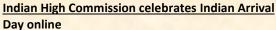


(concurrent accreditation: Grenada, Dominica, Montserrat)







The Indian High Commission in T & T commemorated 175th Indian Arrival Day, which was celebrated on May 30, 2020, with a series of online presentations. According to a media release from the High Commission of India, the online presentations were posted to their various social media platforms, beginning with a presentation on Indian utensils and cookware on May 27, 2020. The video presentations offer insight into different aspects of Indian culture and lifestyle from textiles and fashion to cuisine and classical dance. It concluded with an address by H.E. Arun Kumar Sahu, High Commissioner of India to T & T and an online seminar on challenges faced by Indian diaspora in T & T by Dr. Brinsley Samaroo and Mr. Winston Dookeran on May 30, 2020. "The online initiative is to ensure that we celebrate the important occasion of 175th Indian Arrival Day even as we are required to forego face to face interactions due to the COVID-19 related restrictions. "Our office has also joined the online celebrations of National Council of Indian Culture (NCIC), NALIS and Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts for Indian Arrival Day," the release stated.

Read More:

https://newsday.co.tt/2020/05/31/indian-high-commission-celebrates-arrival-day-online/

PM Modi announces USD 266 billion Special Economic
Package



PM Narendra Modi announced on May 13, 2020, a special economic package and gave the clarion call for 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat.' He said that the package, combined with earlier announcements by the government during COVID-19 crisis and decisions taken by the RBI, is to the tune of Rs. 20 lakh crores [approx. USD 266 billion], which is also equivalent to almost 10% of India's GDP. PM Modi said the package focusses on land, labour, liquidity and laws, which will cater to various sections including cottage industry, MSMEs, labourers, middle class, industries, among others. He said, "This economic package is for our cottage industry, home industry, our small-scale industry, our MSMEs, which is a source of livelihood for millions of people, which is the strong foundation of our resolve for a self-reliant India. This economic package is for that labourer of the country, for the farmers of the country who are working day and night for the countrymen in every situation, every season. This economic package is for the middle class of our country, which pays taxes honestly and contributes to the development of the country. This economic package is for Indian industries, which are determined to give a boost to the economic potential of India."

Read More:

https://www.narendramodi.in/prime-ministernarendra-modi-announces-rs-20-lakh-crore-packagefocusing-on-land-labour-liquidity-and-laws-know-allabout-it-here--549631

<u>High Commission of India & MGICC hosted a Virtual Cultural Evening</u> entitled 'ArtAgainstCorona'





The High Commission of India and the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Cultural Cooperation hosted its first Virtual Cultural evening entitled 'ArtAgainstCorona. H.E. High Commissioner of India to T & T, Mr. Arun Kumar Sahu delivered opening remarks which followed the performances by the MGICC teachers, Mr. Paritosh Sinha, Vocalist Expert and Mr. Arshad Khan, Tabla Exponent and accompanying artistes. This cultural fusion was enjoyed by many as the event was streamed live via Zoom.

Read More:

https://twitter.com/AmbArunSahu/status/1261407226163576833/photo/1

India's online video market to touch US\$4 billion by 2025



The online video market in India is estimated to reach US\$ 4 billion by 2025, with subscription services contributing more than US\$ 1.5 billion while advertising accounting for US\$ 2.5 billion. The major contribution will be by Google's YouTube, followed by Disney+ Hotstar. Disney+ Hotstar is the streaming service owned by Disney India and has potential to acquire 25 per cent of the total online video revenue pie by 2025. Details of these projections are given under a report titled India Intelligence and Insights: Disney+ Hotstar: The Future of India's Largest Premium Digital Video Platform brought out by independent research and consultancy services firm Media Partners Asia (MPA). "In the current COVID situation, audiences are spending more time online and OTT platforms have almost doubled their viewership. This viewership trend is likely to continue at least for a few years. Hence, advertising on the services is likely to surge in the coming years as they increasingly become the choice for content consumption," said Mr Anita Nayyar, head, customer strategy and relationships, ZEE5. As per the report by FICCI-EY media and entertainment industry report 2020, television advertising in India, on the other hand, is estimated to reach Rs 388 billion (US\$ 5.1 billion) by 2022.

