# INDIA NEWSLETTER



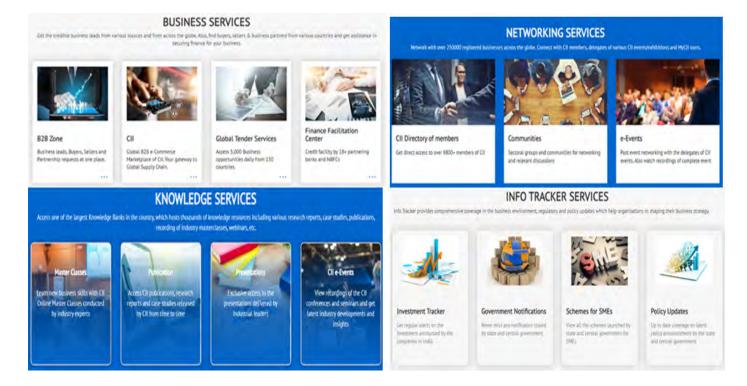
Published by the Embassy of India, Vienna Year 10. Issue 92. May 2020



Find Inside



### Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)- Virtual Business Platform



more information on: www.mycii.in

## **Invest India-Business Immunity Platform**



Invest India Business Immunity Platform is 100% operational and actively keeping corporates across the world informed of the daily developments on all fronts in matters relating to the management of COVID-19.

more information on:

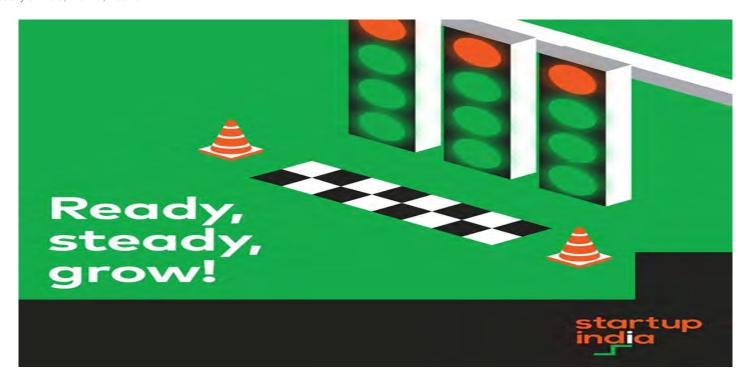
www.investindia.gov.in/business-immunity-platform

## **NEWS FLASH**

- **1** Private equity firm Vista Equity Partners to invest Rs 11,367 crore (US\$ 1.61 billion) in Jio Platforms for a 2.32 per cent stake.
- 2 According to estimates released by private weather forecasting firm Skymet, wheat production could reach a 113.66 million record (MT), tonnes whereas, gram output may grow 8 per cent higher at 10.74 MT during the current rabi season.
- 3 Professor Saurabh Lodha from Electrical Engineering, IIT Bombay, has received the Young Nano Career Award in Science & Technology for the year 2020 by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India.
- 4 Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi Kendra (PMJAK) achieved a record sales turnover of Rs 52 crore (US\$ 7.38 million) in the month of April 2020.
- **5** The Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj and Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Mr Narendra Singh

- Tomar, launched "The Saras Collection" on the government e Marketplace (GeM) portal at Krishi Bhavan.
- 6 India's life insurance companies witnessed 11.36 per cent growth in their collective premium income at Rs 48.26 lakh crore (US\$ 684.64 billion) during the fiscal ended March 2020.
- 7 Minister of Road transport & Highways and MSME, Mr Nitin Gadkari launched Bank of Schemes, Ideas. Innovation and (http:// Research portal ideas.msme.gov.in/) on MSMEs. The portal gives access to all schemes of Union. State and UT Governments.
- In the calendar year 2019, India installed 7.3 GW of solar power across the country, establishing its position as the third-largest solar market in the world.
- 9 Scientists from Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) have modified the structure of Berberine, а natural and cheap product similar to

- curcumin, available commercially, into Ber-D to use as a Alzheimer's inhibitor.
- **10** During April 1 22, 2020, Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has had a record sale of fertilizers to farmer community with POS sale of fertilizers to farmers reaching at 10.63 lakh MT.
- **11** Electric vehicles sales, excluding e-rickshaws, in India witnessed a growth by 20 per cent at 1.56 lakh units in 2019-20 driven by two-wheelers
- **12** Reliance Industries Limited, Jio Platforms Limited and Facebook, Inc. entered in binding agreements for an investment of Rs 43,574 crore (US\$ 6.23 billion) by Facebook into Jio Platforms.
- **13** The Agriculture Ministry has set the foodgrain production target at 298 million tonnes (mt) for the crop year 2020-21.
- 14 The Ministry of Tourism has launched its 'DekhoApnaDesh' webinar series to provide information on many destinations and sheer depth and expanse of the culture and heritage of our Incredible India.



Startup India is a flagship initiative of the Government of India, intended to catalyse startup culture and build a strong and inclusive ecosystem for innovation and entrepreneurship in India. Find out more under:

## www.startupindia.gov.in

## **NEWS ARTICLES**

\$44M funding led by Siri Tiger Global & Avatar the Growth Capital: Spa Apt

SirionLabs, an enterprise software-as-a-service provider, has raised \$44 million in fresh funding led by Tiger Global and Avatar Growth Capital, in a deal estimated to value the Gurugrambased company at more than \$220 million.

