



Indian Embassy Vienna

सत्यमेव जयते

# INDIA NEWSLETTER

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Focus sector:  
**MANUFACTURING**



**Manufacturing**

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#startupindia

Government Initiatives



State Economic Profile

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## News Flash

**1** India's forex reserves increase by US\$ 689 million to reach US\$ 584.55 billion as of February 26, 2021.

The RBI reported that core currency assets, the largest component of overall reserves, increased by US\$ 509 million to reach US\$ 542.615 billion in the week ending February 26, 2021.

**2** Indian media and entertainment (M&E) sector is expected to witness a 27% growth in revenue to ~ US\$ 18.92 billion in FY22, according to Crisil. In FY22, with a strong economic recovery on the way, ad revenue is expected to increase by 31% YoY and subscription revenue by ~ 24%.

**3** Indian IT industry revenues are estimated to increase by 2.3% to reach US\$ 194 billion in FY21. The industry added 1.38 lakh new employees, taking the total employment to 44.7 lakh in Financial Year 2021.

**4** India's exports of the

COVID-19 vaccine stood at ~ US\$ 46.43 million until February 8, 2021, stated Mr. Piyush Goyal, Commerce and Industry Minister.

**5** Tata Communications partnered with Google Cloud in India to drive cloud adoption and transform Indian businesses. Tata Communications stated that as a partner of Google Cloud India, it will help organisations with technology modernization, transformation of data centres, modernization of apps, smart analytics, multi-cloud deployments and more services.

**6** Government of India has approved Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Telecom and Networking Products with a budgetary outlay of US\$ 1.67 billion.

**7** On February 11, 2021, India became the fastest country in the world to achieve over 7 million vaccinations against COVID-19, in only 26 days India has also been the fastest to touch the 6 million

mark a few days back.

**8** In a significant decision aimed at promoting small investors to become direct investors in government bonds or simply an indefinite source of government borrowing, the Reserve Bank said it would enable them to purchase government debt directly, making India the first Asian country to do so and among a few globally.

**9** FPIs' (foreign portfolio investors) ownership in NSE-listed companies reached a five year high of 22.74% in December 2020, driven by strong net inflow of US\$ 19.50 billion by investors in the third quarter of FY21.

**10** E-commerce in India increased by 36% YoY, in the fourth quarter of 2020, according to 'E-commerce Trends Report', by Unicommerce and Kearney. According to the report, Tier II and III cities accounted for an incremental volume and value growth of 90% YoY. The volumes of the Personal Care, Beauty and Wellness and FMCG & Healthcare categories increased by 95% and 46% YoY respectively from October to December 2020.

## Government Initiatives for Business Development

# #startupindia

The flagship initiative Startup India aims to build a strong eco-system for nurturing innovation and Startups in the country that will drive sustainable economic growth and generate large scale employment opportunities.

[www.startupindia.gov.in](http://www.startupindia.gov.in)



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## News Articles

### **Wipro to buy Capco for \$1.45 billion; biggest buyout to become 'bolder' company: IBEF**

Wipro, the Indian IT major announced to acquire Capco, a company based in London over a US\$ 1.45 billion deal and become a "bolder and ambitious" firm and rake in bigger revenues from banking and financial services sector.

The acquisition will provide Wipro with 30 large new client from banking and financial sector and strengthen its position in the Banking, Financial Services and Insurance (BFSI) sector.

Wipro Chairman Mr. Rishad Premji stated that Wipro has made a significant announcement about a transformational acquisition, the biggest in the company's history. Capco will be acquired by us for US\$ 1.45 billion. Capco will give us over US\$ 700 million in sales as well as over 5,000 consulting and domain experts based all over the world. Wipro will join a select group of service providers that offer an integrated and end-to-end solution as a result of this acquisition. He said, "Banking and financial services is our largest field worldwide, as well as a high priority and growth market for us. Capco will bring substantial scale to our BFSI market, as well as a strong product collection of service offerings, combining consulting and database expertise with scale, digital technology, and operations to develop a distinctive combination of consulting and database expertise with scale, modern technology, and operations. We anticipate that this would result in faster development."

