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Trade & Investment Facilitation Services

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TIFS Newsletter: July (2023)

Due to significant global headwinds, India's exports slowed down in June 2023. India's Merchandise exports in June 2023 were USD 32.97 Billion, as compared to USD 42.28 Billion in June 2022, exhibiting a decline of (-) 22.01%. Service exports for the month of June 2023 stood at USD 27.12 Billion as compared to USD 26.92 billion in June 2022, thus registering small Y-o-Y growth of 0.74%.

India's overall exports (Merchandise and Services combined) in June 2023 are valued to be USD 60.09 Billion, exhibiting a decline of (-) 13.16% over the same period last year June 2022. Combined exports in April-June 2023 are estimated to exhibit a negative growth of (-) 7.29% over April-June 2022.

Merchandise imports in June 2023 are USD 53.10 billion, as compared to USD 64.28 billion in June 2022 thus showing a fall of (-) 17.48%. **The service imports** for June 2023 are USD 15.88 billion compared to USD 15.77 billion in June 2022, thus showing a growth of 0.69%.

Under merchandise exports 9 of the 30 key sectors which include Iron Ore (1664.3%), Electronic Goods (45.36%), Oil Seeds (33.33%), Cashew (19.6%), Tobacco (17.8%), Fruits & Vegetables (14.1%), Coffee (7.1%),

Handicrafts Excl. Hand Made Carpet (5.14%) and Drugs & Pharmaceuticals (5.13%) exhibited positive growth in June 2023 as compared to same period last year (June 2022).

Under merchandise imports in June 2023, the products that witnessed positive growth are Pulses (202%), Gold (82%), Project goods (33%), Electronic goods (8.5%), chemical material and products (6%), Newsprint (4), Leather & leather products (2), Professional instrument, Optical goods, etc. (2%) and Iron & Steel (1%).

India witnessed developments in exports, imports and foreign investments.' India's positive growth in FDI by 17.4% compared to June 2022 reflects its increasing attractiveness for foreign investments. Strengthening bilateral ties with Germany further enhances the country's potential for greater investments and collaborations. India's proactive approach in the global market positions it as a promising player with a bright economic outlook.

On the policy end, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has implemented the Advance authorization Scheme under the Foreign Trade Policy, which will allow duty-free import of inputs for export purposes in order to enhance exports in the country.



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Developments in India's Foreign Trade



1 Developments in India's Foreign Trade

1.1 Exports

- India's overall exports (Merchandise and Service combined) for June 2023 records are USD 60.09 Billion exhibiting a decline of 13.16% over the same period last year (June 2022)
- Merchandise exports in June 2023 were USD 32.97 Billion, as compared to USD 42.28 Billion in June 2022, exhibiting a decline of (-) 22%
- Trade deficit improved by 28.26% during April to June 2023 to US\$ 22.59 Billion from US\$ 31.49 Billion in April to June 2022. Merchandise Trade Deficit also improves by 7.9% at USD 57.6 Billion April-June 2023 as compared to USD 62.6 Billion in April-June 2022.

Table 1: India's Merchandise Trade Statistics at a Glance

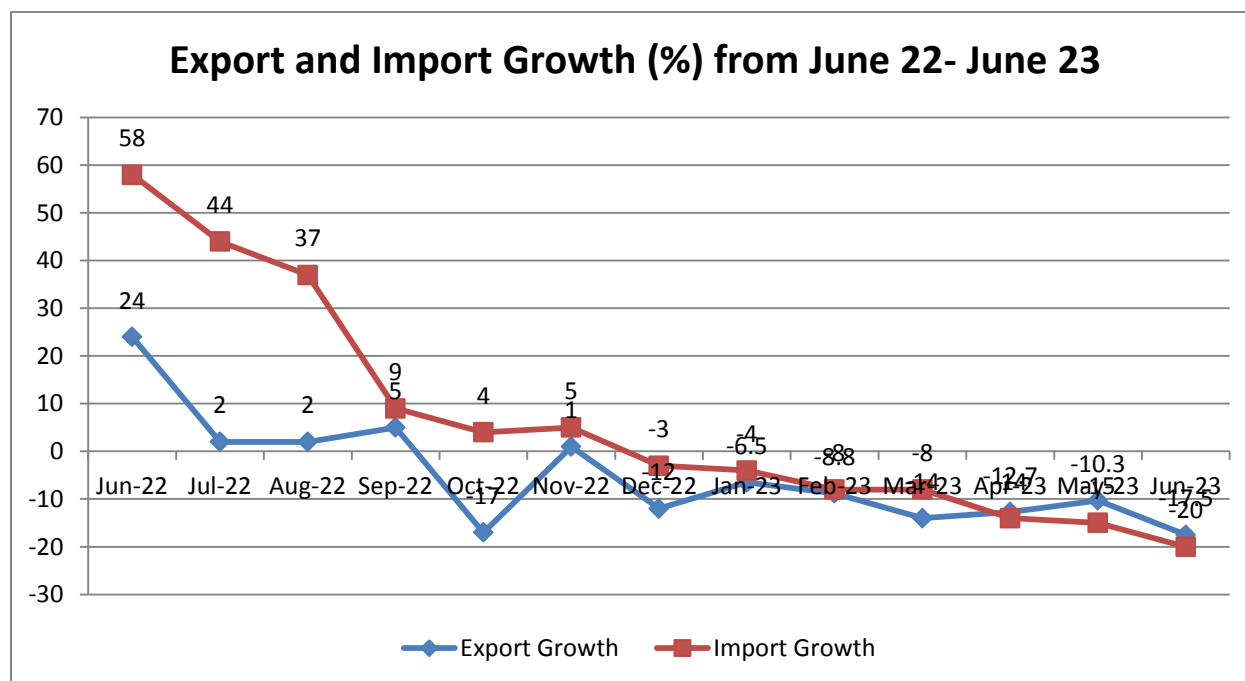
Merchandise	Jun 22	Jul 22	Aug 22	Sep 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23	Jun 23
Export (USD Billions)	42	36	34	35	30	32	35	33	34	38	35	35	33
Export Growth from last year (%)	24	2	2	5	-17	1	-12	-6	-9	-14	-12	-10	-22
Import (USD Billions)	64	66	62	61	57	56	58	51	51	58	50	50	53
Import Growth from last year (%)	58	44	37	9	4	5	-3	-4	-8	-8	-14	-20	-17
Trade Balance (USD Billions)	-26	-30	-28	-26	-27	-24	-23	-18	-17	-20	-15	-15	-20

Source: PHD Research Bureau; PHDCCI Compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

Table 1 shows India's merchandise export and import in USD Billion from June 2022 to June 2023 along with the year on year (YoY) growth observed in each month. The trade balance

observed in each month is also noted. It was valued at USD (-) 30 Billion in July 2022 and since thereafter it has witnessed a constant improvement. As of June, 2023, the overall merchandise trade balance is USD (-) 20 Billion.

