



High Commission of India

Trinidad & Tobago

(concurrent accreditation: Grenada, Dominica, Montserrat)

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High Commission of India celebrated its 74th Independence Day virtually at India House on August 15, 2020



High Commission of India celebrated India's 74th Independence Day at India House. This auspicious occasion was held virtually for first time in light of the Corona Virus Pandemic restrictions. H.E. Arun Kumar Sahu, High Commissioner of India to T & T read the President's message and expressed his greetings on this momentous occasion of India's Independence. HC mentioned that he was pleased that India has made great advances since gaining Independence. The ideals and values that guided our freedom movement, led by Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi. High Commissioner mentioned that COVID-19 has led to adoption of some changes in our lifestyle, but with combined efforts of all countries of the world, we will be able to get over this difficult period in the near future. High Commissioner had wished everyone a Happy Independence at the end of his address during this first ever virtual ceremony in light of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

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High Commissioner of India meets the newly appointed Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs



His Excellency Mr. Arun Kumar Sahu, High Commissioner of India to Trinidad and Tobago paid a courtesy visit to Senator the Honourable Dr. Amery Browne, Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs on September 04, 2020. High Commissioner had an engaging interaction with the Honourable Minister to further enhance bilateral relations, regional and international cooperation including in CARICOM and the United Nations. He also discussed trade and investment opportunities in the sectors including IT & ITES, Pharmaceuticals, Processing, Agro-Biotechnology and Renewable Energy.

Indian High Commissioner hands over medical supply to Grenada



On behalf of the people and GOI, Mr. Arun Kumar Sahu, High Commissioner of India to Trinidad and Tobago with concurrent accreditation to Grenada has handed over the medical supply to the people and Government of Grenada in a virtual ceremony on 27th August 2020. Foreign Minister of Grenada Hon'ble Mr. Peter Charles David received the consignment. Health Minister Hon. Steele, Grenada's CMO Dr. Shawn Charles, Health Permanent Secretary, Dr. Francis Martin and India's Honorary Consul Ms. Shadel Compton were also present. Minister David expressed his appreciation of India's support at the time of COVID-19 pandemic. Health Minister Mr. Steele thanked the people and GOI for the gift of much needed medicines. High Commissioner underlined that the relationship between India and Grenada is on a solid foundation and during this time of COVID-19 pandemic, India has made special efforts to express solidarity with friends across the globe.

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Indian High Commissioner hands over medical supply to Dominica



On behalf of the people and Government of India, Mr. Arun Kumar Sahu, High Commissioner of India to T & T with concurrent accreditation to Commonwealth of Dominica, handed over the medical consignment to the people and Government of Commonwealth of Dominica (CoD). Dr. Irving McIntyre, Hon. Minister for Health, Wellness & New Health Investment of Dominica received the consignments at a virtual ceremony on August, 26, 2020. Minister McIntyre was accompanied by Mr. Kent Edwards, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment, Mrs. Letitia Lestrade-Wyke, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment were present at the event. Minister McIntyre expressed his appreciation of India's support in this time of the fight against the Coronavirus pandemic. He reiterated their willingness to work with

India-Trinidad accelerates Economic and Trade route virtually



To increase trade and economic cooperation between India & Trinidad & Tobago, the High Commission of India organized a virtual conference with the Department of Commerce, Government of India. The conference was held on August 20. The Department of Commerce team led by Mr. Suresh Kumar, JS (FT-LAC) held discussions with the Commercial Officers of his team including H.E. High Commissioner of India Mr. Arun Kumar Sahu and Mr. N. Lingi Chetty, Second Secretary (Com). Trinidad is a major Indian expatriate country and there is considerable demand for Indian ethnicity. Therefore, considering the potential of trade, High Commissioner advised the Export Promotion Council to take initiative to export famous Indian brands. Those garments must include ethnic clothing such as khadi, silk, special occasion wear etc. He also suggested direct air links between Trinidad & Tobago and India. The sectors that the High Commissioner advised to pay special attention to at this conference are – IT Services, Pharmaceuticals, Textiles, Food Processing, Renewable Energy, Bio-Technology, and Tourism. He also encouraged the organization of trade fairs. He said the Virtual Trade Fair, Trade and Investment Convention organized by the Trinidad & Tobago Manufacturers' Association in October 2020 and India International Trade Fair in November 2020 would be organized.

