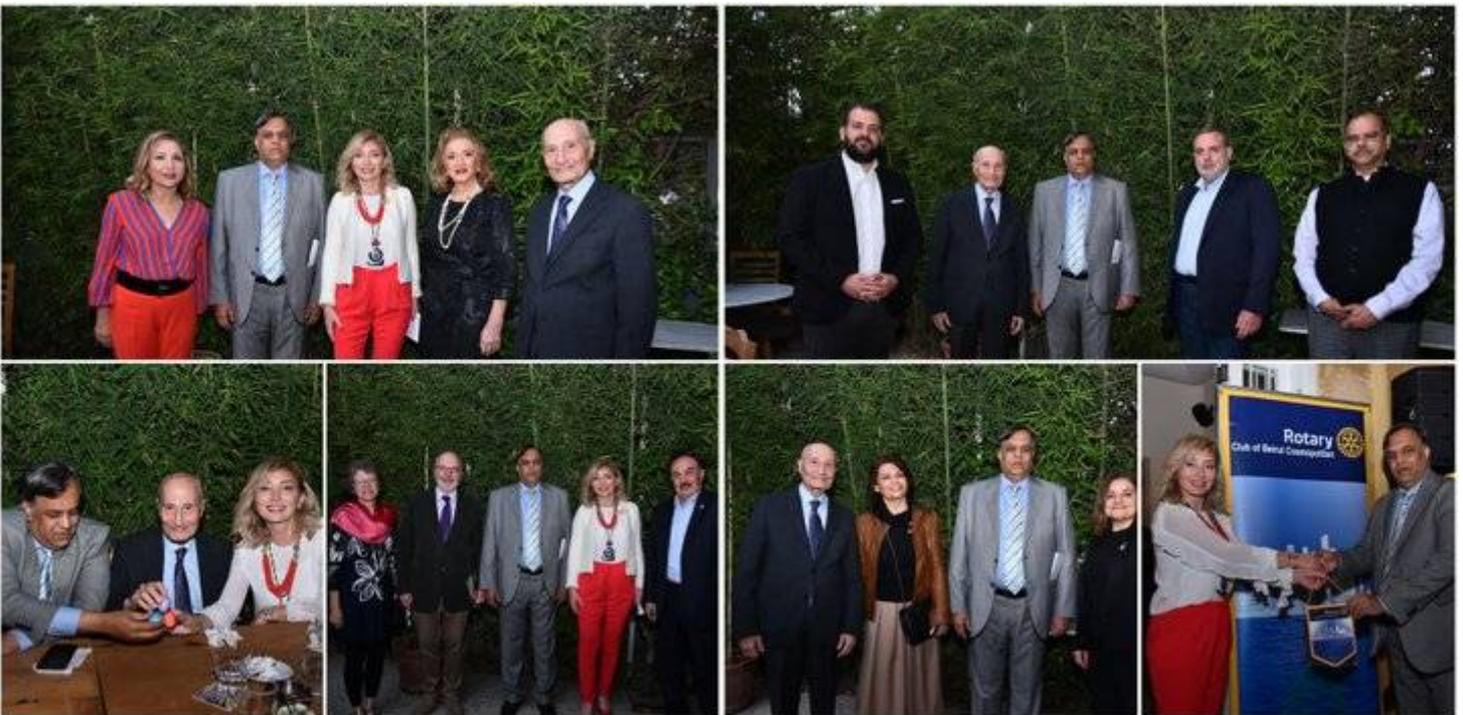
Embassy News

Ambassador's Key Note Address at Rotary Event

Ambassador Dr Suhel Ajaz Khan delivered a keynote address titled, "India's Role in the Revival of The World Economy, Post Covid-19" at the Annual Iftaar of Rotary Club Beirut Cosmopolitan on April 26, 2022. The event was joined by other members of Rotary Club in Lebanon and by the Chair of the India-Lebanon Inter country Rotary Committee.

More than 60 participants attended the event. Ambassador Khan spoke about India's incredible growth story, strong fundamentals of Indian economy and various measures taken by Government of India under Hon'ble PM to make it a favorite destination for investments and doing business. He also mentioned about the vaccination in India, post-covid economic recovery and the US\$ 400 bn. export by India to the World in the last financial year. He also mentioned about the major structural reforms what have been launched by the Indian government to boost the long-term outlook of the economy and highlighted various initiatives like the AtmaNirbhar Bharat Mission, Digital India Mission, Start Up India Initiative and the Gati Shakti Mission for upgrading of infrastructure.