Figure 1: India's Merchandise Exports and Imports Growth from previous year (in %)



Source: PHD Research Bureau; PHDCCI Compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

- **Non-petroleum and non-gems & jewelry exports in June 2023** were USD 25.13 Billion, compared to USD 28.15 Billion in June 2022.
- **The estimated value of services export for June 2023** is USD 27.12 Billion, exhibiting a growth of 0.74 % vis-a-vis June 2022 (USD 26.92 Billion).

Table 2: Trade in Services at a Glance (June 2022-June 2023)

Service	Jun 22	Jul 22	Aug 22	Sep 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23	June 23
Export (receipts) (USD billions)	26.9	24	24	26	29	26	27	32	29	28	30	25	27

Service	Jun 22	Jul 22	Aug 22	Sep 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Feb 23	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23	June 23
Imports (Payments) (USD Billions)	16	14	14	15	16	13	16	16	15	14	16	14	16
Trade Balance (USD Billions)	9	10	10	11	13	13	11	16	14	14	14	11	11

Source: PHD Research Bureau; PHDCCI Compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

For the month of June 2023, under merchandise exports, 9 of the 30 key sectors exhibited positive growth in June 2023 as compared to same period last year (June 2022). These include Iron Ore (1664.3%), Electronic Goods (45.36%), Oil Seeds (33.33%), Cashew (19.6%), Tobacco (17.8%), Fruits & Vegetables (14.1%), Coffee (7.1%), Handicrafts Excl. Hand Made Carpet (5.14%) and Drugs & Pharmaceuticals (5.13%). Exports of Electronic goods increased by 45.36 % in June 2023 (at USD 2.43 Billion) as compared to USD 1.67 Billion in June 2022. During April-June 2023 electronic goods exports were recorded at USD 6.96 Billion as compared to USD 4.73 Billion during April-June 2022, registering a growth of 47.05 percent. Enabling policies facilitating greater investment in electronics, mobile manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, etc. has resulted in visible growth in these sectors.

Table 3 List of Exported Items showing highest growth during June 2023

Value in USD Million				
S. No	Commodities	June '22	June'23	% change in June 23
i.	Iron Ore	11.15	196.72	1664%
ii.	Electronic Goods	1668.66	2425.54	45%
iii.	Oil seeds	101.34	135.12	33%
iv.	Cashew	23.01	27.52	20%
v.	Tobacco	100.85	118.8	18%
vi.	Fruits & Vegetables	206.68	235.82	14%
vii.	Coffee	108.18	115.86	7%
viii.	Handicrafts excl. handmade carpet	152.62	160.47	5%
ix.	Drugs & Pharmaceuticals	2123.3	2232.23	5%

Source: PHD Research Bureau; PHDCCI Compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India



Recent Developments in India's Exports

- **India bans export of non-basmati white rice:** The Indian government has banned the export of non-basmati white rice in an effort to reduce rising prices caused by an uneven distribution of rainfall in key producing areas. Reports had suggested that India was considering a ban on most rice varieties, a move that it said could affect around 80% of the country's export volumes.
- **Shri Piyush Goyal met industry leaders to discuss ways to boost manufacturing, exports:** Hon'ble Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal held discussions with representatives of top 100 companies in Mumbai on ways to increase share of domestic manufacturing and boost the country's exports. Senior officials from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) including Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh are also expected to participate in the deliberations.
- **In India-UAE currency deal, a bid to change terms of global trade - India and UAE using their own local currencies:** rupee and dirham – to pay for imports and exports is a bold shift away from the dollar. Dirham's strength and Indian economy's size allows both currencies to proceed on equal terms. Such isolated shifts won't worry the US, but not so if the club of countries using their local currencies to trade were to grow.
- **India's gems & jewelry exports may fall 10-15% this fiscal-** India's gems and jewelry exports are likely to decline by 10 to 15 per cent in the current financial year on account of slowing demand in key markets like the US and China.
- **DGFT implements the Advance Authorizations Scheme, allows duty-free import of inputs for export purposes:** Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) implements the Advance authorization Scheme under the Foreign Trade Policy, which allows duty-free import of inputs for export purposes. The eligibility of inputs is determined by Sector-specific Norms Committees based on input-output norms
- **Government simplifies norms to imports input materials to boost exports:** India's goods exports slumped over 22% year-over-year in June to hit an eight-month low of \$32.97 billion as the value of exports of petroleum products nearly halved in June compared last year when commodity prices were on a boil following the Russia-Ukraine war.
- **Automobile exports from India dip 28 pc in Q1 as several markets hit by monetary crisis -** Automobile exports from India declined 28 per cent in the April-June period this year hit by monetary crisis in Africa and various other developing countries, according to



the latest data. Overall exports stood at 10,32,449 units in the first quarter ended on June 30, 2023 as compared with 14,25,967 units in the same period of last year.

- **India expects EU carbon tax to hit exports of steel, iron ore and cement** - The EU's introduction of a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), with 20% to 35% tariffs on high-carbon exports, could impede India's exports of steel, iron ore and cement, according to the country's finance ministry. The EU plans to levy the tariffs from 2026 and will start requiring reports of carbon content for such exports from Oct. 1, 2023.
- **Focus on food, electronics for export push: Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce Sh. Piyush Goyal:** The commerce and industry ministry shared with export organizations its plan to promote investment and trade together so that India can get a larger share of world trade. "The department for promotion of industry and internal trade will be holding roadshows in 12 countries to attract investments and also engage with domestic stakeholders in tier I and Tier II to build an ecosystem for export.
- **India's remarkable economic scale and market potential enable startups to flourish and thrive in global startup ecosystem: Union Commerce and Industry Minister Sh. Piyush Goyal-**Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Shri Piyush Goyal has said that India's remarkable economic scale and market potential have played a pivotal role in enabling startups to flourish and thrive in the global startup ecosystem. While addressing the 'Startup20 Shikhar' at Gurugram, Haryana, Shri Goyal said that there must be a global effort to nurture inclusive, supportive and sustainable startup ecosystems in all parts of the world to address global challenges.
- **Commerce minister to meet traders as exports dip** - Cumulatively, exports during April-May this fiscal contracted by 11.41% to US \$69.72 billion, while imports declined 10.24% to US \$107 billion. Demand slowdown in major markets, high inflation in developed economies and the Russia-Ukraine war are impacting the country's exports.
- **India a key destination to strengthen global supply chains for Taiwanese tech firms-** In an attempt to bring down their exposure to the Chinese market amid increasing tension, leading Taiwanese technology firms are looking at relocating their manufacturing bases to India.
- **Commerce ministry authorizes EPCMD to issue registration-cum-membership certificates for exporters:** The Commerce Ministry has authorized the newly-established



Export Promotion Council for Medical Devices (EPCMD) to issue registration-cum-membership certificates for exporters of specific medical items. These items include bandages, first-aid boxes, hot water bottles, ice bags, gloves, surgical garments, syringes, and stethoscopes. A Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RCMC) is required for exporters to avail benefits under the foreign trade policy, as well as customs and excise benefits

