<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visit of Minister of Tourism &amp; Cultural Affairs of Maharashtra to Japan</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit of METI Minister to India</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33rd memorial service of the Most Venerable Nichidatsu Fujii</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pravasi Bharatiya Divas</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luncheon hosted by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe for Japanese Speaking Ambassadors</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with CEO and Vice-President of Kyazoonga.com</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Hindi Day (Vishwa Hindi Divas)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JITCO New Year event</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relaxation of Japanese Visa Rules for Indian University Students</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit of Indian Coast Guard Ship Samarth to Japan</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings with Chairman of Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee of House of Councillors, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary and Chair of Foreign Affairs Committee in the House of Representatives</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reception hosted by Cabinet Office of Japan for the participants of the Ship for World Youth Leaders Programme</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit of Minister of IT, Industries, MA &amp; UD of Telangana to Japan</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit to Shizuoka Prefecture</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visit of Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences to Japan</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68th Republic Day of India</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings with HE Masashi Adachi, MP, HE Shunsuke Takei, Parliamentary Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs and HE Hiroyuki Hosoda, Chairman of the General Council of LDP</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69th Gandhiji Martyr’s Day Gathering</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan Buddhist Federation’s New Year Exchange Party</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with Admiral Satoshi Nakajima</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with Tamil Community in Japan</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Sandip K. Tagore, eminent Indian in Japan is awarded the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award by the Government of India</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India to become hub of skilled manpower</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building of Spice Coast</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IT &amp; ITes Industry in India</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaisalmer – a popular tourist destination in India</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Profile: Punjab</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade Fairs &amp; Business Exhibitions in India from February – April 2017</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade Queries from India</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photo Gallery</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Visit of Minister of Tourism & Cultural Affairs of Maharashtra to Japan

As part of the MoU on co-operation between the State of Maharashtra and Wakayama Prefecture of Japan, a delegation led by the Minister of Tourism & Cultural Affairs of Maharashtra visited Japan from 7 January to 14 January to attend the ‘Omotenashi’ (Japanese Hospitality) training programme sponsored by JICA, at Wakayama.

Visit of METI Minister to India

METI Minister HE Hiroshige Seko visited India on 9-10 January. During the visit he held bilateral meetings with the Commerce and Industry Minister, the MoS (IC) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy and Mines, and attended the 7th India Japan Energy Forum on 9th January. He also attended the Vibrant Gujarat Summit on 10th January where he called on the Prime Minister.

33rd memorial service of the Most Venerable Nichidatsu Fujii

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy attended the 33rd memorial service of the Most Venerable Nichidatsu Fujii, founding preceptor of the Nipponzan Myohoji held at Mount Kiyosumi, Chiba Prefecture on 9th January, 2017. In his address to the monks and delegates from all over the world (including Nepal, Sri Lanka, USA, England and Republic of Korea), Ambassador highlighted the deep and long friendship between Fujii Guruji and Mahatma Gandhi and his work towards propagating Gandhiji’s Teaching in Japan. He also added that Buddhism being India’s gift to the world, it has created a celestial bridge between the societies of India and Japan, and in contemporary times played a key role in consolidating the traditional friendship. Fuji Guruji, on his visit to Wardha in early 1930s, gifted Gandhiji the famous 3 wise monkeys, symbolizing the teaching - “See no Evil”, “Speak no Evil” and “Hear no Evil”.

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

An event celebrating Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, a day to connect India to its vast overseas diaspora, was held at the VCC Auditorium on 9 January. Ambassador H.E. Shri Sujan R. Chinoy addressed the members of the Indian community in Japan, speaking about the invaluable contributions of overseas Indians across the ages and encouraged all present to act as goodwill ambassadors for India to not only further Indian interests abroad but to make an active contribution to their host countries. This was followed by a presentation by Mr. Avnish Sharma, Minister (Consular) introducing the various consular services offered by the Embassy. He also engaged the audience in a Q&A session in which queries about Embassy’s services were addressed and suggestions from audience members were received. Following this, Ms. Muanpuii Saiawi, First Secretary (IEC), gave a presentation on beneficial programmes related to education and culture available to the overseas Indian community including scholarships and opportunities to visit India.

Luncheon hosted by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe for Japanese Speaking Ambassadors

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy attended a luncheon hosted by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe for 22 Japanese speaking Ambassadors on January 10, at the Prime Minister’s Residence.

Meeting with CEO and Vice-President of Kyazoonga.com

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy met Ms. Neetu Bhatia (former Maharashtra Women's Cricket Captain), CEO & Co-founder of Kyazoonga.com, sports ticketing company, and Ms. Shubhangi Kulkarni (former member of national Women's Cricket Team), Vice President of Kyazoonga.com on 10 January.
World Hindi Day (Vishwa Hindi Divas)

To celebrate World Hindi Day (Vishwa Hindi Divas), the Embassy hosted a special theatrical performance by students from the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (TUFS) of the Hindi language play "Holiday in Delhi", an adaptation of the classic film "Roman Holiday". Ambassador H.E. Shri Sujan R. Chinoy gave the opening remarks in which he emphasised the significant role of Hindi as an international language and read Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to Hindi language speakers and enthusiasts of Indian culture across the world on the occasion of World Hindi Day. This event also marked the beginning of "Year of India-Japan Friendly Exchanges". Professor Takeshi Fujii, head of the Hindi Department at TUFS subsequently addressed the audience, expressing his own passion about the Hindi language encouraging others to consider learning this rich and widely spoken language. The play by TUFS was received with great applause from the audience. The event was attended by members of the Indian Community, academics, Hindi language enthusiasts and Embassy officials.

JITCO New Year event

Ambassador HE Sujan R Chinoy attended a JITCO New Year event on 12 January and discussed potential for Indian participation in Japan's Technical Intern Training Program (TITP).

Relaxation of Japanese Visa Rules for Indian University Students

Japan on 16 January announced visa rules relaxation for Indian university students (undergraduates, graduates, postgraduate students) from February 1. This move allows those who have graduated from university in the previous three years to use their enrollment or graduation certificates instead of documents proving financial means to apply for tourist visas.

Visit of Indian Coast Guard Ship Samarth to Japan

ICGS Samarth visited Japan from 16 to 20 January. The 16th High Level Meeting between the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and Japan Coast Guard was held on 17 January in Tokyo. Bilateral harbour exercises were held on 18 and 19 January focusing on SAR and maritime pollution response operations. Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy also attended the reception hosted by the DG of ICG onboard ICGS Samarth on 19 January and spoke on our special bilateral ties with Japan.