The investment marks New York-based Tiger Global's continued bullishness in India's fast-growing software products sector. It also comes at a time of overall slowdown in funding because of

the Covid-19 pandemic

SirionLabs, which focuses on the contract management space, competes with US-based Apttus, which recently acquired rival Cogna in a deal valued at \$715 million. It is also a competitor to Pune-based Icertis in the contract management sector. Icertis became India's third SaaS unicorn last year with an estimated worth of \$1.5 billion.

Ajay Agarwal, co-founder and chairman of SirionLabs, told ET that the company has seen increased interest from customers for its product amid the ongoing crisis, without specifying whether that would lead to increased revenue for the company. He said the company had crossed the \$25 -

pandemic. million annual recurring revenue (ARR) target and was on track ocuses on to double that over the course anagement of the next one year.

SirionLabs said it will use the fresh capital to expand its products and strengthen its leadership team by bringing in experts in Artificial Intelligence and other fields, from leading technology companies.

"We've just launched a new laboratory in Seattle with about 20 scientists and the idea is to build a network version of our Al-engine that can operate at scale. We're partnering with the leading law firms of the world as our partners to launch this transaction monitoring engine," Agarwal said.

The company has developed intellectual property and has applied for patents in the area of AI for its permissioned ledger and automated validation processes.

The company earns around 80% of its revenues from the US and European markets, servicing sectors such as banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI), telecom, pharmaceuticals, oil and gas and the public sector. It counts enterprises as such Vodafone, Unilever, BP and Credit Suisse as customers.

The Series C investment brings SirionLabs' total equity raised so far to \$66 million, with other investors on its cap table including VC giant Sequoia Capital.

## Philips to invest Rs 300 crore in India manufacturing, R&D: IBEF

Philips, Dutch healthtech and consumer electronics company, plans to invest Rs 250-300 crore (US\$ 35.47-42.56 million) to boost its manufacturing and R&D facilities in India. It also aims to hire 1,000 people over the next two to three years, adding to its existing workforce of over 6,000 people.

"Even as we work through the current crisis, we are focused on the future and are investing towards it," said Mr Daniel Mazon, vice chairman and managing director for Indian subcontinent at Philips India.

He added that the company will expand its factory near Pune by 7,200 sq ft to start manufacturing magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and x-ray equipment. Philips is also building a new 650,000 sq ft campus in Bengaluru that can house over 5,000 people and will be ready by 2023.

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the company witnessed an increase in demand for its connected care solutions. Thus, it plans to work towards more public-private-partnerships (PPP) in this space.

"We currently have about 100 PPPs in India in radiology and cardiology and would like to add more in connected care." said Mr Mazon. The target is to ramp this up to 200 such partnerships over the next year or so. "We will combine IT and hardware to create a very strong solution in connected healthcare," added Mr Mazon, that this also ties in with the 'Make in India' initiative.

In order to provide better healthcare solutions, the offer company plans to connected care solutions by combining hardware like monitors and ventilators to patient monitoring and access systems. This will also benefit smaller hospitals in towns connect to a speciality hospital in a larger city. The company is in talks with various state governments start to implementation of this. especially as healthcare will start shifting to a more remote model as a result of this pandemic. Philips has been using its Healthcare Innovation

Centre in Pune as a hub to export to several countries across the world, and Mr Mazon said the company will look at exporting the new product lines out of India as well. The HIC focuses on end-to-end product development and manufacturing for key product lines like ultrasound machines and mobile surgery units.

Tata Power's defence business bags Rs 1,200-crore contract to modernise 37 airfields: Businessline, The Hindu

-----

Tata Power Strategic Engineering Division (Tata Power SED), a division of Tata Power Company, has signed a contract with the Ministry of Defence for modernisation of infrastructure at 37 airfields.

Under the contract, valued at about Rs 1.200 crore. the company will modernise infrastructure at airfields belonging to the Indian Airforce, Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard. The contract has to be executed over the next four years, the company said in a regulatory filing.

The contract involves supply, installation and commissioning of equipment modern airfield including Cat Ш Instrument Landing Systems and Cat II Airfield Lightning Systems, along with other navigational aids and air traffic management systems, besides creating the required civil and electrical infrastructure. In March 2011. Tata Power SED had won a Rs 1,220-crore contract for modernisation of 30 airfields.

In continuation of the previous order, the new contract for modernisation would provide excellent control of airfield systems to air traffic controllers, enhancing aerospace safety and operational capabilities by facilitating operations in poor visibility and adverse weather conditions.

Tata Power is in the process of selling its defence business (Tata Power SED) to Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL) through a scheme of arrangement.

The transfer to TASL has been approved by the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and is expected to be completed once regulatory and other routine approvals are received.

