India – A Global Geospatial Destination

Geospatial Information (GI) provides an integrative platform for all digital data that has a location dimension to it. All countries and sectors need geospatial information for national development and decision making. India has a rich historical association with Geospatial Technology (GT) right from the cave paintings of Palaeolithic times to the astronomical treatise of Aryabhata to the recent Chandrayan & Mars Mission by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). India has been leading in capturing and processing spatial information for viewing and analysing real world scenarios. This is crucial for planning, monitoring, managing, analysing and strategizing policies with respect to Economic Development and Capacity Building. GI encompasses wide spectrum of interconnected technologies which are weaved together to provide tangible solutions across different sectors such as Defence and Internal Security, Agriculture and Natural Resource Management, Urban planning and Smart City Development, Services and Next Gen Industries and Energy Affairs. India is embedding Geospatial technologies in various projects in order to meet the 17 Sustainable Development Goals outlined by the United Nations. These include projects such as Smart Cities, Jal Sanchay, Inland Waterways, Swachh Bharat Mission, Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao, Digital India and E-Governance just to name a few. The active participation of the industry has been appreciated at the UNGGIM (UN Global Geospatial Information Management) forum where India has gained Chair and held member position on various working groups. India being one of the forerunners in GT and service solutions providers, can assist its partners in capacity building and enhancing their in-house capacities.

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India is the world largest IT- BPM Destination

India is emerging as the hub for “Digital Skills”. The country spends $1.6 bn annually on training workforce in the sector. The industry is the largest employer within the private sector, employing 3.9 mn people. India is transforming into a digital economy with over 450 mn plus internet subscribers; only second to China. Indian IT industry has more than 17,000 firms, of which over 1,000 are large firms with over 50 delivery locations in India. The country's cost competitiveness in providing IT services, which is approximately 3-4 times more cost-effective than the US, continues to be its unique selling proposition in the global sourcing market. The National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) aims to connect all 250,000 Gram Panchayats (village council) in the country with high-speed broadband. The IT-BPM industry stood at $177 bn in 2019 and is expected to grow to $350 bn by 2025. The IT-BPM industry is the largest contributor to the total exports of the country, with 43% of the IT-BPM services being exported in 2018. The sector is headed towards achieving $1 tn digital economy by 2022. The country has become the global digital capabilities hub with around 75% of global digital talent present in the country.

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High Commissioner of India hosts Know India Seminar in San Fernando

The High Commission of India hosted a ‘Know India Seminar’ in San Fernando on November 15, 2019. The event, a collaboration with India Tourism office in New York, USA was attended by Government members, prominent members of society, members of the business chambers, travel agents, medical doctors and Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) alumni. Addressing the seminar at Palki’s Restaurant, Indian High Commissioner H.E. Arun Kumar Sahu encouraged Trinbagonians to visit India and explore the country’s rich history and diversity. During the seminar, Senator the Hon. Avinash Singh, Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture; Dr. Basdeo Panday, former PM of T & T, Dr. Kumkum Mehrotra, Neurosurgeon as well as ITEC alumni, Ms. Varsha Sankar and Ms. Shehnaz Mohammed, both shared their experiences and explored the various facets of tourism between both countries. The seminar also featured a special presentation by Ms. Priya Dingorkar, Tourist Information Officer from New York Tourism Office, as she provided a pictorial journey across the diverse landscape of India and showcased the various avenues for tourism.

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IFA Fund invests US$4 million in Telluris Biotech India

The Innovation in Food and Agriculture Fund (IFA Fund) has committed investment of around US$ 4 million for a minority holding in Hyderabad-based Telluris Biotech India Private Limited. Telluris Biotech which works to bring environment-sensitive biological control products for the plant root knot and cyst nematode related disease complexes in market. The registered biological and bio-molecular products have possibility to provide significant savings to crop growers, says Mr. Venu Polineni, its founder. "Our extensive research-based solutions will result in the farmers efforts to protect their crops and enhance yield significantly," he added.

The investment in Telluris is a contribution towards sustainable agriculture with science-based solutions that can provide true health and environment benefit to growers, said Mr. Krishna Kumar, Chairman of Sathguru Catalyser Advisors, the asset management company of IFA Fund. IFA Fund which is an India-focused investment Fund that is sponsored by Sathguru Management Consultants, Hyderabad, India. These investments in innovation-driven, growth ventures that has the potential to transform farm produce and market-ready food products.

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High Commissioner of India met with President of T & T Chamber of Industry & Commerce

High Commissioner of India H.E. Arun Kumar Sahu held discussions with Mr. Reyaz Ahamad, President of Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce on November 11, 2019 to explore possibilities for stronger Economic and Trade relations between India and Trinidad and Tobago.

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Seafood exporters to boost exports to USD 30 billion

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on November 21, 2019, held discussions with seafood exporters on ways to promote the sector's shipments and take them to USD 30-billion level in the coming years. He said that the Government is committed to safeguard the interests of fishermen. India exports seafood worth over USD 7 billion. Frozen shrimp and frozen fish are major export items. The US and south-east Asia are the major import markets of India's seafood products, with a share of about 33 per cent and 32 per cent in dollar terms, respectively.