Ambassador also spoke about various multilateral engagement of India during the Covid times specially with QUAD. Ambassador also spoke about Vaccine Mairti initiative, India's role in ensuring food security to the World and India's upcoming G20 presidency. It was followed by an interesting & lively discussion & interaction.



Embassy News



Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti

As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Embassy observed Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti on May 9, 2022. The event was joined by members of Indian Community Members and all staff members of the Mission. The event included screening of short movie on Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, recital of poem and songs by the officials of the Mission.



Screening of Bollywood Movie 'Bareilly Ki Barfi'

Embassy of India, Beirut organised screening of Bollywood Movie 'Bareilly Ki Barfi' on May 20, 2022 under the celebrations of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and as part of Monthly Bollywood Evening. The movie was attended by Lebanese Friends of India from different parts of Lebanon.

News of The Month

English Translation of Address by Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi at the Joint Press Meet with the Prime Minister of UK

April 22, 2022

Your Excellency, Prime Minister Boris Johnson,
Distinguished delegates,
Our friends from the media,

Namaskar!

First of all, I extend a warm welcome to Prime Minister Boris Johnson and his delegation to India.

This may be his first visit to India as Prime Minister, but as an old friend of India, he knows and understands India very well. For the past several years, Prime Minister Johnson has played a very important role in strengthening the relations between India and the UK.

At the time, when India is celebrating the Amrit Mahotsav of its independence, Prime Minister Boris Johnson's visit is a historic moment in itself. And yesterday, the whole of India saw that you started your visit to India by paying homage to Mahatma Gandhi at Sabarmati Ashram.

Friends,

Last year, we established the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the two countries. And to give direction to our relationship in the present decade we had also launched an ambitious 'Roadmap 2030'. In our conversation today, we also reviewed the progress made in this roadmap, and set some goals for the future.

Teams of both countries are working on the subject of Free Trade Agreement. Good progress is being made in the negotiations. And we have decided to make full efforts towards the conclusion of the FTA by the end of this year. In the last few months, India has concluded Free Trade Agreements with UAE and Australia. At the same pace, with the same commitment, we would like to move forward on the FTA with the UK as well.

We have also agreed to enhance cooperation in the defence sector. We welcome the UK's support for 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' in all sectors of manufacturing, technology, design and development in the defence sector.

Friends,

We also had discussions on the comprehensive reforms going on in India, our infrastructure modernization plan and the National Infrastructure Pipeline. We welcome the increasing investment in India by UK companies. And, a good example of this we got to see yesterday at Halol in Gujarat.

News of The Month

1.6 million people of Indian origin living in the UK are making positive contributions to the society and every sector of the economy. We are proud of their achievements. And we want to strengthen this living bridge further. Prime Minister Johnson has personally contributed a lot in this direction. I congratulate him for this.

Friends,

We expressed our commitment to fulfil the resolutions taken at the COP-26 held in Glasgow. Today we decided to further deepen our climate and energy partnership. We invite the UK to join India's National Hydrogen Mission. And I sincerely welcome the establishment of the Strategic Tech Dialogue between us.

Friends,

Today, the conclusion of the implementation arrangements of the Global Innovation Partnership between us will prove to be a very important initiative. This will further strengthen our development partnership with other countries. Under this, India and the UK will co-finance up to \$100 million for transfer and scaling-up of "Made in India" innovations to third countries. These will also help in achieving sustainable development goals, and in efforts to tackle climate change. This will prove to be very useful for our start-ups and MSME sector in exploring new markets, and in making their innovations global.

Friends,

We also discussed the many developments taking place at the regional and global level. We emphasized on having an Indo-Pacific region which is based on a free, open, inclusive and rules-based order. India welcomes the UK's decision to join the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative.

We stressed on dialogue and diplomacy for an immediate ceasefire and resolution of the problem in Ukraine. We also reiterated the importance of respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of all countries.

We reiterated our support for a peaceful, stable and secure Afghanistan having an inclusive and representative government. It is essential that Afghan territory must not be used to spread terrorism in other countries.

Excellency,

You have always made special efforts to strengthen the relationship between India and the UK. For this we commend you.

Once again, a warm welcome to you and your delegation to India.

Thank you very much!

News of The Month

Remarks by Foreign Secretary at the Inaugural Dinner of the Raisina Dialogue 2022

H.E. Mr. Md. Nasheed, Speaker. People's Majlis, Maldives

H.E. Mr. Santiago Cafiero, Foreign Minister, Argentina

H.E. Mr. Zunaid Ahmed Palak, State Minister, ICT Division, Bangladesh

H.E. Ms. Candith Mashego-Dlamini, Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, South Africa

H.E. Mr. Mathias Cormann, Secretary-General, OECD

Your Excellencies

Distinguished Guests

Dear Friends,

Namaste! Good Evening

Let me begin by extending to you a very warm welcome to India, and to the Raisina Dialogue 2022.