Shiprocket raises
USD 13 mn from
Tribe Capital,
Innoven Capital,
Bertelsmann India
Investments:
Business Standard

Shiprocket, a tech-enabled logistics aggregator, has raised USD 13 million (about Rs 100 crore) in funding led by Tribe Capital LLC and Innoven

Capital.

The series C funding round also saw participation from existing investor Bertelsmann India Investments. The latest capital infusion brings Shiprocket's total funding to USD 26 million, a statement said.

"The investment will be used to Shiprocket's aggressive product development roadmap which includes hiring top talent science across data engineering domains. The funds will also be focused on the company's new initiatives including international its expansions," it added.

As part of the agreement, Arjun Sethi from Tribe Capital LLC will join Shiprocket's board of directors.

"The boom in D2C (Direct to Consumer) brands and social selling across India has been facilitated by companies like ours who are committed to providing advanced technology and fulfillment solutions to online sellers enabling them to compete with larger brands and marketplaces," Shiprocket CEO and co-founder Saahil Goel said.

This additional capital will allow the company to accelerate its strategic goals and product development endeavours by hiring top talent in key areas, he added.

Launched by Bigfoot Retail Solutions in 2017, Shiprocket turned profitable in 2018-19 with an annualised revenue run rate between USD 25-30 million.

Shiprocket said it processes more than 2 million monthly shipments, enabling more than 35,000 sellers to sell directly to their consumers across India.

Shiprocket has previously raised USD 13 million in funding from existing investors Bertelsmann India Investments, Nirvana Venture Partners, Beenext and 500 startups who continue to

back Shiprocket.

The latest round gives nearly 30 times returns in five years for Shiprocket's angel investors who exited in this round, the company said.

Early angels in the company include angel investor Jatin Aneja and 5ideas/Superfuel run by Gaurav Kachru and Pearl Uppal.

Jio Platforms gets ₹5,655 crore investment from PE giant Silver Lake: IBEF

Private equity firm Silver Lake plans to invest Rs 5,655.75 crore (US\$ 802.35 million) into Jio Platforms for 1.15 per cent stake. This investment values Jio Platforms at an equity value of Rs 4.90 lakh crore (US\$ 69.51 billion) and an enterprise value of Rs 5.15 lakh crore (US\$ 73.06 billion).

Earlier, a Rs 43,574 crore (US\$ 6.18 billion) deal with Facebook was made by Reliance Industries This Silver Lake deal signifies a 12.5 per cent premium to the equity valuation of the Facebook investment into Jio Platforms, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL).

Other investment made by the firm includes Airbnb, Alibaba, Ant Financial, Alphabet's Verily and Waymo units, Dell Technologies, Twitter and numerous other global technology leaders.

In order to cut down debt, Reliance was in talks with other strategic and financial investors for a similar-sized deal, after selling a 10 per cent stake to Facebook.

RIL chairman and managing director Mr Mukesh Ambani said,

"Silver Lake is one of the most respected voices in technology and finance. We are excited to leverage insights from their global technology relationships for the Indian Digital Society's transformation".

While Silver Lake co-CEO and managing partner, Mr Egon Durban said that Jio Platforms is one of the world's most significant companies, led by incredibly strong and management entrepreneurial team who are driving and courageous actualizing а vision. "They have brought extraordinary engineering capabilities to bear on bringing the power of low-cost digital services to a mass consumer and small businesses population. The market potential they are addressing is enormous," he said.

This deal is subject to regulatory and other customary approvals.

## NTPC , a CPSU, Achieves 100 percent PLF at three of its power stations: PIB Delhi

The Maharatna exhibits exceptional operational efficiency despite lockdown. NTPC Ltd, a central PSU under Ministry of Power and India's largest power generator, has achieved 100 percent Plant Load Factor (PLF) on 9th May 2020, at three of its thermal **NTPC** power stations. Vindhyachal (4760 MW) in **NTPC** Madhya Pradesh, Talcher Kaniha (3000 MW) in Odisha & NTPC Sipat (2980 MW) in Chhattisgarh achieved

100 percent PLF, demonstrating exceptional operational efficiency and optimum capacity utilisation despite lockdown on account of COVID-19 pandemic.

At the same time, NTPC Koldam in Himachal Pradesh is emerging as one of the best hydropower stations in the country for FY20-21.Earlier, on 13th April 2020, country's largest power station, NTPC Vindhyachal had achieved 100% plus PLF.

Beyond power output, NTPC is making a rich contribution to the social welfare activities underprivileged section and migrant workers by providing ration and medical aid amidst COVID-19 situation. NTPC is strictly adhering to the guidelines in its fight against COVID-19 by maintaining social distancing at all its establishments and power stations across the country.

With NTPC Group's total installed 62110 MW capacity, NTPC has 70 Power stations comprising of 24 Coal, 7 combined cycle gas/liquid fuel, 1 Hydro, 13 renewables along with 25 JV Power Stations.

## Ministry of MSME Launches CHAMPIONS Portal www.Champions.gov. in: IBEF

In a major initiative Union Ministry of MSME has launched CHAMPIONS portal www.Champions.gov.in, a technology driven Control Room-Cum-Management Information System. The system utilising modern ICT tools is aimed at assisting Indian MSMEs march into big league as National and

Global CHAMPIONS.

