



High Commission of India

Trinidad & Tobago

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Trinidad & Tobago, India benefit from million-dollar import/export business



For the period, 2018 to 2019, India's exports to T&T were valued at US \$83 million, while India's imports from T&T were valued at US \$195 million. Two-way bilateral trade during the one-year period includes petroleum-crude products, iron and steel, pharmaceutical and ceramic products, plastic and other articles, etc. The top items in the export basket from India constitutes iron and steel; pharmaceutical products; vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling stock and parts and accessories; plastic and articles; and edible fruit and nuts, peel of citrus fruit or melons. The top items exported from T&T include minerals fuels, and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; slag and ash, iron and steel etc. India's High Commissioner to T&T sees this country as a place to do business and for Indian companies to invest. H.E. spoke to the Guardian on January 15, 2020 at his office, Victoria Avenue, Port-of-Spain. H.E. said he will be addressing a group of chambers of commerce of T&T to give them an idea of the economy of India and where the opportunities are. The character of business is that businesses look at the opportunities and also the facilities that the Government provides so that they can be attractive." He said T&T is one of the Caribbean's most developed countries and this makes it an attractive investment spot for FDI.

Read More:

<https://guardian.co.tt/news/tt-india-benefit-from-million-dollar-6.2.1032810.38dcc9d356>

Indian High Commissioner held meeting with the Confederation of Regional Business Chambers and discuss business opportunities in India



H.E. High Commissioner of India Arun Kumar Sahu delivered a presentation on the Indian Economy to the Confederation of Regional Business Chambers on January 22, 2020 at the Couva/Point Lisas Chamber of Commerce headquarters. H.E told the Chamber Heads that India has a lot of business opportunities for Trade and Investment. He mentioned that there is tremendous potential in the sectors of pharmaceuticals, textiles, gems and jewellery, entertainment, IT, Tourism, renewable energy, food processing, medical tourism and traditional medicine including Ayurveda. He urged the Chamber Heads to look at India as a place to do business. Also, he encourages persons of Indian origin to apply for the OCI card which can be at an advantage to visit India multiple times to conduct business opportunities with the exception of not being able to vote as well as cannot purchase agricultural land. H.E. urged the business Heads to rethink and consider India as an ideal destination for trade and investment and urged them to get in contact with High Commission of India, Commercial Wing for information about sectors that they may wish to consider investing into.

Read More:

<https://twitter.com/IndiainTandT/status/12203246/photo/2/>

India climbed to third spot in number of science and engineering publications in the world: Dr Harsha Vardhan



Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the 107th Indian Science Congress (ISC) today at University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru. Delivering the inaugural address, the Prime Minister said, "The growth story of India depends on its achievements in the Science & Technology sector. There is a need to revolutionize the landscape of Indian Science Technology and Innovation." "My motto for the young scientists bourgeoning in this country has been - "Innovate, Patent, Produce and Prosper". He said these four steps will lead India towards a faster development. "Innovation for the people and by the people is direction of our 'New India", he added. He said, "New India needs technology and also a logical temperament, so that we can give a new direction to our social and economic sectors". He said science and technology provides a level playing field in making opportunities accessible to all and that it also plays a unifying role in the society. Prime Minister said, "Now the developments in information and communication technology are able to provide cheaper smart phones & cheaper data and that has made it accessible to everyone in the country, whereas it was seen as a privilege of the few earlier. This made the common man now believe that he is not distantly separated from the Government. He highlighted that India now stands at 3rd position globally, in the number of Peer-reviewed Science and Engineering Publications. It is also growing at a rate of about 10 per cent as compared to global average of 4 per cent", he said.

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<https://www.ibef.org/news/india-climbed-to-third-spot-in-number-of-science-and-engineering-publications-in-the-world-dr-harsha-vardhan>

India becomes second largest market on Corporate Renewable power



With Indian corporates increasingly adopting renewable power to run their offices and plants, the country has become the second largest growth market for corporate renewable power purchase agreements (PPAs) after the US. For the first half of 2019, India had a global share of 7.4 per cent with 440 megawatt (MW) installed, said a study named 'PPAs in India: Market & Policy Update' by the India Corporate Renewable PPA Forum. Although India became the second largest growth market in 2018, with an addition of 1.6 gigawatt (GW) of capacity, the annual corporate PPA renewable addition in India in 2019 will be about 30-35 per cent lower than the installations in 2018, said the report. Between April 2018 and March 2019, of the 494 MW of capacity added through the corporate renewable PPAs under the open access route (a policy mechanism for heavy users with more than 1 MW load to buy cheap power from the open market), 158 MW was from solar projects and 336 MW from wind. Companies in the Information Technology sector such as CISCO, Qualcomm, Adobe, Oracle and Mindtree, automotive companies such as Honda, SKF and Volvo, electrical companies such as GE,ABB, Honeywell and manufacturing companies such as ACC were in the forefront, purchasing renewable power in the range of 10MW to 30 MW. Indian corporates have been increasingly procuring renewable power through the open access route, mainly to meet decarbonisation targets and cost savings because of lower cost of renewable power vis-a-vis other sources.