It is heartening to find that we can gather here, in-person, this year. The dialogue has become a confluence of decision-makers and opinion-shapers who define our times. That most certainly includes people in this room tonight.

Friends,

A lot has evolved in this region in the last year. Considerable turbulence is currently underway in many parts of the globe. The future is being shaped as we meet here today.

Friends, when the pandemic struck us, the global order was already edging towards an era of disruption, competition, undermining of rules, and questioning of regimes. As we gather today, the global strategic outlook appears even more uncertain and complex.

This edition of Raisina dialogue will see a deep dive into the current geopolitical and geo-economic shifts, underline the role technology is destined to play in it, and notably highlight the part we all play in it as stake-holders.

Friends,

Let me highlight some of the overarching trends that speak to me.

Post the peak of the pandemic, States are grappling with three overarching ideas: self-reliance; the stability and security of supply chains; and the right balance between geopolitics and economic imperatives. With the limitations of the old system, trading nations seek like-minded actors to create networks built on trust, and infrastructure that prioritizes resilience and quality.

Data, digitisation and technology are reshaping and redefining almost every aspect of business and society today. South Asia and the Indo-Pacific region find themselves in a unique position in this rapidly evolving global economic world order. We are driven by a rising consumer class, strong start-up ecosystem, growing internet economy and a robust demographic dividend. This opportunity must be explored – to build trade and digital connectivity projects that cater to our aspirational population.

News of The Month

Climate Action is becoming the defining phrase of our generation. Together, key nations need to start investing in institutional frameworks that support the new energy landscape of the future. To that effect, the International Solar Alliance, of which India is a founding member, can be the pivot of a new era of coalitions for like-minded nations.

While we are dwelling on this topic, I must point out that if shared visions of a common future, our climate targets included, are to be achieved, then the Global North has to deliver on its green finance commitments. Today, the actual flow of capital to developing countries remains well below stated pledges and real requirements. We ought to think how geopolitics can serve energy transitions, instead of complicating it.

There are many divisive issues across the globe today, emerging new threats, and equally large economic dependencies in our interconnected world. How does one really navigate through this maze of geopolitical contestations?

A trend that suggests a return of great power competition on the world stage is rising defence budgets. It has led to increasingly assertive defence postures in many geographies. Students of History amongst us will know how significant a change this is.

Tectonic shifts in our own region have come with implications. The situation in Afghanistan has catalysed the humanitarian and developmental challenges in that country. Farther away from home, the situation in Ukraine has been of deep concern. Our position has been steadfast and consistent. We seek immediate cessation of violence. We call for ending the crisis through talks.

Today, we see harsh outcomes of debt-trap diplomacy and unsustainable financing models that undermine the idea of traditional regional cooperation. We have noticed the damaging impact such models can have on a country, on its peoples. And as a responsible power, we continue to stand with our friends and partners to help them in these testing times.

As we progress in our conversations over the next two days, we need to think about how these trends affect the region and impact its geopolitical options and choices. That brings me to the wider question on the future of multilateralism as we know it.

Friends, the only way to solve a problem is to first acknowledge that there is a problem.

To every person in this room, it is probably clear by now that the existing multilateral institutions have demonstrated incapacity in one way or the other when it was meant to deliver. And as such, reforms at its core cannot be held up any longer.

India at 75 has evolved as a significant global actor with commensurate expectations from the world regarding its choices, actions and its dynamic evolution. From responding to climate change, pandemics and humanitarian crises, to global peace and security, to technology and digital frontiers, India's actions will shape the 21st century world. We shall continue to remain focused on an inclusive and human-centric development.

News of The Month

Friends,

As we take stock of some of these key meta-issues that will shape our future, and work our way through the rebalancing of the world order, we need to begin by asking ourselves – are we future-ready? Over the course of this Raisina Dialogue, together we will hopefully be able to map some of the emerging trendlines, and answer questions about a common future that affects us all.

The last few weeks have demonstrated that as a standalone and strategically autonomous power, India will act in accordance with its national interests. Strategic autonomy is not the same as a rigid, isolationist, ideological aversion to partnerships and alignments.

Our role in the changing international order will be shaped by our own circumstances, and the cumulative consciousness of our culture, history and ethics. It is reflective of a confident, sharp eyed understanding of our strategic interests. We believe that this is our 21st century approach towards foreign policy.

