

Global South has a voice now, digital infra to boost ties: PM

FE BUREAU
New Delhi, November 17

THE GLOBAL SOUTH has, for the first time, acquired a voice on the global stage, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday, adding that 5 Cs — consultation, cooperation, communication, creativity and capacity building — would help reinforce the relationship.

While speaking at the 2nd Voice of Global South Summit, Modi said, "Everyone's support and everyone's development is necessary for global prosperity, but we are all seeing that new challenges are emerging from events in the West Asia region.

"India has condemned the heinous terrorist attack in Israel on October 7, and along with restraint, has emphasised on dialogue and diplomacy...it is time that the countries of the Global South speak with one voice for the greater global good."

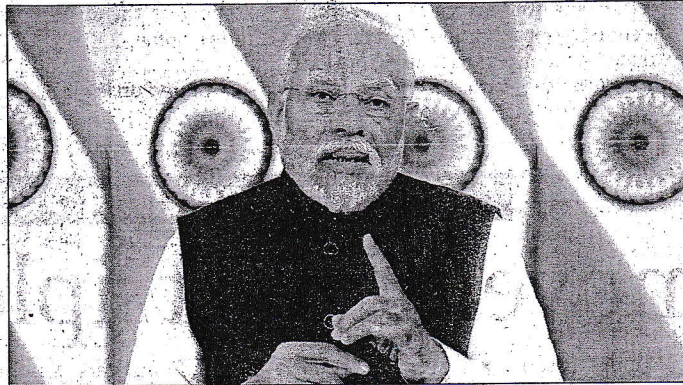
At the summit, Modi inaugurated DAKSHIN, a global centre for excellence for the Global South countries.

India had hosted the inaugural Voice of Global South Summit in January, which had brought together 125 countries of the Global South to share their perspectives and priorities on a common platform.

Throughout its G20 Presidency, India has worked to ensure that the concerns of the Global South receive due cognisance and that the priorities of the Global South were duly factored in finding solutions to the most pressing global challenges, the ministry of external affairs said in a statement on Wednesday.

Modi said that this time the G-20 has shown unprecedented seriousness on climate finance.

"It has also been agreed to provide finance and technology for climate



Can't let financing gaps affect sustainable development: Seth

"WE CANNOT afford to let financing gaps translate into a sustainable development gap," said Ajay Seth, secretary, Department of Economic Affairs on Friday while mentioning that the Indian G20 Presidency has made "concerted efforts" to scale up sustainable finance.

Seth was speaking at the 2nd Voice of Global South Summit.

Seth said that in line with the Paris Agreement and Agenda 2030, the G20 has developed recommendations for mobilising finance for climate action and sustainable development goals (SDGs).

He reiterated that the Indian

transition on easy terms to the countries of the Global South," he said.

Further, the Prime Minister said that there is a great need to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) responsibly by the countries.

"To take this forward, an AI Global Partnership Summit is being organised in India next month. The

presidency strongly advocated strengthening Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to secure continued and sustainable access to low-cost concessional finance for low-income and middle-income countries.

"The (G20 Independent) Expert Group also made comprehensive recommendations on mobilising private finance. The implementation of these recommendations by MDBs within their respective governance frameworks can significantly enhance their strength in addressing various financing challenges," Seth said.

Framework for Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) has been adopted by the G-20, which will help in last-mile delivery of essential services and increase inclusivity. It has also been agreed to create a global DPI repository. Under this, India is ready to share its capabilities with the entire Global South," he said.