In December 2020 quarter, the BFSI segment accounted for > 30% of Wipro's IT services revenue at US\$ 2,071 million.

Mr. Premji said, "Wipro's reach will be expanded into a collection of strategic planning accounts that are specifically complementary to the company's clientele, as well as providing a forum to leverage Capco's strong connections with CXOs and business leaders of many large customers over the years."

Wipro CEO Mr. Thierry Delaporte said, "Acquiring Capco allows us to expand our global financial services sector, which is one of our main divisions, with a broad consultancy presence, from US\$ 2.5 billion to US\$ 3.2 billion. Our market relevance is

bolstered by our scale. The acquisition would also help accelerate growth due to the complementary consumer profiles of Capco and Wipro's BFSI businesses, as well as solution synergy."

Capco CEO Mr. Lance Levy stated that to establish a new winning partner for the financial services sector, the companies will deliver customised transformational end-to-end solutions, all fuelled by advanced technology at scale. He said, "We are excited to combine our complementary strengths and cultures to drive market change and provide new opportunities for both our clients and our employees."

Mr. Delaporte said, "We will provide an integrated plan and implementation approach for common clients to ensure that we maximize relationships, skills, and capabilities, and learn together while working in the model."

He also stated that the acquisition would affect Wipro's IT services margin by 2% in FY22, with a non-cash charge accounting for a large portion of the effect. Customers will gain from a combination of Wipro's strategic architecture, business and consulting, digital transformation, cloud, cybersecurity, data and IT services and Capco's comprehensive database and consulting expertise across finance, payments, capital markets, insurance, risk and regulatory offerings.

Capco, established in 1998, has over 100 clients and several partnerships with the world's leading financial institutions. It employs > 5,000 consultants in > 30 locations around the world, spanning 16 countries. For the fiscal year ending in December 2020, the company's consolidated revenues stood at US\$ 720 million. According to the filing, the transaction will require antitrust approvals under US, German, Canadian, Brazil, and Austria, as well as other regulatory approvals.

### **Nestle India CMD Suresh Narayanan says Indian packaged food market to be double in 5-10 years to \$70 billion: Financial Express**

The Indian packaged food market is expected to be double and grow up to USD 70 billion in the next 5-10 years, led by factors that include economic growth, demographic dividend and growing e-commerce, said Nestl India Chairman and Managing Director Suresh Narayanan.

The company is also waiting for the government's production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for the food processing sector, which would be a good step for the industry that has the best ratio of capital investment and employment generation.

I am a firm believer of the consumption story of this country," said Narayanan while addressing a virtual media roundtable.

Surveys conducted by all major agencies suggest the packaged goods market to double in the next 5-10 years, he added.

"The market today is worth USD 35 billion and we are expecting it to go to USD 70 billion," said Narayanan while adding that because of the pandemic, there could be some delay in that but "cannot be denied also".

There are factors such as 'demographic dividends' and 'economic reasons', which would help the food processing industry with a digital push.

"If you look at the aspiring class, the affordable class and the wealthy into the country, research after research are showing that between 2018 and 2030, we are going to add almost 140 million households to the aspiring and to the affluent class," he said.

He also added that the bottom of the pyramid, those who are the deprived, is going to shrink. This clearly means that there is going to be an increasing proclivity towards the consumption of packaged goods and also of branded goods, Narayanan added.

"It is also interesting to note that the component of Generation-Z, which is the generation coming into the workforce, is almost going to be 25-30 per cent of the population," he said. Narayanan also added that the digital connectivity and digital pace of India are truly meteoric.

Today, India has about 140 million consumers who are in the e-commerce space and is expected to be almost triple in the next 5-10 years. Total people accessing the internet, which is about 600-650 million, is expected to be a billion people, he added.

"In every sense of the terms, the results of the economic cycle, demographic cycle, digital cycle and the aspiration in the rural and urban India would probably lead to a robust future as far as the consumer goods are concerned," he said.