1.2 Imports

- Overall imports in June 2023 are estimated to be USD 69 Billion, exhibiting a negative growth of (-) 13.9 per cent over June 2022.
- **Non-petroleum, non-gems & jewellery (gold, silver & precious metals) imports in June 2023** were USD 33.28 Billion, compared to USD 38.93 Billion in June 2022.
- **Non-petroleum, non-gems & jewellery (gold, silver & precious metals) imports** were USD 100.84 Billion in April-June 2023 as compared to USD 110.22 Billion in April-June 2022.
- **Under merchandise imports, 21 out of 30 key sectors exhibited negative growth in June 2023.** These include Silver (-94.3%), Coal, Coke & Briquettes, Etc. (-47.6%), Sulphur & Unroasted Iron Pyrites (-35.6%), Petroleum, Crude & Products (-33.7%), Textile Yarn Fabric, Made-Up Articles (-33.7%), Organic & Inorganic Chemicals (-30.5%), Wood & Wood Products (-28.8%), Vegetable Oil (-28.18), Artificial Resins, Plastic Materials, Etc. (-26%), Dyeing/Tanning/Colouring Materials (-25.5%), Pearls, Precious & Semi-Precious Stones (-24.4%), Cotton Raw & Waste (-24.2%), Fruits & Vegetables (-18%), Metaliferrous Ores & Other Minerals (-17%), Fertilisers, Crude & Manufactured (-8.6%), Medicinal & Pharmaceutical Products (-5.4%), Machine Tools (-5.3%), Pulp And Waste Paper (-4.3%), Non-Ferrous Metals (-3.5%), Machinery, Electrical & Non-Electrical (-2.2%) and Transport Equipment (-1.5%).
- The items which witnessed the positive growth in imports during June 2023 are Pulses (202%), Gold (82%), Project goods (33%), Electronic goods (8.5%), chemical material and products (6%), Newsprint (4), Leather & leather products (2), Professional instrument, Optical goods, etc. (2%) and Iron & Steel (1%).

Table 4: List of Imported items showing highest growth during June 2023

Value in USD Million				
Sl. No.	Commodities	June'22	June '23	% change in June '23
1	Pulses	72.25	218.15	202
2	Gold	2738.85	4995.07	82
3	Project goods	94.02	124.87	33
4	Electronic goods	6121.95	6643.67	8.5
5	Chemical material & products	1154.15	1229.87	6
6	Newsprint	46.62	48.83	4
7	Leather & leather products	98.22	100.63	2
8	Professional instrument, Optical goods, etc.	576.04	585.31	2
9	Iron & Steel	1580.76	1596.26	1

Source: PHD Research Bureau; PHDCCI Compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

Recent Developments in India's Imports

- **US at WTO: India allows GM cotton, mustard at home but blocks imports:** The US has asked India to revoke approval for routine cultivation of genetically modified cotton and the environmental release of GM mustard. This request comes as India mandates a non-GMO and GM-free status certificate from exporting countries for several food products.
- **India's Russian oil imports hit new high in June, but growth slows** - India took nearly 2 million barrels per day (bpd) of Russian crude in June, a marginal growth from the previous month, the data showed. Prior to the Ukraine war, India rarely bought oil from Russia due to high freight costs. In June India's imports of Russian oil exceeded its combined purchases from Iraq and Saudi Arabia, the second- and third-biggest suppliers to New Delhi, the data showed.
- **In India-UAE currency deal, a bid to change terms of global trade** - India and UAE using their own local currencies – rupee and dirham – to pay for imports and exports is a bold shift away from the dollar. Dirham's strength and Indian economy's size allows both currencies to proceed on equal terms. Such isolated shifts won't worry the US, but not so if the club of countries using their local currencies to trade were to grow.
- **India's Russian oil imports hit new high in June, but growth slows** - India took nearly 2 million barrels per day (bpd) of Russian crude in June, a marginal growth from the previous month, the data showed. Prior to the Ukraine war, India rarely bought oil from Russia due

to high freight costs. In June India's imports of Russian oil exceeded its combined purchases from Iraq and Saudi Arabia, the second- and third-biggest suppliers to New Delhi, the data showed.

- **Top buyer India's sun oil imports to fall as Black Sea grain deal expires** - India's imports of sunflower oil are likely to fall in the coming months as it becomes uncompetitive against rival oils due to rising prices after Russia withdrew from the Black Sea grain deal, industry officials.
- **Import restrictions on gold jewelry not applicable for SEZ units:** The government has clarified that import restrictions on certain gold jewelry and articles are not applicable for units in the special economic zones (SEZs).
- **India's steel imports surge in June 2023, China and Vietnam dominate share:** India's steel imports in June 2023 rose by 5.9% month-on-month and 7.6% year-on-year, with increased shares from China and Vietnam. Meanwhile, India's steel exports declined by 27.6% compared to May 2023 and 21.3% compared to June 2022. Iron ore prices remained unchanged.
- **China, Vietnam's share in India's steel import basket rises during June 2023, says official data** - The share of countries like China and Vietnam in India's 4.84 LMT steel import basket during June 2023 has increased on a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, according to official data. At 4.84 lakh metric ton (LMT), India's overall steel import registered a 5.9 per cent increase on a month-on-month (m-o-m) basis and 7.6 per cent over June 2022, the Ministry of Steel said.
- **Government restricts import of certain gold jewelry & articles amid swelling trade deficit:** The Government of India has restricted imports of certain gold jewelry and articles, requiring a license for importers. This move comes as the trade deficit increases and exports drop. However, the restrictions will not apply to imports under the India-UAE free trade agreement.
- **Indian potato imports from Bhutan to continue without import license for another year:** The import of potatoes in India from Bhutan will continue without any import license for another year. A similar exemption has also been made for areca nut export. Earlier, the Indian government had given import exemption for potatoes from Bhutan for a year, which ended on June 30.
- **Imports of UK bulk whisky may attract tariff concessions:** India is considering offering higher tariff concessions for bulk whisky imports compared to bottled whisky as part of the ongoing India-UK free-trade agreement (FTA) negotiations. The approach aims to encourage

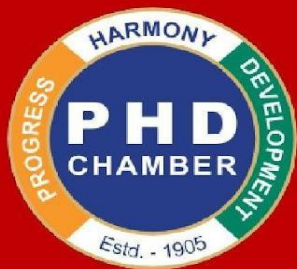


the import of intermediate products and address a contentious issue in the trade discussions.