The CHAMPIONS stand here for Creation and Harmonious Application of Modern Processes for Increasing the Output and National Strength. Accordingly, the name of the system is CHAMPIONS.

As the name suggests, the portal is basically for making the smaller units big by solving their grievances, encouraging, supporting, helping and handholding. It is a real one-stopshop solution of MSME Ministry.

While taking over as Secretary MSME on 30th April evening, Mr AK Sharma had indicated that an ICT based system would be set up to help the MSMEs in present difficult situation and also to handhold them to become national and international champions. Accordingly, comprehensive system known as CHAMPIONS was trial launched on 9th May 2020.

A detailed operating procedure has been issued, officers have been deployed and training has been conducted.

While trial launching the system, Mr Sharma said that it is meant for the MSME units and people depending on them. He also said that these units and people need our help badly. We will do everything to help, re-start and rejuvenate them.

## **MAKE IN INDIA**

Agriculture is the primary source of livelihood for about 58 per cent of India's population. Gross Value Added by agriculture, forestry and fishing is estimated at Rs 18.55 lakh crore (US\$ 265.51 billion) in FY19(PE). Growth in Gross Value Added (GVA) by agriculture and allied sectors stood at 2.1 per cent in H1 2019-20.

......

The Indian food industry is poised for huge growth, increasing its contribution to world food trade every year due to its immense potential for addition, particularly value within the food processing industry. The Indian food and grocery market are the world's sixth largest, with retail contributing 70 per cent of the sales. The Indian food processing industry accounts for 32 per cent of the country's total food market, one of the largest industries in India and is of ranked fifth in terms production, consumption, export and expected growth. contributes around 8.80 and 8.39 per cent of Gross Value Added (GVA) in Manufacturing

and Agriculture respectively, 13 per cent of India's exports and six per cent of total industrial investment.

#### **Market Size:**

During 2018-19 crop year and as per Provisional Estimates, food production grain estimated 283.37 at record million tonnes. In 2019-20. Government of India is targeting foodgrain production of 291.1 million tonnes. As of November 2019, total area sown with rabi crops in India reached 95.35 million hectares.

India is the second largest fruit producer in the world. Production of horticulture crops is estimated at record 313.9 million metric tonne (MMT) in 2018-19 as per third advance estimates. Milk production in the country stood at 187.7 million tonnes in 2018-19, registering a growth of 6.5 per cent. Milk processing capacity is expected to double from 53.5 million MT to 108 million MT by 2025. Total agricultural exports from India

grew at a CAGR of 14.61 per cent over FY10-19 to reach US\$ 38.54 billion in FY19. In FY20 (till November 2019) agriculture exports were US\$ 22.69 billion.

The organic food segment in India is expected to grow at a CAGR of 10 per cent during the period 2016-21 and reach Rs 75,000 crore (US\$ 10.73 billion) mark by 2025 from Rs 2,700 crore (US\$ 386.32 million) in 2015.

#### Investments:

According to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), the Indian food processing industry has cumulatively attracted Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) equity inflow of about US\$ 9.78 billion between April 2000 and December 2019.

Some major investments and developments in agriculture are as follows:

- In March 2020, Fact, the oldest large-scale fertiliser

ADVANTAGE INDIA

Policy Support

Competitive Advantage

Robust

- A large population and rising urban and rural incomes are driving the demand, while external demand is driving the increase in agriculture exports from India
  - Demand for agricultural inputs and allied services like warehousing and cold storages is increasing in India at a fast pace.
  - Agriculture Export Policy has set a target to increase agricultural exports to over US\$ 60 billion by 2022.
  - Government of India is also aiming to double farmers' income by 2022.

High proportion of agricultural land, diverse agro-climatic conditions encourage cultivation of different crops.

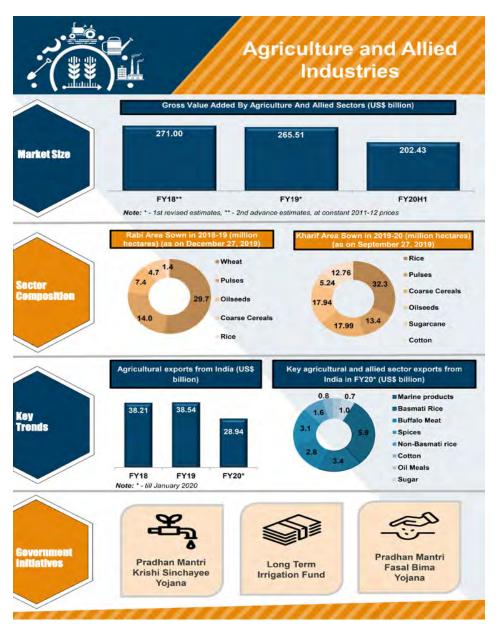
manufacturer in the country, crossed one million production and sales mark.

