

High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur

INDIA BECKONS

Economic & Business e-Newsletter

Significant Diplomatic Engagements

India organised 17th PBD Convention from 8-10 January 2023 Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, (PBD) Convention in Indore, Madhya Pradesh on 09 January 2023. PBD Convention is the flagship event of India, which provides an important platform to engage and connect with the overseas Indians. Over 3,500 diaspora members from nearly 70 countries had registered for the PBD Convention. More than 130 members of Indian diaspora from Malaysia participated in the Event.

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PM Shri Narendra Modi released a Commemorative Postal Stamp 'Surakshit Jaayen, Prashikshit Jaayen' to underline the importance of safe, legal, orderly and skilled migration. PM also inaugurated the first-ever digital PBD Exhibition on theme "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav - Contribution of Diaspora in Indian Freedom Struggle" to highlight the contribution of our diaspora freedom fighters in India's Independence.

PBD & India's G-20 Presidency

During his inaugural Address at the 17th PBD Convention, Prime Minister stated that, "G-20 is not just a diplomatic event but it should be turned into a historic event of public participation where one can witness the spirit of 'Atithi Devo Bhava'". In view of India's ongoing Presidency of the G20, a special Town Hall was organized on 09 January 2023.

Malaysian Delegation at 17th PBD Convention

External Affairs Minister of India, Dr. S. Jaishankar met the Delegation led by Minister of Human Resource of Malaysia, YB Sivakumar V. Naidu in Indore, Madhya Pradesh on 08 January

2023. The meeting took place on the sidelines of the 17th PBD Convention. Both leaders discussed on strengthening the community bonds and promoting greater cooperation between India and Malaysia. President, Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Nivas Ragavan & CEO, National Skill Development Corporation of India, Ved Mani Tewari exchanged an MoU on recruitment of skilled & certified workers from India to Malaysia in the presence of the two Ministers. President of PRIMAS, Govindasamy Jayabalan and CEO, National Skill Development Corporation of India also exchanged an MoU on recruitment of skilled & certified workers from India to Malaysia in the presence of the two Ministers. President of PRIMAS, Govindasamy Jayabalan and CEO, National Skill Development Corporation of India also exchanged an MoU on recruitment of skilled & certified workers from India to Malaysia in the presence of the Ministers.



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RENEWABLE ENERGY IN INDIA

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Engagement of High Commission of India Kuala Lumpur

The High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur observed India's 74th Republic Day with a flag hoisting ceremony at India House on 26 January 2023. High Commissioner, Mr. B.N. Reddy read out excerpts from Hon'ble President of India's Address to the Nation and subsequently, addressed the gathering. The event witnessed an enthusiastic participation of about 450 people, comprising all segments of Indian society in Malaysia. The formal part of the celebration was followed by a series of cultural programmes on the occasion.





On the sidelines of the Republic Day celebrations, High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur undertook the promotion of millet-based products to mark International Year of Millets. The initiative evoked enormous interest for millet-based products from India, which are finding a place in Malaysian market. The United Nations has declared the year 2023 as the International Year of Millets. This resolution was initiated by India and was passed at the United Nations with the support of over 70 countries.

Netaji Welfare Foundation in association with High Commission of India Kuala Lumpur and Netaji Service Centre celebrated the 126th Birth Anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on 26 January 2023 at Tan Sri Dato KR Soma Hall in Kuala Lumpur. On this special occasion, High Commissioner lauded the efforts of Netaji Welfare Foundation & Netaji Service Centre in keeping the legacy of Netaji alive in Malaysia. On the special occasion, over 100 students from Malaysian Tamil Schools were awarded with financial assistance by Netaji Welfare Foundation. President of Netaji Service Centre, Lt. N. Sundaram, INA Veteran, Mr. SP Narayanasamy, President of Netaji Welfare Foundation, Ratha Krishnan and former police Chief of Penang, Datuk Thaiveegan also addressed the audience.



High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur organised the live telecast of the inaugural session of the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023 from Indore, Madhya Pradesh at its premises on 9 January 2023. Members of Indian diaspora joined in large numbers to virtually witness the inaugural session of the PPD Convention.

