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Meetings of Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy met

- Ambassador Kensuke Tsuzuki, Vice President, JITCO on 12 July who briefed him about the visit of JITCO delegation to Delhi in the end of June 2017. During the meeting, they discussed the next steps for sending Indian interns under TITP (Technical Intern Training programme).
- Mr Toshimitsu Motegi, MP & Chairman, Policy Research Council, LDP, on 21 July before his visit to India and briefed him on the current state of play between India and Japan.
- Mr Ranjit Bharathakur, Trustee of Balipura Foundation on 9 July who was visiting Tokyo to have discussion with universities for tie up in the area of environmental science.
- Artists Mr. Haruhiko Kaneko and Mrs. Kitae Eiguchi (experts in the renowned “Ishigaki-yaki” pottery) on 11 July to promote exchanges with local artists
- A delegation of Indian Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ICCJ) led by President Mr. Ram Kalani on 12 July who apprised Ambassador of the activities of the ICCJ
- Mr Anupam Srivastava, CMD, BSNL on 21 July, and they discussed the potential for increasing cooperation with Japan in telecom sector, IT, Internet of Things (IOT), Digital Infrastructure etc.
- Ms. Divya Mohan Regional Manager Asia Pacific, Air India and Mr. NC Barooah, Manager East Japan, Air India on 28 July
- Mr. Arun M. Kumar, Chairman & CEO KPMG and his team on 31 July and discussed the many opportunities in India-Japan economic partnership

Address by Ambassador in Chuo University

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy delivered an address on India-Japan Strategic Relations in a Changing World to the students of the Faculty of Law in Chuo University on 6 July. The students asked pertinent questions during the Q&A session. President Shozaburo Sakai of Chuo University and senior faculty members interacted with Ambassador after the lecture.

International Joint Congress 2017 in Fukuoka

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy attended the International Joint Congress 2017 on the theme "Message from the Mind-Body Complex and the Science of Healing" held in Fukuoka on 7 and 8 July by the Japan Ayurveda Society, Japan Yoga Therapy Society and Japanese Society for Health Promotion Medicine. He gave out awards for the best 5 photos taken on the occasion of the Third International Day of Yoga and awarded Ms. Yuri Maeno, second prize for her essay entitled "Benefits of Yoga on Ante-Natal Care." Ambassador gave congratulatory remarks on the occasion and said that Yoga and Ayurveda are India's gift to mankind. Ambassador gave out certificates to the 63 yoga therapy practitioners who had recently passed the Quality Council of India's Voluntary certification of Yoga Professionals examination.

Inauguration of HAXPES Hard X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy

On 18 July, Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy inaugurated the HAXPES (Hard X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy) facility-sharing programme between Bio Nano Electronic Research Institute (BNERC) of Toyo University, Japan, and the Nano Research Facility (NRF) of IIT, Delhi, India, in an interactive ceremony through video-conference held at the Kawagoe Campus of the Toyo University, located about 50 kms from Tokyo.

2. As soon as Ambassador Chinoy clicked to establish the virtual link, scientists at the BNERC, Toyo University, Japan fed the sample of Ms. Khushboo Agarwal, a research scholar in Physics at Nano Research Facility at IIT Delhi, into the Hard X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy (HAXPES). “This is a great feeling. This analysis is multi-layered and goes down to a depth of 40 nanometer” Khushboo said, with a visible sense of excitement. And, as the sample got analyzed, there were claps and cheers.
from the scientists of the two institutes who had assembled for this online video-conferencing demonstration.

