I am pleased to bring forth this edition of the newsletter of the Indian Embassy ‘The Indian Connection’.

This edition brings you stories of growing India as well as initiatives of the Indian Government and resulting success stories besides stories of India-Japan.

The edition also focuses on “Biotechnology Sector of India”.

India On the Move

JAIPUR CITY- India’s 38th UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE

With Successful inscription of Jaipur City, India has 38 world heritage sites, that include 30 Cultural properties, 7 Natural properties and 1 mixed site.

As per UNESCO criteria, “The fortified city of Jaipur, in India’s northwestern state of Rajasthan was founded in 1727 by Sawai Jai Singh II. Unlike other cities in the region located in hilly terrain, Jaipur was established on the plain and built according to a grid plan interpreted in the light of Vedic architecture. The streets feature continuous colonnaded businesses that intersect in the centre, creating large public squares called chaupars. Markets, stalls, residences and temples built along the main streets have uniform facades. The city's urban planning shows an exchange of ideas from ancient Hindu and modern Mughal as well as Western cultures. The grid plan is a model that prevails in the West, while the organization of the different districts refers to traditional Hindu concepts. Designed to be a commercial capital, the city has maintained its local commercial, artisanal and cooperative traditions to this day”.

For more details visit the link https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1605/
For more details visit the link http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=191319

Indian startups raise a record $3.9 billion so far in 2019

Startups in India have raised a record $3.9 billion from venture capitalists in the six months ended 30 June, as the world’s biggest investors doubled down on their bets in the country buoyed by the Flipkart-Walmart deal last year. The investments this year across 292 deals is a 44.4% jump from the $2.7 billion received by domestic startups in the first half of 2018. While consumer internet firms have been continuing to raise large amounts of capital, business-to-business (B2B) companies in sectors such as logistics, software and marketplaces are also raising money now. 2019 has also been about the emergence of Tier II and III cities and B2B models, both of which had been historically underinvested in.

For more details visit the link https://www.livemint.com/companies/start-ups/indian-startups-raise-a-record-3-9-billion-so-far-in-2019-1561916714690.html
A few days ago, India announced its first open-source Shakti processor that was funded by the Indian Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Meity). Now IIT (Indian Institute of Technology) Madras has released the software development kit (SDK) for the processor and it has also promised that the development board will be released soon. The RISE group at the IIT Madras has started working on this project from 2016.

With the plan of releasing a family of six classes of processor, and each one will be serving on different markets. RISE also promised that the reference processors will be competitive with commercial offerings in terms of area and performance and power consumption. The six classes include E-class, C-class, I-Class, M-class, S-Class, and H-Class. The E Class is a 3-stage in-order processor targeted at embedded devices such as Internet of Things (IoT) devices, robotic platforms, motor controls, etc. RISE group is also working on two new classes of processors which will be called as T-class and F-class.

For more details visit the link https://shakti.org.in/

Chandrayaan 2, an Indian lunar mission

Chandrayaan 2, an Indian lunar mission will be launched in near future and will boldly go where no country has ever gone before — the Moon's south polar region. South Pole region has craters that are cold traps and contain a fossil record of early Solar System. There is a possibility of presence of water in permanently shadowed areas around it.

**Launcher:** The GSLV Mk-III is India's most powerful launcher to date, and has been completely designed and fabricated from within the country. The GSLV Mk-III will carry Chandrayaan 2 to its designated orbit. This three-stage vehicle is India's most powerful launcher to date, and is capable of launching 4-ton class of satellites to the Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO).

Chandrayaan-2 will attempt to soft land the **lander “Vikram”** and **Rover “Pragyan”** in a high plain between two craters, Manzinus C and Simpelius N, at a latitude of about 70° south.

At the time of launch, the Chandrayaan 2 **Orbiter** will be capable of communicating with Indian Deep Space Network (IDSN) at Byalalu as well as the Vikram Lander. The mission life of the Orbiter is one year and it will be placed in a 100X100 km lunar polar orbit. It carries 8 scientific payloads for mapping lunar surface and to study moon's atmosphere.

The **Lander** of Chandrayaan 2 is named “Vikram” after Dr Vikram A Sarabhai, the Father of the Indian Space Programme. It is designed to function for one lunar day, which is equivalent to about 14 Earth days. Vikram has the capability to communicate with IDSN at Byalalu near Bangalore, as well as with the Orbiter and Rover. The Lander is designed to execute a soft landing on the lunar surface.

Chandrayaan 2's **Rover** is a 6-wheeled robotic vehicle named **Pragyan**, which translates to 'wisdom' in Sanskrit. It can travel up to 500 m (½-a-km) and leverages solar energy for its functioning. It can only communicate with the Lander.