Read More:

https://www.ibef.org/news/indias-online-video-market-to-touch-us-4-billion-by-2025

PM Modi addresses the Virtual Global Vaccine Summit 2020; India pledges US\$ 15 million to GAVI



India has pledged US\$ 15 million to GAVI on June 05, 2020, the international vaccine alliance. PM Modi was addressing the virtual Global Vaccine Summit hosted by UK PM Boris Johnson in which over 50 â€countries -Business Leaders, UN agencies, civil society, government ministers, Heads of State and country leaders participated. In his address the Prime Minister said India stands in solidarity with the World in these challenging times. Shri Modi said, India's civilization teaches to see the world as one family and that during this pandemic it had tried to live up to this teaching. He said India did it so by sharing the country's available stocks of medicines with over 120 countries, by forging a common response strategy in its immediate neighbourhood and by providing specific support to countries that sought it, while also protecting India's own vast population. PM Modi said the COVID-19 pandemic, in some ways, has exposed the limitations of global cooperation and that for the first time in recent history, the humankind faces a clear common enemy. Referring to Gavi, he said it is not just a global alliance but also a symbol of global solidarity and a reminder of that by helping others we can also help ourselves. He said India has a vast population and limited health facilities and that it understands the importance of immunization. He said that one of the first programmes launched by his government was Mission Indradhanush, which aims to ensure full vaccination of the country's children and pregnant women, including those in the remote parts of the vast nation. PM Modi said India is also the World's foremost producer of vaccines and that it is fortunate to contribute to the immunization of about 60 percent of the World's children.

Read More:

https://www.ibef.org/news/prime-minister-addresses-the-virtual-global-vaccine-summit-2020-india-pledges-us-15-million-to-gavi-the-international-vaccine-alliance

PM Modi interacts with Chief Ministers of all the states and UTS



Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi on May 12, 2020, interacted with the Chief Ministers of all the States and UTs in the country to discuss the road ahead in India's fight against COVID-19. In his opening remarks the Prime Minister said, "We now have reasonably clear indication as to the geographical spread of the pandemic in India, including the worst affected areas. Moreover, over the past few weeks, officials have understood operating procedures in a time such as this, right up to the District level." PM Modi said that this understanding of the spread of COVID-19 will help the country in having a focussed fight against it. "And therefore, we can now further focus our strategy on this battle against coronavirus, as should be the case. We have a twofold challenge - to reduce the transmission rate of the disease, and to increase public activity gradually, while adhering to all the guidelines, and we will have to work towards achieving both these objectives", he said. Prime Minister further said now the effort should be to stop the spread of the COVID-19 to rural areas. The Prime Minister said the suggestions made by the States for a roadmap on Economy have been given due consideration. The Chief Ministers appreciated the leadership of the Prime Minister in the country's fight against COVID-19 and also highlighted the need to strengthen the medical and health infrastructure in the country. Several of them pointed out that with the return of migrants, there is a need to concentrate on strict implementation of the social distancing guidelines, usage of masks and sanitization in order to curb the spread through fresh infection, especially in rural areas.

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https://www.ibef.org/news/prime-minister-interacts-with-the-chief-ministers-of-all-the-states-and-uts

<u>US\$5 billion investment opportunity in transport infra in next 5</u> years: Kearney



According to a report, transport infrastructure sector in India holds an investment opportunity of US\$ 575 billion in the next five years. There has been advancement in transportation landscape over the last two decades, but much remains to be done to meet the increasing demand now and, in the years, ahead, as per the report by management consulting firm Kearney. The report titled 'Harnessing the opportunities in India's transportation infrastructure' said, "Roads and Railways constitute 80 per cent of the total investment opportunity driven by investments in flagship projects such as Bharatmala Pariyojana, Dedicated Freight Corridor, High Speed Rail, etc". Though, factors such as delays in land acquisition, clearance, constraints in funding for infrastructure projects, lack of efficient dispute resolution mechanism were identified as major challenges in realising the investment opportunity. "Significant opportunities exist in various transportation infrastructure in India, prioritizing the most important ones is of paramount importance. "Although there are obstacles to realizing the vast potential, these challenges can be overcome with a concerted and coherent strategy across the key stakeholders: government authorities, concessionaires and contractors, and financial institutions," said Mr Manish Mathur, Partner and Head Asia Pacific, Transportation and Infrastructure Practice for Kearney. The report also added the key steps for overcoming the difficulties and maximizing the opportunities as the government authorities need to focus on identifying the right funding model, confirming robust cash flow management with comprehensive viability assessment, and enabling a vibrant ecosystem of concessionaires and contractors while designing their transport infrastructure development strategies.

Read More:

https://www.ibef.org/news/us-575-billion-investment-opportunity-in-transport-infra-in-next-5-years-kearney

Why India is the new hotspot for renewable energy investors?