And with that, this is India reaching out to the world, to jointly seek and provide long-term solutions for regional and global peace, security, and prosperity.

I look forward to listening to other speakers.

May I request Dr. Samir Saran, President ORF, to moderate this session from here on?

Thank You.

Article of The Month



International Day of Yoga

In this century we realise that Yoga has united the world -PM Narendra Modi

An invaluable gift of ancient Indian tradition, Yoga has emerged as one of the most trusted means to boost physical and mental well-being. The word "Yoga" is derived from the Sanskrit root yuj meaning "to join", "to yoke" or "to unite", symbolizing the unity of mind and body; thought and action; restraint and fulfillment; harmony between human and nature, and a holistic approach to health and well-being.

Due to Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi's relentless efforts, June 21 was declared as the International Yoga Day by the United Nations General Assembly. In its resolution, the UNGA endorsed that "Yoga provides a holistic approach to health and well-being apart from striking a balance between all aspects of life. The wider dissemination of information about the benefits of practising Yoga would be beneficial for the health of the world population." This infused an era of holistic health revolution in which attention was given more to prevention rather than the cure.

Centuries ago one of the most popular Sanskrit poets Bhartrhari, while highlighting the specialty of Yoga, said:

धैर्यं यस्य पिता क्षमा च जननी शान्तिश्चिरं गोहिनी
सत्यं सूनुरयं दया च भगिनी भ्राता मनः संयमः ।
शय्या भूमितलं दिशोऽपि वसनं ज्ञानामृतं भोजनं
एते यस्य कुटिम्बिनः वद सखे कस्माद् भयं योगिनः ॥

Meaning that by regularly practising Yoga, a person can imbibe some very good qualities like courage which protects like a father, forgiveness as possessed by a mother & mental peace which becomes a permanent friend. Through regular practise of Yoga truth becomes our child, mercy our sister, self-control our brother, the earth becomes our bed & knowledge satiates our hunger.

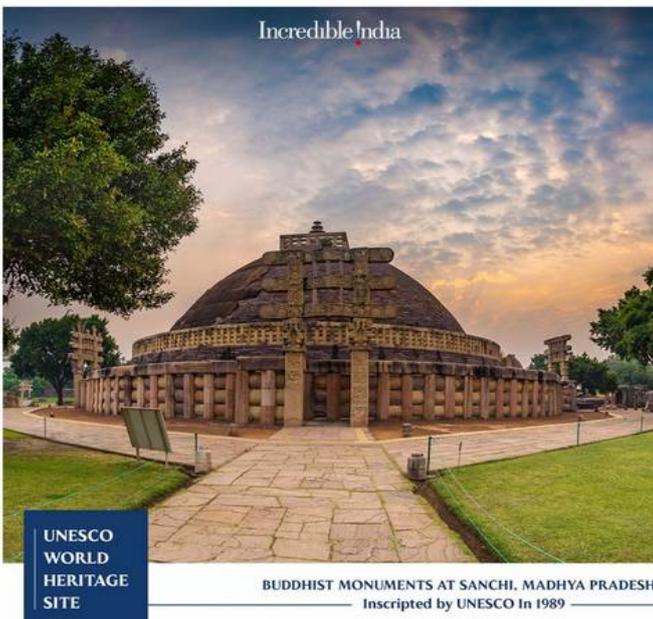
Featured Stories



Tulip Festival

The Tulip Festival, which spans 30 hectares and overlooks Dal Lake, is truly awe-inspiring in its floral splendour.

It is held in Srinagar at the start of spring, until the end of April, which is the length of time the tulips are in bloom.



Incredible India

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BUDDHIST MONUMENTS AT SANCHI, MADHYA PRADESH
Inscribed by UNESCO In 1989

Buddhist monuments

Buddhist monuments at Sanchi, Madhya Pradesh inscribed by UNESCO in 1989. On a hill overlooking the plain and about 40 km from Bhopal, the site of Sanchi comprises a group of Buddhist monuments (monolithic pillars, palaces, temples and monasteries) all in different states of conservation most of which date back to the 2nd and 1st centuries B.C. It is the oldest Buddhist sanctuary in existence and was a major Buddhist centre in India until the 12th century A.D.



#mountainsarecalling



Bhagirathi Valley, Uttarakshi

www.uttarakhandtourism.gov.in

Bhagirathi

Liberate yourself in the footsteps of Bhagirathi. Enjoy the splashes of freshwater and experience white water rafting and kayaking. Mountains are calling from the Bhagirathi Valley. The Bhagirathi and Alaknanda join at Devprayag and their union is thereafter known as the Ganges.