For more details visit the link https://www.isro.gov.in/chandrayaan2-home

Indian scientists develop 'black gold'

Using gold nanoparticles Indian scientists from Mumbai-based Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) have developed a new material called “black gold”, which can New material can absorb light & CO2 and potentially be used for applications ranging from solar energy harvesting to desalinating seawater. Gold does not have these properties, therefore ‘black gold’ is being called a new material. In appearance it is black, hence the name ‘black gold’. For more details visit the link https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/science-technology/indian-scientists-develop-black-gold--65507
### Key Highlights of Union Budget 2019-2020

Presented by Union Finance Minister, GoI on 5 July’19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10-point Vision for the decade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Achieving green <em>Mother Earth</em> and <em>Blue Skies</em> through a pollution-free India.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Making Digital India reach every sector of the economy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Launching <em>Gaganyan</em>, <em>Chandrayan</em>, other Space and Satellite programmes.</td>
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<td>Building physical and social infrastructure.</td>
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<td>Water, water management, clean rivers.</td>
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<td>Blue Economy.</td>
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<td>Self-sufficiency and export of food-grains, pulses, oilseeds, fruits and vegetables.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building Team India with <em>Jan Bhagidari (People partnership)</em>: Min Government Max Governance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emphasis on MSMEs, Start-ups, defence manufacturing, automobiles, electronics, fabs and batteries, and medical devices under Make in India.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Towards a 5 Trillion Dollar Economy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indian economy to become a 3 trillion dollar economy in the current year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government aspires to make India a 5 trillion dollar economy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“India Inc. are India’s job-creators and nation’s wealth-creators”, says FM.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Need for investment in: Infrastructure; Digital economy; Job creation in small and medium firms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiatives to be proposed for kick-starting the virtuous cycle of investments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common man’s life changed through <em>MUDRA</em> loans for ease of doing business.</td>
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<tr>
<td>India’s first indigenously developed payment ecosystem for transport, based on <em>National Common Mobility Card</em>-standards, launched in March 2019.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Massive push given to all forms of physical connectivity</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Measures to enhance the sources of capital for infrastructure financing</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Measures to deepen bond markets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Measures to make India a more attractive FDI destination</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tax Simplification and Ease of living</strong> - making compliance easier by leveraging technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boost to Electric Vehicles</strong> (Additional income tax deduction of Rs. 1.5 lakh on interest paid on electric vehicle loans; Customs duty exempted on certain parts of electric vehicles.)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Relief for Start-ups</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital gains exemptions from sale of residential house for investment in start-ups extended till FY21.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Angel tax’ issue resolved- start-ups and investors filing requisite declarations and providing information in their returns not to be subjected to any kind of scrutiny in respect of valuations of share premiums.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds raised by start-ups to not require scrutiny from Income Tax Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-verification mechanism for establishing identity of the investor and source of funds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special administrative arrangements for pending assessments and grievance redressal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No inquiry in such cases by the Assessing Officer without obtaining approval of the supervisory officer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No scrutiny of valuation of shares issued to Category-II Alternative Investment Funds.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relaxation of conditions for carry forward and set off of losses.</td>
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<th>Proposal to enhance the metro-railway initiatives by:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Encouraging more PPP initiatives.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ensuring completion of sanctioned works.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supporting transit oriented development (TOD) to ensure commercial activity around transit hubs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘Study in India’ proposed to bring foreign students to study in Indian higher educational institutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To prepare youth for overseas jobs, focus to be increased on globally valued skill-sets including language training, AI, IoT, Big Data, 3D Printing, Virtual Reality and Robotics.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Set of four labour codes proposed, to streamline multiple labour laws to standardize and streamline registration and filing of returns.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheme to invite global companies to set up mega-manufacturing plants in areas such as Semi-conductor Fabrication (FAB), Solar Photo Voltaic cells, Lithium storage batteries, Computer Servers, Laptops, etc</td>
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</tbody>
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<tr>
<th>Roadmap for future - Simplification of procedures; Incentivizing performance; Red-tape reduction; Making the best use of technology; Accelerating mega programmes and services initiated and delivered so far.</th>
</tr>
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</table>

The India & Japan Stories

RVL, India and Meiji Techno, Japan join hands to market high quality microscopes in Indian market. RVL will give service support to Meiji-Techno products in India.

Joshi-Konoike Transport & Infra freight train services launched on 12 July’19. It will be carrying vehicles between north & south India reducing road congestion via greener supply chain/ lower carbon footprint. Project has been conferred ‘blue skies’ status by JICA.

The Indian Connection

Tackling soil salinity, with help from Japan

India's ICAR's Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (CSSRI) Karnal with the Japan International Research Centre for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS) is making cost effective efforts to overcome soil salinity, which is aggravated by prolonged waterlogging during monsoons, in States of Haryana and Punjab. Soil salinity, which is aggravated by prolonged waterlogging, limits crop productivity because most crops are sensitive to salt.

JIRCAS is providing its widely used "cut soiler technology" for managing surface waterlogging. Cut soiler machine makes drains at 60-cm depth and these drains are filled with Crop residue which helps to drain out water.


Bridgestone To Invest Over Rs. 350 Crore In India

Bridgestone announced an investment exceeding Rs. 350 crore towards the expansion of its Indore plant at Kheda, Madhya Pradesh. With this expansion, the capacity of the Indore plant will go up to over 20,000 tyres a day by 2020. This expansion will enable Bridgestone India to meet the increased demand for its products.

Bridgestone is a Japanese tyre manufacturer that was established way back in 1931. After nearly 65 years of producing tyres, Bridgestone officially entered the Indian market in 1996 and set up its first factory at Pithampur, near Indore. The company then expanded operations and set up yet another factory at Chakan near Pune in 2013. Bridgestone is now one of the largest tyre manufacturers in India with over 3,000 dealerships across the sub-continent & one of the leading tyre companies in both the OEM & Replacement market.

In Feb 2019, Bridgestone unveiled one of its largest “Select Super store” in Noida, Uttar Pradesh with aims to provide consumers the premium Bridgestone Experience prioritizing Safety, Reliability and manufacturing excellence.