High Commissioner called on Minister for Higher Education, YB Dato' Seri Mohd Khaled on 17 January 2023. Discussions focused on growing engagement between India and Malaysia in the higher education sector, enhancing closer University-industry engagement, setting academic Chairs in each other's' countries, setting up offshore campus of prominent Indian technical institutions in Malaysia, improving avenues for students to study in each other's universities, promoting exchanges between students, undertaking joint research, etc.



High Commissioner joined the signing ceremony at Senate Room, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) between YBhg.Professor Dato' Gs. Ts. Dr. Mohd Ekhwan Hj. Toriman, Vice Chancellor of UKM and Professor Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit, Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) to set up a Chair of Malay Studies on January 17, 2023. This is for the first time the Chair of Malay Studies will be set up in India.





High Commissioner met CEO of Bursa Malaysia, Datuk Muhamad Umar Swift on 18 January 2023. Both sides discussed avenues for India-Malaysia collaboration between Bursa Malaysia and India's First Operational Smart City and IFSC & India's first International Exchange - India International Exchange; dual listing in two countries' stock exchanges; & promoting green finance through exchanges.

A 22 member industry delegation from Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers, (SIDM) visited Malaysia to attend the Seminar, titled, "India-Malaysia Defence Industrial Cooperation" on January 10, 2023, organized by High Commission of India Kuala Lumpur. Subsequently, the defence industry delegation, led by Shri Sanjay Mehrishi, DDG (Export), Defence Production, India met High Commissioner on January 13, 2023. During the meeting, High Commissioner briefed them about the robust India-Malaysia defence relations, & the opportunities for Indian industries in this field.





High Commissioner met Professor Dr. Md Nasir Ibrahim, CEO, National Film Development Corporation Malaysia, (FINAS) Malaysia on January 12, 2023. Both sides had forward looking discussions on further promoting India- Malaysia collaboration in film production, including joint activities, training, etc.

High Commissioner joined the solemn occasion of Jodh Mela at the Gurdwara Sahib Malim Nawar, Perak, to pay homage to the fallen Indian soldiers -Sikhs, Jats and Gurjars at the Battle of Kampar in the then Federation of Malaya during World War II in 1941-42. Malaysian Armed Forces Sikh Veterans Association, (MAFSVA) led by its President Sardar Avtar Singh organised the event on 14 January 2023. A Large Malaysian Sikh community attended the event.



What's New – Business & Investments News in India

1. India making big strides in ease of doing business: DPIIT Secretary

It is now possible to start a business in one day in India, matching the world's best scorer New Zealand on this front, DPIIT Secretary Anurag Jain said. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) Secretary said several other steps are underway on further improving ease of doing business in India, including on the labour laws front. All labour laws have been consolidated into four codes, which have been passed by Parliament and the government is in the process of their final implementation, he said...<u>read more</u>

2. Davos 2023 | Recod FDI shows faith in India, says Invest India's Deepak Bagla

India has set a new record with foreign direct investments of \$523 billion in the last eight years, which amounts to nearly 40 percent of total India-bound funds flow in last 22 years, as per data according to Invest India. This is a testimony to foreign investors' trust in the country's leadership and the way India is moving forward, said Deepak Bagla, chief executive officer and managing director of Invest India....read more

3. Apple is the first company to export phones worth US\$ I billion iin a month from India

Apple has become the first company to export smartphones worth US\$ 1 billion in a month from India. The month of December witnessed India's highest mobile phone exports, worth about US\$ 1.2 billion. Apple currently manufactures iPhones 12, 13, 14 and 14+ in India. The production of these phones is undertaken by three contract manufacturers Foxconn, Wistron and Pegatron. According to data from the commerce ministry, exports of electronics goods in April-December 2022 reached \$16.67 billion, 51.56 per cent higher than \$10.99 billion during the previous year...<u>read more</u>

4. Government launches U-WIN to digitize India's Univesal Immunization Programme

After the success of the Co-WIN platform, the government has now replicated it to set up an electronic registry for routine vaccinations. U-WIN, the programme to digitize India's Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) has been launched in a pilot mode in two districts of each state and Union Territory. It will be used to register and vaccinate every pregnant woman, record her delivery outcome, register newborn delivery, administer birth doses and all vaccination events, etc...<u>read more</u>

