



**Research Unit**  
Press Information Bureau  
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
Government of India



## G20 Series #44

### India's G20 Presidency

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> G20 Sherpa Meeting

(Kumarakom, Kerala - March 30 - April 2, 2023)

(Ministry of Information and Broadcasting)

May 03, 2023

*"India Moment' being discussed around the world today is not ordinary, especially when the largest pandemic in a hundred years hit the world along with the ongoing war between two nations. "A new history is being scripted and we are all witnessing it together"*

-Prime Minister Narendra Modi

The 2<sup>nd</sup> G20 Sherpas meeting under India's G20 Presidency, chaired by India's G20 Sherpa Shri Amitabh Kant took place in the picturesque village of Kumarakom, Kerala, from March 30 to April 2, 2023. The four-day gathering of over 120 delegates from G20 Members, 9 invitee countries, and various international and regional organizations held multilateral discussions on G20's economic and developmental priorities as well as on addressing contemporary global challenges. The deliberations focused both on policy approaches and concrete implementation.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sherpa Meeting worked on a range of cross-cutting issues of global concern and encompassed the work being done under the 13 Working Groups within the Sherpa track. Further, 11 Engagement Groups and 4 Initiatives (Research and Innovations Initiative Gathering or RIIG, Empower, Space Economy Leaders' Meeting or SELM and Chief Scientific Advisers Roundtable or CSAR) are also feeding policy recommendations from the perspectives of the civil society, private sector, academia, women, youth, scientific advancement and research. The deliberations of the Sherpa Meetings took forward the outcomes of various Sherpa Track and Finance Track Meetings and will form the basis of the Leaders' Declaration, slated to be adopted at the New Delhi Summit in September 2023.

### Day 1: March 30, 2023

The first day of the 2<sup>nd</sup> G20 Sherpa Meeting had two side events on its agenda on the themes of:

1. **Digital Public Infrastructure**
2. **Green Development**

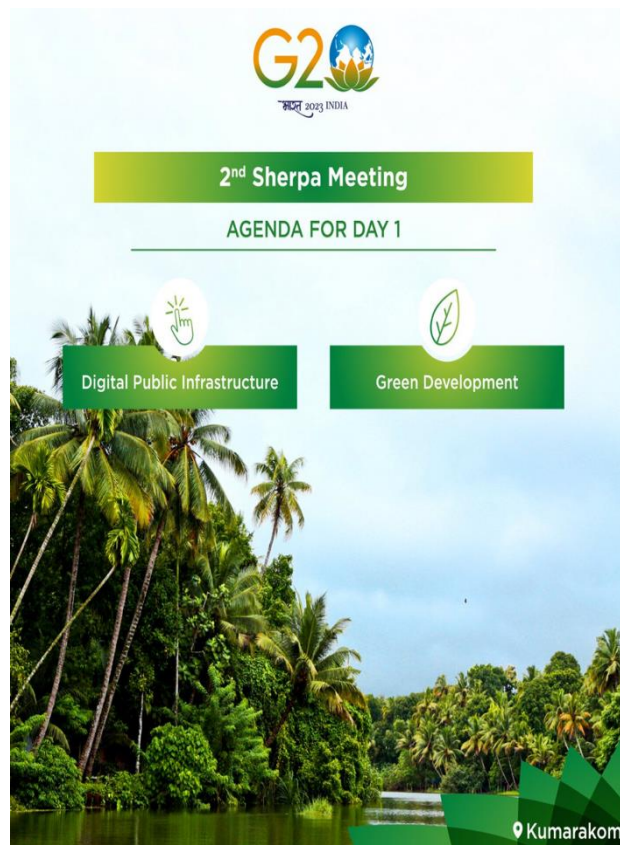
The Side Event on Digital Public Infrastructure commenced with an inaugural address by India's G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant who noted the crucial role of DPI in providing inclusive access to public services effectively and efficiently.

The session began with an all-day focus on the critical role of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in improving development outcomes and India's vast experience in implementing DPI at scale in the past decade.