India Tourism

Arunachal Pradesh

"The last of the great Shangri-La.." 'Shangri-La is a mystical, harmonious valley' or so goes the description in James Hilton's 1933 novel, Lost Horizon. Hilton went on to describe a Garden of Eden on Earth: a land of milk and honey in a hidden Himalayan valley, where nobody grew old or ugly. Over the years, there's been no shortage of contenders for the title of 'Lost Shangri-La' but now there's a new kid on the block: Arunachal Pradesh". The thunderous Himalayan peaks so little known that few have been named, let alone climbed, plus jungles teeming with life forms that scientists are yet to catalogue, delicately tattooed and pierced tribal peoples living in long houses in the forest, magnificent Buddhist Temples and a severe dose of near limitless adventure. Lonely planet's top 4 regions in the world. Arunachal Pradesh, a veritable treasure house of nature, tucked away in the north eastern tip of India, invites you to relax in its picturesque hills and vales encircled on three sides by Bhutan, China and Myanmar. Come to Arunachal Pradesh to relive in nature in its full splendour. Enjoy the salubrious climate and meet its simple and hospitable people. Snowy misty, famous monasteries, unexplored passes and tranquil lakes come together to form some of the prettiest mountain spots in Arunachal Pradesh. For a tourist the options are varied, each more tempting than the other.



Itanagar

Known for its scenic beauty, Buddhist culture and heritage, the capital of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar, offers a perfect experience with its inimitable culture and friendly locals. Itanagar, also known as the land of dawn-lit mountains, is a venue for a number of cultural extravaganzas including the fun-filled outdoor festival of Ziro that witnesses talent from the northeastern region, coming together on one platform. A wide variety of fauna including tigers, barking deer, sambars and panthers and the not-to-be-missed state bird, hornbill, are also found here in large numbers.



Tawang

A stunning contrast of nature's colour palette, where dense emerald jungles give way to stark icy peaks and snow-blanketed passes, the quaint town of Tawang, in Arunachal Pradesh, is a pristine and unspoilt tourist destination.

For more information, please visit |

<https://www.incredibleindia.org/content/incredible-india-v2/en/destinations/states/arunachal-pradesh.html>

Upcoming Events

Indian Fashion Jewellery & Accessories Show – IFJAS

Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) is organizing the 16th edition of Indian Fashion Jewellery & Accessories Show – IFJAS from 20 – 22 June 2022 at the India Expo Centre & Mart in person, as physical exhibitions offer touch and feel of the products is an important criteria for selection and placing orders in the handicrafts trade. The 16th IFJAS will see participation by more than 200 exhibitors (manufacturer and exporters & members of the EPCH) with an intricate display of Fashion Jewellery, Semi-Precious Jewellery, Belts & Wallets, Hand Bags and Purses, Fashion Accessories, Head & Hair Accessories, Stoles & Scarves, Apparels Accessories and Fancy Footwear, etc.

Please register to participate in the event at: <https://ifjas.in/register>

For more information, please visit: <https://ifjas.in/> or contact us at com2.beirut@mea.gov.in

Admissions are open for #NalandaUniversity

An avant-garde, postgraduate, research-intensive Intl. institution of academic excellence with the Ministry of External Affairs (@MEAIndia) & supported by the 17 Member countries of the East Asia Summit.

More details:

<https://nalandauniv.edu.in/admissions/admission-process/>

Renewable Energy India Expo

Renewable Energy India Expo popularly known as REI offers an all-inclusive platform to domestic and international manufacturers, traders, buyers and professionals from across the renewable energy domain. REI is recognized as Asia's Leading b2b expo focusing on Solar Energy, Wind Energy, Bio-Energy, Energy Storage and Electric Vehicles and charging infra. The forthcoming 15th edition of REI Expo being held during 28-30 September 2022, is estimated to attract over 700+ Exhibitors, 40,000+ trade visitors and esteemed policy-makers, decision-makers, influencers, technical experts and professionals

More details:

<https://renewableenergyindiaexpo.com/>

India International Medical Equipment Expo co-located with World Medtech Forum 2022

The much awaited World MedTech Forum is finally making its way to India and will be organised parallel to the India International Medical Equipment Expo. The show and Forum is scheduled to take place from the 10th to 12th of December 2022 at the iconic AMTZ- world's largest medical devices manufacturing eco system.

More details:

<http://www.iimeexpo.com/>

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