High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur

INDIA BECKONS

Economic & Business e-Newsletter

सत्यमव जयत

Significant Diplomatic Engagements

<u>PM Anwar congratulated PM Modi on the successful completion of Elections in India:</u>

Hon'ble Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim congratulated Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi for winning a historic third consecutive term. In his Tweet dated 5th June, PM Anwar mentioned that the exercise of democracy in India is indeed a marvel and more than 642 million people exercised their right to vote since April 19. PM Anwar further added that PM Modi has overseen a historic reconfiguration of the Indian economy, one that promises a better life for India's citizenry as well as the region at large. PM Anwar added that, he looked forward to working closely with PM Modi as they forge a new era of relations between Malaysia and India.



Gratis e-Tourist Visa (30-day validity with double entry for Malaysian nationals) from 01 July 2024 to 30 June 2025:

In an effort to further promote People-to-people ties between India and Malaysia, Malaysian Nationals are granted 30-day e-Tourist visa with double entry on gratis basis (no visa fees) with effect from 01 July 2024 till 30 June 2025. The 30-day e-Tourist visa can be applied online at our regular e-visa link https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html. The Existing rules and guidelines for e-Tourist visas and other e-visas will remain in effect, as detailed on the official website of the High Commission of India. This fee waiver applies exclusively to the 30-day e-Tourist visa. O.er e-visa categories, including e-Business, e-Conference, e-Medical Attendant, e-Ayush e-Emergency X eMedical. and Miscellaneous visas, will still incur the prescribed rates. Those opting for traditional paper visas through the outsourced service provider (M/s IVS Global Visa Centre) or directly from the High Commission will still be subject to the usual visa fees. Those who wish to obtain normal paper visas from the outsourced service provider (M/s IVS Global Visa Centre) or the High Commission of India, will continue to pay the prescribed visa fees.

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Cement Industry

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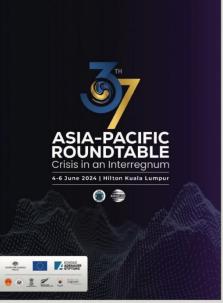
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India's Participation at APR:

India, for the first time joined as a partner at the 37th edition of the Asia-Pacific Roundtable (APR), which was held in Kuala Lumpur from 04-06 June 2024. The APR was organised by the Institute of Strategic and International Studies, (ISIS), Malaysia on behalf of the ASEAN Institutes of Strategic and International Studies (ASEAN-ISIS) network, thereby providing a room for the participation of the wider strategic community and policy-makers across ASEAN countries, including Malaysia. Chairman of ISIS, Malaysia, while delivering the inaugural remarks acknowledged India's participation at APR as a partner, which he viewed as crucial and significant.











Eminent speakers/scholars from India, including Lt Gen Prof C. Rajamohan, Director of the Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore; Prof Harsh V. Pant, Vice President-Studies and Foreign Policy at Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi; RS Panwar, Distinguished Fellow at United Services Institution of India; Dr. Shristi Pukhrem, Deputy Director (Academics & Research) at India foundation; and Dr Rahul Mishra, Associate Professor CIPS Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) participated in various APR sessions. The Think-tank and academic exchanges between India and Malaysia are now part of the growing interest in bilateral strategic relations, as well as regional matters. High Commissioner of India, Mr B.N. Reddy participated at the inaugural dinner of the 37th APR Roundtable on 04 June 2024. Foreign Minister of Malaysia, Dato' Seri Utama Haji Mohamad bin Hasan delivered the keynote address on the occasion.