IHI and Toyo Engineering Won LNG Terminal Construction Order from India

Source: The Nikkei  Tokyo, 11 July 2019

IHI and Toyo Engineering won an order to build a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminal in the port of Chhara, Gujarat. The total construction cost is estimated to be 80 billion yen (25 billion rupees) and the terminal is expected to become operational in 2022. The LNG terminal is a 50:50 joint venture between State owned HPCL and private owned Shapoorji Energy Pvt Ltd and aims to set up a 5 mtpa LNG terminal at Chhara in Gujarat

IHI will be building two LNG storage tanks each of which is capable of holding 200,000 cubic meter of LNG with local partners. These tanks will be the largest in India. Toyo Engineering will be responsible in building gasification facility which has the capacity of gasify 5 million ton of LNG a year, over 20% of LNG which India imports in a year. It is estimated that ordered value for each project would be around 20 billion yen for IHI and 30 billion yen for Toyo Engineering.

India is the fourth largest importer of LNG in the world, following Japan, China and South Korea. It is expected that India would be importing more LNG in the future that the import amount would reach 55 million ton, 2.4 folds of current level, in 2030. Thus India is faced with an urgent task to enhance its LNG handling capacity.
Miniso goes online in India as it goes easy on opening stores

After rapidly opening over a 105 stores in India over the last two years Japanese value retailer Miniso is extending its reach online. On 13th June the company announced a tie-up with Noida-based Achhacart a B-to-B online distributor that will supply the retailer's goods to other e-commerce websites such as Paytm Mall, Amazon, and Flipkart functioning as a re-seller.

Miniso that entered India in 2017 has become popular in after thrifty Indian shoppers have embraced its low-cost products such as mobile phone accessories, handbags, storage boxes, stationery, perfumes etc a bulk of them prices less than Rs1,000.

For more details plz visit the link https://www.livemint.com/companies/news/miniso-goes-online-in-india-as-it-goes-easy-on-opening-stores-1560434927194.html

Ola Electric Turns Unicorn With Series B Funding From SoftBank

Ola Electric has raised a massive $250 Mn Series B funding round from SoftBank. The push for electric mobility has been key to Ola’s expansion plans within the Indian market and the new funds will give it the impetus it needs after a stop-start beginning for Ola Electric. With this round, Ola Electric has a valuation of $1 Bn. This would make it 30th Indian startup to enter the unicorn club. Prior to this round, the company has raised $56 Mn (INR 400 Cr) from investors such as Ratan Tata, Tiger Global, and Matrix Partners.

For more details plz visit the link https://inc42.com/buzz/ola-electric-turns-unicorn-with-softbank-series-b-funding/

NEC partners with C-DAC to deploy automated fingerprint identification system for Kerala State

New Delhi, 18 June, 2019

NEC Technologies India (NECTI), a leader in the integration of IT and network technologies, has partnered with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) to deploy its industry-leading automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS) for the Kerala State Police. The new AFIS will be used by the Kerala State Police to match unknown fingerprints against a central database of known fingerprints for criminal investigation. More than 600 police/enforcement facilities across the state, including police stations and the district police headquarters, will have access to the system for verification and new registration of fingerprints. This new system will help state police accelerate investigations more efficiently by providing a faster and more accurate fingerprint verification. The new system is able to enhance the quality of fragmented fingerprints captured at crime scenes and makes it possible to match the prints against the central database.

For more details visit the link https://in.nec.com/en_IN/press/201906/20190618_01.html

Japanese curry chain tries to sell Indians their own creation

Nikkei, 8th July 2019

Japanese curry chain Ichibanya will launch its first eatery in India early next year as part of plans to open up to 30 restaurants in the country by 2030. Ichibanya and another Japanese company Otsuka Holdings hope to draw Indians to Japanese curry which uses different spices from local versions. Some see adapting Japanese curries for local vegetarians may also prove to be quite challenging as Otsuka, which entered the market in May 2018, has not yet managed to refine its menu to suit Indians. Ichibanya, also known as CoCo Ich, established a joint venture with Mitsui & Co. late June in New Delhi, with initial capital of 187 million rupees ($2.7 million), the company announced on Monday. The restaurant operator will take a stake of 40% and the trading company the remaining. Ichibanya already operates 180 restaurants mostly in Asia, on top of 1,300 in Japan. Its most recent opening, however, was in London in Dec’18. India is Ichibanya's ultimate destination to conquer, but operating a chain in the birth place of curry may not be an easy task for Japan Inc. Otsuka, whose successful ready-to-eat Bon Curry has sold more than 2.5 billion pouches since its launch in 1968, established a subsidiary in India last year. The company started testing its curry bread in office cafeterias in Bangalore from last fall, seeking to launch its iconic curry pouches in Indian retail shops. Although the company has since expanded its offices for testing, it has yet to sell in retail shops, as it said it hadn't quite refined its products to appeal to Indians.
### The Indian Connection

**MAFF Plans to Sell Agri Tech to India: Effective Pesticides and More Productive Seedling**

**The Nikkei Tokyo (14 July 2019)**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery, the Government of Japan, plans to market agriculture-technology developed by Japan’s private sector to India. It plans to develop a test filed in India to showcase such technologies developed by Japanese companies to have first-hand look at them.

The ministry estimates that the size of India’s food and beverage market may expand to 104 trillion yen by 2030 supported by the population expansion and the economic growth.