While talking about the PLI scheme, Narayanan,

who is also chairman of industry body CII's National Committee on Food Processing, said dialogue with this still going on. "The dialogue is still on. The PLI scheme is being finalised, we are expecting an announcement relatively soon and then we will look at what emanates," he said.

According to Narayanan, it is a good step for the food processing industry, which has the best ratio of capital investment and employment generation.

"The employment generation multiples in food generation (companies) and is among the best of all manufacturing industries and if we look at one economic and social task that faces all of Indian, it is the generation of job and I do hope something positive comes out of it," he added.

## **Cabinet approves Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Pharmaceuticals and IT hardware: The Hindu**

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for the pharmaceuticals and IT hardware sectors, entailing an outlay of ₹15,000 crore and ₹7,350 crore, respectively.

The PLI scheme for pharmaceuticals, whose duration will be for nine years from 2020-21 till 2028-29, will benefit domestic manufacturers, help create employment and is expected to contribute to the availability of a wider range of affordable medicines for consumers, the government said.

The scheme is expected to bring in investment of ₹15,000 crore in the pharmaceutical sector.

"The scheme is expected to promote the production of high-value products in the country and increase the value addition in exports. Total incremental sales of ₹2,94,000 crore and total incremental exports of ₹1,96,000 crore are estimated during six years from 2022-23 to 2027-28," it said, adding that the growth in the sector is expected to add 20,000

direct and 80,000 indirect jobs for both skilled and unskilled personnel.

The scheme also aims to create global champions from India that have the potential to grow in size and scale using cutting edge technology and thereby penetrate global value chains.

Further it is expected to promote innovation for development of complex and high-tech products including products for emerging therapies and in-vitro diagnostic devices as also self-reliance in important drugs, while improving accessibility and affordability of medical products, including orphan drugs, to the Indian population.

Separately, the cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, also approved the PLI Scheme for IT hardware such as laptops, tablets, all-in-one PCs and servers. The scheme, under which an incentive will be given on net incremental sales of goods manufactured in India for a period of four years, will benefit five major global players and ten domestic champions in the field of IT hardware, the government said.

"This is an important segment to promote manufacturing under AtmaNirbhar Bharat as there is huge import reliance for these items at present...It will enhance the development of the electronics ecosystem in the country," it added.

As per government estimates, the scheme has the potential to generate employment for more than 1,80,000 (direct and indirect jobs) over four years. "The scheme will provide impetus to domestic value addition for IT hardware which is expected to rise to 20-25% by 2025," it said.

## **India emerges as Asia's biggest destination for fintech deals: IBEF**

A recent research report released by RBSA Advisors has revealed that India has emerged as Asia's biggest destination for financial technology (fintech) deals, leaving behind China in the quarter ended June 2020. With around 33 deals valued at US\$ 647.5 million, India has the highest investment in the fintech segment compared to China's US\$ 284.9 million during the quarter ended June 30, 2020.

Total investments in India's fintech sector crossed the US\$ 10 billion mark over the last 4.5 years from FY 2016 to H1 of 2020.

"Amid COVID-19, India has seen a 60% increase in fintech investments to US\$ 1467 million in H1

2020 compared to the US\$ 919 million for the same period last year," the leading valuation, investment banking and transaction advisory firm said in a statement.

Bengaluru and Mumbai remain the top two headquartered cities for fintech companies.

"While the fintech industry is still in its early adoption stage, we believe it is well-positioned to witness long-term growth in the coming years. The changes will be more focused on digital lending (alternative finance) and open banking", RBSA Advisors MD and CEO, Mr. Rajeev Shah, said.

Out of total 21 unicorns in India, around one-third are fintech companies, Paytm being the highest valued unicorn, at US\$ 16 billion.

The fintech market in India was valued at US\$ 26.45 billion in 2019 and is expected to reach US\$ 85.52 billion by 2025, expanding at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of about 22% during the 2020-2025 period.

## **India govt IT spending to grow 9.4% in 2021: Gartner, The Livemint**

The Indian government's information technology (IT) spending is expected to grow by 9.4% year-on-year to \$7.3 billion in 2021, up from \$6.6 billion a year ago, said Gartner Inc. in its latest forecast for the country. The increased spending will be driven by the Digital India initiative, including the first-ever digital census. The Union budget has set aside ~ 516.05 million USD for the digital census.

