



ENVOY

Ereignisse, Neuigkeiten, Verbindungen, Opportunitäten, und Zusammenarbeit

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Celebration of 77 years of India's Independence - 15th August 2023



















G20 SUMMIT



















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Snapshots

1 India has overtaken China as the second-largest manufacturer of mobile devices in the world, according to a report released by Counterpoint. This growth has been fuelled by the Government push and make in India initiative, increased internal demand, and growing digital literacy. The mobile phone shipments from India exceeded 2 billion cumulative units and an annual growth rate of 23% was recorded. More than 98% of exports in the overall Indian market were produced in India in 2022, as against 19% in 2014.

2 The real estate sector of India witnessed strong private equity (PE) investments of US\$ 1.92 billion in Q2 of 2023, demonstrating investor confidence in the market. As per the most recent Investment report from Cushman & Wakefield, this is 63% higher than the previous quarter (Q1 of 2023) and 60% higher than the same time last year.

3 Union Education and

Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Minister Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan and Union External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar jointly launched Study in India (SII) Portal in New Delhi, in line with Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi's vision of re-establishing India as a global hub of education.

4 The number of medical colleges in India has expanded by 82% between 2014 and the present, from 387 to 704, and the number of MBBS seats climbed by 110%, from 51,348 to 107,948. Additionally, the more post-graduate (PG) medical seats in the country have also increased, from 31,185 in 2014 to 67,802 as of the present, witnessing an increase of 117%.

5 The number of patent applications filed in FY23 increased by 28.4% over that of FY22, indicating that micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in India are becoming more aware of the importance of intellectual property rights (IPR). MSMEs filed 1,758 patent applications in FY23 as opposed to 1,369 in FY22.

6 As per the information by Union Telecom Minister Mr. Ashwini Vaishnaw, within ten months of the service's introduction, telecom providers have set up more than 300,000 5G mobile stations. The 5G sites have been installed in 714 districts. According to the data, within five months of the service's inception, 100,000 sites were installed, and within eight months, 210,000 sites.

7 According to a PwC report titled "Towards a smarter tomorrow: Impact of AI in the post-COVID era," Indian companies have increased their adoption of artificial intelligence (AI), industrial products, and the manufacturing sector is seeing the greatest adoption rates.

8 According to a report 'India Monthly Wearable Device Tracker' by International Data Corporation (IDC), "hundreds" of smartwatch model launches in the first half of the calendar year 2023 contributed to India's wearable market's growth of 53.3% year-over-year (YoY).

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog in collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Navars Edutech, successfully launched the National Space Innovation Challenge 2023: PIB

A national programme called National Space Innovation Challenge (NSIC) 2023 aims to inspire the next generation of space enthusiasts to understand the space industry and to help build India's future space workforce. It's a national platform where one can be inspired by industry leaders, seek opportunities for exploration, and present their innovation to the world.

The Atal Innovation Mission is pleased to launch the National Space Innovation Challenge, which is open to all school children in the country with the aim of fostering innovation and curiosity. From August 11-September 20, 2023, students in Classes 5-12 have access to an open platform where they can innovate and enable themselves to address problems related to modern-day space technology.

Through the following link: <https://navarsedutech.com/nsic/>, students (from ATL and Non-ATL schools) can submit their entries on the automated technology platform implemented by Navars Edutech. Each student is required to choose one challenge-related problem depending on their understanding and area of interest.

For Junior Scientists (Grades 5-8) and Senior Scientists (Grades 9-12), NSIC provides integrated content from Industry Mentor videos, resources, and challenges that the students can

use to develop ideas for and submit a brief research report on a solution for a variety of topics, including Space Junk Collection Robot, Reusable Rocket Design, Satellite Design, Indian Spaceship Design for Mars, and others.