The experimental field may be established in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. By cooperating with local agricultural NGO, the ministry envisages to materialize the Japanese-style agriculture to which various technology developed by Japanese agriculture companies would be fully adopted.

### “Indian Startup Stretching Their Wings of Growth: Funds Procured by Startups of Various Sectors, AI, Bio etc. Registered Five-folds Growth”

**The Nikkei Tokyo (15 July)**

Indian startups are attracting investment money from the world. There are over 1,000 startups established a year in India, presenting the country as the growth-promising country following US and China. Japanese VCs also have started investing to Indian startups to support their growth.

According to an estimate by an American survey company, Indian startups were able to attract foreign investment in the amount of 8.7 billion dollars or 940 billion yen in the year 2018. It expanded by 5.6 folds in the last five years.

Japanese VCs have been the main investors to Indian startups, but recently, Japanese multi-national companies have also become interested in Indian startups. A group of Japanese companies, including Mizuho Bank and Suzuki, plans to establish a fund with 1.5 billion yen capital to support Indian startups as early as in the fall this year.

### Rakuten Social Accelerator to Launch in India

Rakuten Inc., a global leader in internet services headquartered in Tokyo announced that its social innovation initiative, Rakuten Social Accelerator, is expanding globally with the launch of the program at its Development and Operations Center in Bengaluru, Rakuten India.

First launched in Japan during 2018, Rakuten Social Accelerator is a collaboration program that brings together social entrepreneurs, NPOs and Rakuten employees, each with a social mission to tackle critical issues facing society today using technologies and business assets.

Drawing on the success of the program launched in Japan, Rakuten India selected three local NPOs, Robin Hood Army, Wildlife SOS and Sampanna Charitable Trust for The Disabled, as inaugural partners for 2019. By working with Rakuten, these partners will be able to make full use of the company’s global portfolio of online services and brand visibility, as well as gain access to industry talent to move their business plans forward at a previously unattainable scale.

**About Rakuten India:** Rakuten India Enterprise Pvt Ltd, established in 2014 in Bengaluru, is a key product research and development center in the Rakuten Group network. It provides ecommerce related engineering and mobile developmental initiatives along with innovative data and insight products for Rakuten’s global ecommerce operations. It also manages Rakuten’s global network and security operations to provide secure global cloud and network infrastructure services. For more details visit the link [https://global.rakuten.com/corp/news/update/2019/0617_03.html](https://global.rakuten.com/corp/news/update/2019/0617_03.html)

### India’s start-ups find opening in space

The words ‘AgniBaan’ and ‘Chetak’ are small rockets that will be produced and launched by Indian start-ups. AgniBaan, designed by a Chennai-based, IIT-M incubated start-up called Agnikul Cosmos and Chetak, being readied by a Bengaluru-based start-up called Bellatrix Aerospace, shine a light on an emerging trend—a wave of space start-ups. Bellatrix recently raised $ 3 million from a group of venture capitalists; Agnikul and Astrogate have receiving money from Speciale Invest, a seed-stage venture capital firm.

Things are changing and start-up are proving that they are no less, if not better, in technology. The AgniBaan rocket, for instance, is to be produced by a 3D printer; Bellatrix also makes electric propulsion systems for satellites, which are more efficacious than the liquid propulsion systems currently in use. For more details visit the link [https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/science/indias-start-ups-find-opening-in-space/article28427597.ece](https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/science/indias-start-ups-find-opening-in-space/article28427597.ece)
A delegation from Ministry of Railways, Commissioner of Railway Safety Organization and DFCCIL comprising 10 officials is visiting Japan from 01-12 July 2019 under the Technical Cooperation Program for Capacity Building on Railway Safety. The objective of program is to enhance the capacity of Indian Railways with regard to safety of the railway network, accident investigation, Track maintenance, Rail welding, Rolling Stock maintenance, Safety Management by sharing Japanese knowledge and experience in these domains. Members of the delegation led by Mr. N. C. Goyal, Principal Executive Director/Ministry of Railways visited Embassy of India and met Ambassador H.E. Sanjay Kumar Verma to apprise regarding JICA technical cooperation and Indian Railways Safety Plan. Mr. Yukihiro Koizumi, Dy. Director General/JICA was also present along with safety and infrastructure experts from JICA. The program includes meeting with Japan Transport Safety Board, JR-East/JR-Freight Safety experts, visit to RTRI, workshop on accident investigation, operational control and safety management. His Excellency highlighted the use of new technologies & other resources to identify signs which may lead to accidents and aim for its practical application in safety management.

International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at Gift City, Gandhinagar, Gujarat

The Indian capital market regulator SEBI has over the last few months announced two important measures including permit the global players to invest at IFSC, Gift City through the Segregated Nominee Account Structure (SNAS) and enabling framework for more capital market players like alternative investment funds (AIFs) in the IFSC and easing access for AIFs to invest in the offshore markets and the onshore markets in India while enabling the fund and its investors to avail the expertise of the domestic fund managers from India.

Investors at IFSC, Gift City

Foreign portfolio investors (FPI): FPI are investors meeting the eligibility criteria as per the SEBI Regulations 2015 and registered as FPI with SEBI. FPI undertake investments in India across listed equity, debt, derivatives, mutual funds etc as per the regulations.

Eligible Foreign investor (EFI): EFI is a foreign investor not registered as FPI with SEBI in India. An EFI would be meeting the eligibility norms applicable for FPIs under SEBI (FPI) Regulations and a trading member of the recognised stock exchange in IFSC may carry out the due diligence on its own or it may rely upon the due diligence carried out by a bank, which is permitted by RBI to operate in IFSC, during the account opening process of an EFI.