Engagements of High Commission of India Kuala Lumpur





High Commission organised the 10th International Day of Yoga celebrations at the iconic Batu Caves Complex on 21st June 2024. H.E. Mr. Niloy Banerjee, Resident Representative and Head / CEO of UNDP in Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam joined as the Chief Guest of the event and delivered the special address on the occasion. High Commissioner, Mr Reddv presided over the event. Over 1200 Yoga enthusiasts participated in the event, including members of Diplomatic community, senior Officials of Government of Malaysia, Heads & members of various Indian community associations, cultural, yoga and social organizations, schools in Malaysia, Malaysian nationals and members of Indian diaspora. High Commissioner welcomed Yoga enthusiasts and elaborated the importance of Yoga in the context of this year's theme, 'Yoga for Self and Society'. He also thanked the Government of Malaysia, various Malaysian partner organizations and Yoga enthusiasts for their continued support to Yoga in Malaysia. A 40-minute yoga session was conducted as per the Common Yoga Protocol (CYP) by Yoga Instructors. The Yoga asanas

demonstrated were well received. Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi sent a personal message to Hon'ble Prime Minister of Malaysia, H.E. Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim on the occasion of International Day of Yoga. The International Day of Yoga is celebrated across the world annually on June 21, following its adoption by the United Nations in 2014. The first International Yoga Day was celebrated in 2015 across the world.







On 26 June, High Commissioner met YB Gobind Singh Deo, Malaysian Minister for Digital to discuss further strengthening of India-Malaysia collaboration in digital technologies spanning across various sectors of the economy. Key areas discussed included collaboration on digital economy, talent development, cyber security and digital public infrastructure. India and Malaysia enjoy long collaboration in digital technologies reflected in the presence of over 100 Indian IT companies in Malaysia creating high skilled jobs in Malaysia. This collaboration is set to advance to the next level aided by the priority accorded to digital technologies by both Governments and complementarities between our two countries.



High Commission of India Kuala Lumpur

PRESS RELEASE

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi extends Eid-Al-Adha greetings to Prime Minister YAB Dato' Seri Anwar Bin Ibrahim

Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi today conveyed his warmest greetings to YAB Dato' Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim, Hon'ble Prime Minister of Malaysia on the occasion of the holy festival of Eid-Al-Adha.

- 2. In his personal message to the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Prime Minister of India highlighted that the holy festival of Eid-Al-Adha reminds of the values of sacrifice, compassion and brotherhood which are essential components in building a peaceful and inclusive world; and the festival is an integral part of our multi-cultural heritage and celebrated by millions of Indians of Islamic faith.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended his best wishes for the good health of Prime Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Bin Ibrahim and for the well being of the people of Malaysia.

Kuala Lump 17 June 2024

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi extended his warmest greetings to YAB Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim, Hon'ble Prime Minister of Malaysia on the occasion of the holy festival of Eid-Al-Adha. On 17 June, PM Anwar in a tweet stated that, he received a letter from the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi who sent Eid al-Adha greetings to him and all Malaysians. PM Anwar further added that both leaders are of the same opinion that, world peace depends on the value of togetherness with each other, while applying the principles of humanity, courtesy and sacrifice in building a developed country. He agreed with PM Modi who touched on the aspect of culture and heritage in respecting each other, and this should continue to be uplifted and celebrated in all corners of the world when celebrating this glorious day. He also prayed that PM Modi continues to be given good health and the relationship between Malaysia and India continues to be strengthened for mutual benefit.

High Commission of India, and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC) organised "Confluence: Samagam- Language Series" on Tamil language, on 28 June 2024 at NSCBICC premises in Kuala Lumpur. The event was the third in Indian Languages' Series organized by the High Commission of India and NSCBICC. The first event in the Language series was launched on 27 April 2024 with the Punjabi language, followed by one on Telugu Language in May 2024. Tan Sri Dr. S. Subramaniam graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Delivering the key note address on the occasion, Tan Sri Dr. S. Subramaniam shared that the existence of the vernacular languages in Malaysia is supported by the Malaysian Constitution and the system has paved way for Tamil education right from preschool to University level. He also lauded the efforts of High Commission of India in organizing the lecture series. Speaking on the occasion, High Commissioner conveyed his appreciation to the members of various Tamil organizations in Malaysia for partnering with the High Commission of India in organizing the lecture series. He also shared that the Hon'ble Prime





Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi had highlighted Tamil as the Oldest Language in the world. Prominent Tamil language scholars and academicians including Mr.Supramani Shoniah, Dr Selvajothi Ramalingam, Mr KR P Raman, Mr Mohanan Perumal, Dr Ajith Bhaskar, Mr Uthaya Shankar and Ts Dr Velu Perumal made presentations on diverse topics. The topics included Tamil Language and its development after Independence; Tamil in Malaysia: Sustaining a Linguistic Heritage; Role of Muthamizh Padippagam in Promotion of Tamil Language in Malaysia; Role of Tamil Writers' Association in promotion of Tamil Literature in Malaysia; Propagation of Tamil Fine Arts in Malaysia; Milestones in Translation of Tamil Literary works and Development of Tamil Calligraphy in Malaysia. Tamil students from University Malaya shared their experiences of learning the language. A Bharatanatyam dance performance by students of Temple of Fine Arts, Malaysia and a Tamil Calligraphy Exhibition were also organized as part of the event. The event was attended by over 120 members from prominent Tamil associations, Members of Hindu Dharma Maamandram, GOPIO and Malaysia India Heritage Society, Students from University Malaya, Members of Media and Officials from High Commission of India and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre.



Universal Peace Sanctuary Malaysia (UPSM) and Yoga Sports Association, Seremban, in partnership with the High Commission organized a yoga event, as part of International Day of Yoga 2024, Seremban on 30 June 2024. A yoga session was conducted including Yoga performances by Students of Yoga Sports Association Malaysia and UPSM Seremban. The event was attended by over 100 participants including Indian diaspora in Seremban. Certificates of Appreciation were distributed to yoga participants.

High Commission of India organized a Consular Facilitation Session on June 22, 2024 in Penang to address queries related to consular services.



Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC)

High Commissioner Mr B.N. Reddy inaugurated High Commission of India's free Hindi classes at Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC) on 8 June 2024. In his inaugural remarks, High Commissioner highlighted the efforts of Government of India for the promotion of Hindi language all over the world & called on students to make the best use of the opportunity. Students, parents and Hindi language enthusiasts attended the function. Ms Yamini Joshi, the Hindi teacher held an informal interaction with the students.





High Commission of India and Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC) in partnership with ISKCON Kuching, The Art of Living Malaysia & Malaysian Hindu Sangam, Sarawak organized a Yoga event on 30 June 2024, marking the International Day of Yoga 2024, at ISKCON Sarawak premises. Over 150 yoga enthusiasts from Sarawak participated at the event. YB Dato Lo Khere Chiang, YB. Dato Ir Lo Khere Chiang, Batu Kitang Assemblyman graced the occasion as Chief Guests.

5

What's New - Business & Investments News in India

1. India's annual defence production hits a record high of approx. US\$ 15.21 billion in FY24

India reported the highest-ever growth in Indigenous defence production value during 2023-24, propelled by effective government policies aimed at achieving 'Aatmanirbharta.' India's defence production reached a record high of US\$ 15.20 billion, reflecting a robust growth of 16.7% from the previous fiscal year's US\$ 13.02 billion. Defence Minister Mr. Rajnath Singh praised this achievement, highlighting the ongoing success of the 'Make in India' initiative in bolstering national defence capabilities year after year. He reiterated the government's commitment to advancing India as a prominent global defence manufacturing hub...read more

2. India generated 125 million jobs between FY14 and FY23, SBI Report

India experienced a significant increase in job creation between fiscal years 2014 and 2023, according to a report released by the State Bank of India (SBI). The report reveals that India generated 125 million jobs during this period, 4.3 times more than the preceding decade period of fiscal years 2004-2014. This impressive employment growth is not limited to the agricultural sector, as the report also notes that the total number of jobs created in manufacturing and services during fiscal years 2014-2023 reached 89 million, compared to 66 million in the previous decade...read more