India's G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant along with NASSCOM President Debjani Ghosh inaugurated the DPI Experience Zone. Demonstrating India's DPI success story, the immersive Digital India Experience zone highlighted key DPIs developed by India for addressing crucial issues such as digital identity, financial inclusion, and equitable access to education and health. Various population-scale DPIs of India Stack such as Aadhar, Co-Win, UPI, DigiLocker, BHASHINI and others were showcased in the experience zone. The experience zone also saw the presence of private sector enterprises such as Google, Microsoft, PayTM, Fractaboo, AWS and TCS, which showcased the innovation potential of DPI.

The event started with a special session on the importance and need of DPIs titled 'Why DPI?' and was followed by three sessions on:

1. **How DPI Delivers for People, Planet and Prosperity**
2. **DPI in the Global Context - How different countries are approaching DPIs and key learnings**
3. **Scaling DPI: Challenges & Opportunities**



Two Spotlight Sessions were also held to showcase:

1. **Presentation on DPI Financing Gap**
2. **How DPI is fueling the start-up ecosystem - Investor + Founder**

A side event on Green Development: Need for an Ambitious Vision for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century was also hosted on the first day of the 2<sup>nd</sup> G20 Sherpa Meeting.

Two Plenary sessions were held under this:

1. **A New Paradigm for Sustainable and Green Development**
2. **Green Development & Financing for SDGs including Climate Action**

To ensure an effective green transformation, the following emerged as critical checkpoints for the G20 to work on:

- Building coherence around economic, social, and environmental goals by recognising the commercial value of long-term human and natural capital investments.
- Ensuring continuity in the G20's efforts to make energy accessible for the most vulnerable communities, pushing forward agricultural reforms, and building towards sustainable cities and lifestyles, in addition to promoting just transitions for green development.
- Recognising the opportunities for course correction while at the same time pushing for concerted efforts for adaptation to ensure resilience and equity.
- Accelerating climate and development finance flows to the developing world through increased collaboration among diverse stakeholders.



## **Day 2: March 31, 2023**

On day 2 of the meeting, the formal proceedings were inaugurated by Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri. V. Muraleedharan. Detailed discussions on the main priority areas identified by the Presidency were held, with the two sessions mentioned as follows:

### **Session 1: Focusing on Technological Transformation**

The session included discussions and progress made under Digital Economy, Health, Education, Tourism and Culture Working Groups.





## Session 2: Accelerated, Inclusive and Resilient Growth as well as Women-led Development



Interventions by countries clearly highlighted the need for women's empowerment and women's leadership which is at the heart of the development process. Delegates also emphasised the importance of accelerated efforts to return to a path of resilient growth and recovery which also takes everyone along. The session also reviewed the progress that has been made under Agriculture, Trade & Investment, Employment and Anti-Corruption Working Groups.



The Sherpas commented on the various proposed actionable deliverables as well as suggested the way forward on important deliberations being held in these working groups such as digital public infrastructure, data for development food security, digital health and pandemic preparedness, prevention and response, tech-enabled education, global skill mapping, etc.

G20 Sherpas also participated in 'Kayal Conversations' (discussions at the backwaters over high tea) where they discussed in an informal setting ways to take forward the agenda of G20 and deepen cooperation and understanding on shared concerns. The Indian G20 Sherpa, Shri Amitabh Kant also held productive bilateral discussions with his counterparts throughout the day.

### Day 3: April 1, 2023

On the third day of the meeting, Sherpas discussed the "Way Forward in the G20" and "Green Development & LiFE" as part of the key sessions.

The first session commenced with G20 India Delegates sharing their suggestions as part of creating the [\*Way forward for G20 outcome documents\*](#).



During his address in Session 3, Avinash Persaud Special Envoy-PM of Barbados, deliberated on G20 India's aim to address unsustainable debt, mobilisation of adequate resources for climate finance, enabling finance for SDGs & reform of international financial architecture.

George Gray Molina, Head-Inclusive Growth & Chief Economist at UNDP highlighted the challenges for developing countries such as debt distress & fallout from tightened monetary policy conditions.

Session 4 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> G20 India Sherpa Meeting deliberated on key priority areas of the G20 India Presidency- Green development and LiFE. The Sherpas/HoDs reviewed the progress of Working Groups -Development, Energy Transitions, Environment and Climate Sustainability & Disaster Risk Reduction.





### **Day 4: April 2, 2023**

Day 4 was dedicated to unwinding & celebrating Kerala's traditions. The G20 Sherpas & delegates learnt about Kumarakom's unique culture by participating in various activities.