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India is the third largest Pharmaceuticals industry in the world by volume

India is a prominent and rapidly growing presence in global pharmaceuticals. It is the largest provider of generic medicines globally, occupying a 20% share in global supply by volume, and also supplies 50% of global demand for vaccines. India ranks 3rd worldwide for production by volume and 13th by value, thereby accounting for around 10% of world’s production by volume and 1.5% by value. India is the source of 60,000 generic brands across 60 therapeutic categories and manufactures more than 500 different Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs). The Department of Pharmaceuticals aims to make the country a hub for end-to-end drug discovery under its ‘Pharma Vision 2020’. The country is home to 3,000 pharma companies with a strong network of over 10,500 manufacturing facilities. The domestic pharmaceuticals market turnover reached US$ 18.12 billion in 2018, up 9.4% from 2017, growing as penetration of health insurance and pharmacies rise.

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India is among the world’s largest producers of Textiles and Apparel

Domestic Textile and apparel industry contribute 2.3% to India’s GDP and accounts for 13% of industrial production, and 12% of the country’s export earnings. The Textiles & garments industry in India is second largest employer in the country in the country providing employment 45 million people. It is expected that the number will increase from 45 million in FY2017-18 to 55 million by 2020. The Textile & garments industry in India is highly diversified with a wide range of segments ranging from products of traditional handloom, handicrafts, wool and silk products to the organized textile industry. The organized textile industry is characterized by the use of capital-intensive technology for mass production of textile products and includes spinning, weaving, processing, apparel, and garment. FDI in

Cochin Airport, Kerala – World’s First Solar Powered Airport

India is blessed with indiscriminate sunlight all year round. If utilized well, it could produce a huge amount of solar energy which could make the country self-sufficient. Demonstrating
the Textiles & Apparel industry has reached up to $ 3.1 bn during 2018-19. Exports in the Textiles & Apparel industry are expected to reach $ 300 bn by 2024-25 resulting in a tripling of Indian market share from 5% to 15%.

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High Commissioner of India attended first auspicious event titled ‘Bihar & Beyond’ in rural area of Cumuto

On Saturday November 23rd, 2019, Pundit Hardath's Dharmashala hosted its first concert titled ‘Bihar & Beyond’. The event featured Nithya the band with a guest appearance by Bharatnatyam dancer Christian Samuel. Pundit Hardath's Dharmashala Temple is located in Caratal Road in the rural village of Cumuto in East Trinidad and is described as a gem in the forests. In attendance were the High Commissioner of India, H.E Arun Kumar Sahu, Former Chairman of the Sangre Grande Regional Corporation, Mr. Keshwar Maharaj and Former President of the San Juan Business Association Mr. Ibrahim Ali. As he brought greetings on behalf of the institution, the High Commissioner of India expressed his joy in seeing the progress of Indian culture in Trinidad and Tobago, especially rural communities. This event was coordinated and chaired by Insurance Consultant, Ms. Nutan Ragoobir whose objective was bringing first class entertainment to her hometown of Cumuto while generating contributions towards the successful operation of the Mandir.

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi held delegation-level talks with Swedish King and Queen

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held delegation-level talks with King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden on December 02, 2019. The leaders affirmed the common desire for building greater convergences on bilateral, regional and global matters of mutual interest. The Prime Minister and the King also chaired the India-Sweden High-Level Policy Dialogue on Innovation Policy. They emphasised the role of collaborative tech-innovation leadership of the two countries in meeting future challenges. King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia arrived on a state visit to India this morning at the invitation of President Ram Nath Kovind. They were given a ceremonial welcome at Rashtrapati Bhawan. This is His Majesty’s third visit to India. The King also met with the President on the same day. Earlier, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar called on the King and the Queen after their arrival and held discussions on ways to deepen bilateral ties. Apart from the official programme in Delhi, the royal couple is scheduled to visit Mumbai and Uttarakhand. On the other hand, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar held a wide-ranging conversation with his Swedish counterpart Ann Linde in New Delhi this evening. Dr. Jaishankar said they discussed expanding bilateral cooperation in the fields of environment, manufacturing, health and smart cities. He added that there was a strong identity of views on multilateralism. Both the ministers agreed on a new consultation mechanism. They also discussed challenges posed by terrorism, especially cross-border terrorism and emphasised that right to life is the most basic human right. They agreed to work together in international fora to address the key challenge of terrorism.

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India’s contribution to Global Economic growth may exceed US by 2024

India’s global growth share projected to rise to 15.5 per cent. The global economy, weighed down by tensions that have stalled international trade and elevated uncertainty, is expected to see slower growth in the next half decade across a wide swath of economies. China’s growth rate is expected to continue to slow, and will be a smaller driver to global GDP growth in the near term. Weaker global growth, expected to fall to 3 per cent this year and the slowest since the global financial crisis, will affect 90 per cent of the world, according to estimates released this week by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The US, while still expected to contribute a sizeable portion to world growth, is projected to fall to third place, after India. America’s share of global growth is expected to slip from 13.8 per cent to 9.2 per cent by 2024, while India’s share is projected to rise to 15.5 per cent and eclipse the US over this five-year period.