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India even more closely for the betterment of people of both countries. High Commissioner underlined that the relationship between India and the Commonwealth of Dominica is on a solid foundation and during this time of COVID-19 pandemic, India has made special efforts to express solidarity with her friends across the globe. Following up on Foreign Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar's telephonic conversation with his counterpart on 30th April this year, the medical supply including much-needed paracetamol and HCQ has been supplied for the use of the government and people of Commonwealth of Dominica during these trying times. He hoped that both governments would work even more closely in future

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India's apparel exports to register 40% growth in FY21



Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) Chairman A. Sakthivel, quoted that the apparel exports from the India is likely to expand by about 40 per cent in the current financial year. While addressing the 41st Annual General Meeting of the industry body, the Chairman said: "We are working with a target to achieve a 40 per cent increase in apparel exports this financial year with major focus on new medical textiles, which will take the total apparel exports from \$15.4 billion in last fiscal to about \$22 billion in 2020-21." He also thanked Union Minister of Textiles, Smriti Zubin Irani for the initiatives taken to help this industry. He urged the international buyers to do 'commerce with compassion' and honour their export orders. Besides this, he facilitated the apparel into production of personal protective equipment (PPE) making India the second largest producer of medical textiles within a short period of time. He further said the industry needs product diversification into Man Made Fibre (MMF) and plans to sign MoUs with several MMF manufacturers, including Reliance Industries Ltd, to improve the sector as MMF plays an important role in increasing India's textile exports to the global market.

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<https://www.ibef.org/news/indias-apparel-exports-to-register-40-growth-in-fy21-aepc>

India jumps 4 places to rank 48 on Global Innovation Index (GII) 2020



India jumped four places to rank at 48th position at the 2020 edition of the Global Innovation Index (GII). The index, compiled by World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) along with Cornell University and the INSEAD business school, presents the latest global innovation trends and annual innovation ranking of 131 economies. Moving up four positions since last year, India became the third most innovative lower middle-income economy in the world. The report noted that the jump can be attributed to newly available indicators and improvements in various areas of the GI. India ranks in the top 15 in indicators such as ICT services exports, government online services, graduates in science and engineering, and R&D-intensive global companies. "Thanks to universities such as the Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay and Delhi and the Indian Institute of Science in Bengaluru, and its top scientific publications, India is the lower middle-income economy with the highest innovation quality," the report noted. India increased the most in three pillars: Institutions (61st), business sophistication (55th), and creative outputs (64th), it noted. While the data shows stability at the top, WIPO said it also clearly indicates that "a gradual eastward shift in the locus of innovation" is under way, with a group of Asian economies advancing up the rankings. China, India, the Philippines and Vietnam have made the most progress on the index in recent years, with all four now among the top 50, it said. China, which is the only middle-income economy among the top 30, now holds the 14th place.

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<https://www.ibef.org/news/india-jumps-4-places-to-rank-48-on-global-innovation-index-2020>

India to Become the Healthcare Provider to the World through Atmanirbhar Bharat



The Medical device sector has a crucial role to play in improving accessibility and affordability of healthcare especially with regard to the availability of precision devices stated Shri D V Sadananda Gowda, Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers during his inaugural address at the 12th MedTech Global Summit. We now must turn our attention to correct our high import dependence. Our pharmaceutical sector will become Atmanirbhar in a short period of 2-3 years, not only domestically but globally providing low cost and high-quality equipment and drugs. Our Product Linked Investment schemes will attract cumulative investment of INR 78,000 crore and generate 250,000 in employment, with Med tech attracting at least 40,000 crore and employing 140,000 new employees. The government is committed to providing low cost, affordable health care to every citizen through PMJAY and Ayushman Bharat with both schemes significantly reducing out of pocket expenditure for our citizens. The medical device industry has labored and helped prepare indigenous products in our fight against COVID, with our production of ventilators proof of the success of Indian indigenuity stated Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister for Commerce and Industry and Railways. It showed to the world that India can be a trusted partner when it comes to global engagement and global trade. This is the time to leverage the tools of technology to recharge our health systems with the power of: Access, Awareness and Availability. The entire country's healthcare needs will be upgraded, spending on healthcare will increase and India will ensure availability of good quality health care equipment and facilities for all Indians and the awareness campaign is being led by our Hon'ble Prime Minister. Along with being the pharmacy of the world, we shall also become the hospital for the world.

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<https://newswithchai.com/india-to-become-the-healthcare-provider-to-the-world-through-atmanirbhar-bharat/19476/>

The Indian economy is set for a V-shaped recovery, says MSME Secretary AK Sharma



India's electronic exports can rise 16-fold to \$180 billion by 2025



With global supply chain for electronic goods witnessing a restructuring as companies look to reduce dependence on China, India's domestic electronic goods industry is staring at a potential windfall. Estimates by Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) suggest electronics exports from India may potentially hit \$180 billion by 2025 from just \$11.28 billion in 2019-20. The industry believes it needs proper long-term policy support from the government. ESC has submitted a charter to the government that proposes expanding the existing production linked incentive scheme beyond just mobile and smartphones to the entire electronic manufacturing sector. "We have created a roadmap for taking India's electronics exports, which includes mobile phones and accessories, components and other electronics and hardware items to \$180 billion by 2025 to bring exports from the segment more or less at par with software exports," says Mr. Sandeep Narula, Chairman, ESC India's domestic production in the sector at \$70 billion accounts for just 3.3 percent of the global electronics market estimated at \$2.1 trillion giving it a significant headroom for growth. The domestic industry however suffers from disabilities like higher taxation, cost of finance and power which make it uncompetitive against China, Taiwan, Korea, Vietnam or Japan.