For further details visit: [http://www.custody.stockholding.com/ASTimes_issue.pdf](http://www.custody.stockholding.com/ASTimes_issue.pdf)
The Indian Connection

The Tea Board of India has accorded due priority under the Tea Development & Promotion Scheme for the promotion and development of organic tea farming in the country. The state-wise details of organic cultivation in the North Eastern States is as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>States</th>
<th>No. of Organic Tea Gardens / Small Holdings</th>
<th>Area of Holdings (Hectare)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assam</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>3439.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mizoram</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>74.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagaland</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>67.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tripura</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>93.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meghalaya</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>62.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>3737.80</td>
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Organic Tea Farming in India

The Tea Board of India has accorded due priority under the Tea Development & Promotion Scheme for the promotion and development of organic tea farming in the country. The state-wise details of organic cultivation in the North Eastern States is as under:

Roundtable Session - "Strategy of New India"

Participating at the Roundtable Session, Ambassador His Excellency Mr Sanjay Kumar Verma made a presentation on "Strategy of New India" at the event which was organized by Keizai Koho Centre (a media unit of KEIDANREN) on July 3, 2019 at the KEIDANREN Kaikan Building. The Roundtable Session was attended by 90 Japanese companies out of which 41 companies were having their operations in India in sectors such as automobile, electronics, manufacturing, construction materials, automotive parts, real estate, banking, insurance, forestry, textile, food processing and logistics. During the question & answer session, most of the Japanese companies present in India asked questions relating to their operational difficulties including their eagerness to know more about infrastructure development such as highways, shinkansen project, land acquisition problems and implementation of environmental legislation at the Central as well as State Level. In response to a question as to how to improve the perception of Japanese people about India, Ambassador suggested that this can be done through bridging the information gap by various initiatives, some of which are already being undertaken by the Embassy through circulation of its e-newsletters, exhibitions, fairs, celebration of cultural and yoga events in multiple platforms to create positive image about India in Japan. The Japanese audience appreciated Ambassador's presentation and expressed their satisfaction for gaining better understanding about India.

BIOFACH INDIA

November 7-9, 2019
India Expo Centre, IEML
Greater Noida, Delhi-NCR, India
www.biofach-india.com

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), an organization under the Ministry of Commerce, Govt of India and NurnbergMesse India Pvt. Ltd. are organizing the 11th edition of BIOFACH India 2019 at International Expo & Mart Ltd., Greater Noida, India.

BIOFACH India is the largest International trade fair on organic food sector in India where the entire organic fraternity gathers from across the globe. The 10th edition of Biofach India held in October 2018 witnessed 40% growth surge and concluded with a set of new benchmarks of success with participation from 185 exhibitors and 6,067 trade visitors. Mr. Suresh Prabhu, Hon’ble Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Government of India inaugurated the event and unveiled a new agricultural policy aimed at boosting export of farm products to International market. The next edition of BIOFACH India 2019 will be an exclusive platform that will bring together key Indian and international stakeholders who are connected with organic farming and trade. The fair will showcase a wide array of products from sectors such as food and beverages, natural wellness and care as well as textiles. The event is expected to host more than 200 organic brands that will experience a range of business and networking opportunities.
A delegation from National High Speed Rail Corporation Ltd (NHSRCL) comprising 30 young officials visited Embassy of India on 12 June 2019 for an interactive session as apart of 2-weeks training program on High Speed Rail Technology. Members from JICA and JICC were also present. Ambassador of India to Japan H.E. Sanjay Kumar Verma addressed the gathering on several initiatives designed to take the India-Japan relationship forward viz. Infrastructure, Official Development Assistance, Technical Cooperation, MAHSR, Disaster Risk Reduction, manufacturing, technology transfer and ICT. He explained the bilateral relationship in terms of strong investment cooperation, efforts at people-to-people links and mutual benefits due to special, strategic & economic partnership. H.E. interacted with the participants regarding training program, their feedback and queries. The training includes site visits w.r.t. Station Area Development, Shinkansen construction sites, multi-modal transport planning, Rolling Stock & associated equipment manufacturing facility, Shinkansen Maintenance Center, General Education Center and discussion with technical experts.'

Asia's Largest Rail Transportation Event
IREE 2019— Asia's largest event for the Rail Transportation Sector — is scheduled from 22-24 October 2019 at India's premier exhibition venue, Aerocity, New Delhi, India.

IREE 2019 will provide an opportunity to be part of the current initiatives of the largest ever modernisation and expansion plans of Indian Railways. While the exhibition will provide a platform for showcasing the latest technological advancements, new products and innovations directly to the large number of decision makers from Indian Railways to be present at IREE 2019. The concurrent conference, International Rail Conference (IRC), will open up new avenues for learning about the modern technologies available for the Indian Rail Transportation Sector through networking sessions. IREE 2019 will bring exhibitors and delegates from across the globe with a focus on continuous modernisation and expansion of Indian Railways.

Global Investors Meet on 26th – 27th September, 2019 at Dharamshala, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh.