- **Russia oil discount to India shrinks to \$4, delivery charges remain opaque:** The steep discounts on Russia crude oil that India gorged on since the Ukraine war, have plunged but the shipping rates charged by Russia-arranged entities continues to remain 'opaque' and higher than normal.
- **Imports of low ash Met Coke under Safeguard duty probe scanner** - The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has initiated a Safeguard duty (Quantitative Restrictions) investigation concerning imports of low ash metallurgical coke (Met Coke) into India. Met coke is used as a primary fuel in furnaces of steel, chemical, Ferro alloy, and pig iron plants. DGTR will be investigating imports of the commodity from April 2022 to March 2023.
- **India permits potato imports from Bhutan without any license till Jun 2024:** India permitted imports of potatoes from Bhutan without any license for one more year till June 2024. Earlier, it was allowed till June 30 this year. "Import of potatoes is allowed from Bhutan without any import license, up to June 30, 2024," the directorate general of foreign trade (DGFT) said in a notification.
- **India's June palm oil imports jump 49% from May over lowest prices in 28 months:** India's June palm oil imports jumped 49 per cent from the previous month to their highest in three months as buyers took advantage of a dip in prices to their lowest in 28 months to increase purchases.
- **Chinese imports cheaper as rupee gains over yuan: Mumbai:** India's inflation outlook, which faces upside risks from an uncertain monsoon prognosis, has gained an advantage from the economic struggles of neighboring China, as a sharp appreciation in the rupee versus the yuan cheapens the price of imported goods.
- **Government simplifies norms to imports input materials to boost exports:** India's goods exports slumped over 22% year-over-year in June to hit an eight-month low of \$32.97 billion as the value of exports of petroleum products nearly halved in June compared last year when commodity prices were on a boil following the Russia-Ukraine war
- **Fertilizer import up 57% in April-May of FY24** - Fertilizer import of key varieties — urea, DAP, MOP and complex — has surged 57 per cent in the first two months of FY24, potentially helping the government in avoiding a crisis similar to the one witnessed last year when farmers protested in many parts of the country due to shortage.



- **India's oil imports from Russia climb to new peak as buying limit nears-** India's imports of Russian oil hit another record last month as the South Asian nation potentially nears the limit of its buying splurge from the major OPEC+ producer.
- **LPG shipments to draw customs duty of 15% & farm cess of equal amount-** The Centre has raised the basic customs duty on domestic LPG to 15% from 5%. It has also imposed an Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess (AIDC) of 15% on the import of LPG cylinders.
- **Indian importers must hedge near-term exposures on USD rally risk:** Several analysts are advising Indian importers to hedge their near-term foreign currency payments due to expectations of a stronger US dollar in the next quarter. The Federal Reserve is likely to continue raising interest rates, which will strengthen the greenback against Asian currencies
- **India to import 35 pc more tur dal at 12 lakh tons to check prices:** The issue in tur (pigeon peas) is lower domestic production. The country's tur production remained lower at 30 lakh ton in the 2022-23 crop year (July-June) against 39 lakh ton last year.



Trade & Investment Facilitation Services



SINGLE WINDOW INFORMATION AND PROCEDURAL FACILITATION

Trade and Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS) is a vital component for international trade and investment community. It is envisioned to facilitate firms across the globe for trade and investments in India while simultaneously meeting India's rapidly growing appetite for new markets to enhance trade and investments.

Considering the thirst of the Nation to place India at the forefront of Global Economic Architecture, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry launched a specialized desk on Trade and Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS) on 31st March 2017. TIFS is an information and advisory hub to provide requisite and detailed information to facilitate national and international business firms to invest in India; advising them on prospective business opportunities in India in general and in States and promising sectors in particular.

Vision of TIFS

We aim to make India a US\$ 100 billion (per annum) investment destination in the next five years and to enhance India's trade trajectory to the higher level. We envisage US\$ 1000 billion merchandise trade (exports and imports) and US\$ 500 billion services trade (exports and imports) per annum in the next five years.

Geographical Area

TIFS covers pan India from Jammu Kashmir in the North to Tamil Nadu in the South and from Gujarat in the West to Arunachal Pradesh in the East.

Three role dimensions

1. Information role:

Serving as a key link to all information centres on all national and regional/local regulations and clearances. This includes maintaining or having direct and easy access to such information. This also means constant updating of such information.

2. Catalyst role:

Providing facilitative advisory services to help overcome key obstacles and strengthen key positive enablers for enhanced trade and investments. This includes providing information or "leads" on opportunities that would benefit international business community to invest in India.

3. Networking role:

Effective networking with relevant Indian and overseas agencies and leveraging of such networks in the direction of risk mitigation and enhancing trade and investments.

Strategic Collaborators of TIFS

TIFS work in close coordination with Trade Consulars' of different countries as well as international trade and business community and international chambers of commerce. Further, for facilitating and providing information on procedural requirements, TIFS also work in close coordination with the government both at the central and the state level as well as industry associations in India.

Trade Consular's of
different countries

Government including
Central and State

Industry
Associations

International Trade
and
Business Community

International
Chambers
of Commerce

International
Consulting Firms

How TIFS work in assisting investors?

It is envisaged to be the first-point-one-stop reference for potential investors from around the world. Our team of domain and functional experts provides sector-and-state-specific inputs, and hand-holding support to investors. We assist with location identification, expediting regulatory approvals, facilitating meetings with relevant government and corporate officials among others. For instance, if an investor A from Germany wants to invest USD 100 million in a textile business in India.

- A team of trained staff will be associated with the task for maintaining a physical helpdesk and provide the investor with all the help required regarding the relevant approvals to set up a business and information related to investment areas across India.
- Facility to set up meetings of the investors with Government officials for specific investor queries, both at the state government and central government level.
- Regular updates on various economic developments in India in general and sector specific in particular.
- Updates on state level developments related to policy amendments, sectoral developments, taxation mechanism, infrastructural, etc.
- Updates on Foreign Direct Investment norms, Foreign Trade Policy, etc.

TIFS undertakes the following activities

- i. Through regular research and networking with Government bodies, Entrepreneurs, Industry associations, Embassies/Consulates, Investment delegations, etc., the TIFS gather information on possible trade and investment opportunities in various sectors of the Indian economy.
- ii. TIFS advises prospective traders and investors, national and international, in their process of filing applications and helping them meet other procedural and regulatory requirements. For this purpose, information on specific trade and investment guidelines at the state and central level is provided by TIFS.
- iii. TIFS provides information at a broad level to international investors about possible potential joint venture partners in India. If TIFS is aware of any Indian parties interested in formation of Joint Ventures (JVs) with some global partners, such information is made available to interested investors.
- iv. In case of requests made by individual investors to undertake specific research assignments, financial analysis or due diligence of any specific joint venture partner or Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) targets, TIFS provides adequate resources to carry out such requests on an agreed cost.
- v. In a nutshell, TIFS increases understanding amongst national and international investors on the promising investment areas and requirements and regulations for making investments. Facilitates in dealing with the Government in application procedures amongst the national and international investors. Reduce lead time in investment processes and procedural transactions.

Registration

Registration is open to both Indian and foreign entities.

Registration fee is for your registration with TIFS program to receive updates on trade and investment scenario regularly for 1 year from the date of registration. However, for your specific queries consultancy charges would vary from case to case basis for facilitation services on detailed projects and exhaustive research studies.

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Developments in India's Foreign Investments



2 Developments in India's Foreign Investments

2.1 India's FDI Inflows

Foreign companies invest in India to take advantage of relatively lower wages, special investment privileges like tax exemptions, etc. For a country where foreign investment is being made, it also means achieving technical know-how and generating employment. The Indian Government's favorable policy regime and robust business environment has ensured that foreign capital keeps flowing into the country. The Government has taken many initiatives in recent years such as relaxing FDI norms across sectors such as green equity bonds, defense manufacturing sector, PSU oil refineries, telecom, power exchanges, and stock exchanges, among others. Outward FDI occurs when a domestic firm expands its operations to a foreign country. This can happen through a merger, an acquisition, expansion, etc.