3. In his address to the Japanese and Indian scientists and research scholars, Ambassador Chinoy said that “dedicating the HAXPES sharing facility located at BNERC with IIT, Delhi was a truly momentous event which reflected the deep trust and confidence between India and Japan under their Special Strategic and Global Partnership”. He spoke of “the historical bonds of Buddhism, the closer personal rapport between the leaders on both sides, and, the broad and growing support for closer engagement at the level of the scientific community, entrepreneurs and parliamentarians”. Ambassador Chinoy emphasized “the need to spread such sophisticated online collaboration to other institutions across both countries so that scientists on both sides could benefit from their respective work”. He called upon “Japanese institutions to make greater use of India’s youthful human resources to accomplish their own scientific research”. The collaboration is expected to be a game-changer in the research ecosystem, and will help in broadening the understanding of material science. The initiative will provide the students of IIT Delhi an excellent platform to operate a world class instrument while sitting in the lab back home and get more advanced composition and elemental bonding data.

4. Following this unique, first of its kind India-Japan collaboration involving an online facility-sharing arrangement of a latest, high-end spectroscopy instrument located at BNERC, Toyo University, Japan, students of IIT, Delhi, can now access the state-of-the-art equipment online for their research. The inauguration of the facility by Ambassador Chinoy was attended by Prof. Toru Maekawa, Director, Prof Sakthi Kumar, Deputy Director and other faculty members and students of BNERC, Toyo University. Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao, Director, Prof. B.R. Mehta, Dean, Research & Development and other faculty members of IIT Delhi participated in the inauguration event through video-conference.

5. BNERC, Toyo University and NRF, IIT, Delhi signed an MoU in 2013 and developed a joint Bio-Nano Mission Program, under which both institutes completed seven joint projects in the area of nanotechnology, biotechnology, bio-nanotechnology and material science leading to several high impact outstanding research publications. The program has been extended till March 2018. Both sides are expected to launch a dual doctoral degree programme soon.

6. Prof. Rao, Director, IIT Delhi termed the BNERC-IIT, Delhi collaboration as a very successful collaboration and said it was a benchmark for IIT-Delhi to follow. He added that “Although IIT, Delhi has many such collaborations with many other institutes around the world, the unique feature of this particular collaboration is online sharing of HAXPES. IIT, Delhi is setting up a US$ 20 million facility this year, which we offer to share with the Toyo University on a reciprocal basis. This way many high-end facilities could be used by faculty and students of both these institutes and will create sort of an exchange ambience and we are very keen to continue with this collaboration and take it to the next level.”

7. Prof. B.R. Mehta, Dean, Research & Development, IIT, Delhi and Prof. Joby Joseph, Associate Dean, Academics (P) of NRF, IIT, Delhi outlined the successful eight projects that have been successfully completed under this collaboration.

8. India and Japan have a longstanding and close partnership in science and technology since 1985, which was further strengthened with the signing of two MoUs during the recent visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Japan in November 2016 - one for Space Cooperation, between ISRO & JAXA and the other between MoES & JAMSTEC for collaboration in Marine Science & Technology. The Department of Science & Technology (DST) of India and Japan Society for Promotion of Science (JSPS) have concluded several joint projects in many areas of fundamental science and have recently launched a DST-JSPS fellowship. DST and Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) have established three joint research laboratories in the area of Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things and Big Data. The Department of Bio Technology (DBT) of India and the National Institute of
Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) of Japan have established six DBT-AIST Advanced International Laboratories for Advance Bio-Medicine (DAILAB), five of which are in India and one in Japan. The Government of India has also established an Indian Beamline at the Synchrotron Photon Factory at KEK, Tsukuba for study of advanced materials. Both countries have been strengthening collaboration in education through expanded institutionalized linkages between universities. Till date, around 600 Indian students and researchers have visited Japan under the SAKURA Science Plan (Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Programme in Science).

**Speech by Ambassador at the 13th “Roundtable Japan”**

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy delivered a speech at the 13th edition of “Roundtable Japan”, on the topic, “Navigating a changed economic geopolitical landscape” on 20 July.

**Visit of Ambassador to Kagawa Prefecture**

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy visited Kagawa Prefecture under the “Local to Global Initiative” with Foreign Minister H.E. Fumio Kishida from 22 to 23 July along with other diplomatic corps in Japan. This project strives to make the attractiveness of regional areas in Japan known throughout the world. During the visit, Ambassador also met Governor of Kagawa Prefecture, H.E. Mr Keizo Hamada and discussed bilateral cooperation.