Speaking during the official launch, Mission Director, AIM, Dr. Chintan Vaishnav said, "The aim of this challenge is to enable innovation among young school students to create awareness of and opportunities to participate in the space sector early, and in a way that will not only help them learn about the space sector but also create interesting projects and innovations that truly matter to the sector."

India's luggage industry revenue is set to rise by 15%: CRISIL ratings: IBEF

Despite a high-base effect of 40% growth last fiscal year, CRISIL Ratings reported that India's luggage industry revenue is expected to increase by 15% on-year this fiscal due to increasing penetration of hard luggage made by the organised sector and ongoing growth in tourism and corporate travel.

The organised sector's operating efficiencies and capacity utilisation have increased due to consumer demand for hard luggage. As a result, their operating margin could increase by 150-200 basis points (bps) year-over-year to 16% this fiscal. Because the prices of three important raw materials—polypropylene, polycarbonate, and polyamide—declined by approximately 20%, margin improvement would have been even sharper if organised players had invested more in marketing and promotions.

The cost of the main raw materials, which makes up 40-45% of the cost for luggage makers, is mostly determined by the price of crude. Despite the projected capacity expansion, improved profitability

and lean balance sheets will support credit risk profiles. About 40% of the industry's yearly sales of US\$ 1.81 billion are generated by organised luggage manufacturers. They benefit from substantially more reliable sourcing channels, competitive pricing, better quality, and extended warranties.

Consumers are switching to hard luggage due to its better looks and durability. Additionally, they are becoming lighter, which is an important factor for travelling. As a result, organised luggage manufacturers are actively shifting their revenue mix from soft luggage to hard luggage in both retail and online.

According to Ms. Jaya Mirpuri, Director, CRISIL Ratings, "In the past five fiscals, the market share of hard luggage has shot up to 55% from 33%. Operating margins are relatively better on them since these are manufactured locally."

In addition, Mr. Rushabh Borkar, Associate Director, CRISIL Ratings stated, "Apart from doubling capacity, organised manufacturers are set to ramp up retail presence by 35-40%, which would involve a capital expenditure of US\$ 84.5 million this fiscal."

Over 3,000 fintech startups registered with DPIIT in India: MoS Corporate Affairs: Financial Express

India has 3,085 startups registered with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) in the fintech sector, Rao Inderjeet Singh, Minister of State in the Corporate Affairs ministry informed Lok Sabha in a written reply to a question. The minister noted that under the Startup India initiative by DPIIT, India has 98,119 startups across 56 diversified sectors as of April 30, 2023.

MoS Rao Inderjeet Singh shared various initiatives taken up by the

government to promote startups across multiple sectors, including the fintech startups. To attract investments in the fintech sector, the government notified the International Financial Services Center Authority (IFSCA) to launch a “Fin-tech Entity Framework” focusing on fintechs and techfins.

Moreover, the Jan Dhan-Aadhar- Mobile (JAM trinity), or the Jan Dhan bank accounts, along with the easy and vast access to the internet connection and the linkage through Aadhar helped in fintech access to a wide customer base and to provide a range of financial services, both benefitting the business and the customers, he added.

Funding in fintech startups dropped by a massive 67 per cent to \$1.4 billion in the first half (H1) of 2023 from \$4.3 billion raised in H1 2022, said market intelligence platform Tracxn in its FinTech – India Semi Annual Funding Report – H1 2023. The decline in funding, according to the report, was largely due to the downward trend in early-stage investments, which plunged 81 per cent and 68 per cent from H1 2022 and H2 2022, respectively.

Seed-stage funding in H1 2023 also recorded a dip of 38 per cent and 70 per cent from H2 2022 and H1 2022, respectively. On the other hand, late funding in the first half of 2023 grew 66 per cent from H2 2022 but dropped 62 per cent from the same period last year, as per the report from Tracxn.

Hyundai intends to launch more electric vehicles in India: IBEF

South Korea’s Hyundai Motor Group intends to launch more electric vehicles under the Hyundai and Kia brands in India. It shows that it is bullish on the world’s third-largest automobile market.