Table 5: Summary of Outward Foreign Direct Investment (OFDI) for June 2023 (values in USD Million)

S. No.	Financial Commitment	June 2023	May 2023	June 2022	Growth (%) 2023 over 2022
i.	Equity	477.11	779.71	406.29	17.4%
ii.	Loan	221.65	204.48	498.79	-55.6%
iii.	Guarantee issued	275.15	309.39	1028.79	-73.3%
iv.	Total Financial Commitment (1+2+3)	973.90	1293.58	1933.87	-49.6%

Source: PHD Research Bureau; PHDCCI Compiled from Reserve Bank of India

- According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), total FDI equity outward in June 2023 stood US\$ 477 million (49%) out of the total US\$ 974 million. This outward FDI equity showed a positive growth of 17.4% per cent over June 2022, which stood at US\$ 406 million.
- The total FDI loan outward in June 2023 contributed to US\$ 222 million (23%) out of the total US\$ 974 million. The outward FDI loan showed a negative growth of (-) 56 per cent over June 2022 which stood at US\$ 499 million. The negative growth was also witnessed by the guarantee issued from June 2022 to June 2023 to the tune of (-) 73 per cent. The total financial commitment for June 2023 stood at US\$ 974 million, 50 percent lower than the same month in 2022 (US\$ 1934 million).

- RBI provides investor-wise OFDI data and provides information on major activity of joint ventures (JVs) and wholly owned subsidiaries (WOS). Overall, the financial commitment by wholly owned subsidiaries is to the tune of US \$ 815 million and by joint ventures is to the tune of US \$ 156 million.
- As per latest FDI inflow statistics, the services sector attracted the highest cumulative equity inflow of USD 102.5 Billion (from April 2000 till March 2023) followed by computer software and hardware (USD 94 Billion) and trading (39 Billion)

Table 6 Foreign Direct Investment

S.No	Period of Assessment FY 2022-23 (April-March)	FDI Equity Inflow (USD Billion)
i.	April-March 2023	46
ii.	April-March 2022	58.7
iii.	Growth (%) over last year	-22 %

Source: PHD Research Bureau; PHDCCI Compiled from Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade

According to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), the April to March (FY2022-23) foreign direct investment equity inflows stood at USD 46 billion with a negative growth of (-) 22% over the last year for the same period (USD 58.7 Billion)

2.2 Recent Developments in India's Foreign Investments

- **Japan keen to make investments worth 5 trillion yen in India:** Japan is planning to invest approximately 5 trillion yen in India across multiple sectors, including steel, according to Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia. He made the announcement after meeting with a Japanese delegation led by NISHIMURA Yasutoshi, Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry of Japan.
- **India, Germany to strengthen bilateral ties, increase investments:** India and Germany are looking to strengthen bilateral cooperation and increase investments and collaboration, according to Robert Habeck, Germany's Vice Chancellor and Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate Action. While China remains Germany's biggest trading partner, there is



concern about being too reliant on a single market, and Habeck said de-risking and diversification is important.

- **Investment opportunities worth over Rs 10 lakh crore identified in maritime sector** - India's maritime sector has the potential to attract investment of Rs 10 lakh crore, according to Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways. The sector has the potential to drive economic growth in India and the Asia-Pacific region
- **Amid talks, Argentina expresses keen interest in BrahMos and Tejas, bolstering defence capabilities** - Hon'ble Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh held talks with Argentine Defence Minister Jorge Taiana and the talks covered topics of ongoing defence cooperation initiatives, including measures to enhance defence industrial partnership highlighting the growing cooperation between the two nations.
- **India overtakes China to become the most attractive emerging market for investing:** India has overtaken China as the most attractive emerging market for investing in EM debt, thanks to improved stability, demographics, and regulatory initiatives. Other countries like Mexico and Brazil are also benefiting from increased foreign corporate investment.
- **India and ASEAN top recipients of FDI, says UNCTAD report-** Foreign direct investment (FDI) in developing countries in Asia remained flat year-on-year at \$662 billion during 2022, despite clocking about half of global inflows.
- **HPE (Hewlett Packard Enterprise) to 'Make in India', partners with VVDN to manufacture servers worth \$1 billion:** Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) has partnered with original design equipment maker VVDN to begin manufacturing high-volume servers in India under the revised production linked incentive or PLI scheme.
- **Former Japanese Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Suga leads mega business mission to India to push investments** - Former Hon'ble Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Yoshihide Suga, is visiting India with a business delegation to promote Japanese investments. Mr. Suga will inspect the construction site of the High Speed Railway project in Ahmedabad and later meet with Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in New Delhi.
- **UK-based firm plans to set up semiconductor fabrication unit in Odisha-** A UK-based company is planning to set up a semiconductor fabrication unit in Odisha's Ganjam district with an investment of Rs 30,000 crore in the first phase. SRAM & MRAM Technologies and Projects India Pvt Limited, the Indian unit of UK-based SRAM & MRAM Group, had signed a



memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the state government on March 26 to set up the semiconductor unit in the state.

- **British Airways looks to expand in India, says CEO, airline mulls rebuilding and modernising:** British Airways Sean Doyle's chief said that the airline is witnessing a balanced growth in India and a jump is also seen in the weekly flights from the pre-pandemic levels.
- **World Bank approves \$1.5 billion financing for India's low carbon energy sector:** The financing will help India promote low-carbon energy by scaling up renewable energy, developing green hydrogen and stimulating climate finance for low-carbon energy investments.

Developments in Bilateral Trade



3 Developments in India's Bilateral Trade

- **India, Germany to strengthen bilateral ties, increase investments:** India and Germany are looking to strengthen bilateral cooperation and increase investments and collaboration, according to Robert Habeck, Germany's Vice Chancellor and Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate Action. While China remains Germany's biggest trading partner, there is concern about being too reliant on a single market, and Habeck said de-risking and diversification is important. He noted that other partnerships, such as the Indo-German partnership, are gaining importance.
- **UK signs treaty to join Trans-Pacific free trade bloc** - The UK formally signed the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) trade bloc, a move it says will help grow the country's economy and provide access for British businesses to a market of over 500 million people.
- **RBI, Central Bank of UAE sign two MoUs for trade in local currencies** - The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Central Bank of UAE (CBUAE) signed two Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs) in Abu Dhabi to establish a framework to promote settle bilateral trade in respective local currencies, that Indian Rupee and UAE Dirham (AED) and interlinking payments and messaging system.
- **India and Indonesia announce launch of the “India – Indonesia Economic and Financial Dialogue” (EFD Dialogue) on sidelines of G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting in Gujarat** - Ms. Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Hon’ble Minister of Finance, Indonesia, and the Hon’ble Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, announced the launch of the “India – Indonesia Economic and Financial Dialogue”. The platform, unveiled during the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting, seeks to strengthen cooperation between the two nations and foster a shared understanding on global issues.
- **Tesla looking to drive its supply chain to India:** Tesla executives, in meetings with government officials, have sought details on incentives and tax breaks. Tesla wants to bring its own suppliers to India. The automaker could be exploring a ‘China plus one’ strategy.
- **India-GCC FTA becomes a reality 'very soon':** Secretary (Consular, Passport & Visa and Overseas Indian Affairs) in the Ministry of External Affairs Ausaf Sayeed also shared that India is in discussion with its bilateral partners with regard to alternate payment mechanisms like rupee trading and barter trading "especially under the new circumstances where most countries are facing challenges of foreign currency.