3. India's domestic aviation market is now third largest globally

India has recently surpassed Brazil and Indonesia to become the third-largest domestic aviation market globally, according to data from the aviation analytics firm OAG. The country's two leading airlines, IndiGo and Air India, have over 1,000 aircraft on order combined, and they account for 9 out of 10 domestic airline seats in India. The country's domestic airline capacity has seen an impressive annual growth rate of 6.9%, the fastest in the world. Additionally, low-cost carriers comprise 78.4% of India's domestic airline capacity, the highest percentage among the top five domestic aviation markets...read more

4. India's ranks sixth globally in deeptech startup ecosystems: Nasscom

The Minister of Finance, Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman, announced at the 'Viksit Bharat Ambassador' event that India witnessed a remarkable surge in digital payments, with approximately 131 billion Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions amounting to US\$ 2.39 trillion in FY24. She highlighted the widespread adoption of digital payment technology even in rural areas, emphasizing that it's not just conglomerates but also ordinary citizens participating in these transactions....read more

5. Indian diaspora breaks record with US\$ 107 billion remittance surge in FY24

In FY24, Indians residing abroad sent an unprecedented US\$ 107 billion in remittances to their families in India, surpassing the US\$ 100 billion threshold for the second consecutive year. This net remittance amount nearly doubles the combined total of US\$ 54 billion from foreign direct investments (FDI) and portfolio investments during the same period. The balance of payments data shows that gross remittances from the Indian diaspora reached US\$ 119 billion in FY24...read more

6. Commerce Ministry targets US\$ 100 billion in electronics, textile exports by FY30

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry recently organised a meeting to discuss export targets for key sectors for 2029-30, with representatives from export promotion councils in attendance. It aimed to set ambitious targets for various industries, including electronics, textiles, pharmaceuticals, organic and inorganic chemicals, and agriculture. In electronics, the goal is to reach US\$ 100 billion in exports by FY30, a significant increase from US\$ 29.1 billion in FY24....read more

7. India catching up with China, Vietnam on phone exports

A India's ascent in mobile phone exports vis-a-vis China and Vietnam is pronounced, with significant gains reported in FY24. While China and Vietnam saw declines of 2.78% and 17.6% in mobile exports, India surged ahead with a remarkable 40.5% increase. Officials attribute this surge to India capturing nearly half of the reduction in mobile exports from these countries, signalling successful efforts to attract supply chain diversification away from China. The smartphone Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme is central to India's success and is designed to bolster domestic manufacturing capabilities. iPhone exports alone constitute 65% of India's US\$ 15.6 billion mobile exports and contribute substantially to the country's broader electronics export sector, surpassing US\$ 29 billion in FY24...read more

Spotlight and Opportunities in India

Cement Industry



- India is the second-largest producer of cement in the world. It accounts for more than 8% of the global installed capacity. India has a lot of potential for development in the infrastructure and construction sector and the cement sector is expected to largely benefit from it.
- On the back of rising rural housing demand, the consumption of cement in India has been growing consistently. Strong expansion of the industrial sector, which has fully recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic shock, is one of the main demand drivers for the cement industry. As a result, there is a strong potential for an increase in the long-term demand for the cement industry. Some of the recent initiatives, such as the development of 98 smart cities, are expected to significantly boost the sector.
- Aided by suitable Government foreign policies, several foreign players such as Lafarge-Holcim,
 Heidelberg Cement, and Vicat have invested in the country in the recent past. A significant
 factor which aids the growth of this sector is the ready availability of raw materials for making
 cement, such as limestone and coal.
- India has a total of 210 large cement plants, of which 77 are in Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Tamil Nadu. Nearly 32% of India's cement production capacity is based in South India, 20% in North India, 13% in Central, 15% in West India, and the remaining 20% is based in East India. India's cement production reached 374.55 million tonnes in FY23, a growth rate of 6.83% year-on-year (yoy).
- The Indian government is firmly focused on infrastructure development to spur economic growth and is striving for full infrastructure coverage to establish smart cities. The government plans to increase the capacity of railways and the facilities for handling and storage to enable the transfer of cement and cut out on transportation costs. These measures are expected to result in increased construction activity in the country, thereby boosting demand for cement.