Meetings with Chairman of Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee of House of Councillors, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary and Chair of Foreign Affairs Committee in the House of Representatives

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy had meetings with HE Takashi Uto, Chairman of Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee of House of Councillors on 17 January, HE Koichi Hagiuda, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary and HE Norio Mitsuya, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the House of Representatives on 18 January.

Reception hosted by Cabinet Office of Japan for the participants of the Ship for World Youth Leaders Programme

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy attended the reception hosted by the Cabinet Office of Japan for the participants of the Ship for World Youth Leaders programme, and interacted with the Indian participants on 18 January. 12 Indian youth are participating in the programme among 120 overseas participating youth from 10 countries. Minister of State for Economic and Fiscal Policy of Japan H.E. Hirotaka Ishihara welcomed the youth delegations. All participating youth set sail on a Ship from Yokohama on January 30 and will visit the Republic of Vanuatu, New Zealand, Republic of Fiji and Solomon Islands before disembarking in Tokyo on March 3.
Visit of Minister of IT, Industries, MA & UD of Telangana to Japan

A delegation led by Mr. K. T. Rama Rao, Minister for IT, Industries, MA & UD, Government of Telangana visited Japan from 21-25 January and held meetings with a number of Japanese organisations including JETRO, JICA and Keidanren, and Japanese companies.

Visit to Shizuoka Prefecture

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy visited Shizuoka Prefecture on an inspection tour organized by the International Hospitality and Conference Service Association on 23-24 January. He also met Mr. Heita Kawakatsu, Governor of Shizuoka and discussed deepening of relations between India and Shizuoka Prefecture.

Visit of Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences to Japan

A delegation led by Mr. M. Rajeevan, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) visited Japan on 25-26 January 2017. He met with Dr. Asahiko Taira, President, JAMSTEC and discussed specific projects of interest under the MoU between JAMSTEC and MoES. He also met Mr. Kazuo Tadani, Vice Minister, MEXT and discussed future joint missions on Marine Science including deep ocean studies.

68th Republic Day of India

The Embassy of India organised a Flag Hoisting Programme on the 68th Republic Day of India at the Chancery premises on 26 January 2017. Despite it being a working day in Japan, more than 450 Indian nationals attended the programme which started at 9 am. Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy unfurled the national flag which was followed by the singing of the National Anthem. He read out the address of the President of India to the nation in Hindi and English and gave welcoming remarks to the Indian community. This was followed by the singing of patriotic songs by students of India International School in Japan and Global Indian International School in Japan.

Ambassador HE Sujan R Chinoy and Mrs. Chinoy hosted a reception on the 68th Republic Day of India in Okura Hotel which saw participation of close to 600 guests including 2 former Prime Ministers, Mr. Yasuo Fukuda and Dr. Yukio Hatoyama, Mr. Nobuo Kishi, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Koichi Hagiuda, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary, several Vice Ministers, Members of the Diet, captains of the business community, senior officials from various Ministries of the Japanese government, heads of cultural and religious organizations, think tanks, scientific community, academia, media, members of the Indian community and the diplomatic corps. The programme commenced with the national anthems of Japan and India. Ambassador welcomed and addressed the gathering. HE Koichi Hagiuda, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary and HE Hiroyuki Hosoda, President of India-Japan Parliamentary Friendship League and Chairman of the General Council, LDP made congratulatory remarks. HE Kiyosghi Odawara, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs was invited to raise a toast.

Two newspapers, Japan News and Japan Times brought out a special supplement on India’s 68th Republic Day. They carried Ambassador of India’s message as well as congratulatory messages by Japanese dignitaries. A photo exhibition of Prime Minister Modi’s visit to Japan in November 2016 and "Indian Deities Worshipped in Japan" was showcased at the Republic Day reception. There was also a cultural performance of Bharatnatyam and Odissi dance by the teachers of the Vivekananda Cultural Centre. Ambassador drew a lucky prize of two return tickets to New Delhi sponsored by Air India, which was won by a Japanese guest.

Meetings with HE Masashi Adachi, MP, HE Shunsuke Takei, Parliamentary Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs and HE Hiroyuki Hosoda, Chairman of the General Council of LDP

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy had fruitful meetings with HE Masashi Adachi, MP and Director of Foreign Affairs Division of LDP on 25 January and HE Shunsuke Takei, Parliamentary Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs on 27 January, following the latter’s visit to India for the Raisina Dialogue.
Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy met HE Hiroyuki Hosoda, Chairman of the General Council of the Liberal Democratic Party to discuss bilateral ties between India & Japan on 30 January.

**69th Gandhiji Martyr’s Day Gathering**

Mr. Amit Kumar, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India paid his respects to Mahatma Gandhi and gave remarks on the occasion of ‘69th Gandhiji Martyr’s Day Gathering’, a commemorative event organised by Japan Bharat Sarvodya Mitrata Sangha, Tokyo at the Nipponzan Myhoji Temple on 30 January.

**Japan Buddhist Federation’s New Year Exchange Party**

Embassy of India was represented by Ms Muanpuii Saiawi, First Secretary at the Japan Buddhist Federation’s New Year Exchange Party on 30 January.

**Meeting with Admiral Satoshi Nakajima**

Admiral Satoshi Nakajima, Commandant Japan Coast Guard called on Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy on 31 January.

**Meeting with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs**

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy had a meeting with H.E. Kentaro Sonoura, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs regarding progress in bilateral cooperation and regional connectivity on 31 January.

**Meeting with Tamil Community in Japan**

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy received members of the dynamic Tamil community in Japan on 31 January.

**Prof. Sandip K. Tagore, eminent Indian in Japan is awarded the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award by the Government of India**

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated on 9 January every year to mark the contribution of overseas Indian community in the development of India. The day commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi to India from South Africa on 9 January 1915. The PBD Conventions are being held every year in India since 2003 to provide a platform to the overseas Indian community to engage with the government and people of India and share their experiences in various fields. The 14th PBD Convention was held in Bengaluru, India on January 7-9, 2017.

2. During the Pravasi Bharatiya Convention, individuals of exceptional merit are honoured with the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award in recognition of their contribution to India’s growth. This year, Professor Sandip K. Tagore, Professor Emeritus of Otemon Gakuin University, Osaka, has been selected as the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman awardee for 2017 from Japan.