- **Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal holds talks with Secretary of State for Trade of the United Kingdom, discusses Free Trade Agreement and trade relations:** Hon'ble Commerce and Industry Minister (CIM) of India, Shri Piyush Goyal, concluded a productive visit to London from July 10 to July 12, during which he engaged with several highly placed politicians, government officials and industry leaders and had crucial discussions to strengthen the India-UK trade relationship. The visit was strategically timed, coinciding with the critical stage of ongoing negotiations, and proved to be instrumental in moving the discussions forward. During his visit, Minister Goyal met with the Secretary of State for Trade of the United Kingdom, Kemi Badenoch, to discuss the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and explore opportunities for enhanced collaboration between the two nations.
- **Bangladesh moves beyond dollar to settle trade with India in rupee:** The BB has already given permission to three banks - Sonali Bank, Eastern Bank and State Bank of India (SBI) in Bangladesh - to open nostro accounts with their counterparts in the neighbouring country.
- **India and Tanzania started trade settlements in local currencies: Hon'ble External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar-** External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Saturday said that India and Tanzania have started trade settlements in local currencies and this new initiative will help in promoting commerce between the two countries. Addressing industry leaders at a function, the minister said India-Tanzania bilateral trade has seen very strong growth, and stood at USD 6.4 billion in 2022-23.
- **India will put retaliatory barriers on green hydrogen trade-** India will put up barriers in green hydrogen trade in response to other nations imposing restrictions, said Hon'ble Power and Renewable Energy Minister Shri R K Singh at a press conference. As one of the world's biggest emitters of climate-warming gasses, India is betting on green hydrogen to help cut its emissions and to reach its target of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2070.
- **Restoration of GSP benefits by US need of hour-** India and US have agreed to discuss demand for restoration of Generalized System of Preferences benefits to domestic exporters and now both sides will commence discussions to find a solution.
- **India-UK FTA: Half the chapters in pact agreed on; working to complete deal early, says UK International Trade Minister-** The United Kingdom is keen that free trade pact being negotiated with India is completed at the earliest as it re-focuses its attention of the growing markets of the Indo-Pacific, however the financial powerhouse is not



setting any deadlines for the agreements which will include deals on service sector and investments.

- **DGCA to collaborate with EASA on unmanned aircraft systems** - The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has entered into a pact with European regulator EASA for cooperation in the areas of unmanned aircraft systems and innovative air mobility. This will cover licensing of personnel, training, air traffic management and infrastructure, including Unmanned Aircraft System Traffic Management standards and services.
- **Gram Unnati signs MoU with Bayer to promote cultivation of spring maize in UP**- Gram Unnati has signed an agreement with Bayer CropScience to promote the cultivation of spring maize in six western Uttar Pradesh districts. Through the collaboration, over 100,000 farmers will have access to timely crop advisory, transfer of good agricultural practices as well as premium products supplied by Bayer and support required for setting up model farms. Gram Unnati has existing connections in the districts, and the joint-venture would enable it to mobilise larger numbers of farmers.
- **India increases Africa lending in the race to counter China**- India has become the second-largest issuer of credit to Africa, after neighboring China. Over the last ten years, the country has extended \$32bn in credit across 42 African nations. India has projected \$12bn across Africa, three times the number it has within its own area. In comparison, China has loaned \$134.6bn to African nations, nearly 11 times more than India.
- **Rules of origin delay FTA tariff discussions with European Union**- India and the European Union (EU) have not been able to make major headway in the tariff negotiations under the ongoing free trade agreement (FTA) discussions due to differences over the rules of origin criteria.

India and WTO



4 India and WTO

- **Fishers organisations ask government not to ratify ‘unequal’ WTO pact on fisheries subsidies:** As many as 43 civil society organizations and trade unions have written to the Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal stating that the fisheries subsidies agreement being ratified at the WTO will not be favorable for Indian fishing communities and that New Delhi should get together with other developing nations to ensure that the “unequal” pact does not come into effect
- **India, US notify WTO of mutual resolution of tariff dispute:** India and the US have informed the World Trade Organization (WTO) that they have reached a mutually agreed solution to the dispute on retaliatory duties on certain products imported from Washington.
- **Roadmap for 2030 will benefit UK and India: UK trade minister Nigel Huddleston:** "The 2030 roadmap agreed by our Prime Ministers in May 2021 is a practical plan to transform the relationship between United Kingdom and India. It will bring immense benefits for both the countries. We have committed to doubling trade between the two great nations," He said
- **Global trade fairs on cards; sectoral targets for \$1 trillion exports by '30-** India is mulling mega trade fairs for food, textiles and auto components, on the lines of Messe Frankfurt, Gulfood and Canton Fair, to achieve 12% growth in goods exports by 2030.
- **India's Global Commercial Services Exports Share Doubles to 4.4%: WTO-World Bank Report-** According to a recent report by the World Bank and World Trade Organization (WTO), India has witnessed a significant increase in its share of global commercial services exports. The country's share has doubled from 2% in 2005 to 4.4% in 2022. This growth is attributed to various factors, including the rise of the services sector and the implementation of reforms to facilitate foreign direct investment (FDI) in services.

Policy Developments



5 India's Policy Developments

- **DPIIT and Govt. of Gujarat jointly launch 'One District One Product' Wall at Garvi Gujarat Bhawan:** One District One Product (ODOP) program, an initiative under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, launched its first collaboration with the Government of Gujarat in New Delhi to promote the indigenous crafts and artisans of the State. Smt. Manmeet Nanda, Joint Secretary, DPIIT, and Smt. Arti Kanwar, Resident Commissioner and Secretary (Economic Affairs) Finance Department, Government of Gujarat jointly inaugurated the ODOP Wall at Garvi Gujarat Bhawan
- **New stainless steel policy to target 5X jump in capacity:** The Union Steel Ministry has started industry consultations to frame India's first stainless steel policy, an official aware of the matter said. The policy will aim to raise domestic capacity by nearly fivefold by 2047, from the current 6.6 million tonnes (mt) to 30 mt. A key objective of the policy is to reduce dependence on China for nickel, silicon and chromium, which are used to make stainless steel
- **First ever "Credit Guarantee Scheme" for Livestock Sector launched for rebooting rural economy by leveraging MSMEs:** Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing the Credit Guarantee Scheme under Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) to strengthen credit delivery system and facilitate smooth flow of credit to the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise (MSMEs) engaged in Livestock sector without hassles of collateral security. For operationalizing the scheme, DAHD has established a Credit Guarantee fund Trust of Rs. 750.00 crores, which will provide credit guarantee coverage up to 25% of the credit facilities extended to the MSMEs by the eligible lending institutions.
- **DPIIT notifies Quality Control Orders for 'Resin treated compressed wood laminates' and 'Insulated Flask, Bottles and Containers for Domestic Use'** - Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry has notified 2 new Quality Control Orders (QCOs) for 'Resin treated compressed wood laminates' and 'Insulated Flask, Bottles and Containers for Domestic Use', on 14th July 2023. The QCOs will come into force six months from the date of notification. In addition to development of a quality ecosystem in India, these QCOs will also ensure public health and safety of the consumers.