5. India has become the world's third-largest aviation market: President Ms. Droupadi Murmu

India has become the third largest aviation market in the world, after the number of airports in the country increased from 74 in 2014 to 147 in 2022, said President of India, Ms. Droupadi Murmu. She added that the Indian Railways is also emerging as a modern institution with many inaccessible areas being added to the rail map of the country...read more

6. India sets a target of 5 MMT annual green hydrogen production by 2030

Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman, the Union Finance Minister, has announced India's target of green hydrogen to reach an annual production of 5 million metric tonnes (MMT) by 2030, while presenting the Budget 2023 in the parliament. She also said that India is moving forward firmly for the 'Panchamrit' and net-zero carbon emissions by 2070 to help in the green industrial and economic transition. She stated that the National Green Hydrogen Mission will facilitate the transition of the economy to low carbon intensity and reduce dependence on fossil fuel imports. Furthermore, she proposed an allocation of US\$ 4.29 billion for priority capital investments towards energy transition and net zero objectives and energy security...<u>read more</u>

7. Jal Jeevan Mission hits 110 million mark, PM Modi lauds 'great feat'

Prime Minister Narendra Modi described as a "great feat" the mark of 110 million tap connections under the ongoing Jal Jeevan Mission, and said it shows the ground covered to ensure piped water supply to people across the country. The mission aims to provide tap water supply to households with special focus on women and children by 2024...read more

Spotlight and Opportunities in India

Renewable Energy



India's installed renewable energy capacity is the fourth largest in the world at 165.94 GW as of October 2022, accounting for 40.6% of the nation's total installed power capacity. India is the only country among the G20 countries who is on track to achieve its targets under the Paris Agreement.

The installed capacity for renewable energy has increased over the last few years, with a CAGR of 15.92% between FY16-22. ICRA expects renewable energy capacity addition of 12.5 GW in FY22 and 16 GW in FY23. In the first half of 2022, India has saved US\$ 4.2 billion in fuel costs through solar power generation, as well as 19.4 million tonnes of coal.

According to the data released by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), FDI inflow in the Indian non-conventional energy sector stood at US\$ 12.57 billion between April 2000-June 2022. Since 2014, the renewable energy sector in India has seen investments totaling more than US\$ 70 billion. The sector is expected to attract investment worth US\$ 80 billion in the next four years.

With regards to government initiatives, in the Union Budget 2022-23, the allocation for the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI), which is currently responsible for the development of the entire renewable energy sector, stood at US\$ 132 million. The government also allocated

US\$ 2.57 billion for a PLI scheme to boost manufacturing of high-efficiency solar modules.

India has launched the Mission Innovation CleanTech Exchange, a global initiative that will create a whole network of incubators across member countries to accelerate clean energy innovation. Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi pledged to boost India's renewable energy generation capacity to 500 GW and satisfy half of India's energy needs through renewable sources by the year 2030 at the Cop-26 Summit in Glasgow.

The Government of India wants to develop a 'green city' in every state of the country, powered by renewable energy. The 'green city' will mainstream environment-friendly power through solar rooftop systems on all its houses, solar parks on the city's outskirts, waste to energy plants and electric mobility-enabled public transport systems.

It is expected that by 2040, around 49% of the total electricity will be generated by renewable energy as more efficient batteries will be used to store electricity, which will further cut the solar energy cost by 66% as compared to the current cost. Use of renewables in place of coal will save India US\$ 8.43 billion annually.