The company is planning to invest US\$ 2.41 billion over the next 10 years in Tamil Nadu to modernize vehicle platforms and expand its presence in the country’s fast-evolving electric vehicle segment, reports Economic Times (ET).

To launch six models by 2028, Hyundai Motor India Limited (HMIL) is planning to invest US\$ 482.57 million. The Loniq 5 was the first of these versions to reach the market this year. The company additionally markets Kona EV in India.

The company will introduce new electric & Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) vehicles from its factory near Chennai. As a part of Hyundai Motor Group’s long-term strategic vision to promote clean energy, Hyundai will continue to explore future sustainable technologies in the coming years.

APEDA facilitates the export of the first trial shipment of fresh pomegranate to the USA via air: PIB

The first trial shipment of fresh pomegranates to be sent to the USA by air route was made possible thanks to the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), which operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) of India, the US Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (US-APHIS), the Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board (MSAMB), the ICAR-National Research Centre on

Pomegranate, Solapur (NRC-Solapur), and other organisations worked together to initiate the first pomegranate export consignment to the USA.

Pomegranate exports to the USA would rise, according to APEDA Chairman Mr. Abhishek Dev, increasing farmers' income and realising higher prices. There has been encouraging response from the importers of the pomegranate shipment, he added.

The APEDA-registered "INI Farms," one of the largest exporters of fruits and vegetables from India, handled the trial shipment of pomegranates. By collaborating with farmers directly, it has created a value chain for banana and pomegranate products. As a member of the Agrostar group, farmers receive comprehensive services, including agronomy, agri-inputs, and off-take, with the produce being shipped to over 35 nations worldwide. The export of a trial shipment of pomegranates would help in strengthening capacities among Indian exporters and US importers by ensuring that quality fruits are sent, as the long-distance market and high cost were barriers to starting commercial operations.

Exporters are encouraged by the success of Indian mangoes in the US markets and anticipate similar success for pomegranates there. APEDA regularly organises sensitisation programmes in collaboration with state governments to register farms through AnarNet, a system created by APEDA, to ensure traceability in the export value chain of pomegranates. By paving the road for high-quality Indian pomegranates to be imported into the USA and Australia, APEDA significantly contributed to achieving market access. APEDA has taken various steps to solve the issues with the pomegranate value chain in a continuous process, from pre-production to post-harvest, logistics, branding, and marketing activities.