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has placed a big bet on solar energy. In his first year in office, Modi raised India's goal for solar power by 5 times, and subsequent Indian budgets have seen manifold increase in national lending facilities for renewable energy. Tucked away in one of the labs in a gigantic tokamak nuclear fusion reactor complex, just off the A51 motorway that links Aix-en-Provence and the French Alps, a group of nearly 100 Indian scientists work feverishly on an experiment never attempted by humanity before. Once completed in 2025, it could change the face of global energy. They have been at it for more than 5 years now - working as part of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) - an international nuclear fusion research and engineering project that will be the world's largest magnetic confinement plasma physics experiment. This is the world's most expensive scientific project to be undertaken in the 21st century, and the most expensive one in which India has ever participated. For the scientific community, it's right now the coolest place on Earth - but once the ITER project is successfully completed, it will literally become the world's hottest place. At 150 million degrees Celsius and with a nuclear reactor weighing 28,000 tonnes, ITER will be 10 times hotter than the Sun - and that's what scientists would consider a success. For the ITER project is nothing but mankind's audacious attempt to create a Sun on earth - and India is intrinsically linked to those efforts. The clean energy produced by the fusion reactor (the recreated Sun) will be enough to power the energy needs of several Indian cities. Ten such reactors could power all of Italy and provide an unlimited supply of energy. With a commitment of about 10% of the cost for the 20-billion-euro project, India is guaranteed access to the full technology that a cohort of scientists from its own shores and from the USA, Russia, Japan, the EU and other countries are busy developing.

Read More:

https://indiaincgroup.com/why-india-is-the-new-hotspot-for-renewable-energy-investors/

<u>Time for digitalizing business processes amidst COVID-19: Mining</u> and Metals Industry Experts



Dr. Mukesh Kumar, Director - SRTMI, Ministry of Steel, Govt. of India, on May 26, 2020 said that COVID-19 has changed the day to day operations and working of business and has made it necessary for businesses to digitalize their processes. Addressing a webinar on 'Life After Lockdown: Actions for Growth, Operational Efficiency & Business Agility' organized by FICCI, jointly with IBM, Dr Kumar said, "Digitalization can provide major opportunities to business. E-systems will also help in avoiding accidents; however, for small scale organizations there is a need for handholding for adopting technology." He said that we have entered into an era where data will be collected digitally and this data when interconnected, can be used effectively. Dr Kumar added that data monitoring systems will help in improving production and efficiency of businesses.

Read More:

http://www.ficci.in/pressrelease-page.asp?nid=3721

World Environment Day: 'Reiterate Pledge to Save Our Planet's Rich Biodiversity', Says PM Modi





PM Modi on June 05, 2020, on the occasion of World Environment Day, called on everyone to reiterate the pledge to 'preserve the rich biodiversity of our planet', also sharing a clip from his most recent Mann Ki Baat programme, in which had referred to the World Environment Day. PM Modi tweeted: "On World Environment Day, we reiterate our pledge to preserve our planet's rich biodiversity. Let us collectively do whatever possible to ensure the flora and fauna, with whom we share the earth, thrive. May we leave an even better planet for the coming generations."

Read More:

https://www.india.com/news/india/world-environment-day-reiterate-pledge-to-save-our-planets-rich-biodiversity-says-pm-modi-4049315/

Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal holds India's ESDM sector powering the nation's growth meeting with the Industry and Trade Associations



Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal held meeting on May 27, 2020, through Video conference, with the industry and trade associations. This was the fifth such meeting since the lockdown with the associations, to assess the impact of COVID-19 lockdown and subsequent relaxations on their activities, and take note of their suggestions to put the economy back on tracks. The meeting was attended by the Ministers of State for Commerce and Industry Shri Som Parkash and Shri H.S.Puri, and Officers of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Among the Associations, the meeting was attended today, by CII, FICCI, ASSOCHAM, NASSCOM, PHDCI, CAIT, FISME, Laghu Udyog Bharati, SIAM, ACMA, IMTMA, SICCI, FAMT, ICC and IEEMA. Addressing the associations, Shri Goyal said that Futures is ours to choose- it would be better to be ready and start working for the Post-Covid period, with good ideas, firm implementation plans, and to make India a world power. Talking about the Prime Minister's adage of 'Jaan Bhi, jahan bhi', the Minister said that worst for the economy is over. Things are looking up, and revival is in the air. He said that the steps taken by the Government under the Aatmanirbhar campaign will help the Nation fight the economy. Shri Goyal called upon the industry to make efforts in this regard, by thinking about sustainable, out-of-thebox ideas. He said the fight against the Covid-19 can't be undertaken by the Government alone, it is the nation's fight and all stakeholders have to play an important positive role.