3. Professor Tagore is an eminent academic, scholar, musician, artist and cultural figure who has lived in Japan for 60 years. He is one of the oldest and most prominent Indians in Japan. He played a pioneering role in promoting literature and culture exchanges between India and Japan. He started the oldest student exchange programme between Otemon Gakuin University in Japan and Gujarat University in India, which has run uninterruptedly for 45 years.
Bio-Profile of Professor Sandip K. Tagore

Professor Sandip K. Tagore is an eminent academic, scholar, musician, artist and cultural figure, who has lived in Japan for nearly 60 years. He is currently Professor Emeritus of Otemon Gakuin University. He hails from the original (Adibari) House and Temple of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore family of Pathuriaghata, Kolkata.

He arrived in Japan in 1957 as a student and later taught at Otani Women’s University, Osaka (1965-1970), Otemon Gakuin University, Osaka (1970-2003) and taught sitar and vocals at Osaka College of Music, Osaka (1980-1999). He was instrumental in starting the oldest student exchange programme, between Otemon Gakuin University in Osaka, Japan with Gujarat University, India, which has run uninterrupted for 45 years. PM as then Chief Minister of Gujarat, visited Otemon Gakuin University in 2007, as a result. Dr. Tagore is an accomplished musician, having performed sitar and vocals at various music festivals, concerts and television in Japan. He also held 9 exhibitions of his portraits and landscape paintings in Japan. He was commissioned by the Japanese Government in 1993 to paint a 10 metre mural and it is displayed at the Kobe Government Seminar House. He founded the Indian Culture Centre, Osaka. He is presently President of Asia-21, Library and Cultural Centre, Osaka, which promotes network of libraries in Asia, fosters understanding of different cultures and promotes international understanding. He has taught Bengali for 50 years and continues to teach Rabindra Sangeet at this Centre.

He organised the first Bengali Puja in Japan in 1972. He wrote a book “Peopled Azimuth: Reminiscences and Reflections of an Indian in Japan” in 1987. He has translated Japanese literature into Bengali. Together with his wife, Eiko, he published a book “Kothi Patal Chontra” which introduces Japanese poems, tanka and haiku in Bengali language. He also translated Japanese Nobel laureate, Yasunari Kawabata’s masterpiece “Snow Country” or “Yukiguni” into Bengali language. Professor Tagore is amongst the senior-most and pre-eminent Indians in Japan of his generation and is the foremost “cultural Ambassador” in Japan. He is an outstanding orator, educationist, musician, author, and cultural Ambassador of India at the people-to people level.

“We should not give up and we should not allow the problem to defeat us.” – Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
India to become hub of skilled manpower

Even a year after the launch of the ‘Skill India’ programme, a lot of impetus is being given to it as the initiative aims at training the youth of the country in specific skills through which they can earn a livelihood and live with pride. With an aim to generate surplus manpower of, at least, five crore over the next decade with skilled labour, India will be able to tackle global challenges. It is estimated that a meagre 2.3 per cent of the workforce in India has formal training as compared to the UK (68 per cent) and the US (80 per cent). Since the launch of ‘Skill India’, a number of training universities, institutes and schools have mushroomed across the country and tied up with the state governments to enroll the maximum number of youth. So far, over 55 lakh people have received training and 23 lakh people have been employed. Over the last year, the number of training centres crossed the 3,000 mark and the Government has tied up with around 250 training partners. The campaign’s vision is to train over 40 crore people by 2022 in different skills. ‘Skill India’ resolves to bridge the digital divide by providing basic digital literacy opportunities to all skillseekers. The web skilling opportunities come with the convenience of learning and practising skill-nuggets with a mobile app as well. The ambitious programme completed one year in July 2016 and on the first anniversary of the initiative, the Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (independent charge), Mr. Rajiv Pratap Rudy, reinforced the commitment promised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. During an event in New Delhi, in the presence of President Dr Pranab Mukherjee, Rudy outlined the following programmes that will chart the way forward.

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana

As of July 18, 2016, 17.93 lakh candidates were trained out of 18 lakh who enrolled. In 2015, the scheme had an outlay of 1,500 crore, with a target to cover 24 lakh persons within the next year under skill training (including 10 lakh under Recognition of Prior Learning). PM Modi this year approved the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) with an outlay of 12,000 crore to impart skilling to one crore people over the next four years (2016-2020).

Under this scheme, around 60 lakh youth will get trained and skill training would be imparted based on industry-led standards aligned to the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF). There will be special focus on placement of trainees along with incentives. This scheme will emphasise on skill training as per international standards for employment in Gulf countries, Europe and other overseas destinations. Students undergoing training in high-end job roles will be provided scholarships.

India International Skill Centres

The first anniversary of ‘Skill India’ saw announcement of 50 India International Skill Centres, slated to open by the end of 2016. In the first phase, 15 centres were launched by President Mukherjee. These will be set up through National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and will implement the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) and Pravasi Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PKVY) to the youth seeking global mobility for jobs. The first 15 centres will be in Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Jharkhand, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan.

India Skills Online

President Mukherjee inaugurated India Skills Online, a national competition under the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and NSDC, to select the best talent to lead India’s participation at the biennial World Skills International Competition scheduled at Abu Dhabi in 2017.

National Labour Market Information System (LMIS)

It is a single window to aggregate supply and demand trends in the Indian skill development ecosystem. This is an integrated set of institutional arrangements, procedures, mechanisms and data systems designed to produce labour market information as per global standards and best practices.
Through LMIS, statistical and non-statistical information on labour market will be generated. The National Skills Development Agency (NSDA) is designated as the lead agency for the development of the national LMIS.

**National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme**

This ambitious scheme has an outlay of 10,000 crore with a target of 50 lakh apprentices to be trained by 2019-20. The scheme would be implemented by Director General of Training (DGT) under MSDE. It provides for incentivising employers to engage apprentices. Apprenticeship training is considered to be one of the most efficient ways to develop skilled manpower. It aims to achieve the objective as stated in the National Policy, 2015. The policy proposes to work proactively with the industry including MSMEs to facilitate 10-fold increase in opportunities by 2020.

*By Akanksha Jain, India Perspectives*

*Courtesy: XP Division, MEA*
Building of Spice Coast

Way before Kerala became synonymous with backwaters, houseboats and Ayurveda, God’s Own Country was known for its spices. We take you down the history lane that set many like Christopher Columbus to sail.

Recently, UNESCO and Kerala Tourism signed a pact to resurrect and promote the ancient spice route of which Kerala was an integral part. The two-fold agenda of this first-ever international initiative is to restore historic ports, buildings and marketplaces that played a key role in developing the spice route and Kerala’s culture. And in doing so, help one understand the ever evolving story of spices: How once spices ruled the world? How spices became the reason for wars, treaties, pacts and colonization? And why spices were considered costlier than gold?