Chandrayaan-3

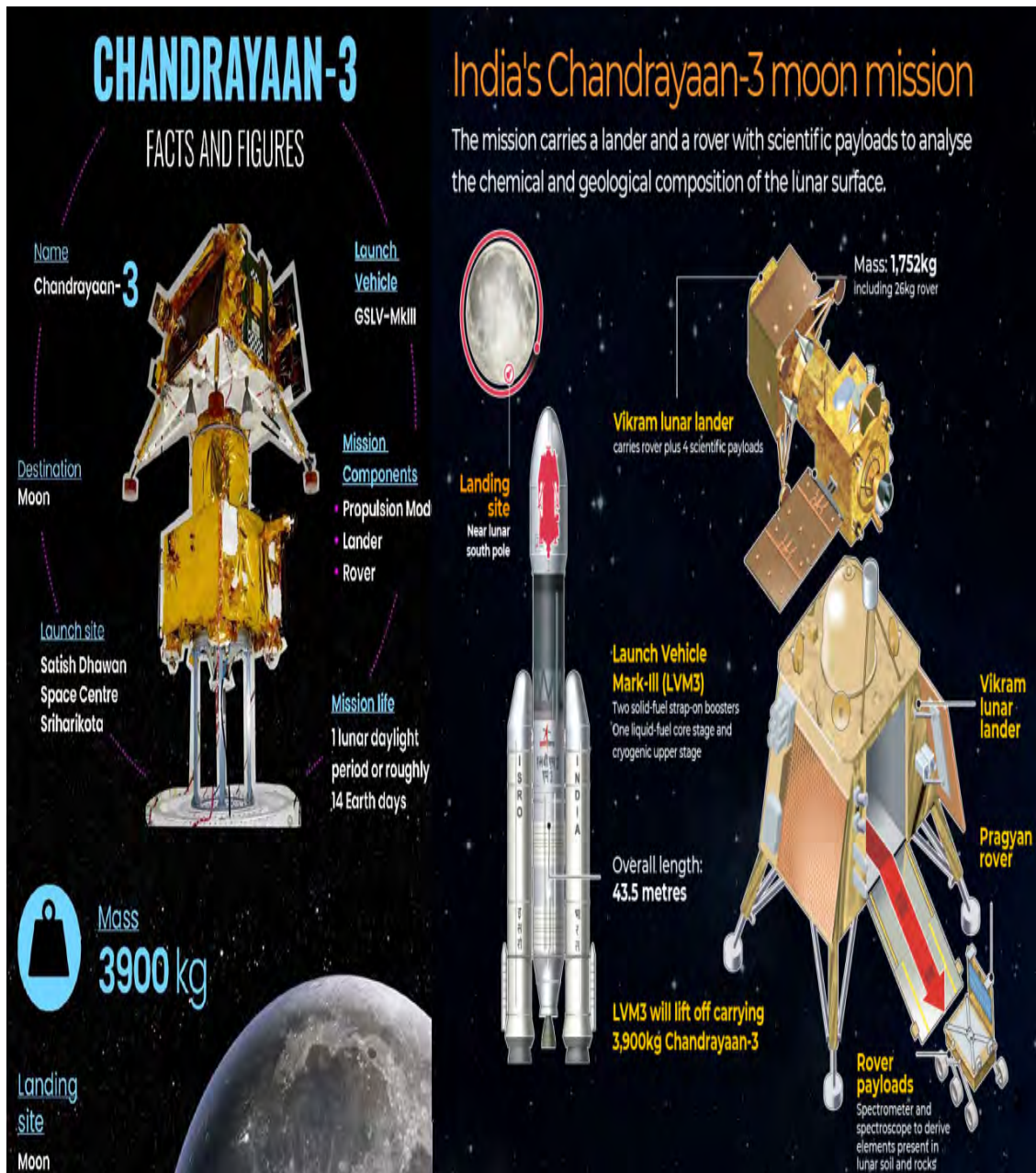
Timeline:

24th August 2023: Made in India. Made for the MOON! The Ch-3 Rover ramped down from the Lander and India took a walk on the moon !

23rd August 2023: 'I reached my destination and you too!': Chandrayaan-3 has successfully soft-landed on the moon. Congratulations, India!

For latest updates visit: www.isro.gov.in

Facts & Figures



Goa is located on the west coast of India. The state shares its borders with Arabian Sea to the west, Maharashtra to the north, and Karnataka to the south and the east. It is traditionally known as a tourist paradise for its natural scenery, unique beaches, and cultural diversity.

