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INDIA'S NATWAR SINGH CALLS ON LEADERS, LEAVES

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[Text] Hanoi VNA July 4 -- A delegation of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs led by its Secretary Natwar Singh visited Vietnam from June 28 to July 4 at the invitation of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry. During their stay, the Indian guests paid tribute at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, and visited the late president's home and office.

They were warmly received by chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong, to whom Natwar Singh delivered a letter from Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Chairman Pham Van Dong thanked Secretary Natwar Singh and asked him to convey his warm greetings to the Indian prime minister.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach also received the Indian delegation.

The Indian delegation held talks with a delegation of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry headed by Vice Foreign Minister Hoang Ann Tuan. Also present at the talks were Indian Ambassador to Vietnam Kuldip Soodap, and Budiraga, chief of the South Asia Department of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs. On the Vietnamese side were Nguyen Van Ich, deputy-chief of the Council of Ministers' office, and Nguyen Dac Mao, deputy head of the Fourth Department for Asia of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry.

The two delegations exchanged views on measures to broaden and strengthen the relationship between the two countries, and discussed regional and international questions of mutual concern. The talks took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

Secretary Natwar Singh attended a ceremony for the signing of a credit agreement between India and Vietnam.

The Indian guests toured Ho Chi Minh City where they attended a ceremony for the handing over of three Indian diesel locomotives to Vietnam. They also visited several scenic spots in Vietnam.

The Indian delegation left Hanoi today, successfully concluding its visit to Vietnam.