An important part of the plan comprises developing 25 museums to create a timeline of the spice route in Kerala, and how under the Roman influence, the state became the epicenter of spice trading – each country wanting a bigger piece of the pie.

Why Kerala? Because it is in this naturerich state where the real spice story began. In fact, it was an established spice trade port as early as 3000 BC. Such was the spice market offering that it pulled traders from far and wide. Nomadic Arabs and ancient Phoenicians were among the first to arrive here for spice trade. And by 600 BC were transporting pepper, cinnamon, incense and oils from the East through the Persian Gulf to Arabia and beyond. It is said that on one of their visits, the Arabs were short of cash and paid the tax with pepper, calling it the black gold of Asia. Such was the effect of this sweet-fiery spice that by the turn of that year, its consumption grew astonishingly and it became a status symbol of fine cookery. A proof of this is recipes for pepper sauces in Roman novels of 1st century AD. In fact, Roman emperor Domition designated an area in the heart of the city as Ahorrea piperataria, pepper sheds, exclusively for pepper merchants.

Getting control over Kerala ports was one of the motives behind Alexander’s India invasion. Back home, Ashoka The Great had similar plans, given that by 3 BC, Kerala had become the busiest spice trading centre. This influenced the lives of Kerala natives as the state became the melting pot of trading communities. This is why Kerala has the maximum churches, mosques, guest houses, forts and Shiva temples close to water shores including the first-ever mosque Cheraman Juma Masjid, built by King Cheraman Perumal and Vypeekotta Seminary which became the centre of Christian teachings, and Chennamangalam Synagogue and Anatapani North Synagogue.

Courtesy: XP Division, MEA.
IT & ITeS Industry in India

Introduction

India is the world's largest sourcing destination for the information technology (IT) industry, accounting for approximately 67 per cent of the US$ 124-130 billion market. The industry employs about 10 million workforces. More importantly, the industry has led the economic transformation of the country and altered the perception of India in the global economy. India's cost competitiveness in providing IT services, which is approximately 3-4 times cheaper than the US, continues to be the mainstay of its Unique Selling Proposition (USP) in the global sourcing market. However, India is also gaining prominence in terms of intellectual capital with several global IT firms setting up their innovation centres in India.

The IT industry has also created significant demand in the Indian education sector, especially for engineering and computer science. The Indian IT and ITeS industry is divided into four major segments – IT services, Business Process Management (BPM), software products and engineering services, and hardware.

The IT-BPM sector which is currently valued at US$ 143 billion is expected to grow at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 8.3 per cent year-on-year to US$ 143 billion for 2015-16. The sector is expected to contribute 9.5 per cent of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and more than 45 per cent in total services export in 2015-16.

Market Size

The Indian IT sector is expected to grow at a rate of 12-14 per cent for FY 2016-17 in constant currency terms. The sector is also expected triple its current annual revenue to reach US$ 350 billion by FY 2025.

India ranks third among global start-up ecosystems with more than 4,200 start-ups.

India's internet economy is expected to touch Rs 10 trillion (US$ 146.72 billion) by 2018, accounting for 5 per cent of the country's GDP. India's internet user base reached over 400 million by May 2016, the third largest in the world, while the number of social media users grew to 143 million by April 2015 and smartphones grew to 160 million.

Public cloud services revenue in India is expected to reach US$ 1.26 billion in 2016, growing by 30.4 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y). The public cloud market alone in the country was estimated to treble to US$ 1.9 billion by 2018 from US$ 638 million in 2014. Increased penetration of internet (including in rural areas) and rapid emergence of e-commerce are the main drivers for continued growth of data centre co-location and hosting market in India. The Indian Healthcare Information Technology (IT) market is valued at US$ 1 billion currently and is expected to grow 1.5 times by 2020. India's business to business (B2B) e-commerce market is expected to reach US$ 700 billion by 2020 whereas the business to consumer (B2C) e-commerce market is expected to reach US$ 102 billion by 2020.

Investments

Indian IT's core competencies and strengths have attracted significant investments from major countries. The computer software and hardware sector in India attracted cumulative Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows worth US$ 21.02 billion between April 2000 and March 2016, according to data released by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP).

Indian start-ups are estimated to have raised US $ 1.4 billion across 307 deals in quarter ending March 2016.
Most large technology companies looking to expand have so far focused primarily on bigger enterprises, but a report from market research firm Zinnov highlighted that the small and medium businesses will present a lucrative opportunity worth US$ 11.6 billion in 2015, which is expected to grow to US$ 25.8 billion in 2020. Moreover, India has nearly 51 million such businesses of which 12 million have a high degree of technology influence and are looking to adopt newer IT products, as per the report.

Some of the major developments in the Indian IT and ITes sector are as follows:

- **Druva Incorporation**, a data protection firm, has received US$ 51 million in a funding round led by its existing investor Sequoia Capital India along with new investor EDBI which is the investment arm of the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB).

- **Google**, the American technology giant, has launched a new Wi-Fi platform called Google station, under which the company will install Wi-Fi hot spots in places frequented by a large number of people like malls, cafes, universities.

- **Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL)** plans to set up entrepreneurship hubs in key cities and towns, and a Rs 5,000 crore (US$ 748 million) fund, under the name of Jio Digital India Startup Fund, to invest in technology based startups.

- **Gurgaon-based digital wallet start-up MobiKwik**, which is owned and operated by One MobiKwik Systems Private Limited, has raised US$ 40 million from Nasdaq-listed firm Net1, a South African payments technology company.

- **Orange Business Services**, the business services arm of Orange Group, has launched a state data centre for Himachal Pradesh government, which will be the first data centre in India to be designed using ‘green’ data centre concepts that minimise power requirements and increase power utilisation efficiency.

- **PurpleTalk Inc**, a US based mobile solutions company, has invested US$ 1 million in Nukkad Shops, a Hyderabad based uber-local commerce platform that helps neighbourhood retail stores take their businesses online through a mobile app.

- **KartRocket**, a Delhi based e-commerce enabler has completed its US$ 8 million funding round by raising US$ 2 million from a Japanese investor, which will be used to enhance Kraftly, a mobile-first online-to-offline marketplace targeting small sellers, individuals and home-based entrepreneurs in India in product categories such as apparel and accessories.

- **Mumbai-based baby care and kids products e-tailer, Hopscotch.in**, has raised US$ 13 million in a Series C round of funding from Facebook co-founder Mr Eduardo Saverin, which will help the firm in growth and expansion of its technology platform.

