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Press Release

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## Hundreds of places in the country could be better venues destination weddings PM Modi concerns initiate brainstorming for holding destination weddings

The serious concern expressed by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his Mann Ki Baat program on 26th November on destination weddings abroad, has stuck in the minds and hearts of people across the country and not only the media has focused on but discussion has started among the common people discussing merits of the suggestions by PM Modi.

There has been no official survey yet about destination weddings by Indians abroad, so it is difficult to estimate this ecosystem but still, after the statement of Prime Minister Shri Modi, an attempt was made to look at volumes & business opportunities lies in such destination weddings which if solemnised in the Country could strengthen further the trade & economy of the Country. As an exercise, It is estimated that every year about 5 thousand destination weddings would take place in foreign countries, in which an expenditure of about Rs 50 thousand crores can be estimated.

National President Shri BC Bhartia and Secretary General Shri Praveen Khandelwal of the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIt) said that Prime Minister Shri Modi expressed concern over destination weddings abroad in his Mann Ki Baat be taken to action, it can be an initiative to bring a possible change in the domestic trade of the country and the Indian economy. They said that it is a well-known fact that a section of rich people in India are solemnising destination weddings abroad which are not the same as getting married in the country. due to which a big trade of the people of India goes to foreign countries. Understanding the pain of Prime Minister Shri Modi, if this section, organizes these marriages in India instead of abroad, it could be a game changer.

Both trade leaders said that there are tens of hundreds of suitable wedding venues in the Country itself, located outskirts of cities, However, there are some prominent places in different states of the country where destination weddings take place on a large scale include Goa, Lonavala, Mahabaleshwar, Mumbai, Shirdi, Nashik, Nagpur in Maharashtra whereas Dwarka , Ahmedabad, Surat, Baroda in Gujrat, Orchha Gwalior, Ujjain, Bhopal, Indore in Madhya Pradesh, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Jaisalmer, Pushkar, Mathura, Vrindavan, Agra, Varanasi, Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh, Chennai in South India, Yadgiri Hill, Ooty, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Tirupati, Cochin, Trichy, Coimbatore, Pondicherry including Delhi NCR, Delhi, Noida, The names of Ghaziabad, Gurgaon, Manesar, Bahadurgarh, Faridabad and Chandigarh, Mohali, Amritsar and Jammu in Punjab-Haryana are notable.

Mr. Bhartia and Mr. Khandelwal said that all these places are fully capable of organizing destination weddings ranging from medium budget to any big budget. There are a number of companies or groups providing services for conducting weddings. A large network has developed in India over the years and that is why wedding related goods and services have become a big business in the country. Be it a destination wedding in the country or abroad, these companies or groups are the best in getting it done. Often every year in the case of weddings, destination weddings held at different places in the country become a topic of discussion due to their grandeur or their specialities, which proves that the concern of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is justified and keeping this in mind, If destination weddings are held in the country in accordance with the spirit that India's money should be spent within the country, then not only will Indian values flourish but the country's business and economy will also get a boost and a large amount of permanent and temporary employment will also be available.

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