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<https://www.ibef.org/news/indias-electronic-exports-can-rise-16-fold-to-180-billion-by-2025>

India aims to achieve 100 MT coal gasification target by 2030



The Indian economy is set for a V-shaped recovery, and things are likely to pick up September onwards, particularly because of the proactive steps taken by the Indian government to manage the crisis posed by the outbreak of COVID-19, and the 'resilient' nature of India and its people, AK Sharma, Secretary, ministry of micro, small and medium enterprises said on September 02, 2020. To be atma-nirbhar is not to be protectionist, and the government's idea of launching the self-reliance initiative is not to be protectionist, and the government's idea of launching the self-reliance initiative is to add to the country's strengths, Sharma added. "In spite of all the challenges and the perception and all the issues, the government has moved very decisively to see that credit flows to sector where it is needed, particularly MSMEs," Sharma said at the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum. "RBI has played a very confidence boosting actor. RBI has responded very proactively, it's been with the economy and its sectors," he said. Sharma said that he was hopeful that the government will find ways to come out of economic downturn. "Many of economists have spoken of a V shaped recovery. Perhaps September onwards we will see upwards trend," Sharma said.

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<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/the-indian-economy-is-set-for-a-v-shaped-recovery-says-msme-secretary-ak-sharma/articleshow/77879107.cms>

India's pharma firms see strong growth



As India battles the COVID-19 Pandemic, its pharmaceutical industry and health care services have seen a strong growth. Companies such as Ipca showed improved sales and profitability led by its export's formulations and APIs (active pharmaceutical ingredient) business which jumped by 72 percent year-on-year (y-o-y). The demand for malaria drug Hydroxychloroquine Sulfate (HCQ) to treat Covid-19 had led the momentum in APIs for Ipca. Dr Reddy's, another significant player in the API space, which partners with global pharma companies across the United States, Europe, Latin America, Japan and China, saw an 88 percent jump in its pharmaceutical services and API business, totalling ₹855.3 crore, in the three months to June. In the June-ended quarter, strong growth was also seen through domestic sales of drugs for chronic therapies—particularly cardiac, anti-diabetes and immunity

India aims for 100 million tonnes (MT) coal gasification by 2030 with investments worth over Rs. 4 lakh crores said Shri Pralhad Joshi, Union Minister of Coal and Mines. Addressing a webinar on Coal Gasification and Liquefaction, Shri Joshi said that Coal Gasification and Liquefaction is no more an aspiration, but a requirement. He added that for encouraging use of clean sources of fuel, government has provided for a concession of 20% on revenue share of coal used for gasification. He emphasized that this would boost production of synthetic natural gas, energy fuel, urea for fertilisers and production of other chemicals. The webinar was organised by Ministry of Coal (MoC) in New Delhi for discussing the road map for achieving the target. The webinar was attended by around 700 delegates from Government of India, CIL and the coal sector. Reiterating on government's commitments for green initiatives in the coal sector, Shri Joshi said that Coal Gasification and Liquefaction are well in the government's agenda and various actions have been taken for development of Surface Coal Gasification in India. A Steering Committee has been constituted in this regard under the chairmanship of Dr. V.K. Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog comprising of members from the Ministry of Coal. CIL has also planned to set up at least 3 gasification plants (besides Dankuni) on BOO basis through global tendering and has signed an MOU with GAIL for marketing synthetic natural gas.

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<https://www.ibef.org/news/india-aims-to-achieve-100-mt-coal-gasification-target-by-2030-pralhad-joshi>

Prime Minister Delivers Special Keynote Address at the US-India 2020 Summit of US-ISPF



PM Narendra Modi on September 04, 2020 delivered the Special Keynote Address at the US-India 2020 Summit through video conference. The US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) is a non-profit organization that works for the partnership between India and the U.S. The Theme of the 5-day Summit that began on the 31st of August is "US-India Navigating New Challenges". Addressing the Summit, PM Modi said the global pandemic has impacted everyone and that it is testing our resilience, our public health systems, our economic systems. The current situation demands a fresh mind set. A mind set where the approach to development is

boosters (see table)—in the June-ended quarter. A similar trend continued in July, where cardiac therapy, anti-malaria, analgesics and respiratory-related drugs saw strong sales. A visible element of the earnings was also a rise in margins, as pharmaceutical companies were able to lower their operational expenses in the past three months. This was across segments where companies managed to cut their travel expenses, marketing and advertising costs and on-the-ground expenditure, says Isha Chaudhary, director at Crisil. All of these boosted margins and profits earnings. Global innovators are trying to gradually shift their focus from China to markets like India, which has led to an increase in the API business. And analysts are confident that the outlook for pharma companies' earnings will continue to be bright because of this.