- **MoMark Services**, a mobile based customer engagement platform for small and medium businesses, has raised US$ 600,000 from YourNest Angel Fund and LNB Group, to scale up its product offerings and talent acquisition.

- **Shouut**, a social discovery app by Giant Tech Labs Pvt Ltd, which helps consumers discover deals, buy event tickets or redeem coupons, has raised US$ 500,000 in angel funding from a high net-worth individual angel investor based in India.

- **Apple Inc.** plans to set up its first technology development centre outside the US in Hyderabad with an investment of US$ 25 million, which is expected to create 4,500 jobs, as per Mr Jayesh Ranjan, Secretary, IT for the state of Telangana.
Xpressbees, an e-commerce logistics firm operated by Busybees Logistics Solutions Private Limited, has raised US$ 12.5 million in a Series A funding, led by its existing investors SAIF Partners, IDG Ventures, Vertex Ventures and Valiant Capital, which will be used to strengthen technology initiatives and processes of the firm.

Housejoy, an online home services provider, has raised Rs 150 crore (US$ 22 million) in a Series B round of funding led by Amazon, and which also includes new investors such as Vertex Ventures, Qualcomm and Ru-Net Technology Partners.

Global PE firm Blackstone Group has acquired a minority stake in an Indian travel, transportation and logistics software firm, IBS Software, for US$ 170 million, by buying the stake from General Atlantic and few other shareholders.

India’s top-tier IT company, Infosys Ltd, has bought a minority stake worth US$ 3 million in Whoop, which is a US-based start-up that makes activity trackers worn by athletes.

Microsoft Ventures is planning to incubate 500 start-ups in India in the next five years with a vision to create a viable and profitable business out of the booming start-up sector in India.

National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) plans to open four more tech start-up incubation centres in different parts of India, in addition to existing three, in support of Government of India’s ‘Start-up India’ initiative.

Nasscom Foundation, a non-profit organisation which is a part of Nasscom, has partnered with SAP India to establish 25 National Digital Literacy Mission (NDLM) centres in 12 cities across India, as a part of Government of India’s Digital India initiative.

Infosys, India’s second largest Information Technology services company has acquired US-based Noah Consulting, a provider of advanced information management consulting services for the oil and gas industry.

US-based Callidus Software Inc, cloud-based sales, marketing, learning and customer experience solutions provider, has opened its centre in Hyderabad and also launched its ‘The Lead to Money’ suite in Indian markets.

Wipro Ventures, Wipro’s US$ 100 million corporate venture arm, plans to invest in early-stage Venture Capital (VC) funds based in the US to pursue a strategy of investing/partnering country-focussed VCs.

A recent study by research firm International Data Corporation (IDC) suggests that India may soon be able to catch up with the global technology trends that have disrupted enterprises, industry and the way consumers behave and transact.

Reliance is building a 650,000 square feet (sq ft) data centre in India—its 10th data centre in the country—with a combined capacity of about 1 million sq ft and an overall investment of US$ 200 million.

Intel Corp plans to invest about US$ 62 million in 16 technology companies, working on wearable, data analytics and the Internet of Things (IoT), in 2015 through its investment arm Intel Capital. The Indian IoT industry is expected be worth US$ 15 billion and to connect 28 billion devices to the internet by 2020.

**Government Initiatives**

Some of the major initiatives taken by the government to promote IT and ITeS sector in India are as follows:
Mr Ravi Shakar Prasad, Minister of Communication and Information Technology, announced plan to increase the number of common service centres or e-Seva centres to 250,000 from 150,000 currently to enable village level entrepreneurs to interact with national experts for guidance, besides serving as a e-services distribution point.

The Government of Telangana has signed an agreement with network solutions giant Cisco Systems Incorporation, to cooperate on a host of technology initiatives, including Smart Cities, Internet of Things, cybersecurity, education digitisation of monuments.

The Railway Ministry plans to give a digital push to the India Railways by introducing bar-coded tickets, Global Positioning System (GPS) based information systems inside coaches, integration of all facilities dealing with ticketing issues, Wi-Fi facilities at the stations, super-fast long-route train service for unreserved passengers among other developments, which will help to increase the passenger traffic.

The Pune Smart City Development Corporation (PSCDCL) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the European Business and Technology Centre (EBTC), which will allow it to gain access to real-time knowledge of technologies, solutions and best practices from Europe.

The e-Tourist Visa (e-TV) scheme has been extended to 37 more countries thereby taking the total count of countries under the scheme to 150 countries.

Department of Electronics & Information Technology and M/s Canbank Venture Capital Fund Ltd plan to launch an Electronics Development Fund (EDF), which will be a 'Fund of Funds' to invest in 'Daughter Funds' which would provide risk capital to companies developing new technologies in the area of electronics, nano-electronics and Information Technology (IT).

The Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry has entered into a partnership with private companies, including Tata Motors Ltd, Tata Consultancy Services Ltd and real-estate firm Hubtown Ltd, to open three Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs), through public-private partnership (PPP), at Nagpur, Ranchi and Pune.

Government of India is planning to develop five incubation centres for 'Internet of Things' (IoT) start-ups, as a part of Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi’s Digital India and Startup India campaign, with at least two centres to be set up in rural areas to develop solutions for smart agriculture.

The Government of India has launched the Digital India program to provide several government services to the people using IT and to integrate the government departments and the people of India. The adoption of key technologies across sectors spurred by the 'Digital India Initiative' could help boost India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by US$ 550 billion to US$ 1 trillion by 2025.

India and the US have agreed to jointly explore opportunities for collaboration on implementing India's ambitious Rs 1.13 trillion (US$ 16.58 billion) 'Digital India Initiative'. The two sides also agreed to hold the US-India Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Working Group in India later this year.

The Government of Telangana has begun construction of a technology incubator in Hyderabad—dubbed T-Hub—to reposition the city as a technology destination. The state government is initially investing Rs 35 crore (US$ 5.14 million) to set up a 60,000 sq ft space, labelled the largest start-up incubator in the county, at the campus of International Institute of Information Technology-Hyderabad (IIIT-H). Once completed, the project is proposed to be the world’s biggest start-up incubator housing 1,000 start-ups.
The Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) plans to start a digital literacy programme, aimed at training over six crore Indians in the next three years to empower them for digital inclusion.

