



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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Significant Diplomatic Engagements

India Chairs G20 Presidency

**PM Shri Narendra Modi addressed the First G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting:** The First G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting under the G20 Indian Presidency was organised during 24<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> February 2023 in Bengaluru, India. Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi addressed the meeting, via video message on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023. In his Address, PM urged the leading economies and monetary systems of the world to bring back stability, confidence and growth to the global economy.



**PM Shri Narendra Modi addressed G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting:** Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi addressed G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New Delhi on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023. In his recorded video message, PM stated that, "After years of progress, we are at risk today of moving back on the Sustainable Development Goals. Many developing countries are struggling with unsustainable debt while trying to ensure food and energy security for their people. This is why India's G20 Presidency has tried to give a voice to the Global South".



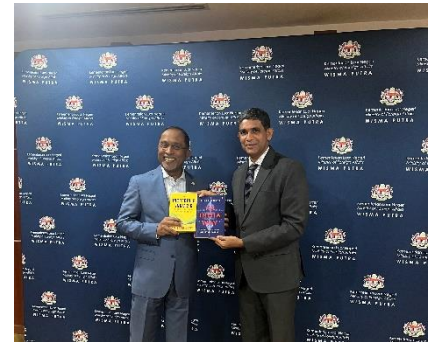
**Visit of Deputy Minister of Tourism, Arts & Culture of Malaysia, Mr. Khairul Firdaus:** Malaysian delegation, headed by Mr. Khairul Firdaus Akbar Khan, Deputy Minister of Tourism, Arts & Culture of Malaysia visited India to participate in the South Asia Travel and Tourism Exchange, (SATTE). SATTE began in Greater Noida on February 9. The Delegation consisted of 24 tour agents, 11 hotel/resort operators, 4 tourism product owners, three airline operators, 4 state tourism boards, one medical tourism member, one visa solution consultant along with several officials from Tourism Malaysia. The three-day event was a continuous effort to keep Malaysia as preferred tourism destination in the minds of Indian travellers. At SATTE this year, Tourism Malaysia aimed to focus on the niche products such as shopping, golfing, luxury tourism, soft tourism, theme parks and honeymoon packages. Emerging segments such as weddings and film-induced tourism have been promoted to Indians as a destination of choice.

**Visit of Deputy Minister of Economy of Malaysia, H.E. YB Dato' Hajjah Hanifah to India:** Deputy Minister of Economy of Malaysia, H.E. YB Dato' Hajjah Hanifah arrived on 5<sup>th</sup> February at Bengaluru, India to participate in India Energy Week and 9<sup>th</sup> Asian Ministerial Roundtable (AMER9). On the sidelines, the Deputy Minister met the officials of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Government of India and the State Government of Karnataka. The MoU between Energy Efficiency Services Limited, India & IMT-GT Joint Business Council, Malaysia, was concluded on the margins of India's Global Oil, Gas & Energy week in Bengaluru, India. The MoU was signed in the areas of energy efficiency, electric mobility & other clean energy solutions. This will help to further expand India-Malaysia clean energy partnership.



## Engagements of High Commission of India Kuala Lumpur

**High Commissioner of India to Malaysia, Mr. B.N. Reddy paid a courtesy call on H.E. Dato' Seri Diraja Dr. Zambry Abdul Kadir, Malaysia's Foreign Minister in Kuala Lumpur on February 1.** High Commissioner discussed about further strengthening & expanding India-Malaysia close & multifaceted bilateral relationship to new areas of cooperation.



**High Commissioner Mr. B.N. Reddy paid a courtesy call on YB Dato' Seri Utama Haji Mohamad bin Haji Hasan, Minister of Defence in Kuala Lumpur on February 14.** High Commissioner discussed about the ongoing close collaboration between the three Services of Armed Forces of the two countries, including joint bilateral exercises held last year. Malaysian Defence Minister expressed confidence in the ongoing defence ties between India and Malaysia; discussed on further expanding the defence collaborations, including in the defence production industry. High Commissioner presented a book showcasing the array of defence platforms and equipment being manufactured in India under Aatmanirbhar Defence.