- Nestle India to invest Rs 700

- crore (US\$ 100.16 million) in construction of its ninth factory in Gujarat.
- In November 2019, Haldiram entered into an agreement for Amazon's global selling program to e-tail its delicacies in the United States.
- In November 2019, Coca-Cola launched 'Rani Float', fruit juices to step out of its trademark fizzy drinks.
- Investments worth Rs 8,500 crore (US\$ 1.19 billion) have been announced in India for ethanol production.
- The first mega food park in Rajasthan was inaugurated in March 2018.
- Agrifood start-ups in India received funding of US\$ 1.66 billion between 2013-17 in 558 deals.
- Two diagnostic kits developed by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) and the Japanese Encephalitis IgM ELISA launched in October 2019.

## launched in October 2019. Government Initiatives:

- In September 2019, Prime Minister, Mr Narendra Modi launched the National Animal Disease Control Programme (NADCP), expected to eradicate foot and mouth disease (FMD) and brucellosis in livestock.
   In May 2019, NABARD announced an investment of Rs 700 crore (US\$ 100 million)
- announced an investment of Rs 700 crore (US\$ 100 million) venture capital fund for equity investments in agriculture and rural-focused start-ups.
- As per the Ministry of Agriculture, during 2019-20, Rs 1.50 crore (0.21 million) has been allocated to state of Andaman and Nicobar as a



central share for implementation drop more of per crop component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY). Under Budget 2019-20, Pradhan Mantri Samman Nidhi Yojana was introduced under which a minimum fixed pension of Rs 3000 (US\$ 42.92) to be provided to the eligible small and marginal farmers. subject to certain exclusion clauses, on attaining the age of 60 years.

- The Government of India has come out with the Transport and Marketing Assistance (TMA) scheme to provide financial assistance for transport and marketing of agriculture products in order to boost agriculture exports.

- With an aim to boost innovation and entrepreneurship in agriculture, the Government of India is introducing a new AGRI-UDAAN programme to mentor start-ups and to enable them to connect with potential investors.
- The Government of India has allowed 100 per cent FDI in marketing of food products and in food product e-commerce under the automatic route.
- The Government of India has launched the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) with an investment of Rs 50,000 crore (US\$ 7.7 billion) aimed at development of irrigation sources for providing a permanent solution from drought.

#### **Agriculture and Allied Industries- Latest News and Developments**

## Wheat production may cross 113 million tonnes: Skymet; IBEF

-----

According to estimates released by private weather forecasting firm Skymet, during the current rabi season, wheat production could be at a record 113.66 million tonnes (mt), nearly 10 per cent more than the 103.6 mt output in the previous year, whereas, gram output could be 8 per cent higher at 10.74 mt.

The estimate for wheat production of Skymet are much higher than the 106 mt projected by the second advance estimates of the Agriculture Ministry.

Although, there will be marginal increase of 2.7 per cent at 9.5 mt in the production of mustard and rapeseed as against 9.25 mt in the previous rabi season.

The Skymet report also added that due to the nationwide lockdown, agricultural activities and supply chain were disrupted. Harvesting activities were disturbed due to the non-availability of migrant labour.

The report added, "Though the Government is trying to normalise the situation, even till date the situation is dismal as farmers and their produce are

unable to reach the market due to the lockdown". As a result, producer is struggling to sell the produce at appropriate prices, it added. According to Skymet, the worst-hit are horticulture farmers. There have been disruptions in supply chains because of transportation problems and other issues.

Amidst the COVID-19 lockdown FCI moves 662 rakes carrying about 18.54 Lakh MT food grains across the country in 14 days since 24th March: PIB

FCI has sent enough stocks to states throughout the country to implement PM Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY) wherein 5 kg foodgrain per person per month for next three months has to be distributed free to all National Food Security Act (NFSA) beneficiaries. Many states like UP. Bihar, Telangana, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Kerala. Haryana, Mizoram have already started lifting foodgrains from FCI under this scheme. In course of next few days other states will also start lifting the foodgrains or distribution under PMGKAY.

FCI is working tirelessly and has ensured that enough food grain stocks are made available in every part of the country during countrywide lockdown. In last 13 days since 24.03.2020 when the lockdown was announced to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, FCI moved an average of 1.41 Lakh MT food grain per day as against the pre-lockdown daily average of about 0.8 Lakh MT. A total of 603 rakes carrying about 16.88 Lakh MT food grains have been transported across the country 05.04.2020. Another 59 rakes to carry approximately 1.65 Lakh MT foodgrain are being loaded.

addition to meeting the regular requirements of food **NFSA** under grains and allocation under additional FCI is providing PMGKAY, wheat and rice directly to State Govts without going through the e-auction route, at Open Market sale rates to ensure continuous supply of food grains. Wheat is given for meeting requirements of manufacturers of wheat flour and other wheat products based on the assessment of requirements done by the respective District Magistrates. So far FCI has allotted 1.38 LMT Wheat in 13 states and 1.32 LMT Rice in 8 states under this model.





## INDIAN STATE ECONOMIC PROFILE

#### **MAHARASTHRA**

Maharashtra is situated in the western region of the country. The state shares borders with Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa and the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

Maharashtra's gross state domestic product (GSDP) at current prices accounted for 14.89 per cent of India's gross domestic product (GDP) in 2017-18, the highest among all states. The GSDP grew at a CAGR of around 11.83 per cent from 2011-12 to 2019-20 to reach US\$ 453.99 billion. The state domestic product (NSDP) grew at a CAGR of around 11.75 per cent from 2011-12 to 2017-18 to reach US \$ 340.41 billion.