Read More:

https://static.investindia.gov.in/s3fs-public/2020-05/PIB1627215.pdf

India overtakes Japan with fifth-largest hydropower capacity in the world





The Electronics System Design and Manufacturing sector (ESDM) is the fastest growing sector in the world. It continues to transform lives, businesses, and economies globally. The past five years have especially seen a significant gain in the ESDM sector as the global production has undergone a shift from the USA and Europe to Asia. India boasts of a huge population, housing one-sixth of the world's human resources. The nation houses 1.2 Billion mobile subscribers and 60 Million internet users. According to 2017 data, the ESDM industry is worth \$ 2 Trillion, making it a sector of significant importance for India's growth story. With rising per capita disposable incomes and consumption in the past decade, India has been one of the largest consumers of electronic products specifically in the Asia-Pacific region. By 2025, the electronics market in India is expected to grow up to \$ 400 Billion. The sector currently accounts for 2.5 per cent of India's GDP and employs over 13 million people. Additionally, the nation's share in the global electronics manufacturing has grown from around 1.3 per cent in 2012 to 3 per cent in 2018. India has also emerged as the second largest manufacturer of mobile phones across the world in 2018 with the production value reaching \$ 24.3 Billion. Presently, India is undergoing a digital revolution. With a growing middle-class population, rising disposable incomes and declining electronics prices, there has been a definite surge in the consumption of electronics devices in India. Newer technologies like the rollout of 5G and IoT has ushered a new era for the 'New India'.

Read More

https://www.investindia.gov.in/team-india-blogs/indias-esdmsector-powering-nations-growth

How Bengaluru is taking India to the top position in product development



India ranks third in the world in terms of attracting investment for technology alongside tech hubs like San Francisco, Berlin, and Shenzhen. Bengaluru, a well-known hotspot for development and

Economic and Commercial Newsletter, June 2020

India became the nation with the fifth-largest hydropower production capacity in the world surpassing Japan and has total installed base standing at over 50 Gigawatt (GW), behind Canada, US, Brazil and China, according to International Hydropower Association (IHA). The Hydropower Status Report for 2020 was published in May 2020 along with COVID-19 Policy Paper. According to data in the report, global hydropower installed capacity reached 1,308 GW in 2019, as 50 countries completed greenfield and upgrade projects, including pumped storage. Although, a total of 15.6 GW in installed capacity was added in 2019, down from 21.8 GW in 2018. This represents a rise of 1.2 per cent, which is below the estimated 2.0 per cent growth rate required for the world to meet Paris Agreement carbon reduction targets. The countries with the highest increases in were Brazil (4.92 GW), China (4.17 GW) and Laos (1.89 GW). IHA also added that the hydropower's flexibility services have seen an increase in demand during the COVID-19 crisis, while plant operations have been less affected due to the degree of automation in modern facilities. The developments in the hydropower have not been immune to economic impacts as the industry faces a widespread uncertainty and liquidity shortages putting financing and refinancing of some projects at risk. The IHA added that the COVID-19 pandemic has underlined hydropower's resilience and critical role in delivering clean, reliable and affordable energy.

Read More

https://www.ibef.org/news/india-overtakes-japan-with-fifthlargest-hydropower-capacity-in-the-world

India as a major country of the world with appropriate technology, capital including FDI and extraordinary human resource contributing significantly to the global economy



The GOI headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has always believed in transformative programs be it Digital India, Make in India and Start-up India. These initiatives have empowered ordinary Indians, led to digital inclusion, encouraged innovation and entrepreneurship, and raised the stature of India as a global digital power. Promotion of electronics

innovation, is pegged to become the next Silicon Valley thanks to its specialised talent pool and infrastructure. Home to technology companies such as Infosys, Wipro, Mindtree, and Mphasis, it is headquarters to 80% of global IT companies and accounts for almost 34% of India's total IT exports. This proximity to suppliers, buyers, and cutting-edge research gives each a competitive advantage. Furthermore, Bengaluru's proficiency in IT, rapidly expanding talent base and fast-growing strategic relevance for global businesses have together created great opportunity for the city to position itself as a global leader in innovation and R&D excellence. Let us take a closer look at the top five reasons why Bengaluru is positioning India at the top of the world's product development map: Huge talent base -Bengaluru remains home to the highest number of Multinational Corporations' (MNC) R&D centres and talent in the country. Technology and R&D devoted to science have long been the hallmark of the city; immersive technologies have made it imperative for MNCs to dip into India's plethora of engineering talent. Additionally, it is labelled as the most millennial-friendly city in the country, with 37% of the population falling in the age group 15 to 35 years and has over 100 engineering colleges churning out over 90,000 engineering graduates every year. In fact, Bengaluru and the rest of Karnataka have 400 R&D centres and 85 chip designing houses, according Bengaluru 2019 Innovation Report.