**High Commissioner Mr. B.N. Reddy paid a courtesy call on H.E. Tan Sri Dato' Seri Utama Dr. Rais Yatim, President, Dewan Negara on February 22.** High Commissioner discussed about India- Malaysia Parliamentary cooperation and welcomed the advice of President, Dewan Negara on ways to enhance Parliamentary cooperation, including more exchanges of Parliamentarians and ways to improve understanding on Parliamentary matters.



**High Commissioner met H.E. YB Nik Nazmi bin Nik Ahmad, Minister of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change on February 28.** High Commissioner discussed avenues for collaboration in field of wildlife conservation, renewable energy in line with India-Malaysia Enhanced Strategic Partnership. High Commissioner also briefed about opportunities for cooperation, including investments between India and Malaysia in solar energy and green hydrogen.



**High Commissioner paid a courtesy call on YB Dato Sri Tiong King Sing, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture of Malaysia in Putrajaya on February 9.** Both sides discussed on working closely to further expand India-Malaysia cultural collaboration; enhance two-way tourism; and promote cultural exchanges etc.



**Tourism Malaysia in collaboration with the Malaysian Association of Tour and Travel Agents (Matta) kicked off the first roadshow in India across five cities from January 30 to February 7 this year.** Director General of Tourism Malaysia, Datuk Zainuddin Abdul Wahab said the roadshow aimed to provide a platform for industry players to steer the tourism sector, while ensuring that Malaysia continues to stand out on top of the mind of Indians.



**High Commission, in partnership with Temple of Fine Arts and OMS Foundation, organised a special event- "India-Malaysia@65: Musical Extravaganza" by Swara Community Arts Centre led by Sitar Maestro, Mr. Samuel Dass on 10 February.** The Event showcased the deep linkages between India and Malaysia, in the areas of music & culture. H.E. YB Mohd Yusri, DSG (Culture), Ministry of Tourism represented the Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture of Malaysia, YB Dato Sri Tiong King Sing as the Chief Guest for the

event. Minister of Human Resources of Malaysia, H.E. YB Sivakumar V. Naidu also graced the occasion. The Event witnessed the participation of Senators, Members of Parliament, Ambassadors/High Commissioners, etc. On the sidelines of the Event, High Commission had set up special Millet counters, displaying millet products sourced from Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, (APEDA), India.

**High Commissioner inaugurated the Buyer Seller Meet on Chemical Products being held by Basic Chemicals, Cosmetics & Dyes Export Promotion Council (CHEMEXCIL) and High Commission of India at Shangri-la Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.** About 100 Malaysian buyers and 30 Indian Chemical companies participated in this Meet on 20 February. Mr. Mokashi, Chairman of CHEMEXCIL highlighted India's emerging competencies in exporting several value-added chemical products. Datuk Tamil Selvam, President of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry of Malaysia & Datuk Kohilan Pillay, former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia and Datuk Umang Sharma, Founder Chairman of Consortium of Indian Industries in Malaysia (CIIM) encouraged closer exchanges between industries of India and Malaysia.

**Four member Cycling Team from India's National Institute of Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (NIMAS), undertaking six nation cycling expedition entered Malaysia on 24 February 2023.** This is to commemorate the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative of Government of India in Southeast Asian countries, including Malaysia; ASEAN-India Year of Friendship and India's G20 Presidency. NIMAS team will cover 5300 kms over 50 days among 6 ASEAN Countries. NIMAS Team paid homage at the Kampar and other battle sites where Indian Army fought in World War II. The team called on Indian National Army (INA) Veterans Lt. N Sundaram and Mr. S.P Narayanasamy in Kuala Lumpur during their expedition.





**The 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-India Youth Summit, in celebration of 30 years of ASEAN-India relations was organised in Hyderabad, India from 12-16 February 2023,** to provide a platform for young leaders from ASEAN and India to develop a sense of ownership of the ASEAN-India relationship. Minister of Tourism, Culture and Development of India, Shri G. Kishan Reddy and Secretary General, ASEAN Dr. Kao Kim Hourn addressed the inaugural session on 12 February 2023. During the course of the Summit, 175 youth delegates, 100 from ASEAN (10 from each of the ASEAN country) and 75 from India

deliberated on the core themes of ASEAN-India Connectivity, Digital Partnership, Developmental Cooperation & Good Governance. Representatives from Malaysia participated in the Summit.