Gartner expects the government's spending on software, including applications, infrastructure, and vertical-specific software to grow 13.4% annually.

Devices will grow at 11.8%, followed by IT services at 11.2%. Expenditure growth for data centres, telecom services and internal services will be 7.8%, 6.3% and 5.7%, respectively.

Wider adoption of artificial intelligence, blockchain and cloud services will be key focus areas for the government. "The weakening economy forced the Indian government to reduce the IT spend across all segments," Kaushik added.

IT spending in 2020 by government fell across segments. For instance, devices fell by 20.1%, internal services by 10.9% and data centre by 10%. Overall government IT spending in 2020 fell by 9.9%.

## Focus Sector

# Manufacturing

Manufacturing has emerged as one of the high growth sectors in India. Prime Minister of India, Mr Narendra Modi, launched the 'Make in India' program to place India on the world map as a manufacturing hub and give global recognition to the Indian economy. Government aims to create 100 million new jobs in the sector by 2022.

### Market Size

The Gross Value Added (GVA) at basic current prices from the manufacturing sector in India grew at a CAGR of 5% during FY16 and FY20 as per the annual national income published by Government of India. The sector's GVA at current prices was estimated at US\$ 397.14 billion in FY20PE.

Business conditions in the Indian manufacturing sector continue to remain positive. The manufacturing component of IIP

stood at 129.8 during FY20. Strong growth was recorded in the production of basic metals (10.8%), intermediate goods (8.8%), food products (2.7%) and tobacco products (2.9%). India's Index of eight core industries stood at 131.9 in FY20.

According to the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, India's industrial output, measured by IIP, rose by 3.6% y-o-y in October 2020.

Merchandise export decreased 4.78% y-o-y to reach US\$ 314.31 billion in FY20.

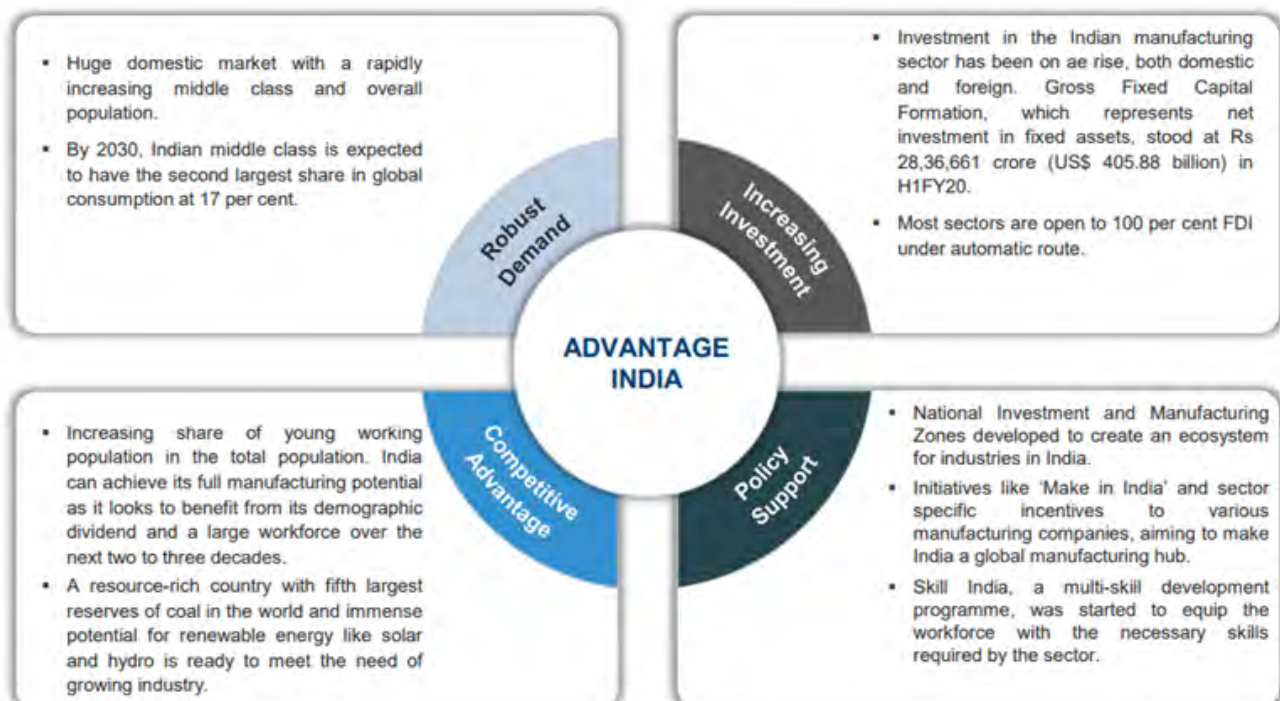
In October 2020, India's manufacturing sector recorded improvement for the third consecutive month, with businesses growing production to the greatest extent in 13 years in the middle of robust sales growth.