**ICICI Securities Seminar**

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy addressed ICICI Securities Seminar in Tokyo on 19 July and briefed the participants about the tremendous growth in India-Japan global and strategic partnership, improved business climate & investor confidence in India and invited more investments into India.

**Visit of Dr. J.N. Singh, Chief Secretary, Government of Gujarat**

Dr. J.N. Singh, Chief Secretary, Government of Gujarat led a business delegation to Japan from 23-28 July 2017 to attract investment and undertake a follow up on the various projects/ investments being implemented in Gujarat. During the visit, the Embassy along with JETRO facilitated to convene four investment promotion seminars at Osaka, Nagoya, Hamamatsu and Tokyo. The delegation also met with leading captains of Japanese industry, regional business associations, Keidanren, JIBCC and had numerous one-to-one meetings with prospective investors. A Working Group meeting with METI and a meeting with Mr Tadao Yanase, METI Vice Minister for international Affairs also took place.

**Visit of State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry to India**

H.E. Mr. Yosuke Takagi, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry visited India from 12-15 July wherein he visited Andhra Pradesh and Bihar and met with the Chief Ministers of both the states. He also had a meeting with MOS (Finance) in Delhi. In Andhra Pradesh, he participated in the Andhra Pradesh – Japan Public-Private Joint Meeting and signed an MOU for the development of the new capital region and establishment of industrial cluster.

**Visit of Delegation from the State of Telangana**

A delegation led by Dr. Rajiv Sharma, Chief Advisor to Government of Telangana visited Japan from 30 July – 6 August. The delegation met with officials from Clean Authority of Tokyo (CAT23), Executive Vice President of JETRO Mr. Shigeki Maeda, with Mr. Sugihara, Board Director of Japan Chemical Fibre Association and with Vice President of JICA Mr. Hidetoshi Irigaki and JICA India Team and Japanese companies. The delegation also held meeting with officials from Shizuoka Prefectural Government for the proposed MoU between the two states.
India-Japan Consultation on Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC)

A delegation led by Dr Neena Malhotra, Joint Secretary, East and Southern Africa Division, Ministry of External Affairs visited Tokyo, Japan from 31 July – 2 August and attended the India-Japan Consultation on Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) and follow-up G-to-B meeting held on 31 July in Tokyo.

Re-inventing Japan through IIT Madras and Nagaoka University of Technology Collaborative Education

A programme "Re-inventing Japan through IIT Madras (IITM) and Nagaoka University of Technology (NUT) Collaborative Education" was held at the Embassy of India on 3 July. Ms. Muanpuii Saiawi, First Secretary gave the welcoming remarks, followed by Mr. H. Iwabuchi, Director, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science & Technology (MEXT )and Prof. Mikami Yoshiki, Vice President of NUT. Prof. M. Kamraj and Prof. R. Sarathi of IITM gave presentations on IITM-NUT collaboration. Two Indians and 2 Japanese shared their positive experiences of their internship in Japan and India respectively. NUT is one of the Top Global University Project of MEXT, it is also one of the only 4 universities selected for a collaboration project with Indian Universities, funded by MEXT. Under this project, NUT is implementing the Collaborative Engineer Education Programme with South Indian Universities based on long-term internship experience. 12 Indian students from IITM are visiting Japan this year under this collaboration. 10 Japanese youth visited India from Nagaoka University of Technology in 2016.

Visit of Anna University and Government Engineering colleges of Tamil Nadu students

24 students, pursuing Electronics and Communications Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Textile Technology, Petroleum Engineering, Technology Industrial and Bio Technology etc., from Anna University and Government Engineering colleges of Tamil Nadu visited the Embassy on 17 July. The students were visiting Yokohama National University, Japan under the Foreign Technical Training Programme initiated by the State Government of Tamil Nadu. The students were accompanied by faculty of Anna University and Yokohama National University. Dr. Purnima Rupal, Counsellor (S&T), Ms. Muanpuii Saiawi, First Secretary (IEC) and Shri Naveen K. Ramakrishna, Second Secretary (Pol) interacted with the students regarding the existing opportunities of collaborations in the area of Science & Technology and Education between India and Japan.