- **Holding shares of subsidiary not liable to GST, says CBIC:** Holding of shares of subsidiary companies by holding company is not a "supply" and it will not attract any goods and services tax (GST). The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) came up with a series of clarifications including on the much disputed Input service distributor (ISD) mechanism and the cross charge for internally generated services.
- **DPIIT notifies Quality Control Orders for 'Potable water bottles' and 'Flame-Producing Lighter'** - Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry has successfully notified two new Quality Control Orders (QCOs). These QCOs on 'Potable Water Bottles' and 'Flame-Producing Lighters' will come into effect six months from the date of notification. These QCOs aim to strengthen the quality ecosystem in India and enhance public health and safety of consumers.
- **Draft notification issued mandating installation of air-conditioning system in cabins of motor vehicles belonging to categories N2 and N3, manufactured from 1st January 2025 onwards** - Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has issued a draft notification dated 10 July 2023 mandating the installation of air-conditioning system in the cabins of motor vehicles belonging to categories N2 and N3, manufactured from 1st January 2025 onwards.
- **85 big infra projects worth Rs 5.4 lakh crore recommended for approval under PM GatiShakti:** As many as 85 big-ticket infrastructure projects worth Rs 5.4 lakh crore of different ministries have been recommended for approval under the PM GatiShakti initiative so far this fiscal. These projects have been recommended by the Network Planning Group (NPG) constituted under the PM GatiShakti initiative launched in October 2022.
- **DPIIT to roll out mandatory quality norms for home electrical appliances; one order to cover 85 standards-** The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) will soon roll out mandatory quality control and safety standards for a number of household electrical appliances.
- **CBDT to keep close tabs on clinics, hotels, others to add new filers** - The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) is aiming at a rise of 10 per cent in new filers and decided to keep close tabs on transactions done at in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) clinics, medical colleges providing admission under non-resident Indians (NRI) quota, hospitals, hotels, banquets and retailers of designer clothing, watches, and luxury brands.



- **Geotagging may become must for GST registrations-** The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) is looking to further strengthen the process of Goods and Services Tax registration by using geotagging for verification.
- **Disclosure norms: FPIs may get 3 months to cut exposure-** Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) looking to avoid making greater disclosures are likely to be given a shorter deadline to pare their investments than what was originally planned by the capital market regulator.
- **TCS applicable on international remittance for education, medical treatment-** The Indian government has clarified that remittances for education and medical treatment expenses will cover associated costs like international travel, local transport, food, and accommodation. Fees paid for correspondence courses from foreign universities that do not require travel overseas will be treated as liberalized remittance scheme (LRS) and face tax collected at source (TCS).
- **Government prohibits import of cigarette lighters under Rs 20:** "The import policy of cigarette lighters is revised from 'free' to 'prohibited'. However, import shall be free if CIF value is Rs 20 or above per lighter," the directorate general of foreign trade (DGFT) said in a notification. CIF value (cost, insurance, and freight) is a trade term used in international commerce to determine the total value of goods being imported.
- **RBI upgrades info management system, launches next generation data warehouse CIMS:** The Reserve Bank of India has introduced the Centralised Information Management System (CIMS), a next generation data warehouse, to strengthen regulatory supervision, monitoring, and enforcement. The system will improve monetary policymaking through refined economic analysis and the management of big data flow. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said the CIMS will lead to a paradigm shift in economic analysis and supervision, as well as reduce the regulatory compliance burden.

Miscellaneous Developments

6 Miscellaneous Developments

- **Launch of Heat Index of Nation by IMD:** Union Minister of Earth Sciences, Shri Kiren Rijiju today informed that the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has recently launched the Heat Index on experimental basis. Stating this in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha, he said the experimental Heat Index has been launched by IMD to provide general guidance for the regions within India where, the apparent temperature/feel like temperature (considering the impact of humidity along with the temperature) are on the higher side causing discomfort for the people. At present, heat index is derived using the heat index equation similar to what is used by National Weather Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), USA
- **Re-bidding of 20 GWh Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) manufacturing under Production Linked Incentive scheme “National Programme on Advanced Chemistry Cell Battery Storage”:** The Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) has announced the re-bidding of performance linked incentives (PLI) for 20 GWh Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) manufacturing. With this auctioning process, the prospective applicants can submit their bids to set-up domestic manufacturing facility for advanced chemistry cell, which will help them qualify for incentives under ACC PLI scheme. The initiative is aligned with the Prime Minister's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat by increasing reliance on domestic manufacturing, reducing dependence on imports, and thereby creating more job opportunities for fellow Indians.
- **Increase in number of passengers under UDAN Scheme:** More than 1.23 crore passengers have travelled on Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) UDAN Flights since the inception of the scheme. 148 Airports, including nine heliports and two water aerodromes have been developed/ operationalised till date. Regular monitoring of the progress of upgradation works and removal of bottlenecks in the operationalisation of airports is done to ensure timely completion.
- **All new tourist vehicles in Goa to be EVs from January 2024: Hon’ble Chief Minister Shri Pramod Sawant** - The Goa government proposes major reforms to promote EVs in the coastal state, Shri Pramod Sawant said addressing a side-event organised by the NITI Aayog during the ongoing fourth Energy Transitions Working Group meeting under India's G20 Presidency in Panaji.
- **Tamil Nadu tops NITI's Export Preparedness Index 2022:** Tamil Nadu has pipped Maharashtra and Gujarat to emerge as the top state among coastal states in the Niti



Aayog's Export Preparedness Index 2022. The index is aimed at assessing the readiness of the states in terms of their export potential and performance