The Government of Himachal Pradesh is organizing a Global Investors’ Meet on 26th – 27th September, 2019 at Dharamshala, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh. The event will showcase the potential of Himachal Pradesh for investment in various sectors such as Agri-Business, Food Processing & Post Harvest Technology; Tourism, Hospitality & Civil Aviation: Wellness, Healthcare and Ayush (Indian system of Medicines); Hydro & Renewable Energy; Manufacturing & Pharmaceuticals; Real Estate, Urban Development, Transport, Infrastructure & Logistics; Information Technology, ITES & Electronics; Education & Skill Development etc. The two day mega event will showcase available investment opportunities across sectors in the State as well as the enabling framework created by the State Government to facilitate investors and investments.
HE Amb Mr Sanjay Kumar Verma met Mr Norihiko Fukuda, Mayor & other officials of the Kawasaki City and discuss about possibilities of potential collaboration on Promotion of International Education system in Kawasaki, Promotion of Japanese language & skill developments in India including Odisha, Promotion of Electric Vehicles technologies & ecosystem in India in collaboration with Kawasaki Industry Association, Promotion of Air Quality Management technologies in India. (8th July 2019)

Rear Admiral Atul Anand, Asst Chief of Naval Staff (Foreign Cooperation & Intelligence), leading a delegation for Naval Staff Talks with JMSDF called on Amb HE Mr Sanjay Kumar Verma and discussed issues to further enhance cooperation between Indian Navy & JMSDF.

HE Ambassador Mr Sanjay Kumar Verma gave opening remarks at the 2nd International Symposium by Hollywood Graduate School of Beauty Business & Jiva Ayurveda and The Japan-India Association on 14th July 2019 at Tokyo. Ambassador in his remarks told that participants that Codification of knowledge and practices is extremely important and in case of Ayurveda while Charak Samhita codified the medical practice of Ayurveda Sushruta Samhita codified the surgical procedures. The symposium has more than 120 participants.

HE Ambassador Mr Sanjay Kumar Verma gave opening remarks at the inauguration of South Asia Research Centre (SARC) at Soka University Tokyo on 16th July’19. In his remarks he mentioned the importance of SARC given the social, Cultural and economic facets of the South Asia & also discussed about Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam & Gandhi’s philosophy of peaceful co-existence besides sharing the efforts of Indian Govt to bring “Ease of Living” to its citizens. Amb also donated a set of books titled “Bharat Ek Parichay - Sharing knowledge with the World” to the Centre. He also met Chairman, Board of Trustees, Soka University Mr Yasunori Tashiro, President, Soka University Mr Yoshihisa Baba, Executive Vice President, Soka University & Director SARC Prof Ryohei Tanaka, Indian students among others.
H.E. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Verma Ambassador of India to Japan visited Okinawa Prefecture on 5th July 2019.

During the visit Ambassador meet Dr. Robert Baughman, Executive Vice President for Technology Development and Innovation & Dr. Barry Whyte Vice President for Communication & Public Relations at Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology (OIST) Graduate University. He also discussed the potential to develop research ecosystem between OIST and selected Indian Universities. Ambassador also had campus tour & Meeting with the indian students of OIST.

After OIST, Ambassador inaugurated the “Study of India – Panel Exhibition” displaying 300 panels showcasing history and culture of India being held at Okinawa Zoo and Museum organized by Okinawa Indian Friendship Association. Amb in his remark said, “The exchange between Japan and India is not limited to culture and human interaction is also active. Please feel the charm of India through the exhibition.” Event also had the Indian classical dance performance. At Okinawa Zoo, Ambassador also met 02 Indian elephants named “Ruby” and “Rahul” gifted by Government of India.

Ambassador also had Courtesy call on Mr. Tamaki Denny Governor of Okinawa Prefecture. During meeting Ambassador discussed the possibility of having a cyberspace research facility at OIST where Indian and Japanese scientists can work together. He also discussed about potential of skilled human resources from India. On cultural front, Ambassador proposed an India-Japan musical event.

Ambassador also participated in the Annual Meeting of Okinawa India Friendship Association and meet opinion makers, decision makers and business leaders from Okinawa Prefecture.

India’s top payments app Paytm said the company’s Japan venture has 8 million customers, giving it a foothold in a huge potential market. PayPay, a joint venture between Paytm, SoftBank and Yahoo Japan Corporation, has grown significantly after its launch in 2018.

Paytm, a QR code-based mobile payments app, is one of the market leaders in India with over 250m users.

Japan is seeking to emulate its cashless peers, and in 2018 declared it would double digital payment rates by 2025 to 40% of transactions. Companies such as Paytm see Japan’s low rate of digital payments as an opportunity and are moving in.

For more details visit the link: https://www.ft.com/content/7338948c-a20a-11e9-974c-ad1c6ab5efd1

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**Paytm makes inroads into Japan with 8m users**

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The sector is one of the most significant sectors in enhancing India's global profile as well as contributing to the growth of the economy. India is among the top 12 biotech destinations in the world and ranks 3rd in the Asia-Pacific region. India has the 2nd highest number of USFDA approved plants (i.e. 523). India is the largest producer of recombinant Hepatitis B vaccine and largest producer of BT cotton in the world. Out of the top 10 biotech companies in India (by revenue), 07 have expertise in bio-pharma and 03 specialise in agri-biotech.

India has been following the Product Patent Regime since 2005. India has no dearth of talent in biotech, as a number of institutions, both govt and autonomous, provide the necessary opportunities for the students seeking to obtain a degree in this sector like Medical Biotechnology, Agri Biotechnology, Computational Biology, etc.

