

■ Raises terror with Brics leaders

## Modi showcases govt's inclusive schemes at G-20

Buenos Aires, Nov. 30: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday highlighted the flagship programmes like the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna, Mudra and Start-up India undertaken by his government to modernise the economy and promote inclusive growth at the opening session of the G-20 summit here.

"PM @narendramodi made an intervention at the 1st session of #G20Argentina on Global Economy, Future of Work & Women's Empowerment. Highlighted flagship programs undertaken to modernise economy & promote inclusive growth #JanDhanYojana #MUDRA #Startup India," external affairs ministry spokesperson Raveesh Kumar tweeted.

The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is a financial inclusion programme that aims at expanding and making affordable access to financial services to the last man in the row. Mudra, which stands for Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency, is a financial institution set up in 2016 for development and refinancing *micro units enterprises*.

Prime Minister Modi, US President Donald Trump and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe also met earlier for their first trilateral meeting on the sidelines of the G-20 summit to discuss major issues of global and multilateral interests.

The meeting assumed



Argentina's President Mauricio Macri welcomes Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the start of the G-20 summit in Buenos Aires on Friday. — AP

importance in the wake of China flexing its muscles in the strategic Indo-Pacific region.

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Asserting that India will "continue to work together on shared values", Mr Modi said, "The 'JAI' (Japan, America, India) meeting is dedicated to democratic values... 'JAI' stands for victory (in Hindi)."

The leaders emphasised the importance of cooperation among the three countries on all major issue of global and multilateral interests such as connectivity, sustainable development, counter-terrorism and maritime and cyber security.

It was a busy day for Prime Minister Modi who also interacted with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping and British Prime Minister Theresa May ahead of the G-20 summit.

With Mr Xi he discussed joint efforts to further enhance

mutual trust and friendship between the two neighbours.

According to a picture tweeted by external affairs ministry spokesperson Raveesh Kumar, Mr Modi was seen clasping the hand of Mr Trump and talking to the US President. Prime Minister Modi also interacted with President Putin.

"Catching up with other #G20 leaders from Russia, Italy and UK at the Leaders' Lounge," Mr Kumar tweeted, referring to Prime Minister's interactions with President Putin, Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte and Prime Minister May.

Earlier, Mr Modi held separate bilateral meetings with Mr Xi, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres.

In a separate engagement, India and four other Brics

nations also called for rules-based multilateral trading system, as embodied in the WTO, to ensure transparent, non-discriminatory, open and inclusive international trade, amidst growing protectionism.

Prime Minister Modi met Brics leaders, including South African President Cyril Ramaphosa and Brazil President Michel Temer, on the sidelines of the G-20 Summit.

Mr Modi said terrorism and radicalisation was the biggest challenges the world was facing and underlined the need for the Brics and G-20 countries to work together to strengthen the UN counter terrorism framework to stop terrorist networks, their financing and movement.

He also asked the countries to work together against economic offenders and fugitives who were posing a serious threat to

the world's economic stability.

"We all agree that terrorism and radicalisation are the biggest challenges that the whole world is facing today. They are not only a threat to peace and security, but also a challenge for economic development," he said.

Earlier while meeting Mr Xi, Prime Minister Modi asserted that the Wuhan meet was a milestone in the India-China ties and said he is looking forward to host Mr Xi for an informal summit next year.

The two leaders have met twice after their informal summit in the Chinese city of Wuhan in late April — once at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit held in June in China's Qingdao and the second time at the Brics summit in South Africa's Johannesburg in July. — PTI