The state's capital, Mumbai, is the commercial capital of India and has evolved into a global financial hub. The city is home to several global banking and financial service firms. Pune, another major city in the state, has emerged as the educational hub. Maharashtra has emerged

as a key hub for IT and ITeS, electronics and captive business outsourcing industries.

The state has a well-developed social, physical and industrial infrastructure. Apart from 16 airports, the state has two major and 48 minor ports. It also has a well-developed power supply Maharashtra's grid. infrastructure sector has grown over significantly the decade, with a substantial rise in the number of industrial clusters and public-private partnership (PPP) projects.

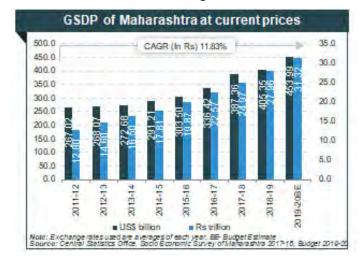
According to the Department for of Industry Promotion and Trade (DPIIT), Internal cumulative FDI inflows in the state of Maharashtra during April 2000 to December 2019 stood at US\$ 133.83 billion. During 2018-19, total merchandise exports from the state stood at US\$ US\$ 74 billion and US\$ 49.94 billion durina April-December 2019.

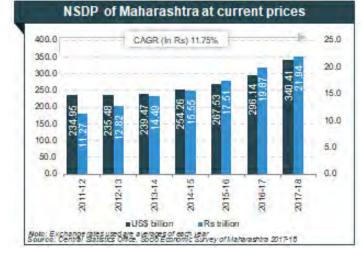
#### **Key Sectors:**

At current prices, the

contribution of the financial sector to the GSDP of the state increased at a CAGR of 11.83 per cent between 2011-12 and 2019-20.

- On March 2019, the Sindhudurg airport was made operational, making it the first in the coastal Konkan region to be on the country's air map.
- As of November 14, 2019, Maharashtra had 12 SEZs with valid in-principle approvals, 48 SEZs with formal approvals, 31 exporting SEZs and 42 SEZs with notified approvals.
- Maharashtra accounts for approximately 35.1 per cent of the country's output of automobiles by value.
- The state has launched Unlimited Maharashtra campaign through advertising television newspapers and channels to attract tourists during summer vacations. A halfhour ferry ride across Mumbai harbor takes visitors to view the superbly carved 1,300 years old cave temple on the little island of Elephanta, a favourite picnic spot.





## CIRCULAR- Securities and Exchange Board of India

Relaxation from compliance with certain provisions of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 due to the CoVID -19 virus pandemic

- 1. The CoVID 19 virus has hit populations around the world and has resulted in many restrictions, including free movement of people, thereby hampering businesses and day to day functioning of companies. It has been declared a 'pandemic' by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- 2. Developments arising due to the spread of the virus warrant the need for temporary relaxations in compliance requirements for listed entities. Accordingly, SEBI has decided to grant the following relaxations from compliance stipulations specified under the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 ('LODR') to listed entities.

A. Extension of timeline for filings:

The timelines for certain filings as required under the provisions of the LODR are extended, as follows:

SI no.	Regulation and associated filing	Filing		Relaxation w.r.t. the quarter / financial year ending March 31, 2020		
		Frequency	Due within	Due Date	Extended date	Period of relaxati on
1.	Regulation 7(3) relating to compliance certificate on share transfer facility	Half yearly	One month of the end of each half of the financial year	April 30, 2020	May 31, 2020	1 month
2.	Regulation 13(3) relating to Statement of Investor complaints	Quarterly	21 days from the end of each quarter	April 21, 2020	May 15, 2020	weeks (appx.)
3.	Regulation 24A read with circular No CIR/CFD/CMD1/27/201 9 dated February 8, 2019 relating to Secretarial Compliance report	Yearly	60 days from the end of the financial year	May 30, 2020	June 30, 2020	1 month

4.	Regulation 27(2) relating to Corporate Governance report	Quarterly	15 days from the end of the quarter	April 15, 2020	May 15 2020	1 month
5.	Regulation 31 relating to Shareholding Pattern	Quarterly	21 days from the end of the quarter	April 21, 2020	May 15 2020	3 weeks (appx.)
6.	Regulation 33 relating to Financial Results	Quarterly / Annual	45 days from the end of the quarter for quarterly results	May 15, 2020	June 30 2020	45 days
			60 days from the end of Financial Year for Annual Financial Results	May 30, 2020	June 30 2020	1 month

B. Relaxation of time gap between two board / Audit Committee meetings:

Regulatory provision	Relaxation
Regulation 17(2): The board of directors	The board of directors and Audit Committee
shall meet at least four times a year, with	of the listed entity are exempted from
a maximum time gap of one hundred and	observing the maximum stipulated time gap
twenty days between any two meetings.	between two meetings for the meetings held
	or proposed to be held between the period
Regulation 18(2)(a): The audit committee	December 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020.
shall meet at least four times in a year and	
not more than one hundred and twenty	However the board of directors / Audit
days shall elapse between two meetings	Committee shall ensure that they meet
	atleast four times a year, as stipulated under
	regulations 17(2) and 18(2)(a) of the LODR

- 3. This Circular shall come into force with immediate effect. The Stock Exchanges are advised to bring the provisions of this circular to the notice of all listed entities that have issued specified securities and their material subsidiaries and also disseminate on their websites.
- 4. The Circular is issued in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 11(1) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 read with regulations 101 and 102 of the LODR and the relaxations contained herein are subject to the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules made thereunder.
- 5. The circular is available on SEBI website at www.sebi.gov.in under the category 'Legal Circulars'.