**Road Ahead**

India is the topmost offshoring destination for IT companies across the world. Having proven its capabilities in delivering both on-shore and off-shore services to global clients, emerging technologies now offer an entire new gamut of opportunities for top IT firms in India. Social, Mobility, Analytics and Cloud (SMAC) are collectively expected to offer a US$ 1 trillion opportunity. Cloud represents the largest opportunity under SMAC, increasing at a CAGR of approximately 30 per cent to around US$ 650-700 billion by 2020. The social media is the second most lucrative segment for IT firms, offering a US$ 250 billion market opportunity by 2020. The Indian e-commerce segment is US$ 12 billion in size and is witnessing strong growth and thereby offers another attractive avenue for IT companies to develop products and services to cater to the high growth consumer segment.

Exchange Rate Used: INR 1 = US$ 0.0149 as on September 29, 2016

**References:** Media Reports, Press Information Bureau (PIB), Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) statistics, Department of Information and Technology

Source: www.ibef.org

“Trust is the first step to love” - Munshi Premchand
Jaisalmer – a popular tourist destination in India

**Fast Facts**

**State:** Rajasthan

**Area:**
5.1 sq km

**Altitude:**
225 m

**Temperature:**
- Summer: 46 - 32 C
- Winter: 27 - 1 C

**Rainfall:**
10 cm

**Season:**
October to March

**STD Code:**
02992

**Conducted Tours**
The City Sightseeing and Sam Sand Dunes Tours are conducted by Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation (RTDC) during season.
Tel: 02992 252392

**Gadisar Lake**

**Location Map of Rajasthan**

**Desert Festival in Jaisalmer**

**Desert National Park in Jaisalmer**
Jaisalmer, in the State of Rajasthan, traces its inception to the 12th century. History tells us of Rawal Jaisal, the eldest heir of the Rawal of Deoraj, was passed over for the throne of Lodurva and a younger half-brother was crowned king. Rawal Jaisal went looking for a new location to set up his capital when he came across sage Eesul. The sage told him about Krishna’s prophecy which said that a descendant of his Yaduvanshi clan would found a new kingdom at this same spot. It was in 1156 that Rawal Jaisal constructed a mud fort, named it Jaisalmer after himself and declared it his capital.

**Things to Do/ Sights to See in and around Jaisalmer**

**Camel safari**

Get off the beaten track and see Rajasthan in the best way possible – via the ship of the desert, the camel. There are plenty of reliable safari tour operators to choose from. One can take a one-day tour or choose to stay overnight in villages. Meals and mineral water is available on most rides.

**Have your own sand story @ the dunes of Jaisalmer**

Away from the urban chaos and at the heart of the sprawling Thar Desert, experience Rajasthan in its true essence. Camping under the sparkling skies of Rajasthan, treats you to the celestial wonders. Feel the warm sand under your feet and lay back and enjoy the showcase of cultural performances. An impressive fusion of adventure and comfort, camping amidst the sand dunes of Jaisalmer is truly a one of a kind outdoor experience one shouldn’t miss.

**Jaisalmer Fort**

The Jaisalmer Fort also goes by the name Sonar Quila (Golden Fort) as it rises from the desert itself and seems to become one with the golden hues of the sand. The setting sun adds its own magic and shrouds the fort with mystique. The fort is constructed in the classic style of the royals by local craftsmen. This fort is a world heritage site and forms an important plot point in one of Satyajit Ray’s famous Feluda stories and corresponding movie, Sonar Kela (The Golden Fortress).

**Jaisalmer Government Museum**

Established by the Department of Archaeology and Museums, it is a prime attraction for tourists visiting Jaisalmer. The most striking display is the trophy of Rajasthan’s state bird Godawan (the great Indian bustard). Traditional household items, rock-cut crockery, jewellery and statues from the 7th and 9th century AD displayed here are remnants of the city’s rich cultural heritage.

**Nathmal Ji Ki Haveli**

Two architect brothers built Nathmal Ji Ki Haveli in the 19th century. They worked on the haveli from two sides and the outcome is a beautiful blend of the symmetrical construction. Miniature style paintings and mighty tuskers carved out of yellow sandstone are used for decoration.

**Patwon Ki Haveli**

Among the largest and the most elaborately carved havelis in Jaisalmer, this five-storey structure sits proudly in a narrow street. While the haveli has lost some of its early glory, a few paintings and mirror work art can still be seen on the inside walls.

**Mandir Palace**

The five-storeyed majesty of the Badal Mahal (Cloud Palace) is further enhanced by its pagoda-like Tazia Tower. Each floor of the palace has an intricately carved balcony. The Badal Palace owes its beauty to the skills of Muslim craftsmen who moulded the tower in the shape of a Tazia (a float that’s part of the procession of Muharram).
Jain temples of Jaisalmer

The Jain Temples located inside the Jaisalmer Fort date back to the 12th and 15th centuries. The temples are dedicated to Rikhabdevji and Shambhavdevji, famous Jain hermits known as 'Tirthankars' (wise teachers who taught people how to attain nirvana). Like all other structures in Jaisalmer, the temples are carved out of yellow sandstone. They have been built in the famed Dilwara style which is known for its beautiful architecture.

Gadisar Lake

Gadisar Lake was constructed in the 14th century by Maharawal Gadsi Singh to meet the water needs of his arid lands. This rainwater conservation lake was once the main source of drinking water for the entire town of Jaisalmer. Considering its importance, many small temples and shrines were constructed around it, transforming it into a pilgrimage centre and a tourist attraction. This is the most popular point to take photographs of Jaisalmer fort early in the morning when the fort looks golden with the first rays of the Sun.

Bada Bagh

About 6 kilometres to the north of Jaisalmer lies Bada Bagh, also called Barabagh (literally Big Garden). This garden complex houses chhatris or royal cenotaphs of the Maharajas of Jaisalmer state, including that of Jai Singh II. The location of the garden is such that it offers wonderful sunset vistas to tourists.

Desert National Park

The Desert National Park displays the best of the Thar desert’s ecosystem and its varied wildlife. The Park is formed of undulating sand dunes, jagged rocks, dense salt lake bottoms and inter-medial areas. Various species of animals such as black buck, chinkara and desert fox inhabit the Park. The highly endangered Great Indian Bustard, one of the world’s heaviest flying birds, can also be seen here. In winter, the park hosts an incredible variety of migratory raptors such Himalayan and Eurasian Griffon Vultures, Eastern Imperial Eagle, and the Saker Falcon.

Kuldhara

84 medieval villages were abandoned by the Paliwal Brahmins overnight. The two most prominent of them are Kuldhara and Khabha, located about 18 and 30 kilometres respectively from the southwest of Jaisalmer. The ruins of Kuldhara and Khabha are fine examples of architectural excellence of that era and are a treat for shutterbugs. Several stories abound, but nobody is really sure why the mass exodus took place. Villagers believe the place is cursed and hesitate to venture inside.