**Market size:** The Indian biotech industry holds about 2% share of the global biotech industry. The industry comprising about 800 companies, is expected to be valued at US$ 11.6 billion in 2017. By 2025, industry is expected to reach $ 100 billion. The sector is divided into 05 major segments - Bio-pharma is the largest sector contributing about 64% of the total revenue followed by bio-services (18%), bio-agri (14%), bio-industry (3%) and bio-informatics (1%). India has emerged as a leading destination for clinical trials, contract research and manufacturing activities owing to the growth in the bio-services sector. India's Serum Institute is the largest Bio-pharma company in the country and accounts for ~22% of the Bio-pharma market.

**Investments:** India's biotech industry has attracted significant amount of attention over the past two decades. The high demand for different biotech products has also opened up scope for the foreign companies to set up base in India. Several global companies have aggressively joined hands with Indian companies due to India's strong generic biotechnology potential. For details visit link [https://www.investindia.gov.in/sector/biotechnology](https://www.investindia.gov.in/sector/biotechnology) & [http://www.makeinindia.com/sector/biotechnology](http://www.makeinindia.com/sector/biotechnology)

**Government Initiatives:** The GoI has taken several initiatives to improve the sector in the country
- **FDI:** 100% FDI is allowed for greenfield pharma (automatic route), for brownfield pharma (upto 74% FDI under automatic route and beyond 74% under the government approval route), for the manufacturing of medical devices (automatic route), for investment in industrial parks—new or existing (automatic route).
- **Department of Biotechnology (DBT):** DBT ([http://www.dbtindia.gov.in](http://www.dbtindia.gov.in)) along with other government funded institutions such as National Biotechnology Board and many other autonomous bodies representing the biotech sector, are working together in order to project India as a global hub for biotech research and business excellence. In the Union Budgets, DBT is receiving large funds to continue implementing the DBT’s national biotech strategy and target increasing the turnover from the sector to $100 billion by 2025. In the year 2018-19, DBT published 1,194 publications. A total of 99 patent applications were filed and 15 patents were granted. The DBT has developed 83 new processes/products/technologies in the year 2018-19.
- **Biotech parks:** DBT establishes Biotech Parks across the country to provide infrastructure support for development of products and services. The Biotech parks offer facilities to scientists and Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) for technology incubation / demonstration and pilot plant studies for quicker commercial development of Biotechnology. So far, the DBT has set up 09 parks in various states.
- **Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC):** BIRAC ([www.birac.nic.in](http://www.birac.nic.in)) is a not-for-profit set up by DBT as an interface agency to strengthen and empower the emerging biotech enterprises to undertake strategic research and innovation. BIRAC’s focus has been creation of a biotechnology start-up environment in the country. It has taken a couple of strategic implementation programmes that span from provide funding to early stage ideas through grants, creation of bio-incubators at strategic locations (through BioNEST) and extend mentorship & networking opportunities to start-ups. BIRAC has developed 5 new bio-incubators during 2018 through BioNEST scheme. By 2020, target is to support 50 world class bio-incubators. Indian biotech startups has attracted US$3.5 bn investments in last 7-8 years.

**Road Ahead:** With the country offering numerous comparative advantages in terms of R&D facilities, knowledge, skills, and cost effectiveness, the sector has immense potential to emerge as a global key player. India constitutes around 8 % of the total global generics market, by volume, indicating a huge untapped opportunity in the sector. Outsourcing to India is projected to spike up after the discovery and manufacture of formulations. Hybrid seeds, including GM seeds, represent new business opportunities in India based on yield improvement. India currently has a marginal share in the global market for industrial enzymes. Hence, there is an opportunity in focused R&D and knowledge-based innovation in the field of industrial enzymes, which can innovatively replace polluting chemical processes into eco-friendly processes that also deliver environmental sustainability. Another interesting field of study is the area of bio-markers and companion diagnostics, which will enable to optimise the benefits of biotech drugs.
Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) Excellence Award by JIPM aims to strengthen the improvement of enterprise constitutions and contribute to the development of industry, by promoting the modernization of plant maintenance and the development of plant maintenance technologies.

TPM Excellence Award for year 2018 by the Japan Institute of Plant Maintenance (JIPM) was awarded to 34 India companies in different categories (out of total 78 Awards). The award ceremony was held in March 2019. For details list of the awardees visit the link https://www.jipm.or.jp/en/activity/pm/2018/pdf/190129_01.pdf

Main Functions of SARC
- Promote research and study in the South Asian Region
- Conduct research in 4 broad areas: Peace, Human Rights, Environment, Development (related to Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations)
- Engage in South Asian networking activities together with Japanese academic, research and other similar institutions
- Promote exchange program with St. Stephen’s College and other Indian institutions of higher learning
- Organize independent or joint seminars, symposia or conferences
- Organize short and long term programs with Japanese and South Asian universities on themes mentioned above
- Recruit Indian students to study at Soka University
- Connect the SAC with other academic, educational and cultural institutions.

Staff
- Ryohei Tanaka, Executive Vice President of Soka University / Director (July 2019~ ), Professor, Faculty of Letters
- Mukesh Williams, Vice Director (July 2019~ ), Professor, Faculty of Letters

The South Asia Research Center at Soka University inaugurated on 16th July 2019. The Center aims to study the history, culture, and society of South Asian countries namely India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, and the Maldives to develop a global perspective. The Center promotes collaborative research amongst Japanese and international scholars, faculty members and students across disciplines keeping peace, human dignity and value creation as its core values. It also encourages short and long-term study abroad programs for Japanese students to St. Stephen’s College Delhi and South Asian students to Soka University.