### **Delegates engaging in Exhilarating Indian experiences**

1. The delegates were presented with an exhibition that featured an array of traditional Indian weaves, One District One Product and paintings from Kerala.
2. The first day concluded with a [mesmerizing Kathakali performance](#). Native to Kerala, Kathakali is one of the 8 Indian classical dances and is known for its artistic rigour and elaborate preparation.
3. The second day of the meeting concluded with 'Charchayum Aharavum', a cultural evening and dinner. Hon'ble Governor of Kerala, Shri Arif Mohammad Khan and Chief Minister of Kerala, Shri Pinarayi Vijayan attended the dinner along with the Chief Secretary of Kerala, Shri V.P Joy.



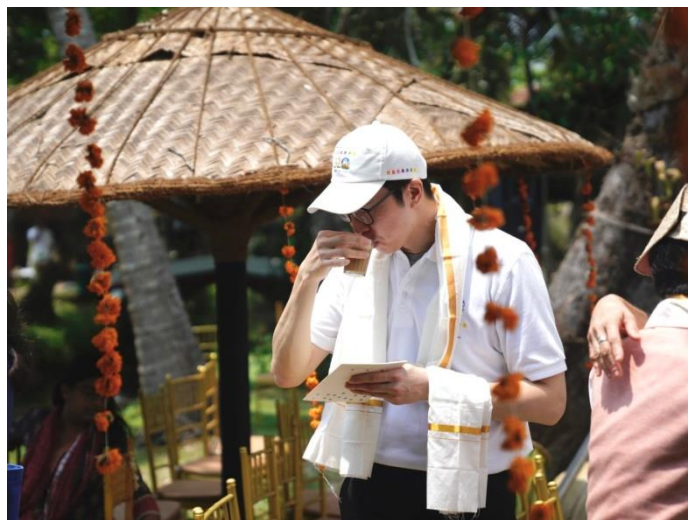
4. Distinguished dignitaries and the G20 delegates witnessed a spectacular rendition of 'Oathirum Mohitham', a play based on the vadakkan pattu (traditional ballads of Kerala) and various dance forms providing them a glimpse into the rich heritage of Kerala.
5. [An exhibition themed 'LiFE Hangar'](#), has been set up to showcase India's innovations and efforts towards enabling a sustainable and pro-planet lifestyle.
6. Continuing with an all-immersive experience, delegates also dressed up in Kerala's traditional attire - the Mundu. Usually white and made of cotton, it is made special with an intricate golden border called Kasavu.



7. [Thrissur Pooram](#), a must-see spectacle, captures the essence of Kerala's rich history and traditions. It was truly an awe-inspiring experience for Sherpas and delegates that left them spellbound.



8. [Sherpas & delegates were treated to a remarkable culinary experience](#) as they indulged in a traditional Indian feast-Onam Sadhya. They relished the magnificent meal & savoured its delightful flavours.
9. Sherpas & delegates came together in the serene beauty of Kumarakom's backwaters to partake in the traditional ritual of 'Chaya Vallom'. They discussed and explored avenues to strengthen relationships while enjoying the scenic surroundings.



## References:

[Second G20 Sherpas Meeting in Kumarakom, Kerala \(March 30 to April 2, 2023\)](#)

[India's G20 Presidency: 2nd Sherpa Meeting Side event on Green Development: Need for an ambitious vision for 21st century](#)

[2nd G20 Sherpa Meeting Side Event on Digital Public Infrastructure in Kumarakom, Kerala](#)

## Twitter Links:

[G20 delegates are set to rejuvenate their mind and soul in God's own country!](#)

[G20 India Sherpa Shri Amitabh Kant and NASSCOM president Debjani Ghosh inaugurated the DPI Experience Zone on the sidelines of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sherpa Meeting](#)

[Here's what G20 delegates have to say on the 2<sup>nd</sup> G20 Sherpa Meeting](#)

[Exploring the vibrant arts & crafts of India](#)

## Video Links:

[Side event on Green Development](#)

[Media Briefing on 2nd Sherpa Meeting, Kumarakom](#)

[Inaugural segment of the 2nd Sherpa Meeting, Kumarakom](#)

**NR/HP/RK/KG**