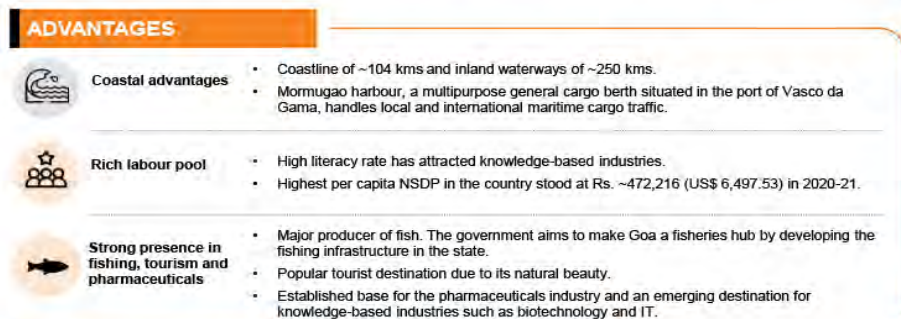
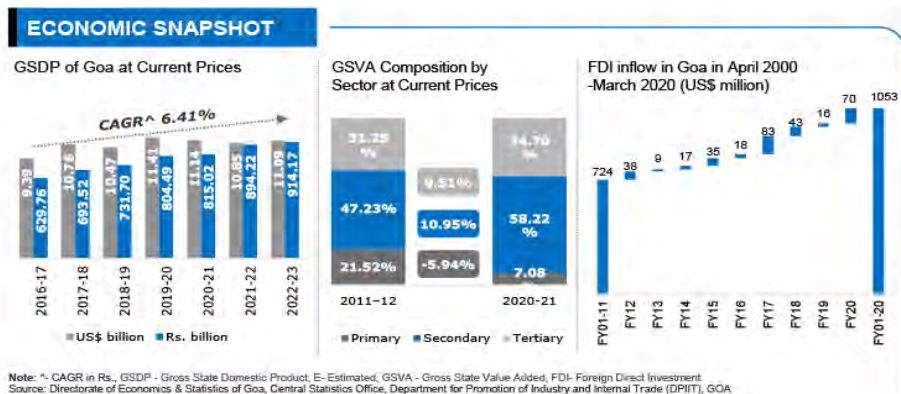
Goa's economic growth is driven by the strong performance of its industrial sectors such as fishing, agriculture, tourism, and pharmaceuticals.

At current prices, Goa's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) was US\$ 11.09 billion in 2022-23. The GSDP increased at a CAGR of 6.41% between 2016-17 and 2022-23.

As of August 2022, Goa had a total installed power generation capacity of 614.73 MW, of which thermal power plants accounted for a significant share in the total installed capacity with 559.94 MW, whereas nuclear and renewable energy contributed 26 MW and 28.79 MW, respectively. Goa is one of the few states in India to achieve 100% rural electrification.

Goa has a well-developed social, physical, and industrial infrastructure and virtual connectivity. It has an international airport that is in line with its importance as a globally-recognised leisure destination. It also has significant port infrastructure. The state has an established base for the pharmaceuticals industry and an emerging destination for knowledge-based industries such as biotechnology and IT.

According to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), between October 2019-June 2022, FDI inflow in Goa stood at US\$ 118.98 million.



Mizoram

Mizoram, the land of the Mizos or the Highlanders who belong to the Mongoloid race, exudes an exotic charm of its own. Mizoram is a mountainous state nestling in the southern tip of the north-east region of India. From the lush forests dominated by thick bamboo groves, numerous waterfalls that gush down the narrow gorges to confluence into large meandering streams in the deep valleys, dotted with unique landmarks of myriad folklores and picturesque villages of houses built on stilts, Mizoram is a land of dramatic seas of morning mists that enfold islands of hills and peaks.

Aizawl is the state capital, and also the political and cultural centre of Mizoram, and is still one of the least-frequented cities in India. Mizoram has a moderate and pleasant climate throughout the year, and is an idyllic land of great natural beauty having rich variety of flora and fauna which is an added attraction to the nature lovers. To the more adventurous spirit, the rugged terrains and rivers are ideal for various outdoor sports and activities.



The Mizoram State Museum, Aizawl

It was established in 1977 by the Tribal Research Institute and is now maintained by the Art and Culture Department. It is an ethnographic museum with multiple Mizo tribal artefacts and collections on display.



Vantawng Falls, Thenzawl, Serchhip District

Of all the waterfalls and cascades in the rough and fast-flowing rivers of Mizoram, Vantawng Khawthla or Vantawng Falls is the highest at 750 ft and the most spectacular one, located in Vanva river near Thenzawl.