Indian vaccine manufacturing facilities

The Department of Science and Technology (DST), Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, New Delhi and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) conduct the India-Japan Cooperative Science Programme (IJCSP) to promote bilateral scientific collaboration between Indian and Japanese scientists.

India DST & JSPS invited proposals from Indian researchers / scientists for Joint Research Projects & Joint workshops / seminars under India-Japan Cooperative Science Programme (IJCSP).

For details visit the link http://www.dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/For%20website%20-%20Call%20for%20Proposals%202019-converted.pdf

In India there are 21 vaccine manufacturing facilities

For more info, plz click / 詳細はこちらをご覧ください http://bit.ly/pharma_india
As part of community outreach, Ambassador HE Mr Sanjay Kumar Verma with his spouse Mrs Gunjan Verma participated in the auspicious occasion of "Rath Yatra 2019" (Chariot Festival) organised by Odisha Community Japan (OCJ) at Kawasaki, Tokyo, Japan on 6th July 2019.

For details about Rath Yatra please visit the link [https://odishatourism.gov.in/cont…/tourism/…/rathayatra.html](https://odishatourism.gov.in/cont…/tourism/…/rathayatra.html)

Vivekananda Cultural Centre held the first Ayurveda class for the July-December 2019 semester, taught by Dr Reeta Sharma, Teacher of Indian Culture. This is the first time that a regular class at Ayurveda has been included in the curriculum of the cultural centre. Sh Karan Yadav, SS (Pol & IEC), gave the opening remarks, after which a lamp lighting ceremony was conducted to inaugurate the occasion. Students enthusiastically participated in the class.

### YOG A PRECIOUS TOOL FOR HEALTHY LIFE STYLE

Modern world has presented us with lots of technologies, wealth, property etc. but not true happiness and peace. Happiness, peace and disease free life does not come through these technological or materialistic advancements, for this we need to lead a balanced life style. This lifestyle only comes when a person follows the path of Yog education, preferably from childhood. This allows us to gain inner peace, tranquility and wisdom. Eight tools of Ashtang Yog helps to improve our health in all aspects. These are the special areas where these tools helps us to keep ourselves fit.

- **Physical area:** Improves the flexibility gradually, builds muscle strength, corrects posture and hence removes neck and back pain and other joint pains; Prevents cartilage and joints degeneration (Uses their full range of motion to ensure proper function and reduce degenerative changes like arthritis); Protects the spine by doing forward, backward and twisting movements; Improves bone health; Increases blood circulation and hence the life of each cell with immunity power. This way it delays the aging process; Increases the maximum uptake of oxygen. People who practice Pranayam in a proper way enables them to exercise more with less oxygen. It improves lung capacity resulting in healing respiratory problems like Asthma and respiratory system related allergies; Lowers down blood pressure and regulates adrenal functions; Cures many Problems related to digestive system like ulcers, irritable bowel syndrome and constipation.

- **Mental and Emotional** area: Yog has immense effect on emotional levels. It makes the person happier and increases serotonin levels which has a popular image as a contributor to feelings of wellbeing and happiness. It also reduces symptoms of depression and improves cognitive functions; Yoga increases self esteem and gives peace of mind. Meditation practices have been found to give happiness and better immune systems. In other words we can say that it slows down the mental loops of frustrations, anger, greed, attachment, desire and fear therefore cause stress.

- **Social and spiritual area:** Regular practice helps in social transformation and helps people have a clearer and calm view of the society, hence helping them maintain good relationship. Karm yog motivates People to serve the society and also self care. This way they cultivate spiritualism. When people do Yog with commitment on a regular basis they become aware of spirit. Spirit is higher consciousness, a driving force, a reason behind everything we think and do. This awareness leads to develop a spiritual Personality.

We can come to a conclusion that Yog practices should be a part of our daily life.
YOGA - SURYA NAMASKAR
Benefits include All-round development in health, Increased energy levels, Glowing skin and hair.

Adventure Sports in India
Following adventure sports are popular in India
- **Land Based:** Mountaineering, Trekking, Rock Climbing, Sport Climbing, Snow Skiing and Mountain Biking.
- **Air Based:** Paragliding, Parasailing and Sky Diving/Parachuting.
- **Sea/Oceans:** Windsurfing, Sailing and Scuba Diving.

Details of locations where popular adventure sports are conducted are as under:
- **Mountaineering:** Himalayan States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, West Bengal and Arunachal Pradesh
- **Trekking:** All Himalayan States, North East Region, Sahyadris & Western Ghats
- **Rock Climbing:** All across the Country.
- **Sport Climbing:** More than 150 walls established across the country. Very popular among States of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, Sikkim, Manipur and Delhi.
- **Snow Skiing:** Gulmarg in Jammu & Kashmir, Solang valley- Manali and Narkanda in Himachal Pradesh and Auli in Uttarakhand.
- **Paragliding:** Bir Billing, Manali and Dharamshala in Himachal Pradesh, Pune & Nashik in Maharashtra, Vagamon in Kerala, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh.
- **White water Rafting and Kayaking:** Rishikesh in Uttarakhand, Manali in Himachal Pradesh, Zanskar in Ladakh, Teesta river in West Bengal.
- **Scuba Diving:** Goa, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Island, Mangalore and Pondicherry.

To watch the movie or to know more details visit [http://kesari-movie.com/](http://kesari-movie.com/)
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