India – A global leader in the Pharmaceutical Industry

India is the largest provider of generic drugs globally. Indian pharmaceutical sector industry supplies over 50 per cent of global demand for various vaccines, 40 per cent of generic demand in the US and 25 per cent of all medicine in UK. India enjoys an important position in the global pharmaceuticals sector. The country also has a large pool of scientists and engineers who have the potential to steer the industry ahead to an even higher level. Presently over 80 per cent of the antiretroviral drugs used globally to combat AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) are supplied by Indian pharmaceutical firms. Medicine spending in India is projected to grow 9-12 per cent over the next five years, leading India to become one of the top 10 countries in terms of medicine spending. India’s biotechnology industry comprising bio-pharmaceuticals, bio-services, bio-agriculture, bio-industry and bioinformatics is expected grow at an average growth rate of around 30 per cent a year and reach US$ 100 billion by 2025. The Government of India unveiled 'Pharma Vision 2020' aimed at making India a global leader in end-to-end drug manufacture. Approval time for new facilities has been reduced to boost investments.

Read More:
https://www.ibef.org/industry/pharmaceutical-india.aspx

Indian High Commission hosts ‘Discover Odisha’ event

India’s High Commissioner to T & T, H.E. Mr. Arun Kumar Sahu wants citizens to visit and experience the rich cultural tapestry of Odisha, his hometown in India, as well as explore the various facets of trade opportunities between both countries. He was at the time addressing guests at a ‘Discover Odisha’ event held at the Radisson Hotel, Port of Spain on December 17, 2019. The event was attended by members of the business chamber, tour operators, and ITEC alumni members. The High Commission of India showcased a video presentation, allowing potential visitors from T & T to know all about the various trade and tourism opportunities available there. The programme is part of a Discover India series, where the diversity and rich history of India will be showcased state by state. The event also featured Mr. Kiran Singh, President of the Greater San Fernando Chamber of Commerce who explored trade and travel opportunities of the State of Odisha. Additionally, the event had a special performance by Dr. Sneha Rao Adidam, Odissi dancer and co-founder/artistic director of Nrityanjali. H.E. Mr. Arum Sahu urge the audience to visit India as well as apply for the Overseas Citizen of India Card to benefit from one of many opportunities the High Commission of India offers.

Read More:
High Commissioner of India met with Chief Secretary of Tobago

High Commissioner of India H.E. Mr. Arun Kumar Sahu met with Mr. Kelvin Charles, Chief Secretary of Tobago and spouse as part of the Tobago Day Celebrations on December 04, 2019 to strengthen bilateral trade relations and connect India with Tobago.

Read More: https://twitter.com/AmbArunSahu/status/1202384281651335174/photo/1

India is the Second largest producer of Steel globally

India is home to 1,531 operating mines and produces 95 minerals – 4 fuel-related minerals, 10 metallic minerals, 23 non-metallic minerals, 3 atomic minerals and 55 minor minerals. India is the 3rd largest producer of coal. Coal production grew at CAGR 5.17% over FY14-FY19 (to 739.36 MT) and is expected grow 6-7% Y-o-Y over FY20 as miners focus on surface mining of coal. Coal’s share in India’s primary energy consumption is expected to be 48% in 2040. India is the 2nd largest crude steel producer in the world, generating an output of 106.5 MT in 2018, a growth of 3.7% Y-o-Y. India’s steel consumption rose 7.5% Y-o-Y and 7.9% Y-o-Y over the last 2 years, outpacing a 2.1% to 5% growth globally.

Read More: https://www.investindia.gov.in/sector/metals-mining

India’s remarkable jump in World Bank’s Ease of Doing Business Report 2020

India ranks 63rd among 190 countries improving by 14 ranks from its rank of 77 in 2019. India has improved its rank in 7 out of 10 indicators and has moved closer to international best practices. The 2020 edition of the Report acknowledges India as one of the top 10 improvers, third time in a row, with an improvement of 67 ranks in 3 years. It is also the highest jump by any large country since 2011. A total of 21,778 start-ups are now recognised under the Start-up India Initiative, of which 2,912 start-ups have been recognised since June, 2019. The Start-up India Hub has 3,42,614 registered users of which 21,540 users have been added since 1st June 2019. With the amendment in Section 54GB of Income Tax Act on August 1st, 2019 the condition of minimum holding of 50 per cent of share capital or voting rights in the start-up has been relaxed to 25 per cent. In the past 4 years India’s rank in the GII has improved from the 81st rank in 2015 to the present 52nd rank in GII 2019 report. India became the first developing country to launch the Global Innovation Index (GII) in association with World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and Confederation of India (CII).