**Malaysia Chapter of ICAI in partnership with High Commission of India Kuala Lumpur organised a Webinar on India's Budget 2023-24 on February 18.** The webinar was moderated by Mr. Sandeep Agarwal, Chairman of Malaysia Chapter of ICAI. High Commissioner, in his opening remarks highlighted many investment opportunities in India presented by Budget for various Malaysian stakeholders. Mr. Apurva Sanghi, Lead Economist for Malaysia at World Bank spoke about global economic outlook, prospects of growth for India and Malaysia, challenges facing global economies, importance of ESG, digitalisation and opportunities for India-Malaysia collaboration. Mr. Jimit Devani, Tax Partner at Deloitte India unpacked various specific aspects of India's Budget relevant for Malaysian businesses operating in India, Corporate taxes and other direct taxes.

**As part of Ambassadors Lecture Series, High Commissioner delivered his talk at the Asia Europe Institute, Universiti Malaya on February 20.** High Commissioner's talk, with theme- "Celebrating 65 Years of India-Malaysia Bilateral Relations", was attended by the wider academic and strategic community. Tan Sri Mohamed Jawhar Hassan, Adjunct Professor of Asia-Europe Institute, Universiti Malaya and former Chairman ISIS Malaysia delivered the welcome remarks. The session was moderated by Dr. Rahul Mishra, Director, Centre for ASEAN Regionalism, Universiti Malaya (CARUM).

**G20 delegates witnessed the magnificent performance of JAYA RAM, (Odissi), At the 49<sup>th</sup> edition of Khajuraho Dance Festival on 22 February.** Jaya Ram portrays the story of Ramayana, by Artists of Sutra Dance Academy, Malaysia, choreographed by Padma Shri Datuk Ramli Ibrahim. The JAYA RAM (Odissi), a masterpiece by Sutra Academy in collaboration with Guru Gajendra Panda (Tridhara, Odisha), is a portrayal of India Malaysia rich cultural links, especially in the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.



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Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC)

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**Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC) and High Commission of India organised an event with Indian Community members on February 12 to telecast the inauguration of the celebrations on the occasion of 200<sup>th</sup> Birth anniversary of Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati by Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi.**



## What's New – Business & Investments News in India

### 1. **EESL, IMT-GT JBC ink MOU to promote energy efficient, sustainable practices**

Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle Joint Business Council (IMT-GT JBC) to further promote the adoption of energy efficiency and sustainable practices in the region. The MoU with IMT-GT JBC was signed at the India Energy Week (IEW) in Bengaluru on 07 February 2023. As part of the partnership, EESL will provide technical advisory, project management support, contracting, and implementation support to execute select energy efficiency...[read more](#)

### 2. **India ranks first, contributes 24% of global milk production**

Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Mr. Parshottam Rupala said that according to Food and Agriculture Organization Corporate Statistical Database (FAOSTAT) in 2021-22, India was the largest milk producer in the world, contributing 24% in the global milk production. Additionally, India has registered an increase of 221.1 million tonnes i.e., a 51% rise, from 2014-15 to 2021-22, with a further increase of 22 crore tonnes in 2021-22. In 2021–2022, the value of milk production was over US\$ 112.73 billion, surpassing both the value of paddy and wheat taken together and agricultural output...[read more](#)

### 3. **Goods and services exports may reach \$1 trillion each by 2032: Piyush Goyal**

The Commerce and Industry Minister Mr. Piyush Goyal remarked that the IT-driven services sector has created potential not only in terms of jobs but also by offering India a chance to present its strengths to the rest of the world as every nation wants to invest in India because of its transparent start-up ecosystem. He also said that by 2030, the merchandise exports will grow between 8 - 9.5% and the service exports will grow between 16-17%, projecting the value of goods at US\$ 1 trillion and the value of service exports at US\$ 1 trillion in the next 7 years...[read more](#)

### 4. **India adds 1,300 new startups, 23 unicorns in 2022**

In 2022, about 1,300 start-ups with a technology focus were added, bringing the overall number of active tech start-ups to 25,000-27,000. In addition, India added around 23 unicorns in 2022, which was the second-highest number in the world. After China and the United States, India continues to have the third-largest tech start-up ecosystem worldwide. A total of US\$ 73 billion in equity investments have been raised by tech start-ups in India, of which US\$ 18.2 billion came in 2022...[read more](#)