Read More:

<https://www.businesstoday.in/current/economy-politics/india-becomes-2nd-largest-market-on-corporate-renewable-power/story/393249.html>

High Commission of India hosted a live Video Conferencing to watch the Minister of External Affairs interaction with members of the Indian Diaspora on the occasion of Pravasi Bharatiya 2020



The High Commission of India, Port of Spain on the occasion of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2020 invited members of the Indian Diaspora in Trinidad and Tobago to watch a live interaction with the External Affairs Minister of India as well as members of Indian Diaspora in Ministry of External Affairs. The Minister interacted through video conferencing with the Indian diaspora from 8 countries and was watched live by the audience at our office. His Excellency, Mr. Arun Kumar Sahu also addressed the Indian Diaspora audience after the live event at the mission and urged them to apply for the Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card.

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<https://twitter.com/AmbArunSahu/status/1215269960232075266/photo/1>

High Commission of India, Commercial Wing held bilateral meeting with senior officials from InvesTT



On January 15, 2019, Mr. Lingi Chetty, Second Secretary (Com) and Mr. Rentala Srinivas, Attaché (Admn) met with senior officials from InvesTT to discuss investment matters and training of professionals to this country offered by India. As you are aware, InvesTT is the investment arm under the Ministry of Trade and Industry and has been in existence since 2013. During the meeting, areas in the fields of IT, Renewable energy, Agriculture, Infrastructure etc. was discussed among other things to attract investment opportunities from India. Also, discussed was opportunities available through the flagship Indian Technical Economic Cooperation programmes (ITEC) offered through the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

India is world's single biggest opportunity in Fintech



Ten years ago, the term 'fintech' didn't exist in India. There were a handful of payment processors (or payment gateways) and no digital infrastructure, except card processing. Today, we are at the cusp of creating personalised financial services (PFS) for everyone; essentially an artificial intelligence (AI)-enabled bank robot that provides every service that a bank does, but faster, cheaper and better. How did we get here so fast? Firstly, India has become the largest consumer of data bandwidth, with 450 million smartphone users (thanks to the rise of Jio and the world's lowest tariffs). Secondly, advances in AI (processing and algorithms) have made it possible to understand consumer behaviour, lifestyle, income and hundreds of relevant variables. Application scorecards used by banks are slowly giving way to machine learning (ML) models like XGBoost, which aid in real-time, data-driven decision-making. Thirdly, the ecosystem of capital (especially private), government machinery and regulators (Reserve Bank of India for payments/banking, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority for insurance, and Securities and Exchange Board of India for investments) have evolved faster than the industry ever imagined. IndiaStack (stack of all technologies in financial world), led by Aadhaar, Unified Payments Interface (UPI), e-signatures, DigiLocker and several others, is unbundling every single financial service and making it possible for a 10-member startup to offer a digital app experience better than that of a bank. Lastly, but most importantly, consumer penetration of payments, insurance and investments is among the lowest in the world, even though 800 million individuals in India now have bank accounts. Frankly, this represents the single biggest fintech opportunity anywhere in the world, largely because 700 million of these bank accounts are with public sector banks whose collective market capitalisation is lower than India's largest private sector bank.

Read More:

<http://www.forbesindia.com/article/vision-2020/india-is-worlds-single-biggest-opportunity-in-fintech-mobikwik-ceo/57015/>

High Commission of India hosted clean up Seminar in connection with Swachhta Pakhwada 2020



On January 10, 2019, the High Commission of India organized a briefing seminar with the iCare Project under the Environmental Management Authority in connection with Swachhta Pakhwada 2020. This initiative is geared towards increasing awareness, promoting cleanliness in our office and implementing initiatives which are environmentally conscious and sustainable. This project aligns with our aim of "Going Green" as well as focussing on Mahatma Gandhi mantra of "Cleanliness is next to Godliness" as the Government of India celebrates Gandhiji 150th Birth Anniversary.