Odisha: The largest producing State of Mineral in India

Odisha is considered as a hub for mineral-based industries due to its large mineral deposits. Beyond aluminium production, the state also contributes about 20% to stainless steel smelting capacity in India. Odisha, with a coastline of 485 km, is located on the east coast of India along the Bay of Bengal. The state is served by 3 ports - Paradip, Dhamra and Gopalpur. The state is domestically well-connected with over 250,000 km of road length and 15 national highways passing through the state. The state has installed power capacity of over 7,330 MW and is the first state in India to have undertaken restructuring initiatives in the power sector. Bhubaneswar, the state’s capital, was ranked first in the ‘Smart City Challenge’ of Government of India.

Read More: https://www.investindia.gov.in/sector/metals-mining
Schneider opens a new factory in Bengaluru, India

French multinational corporation & fortune 500 company, Schneider Electric opened a new smart factory in Bengaluru. The global energy & automation firm will manufacture industrial uninterruptible power supply systems and variable speed drives for electric motors in the new plant. This is Schneider's second such 'Smart' factory in India; Schneider India launched its first smart factory in Hyderabad in 2019. The new facility will employ around 700 people. The Bengaluru Smart Factory is one of Schneider's key smart facilities in this region as part of more than 100 Smart Factories by 2020, globally.

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Ingka Group eyes opportunities in India

Sweden-based, Ingka Group, which is the parent company of Swedish furniture major IKEA, is planning to explore opportunities in renewable energy, environment, manufacturing and sustainability sectors in India. Ingka is investing globally in sustainable solutions, such as solar and wind farms, as part of its plans to become climate-positive by 2030. The group already has its first technology investment through investments in online home design start-up Livespace in India.

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India’s Services exports grew by over 5 percent to USD 17.70 billion

According to the data from Reserve Bank of India (RBI), India’s services exports increased by 5.25 per cent to US$ 17.70 billion in October, while imports stayed nearly flat at US$ 10.86 billion. In October 2018, the services exports or receipts stood at US$ 16.82 billion, whereas the imports or payments were worth US$ 10.10 billion. The exports of services in September were worth US$ 17.54 billion and the imports were of the order of US$ 11.10 billion, as per the RBI data on India's International Trade in Services. India is one of the main economies contributing to the world services export industry. The contribution of the services sector is about 55 per cent in India's gross domestic product.

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ANSA Merchant acquires Bank of Baroda in T & T

ANSA Merchant Bank Limited has signed agreement to purchase Bank of Baroda’s operations in T & T. The announcement was released on December 11, 2019 by ANSA Chairman who announced a share purchase agreement to acquire the Bank of Baroda Trinidad and Tobago Limited. The agreement was signed with the
High Commissioner of India paid a courtesy visit to St. George’s University, Grenada

High Commissioner of India H.E. Mr Arun Kumar Sahu visited the St George's University (SGU) in Grenada as part of a courtesy visit to the institution. SGU welcome H.E. Mr. Arun Kumar Sahu, High Commissioner of India. The True Blue Campus is currently home to 66 students from India.

Read More: https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgesU/photos/a.195605001460/10156773870861461/?type=3&theater

India’s FMCG sales on e-commerce sites to touch US$4 billion by 2022

The sales of fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) on the e-commerce sites are expected to reach US$ 4 billion by 2022, contributing 5 per cent to overall sales of packaged consumer goods sold in India, according to Nielsen, a market researcher. Presently, e-commerce contributes 2 per cent or around US$ 1.2 billion to the overall sales of FMCG. The rise in contribution of e-commerce to sales is because of growing smartphone penetration, increased data consumption, and the attempts by large companies to make their products available online. Nielsen compared the two sales channel and noted that the contribution of modern trade to FMCG sales will reach 10 per cent by 2022, witnessing a growth from current 9 per cent whereas during the same period the share of traditional trade is will decrease to 85 per cent from the current 89 per cent. The sales of FMCG products on the internet by various companies such as Hindustan Unilever, Dabur India Ltd, Nestle India, Godrej Consumer Products Ltd., among others has led the research company to start tracking the sales.

Innovation set to drive growth in the Medical Device market in 2020

The Indian medical devices industry is a diverse space that has been ruled by giant multinationals operating through extensive service networks. Many of these devices—ranging from orthopaedic implants, artificial joints, stents, pacemakers and imaging equipment—are imported from the US, Germany, Singapore, China and Japan. Growing at a CAGR of over 7 per cent, this $5.2 billion segment is projected to reach $50 billion in the next five years. Diagnostic equipment contributes to the major chunk of the global market share, while in India the biggest contribution comes from the equipment and instruments category (almost 35 per cent).

Innovation along with a steady growth rate of 15 per cent has catapulted India into the top 20 global medical devices market over the past decade. With the government allowing 100 per cent foreign direct investment, the past year saw many foreign players enter the Indian market under the automatic route bringing in technological innovation and setting up manufacturing units in the country. Now with impactful technologies and artificial intelligence bringing in a convergence across healthcare products and industry segments, the medical devices industry is set for some revolutionary changes in the next few years. The acquisition subject to regulatory approval and the fulfilment of specific conditions as contained in the share purchase agreement. ANSA Chairman Norman Sabga explained further that under the agreement ANSA Merchant Bank Limited agreed to purchase 525,597 ordinary shares, representing 100 percent of the total issued and outstanding shares held in the Bank of Baroda T & T Ltd.