(Purchasing Managers' Index) PMI fell from 58.9 in October 2020 to a three-month low of 56.3 in November 2020, signifying strong growth in the manufacturing sector, despite losing traction.

### Investments

With the help of Make in India drive, India is on a path of becoming the hub for hi-tech manufacturing as global giants such as GE, Siemens, HTC, Toshiba, and Boeing have either set up or are in process of setting up manufacturing plants in India, attracted by India's market of more than a billion consumers and an increasing purchasing power.

According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), India ranked among the top 10 recipients of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in South Asia in



2019, attracting US\$ 49 billion—a 16% increase from the previous year.

Cumulative Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India's manufacturing sector reached US\$ 89.40 billion during April 2000 March 2020. In May 2020, the Government of India increased FDI in defence manufacturing under the automatic route from 49% to 74%.

India has become one of the most attractive destinations for investment in the manufacturing sector. Some of the major investments and developments in this sector in the recent past are:

- In November 2020, the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Dun & Bradstreet Information Services India to create an ecosystem to encourage, finance and promote growth of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

- In October 2020, Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) agreed to provide US\$ 1 billion to SBI (State Bank of India) for funding the manufacturing and sales business of suppliers and dealers of Japanese automobile manufacturers and providing auto loans for the purchase of Japanese automobiles in India.

- In October 2020, Tata Group announced plans to invest US\$ 673.20 million to set up an Apple phone component plant in Hosur, Tamil Nadu.

- In October 2020, Grinntech, an investor-backed startup specialising in lithium-ion batteries for Evs and energy storage systems, signed a MoU with the Tamil Nadu government

to establish a battery and battery management system manufacturing facility in the state.

- In October 2020, five international electronics manufacturing applications from companies such as Foxconn, Wistron, Pegatron, Samsung and Rising Star have been approved by the Government of India to set up production worth US\$ 122.5 billion over the next five years.

- In October 2020, five Indian manufacturers such as Micromax, Lava, Padget Electronics, UTL Neolyncs and Optiemus Electronics have been cleared by the Government of India to set up handset production worth US\$ 17.02 billion in the next five years.

- In September 2020, Pegatron, the second-largest manufacturer of Apple after Foxconn, began its India operations with the appointment of statutory auditors and transfer of US\$ 0.1 million for an initial subscription of equity shares. The move is a precursor for the Taiwanese electronics maker to set up a manufacturing base in India.

- In May 2020, Sterling and Wilson Solar Limited (SWSL) bagged an Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) contract in Australia for US\$ 368.85 million.

- In March 2020, Oricon Enterprises entered into a joint venture agreement with Italy-headquartered Tecnocap Group to set up a new company, Tecnocap Oriental, for manufacturing lug caps.

### Government Initiatives

The Government of India has taken several initiatives to promote a healthy environment for

the growth of manufacturing sector in the country. Some of the notable initiatives and developments are:

- In November 2020, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship begun skill training of 3 lakh migrant workers from the identified 116 districts across Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand.

- In March 2020, the government approved the Production Incentive Scheme (PLI) for Large-scale Electronics Manufacturing.