Commerce Minister to lead Indian Delegation to World Economic Forum 2020



Union Minister of Commerce and Industry & Railways, Piyush Goyal, will lead the Indian delegation to the 50th World Economic Forum (WEF) at Davos from January 20th to 24th 2020. The Commerce and Industry Minister will participate in the WEF along with Union Minister of State for Shipping and Chemical and Fertilizers, Mansukh L. Mandaviya and Chief Ministers of the States of Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh, Finance Minister of Punjab and the IT Minister of Telangana. Secretary Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, senior officials of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Invest India are also part of the delegation. Commerce and Industry Minister will hold bilateral meetings with Ministers of Australia, South Africa, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Korea and Singapore. He will also meet Director General of World Trade Organization and Secretary General of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Apart from this Commerce and Industry Minister will hold bilateral meetings with CEOs of companies, attend WEF sessions and round tables on Accelerating Investments in Indian Railways and attracting Global Institutional

PM Modi meets with Mr. Josep Borrell, European High Representative/Vice President for High Level Bilateral meeting



PM Modi met with Mr. Josep Borrell on his first visit to India as High Representative/Vice-President, where he had bilateral meetings with India's Prime Minister, Foreign Minister Jaishankar and high-level representatives of the Indian government. He also spoke at the annual Raisina Dialogue where he held several bilateral meetings with other participants. High Representative Mr. Josep Borrell was received on Friday 17th January by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. They discussed the importance of further deepening the India - European Union strategic partnership, in view of the upcoming EU - India Summit on 13 March 2020 in Brussels. They underlined their strong ties, based on the values that India and the EU share as the world's largest democracies. Mr. Josep Borrell had a fruitful meeting with the Minister of External Affairs, Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, on issues of common interest. The meeting allowed the High Representative to discuss the main priorities of the EU-India Strategic Partnership, including preparations of the upcoming EU-India Summit and the new EU India Roadmap 2025, which is expected to be adopted on this occasion. These priorities include a strong focus on climate action, step up work on trade, investment and economic relations, along with enhanced connectivity. The High Representative and the Minister also touched upon pressing international and regional issues. They reiterated their common commitment to work more closely together in international fora and to promote effective multilateralism. High Representative Borrell invited Minister Jaishankar to address one of the upcoming meetings of the Foreign Affairs Council of the European Union in Brussels on March, 2020.

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https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/73189/india-high-representativevice-president-borrell-meets-prime-minister-modi-and-minister_en

Investments in India. Commerce and Industry Minister will also participate in an informal WTO Ministerial gathering being held in Davos during this period. The WEF annual meeting in Davos engages the world's top leaders to shape global, regional and industry agendas at the beginning of the year. The theme of the 2020 meeting is stakeholders for a Cohesive and Sustainable World.

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<https://www.ibef.org/news/piyush-goyal-to-lead-indian-delegation-to-world-economic-forum-2020>

Mr. Balaji Modhagala, Director of Sivisoft Inc. paid a courtesy visit to High Commissioner of India



Mr. Balaji Modhagala, Director of Sivisoft Inc. paid a courtesy visit to H.E. Arun Kumar Sahu on January 28, 2020. Sivisoft is a US based service automation solutions company, that has recently set up operations in Trinidad and Tobago which delivers cutting-edge solutions to digitalize your business. H.E. Arun Kumar Sahu had a very fruitful discussion and welcomes this initiative to facilitate local entities.

High Commissioner of India meets with Pro-Vice Chancellor & Campus Principal of UWI



H.E. Arun Kumar Sahu paid a courtesy visit to Professor Brian Copeland, Pro-Vice Chancellor and Campus Principal of the University of the West Indies. High Commissioner had a very fruitful and cordial interaction with Professor Copeland and engaged in collaborative talks on how the High Commission of India can partner with the University of the West Indies for forthcoming initiatives.

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<https://twitter.com/AmbArunSahu/status/1222604443428040704/photo/1>

High Commission of India collaborates with Arts Society of T & T for the Inauguration of the Balmiki Ramayana Exhibition



High Commission of India and the Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Cultural Cooperation launched the Balmiki Ramayana Exhibition to the public from January 7-18, 2020 at the Art Society of Trinidad and Tobago, where over 50 images were showcased. The Balmiki Ramayana is a centuries-old treasure of 17,000 ancient manuscripts preserved in their natural splendour. During the inauguration ceremony H. E Arun Kumar Sahu disclosed that the Persian manuscript is invaluable in its contributions as the 258 photographic images contained within it depict the art, architecture and culture of that period. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Prominent members of T&T's society and featured a short cultural programme by the AK Ensemble, a fusion band of Tabla, Tassa, African Drums and Steel Pan.