Sandeepany Vedanta Course

A two-year residential course run in Chinmaya Mission Headquarters in Mumbai to impart knowledge of Vedanta. The course is open to all in the age-group of 20-32 years, including overseas Indians and foreigners, and is offered **free** of cost (covering course fees, stay, and food) by the Chinmaya Mission.



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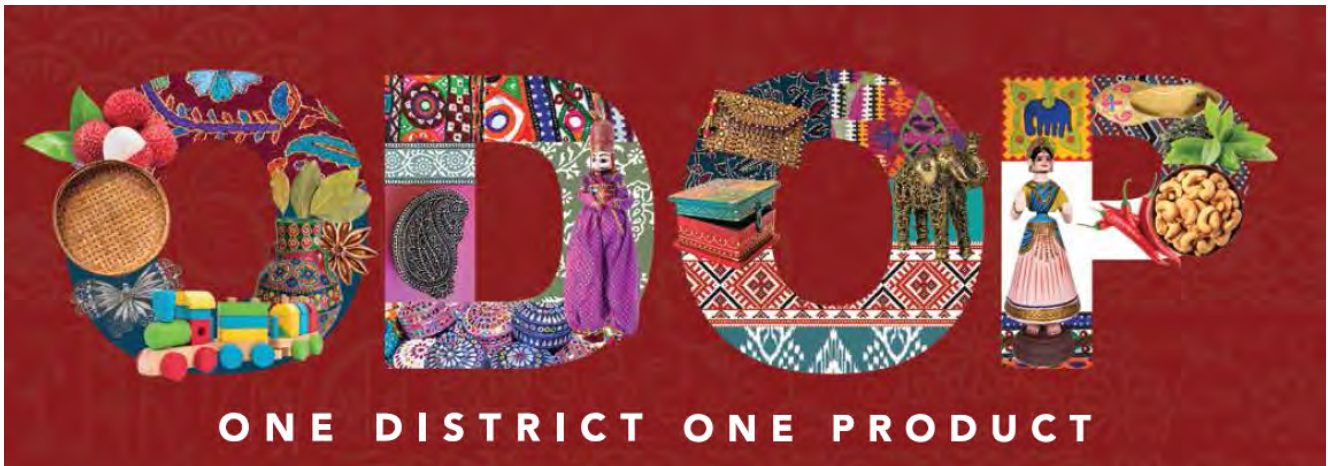
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Spices

"A strongly flavored or aromatic substance of vegetable origin, obtained from tropical plants, commonly used as a condiment"



Saffron

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CII Confederation of Indian Industry

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The Government of India has extended e-Tourist Visa (e-TV) scheme to the citizens of Austria w.e.f. 26th February 2016. This facility is also available to the citizens of Montenegro and the Vatican City. The Indian e-Visa is an electronic travel permit that makes acquiring a visa to visit India easier. After filling out an online form with the traveler's personal information and passport information, the Indian electronic visa can be received fast.

Queries related to e-TV; for any assistance call 24x7 Visa support center at +91-11-24300666 or send email to indian-evisa@gov.in or visit www.indianvisaonline.gov.in



India Perspectives, the flagship magazine of the Ministry of External Affairs. The magazine is printed in 16 languages and goes to 170 countries, disseminating interesting information about India's rich culture and tradition. For a copy of the magazine, mail us at: poip@mea.gov.in or visit www.indiaperspectives.gov.in

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (erstwhile Central Board of Excise & Customs) launched a mobile app "Indian Customs -Guide to Travelers" for dissemination of information about the Customs Baggage Rule, 2016. The application has been launched to inform traders, exporters and importers about the Customs Baggage Rules 2016. It has been developed by Bengaluru Customs and is available on [Android Play store](#), [Apple Store](#) and [Windows store](#).



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- Mr. Rishi Tripathi, First Secretary in this Embassy has been designated as Officer to look after welfare of Indian Students in Austria and Montenegro.
- His contact details are: 0043 1 505 866 and ccl.vienna@mea.gov.in

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