- In May 2020, Government increased FDI in Defence manufacturing under the automatic route from 49% to 74%.

- In March 2020, the Union Cabinet approved financial assistance to the Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC2.0) Scheme for development of world class infrastructure along with common facilities and amenities through Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMCs).

- As of August 2020, there were about 15,000 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in India.

- In August 2019, the Government permitted 100% FDI in contract manufacturing through the automatic route.

- Under the Make in India initiative, Government aims to increase the share of the manufacturing sector to country's GDP to 25% by 2025.

- In February 2019, the Union Cabinet passed National Policy on Electronics (NPE), envisaged to create a US\$ 400 billion electronics manufacturing industry in the country by 2025





# Indian State Economic Profile

## Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu is the fourth largest state of India. Located on the southern coast of India, Tamil Nadu is surrounded by Andhra Pradesh on the north, Karnataka and Kerala on the west, Indian Ocean on the south, and Bay of Bengal on the east.

Tamil Nadu has a diversified manufacturing sector and features among the leaders in several industries like automobiles and auto components, engineering, pharmaceuticals, garments, textile products, leather products, chemicals, plastics, etc. It ranks first among the states in terms of number of factories and industrial workers.

Between 2015-16 and 2020-21, Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) will expand at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 12.20% to reach US\$ 299.32 billion. Net State Domestic Product (NSDP) expanded at a CAGR of 11.93% to touch US\$ 231.49 billion between 2015-16 and 2019-20.

In 2019-20, the tertiary sector contributed 53.67% to state's

Gross State Value Added (GSVA) at current prices, followed by the secondary sector at 33.44%.

According to Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), cumulative Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry stood at US\$ 1,943.87 million between October 2019 and September 2020.

During 2019-20, total merchandise export from the state stood at US\$ 30.02 billion.

Tamil Nadu has a well-developed infrastructure with an excellent road and rail network, three major ports, 15 minor ports, and eight airports across the state providing excellent connectivity. As of July 2020, the state had a total installed power generation capacity of 32.62 gigawatt (GW).

### Key Sectors:

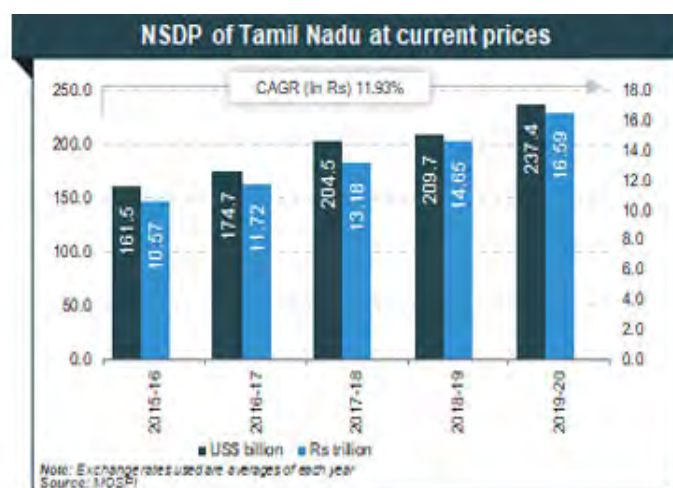
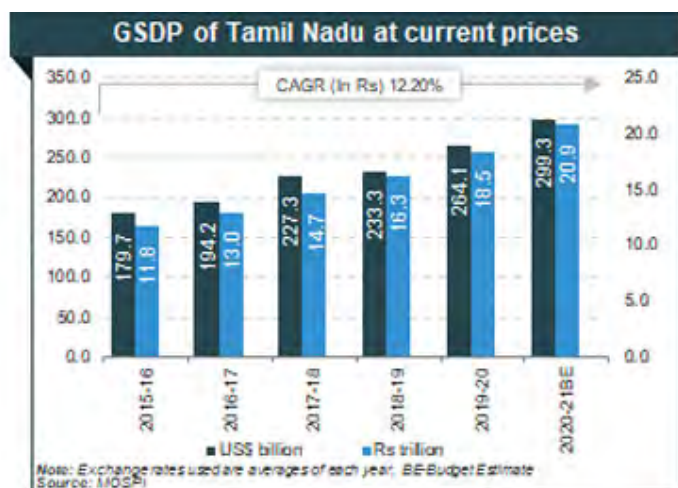
As of November 2020, Union Home Minister Mr. Amit Shah dedicated a US\$ 53.9 million fifth reservoir to cater to Chennai's drinking water supply in Tamil Nadu. The minister also laid the