- **Australia, Brazil to grow Arhar dal for Indian consumers:** Farmers in Australia and Brazil are set to experiment with growing arhar (pigeon peas) for consumers in India, where demand for the popular yellow lentil--the main ingredient of 'dal tadka' and 'sambhar'--has been outpacing domestic production for some years now.
- **Shri Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates 'SAGAR SAMPARK' Differential Global Navigation Satellite System to Strengthen Maritime sector:** The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is committed towards innovation, building best infrastructure, and strengthening the Indian Maritime sector. To further the digital initiative in maritime sector the Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the indigenous Differential Global Navigation Satellite System (DGNSS) 'SAGAR SAMPARK' in the presence of Shri Shripad Y. Naik, the Minister of State of Ports, Shipping and Waterways; Shri TK Ramachandran, IAS Secretary, MoPSW and other senior officials from the ministry and Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships. DGNSS is a terrestrial based enhancement system which corrects the errors and inaccuracies in the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) allowing for more accurate positioning information.
- **Advance cargo info system in works:** India is working on an advance cargo information system on the lines of the advance passenger information system put in place by the US after 9/11 that will allow immediate customs clearance of imports with scrutiny limited to a risk-based assessment of shipments.
- **India rises in digital and sustainable trade facilitation rankings, scores 100% on transparency:** India's score has jumped to 93.55% in 2023 from 90.32% in 2021 in the United Nation's Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific's (UNESCAP) latest global survey on digital and sustainable trade facilitation.
- **From India's crown, a flavour worth a fortune** - Kashmir saffron's prices have risen to ₹3.25 lakh (\$4387) per kg, five times the value of silver, after receiving the Geographical Indication (GI) tag, which verifies the spice's origin. The move has helped Kashmiri saffron compete with Iranian competition, with US, Canadian, and European buyers picking up saffron from Kashmir.
- **Gujarat, Tamil Nadu ports set to develop hydrogen hubs-** India's plans to introduce hydrogen as a fuel have gained momentum with the VO Chidambaranar (VOC) Port in Tamil Nadu and the Deendayal Port in Gujarat all set to develop hydrogen hubs.



- **FMCG sector to witness 7-9% rise in revenue this fiscal-** Revenue of the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) sector is expected to grow 7-9% this fiscal, slightly slower than the 8-9% clip of the past two fiscal years.
- **IFFCO to procure 2,500 agri-drones; launches campaign to train 5k rural entrepreneurs to promote use of nano fertilisers:** Indian cooperative IFFCO is launching a national campaign to promote the use of nano fertilisers, with plans to procure 2,500 agri-drones and train 5,000 rural entrepreneurs. The drones will be used to spray IFFCO's nano urea and nano di-ammonium phosphate products. The cooperative will also purchase 2,500 electric three-wheelers to transport the drones to farmers' fields. The campaign will also train rural entrepreneurs to use the drones for spraying nano fertilisers
- **Government constructing 10,000 km greenfield expressway projects at Rs 4.5 lakh cr investment, says Shri Nitin Gadkari** - The government plans to construct 10,000 km of greenfield expressways at a cost of Rs 4.5 lakh crore as part of the Bharatmala Pariyojana project. The National Highways Authority of India has already generated over Rs 70,000 crore through various financing methods, which will be used for highway projects.
- **India needs to integrate itself into the global semiconductor supply chain** - India has the opportunity to integrate itself into the global semiconductor supply chain and take advantage of the China + 1 strategy. The study highlights the need for India to start from scratch in the semiconductor mission and urges the government to incentivize Indian startups to collaborate with Silicon Valley firms.
- **US magazine Foreign Policy article highlights India's emergence as 'major player' in Middle East-** An article in Foreign Policy, a noted US magazine focused on global affairs, has cited the emergence of India as a "major player" in the Middle East as one of the most interesting geopolitical developments in the region in years.
- **ICC Cricket World Cup means brisk business for India-** The upcoming Men's Cricket World Cup in India is expected to have a positive impact on various businesses. The hospitality sector, hit hard by the pandemic, is already experiencing a surge in hotel bookings and higher tariffs, particularly in cities hosting key matches like Ahmedabad and Dharamsala. Flights to host cities are also becoming more expensive around match days. Moreover, TV sales are expected to increase and there is potential for a boost in tourism as foreign spectators plan trips to explore India during their stay.
- **India's infrastructure output grows by 4.3% in May:** The index of eight core industries (ICI) measures combined and individual performance of production of core industries



viz. coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement and electricity. They comprise 40.27 percent of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).

- **Resilient growth outlook to offset slowdown in foreign market for India:** India's resilient growth outlook will offset a slowdown in overseas markets for the country's corporates and easing input cost pressure will help widen their profit margins, said Fitch Ratings. Earlier this month, Fitch had raised India's economic growth forecast to 6.3 per cent for the current fiscal year 2023-24 from the 6 per cent it had predicted previously.



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• Impact Assessments	• States' Economic Developments	• Trade & Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS) Newsletter	
• Thematic Research Reports	• International Developments	• State Development Monitor (SDM)	
• Releases on Economic Developments	• Financial Markets		
	• Foreign exchange market		
	• Developments in International Trade		

Studies Undertaken by PHD Research Bureau



A: Thematic research reports

1. Comparative study on power situation in Northern and Central states of India (September 2011)
2. Economic Analysis of State (October 2011)
3. Growth Prospects of the Indian Economy, Vision 2021 (December 2011)
4. Budget 2012-13: Move Towards Consolidation (March 2012)
5. Emerging Trends in Exchange Rate Volatility (April 2012)
6. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2010-11 (May 2012)
7. Global Economic Challenges: Implications for India (May 2012)
8. India Agronomics: An Agriculture Economy Update (August 2012)
9. Reforms to Push Growth on High Road (September 2012)
10. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2011-12: Beating Slowdown (March 2013)
11. Budget 2013-14: Moving on reforms (March 2013)
12. India- Africa Promise Diverse Opportunities (November 2013)
13. India- Africa Promise Diverse Opportunities: Suggestions Report (November 2013)
14. Annual survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry-2012-13 (December 2013)
15. Imperatives for Double Digit Growth (December 2013)
16. Women Safety in Delhi: Issues and Challenges to Employment (March 2014)
17. Emerging Contours in the MSME sector of Uttarakhand (April 2014)
18. Roadmap for New Government (May 2014)
19. Youth Economic
(May 2014)
20. Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2014-15 (July 2014)
21. Budget 2014-15: Promise of Progress (July 2014)
22. Agronomics 2014: Impact on economic growth and inflation (August 2014)
23. 100 Days of new Government (September 2014)
24. Make in India: Bolstering Manufacturing Sector (October 2014)
25. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2013-14 (November 2014)
26. Participated in a survey to audit SEZs in India with CAG Office of India (November 2014)
27. Role of MSMEs in Make in India with reference to Ease of Doing Business in Ghaziabad
(Nov 2014)
28. Exploring Prospects for Make in India and Made in India: A Study (January 2015)
29. SEZs in India: Criss-Cross Concerns (February 2015)
30. Socio-Economic Impact of Check Dams in Sikar District of Rajasthan (February 2015)
31. India - USA Economic Relations (February 2015)
32. Economy on the Eve of Union Budget 2015-16 (February 2015)
33. Budget Analysis (2015-16)
34. Druzhba-Dosti: India's Trade Opportunities with Russia (April 2015)
35. Impact of Labour Reforms on Industry in Rajasthan: A survey study (July 2015)
36. Progress of Make in India (September 2015)
37. Grown Diamonds, A Sunrise Industry in India: Prospects for Economic Growth
(November 2015)
38. Annual survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry 2014-15 (December 2015)
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