Spotlight and Opportunities in India

Healthcare



- Healthcare has become one of India's largest sectors, both in terms of revenue and employment. Healthcare comprises hospitals, medical devices, clinical trials, outsourcing, telemedicine, medical tourism, health insurance and medical equipment. The Indian healthcare sector is growing at a brisk pace due to its strengthening coverage, services, and increasing expenditure by public as well private players.
- The Indian healthcare sector is expected to record a three-fold rise, growing at a CAGR of 22% between 2016–22 to reach US\$ 372 billion in 2022 from US\$ 110 billion in 2016.
- The Indian medical tourism market was valued at US\$ 2.89 billion in 2020 and is expected to reach US\$ 13.42 billion by 2026. According to India Tourism Statistics at a Glance 2020 report, close to 697,300 foreign tourists came for medical treatment in India in FY19. India has been ranked 10th in the Medical Tourism Index (MTI) for 2020-21 out of 46 destinations by the Medical Tourism Association.
- The e-health market size is estimated to reach US\$ 10.6 billion by 2025.
- Between April 2000 -June 2022, FDI inflow for the drugs and pharmaceuticals sector stood at US\$ 19.90 billion, according to the data released by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).
- As of November 2022, more than 219.88 crore COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered across the country and India has exported 28.13 crore vaccine doses.
- In the Union Budget 2022-23, US\$ 11.28 billion was allocated to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW). In July 2022, the World Bank approved a US\$ 1 billion loan towards India's Pradhan Mantri-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission.

INDIA TOURISM - Upcoming festivals in India till April 2023

SI.	Events	Description	
<u>No</u> 1.	Holi Place Of Celebration: Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Punjab, West Bengal Date: 8 th March 2023	Holi is known as the festival of colours and is celebrated each year with zeal and enthusiasm in the month of March. Holi is about celebrating happiness with friends and family, and to forget their troubles and indulge in this festival to celebrate brotherhood.	
2	International Yoga Festival Place of Celebration: Uttarakhand Date: 8 th March to 14 th March 2023	The world-famous International Yoga Festival will be held on the banks of the holy Ganges river, in the lap of the sacred Himalayas, the birthplace of yoga at Parmarth Niketan Ashram. Receive the darshan and inspiring, uplifting wisdom of revered saints, the teaching and touch of renowned yoga teachers from across the world, from a wide variety of lineages, plus ecstatic kirtan, divine Ganga Aarti and much more. The International Yoga Festival is a truly globally-unique event bringing together so many masters from so many traditions, cultures and countries in one sacred, beautiful place!	
3	Ram Navami Place of celebration: Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh), Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Bihar, Jharkand Date: 30 th March 2023	Marking the birth of Maryada Purushottam Rama, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu, Ram Navami is not only one of the most important Hindu festivals in India but is also the most popular celebration amongst tourists, who travel across the states to witness this dynamic festival. According to the Hindu calendar, the celebration comes on the 9th day of Shukla Paksha of Chaitra month.	

INDIA TOURISM - Upcoming festivals in India till April 2023

4.	Vaisakhi Place of celebration: Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Date: 14 th April 2023	The festival of Vaisakhi is celebrated to mark the onset of spring in India. The time of Baisakhi usually signifies the end of the harvest season and is an occasion of tremendous joy and festivity for farmers. Sikhs celebrate this festival by doing Nagar Kirtans, visits local Gurudwaras which are decorated by flowers and lights, and organize Langars.	<image/>
2	Chittirai Puthandu (Tamil New Year) Place of celebration: Tamil Nadu Date: 14 th April 2023	The first day of the year in the Tamil calendar is celebrated as the Tamil New Year of Puthandu and falls on 14 th April every year. It marks the beginning of a new calendar year. Puthandu signifies a day of fresh starts and new beginnings which instills a hope that the coming year will bring newer opportunities and help one grow. Along with Tamil Nadu, the New Year is observed in Assam, West Bengal, Kerala, Manipur, Tripura, Bihar, Odisha, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan and is celebrated with immense enthusiasm, fervor and joy.	<image/>

INCREDIBLE INDIA – Explore Gujarat

One of the largest states in India, Gujarat is a popular tourist destination for people from all over the world. The enchanting scenic beauty, historical monuments, remnants of ancient civilizations, and picturesque beaches cast a spell that is hard to break. Apart from that, travelers visiting Gujarat also get to enjoy the unique folk dances and absolutely lip-smacking dishes of the state, famed the world all over. There are several great **places to visit in Gujarat**, all of which are steeped in a certain charm and history.