Tanot Mata Temple

Some 120 kilometres away from Jaisalmer is the Tanot Mata Temple. Tanot Mata is considered to be a reincarnation of Goddess Hinglaj. There are many stories of how during the 1965 India-Pakistan war, Tanot was under heavy attack and shelling. However, none of the shells or bombs fired at the temple exploded. This reaffirmed people’s faith that Goddess the temple. Post the war, the Border Security Force (BSF) rebuilt the temple and today, the temple is managed by a BSF Trust.

Desert Festival

Organised by the Department of Tourism around January-February, the Desert Festival is the best place to enjoy rich and colourful Rajasthani folk culture. The high points of the festival are puppeteers, acrobats, camel races, camel polo, folk dances, etc.
Baisakhi

A pilgrimage for Hindus, attracting a number of devotees on full moon Mondays of Baisakh every year for holy dip. A temple dedicated to Lord Shiva is originally of early Pratihar period and seems to have been restored in the 16th century.

Wood Fossil Park, Aakal

The fossils in this park, 180 million years old, stand witness to the geological cataclysms that have taken place in the Thar Desert.

Pokaran

Pokaran (110 Kms from Jaisalmer) town lies in the heart of the Thar Desert. The Pokaran Fort was the citadel of the Champawat Rathores, mighty Rajput nobles of Marwar. The fort is now converted into a heritage hotel.

Barmer (153 km): A small and lively desert town, known for its hand block printing industry, carved wooden furniture and colourful costumes worn by its friendly people. The Barmer Festival is held every year in the month of March.

Just 35 km from Barmer is a group of five temples in architectural style known as Kiradu. These temples feature some very fine sculpture; Someshwara Temple with a multi-tier spire is the most impressive.

Getting there

By Air
The nearest airport is at Jodhpur (290 km)

By Rail
Jaisalmer is connected by rail with Jodhpur and Delhi which in turn is connected to major cities and towns in India

By Road
Jaisalmer is connected by motorable roads with:

- Ajmer 513 km
- Barmer 153 km
- Bikaner 330 km
- Delhi 897 km
- Jaipur 638 km
- Jodhpur 290 km
- Mt. Abu 572 km, via Jodhpur and 440 km via Barmer
- Udaipur 563 km

Courtesy: https://www.incredibleindia.org, http://www.mapsofindia.com,
http://tourism.rajasthan.gov.in/jaisalmer
Punjab, one of the northernmost states of India, is bordered by the Pakistani province of Punjab to its west, Jammu & Kashmir in the north, Himachal Pradesh in the northeast, Haryana in the south and southeast, and Rajasthan in the southwest.

The confluence of five rivers makes Punjab’s agricultural land rich and productive. Approximately 82 per cent of the state’s land is under cultivation compared with the national average of 40 per cent.

Punjab is also known as the ‘Bread Basket of India’ and led to first Green Revolution in the country. By 2025, it is expected that the state will be among the leading producers of non-food grains as well as exporter of various agri-products. Occupying only 1.5 per cent of India's geographical area, the state accounts for about 17 per cent of the country's wheat production and 11 per cent of rice production. This makes it suitable for agro-based industries, dairy farming and products, and other food processing industries. During 2015-16, total vegetable production in the state was 4.16 million tonnes, wheat production stood at 17.10 million metric tonnes, and rice production stood at 10.62 million metric.

Punjab has strong agriculture base with the huge production of principal crops. In 2015-16, production of sugarcane was recorded at 7,125 thousand metric tonnes. As per state budget 2016-17, an amount of US$ 1.14 billion has been allocated to the agriculture and allied industries sector.

Punjab has been ranked first in India in terms of infrastructure facilities offered. Punjab’s road, rail and air transport network, connectivity, construction of bridges and infrastructure facilities are rated among the best. As of June 2016, Punjab had a total installed power generation capacity of 12,936 megawatt (MW).

The state has attracted Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) equity inflows worth US$ 1.35 billion during the period April 2000 to March 2016, according to data released by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP).

Punjab has easiest procedures to set up a business, according to a study by the World Bank and KPMG. Punjab had set up a Bureau of Investment Promotion (BIP) in December 2013 for one-stop clearance.
of investment proposals. BIP has powers to give approvals related to pollution control, excise and taxation, labour issues, factory licences, boiler registrations, town and country planning, land and power-related issues.

Punjab has emerged as a key hub for textile-based industries including yarn, readymade garments and hosiery. With the development of apparel parks, favourable textile policy and other incentives for the creation of textile infrastructure, the state offers opportunities for investment.

The average gross state domestic product (GSDP) growth rate for the state of Punjab was about 10.12 per cent between 2004-05 and 2015-16. The state provides investment opportunities in sectors such as textiles, agro-based industries, IT & ITeS, automotive and auto components, sports goods and light engineering goods.

Key Sectors:

- The agriculture sector contributed around 27.19 per cent to the state’s GSDP in 2015-16 at 2011-12 prices and provides livelihoods to more than 60 per cent of the state’s population. Food processing is considered to be a focus area in the state and the government has made various efforts in aiding deserving investments for the food processing industry.

- Punjab’s IT policy and the incentives offered to the IT industry are aimed at promoting Punjab as an attractive destination for the industry. Mohali has been developed as an IT and ITeS hub in the state.

- Punjab is among the largest producers of cotton and blended yarn as well as mill-made fabrics in India. Ludhiana is often referred to as the ‘Manchester of India. The state accounted for 15.47 per cent of the country’s cotton production in 2015-16 (up to June 2015).