INDIA TOURISM -Festivals in India in August 2024

SI. No	Events	Description	
1.	Raksha Bandhan Date: 19 th August	Raksha Bandhan is a Hindu festival celebrating the bond between brothers and sisters, observed on the full moon day of the month of Shravana. Sisters tie a protective thread, or "rakhi," around their brothers' wrists, praying for their well-being, while brothers give gifts and promise to protect their sisters. The festival emphasizes familial love, duty, and the enduring bond of sibling relationships.	
2.	Krishna Janmashtami Date: 26 th August	Krishna Janmashtami is a Hindu festival celebrating the birth of Lord Krishna, an avatar of Vishnu, which falls on the eighth day (Ashtami) of the dark fortnight in the month of Bhadrapada. Devotees observe fasting, engage in devotional singing and dancing, and reenact scenes from Krishna's early life. Temples and homes are beautifully decorated, and the festivities often include the traditional "Dahi Handi" breaking event, symbolizing Krishna's playful and mischievous nature.	
3.	Independence Day Date: 15 th August	India's Independence Day celebrations on August 15 th are marked by patriotic fervor and grandeur across the nation, commemorating the country's freedom from British rule in 1947. Festivities include flag hoisting ceremonies, cultural events, parades showcasing India's diversity, and speeches by political leaders. The day is marked by a spirit of unity, pride, and remembrance of the sacrifices made by freedom fighters.	

INCREDIBLE INDIA:

Andaman and Nicobar Islands: India's emerald jewels in the Bay of Bengal, blending pristine beauty with cultural diversity.

SI. Places to visit

No

1. Cellular Jail (Kalapani)

Cellular Jail was a colonial prison used by the British to exile political prisoners during India's struggle for independence. Constructed in the late 19th century, its unique design featured individual cells to isolate inmates, earning it the nickname "Kala Pani" (Black Water). The jail stands today as a memorial to the sacrifices made by freedom fighters and serves as a reminder of India's tumultuous colonial past.



2. Radhanagar Beach

Radhanagar Beach, nestled on Havelock Island, captivates visitors with its pristine white sands and crystal-clear turquoise waters, often ranked among the world's best beaches. Renowned for its stunning sunsets, the beach offers a serene retreat amidst lush tropical vegetation and is a haven for leisure seekers and nature enthusiasts alike. Its tranquil ambiance and breathtaking vistas make it a must-visit destination for those seeking solace in the lap of nature.



3. Chidiya Tapu

Chidiya Tapu, also known as the "Bird Island," is a scenic destination on the southern tip of South Andaman Island. Renowned for its rich biodiversity and spectacular sunset views, it offers a serene retreat for nature lovers and birdwatchers alike. With its lush mangrove forests, pristine beaches, and diverse avian species, Chidiya Tapu provides a tranquil escape into the heart of nature's beauty.



4. Mount Harriet National Park

Mount Harriet National Park is renowned for its lush tropical rainforests, diverse wildlife, and panoramic vistas. Named after Harriet Tytler, the second wife of Robert Christopher Tytler, who served as a British official in the region, it offers a pristine habitat for endemic species such as the Andaman wild pig and the Andaman imperial pigeon. Trekkers and nature enthusiasts flock to its trails to explore the untamed beauty of this protected area.



SI.No Places to Visit

5. Baratang Island

The Baratang Island boasts of stunning natural wonders, including its famous limestone caves formed over centuries by natural processes. The island is also home to the fascinating mud which geological volcanoes. are a rare phenomenon attracting curious visitors. Accessible by a thrilling boat ride through mangrove creeks, Baratang Island offers an adventure-filled exploration into the heart of Andaman's unique landscapes.