### 5. **Indian semiconductor market to reach USD 55 billion by 2026: Deloitte**

India is poised to emerge as a major player in 5G, semiconductor and chip technology, live sports with private deployment networks likely to take off in a big way during 2025-2028, according to consultancy Deloitte. Deloitte has predicted the Indian semiconductor market will reach USD 55 billion by 2026 with more than 60 percent of the market being driven by three industries – smartphones and wearables, automotive components, computing and data storage...[read more](#)

### 6. **PM Modi, Singapore counterpart launch real-time payment systems linkage**

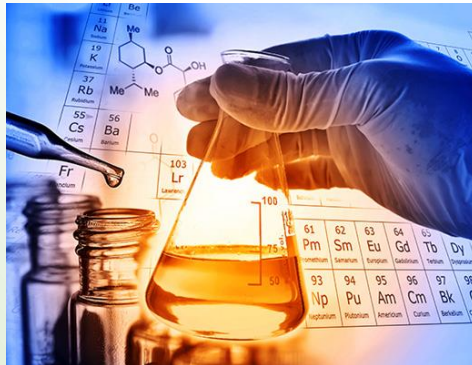
Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Singapore, Lee Hsien Loong witnessed the launch of cross-border connectivity between the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) of India and PayNow of Singapore via video conferencing. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das and Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) Managing Director Ravi Menon launched the cross-border connectivity...[read more](#)

### 7. **RBI launches mission to make every citizen a user of digital payment**

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das launched a mission -- "Har Payment Digital" – with the aim of making every citizen in the country a user of digital payments as part of Digital Payments Awareness Week (DPAW) 2023. The theme of the awareness week is "Adopt digital payments and Teach others also". The central bank will launch "Har Payment Digital" (HPD) mission that would run till the period of Vision 2025, with an intention to convert the non-users into users of digital payments. Vision 2025 has its theme as "E-Payments for Everyone, Everywhere and Everytime"...[read more](#)

# Spotlight and Opportunities in India

## Science and Technology



- India is among the top countries globally in the field of scientific research, positioned as one of the top five nations in the field for space exploration. The country has regularly undertaken space missions, including missions to the moon and the famed Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV). India is likely to take a leading role in launching satellites for the SAARC nations, generating revenue by offering its space facilities for use to other countries.
- Modern India has had a strong focus on science and technology, realising that it is a key element for economic growth. India ranks third among the most attractive investment destinations for technology transactions in the world. With more and more multinational companies setting up their R&D centres in India, the sector has seen an uptrend in investment in recent years.
- By 2022, R&D expenditure was estimated to have reached about 2% of the country's GDP. The engineering R&D and product development market in India is forecast to post a CAGR of 12% to reach US\$ 63 billion by 2025, from US\$ 31 billion in 2019. As per the Economic Survey 2022, India's gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD) as a percentage of GDP stood at 0.66%.
- India plans to move forward with developing its science and technology sector by collaborating with other countries. India has active bilateral science and technology (S&T) programs of cooperation with more than 45 countries, including dedicated programs for Africa, ASEAN, BRICS, EU and neighboring countries.
- India is aggressively working towards establishing itself as a leader in industrialisation and technological development. Significant developments in the nuclear energy sector are likely as India looks to expand its nuclear capacity. Moreover, nanotechnology is expected to transform India's pharmaceutical industry. The agriculture sector is also likely to undergo a major revamp with the government investing heavily for a technology-driven green revolution. The Government of India, through the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy, among other things, aspires to position India among the world's top five scientific powers.