foundation stone for various infrastructure projects, with a total exceeding US\$ 9.5 billion, across the state. The projects included the US\$ 8.8 billion phase II of Chennai Metro Rail, elevated highway in Coimbatore at an estimated US\$ 229.8 million, a barrage across river Cauvery in Karur district and IOCL's projects worth over US\$ 425.6 million.

As of February 2020, the state had 54 formally approved Special Economic Zone (SEZs), 50 notified SEZs and four with in-principle approval SEZs and has total 40 exporting SEZs.

Tamil Nadu is the largest producer of cotton yarn, accounting for 41% of India's production. During October-September 2019-20(E), the state was estimated to produce 600,000 bales of cotton. As of March 2019, IT & ITeS export from Tamil Nadu increased to US\$ 19.9 billion in 2018-19 at a growth rate of 10% y-o-y.

Tamil Nadu ranked 1st in terms of foreign tourist arrivals and second in terms of domestic tourist arrival in 2019(P). In 2019, foreign tourist arrival reached 6.86 million and domestic tourist stood at 494.86 million.



## Indian Trade Fairs/ Webinars

### INTERESTED IN VISITING A TRADE SHOW IN INDIA?

In case your company is interested in visiting a tradeshow/B2B event in India, be it one listed here or another one that came to your attention, get in contact with us via [comm1.vienna@mea.gov.in](mailto:comm1.vienna@mea.gov.in) to get more information about possible assistance/subsidies.

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The Journey Continues to The Next Destination..  
 Announcing Pawaas 3.0 on August 5-7, 2021  
 India's Biggest Bus and Car Travel Show for Passenger Mobility



Bus and Car Operators Confederation of India



**Pawaas 3.0**  
 India's Flagship Bus & Car Travel Show  
**August 5-7, 2021**



# Tourism

## Goa

<https://www.goatourism.gov.in/>



Fort Aguada, Goa



Basilica Of Bom Jesus, Goa

When in Goa, do as the Goans do; leave your watch at home. For honestly speaking, time is not of too much importance in this small state of India. Goa, an emerald land, is a 'state' of mind. A mind that is completely relaxed, content and jubilant. Located on the West Coast of India in the Konkan Region, Goa is a major tourist attraction for domestic and foreign tourists alike. Panaji, a picturesque city by the river Mandovi is the capital of Goa. With endless stretches of white sand, palm fringed beaches, brightly painted houses and Portuguese heritage, Goa is breathtaking. Water sports, river cruises, ayurvedic massage centres, live music, restaurants, mouth watering sea food, Goa has it all.

A variety of accommodation options ranging from luxury hotels, beautiful villas to moderately priced hotels and bed & breakfast units, is another feature of Goa which makes it a destination of choice for all.

Dudhsagar waterfalls tumbling from a staggering height are a must visit. Spice farms, old heritage Portuguese villas, churches, temples, architecture are other riveting aspects of Goa. Myriad experiences of Goa promise to make your holiday an everlasting experience.

### Places to Visit:

#### Anjuna Beach

Renowned for its serene vistas of swaying palms, golden sand and the unusual rock formations overlying a cove of white sand, Anjuna Beach is located about 18 km away from Panaji. A weekly flea market draws a large number of visitors every Wednesday, offering an array of apparel, footwear, jewellery, souvenirs, knick-knacks and more. There are many beach shacks here that have achieved legendary status. Additionally, there are some youth hostels here too.

