

Terror-funding PM's priority at G-20

Summit to focus on global economy & trade, international financial & tax systems, women empowerment, development

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to give a clarion call to the global community to strengthen international cooperation and enhance coordinated action against fugitive economic offenders and financing of terrorism at the G-20 Summit in Buenos Aires beginning on Friday.

In a statement ahead of his departure for Argentina to attend the summit, Modi said he would also highlight the need for reformed multilateralism which reflected the contemporary realities and could effectively strengthen collective action for global good.

He said emerging economies, which played a major role in revitalising the growth in the global economy pursuant to the financial crisis, were today facing unprecedented economic and technological challenges.

The PM said he looked forward to meeting leaders from other G-20 countries to review the work of grouping in the last ten years of its existence and chart the ways and means to meet the new and upcoming challenges of the coming decade.

"We will deliberate on the situation of global economy and trade, international financial and tax systems, the future of work, women empowerment, infrastructure and sustainable development," he added.

Modi said the G-20 sought to promote multi-faceted cooperation among the twenty largest economies of the world. Through the ten years of its existence, G-20 has striven to promote stable and sustainable global growth. This objective was of particular significance for developing countries and emerging economies such as India, which was today the fastest growing large economy in the world, he noted.

The PM said India's contribution to global economic growth and prosperity underlined India's commitment to "Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development", which was the theme of the Summit.

Modi said he looked for-

ward to meeting several world leaders on the sidelines of the summit to exchange views on bilateral matters of mutual interest.

Foreign secretary Vijay

Gokhale has confirmed that Modi would meet Chinese President Xi Jinping, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and many other leaders during his stay in Buenos Aires.



Meanwhile, Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Bharatpur, Rajasthan in a sharp attack against Congress president Rahul Gandhi, said courtiers around the "naamdar" believe Maoists are revolutionaries.

Modi, who often refers to Gandhi as "naamdar" (dynast), was addressing a rally ahead of the December 7 elections in this Rajasthan town.

"Raag darbari of the naamdar say Naxals and Maoists are revolutionaries," he told the gathering.

Close aides of the "naamdar" refer to the Army chief as street thugs, Modi said, asking whether they could protect the nation.

Congress leader Sandeep Dikshit last year triggered a row after he likened Army Chief General Bipin Rawat to a "goon on the street", prompting the BJP to demand his expulsion.

The Congress distanced itself from the remarks. Dikshit withdrew his remarks and apologised.

"We implemented one rank, one pension in the Army. The Congress never worked on that," Modi said, adding that the party insults martyrs.

Continuing his attack against the opposition party, he said the "game of scams" had stopped in the four years that his government was in power.

"Your dreams are my dreams," he told the gathering. The prime minister also extolled his government's record on terrorism, saying terrorists were confined to Kashmir after 2014.

"Don't underestimate the value of your one vote. It secured the country, reduced terrorist attacks and brought fame across the world," he told the crowd. It was his second speech of the day in the state. Earlier in the morning, he addressed a rally in Nagaur.