# Spotlight and Opportunities in India

## E-Commerce





- India's e-commerce sector has transformed the way business is done in India and has opened up various segments of commerce ranging from business-to-business (B2B), direct-to-consumer (D2C), consumer-to-consumer (C2C) and consumer-to-business (C2B).
- Major segments such as D2C and B2B have experienced immense growth in recent years. India's D2C market is expected to reach US\$ 60 billion by FY27. The overall e-commerce market is also expected to reach US\$ 350 billion by 2030, and will experience 21.5% growth in 2022 and reach US\$ 74.8 billion.
- The Indian online grocery market is estimated to reach US\$ 26.93 billion in 2027 from US\$ 3.95 billion in FY21, expanding at a CAGR of 33%. India's consumer digital economy is expected to become a US\$ 1 trillion market by 2030, growing from US\$ 537.5 billion in 2020, driven by the strong adoption of online services such as e-commerce and edtech in the country.
- Propelled by rising smartphone penetration, the launch of 4G network and increasing consumer wealth, the Indian E-commerce market is expected to grow to US\$ 200 billion by 2026 from US\$ 38.5 billion in 2017. After China and the US, India had the third-largest online shopper base of 150 million in FY21 and is expected to be 350 million by FY26.
- Since 2014, the Government of India has announced various initiatives, namely Digital India, Make in India, Start-up India, Skill India and Innovation Fund. The timely and effective implementation of such programs will likely support growth of E-commerce in the country.
- The Indian e-commerce sector is likely to expand in different markets. India's e-retail market is expected to continue its strong growth - it registered a CAGR of over 35% to reach US\$ 25.75 billion in FY20. Over the next five years, the Indian e-retail industry is projected to exceed 300-350 million shoppers, propelling the online Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) to US\$ 100-120 billion by 2025.

## INDIA TOURISM - Upcoming festivals in India till May 2023

Sl. No	Events	Description	
1.	<p><b>Moatsu Festival</b></p> <p>Place Of Celebration: Nagaland</p> <p>Date: 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023</p>	<p>Moatsu festival is one of the most eagerly awaited events in the small but immensely beautiful state of Nagaland. Making the entire state lively with its vibrant festivities, Moatsu festival is celebrated by Ao tribe of the state. The main idea of observing this festival is to invoke God's blessings. This festival is a time to relax completely as this is observed after completing all the heavy and laborious tasks of sowing grains, constructing and repairing houses, cleaning of village ponds (Tsubu) and more tasks.</p>	
2	<p><b>Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti</b></p> <p>Place of Celebration: West Bengal &amp; Tripura</p> <p>Date: 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023</p>	<p>Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti is a cultural celebration which is celebrated all over India and globally. Rabindranath Tagore was a great poet, writer, novelist, philosopher and painter. He penned down "Jana Gana Mana", the national anthem of India and also founded the renowned Visva-Bharati University in Santiniketan, West Bengal. According to the Bengali calendar, Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti is celebrated on 25<sup>th</sup> day of Boisakh and as per the English calendar, it is being celebrated on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023.</p>	
3	<p><b>Thrissur Pooram</b></p> <p>Place of celebration: Kerala</p> <p>Date: 10<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023</p>	<p>Known as the festival of festivals, Thrissur Pooram has a tradition of more than 200 years. This spectacular event was started by Sakthan Thampuran, the erstwhile ruler of Kochi. Held on the Moolam asterism in the Malayalam month of Medam (April-May), festival related events take place at the Vadakkumnathan temple situated in the heart of Thrissur town and the adjoining Thekkinkadu ground. A huge procession is organized at temple premises accompanied by the music of Chenda Melam and Pancha Vadyam. This Pooram festival is a good collection of over 50 elephants decorated with various golden ornaments.</p>	





## INDIA TOURISM - Upcoming festivals in India till May 2023




<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Buddha Purnima</b></p> <p>Place Of Celebration: All over India</p> <p>Date: 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023</p>	<p>Buddha Purnima is celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of Siddhartha Gautama or Gautama Buddha. On this auspicious day, Buddhists and Buddhism followers from all over the world offer their respect to Buddha by performing puja and visiting holy shrines. Every year, the date of Buddha Purnima depends on the Asian lunisolar calendar which usually falls on the full moon day in the Hindu month of Vaisakha.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Ganga Dussehra</b></p> <p>Place Of Celebration: Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal</p> <p>Date: 30<sup>th</sup> May 2023</p>	<p>Ganga Dussehra falls during Dashami Tithi of Jyeshtha Shukla Paksha and is also known as Gangavataran which means the descent of the Ganga. Ganga Dussehra is dedicated to Goddess Ganga and this day is commemorated as the day when Ganga was descended to the Earth to accomplish her mission to purge the cursed souls of Bhagiratha's ancestors. Before coming to the Earth, the Goddess Ganga was residing in Kamandal of Lord Brahma and along with her the Goddess Ganga brought the purity of heaven to the Earth.</p>	

## INCREDIBLE INDIA – Experience Karnataka





*Replete with culture, history, art and cuisines, the broad canvas of Karnataka stretches from ancient temples to the modern thriving Silicon Valley to the mouth-watering neer-dosas. This amalgamation truly makes Karnataka a state like none other! No wonder, the sixth largest state in India is a paradise for avid travelers, adventure enthusiasts and art connoisseurs!*

Sl. No	Places to visit	
1.	<p><b>Hampi</b></p> <p>Set in an awesome boulder-strewn landscape along the banks of the Tungabhadra River, Hampi was the capital city of the magnificent capital of the mighty Vijayanagara Empire. Founded by Harihara and Bukka in 1336, it fell to the Muslim rulers of the Deccan in 1565, and the city was pillaged over a period of six months before being abandoned. However, the ruins of these historical monuments have withstood the ravages of man and time, and still evoke memories of the grandeur of a bygone era.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Mysore Palace</b></p> <p>Mysore Palace also known as Amba Vilas Palace located at the heart of Mysore city, is the most prominent tourist destination of Mysore that attracts millions of visitors round the year. This historical palace housed within the Old Fort facing the Chamunda Hills stands as the official residence of the Wadiyar dynasty who ruled the Kingdom of Mysore from 1399 to 1950. Displaying Indo-Saracenic style of architecture, this sprawling building is a replacement of the old wooden building destroyed by fire in late 19th century. Commissioned by the Krishnarajendra Wadiyar IV, this palatial building comprises of two durbar halls, a number of colossal courtyards, buildings and strikingly beautiful gardens that speak volumes of the splendour of the Wadiyars.</p>	
3	<p><b>Bandipur National Park</b></p> <p>Bandipur National Park is regarded as one of the most beautiful and better-managed national parks of India. Located amidst the picturesque surroundings of the towering Western Ghats on the Mysore-Ooty highway in Karnataka, it is an important part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve that constitutes Karnataka's Rajiv Gandhi National Park (Nagarahole) to its Northwest, Tamil Nadu's Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary to its South, and Kerala's Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary to its Southwest. A haven for wildlife and nature lovers, Bandipur is one of the identified habitats for tiger conservation in India. Apart from tiger, you can spot the Asiatic wild elephant, leopards, sloth bears, jackals, four-horned antelopes, and about 200 bird species.</p>	

## INCREDIBLE INDIA – Experience Karnataka

Sl. No	Sacred Sites in India	
4.	<p><b>Government Museum, Bengaluru</b></p> <p>Located at the Kasturba Gandhi Road, the Government Museum was established early in 1865. Encompassing a wide arena consisting of 18 galleries, with each of them housing their own special domain of interest, this museum is an apt place for history buffs and the curious to satisfy their innate quest for knowledge. Reputed to be one of the oldest museums in the country, this structure houses a multitude of artifacts like art, pottery, coins from different eras in history like that of the early Mohenjodaro, Vijyanagar and the Chandravalli period. A prominent attraction in this museum is the first ever recorded Kannada inscription – the Halmidi inscription (450 AD) and Atakur inscription (949 AD) slabs.</p>	
5.	<p><b>The Namdroling Monastery</b></p> <p>The Namdroling Monastery, popularly referred to as 'The Golden Temple' is one of the largest Tibetan settlements in India. Located in Bylakuppe, about 5 kms from Kushalanagara in Kodagu district, The Golden Temple complex is home to about 16000 refugees and 600 monks. Namdroling Monastery's main entrance is an attractive four story tower with a wheel portraying symbols of Buddhism. The main attractions inside the temple are the statues of Lord Buddha in the centre with statues of Lord Amitayus and Lord Padmasambhava on either sides. Visitors can pray, meditate, give their offerings and rotate the mani prayer drums. Rotating these prayer drums is believed to give the same benefit as chanting "Om Mani Padme Hum", the Buddhist prayer.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Sri Murudeshwara Shiva temple</b></p> <p>Murudeshwara is a temple town in Bhatkala Taluk, North Canara district in Coastal Karnataka. Located on the main Mangalore- Karwar Highway, the temple is sandwiched between the picturesque Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea. It's main attraction is a Shiva temple with Chalukya and Kadamba sculptures built in the Dravidian style of architecture with an awesome Shiva statue and its pristine beach. The temple is located on a hillock which offers a magnificent view of the sea and is famous for its tall Shiva statue which is around 37m high and is the tallest Shiva statue in India. The temple gopura at 237 feet is the 2nd tallest in India. From across the beach, one can see the mammoth statue sparkling against the backdrop of a blue sky. There is also a huge statue of the Gitopadesha depicted in the lush garden here complete with a chariot</p>	

## INCREDIBLE INDIA – Experience Karnataka

Sl. No	Places to visit	
7.	<p><b>Jog Falls</b></p> <p>Jog Falls is located in the Shimoga district of Karnataka. Also known by alternative names of Gerusoppe Falls, Gersoppa Falls, and Jogada Gundi, it is one of the highest waterfalls in India. During monsoons, one can see a breathtaking view of the falls with rainbows coming every now and then. It is one of nature's splendid masterpieces and is situated in the dense evergreen forests. The effect of these striking falls is enhanced by the wild and beautiful region around it which is covered with plenty of abundant vegetation. This waterfall drops directly down without streaming on the rocks.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Cave Temples of Badami</b></p> <p>The tiny town of Badami in Bagalkot district is home to the rock-cut Badami Caves, a complex of Hindu and Jain cave temples. The cave temples in Badami are remnants of the Chalukya dynasty that ruled the town from 540 AD and 757 AD. The popular cave temples surrounding Lake Agastya are an example of Badami Chalukya architecture and Indian rock-cut architecture which are decorated with beautiful reliefs, including images of Hindu deities and scenes from epics such as the Mahabharata, and daily life in ancient India.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Gokarna Main Beach</b></p> <p>The Main Beach or the Gokarna Beach is famous amongst the pilgrims because of its closeness to the famous Mahabaleshwar Temple. It is believed that only after a dip in the beach one can enter the holy temple worshiping Lord Shiva. This beach is comparatively a crowded beach but an early morning walk along the same leaves you spell-bound. Once done with temple sojourn, you can enjoy several water sports including surfing, jet skiing, and snorkeling.</p>	
10.	<p><b>Nandi Hills</b></p> <p>Nandi Hills, also called Nandi Durga, is arguably the most popular weekend destination for the city crowd of Bengaluru. The bracing air and serene environs of Nandi Hills, perched at an altitude of 4850 feet above sea level, provides an idyllic summer retreat. The weather at the hills is pleasant throughout the year and here, you can take leisurely strolls. Adventure sports lovers can try their hand at parasailing. An ideal trekking destination, the prominent places which can be visited from Nandi hills are to the north-west-Channakeshava Betta (4762 ft), south-west Brahmagiri (4657 ft), north, Skandagiri (4749 ft) south the steep precipice and the well at the bottom called "Shravana Tirtha."</p>	

## INDIAN COMPANIES IN MALAYSIA:

### GIC Re Malaysia



India's GIC Re started operations of its Labuan branch in October 2010. Licensed under Labuan financial service authority (LFSA), their business lines are Non-Marine Property and Engineering, Miscellaneous Class, Motor, Liability, Marine and underwriting of Retakaful business through Retakaful window under the guidance of TISIS - Sharia Advisory Institution. They have underwritten a premium of about USD 160M (including both Takaful and conventional business) from the 10 ASEAN countries under their branch jurisdiction, major contributors being Malaysia and Philippines.

General Insurance Corporation (GIC) of India was incorporated in 1972 for the purpose of superintending, controlling and carrying on the business of general insurance. In November 2000, GIC was renotified as the Indian Reinsurer.

To offer its international clientele an easy accessibility, efficient service and tailor-made reinsurance solutions; GIC has opened liaison/ representative/ branch / subsidiary offices in UK, Russia, UAE, Malaysia, South Africa and Brazil.

GIC Re Malaysia has a market penetration of about 30% in Malaysia and the Philippines.

## Useful BizLinks

- [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 \(AEPC\)](#)
- [Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council \(CHEMEXCIL\)](#)
- [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 \(WWEPC\)](#)