### **INDIAN TRADE FAIRS**

#### 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** to get more information about possible assistance/subsidies.





(11th Biennial International Exhibition & Conference)

8th - 10th October 2020 Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai- India



GOA: 29 - 31 July 2020, Dr. SP Mukherjee AC Stadium, Panaji (India) MUMBAI: 3 - 5 December 2020, Bombay Exhibition Centre, Goregaon East, Maharashtra (India) www.ttindiaexpo.com

## **TOURISM**

## **Mizoram**



Aizawl, Mizoram

Mizoram is a mountainous state nestling in the southern tip of the north-east region of India. Covered with verdant forests dominated by thick bamboo groves, teeming with vibrant wildlife, sheer cliffs and breath-taking waterfalls, dotted with unique landmarks of myriad folklores and picturesque villages of houses built on stilts, a land of dramatic seas of morning mists that enfold islands of hills and peaks. This is the land of the Highlanders, or the Mizos. For anyone looking for a quiet holiday or outdoor activities in pristine and peaceful setting, this is a destination worth your while.

Standing aloof from the adjacent plains of Assam and the other neighboring states, Mizoram remains an exotic location sharing more than one-third of its boundary with Bangladesh and Myanmar and its capital, Aizawl is still one of the least-frequented cities in India. With a population of 888573 only, it is one of the most sparsely-populated states. Mizoram has a moderate and pleasant climate throughout the year, and is an idyllic land of great natural beauty having rich variety of flora and fauna.

Though still considered remote and hence, an unfrequented destination, the location of Mizoram itself helps maintain its quaint appeal, as do its scenic landscapes of bluish hills and mountains, steep rocky cliffs, serene lakes and deep valleys of gurgling streams plunging down sheer drops to form spectacular waterfalls. To

the more adventurous spirit, the rugged terrains and rivers are ideal for various outdoor sports and activities. Again, the fantastic array of wildlife, especially the birds, is an added attraction to the nature lovers.

#### Place to visit in Mizoram:

#### **Aizawal**

A beautiful hill city, Aizawl, the capital of Mizoram is situated at about 1132 metres above sea level. Flanked on the north by the lofty peaks of Durtlang, the hill city is set on ridges of steep hills overlooking the sylvan valley of the river Tlawng in the west and of the river Tuirial in the east and south. This picturesque and peaceful city also commands exotic landscape of verdant hills stretching away to the horizon. Aizawl literally means "a field of wild cardamom", a name which originated during the days of the great Mizo chiefs Lalsavunga and Thanruma who had set up villages in and around the present site of Raj Bhavan in the early nineteenth century.

### Champhai

Champhai, a bustling commercial town at the Indo - Myanmar border is a beautiful place that offers plenty of tourist attractions. Besides its breathtaking beauty, Champhai is a store house of ancient relics, monuments and memorials of

legends and folk lore. Located 192 kms from Aizawl at an elevation of 1678 mts, Champhai is also fast emerging as the fruit bowl of Mizoram. It is the capital of Champhai District which covers an area of 3185.83 sq.kms. The Department of Tourism has constructed a Tourist Lodge and Tourist Cottages for the convenience of tourist visiting the town.

#### **Kolasib**

Kolasib District is one of the eight districts of Mizoram and Kolasib town is the administrative headquarters of the district. The district is endowed with beautiful sceneries untouched by pressures of commercialization. Kolasib town is a quaint hill station that provides pristine and peaceful atmosphere all year round. Not far from Kolasib town about an hours drive is a mesmerizing man made lake Serlui 'B' which is also 12 MW Small Hydel Project. It is being developed as a tourist destination by Mizoram Tourism with plans to create a water sport destination. The district is bounded on the north by Assam State, on the west by Mamit District and on the east by Aizawl District. The district headquarter is 117 kms from Aizawl. It is well connected by road and Pawan Hans helicopter service connects Kolasib town with Aizawl.

#### Lunglei

Lunglei is the second largest city of Mizoram and is also the headquarters of Lunglei district in Southern Mizoram. It is an ideal base for nature lovers for exploring the surrounding areas which are rich in flora and fauna, hamlets and landmarks linked with folklores and legends. A 175 kms drive from Aizawl, Lunglei is loftier than Aizawl, perched at an altitude of 1222 metres. An engraved image of Buddha found near Mualcheng village, about 50 kms from the town remains an enigma till date since no other Buddhist relics has been found elsewhere in the state.