SI. No	Places to visit	
1	Statue of Unity The Statue of Unity is a testimonial to the life of Sardar Patel, a role model of unity and statesmanship. The tallest statue of the world enjoys a splendidly scenic location facing the Sardar Sarovar Dam, 3.2 kilometres away. This colossal statue stands on the isle of Sadhu- Bet in River Narmada, at Ekta Nagar, District Rajpipla with the majestic Vindhyachal and Satpuda Mountain Ranges in the backdrop.	
2	Great Rann of Kutch	
	Kutch, also written as 'Kachchh' finds its roots in a fable that its map, if turned upside down, resembles 'kachchh', the Sanskrit word for tortoise. The villages of Kutch, despite being amid arid lands and harsh climate, have always remained fertile with diverse culture and artistry. The Indo-Pak border lends Kutch a demography that is an eclectic mix of refugees from across the border, tribes from different regions, and religions, which reflects in its homes, food, art, social traditions and landmarks that include Jain temples, mosques, Swaminarayan Temple, museums, to name a few.	
3	Shree Somnath Jyotirlinga Temple	
	The intricately carved honey-coloured Somnath temple on the western edge of the state is believed to be the place where the first of the twelve holy jyotirlingas emerged in India – a spot where Shiva appeared as a fiery column of light. The temples lies at the meeting of Kapila, Hiran and Sarasvati rivers and the waves of the Arabian Sea ebb and flow touching the shore on which it is constructed.	And Andrew Schuler Andrew Sch
4	Gir National Park	
	This forested, hilly, 1412-sq-km sanctuary about halfway between Veraval and Junagadh is the last refuge of the Asiatic lion (Panthera leopersica). Taking a safari through the thick, undisturbed forests is a joy – even without the added excitement of spotting lions, other wildlife and myriad bird species.	

INCREDIBLE INDIA – Explore Gujarat

SI. No	Sacred Sites in India	
5	Saputara Hill Station Nestled deep within the Sahyadri mountains in India, almost bordering the western Indian state of Maharashtra, is Gujarat's only hill station – Saputara. Home to a massive and beautiful lake, green rolling hills dotted by velvety meadows, and several monsoon-fed waterfalls, the hill station of Saputara makes for a pretty sight. Very often, you will be reminded of Switzerland's charming villages with picturesque mountain peaks and glittery turquoise lakes.	Sunset Point Saputara District Dong
6	Gandhi Circuit The State of Gujarat proudly has that one thing which no other state has. Being the birthplace of the Father of Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, and Gujarat has him within it. It has conserved that great personality in conserving ashrams, statues, museums, etc. If one wants to gain knowledge about the life of Mahatma Gandhi, visiting Gujarat would be best thing to do. He was born at this place and even started the various movements here that drove the British out of India giving it independence.	
7	Rann Ki Vav The only real sign of Patan's former glory is this astoundingly beautiful step-well. Located on the banks of the Saraswati River, this is one of the oldest and finest stepwells in Gujarat and is remarkably preserved. Steps lead down through multiple levels with lines of carved pillars and more than 800 sculptures, mostly on Vishnu- avatar themes, as well as striking geometric patterns. The stepwell is made in the form of an inverted temple and showcases superior craftsmanship of the era, and the unique Maru-Gurjara architectural style and houses sculptures similar to the Vimalavasahi temple in Mount Abu and Sun temple at Modhera.	Incredible India
8	Gaekwad Baroda Golf Club Established in the early 1990's, the Gaekwad Baroda Golf Club is the only private golf course in and around Vadodara, overlooking the majestic Laxmi Villa Palace. But more than that, it has earned the reputation of being one of the most prestigious clubs in Gujarat. Experience the majestic view of the elegant royal structure surrounding the neatly trimmed grass carpeted golf course!	

INDIAN COMPANIES IN MALAYSIA:

TCS Malaysia





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Since the ILP (Initial Learning Programme)'s launch in 2020, TCS Malaysia has successfully hired 100 fresh graduates during the pandemic across four intakes and placed them in projects within the company.

High tech skills are in high demand in Malaysia, in line with forecasts by government agencies such as the Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC).

Useful BizLinks

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