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<https://www.ibef.org/news/indias-pharma-firms-see-strong-growth>

Shri Piyush Goyal says that New-age entrepreneurs are going to change the fortune of India



Union Minister of Commerce and Industry & Railways Shri Piyush Goyal has said that New age ideas will help us to prepare India to contribute in a much bigger way to global supply chains. Addressing CII's event on 'Launch of India's Future Business Group' today, he said that New-age entrepreneurs are going to change the fortune of India. He said, "We need to build a platform with like-minded countries and trusted partners to promote new-age businesses in India." India can engage with other countries and build up a platform with trusted partners to promote new-age businesses, he added. The minister said that it is the youngsters, who are going to change the fortune of India, create jobs & bring prosperity to the people. "We have a huge start-up ecosystem in India. It's more about recognizing our capabilities, uplifting our entrepreneurs. Some of the ideas that youngsters have come up with are truly revolutionary." He suggested that Colleges should look at entrepreneurship or other courses around new-age businesses. We can also look at more vocational training & assessment process to see what is in the young person's mind, he added. Talking about the improvement in India's rank from 52 to 48 in the Global Innovation Index, Shri Goyal said "Let us all work together to truly make India the innovation hub. We have a huge start-up ecosystem. I have no doubt that the spirit of the industry will even encourage even Government to

human centric. Where there is a spirit of cooperation between everyone, he said. Talking about the way ahead the PM Modi said that the country is focussing on ramping up capacities, securing the poor and future proofing our citizens. Referring to various steps taken to ramp up facilities for fighting COVID and to increase awareness amongst the citizens, the Prime Minister said all such early measures ensured that the country with 1.3 billion people and limited resources has one of the lowest death rates per million in the World. He expressed his happiness that India's business community, especially the small business has been proactive. Starting from almost nothing, they made us the second largest PPE kits manufacturer in the World, he said. Referring to various reforms the Prime Minister said that the pandemic failed to impact the aspirations and ambitions of 1.3 billion Indians. He said there have been far reaching reforms in the country in recent times which have made the business easier and red-tapism lesser. PM Modi said that work is actively underway on the world's largest housing program and that the renewable energy infrastructure is being expanded.

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<https://www.ibef.org/news/prime-minister-delivers-special-keynote-address-at-the-usindia-2020-summit-of-usispf>

Raksha Mantri launches products indigenously developed by Bharat Electronic Limited



The Hon'ble Raksha Mantri, Shri Rajnath Singhji, on August 13, 2020, launched through Video Conference two products — Linear Variable Differential Transducer (LVDT) and 1kW Transmitter Aerial Switching Rack, indigenously developed for use in various strategic applications, as part of the Government of India's Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. Mr. Gowtama M V, Chairman & MD, Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), on the occasion gave a presentation to the Hon'ble Raksha Mantri on these products, which have been indigenously developed by BEL. Linear Variable Differential Transducer (LVDT) is a Motion Sensing and Feedback Control device, which has been developed primarily for supply to

proactively go forward with new ideas & processes to make it easier & simpler to do business in India. No power on earth can stop us from succeeding”

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FORTH COMING EVENTS IN INDIA:



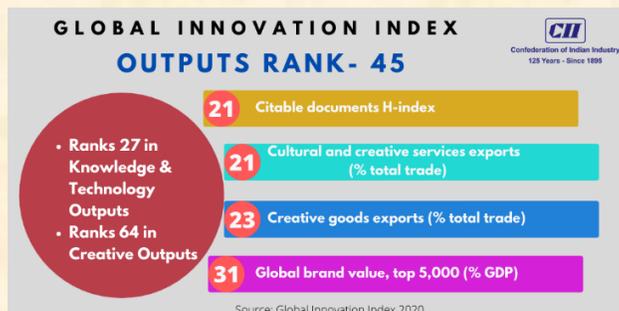
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Creativity is India’s advantage! In films, R&D, books, ads, animation, etc. contribute to its creative goods exports.

DRDO labs Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE) and Research Centre Imarat (RCI). Due to its high accuracy of functional parameters, LVDT finds applications in Aerospace, Missiles, Solar, Aircraft Engines, Wind energy and Naval systems, and works in adverse climatic conditions. LVDT has been designed and developed for customised retrofit requirement. The development of this product is a huge step for India towards self-reliance and is an import substitute saving the Country Foreign Exchange (FE) to the tune of Rs. 100 Crores over the next two to three years’ time.

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