#### Siaha

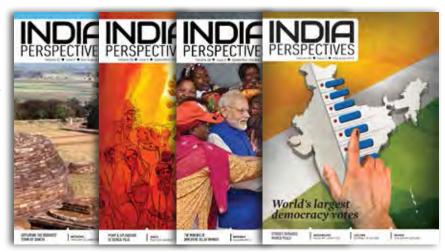
Saiha is dotted with awe-inspiring hills that captivates the mind. It has fascinated many visitors with its picturesque scenery, hospitable people and the distinctive colorful culture that prevails. As one cruises through the road, one gets spellbound by the serene grandeur of the lofty hills and greenery. Saiha is one of the eight districts of Mizoram and is located in the southern tip of Mizoram. It is bounded in the north by Lunglei District, on the west by Lawngtlai District and has an international border with Myanmar on the east and south. The majority of the inhabitants are Mara people having an autonomous district council called Mara Autonomous District Council.

## INDIA PERSPECTIVES MAGAZINE ONLINE www.indiaperspectives.in

## India Perspectives Magazine

India Perspectives, the flagship magazine of the Ministry of External Affairs. The magazine is printed in 16 languages and goes to 170 countries, disseminating interesting information about India's rich culture and tradition.

For a copy of the magazine, mail us at: poip@mea.gov.in



English | Français | العربية | Español | Português | 同 | Indonesia | Deutsch | Italiano | فارسى | پشتو | русский | 원이었ල | 印度視角 | 日本語

## ; I =89': CF'HF5J9@@PFG'!'65; ; 5; 9'FI @PG



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.



### YOGA, BOLLYWOOD DANCE AND HINDI CLASSES AT THE EMBASSY

- The Embassy of India invites Yoga enthusiast for free yoga classes at the Embassy. The classes are organized in various categories and are conducted by Ms. Neelam Vats, Yoga Teacher at the Culture Center, Kaerntner Ring 2, Vienna.
- Free Hindi learning class are held every Monday, 18.30 hrs. at the Culture Center of the Embassy at Kaerntner Ring 2, Vienna.
- Free Bollywood dance classes are held every Tuesday from 18.00-19.00 hrs. at the Culture Center of the Embassy at Kaerntner Ring 2, Vienna.
- For further information regarding the Yoga class timings and Hindi learning classes kindly visit Embassy's website or write an e-mail to : tic.vienna@mea.gov.in
- For more information on Bollywood classes kindly send an e- mail to culture.vienna@mea.gov.in

#### **INDIAN EMBASSY LIBRARY**



- The Embassy's library is opened daily from 10 am to 1 pm without appointment.
- Our collection contains more than 3000 titles in dozens of categories.
- For appointments outside the opening hours or other inquiries, please contact us under info.vienna@mea.gov.in or 015058666 44
- Download our latest catalog of books under indianembassy.at/pdf/EmbassyLibrary.pdf

## **NOTICE BOARD**

#### **EMBASSY'S LIBRARY**

- -- The EMBASSY'S library is open DAILY from 10am to 1pm without appointment.
- For a complete list of books available in our library, visit our website www.eoivienna.gov.in .
- For scheduling an appointment outside the opening hours, please contact the information assistant under info.vienna@mea.gov.in or 01 505 8666 44

#### **BUSINESS CENTRE**

- The EMBASSY'S Business Centre is opened DAILY from 10am to 1pm.
- For scheduling an appointment outside the opening hours, please contact the commercial wing under: comm1.vienna@mea.gov.in or 01 505 8666 31

#### STUDENTS WELFARE OFFICER

- •• Mrs. Neerupma S. Kararha, Second Secretary in this Embassy has been designated as Officer to look after welfare of Indian Students in Austria and Montenegro.
- -- Her contact details are: 0043 1 505 866 and culture.vienna@mea.gov.in

#### MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GOES MOBILE

- -- Avail services : passport, visa, consular assistance
- -- Ask your Minister: on the go, anytime, anywhere
- -- Follow your PM: on his visits abroad
- Find the nearest Indian Mission/Post: for emergency consular assistance
- Be informed: about India's Foreign Relations on the move and form your own opinions
- Know more : about how to undertake Kailash Manasarovar Yatra and Haj Pilgrimage
- Download and watch : pictures & documentaries on India
- -- Play and Personalize : what you need, when you need
- -- Share and contribute : your views, pics & suggestions

Ministry of External Affairs proudly presents "MEAIndia" – an integrated smart app for mobile and other hand held devices 'MEAIndia' is now available for download on App Store and Google Play Store.

#### **FACEBOOK & TWITTER**

Our Facebook and Twitter pages target the India-Austria community and covers subjects such as Business, Culture, Embassy News, India-related events and programmes in Austria, and much more.We have reached the 17600 followers mark on Facebook!

'Like' our facebook page and be the first to know!

www.facebook.com/IndiaInAustria www.twitter.com/IndiaInAustria

## INDIA NEW SLETTER



Disclaimer: Information collected in our Newsletter is through secondary research and Embassy of India, Vienna is not responsible for any errors in the same.