#### Fort Aguada

Built to defend and protect Old Goa from potential invasions, Fort Aguada is the largest and the best-preserved Portuguese bastion in the state. It was built sometime between 1609 and 1612 to guard against the Marathas and the Dutch forces that wanted to establish their reign. Its strategic location limited the entry into River Mandovi and also to protected Old Goa from enemy attacks. Among the most fascinating highlights of the fort is a large cistern that could store over 20,00,000 gallons of water and a magnificent citadel.

#### Calangute Beach

Fondly called the queen of beaches by locals, Calangute Beach is among the most popular beaches in Goa, attracting large crowds throughout the year. The village of Calangute is equipped with all basic facilities a traveller would need, including banks, foreign exchange offices,

Internet cafes, hotels and resorts, eateries and hospitals.

### Dudhsagar Falls

Plunging down a height of 300 m, this waterfall is one of the most spectacular sights in Goa, especially during the monsoon months. Its name implies a sea of milk in Konkani, owing, it is believed, to how the water looks as it cascades down an almost vertical cliff face - rich, white and foamy like pure milk. One of the most glorious waterfalls in the country, Dudhsagar Falls is set in the midst of spectacular scenery and overlooks a valley covered by the tropical forest of Bhagwan Mahavir Sanctuary and Molem National Park in the Western Ghats. You can reach the falls via trekking through picturesque surroundings.

### Panaji

Goa's capital, Panaji is located on the banks of River Mandovi and is considered to be one of the country's most relaxed cities. Formerly known as Panjim, the city boasts lovely cafes and restaurants, colonial-era buildings, gorgeous churches and a stunning riverside promenade. The narrow by-lanes of the Latin Quarter are a must-visit to get a taste of the city's Portuguese heritage. Among Panaji's most

popular sites are Our Lady of Immaculate Conception Church, Adil Shah's Palace, which is Goa's oldest surviving building, Mahalaxmi Temple, Chapel of St Sebastian and Maruti Temple.

### Basilica Of Bom Jesus

Probably the most famous church in Goa and one of the most revered by Christians globally, the Basilica of Bom Jesus in Old Goa is famed for housing the mortal remains of St Francis Xavier. This complex, along with some other churches of Old Goa, features on the UNESCO World Heritage list. Its exterior facade, built using black granite, is noted for Baroque architecture combined with Doric, Corinthian and composite influences.

### Safa Masjid

Located in Ponda, the Safa Masjid was built in 1560 by Ibrahim Adil Shah, the sultan of Bijapur. It is a huge complex and amongst its ruins are various gardens and fountains that make for a tranquil setting. A pointed terracotta tile roof covers the main rectangular prayer hall of the mosque. The most interesting aspect of the Safa Masjid complex is the huge water tank with 44 hammams or hot air baths that dot its four interior sides. The tank has a flight of steps made in typical Hindu bathing style of ghats. Both the tank as well as the mosque have been made in laterite stone masonry.

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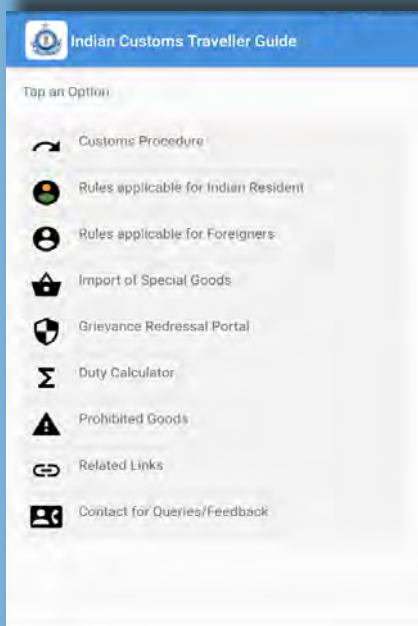
## ; uide for Travellers- 6 aggage Rules



The Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) has launched mobile app "Indian Customs- Guide to Travellers" for dissemination of information about Customs Baggage Rules, 2016.

The application has been launched to inform traders, exporters and importers about 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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## Guide to travellers APP



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### STUDENTS WELFARE OFFICER

- Mr. Rishi Tripathi, Third 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](mailto:ccl.vienna@mea.gov.in)

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