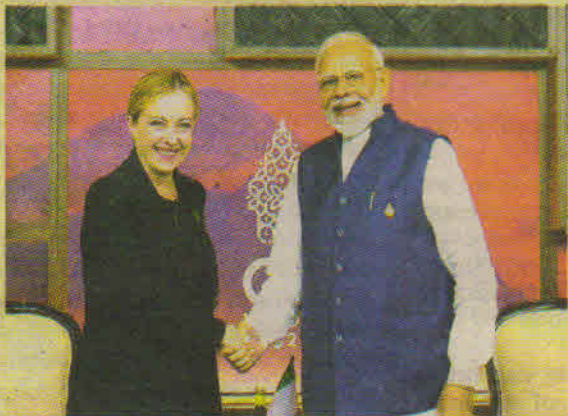


India's civilisational ethos and focus on what unites them all.

■ India and Italy Elevate Bilateral Partnership to Strategic Partnership Status

India and Italy have decided to elevate their bilateral partnership to Strategic Partnership Status. The decision was taken in New Delhi on 1st March 2023 during the visit of Italy's Prime Minister Ms. Giorgia Meloni. Both the countries have emphasised on further strengthening their economic ties, particularly in the areas of Renewable Energy, Green Hydrogen, IT, semiconductors,



telecom, and space. In addition, the two countries have established a Startup Bridge to promote greater collaboration in the field of entrepreneurship and innovation. The bilateral talks between Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Ms. Giorgia Meloni centered on ways to enhance defence cooperation, with opportunities being created for co-production and co-development in the defence manufacturing sector in India, which can be beneficial for both countries. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi welcomed Italy's decision to join the Indo-Pacific Ocean Initiative, which will enable India and Italy to identify concrete themes for enhancing their cooperation in the Indo-Pacific. The leaders also discussed the need for reforms in multilateral institutions to reflect global realities in a better manner. The visit of Italy's Prime Minister to India is significant as it marks the 75th anniversary of the bilateral relations between the two countries.