Read More:

<https://newsday.co.tt/2020/01/11/balmiki-ramayan-photographic-images-in-tt/>

The High Commission of India hosted celebrations to commemorate India's 71st anniversary of Republic Day



As India commemorates its 71st anniversary of Republic Day, High Commissioner of India to T & T, H.E. Arun Kumar Sahu says India has established itself as a robust democratic republic, the biggest democracy in the world. H.E. believes that India is resilient in times of challenges, "fulfilling old dreams and aspirations and inspiring new ones." He points out in his Republic Day message that today India is 1.3 billion strong with "half of her children under 25 years of age" and the country dreams of a formidable future. To

Indian pharma industry likely to grow at 10-13 per cent in FY21



According to the rating agency ICRA, Indian pharmaceutical industry is expected to grow at 10-13 per cent in 2020-21 irrespective of the challenges in the industry. This expected growth in the next financial year is on the back of increase in demand from the domestic market because of increase in spending on healthcare along with improving access, according to Icra. It further added that the growth in 2020-21 is also supported by the decrease in pricing pressure for the US market, new launches and market share gains for existing products and consolidation benefits, it added. "The Indian pharmaceutical industry's growth remained stable at 12.2 per cent during H1FY2020 led by rebound in domestic growth in Q2 FY2020 to 14.2 per cent supported by seasonal factors and stable growth in chronic therapies," said Mr Gaurav Jain, ICRA Vice President & Co-Head. He added that there were many diseases outbreak in the country during Q2FY2020, leading to the growth of the anti-infective segment. ICRA further said that though, the margins remain healthy, pricing pressures for the US base generics business (albeit moderating), lack of limited competition products and manufacturing quality issues will continue to put margin pressure. The margins are provided a little relief by the higher share of domestic business and operational efficiencies, it added. The major sensitivities effecting the growth and profitability of the Indian pharma industry will be regulatory interventions such as price controls and compulsory genericization for domestic market and continued regulatory overhang with respect to manufacturing quality deficiencies during USFDA audits, the statement quoted.

Read More:

<https://www.ibef.org/news/indian-pharma-industry-likely-to-grow-at-1013-per-cent-in-fy21-icra>

commemorate this auspicious occasion of India's 71st anniversary of Republic Day, the High Commission of India hosted a Flag Hoisting Ceremony at India House. H.E. Arun Sahu took formal proceedings, by raising the flag. During the event he read the Presidents' Address to the nation and a cultural programme was ensued to celebrate this auspicious event. The High Commission of India also hosted a reception the same day, evening of January 26, 2020. H.E. Arun Sahu celebrated the occasion with Government officials and Diplomats and other specially invited guests at the Radisson Hotel, Ballroom in Port of Spain. At this auspicious event, H.E. extended greetings to the audience who were treated to a cultural band fusion performance as well as a performances from India's leading Odissi Dance Group. India's 71st Republic Day was commemorated in style which the High Commission of India worked towards making the event a memorable and complete success.

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<https://twitter.com/AmbArunSahu/status/122145329072823910>
[5/photo/1](#)

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<http://ficci.in/pressrelease-page.asp?nid=3549>

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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

Sr. No .	Duratio n of Tour	Places Covered
1.	6 nights/7 days	Porbandar/Rajkot/Ahmedabad/Vadodara/Surat
2.	5 nights/6 days	Porbandar/Rajkot/Bhavnagar/Ahmedabad
3.	7 nights/8 days	Porbandar/Rajkot/Bhavnagar/Ahmedabad/Surat

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Overseas Business Visitors Profile

- Manufacturers
- Distributors
- Importers
- Govt. Procurement Agencies
- Pharma Associations/Chambers

Overseas Business Visitors Interested to join the event can register (www.iphex-india.com) to avail "to and fro" economy class air-tickets and accommodation during the event, subject to selection and approval from selection committee.

To register visit WWW.IPHEX-INDIA.COM

For further details please contact at rodelhi@pharmexcil.com

4.	5 nights/6 days	Delhi/Jaipur/Agra/Delhi
5.	3 nights/4 days	Mumbai/Pune
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:



TO CONNECT WITH COMMERCIAL WING

Contact:

Mr. Anand Mathai

Commercial Officer

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USEFUL LINKS:

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<https://www.ficci.in/>

<https://www.fieo.org/>

<https://www.epch.in/>

<https://www.digitalindia.gov.in/>

<https://www.makeinindia.com/>

<https://www.indiatradefair.com/>

<https://www.swachhbharatmission.gov.in/>

<https://www.gandhi.gov.in/>

<http://dgftebrc.nic.in:8090/TradeDispute/>