

India to launch \$1.35 trillion infrastructure plan

18th August, 2021



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced a huge financial package for his country's economy. Mr Modi outlined plans for spending \$1.35 trillion on infrastructure at an Independence Day speech on August the 15th. The huge investment

will focus on the economy, youth employment opportunities, and on ways to tackle climate change. Modi hopes the gargantuan injection of cash will provide a boost to the economy. He said the spending plans will "create job opportunities for hundreds of thousands of young people". He added that the stimulus would help local manufacturers to become "globally competitive," and develop new "economic zones" in India.

Mr Modi focused on plans to make India a carbon-neutral country. He gave his speech as part of India's 75th Independence Day celebrations. He vowed that before India turned 100, the country would be "energy independent". Modi pledged to invest more in sustainable resources such as solar technology and "green hydrogen". He wants the country to move away from its reliance on oil. India is the world's third-largest oil importer. In particular, he outlined ambitious plans for transforming India's vast railway network - the largest in the world. He said he wants the whole network to be a net-zero carbon emitter by 2030. Modi said his country is "moving fast towards achieving its climate goals".

Sources: [sky.com](https://www.sky.com) / [indiatimes.com](https://www.indiatimes.com) / [aljazeera.com](https://www.aljazeera.com)

Writing

It is more important to spend money on climate change than jobs. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

prime minister / financial / package / infrastructure / investment / injection / zones / carbon / neutral / celebrations / energy / independent / hydrogen / railway / climate

True / False

- 1) India's Finance Secretary announced a huge financial package. T / F
- 2) An infrastructure plan was announced on India's Independence Day. T / F
- 3) Part of the plan includes cash to fight climate change. T / F
- 4) The package will provide job opportunities for millions of young people. T / F
- 5) India's leader wants the country to be carbon neutral in 100 years. T / F
- 6) India's leader wants to invest in green hydrogen. T / F
- 7) India is the world's third-largest importer of oil. T / F
- 8) India's leader said India has achieved its climate goals. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. announced | a. address |
| 2. outlined | b. entire |
| 3. gargantuan | c. summarized |
| 4. boost | d. makers |
| 5. manufacturers | e. dependence |
| 6. speech | f. enormous |
| 7. vowed | g. huge |
| 8. reliance | h. declared |
| 9. vast | i. promised |
| 10. whole | j. lift |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you know about India?
- b) What is the infrastructure in your country like?
- c) What would you spend your government's money on?
- d) How could you improve your country's economy?
- e) What can your country do to tackle climate change?
- f) What are local manufacturers in your town like?
- g) How globally competitive are companies in your country?
- h) What would you do with a gargantuan injection of cash?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. announced a huge financial | a. to the economy |
| 2. ways to tackle | b. railway network |
| 3. provide a boost | c. zones |
| 4. the stimulus would help local | d. neutral country |
| 5. develop new economic | e. manufacturers |
| 6. plans to make India a carbon- | f. emitter by 2030 |
| 7. move away from its reliance | g. package |
| 8. transforming India's vast | h. its climate goals |
| 9. be a net-zero carbon | i. on oil |
| 10. moving fast towards achieving | j. climate change |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you think about India?
- How far away is your country from being carbon neutral?
- What sustainable resources are the most effective?
- How reliant is your country on oil?
- What infrastructure in your town needs some money?
- What will India be like in 50 years from now?
- What questions would you like to ask India's leader?

Spelling

- announced a huge financial aakcpeg
- Mr Modi iulotedn plans
- the uanatgganr injection of cash
- create job oesrputitpnoi
- the lsuustmi would help
- local ufreaatrucmns
- plans to make India a carbon-tlunrae country
- He vdweo that before India turned 100
- iutalesbans resources
- green nreodyhg
- move away from its lcnreia on oil
- a net-zero carbon tmetrei by 2030

Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. c	3. f/g	4. j	5. d
6. a	7. i	8. e	9. f/g	10. b

Role Play

Role A – Solar Power

You think solar power is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms of power. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): wind power, biofuel or hydroelectricity.

Role B – Wind Power

You think wind power is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms of power. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): solar power, biofuel or hydroelectricity.

Role C – Biofuel

You think biofuel is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms of power. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): wind power, solar power or hydroelectricity.

Role D – Hydroelectricity

You think hydroelectricity is best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms of power. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): wind power, biofuel or solar power.

Speaking – Sustainable

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| • Solar power | • Nuclear power |
| • Tidal power | • Carbon capture |
| • Wind power | • Hydroelectricity |
| • Biofuel | • Geothermal power |

Answers – True False

1 F	2 T	3 T	4 F	5 F	6 T	7 T	8 F
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.