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Telecom Sector: India has the world’s 2nd largest Mobile Market

The Telecom industry in India is the second-largest in the world with a subscriber base of over 1.2 bn. The industry has witnessed exponential growth over the last few years primarily driven by affordable tariffs, wider availability, roll-out of Mobile Number

Service sector can help achieve target of US$5 trillion GDP

According to Mr. Piyush Goyal, Minister of Railways and Commerce and Industry, India’s service sector can provide aid in achieving the Central government’s target of US$ 5 trillion GDP. The service sector has the potential to be the largest job creators in the country and over the next five years and to contribute US$ 3 trillion out of the US$ 5 trillion GDP target set by the government, said Mr. Goyal. He was present at the inauguration of the fifth Global Exhibition on Services-2019 at the Palace Grounds, he added that the manufacturing and services industry act as the growth engines of the Indian economy. According to Mr. Goyal, India requires to move beyond Business Process Outsourcing and work towards adopting new age technologies such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, machine learning and participate with the rest of the world on equal terms.

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Government of India is in the process of finalizing New Energy Policy

The Government of India is in the process of finalizing an energy policy for the country to address the issues of accessibility and affordability, energy security, thrust on clean source energy and the overall requirement of energy. India is also focusing on Make in India for cells used in battery in electric vehicles along with policy for demand creation and measures to incentivize investments. India leads the global electricity market with almost 6% of the total electricity demand. It will account for 8% of the global electricity generation by 2025. Given the
Portability (MNP), expanding 3G and 4G coverage, evolving consumption patterns of subscribers and a conducive regulatory environment. Indian smartphone users consume maximum data in the world at 9.8 GB per month. Total number of Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) connections is expected to reach 1.4 bn by 2020 from 1.1 bn in 2017. Telecom industry contribution to GDP is expected to reach 8.2% by 2020 from 6.5% in 2017. 100% FDI is allowed in the Telecom, wherein up to 49% is allowed through the automatic route and beyond 49% under government route.

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India – The Top Retail Destination

The Retail market in India has undergone a major transformation and has witnessed tremendous growth in the last 10 years. The Overall Retail market is set to cross the $1.7 tn mark by 2020 from $795 bn in 2017. India’s e-commerce market is also set to grow at a CAGR of 30% for gross merchandise value to be worth $200 bn by 2026. India ranks among the best countries to invest in Retail space. Factors that make India so attractive include the second largest population in the world, a middle class of 600 mn people, increasing, urbanisation, rising household incomes, connected rural consumers and increasing consumer spending. India ranked No. 2 in Global Retail Development Index (GRDI) in 2019. Retail is India's largest industry, currently accounting for over 10% of the country’s GDP and 8% of total employment.

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Increasing demand and competitiveness of renewable power generation options, electricity storage will play a crucial role in enabling the next phase of the energy transition.

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UPCOMING TRADE EVENTS IN INDIA:

TO CONNECT WITH THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA:

SUGGESTED ITINERARIES FOR TRAVEL ON GANDHI CIRCUIT

On the occasion of celebration of 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Apostle of Peace, Indian Association of Tour Operators presents a list of 11 different suggested itineraries for travel on Gandhi Circuit are as below:

SUGGESTED ITINERARIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Duration of Tour</th>
<th>Places Covered</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>6 nights/7 days</td>
<td>Porbandar/Rajkot/Ahmedabad/Vadodara/Surat</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>5 nights/6 days</td>
<td>Porbandar/Rajkot/Bhavnagar/Ahmedabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>7 nights/8 days</td>
<td>Porbandar/Rajkot/Bhavnagar/Ahmedabad/Surat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>5 nights/6 days</td>
<td>Delhi/Jaipur/Agra/Delhi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>3 nights/4 days</td>
<td>Mumbai/Pune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>2 nights/3 days</td>
<td>Kolkata</td>
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TO CONNECT WITH COMMERCIAL WING

Contact:
Mr. Anand Mathai
Commercial Officer
Email: trade.pospain@mea.gov.in

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https://www.gandhi.gov.in/
http://dgftebrc.nic.in:8090/TradeDispute/

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>3 nights/4 days</td>
<td>Madurai/Kanyakumari</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>11 nights/12 days</td>
<td>Mumbai-Porbandar/Rajkot/Bhavnagar/Palitana/Ahmedabad/Vadodara/Surat/Delhi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>4 nights/5 days</td>
<td>Kolkata and Bihar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>4 nights/5 days</td>
<td>Kolkata and Odisha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>3 nights/4 days</td>
<td>Delhi/Shimla/Delhi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For any enquiry on booking tours as per the listed itineraries, travel agencies/tourists are requested to contact via E-mail the Indian Association of Tour Operators – i.e. IATO at: iato@airtelmail.in