6. Prebysterian Church, Ross Island

The Presbyterian Church on Ross Island, constructed during the British colonial era, stands as a silent witness to the island's rich history. Adorned with colonial architecture, it served as a place of worship for the British officers and settlers stationed on the island. Today, the church's weathered facade and remnants reflect the bygone era, offering visitors a glimpse into the island's past.



7. Balidan Vedi

Balidan Vedi commemorates the sacrifices of Indian freedom fighters who faced exile, torture, and execution in the Cellular Jail during British rule. This memorial stands as a testament to their unwavering spirit and dedication to the nation's independence struggle. It serves as a somber reminder of the hardships endured and lives lost in the pursuit of India's freedom



8. Dhani Nallah Mangrove

Dhani Nallah Mangrove Nature Walkway, located on Rangat Island, stretches 713 meters, making it India's longest walkway, enveloped mangrove forests. Situated 20 kilometers from Rangat mainland along the Andaman trunk road, it offers a seasonal opportunity for turtle breeding. Named after a local mangrove variety called Dhanipatti, the walkway meanders through the forest, culminating in a picturesque beach, providing a serene escape into nature's tranquility.



INDIAN COMPANIES IN MALAYSIA:

SHM SHIPCARE SDN BHD



- SHM Shipcare Sdn. Bhd. is the Malaysian subsidiary of Indian SHM Shipcare. The Malaysian subsidiary has been present in 2014 and specializing in maritime safety and engineering solutions. With nearly a decade of expertise, SHM Shipcare upholds the highest industry standards, including ISO 45001:2018, OHSAS, and DOSH.
- The SHM Shipcare was established in 2001 in India with the core vision of making lives safe at sea. SHM
 has tirelessly worked to embrace 3 key strengths- consistency, quality and timely deliveries in the sector of
 marine safety and survival systems. They strive to offer peace of mind at sea, offshore and onshore to their
 clients.
- With over 100 years of heritage, the founders of SHM Shipcare have been nurturing the shipping and marine industry through three generations. SHM network is well established over 18 locations in India, Malaysia (Peninsular & east), Singapore, Colombo and Dubai.
- They offer the following products: Lifesaving Equipment, Fire Fighting Equipment, Fire Suppression Systems, Emergency response equipment, Rescue & Naval Boats, Disaster Management Equipment.
- Their services include: Inspection services, Periodic Maintenance Services, Repair Service, Complete refurbishments. They manufacture Ships safety equipment, inflatable rescue boats, ambulance boats, Disaster Management Boats.
- They are a registered Petronas vendor and operate closely with ministry of Finance (MoF) and CIDB Malaysia.
- They are a reliable resource highly trained & experienced workforce, OEM licenses, major flag administration approvals, Maritime Class Approvals and a well-linked after sales service network within Malaysia, Singapore, India and other South East Asian countries.

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Useful BizLinks

- Economic Diplomacy Division, Ministry of External Affairs
- Department of Commerce
- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)
- Ministry of Tourism
- Indian Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF)
- Invest India
- Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)
- Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)
- Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)
- Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC)
- <u>Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council</u> (CHEMEXCIL)
- Carpet Export Promotion Council
- Cashew Export Promotion Council of India (CEPC)
- Coffee Board of India
- Cotton Textile Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL)
- Council for Leather Exports (India CLE)
- Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC India)
- Engineering Exports Promotion Council of India
- Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH)
- Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC)
- Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC)
- Indian Silk Export Promotion Council (ISEPC)
- Pharmaceutical Export Promotion Council (Pharmexcil)
- Plastics Export Promotion Council (PLEXCONCIL)
- Powerloom Development & Export Promotion Council (PDEXCIL)
- Shellac and Forest Products Export Promotion Council (SEPC)
- Spices Board of India
- Sports Goods Export Promotion Council (SGEPC)
- Synthetic and Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC)
- Tea Board of India
- Tobacco Board
- Wool & Woollens Export Promotion Council (WWEPC)