Read More:

https://www.fortuneindia.com/opinion/how-bengaluru-is-taking-india-to-the-top-position-in-product-development/104601



REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THIS MEETING: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZllc-yqqT4pH91HrY19BUluGTEp2m59gQqd

manufacturing has been a key component of 'Make in India' program. With efforts such as the National Policy on Electronics, 2019, Modified Special Incentive Scheme (MSIPS), Manufacturing Clusters Electronics and Development Fund etc., India's production of electronics grew from US\$ 29 billion in 2014 to US\$ 70 billion in 2019. The growth in mobile phone manufacturing has been remarkable during this period. From just 2 mobile phone factories in 2014, India now has become the second largest mobile phone producer in the world. Production of mobile handsets in 2018-19 has reached 29 crore units worth Rs 1.70 lakh crore (US\$ 24.12 billion) from just 6 crore units worth Rs 19,000 crore (US\$ 2.70 billion) in 2014. While the exports of electronics have increased from Rs 38,263 crore (US\$ 5.43 billion) in 2014-15 to Rs 61,908 crore (US\$ 8.78 billion) in 2018-19, India's share in global electronics production has reached 3 per cent in 2018 from just 1.3 per cent in 2012. PM Modi has given a clarion call for Aatma Nirbhar Bharat - a self-reliant India.

Read More:

https://www.ibef.org/news/india-as-a-major-country-of-the-world-with-appropriate-technology-capital-including-fdi-and-extraordinary-human-resource-contributing-significantly-to-the-global-economy-ravi-shankar-prasad

FORTH COMING EVENTS IN INDIA:

'1st VIRTUAL HEALTHCARE & HYGIENE EXPO' (22-26 June, 2020) hosted by the Federation of Indian Chambers & Commerce and Industry (FICCI). For more information on registration, please visit: https://vhhe.in/







(11th Biennial International Exhibition & Conference) 8th - 10th October 2020 Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai-India

SUGGESTED ITINERARIES FOR TRAVEL ON GANDHI CIRCUIT

On the occasion of celebration of **150**th **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.	Duration	Places Covered
No.	of Tour	
1.	6	Porbandar/Rajkot/Ahmedabad/Vadodara/Surat
	nights/7	
	days	
2.	5	Porbandar/Rajkot/Bhavnagar/Ahmedabad
	nights/6	
	days	
3.	7	Porbandar/Rajkot/Bhavnagar/Ahmedabad/Surat
	nights/8	
4.	days 5	Delhi/Jaipur/Agra/Delhi
4.	nights/6	Deliti/Jaiput/Agra/Deliti
	days	
5.	3	Mumbai/Pune
	nights/4	
	days	
6.	2	Kolkata
	nights/3	
	days	
7.	3	Madurai/Kanyakumari
	nights/4	
	days	
8.	11	Mumbai-Porbandar/Rajkot/Bhavnagar/Palitana/
	nights/	Ahmedabad/Vadodara/Surat/Delhi
	12 days	
9.	4	Kolkata and Bihar
	nights/5	
7	days	Franchic and Commercial Newslotter, June 202

Economic and Commercial Newsletter, June 2020



TO CONNECT WITH COMMERCIAL WING

Contact:

Mr. Anand Mathai Commercial Officer

Email: trade.pospain@mea.gov.in

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https://www.fieo.org/

https://www.epch.in/

https://dipp.gov.in/

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

https://www.makeinindia.com/

https://www.indiatradefair.com/

https://www.eximbankindia.in/

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

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

https://www.indiaperspectives.gov.in/

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

10.	4	Kolkata and Odisha
	nights/5	
	days	
11.	3	Delhi/Shimla/Delhi
	nights/4	
	days	

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:





TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

- 117 positive cases
- 4 8 deaths

GRENADA

- 23 positive cases
- No deaths

COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA

- 4 18 positive cases
- No deaths