Read More https://www.guardian.co.tt/news/ansa-merchant-acquires-bank-of-baroda-6.2.1006406.47e623d1e4
Scientist names Indian American Shivaji Thadke to list of top 10 Innovations of 2019

The Scientist publication Dec. 1 unveiled its Top 10 Innovations of 2019, which included Indian American Shivaji Thadke among the group recognized for their work. On the winding road to successful innovation, there are many diversions and dead ends; but companies and independent researchers consistently navigate those pitfalls, developing products that have the potential not just to revolutionize the creation of new drugs or to ease the work of life scientists in the lab, but to offer a clearer picture of how biology works, the report notes. “This year’s Top 10 Innovations, which come from companies both large and small, include an instrument that uses a new technology called mass photometry to simultaneously analyse several biomolecules within a cell and a novel system that improves multiplexed antibody detection,” it said. This year has proven to be a great one for the life sciences, and the 2010s have been an exciting decade, it said. At No. 2 on its recognition was the Thadke-led research group which developed double-sided Janus bases. “Researchers can silence RNA by designing antisense oligonucleotides that complement the target sequence; the first therapeutics based on this approach are just hitting the market,” the report says.

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High Commissioner of India presented his Credentials to the Governor General of Grenada and met with the Hon. PM of Grenada & other Government Officials

High Commissioner of India, H.E. Mr. Arum Sahu presented his Credentials to the Governor General of Grenada, her Excellency Cecile La Grenade. Also, H.E. Mr. Arum Sahu paid a courtesy visit and held bilateral discussions with the Honourable Prime Minister, Dr. Keith Mitchell and the Honourable Foreign Affairs Minister, Mr. Peter Charles David. During his visit, his Excellency also met with the Honorary Consul to India, Ms. Shadel Compton to deepen ties between both nations.

Read More
https://twitter.com/AmbArunSahu/status/1206949124152733697/photo/1
Prime Minister Narendra Modi on December 20, 2019, said that the BJP-led government has given the country a solid foundation so that it can achieve its target to be US $5 trillion economy by 2024. “The country has made itself so strong in the last five years that we can set such targets and achieve them too,” he said at a function to mark 100 years of ASSOCHAM (Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India) in New Delhi. Every group that can enable the economy is keeping the target of $5 trillion economy at the centre of its plans and talks are happening in several sectors, the PM said, adding that the credit for every achieved target goes to the people, and not to the government. The Prime Minister also said that the government is moving forward by using technology to modernise and speed-up the economy. “You climb up the ‘Ease of Doing Business’ rankings when you work hard day and night, when you bring about a change in the policies, starting from the ground,” PM Modi added. The BJP promised to make India a US $5 trillion economy by 2024 in its manifesto ahead of the national polls in April-May, though declining economic growth has caused some economists to wonder if the target wasn’t too ambitious. The size of India’s economy was estimated at $2.75 trillion at the end of March. The country’s economy expanded at its weakest pace in more than six years in the quarter ending September. The gross domestic product (GDP) was projected to grow at 4.7%, down from 5.0% in the previous three months and 7% for the corresponding period of 2018.

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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 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.

Read More
http://ficci.in/pressrelease-page.asp?nid=3549

FORTH COMING EVENTS IN INDIA:

ELECTRAMA
18-22 JANUARY 2020
INDIA EXPO MART, GREATER NCR, INDIA
www.electrama.com

INDIASOFT2020
3rd & 4th MARCH
HYDERABAD, TELANGANA, INDIA
www.indiasoft2020.com

36th IGC GeoExpo
2-8 March 2020
Venue: Expo Center & Mart Delhi NCR, India
Book your booth now!
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>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>6 nights/7 days</td>
<td>Porbandar/Rajkot/Ahmedabad/Vadodara/Surat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>5 nights/6 days</td>
<td>Porbandar/Rajkot/Bhavnagar/Ahmedabad</td>
</tr>
<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>
</tbody>
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Mr. Anand Mathai
Commercial Officer
Email: trade.pospain@mea.gov.in

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

6. 2 nights/3 days  | Kolkata
7. 3 nights/4 days  | Madurai/Kanyakumari
8. 11 nights/12 days | Mumbai-Porbandar/Rajkot/Bhavnagar/Palitana/Ahmedabad/Vadodara/Surat/Delhi
9. 4 nights/5 days  | Kolkata and Bihar
10. 4 nights/5 days | Kolkata and Odisha
11. 3 nights/4 days  | Delhi/Shimla/Delhi

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

TO CONNECT WITH THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA: