High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur

INDIA BECKONS

Economic & Business e-Newsletter

Significant Diplomatic Engagements

<u>Visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to Kuwait, 21-22 December</u> 2024:

Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi visited Kuwait on 21-22 December 2024, at the invitation of His Highness Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Amir of the State of Kuwait. This was the first visit of an Indian Prime Minister to Kuwait in 43 years. During the visit, the Prime Minister held discussions with the leadership of Kuwait. PM Shri Modi also interacted with the Indian community in Kuwait. India and Kuwait share traditionally close and friendly relations which are rooted in history and have been underpinned by economic and strong people to people linkages. India is among the top trading partners of Kuwait. The Indian community is the largest expatriate community in the country. The visit provided an opportunity to further strengthen the multifaceted ties between India and Kuwait.





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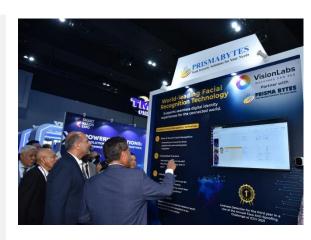
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Engagements of High Commission of India Kuala Lumpur

YB Gobind Singh Deo, Hon'ble Minister of Digital of Malaysia, along with High Commissioner visited the booth of Prisma bytes, an Indian security and surveillance solutions provider based in Malaysia, which was promoting its products at Smart Nation Expo 2024, covering various AI, IoT, Industry 4.0, Deep learning & Neural technology and smart security technologies-based solutions. High Commissioner also attended the opening ceremony of Smart Nation Expo 2024, a technology and innovation event bringing together innovators, policy makers, and industry leaders that took place in Kuala Lumpur.





Secretary (AYUSH), Vaidya Shri Rajesh Kotecha called on Minister of Health of Malaysia YB Datuk Seri Dr. Haji Dzulkefly bin Ahmad on 27 November. Discussions centered around modalities for the effective implementation of the MoU on cooperation in the field of Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine, which was signed in August 2024 during the visit of Hon'ble PM of Malaysia, Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim to India. Discussions also focused on ways to evolve joint initiatives such as integrating wellness centers with traditional medicine, mutual recognition of pharmacopoeia, collaboration in the area of digital library of traditional knowledge. High Commissioner, Mr. B.N. Reddy and Datuk Dr. Muhammad Radzi bin Abu Hassan, Director-General of Health, Malaysia were also present during the meeting.

Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman at Kampar, in collaboration with High Commission of India, held the first UTAR T&CM Conference on 9 November with the theme, 'Holistic Approach to Diabetes Mellitus' in conjunction with Ayurveda Day 2024. Eminent speakers in Ayurveda, including Dato' Dr. A Chandran, Vaidya C D Siby, Vaidya Sajith Varma, participated in the Conference. Rajesh H Maniyil, First Secretary, High Commission of India Kuala Lumpur attended the event. Dr Binod Bihari Dora, India's Ayurveda Chair at Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, set up by Ministry of Ayush, joined the event. The Ayurveda Chair was operationalised by Hon'ble MoS, (Minister of State) for External Affairs, Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh during his visit to Malaysia in September 2024.





High Commission of India participated in the opening of a new Ayurveda centre - Smrithi Ayur Care on 2 November in Petaling Jaya. High Commissioner Mr. B.N. Reddy inaugurated the new Ayurvedic healthcare facility. Founded by Dr. Vanitha Muralikumar, an esteemed Ayurvedic physician and head of Dhanwanthralaya Ayurveda Speciality Hospital (with centers in Chennai and New Delhi), Smrithi Ayurcare proposes to offer specialised treatments, including Panchakarma therapies and live-in facilities with expert doctors from India. The function was graced by Dr. Sai Prakash Leo Muthu, Chairman of Sairam Institutions in India. The event was also attended by other eminent personalities, including Ayurveda practitioners from Malaysia and India.

High Commissioner, Mr. B.N.Reddy joined the launch of Chase Advisors Malaysia- the first overseas office of Chase India- a leading public policy and advocacy advisory firm and a subsidiary company of WE Worldwide, which was held on 7 November 2024. Chase guides private sector and not-for-profit organisations through the ever-changing policy and regulation landscape.





First Air Asia International direct flight to Sri Vijaya Puram (Port Blair), India, landed at Veer Savarkar International Airport on November 16, 2024. Managing Director of Air Asia Malaysia, Datuk Fareh Mazputra officiated the send-off ceremony for the Air Asia Flight AK 55 KUL- IXZ. Deputy High Commissioner Ms. Subhashini Narayanan represented the Mission at the send-off ceremony. Boosting regional connectivity and tourism, this air connectivity -first of its kind, to the beautiful & breathtaking Andaman & Nicobar Islands will further promote tourism and enhance the people to people exchanges between India and Malaysia.

Ten member PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) business delegation, led by Mr. Sanjay Beswal, Co-Chair, Foreign Trade and Investment Committee, held series of meetings in Kuala Lumpur. The delegation met with heads of Malaysian Associated Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (MAICCI). Malaysian International Chamber Of Commerce & Industry (MICCI), Malay Businessmen & Industrialist Association, Msia (PERDASAMA), Kuala Lumpur & Selangor Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KLSICCI), The Malaysia Drone Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MDCoCI) and Malaysian Research Accelerator for Technology & Innovation (MRANTI). PHDCCI delegation met High Commissioner and discussed their future engagements in Malaysia in 2025, including participation in business events as well as mounting product-specific delegations. PHDCCI delegation explored opportunities for collaboration across sectors like Digital Tech, Green Energy, Cyber Security, and IT/ITES.







The High Commission hosted a networking session for the 21-member IT delegation from India (comprising of NASSCOM, Services Export Promotion Council and Nidhi 4 Tech) on 19 November, which joined the PIKOM Lead 2024 the next day. The Malaysian counterparts from The National Tech Association of Malaysia, (PIKOM), Mr. Ong Chin Seong; Chairman & CEO, alongside President MIBC, Tan Sri Ir. Kunasingam Sittampalam, Founder Chairman of CIIM, Datuk Umang Sharma & Chairman of ICAI Malaysia, Mr.Yeshwant and several prominent Malaysian and Indian IT companies joined the networking session. India joined as the Partner Country at the PIKOM Lead 2024 - a flagship event of PIKOM.

Welcoming IT and Tech delegation, High Commissioner highlighted the ongoing cooperation in digital technology space between India and Malaysia. The visit marked India-Malaysia IT & Tech B2B engagement, particularly following the signing of MoU by NASSCOM with Malaysia's MDEC and PIKOM during the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of Malaysia to India in August'24. High Commissioner encouraged all to work towards achieving the goals under bilateral digital economy collaboration, set by both Hon'ble PMs of India and Malaysia in August 2024.

High Commissioner received Exco members of the Federation of Malaysian Indian Muslim Organizations (PERMIM) led by Shaik Faridhudheen Anverdeen, President, PERMIM, on 14 November. They discussed issues related to educational opportunities in India for Indian diaspora students, and entrepreneurial and start up opportunities with India. High Commissioner also briefed about Bharat Ko Janiye Quiz and PBD 2025, Scholarship Program for Diaspora Children(SPDC), and enhanced collaboration between PERMIM and Mission as well as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre, Kuala Lumpur.





High Commission of India's officials joined the Gurpurab celebrations commemorating the 555th Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev ji on 15 November 2024, at various Gurdwaras across Malaysia. The celebrations honoured the enduring teachings of love, compassion, and humility of Guru Nanak Dev ji. Akhand Path and Langar were organized as part of the celebrations. Books on Sikhism were presented by Mission to Tatt Khalsa Diwan Selangor, Gurdwara Sentul and Gurdwara Petaling Jaya.

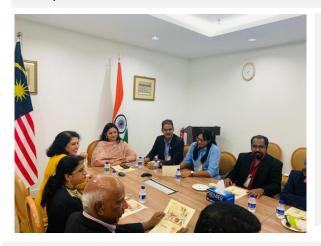
World Traditional Silambam Sports & Arts Association, Persatuan Seni Silambam Bersatu, Malaysia & Non Resident Indian Tamils Association, Malaysia jointly organized World Cultural Silambam Championship 2024 in Kuala Lumpur on November 23-24, 2024. The event drew participation from India, Malaysia & Singapore. Deputy High Commissioner Ms Subhashini Narayanan, participating as Chief Guest at the inaugural ceremony, congratulated the organizers, participants, the coach and parents for their efforts in preserving the traditional Indian martial arts form of Silambam. She also encouraged the audience to participate in the Bharat ko Janiye Quiz 2024, conducted by MEA, India.



On 20 November, High Commissioner interacted with Buddhist Monks and leading members of Buddhist associations, who proceeded to Uttar Pradesh, India, on a Bodhi Yatra from 28 November till 03 December at the invitation of Uttar Pradesh Tourism. Discussions focused on the Buddhist Heritage sites in Uttar Pradesh and spiritual heritage of India. The members of the



pilgrimage group are from Malaysian Buddhist Bhikkhuni Association, Vajrayana Buddhist Council of Malaysia, Teravada Buddhist Council of Malaysia, Bodhivision Media Group, The Tzu Chi Foundation, Maha Karuna Buddhist Society, Sri Lanka Buddhist Temple among others. The Bodhi Yatra to Uttar Pradesh arranged by Department of Tourism, Government of Uttar Pradesh commenced from Kuala Lumpur and will cover Buddhist sites in Lucknow, Shravasti, Kushinagar and Varanasi.



Prominent representatives of Malaysian Indian diasporarepresented by heads of community and business associations, joined the launch of the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention website at the Mission premises on 12 November 2024. Senior officials of the Mission were in attendance. The website was jointly launched by External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar and Chief Minister of Odisha Shri Mohan Charan Majhi. MoS for External Affairs, Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh also joined the launch ceremony.

The Joint Working Group (JWG) Meeting between Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, India (DARPG) and Public Service Department (JPA), Malaysia under the ambit of the MoU on Cooperation in Public Administrative and Governance Reforms, was held virtually on 13 November 2024. JWG meeting led by Mr V Srinivas, Secretary DARPG



from Indian side and by Datuk Dr Anesee bin Ibrahim, Deputy Director General, Public Service Department (JPA) from Malaysia, have agreed on specific actionable points. High Commissioner, Mr. B.N. Reddy and Mission's officials attended the JWG meeting.



Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) (Aadhar) received the International Innovation Award (IIA) 2024 on 29 November in Kuala Lumpur for its Face Authentication Solution(FAS), its indigenous AI based solution, under the 'Service and Solution' category. UIDAI FAS is the fastest growing Aadhar authentication modality in India. Face Authentication has crossed over 750 million mark overall and in November, 2024 alone it crossed 105 million.

Vikas International School celebrated their 15th Annual Day on 10 November 2024 at Thean Hou Auditorium, Kuala Lumpur. Deputy High Commissioner, Ms Subhashini Narayanan, participating as the chief guest, thanked Vikas International School, for their active participation in the cultural and outreach activities of the Mission. She also encouraged the students, teachers and parents of the school to participate at the Bharat Ko Janiye quiz conducted by the MEA India.



Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC)

High Commission, in collaboration with Malaysian Association of Traditional Indian Medicine (PEPTIM) observed 9th Ayurveda Day and Siddha Day on 30 November 2024 at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC), with the theme 'Ayurveda Innovation for Global Health'. Ms. Subhashini Narayanan, Deputy High Commissioner, welcomed the speakers and the participants, and highlighted the growing importance of traditional Indian systems globally and also in Malaysia. A representative from Traditional And Complementary Medicine



Division, Ministry of Health Government of Malaysia also attended the event. Ayurveda practitioners and Siddha practitioners delivered expert talks, which was followed by a Panel Discussion moderated by Dr. Binod Bihari Dora, Ayurveda Chair at Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR). About 90 traditional medicine practioners and members of the public attended the event, which was organized close on the heels of the recently held 9th BTM (Bilateral Technical meeting on traditional systems of medicine) on 26 November 2024, and 10th International Conference on Traditional and Complementary Medicine (INTRACOM) on 27-28 November 2024 in Kuala Lumpur.



High Commission of India Kuala Lumpur and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC) organised the "Confluence: Samagam- Language Series" on Odia Language on 17 November 2024 at NSCBICC in Kuala Lumpur. The event was the sixth in the Indian Languages lecture Series with Punjabi, Telugu, Tamil, Gujarati and languages covered since Malavalam April 2024. Commissioner welcomed the gathering of over 120 members, which included members of Malaysia Odia Association, Oriya Society of Malaysia and Oriya Community Malaysia, members of media and officials from High Commission of India, Kuala Padmashri Datuk Ramli Ibrahim, Founder-Chairman and Artistic Director, Sutra Foundation, Malaysia graced the occasion and delivered the key note address. Prominent Odia

language academicians and members of Odia associations in Malaysia, including Mr.Ajinta Kumar, Dr.Snigdha Misra, Dr.Satyabrata Naik, Mr.Pitamboro Kumoro Naiko and Mr.Manther Harusu Naik made presentations on diverse topics. Representatives of Odia Association gave impressive testimonies of their Odia language learning experience. The topics covered included A brief history of Odias in Malaysia:Tracing back the Kalinga Connection; Odia Expats in Malaysia (MOA):Building a Cultural Bridge Between Odisha and Malaysia; Abhipsa":Nurturing Odia Language and Literary Roots; Learning Odia language in Malaysia: Overcoming Challenges and Exploring Solutions" and "Importance of Odia as a Mother Tongue: The Malaysian Perspective". A short video showcasing the rich cultural heritage and diverse tourist destinations of Odisha was screened on the occasion. An Odia devotional song by the children of Malaysia Odia Association and a Sambalpuri dance performance by the ladies were also organized as part of the event.

High Commission of India and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre, organised an event to celebrate the conferment of Classical Language Status by Government of India to Assamese, Bengali, Marathi, Prakrit and Pali Languages on 9 November 2024 at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre premises in Kuala Lumpur. It was held in partnership with Mahakaruna Buddhist Society and various Malaysian Indian associations, as well as NRI Community and linguistic associations, including Bharat Club, in Malaysia. Speaking



on the occasion, High Commissioner thanked the Indian diaspora for joining in large numbers. The conferment of classical status to the above 5 languages by Government of India reinforces the importance of linguistic diversity besides acknowledging the vital role these languages play in shaping India's cultural trapestry. Prominent language scholars and academicians, including Rev. Vijithapura Gunarathana, Associate Professors Prof Dr Anindita Dasgupta and Prof Dr Shivkanya Fuloria shared their experience of learning and preserving Pali, Prakrit, Bengali, Assamese and Marathi languages in Malaysia. Presidents of Bharat Club, Maharashtra Mandal Malaysia, Malaysian Bengalee Association, Abhijan Recreation Club and Gunajit Das Assamese Community in Malaysia, shared their thoughts on the occasion. Cultural performances representing the essence of the newly announced Classical Indian languages- including poetry recitation, group songs, monologues, and dances by members of various community organisations marked the occasion. The event was well attended by over 140 members, which included monks from MahaKaruna Buddhist Society, Kuala Lumpur, members of Bharat Club, Maharashtra Mandal Malaysia, Malaysian Bengalee Association, Abhijan Recreation Club, Assamese Community, Malaysia India Heritage Group, GOPIO Malaysia, Members of media and High Commission of India Kuala Lumpur and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre staffs and senior officials.



Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre and High Commission of India hosted the engaging Bharat Ko Janiye group Quiz on 23rd November, 2024 during one of its events, thereby encouraging the audience & participants alike to take the online quiz and explore India's rich heritage, culture, and achievements.

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Indian Cultural Centre (NSCBICC) organized an enchanting evening of music-Harmony with strings: The Saraswathi Veena by Kalaimamani Jayalakshmy Sekhar on 30 November 2024. The acclaimed artist excelled with her soulful veena recital, ably accompanied by Shri JJ Prathap Sharma on Mridangam and Smt Geetha Teruchelvam on Veena / Tanpura. Ms Vijayalakshmy Sunderrajan, Director NSCBICC felicitated the artists and also took the opportunity to share information about the ongoing BKJ quiz. Over 100 music lovers enjoyed the event.



What's New - Business & Investments News in India

1. India to become a top 10 global shipbuilder by 2030

Union Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Minister Sarbananda Sonowal announced India's ambitious maritime aspirations at the 'Sagarmanthan—The Great Oceans Dialogue' and revealed that India is poised to become one of the top 10 shipbuilding nations by 2030 and to ascend to the top 5 by 2047. India's maritime industry handles approximately 95% of the nation's trade by volume and 70% by value. The infrastructure includes 12 major ports and over 200 notified minor and intermediate ports, pivotal in sustaining the country's economic growth. In FY24 alone, Indian ports managed 819.22 million tonnes of cargo, reflecting a 4.45% year-on-year growth. This increase aligns with India's expanding export capabilities, which saw merchandise exports rise to US\$451 billion in FY23 from US\$417 billion in the previous year...read more

2. India climbs to second position in emerging markets tracker, led by strong export growth

India has made noteworthy progress among emerging markets (EMs), propelled by a strong export rebound. Despite challenges such as a turbulent stock market and rupee depreciation, October saw exports surge by 17% YoY, marking a sharp recovery following four months of weak performance. According to Mint's Emerging Markets Tracker, India climbed to second place in October, a steady improvement from August 6. The tracker assesses economic activity across nine major EMs based on real gross domestic product (GDP) growth, manufacturing purchasing managers' index (PMI), export growth, retail inflation, import cover, exchange rate movement, stock market performance...read more

3. India's smartphone exports surpasses \$2 bn mark in Oct, sets new record

India's smartphone exports have reached a historic milestone, surpassing US\$ 2 billion in October 2024, marking the highest monthly total ever recorded. According to the Indian Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA), this achievement highlights India's increasing significance in global mobile supply chains. In the first seven months of the current financial year, smartphone exports have already exceeded US\$ 10.6 billion, reflecting a 37% year-over-year increase from US\$ 7.8 billion during the same period last year. The surge in October, largely driven by Apple's iPhone, represents a 23% increase from the previous record of US\$ 1.78 billion in May 2024 and a substantial 70% rise compared to US\$ 1.2 billion in October 2023...read more

4. Reserve Bank of India to launch cloud services in 2025 to challenge global firm dominance

India's central bank, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), is set to launch a pilot programme in 2025, offering affordable local cloud data storage to financial institutions. This initiative will see the RBI collaborate with domestic IT firms, positioning it against major international cloud service providers like Amazon Web Services (AWS), Microsoft Azure, Google Cloud, and IBM Cloud. The cloud services market in India, valued at US\$ 8.3 billion in 2023, is projected to grow to US\$ 24.2 billion by 2028...read more

5. India's renewable energy capacity to touch 250 GW mark by March 2026

India's renewable energy capacity is projected to reach 250 GW by March 2026, according to Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency (ICRA). This growth will be supported by a robust project pipeline of over 80 GW, following a significant increase in tendering activity during FY24. ICRA forecasts the installed renewable energy capacity, including large hydroelectric projects, to rise from 201 GW in September 2024 to 250 GW by March 2026. The rooftop solar and commercial & industrial (C&I) segments are expected to play a significant role in this expansion...read more

6. <u>Government of India creating enabling environment for Semiconductor Design Community with direct access to National Chip Design Infrastructure</u>

The ChipIN Centre, one of the largest facilities at C-DAC, aims to strengthen India's semiconductor ecosystem by providing access to advanced electronic design automation (EDA) tools and solutions. The centre also provides compute and hardware infrastructure, IP cores, and expertise for chip design, fabrication at the SCL foundry, and packaging under the Chips to Start-up (C2S) Programme and Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). Currently, the ChipIN Centre serves over 20,000 students across 250+ academic institutions and 45 start-up projects. The goal is to reach 85,000 students within the next five years, empowering them to design semiconductor chips vision and contribute to India's Atmanirbhar Bharat vision....read more

Spotlight and Opportunities in India

Tourism and Hospitality Industry



- With a total area of 3,287,263 sq. km extending from the snow-covered Himalayan heights to the tropical rain forests of the south, India has a rich cultural and historical heritage, variety in ecology, terrains and places of natural beauty spread across the country. This provides a significant opportunity to fully exploit the potential of the tourism sector.
- India being one the most popular travel destinations across the globe has resulted in the Indian tourism and hospitality industry emerging as one of the key drivers of growth among the services sector in India. The tourism industry in India has significant potential considering that Tourism is an important source of foreign exchange in India similar to many other countries.
- According to World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), India is ranked 10th among 185 countries in terms of travel & tourism's total contribution to GDP in 2019. According to WTTC, the contribution of India's travel and tourism sector to India's economy was worth US\$ 199.6 billion in 2022.
- The Indian travel and tourism industry is expected to record an annual growth at 7.1% per annum. In WTTC's Economic Impact 2023 report, India's Travel and Tourism GDP contribution grew by 5.9%. In 2021, the travel & tourism industry's contribution to the GDP was US\$ 178 billion; this is expected to reach US\$ 512 billion by 2028. By 2029, it is expected to account for about 53 million jobs. In India, the industry's direct contribution to the GDP is expected to record an annual growth rate of 7-9% between 2019 and 2030.
- The tourist industry not only drives growth, but it also raises people's standards of living with its ability to provide significant amount of diverse employment opportunities. It promotes environmental preservation, champions diverse cultural heritage, and bolsters international peace. By 2028, Indian tourism and hospitality is expected to earn US\$ 50.9 billion as visitor exports compared with US\$ 28.9 billion in 2018.

INDIA TOURISM - Cuisine of Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu cuisine is a vibrant blend of flavors, known for its use of rice, lentils, and aromatic spices, offering a rich variety of vegetarian and non-vegetarian dishes.

SI. No	Events	Description	
1.	Ambur Briyani	Ambur Biryani is a flavorful delicacy known for its tender meat, aromatic spices, and short-grain seeraga samba rice. Originating from the town of Ambur, this biryani stands out for its unique preparation, often served with brinjal curry and raita for a perfect balance.	
2.	Chettinad Chicken	Chicken Chettinad is a flavorful dish, known for its rich, aromatic blend of spices and tender chicken cooked in a thick, spicy gravy. It captures the essence of Chettinad cuisine with its bold use of black pepper, coconut, and curry leaves.	
3.	Kanchipuram Idly	Kanchipuram Idly is a unique delicacy, known for its flavorful blend of spices like cumin, pepper, and ginger, which give it a distinctive taste and aroma. Steamed in banana leaves, it offers a rich, savory twist on the traditional idly.	
4.	Thirunelveli Halwa	Thirunelveli Halwa is a popular dessert made from grated wheat, ghee, and sugar, offering a rich and smooth texture. This iconic sweet, originating from Thirunelveli district, is known for its unique flavor and irresistible aroma.	
5.	Filter Kaapi	Filter kaapi is a traditional South Indian coffee made by slowly brewing finely ground coffee beans through a metal filter, resulting in a rich, strong, and aromatic brew. It is often served with hot milk and sugar, creating a smooth, flavorful drink enjoyed across India.	

INCREDIBLE INDIA

Tamil Nadu: Land of Temples, Tradition, and Timeless Heritage

How to get there: Direct flights are available from Kuala Lumpur to Chennai and Trichy with airlines like Air Asia, MAS, Indigo, and Batik Air. From these cities, travelers can easily connect to other destinations across Tamil Nadu.

SI.No	Places to visit	
1.	Thanjai Periya Kovil	
	The Brihadeeswarar Temple, also known as the Thanjai Periya Kovil, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site located in Tanjavur. Built by the Chola king Rajaraja I in the 11 th century, it is renowned for its grand architecture, including a massive dome and intricate sculptures. The temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva and stands as a masterpiece of Dravidian architecture.	
2.	Mudumalai National Park	
	Mudumalai National Park, located in the Nilgiri Hills, is a biodiverse sanctuary known for its rich flora and fauna. It is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve and houses elephants, tigers, and a variety of bird species. The park offers scenic landscapes, making it a popular destination for wildlife enthusiasts and nature lovers.	
3.	Ooty	
	Ooty, known as the "Queen of Hill Stations," is a picturesque town nestled in the Nilgiri Hills. It offers a scenic and serene getaway with lush greenery, tea plantations, and beautiful lakes. The famous Nilgiri Mountain Railway, a UNESCO World Heritage site, provides a nostalgic and scenic train ride through the breathtaking hills.	
4.	Dhanushkodi Beach	
	Dhanushkodi Beach, located at the southern tip of India in Tamil Nadu, is known for its pristine beauty and serene surroundings. This secluded beach offers a unique blend of historical significance and natural splendor, with views of the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean meeting. It is also famous for its ghost town, remnants of a once-thriving settlement destroyed by a cyclone in 1964.	

SI. Places to visit

5. Vellore Fort

Vellore Fort is a historic fort known for its impressive military architecture and rich cultural heritage. Built in the 16th century by the Vijayanagara kings, it features massive granite walls, a moat, and several structures like the Jalakandeswarar Temple. The fort also played a significant role during the 1857 uprising and offers insights into India's colonial history.



6. Thiruvalluvar Statue

The Thiruvalluvar Statue, located in Kanyakumari, stands at a height of 133 feet, symbolizing the 133 chapters of the Thirukkural, an ancient Tamil text written by the poet-saint Thiruvalluvar. It was unveiled in 2000 and honors Thiruvalluvar's contribution to Tamil literature, ethics, and philosophy. The statue is a major cultural and tourist landmark, offering panoramic views of the confluence of the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal, and the Indian Ocean.



7. The Basilica of Our Lady of Good Health

The Basilica of Our Lady of Good Health, located in Velankanni, is a revered Roman Catholic church dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It is a major pilgrimage site, attracting devotees from around the world, particularly for healing and blessings. The basilica is known for its impressive architecture and rich history, with the Feast of Our Lady of Good Health celebrated annually in September.



8. Thirumalai Nayakkar Mahal

Thirumalai Nayakkar Mahal, located in Madurai, is a stunning example of Indo-Saracenic architecture, built in the 17th century by King Thirumalai Nayak. The palace boasts grand courtyards, intricate frescoes, and majestic columns, showcasing the opulence of the Nayak dynasty. It remains a significant historical and architectural landmark, drawing visitors to admire its beauty and cultural heritage.



INDIAN COMPANIES IN MALAYSIA:

Skill Quotient Technologies

SKILL QUOTIENT





- Skill Quotient Technologies, headquartered in Malaysia, was founded in 2016 to empower businesses through cutting-edge technology solutions. With a team of over 1200+ employees, they specialize in Cybersecurity, Application Testing, Data Engineering, Al-powered Enterprise Solutions, and ERP, CRM & BI (Microsoft, Salesforce, SAP).
- Their Cybersecurity services include OT & IoT Cybersecurity, Identity & Access Management, Security Operations Center (SOC), and Vulnerability Management, ensuring comprehensive protection against emerging threats. Their team is dedicated to innovation and delivering results that help clients stay ahead in the digital world
- As an ISO 27001:2013 certified company, they maintain the highest standards of service quality and security. Their expertise spans improving security frameworks, optimizing data engineering with AI, and delivering enterprise solutions tailored to meet business needs. They focus on driving tangible results and accelerating clients' return on investment.
- Skill Quotient has built a strong reputation across industries such as energy, oil & gas, banking, insurance, IT, and telecommunications. They're at the forefront of transforming businesses through technology, leveraging AI to drive efficiency, intelligence, and automation. They're also expanding our SMARTeIS platform, a PEPPOL-recognized e- invoicing solution that's already making an impact in Malaysia.
- They're now focused on extending this success to the UAE, Singapore, Europe, and Germany, helping businesses streamline invoicing and ensure compliance through secure, standardized transactions.

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Website: https://skillquotientgroup.com/

Useful BizLinks

- Economic Diplomacy Division, Ministry of External Affairs
- <u>Department of Commerce</u>
- 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)