"The biggest problem in the world today is not poverty or disease but the lack of love and charity and the feeling of being unwanted.” – Mother Teresa
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SN</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Organizer</th>
<th>Product Profile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>India Stonemart 2017</td>
<td>Centre for Development of Stones &amp; Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce &amp; Industry</td>
<td>International Trade Fair for Stone Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>IFEX 2017</td>
<td>The Institute of Indian Foundrymen</td>
<td>International Trade Fair on Foundry Technology, Equipment and Supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>February 3-5, 2017</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ifexindia.com">http://www.ifexindia.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10th Signature IIJS</td>
<td>Gem &amp; Jewellery Export Promotion Council</td>
<td>International Trade Fair for Gem &amp; Jewellery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>43rd IHGF Delhi Fair Spring</td>
<td>Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts</td>
<td>International Trade Fair for Handicrafts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>February 16-20, 2017</td>
<td><a href="http://www.epch.in">http://www.epch.in</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>ChemTECH World Expo 2017</td>
<td>Chemtech Foundation</td>
<td>International Trade Fair for Chemical Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>February 14-17, 2017</td>
<td><a href="http://www.chemtech-online.com">http://www.chemtech-online.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>ACREX India 2017</td>
<td>NumberMesse India Pvt. Ltd.</td>
<td>International Trade Fair on Air Conditioning, Refrigeration and Building Services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>February 23-25, 2017</td>
<td><a href="http://acrex.in">http://acrex.in</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Indian Ceramics 2017</td>
<td>Unifair Exhibition Service Co., Ltd.</td>
<td>International Trade Fair on Ceramic Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Home and Personal Care Ingredients India (HPCI)</td>
<td>NürnbergMesse India Pvt. Ltd.</td>
<td>International Trade Fair for Home &amp; Personal Care Products Ingredients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>India Electronics Week</td>
<td>Bangalore International Exhibition Center (BIEC)</td>
<td>International Trade Fair for Global Electronics Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>March 2-4, 2017</td>
<td><a href="https://www.indiaelectronicsweek.com">https://www.indiaelectronicsweek.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Event Name</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Organizer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td><strong>India Fashion Forum 2017</strong></td>
<td>March 8-9, 2017</td>
<td>Images Multimedia Pvt. Ltd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.indiashow.com">http://www.indiashow.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td><strong>Powerelec India</strong></td>
<td>March 9-11, 2017</td>
<td>FairAct Exhibitions &amp; Events LLP / VERIFAIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.powerelec.co.in/index.php">http://www.powerelec.co.in/index.php</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td><strong>ACMA Automechanika</strong></td>
<td>March 21-24, 2017</td>
<td>Messe Frankfurt Trade Fairs India Pvt. Ltd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td><strong>Secutech India</strong></td>
<td>April 6-8, 2017</td>
<td>ABEC Exhibitions &amp; Conferences Pvt. Ltd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.secutechindia.co.in/index.htm">http://www.secutechindia.co.in/index.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td><strong>Medical Fair 2017</strong></td>
<td>April 6-8, 2017</td>
<td>Messe Dusseldorf India Pvt. Ltd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.medicalfair-india.com">http://www.medicalfair-india.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td><strong>Packplus South Bangalore</strong></td>
<td>April 7-10, 2017</td>
<td>Print-Packaging.com Pvt. Ltd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.packplussouth.in">www.packplussouth.in</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td><strong>INDIA STEEL Expo 2017</strong></td>
<td>April 20-22, 2017</td>
<td>Ministry of Steel, Government of India and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.indiasteelshow.com">www.indiasteelshow.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td><strong>Chemspec India 2017</strong></td>
<td>April 25-26, 2017</td>
<td>ChemicalWeekly and Mack Brooks Exhibitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td><strong>BLECH India 2017</strong></td>
<td>April 27-29, 2017</td>
<td>Inter Ads-Brooks Exhibitions (India) Pvt. Ltd. and Mack Brooks Exhibitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SN.</td>
<td>Company Name</td>
<td>Commercial Interest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Mr. Mahan B. Rathod, M/s RGM Exim, 312, Rathod Bhuvan, Kocharab, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-380006 Gujarat, India  Mobile No: +91-7878719168  Skype: mahanrathod2  Email: <a href="mailto:rgmexim@gmail.com">rgmexim@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Garments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Mr. R. Ravi Kumar M/S Asia Exports  Phone: 044-24746242 / 9094194863 / +91-9841321074  Skype id: asiaexports1  Email: <a href="mailto:mktg@asiaexports.in">mktg@asiaexports.in</a>  <a href="mailto:mktg@asiaexports.in">mailto:mktg@asiaexports.in</a>  /admin@asiaexports.in  &lt;<a href="mailto:admin@asiaexports.in">mailto:admin@asiaexports.in</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.asiaexports.in">www.asiaexports.in</a>  <a href="http://www.asiaexports.in/">http://www.asiaexports.in/</a></td>
<td>coconut, wheat and rice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Mr. Vignesh R. M/s Unique Eco Exports, Manufacturer cum merchant  Address: 40 A/146, Lakshmanan Nagar, Saradha Mill Road 2, Sundhara puram, Coimbatore Tamilnadu  IndiaPIN: 641024  Mail id: <a href="mailto:uniqueecoexports@hotmail.com">uniqueecoexports@hotmail.com</a>  Mobile number: +91 8883881520  IE code: applied</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Mr. Vaneet Duggal M/s Neva Garments Ltd., Hussainpura, Behind Malhotra Resort, G.T. Road(W), Ludhiana-141005, (Pb.) INDIA  Phone: +91-161-3044200 Ext. No. 202  <a href="http://www.nevaindia.com">www.nevaindia.com</a>  <a href="mailto:vaneetduggal@nevaindia.com">vaneetduggal@nevaindia.com</a>  CIN No.: U18101PB1979PLC004036</td>
<td>summer and winter clothes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Ms. Shailendra Bharadia M/s Shipgo Impex  email: <a href="mailto:shipgoimpex@gmail.com">shipgoimpex@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Soya Bean</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Mr. Ananad Sonawane M/s DSN EXIM Dhakate Shahapur, Line Ali, Nr Hanuman Mandir, Alibag Raigad-402108</td>
<td>fruits, rice, papad and snacks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Mr. Vikram Ullal, M/s AV OVERSEAS, 32, 5th Main Road, Behind Baptist, Hebbal, Bangalore 560024 Tel No. 91-9886-02010 <a href="mailto:avoverseas2016@gmail.com">avoverseas2016@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>cut flower</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Mr. Nikunj M/s ASHRAY EXPORTS  <a href="mailto:info@ashrayexports.com">info@ashrayexports.com</a></td>
<td>Tea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ambassador H.E. Sujan R Chinoy met HE Koichi Hagiuda Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R Chinoy met HE Hiroyuki Hosoda, Chairman of the General Council of the Liberal Democratic Party.

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R Chinoy attends the reception for “Ship for World Youth Leaders”

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R Chinoy attends the 33rd memorial service of the Most Venerable Nichidatsu Fujii
Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy on board ICGS Samarth

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R Chinoy raises a glass for a toast with Japanese dignitaries and other guests at the Republic Day Reception at Okura Hotel.

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R Chinoy inaugurates the Republic Day Reception at Okura Hotel.

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy and Mrs Vidya Chinoy with students of IISJ & GIIS at the 68th Republic Day of India.