Familiarization visits for Schools

Familiarization visits for the following schools were held at the Vivekananda Cultural Centre (VCC) in the Embassy: Azabu Junior High School (12 July) and Kasai High School (19 July). They experienced yoga and cultural sessions such as tabla or bharatnatyam dance led by teachers of the VCC and a presentation on India.

Seminar on Indian Tea

The Japan Tea Association (JTA) and Embassy of India jointly organized a seminar on Indian Tea on 4 July at the Embassy for the promotion of Indian tea. Mr. Kripal Singh Bisht, First Secretary (Economic) delivered the opening speech at the seminar, followed by remarks from Mr. Satoshi Tanaka, Managing Director, Japan Tea Association. A certified tea instructor from Japan Tea Association also made demonstration on Indian tea preparation. The seminar was attended by 50 Japanese participants.

India Pavilion at GIFTEX World Tokyo

Mr. Kripal Singh Bisht, First Secretary (Economic) visited the India Pavilion at GIFTEX World Tokyo held at Tokyo Big Sight on 7 July. The Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) along with 15 exporters from India participated at the fair to promote exports of handicrafts to Japan.
4th Meeting of India-Japan Joint Working Group on ICT

A delegation led by Mr. G. K. Upadhyay, Member (Technology), Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications visited Tokyo from 12 – 15 July and attended the 4th Meeting of India-Japan Joint Working Group (JWG) on ICT under the invitation from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Government of Japan. The Joint Working Group discussed about the proposed projects in Cyber Security Cooperation, Disaster Management ICT, Network Infrastructure, ICT Application for Social and Economic Challenges.”

Yoga session for members of Japan Sports Agency of MEXT

Dr Hemant Sharma, VCC Yoga Teacher conducted a yoga session for members of Japan Sports Agency of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Science & Technology on 14 July. This was to provide support for the Japanese Government’s “Yuu-Katsu” initiative which encourages members of the public to finish work early, using the extra time in the afternoon/early evening to engage in sports, socialising and other recreational activities.

Quality Council of India Voluntary Certification of Yoga Professionals

Ms. Kaho Matsuyama and Ms. Ryoko Murata, students of the Yoga Classes held at the Vivekananda Cultural Centre (Embassy of India) received their certificates on 13 July for passing the examination by Quality Council of India Voluntary Certification of Yoga Professionals. Yoga practitioners in Japan who would like to appear for this exam may visit this website http://yogakentei.com

Public yoga session in Kitanomaru Park

Dr Hemant Sharma, yoga instructor of Vivekananda Cultural Centre, organised a public yoga session in Kitanomaru Park on the morning of 30 July. In total, there were approximately 60 participants. The session started at 6:30 am with light joint exercises and simple asanas (pose), Suryanamaskar, Pranayam breathing exercises, meditation and laughter yoga. The reaction from the participants was very positive.

"The Reign of Maharajas - The Radiant Light of India" Photo Exhibition

A Photo Exhibition titled "The Reign of Maharajas - The Radiant Light of India" by celebrated Japanese photographer Kazuyoshi Miyoshi was launched on 24 July to celebrate Nikon's 100th anniversary. The photos captured the majestic beauty of the palaces, forts and the royal families of Marwar-Jodhpur, Bikaner and Jaipur in Rajasthan, India. They also featured the birthday celebrations of H.H. Maharaja Gajsingh II of Marwar-Jodhpur. Ms. Muanpuii Saiawi, First Secretary participated in the reception of the launch of Nikon's 100 anniversary celebrations on behalf of the Embassy of India. The exhibition is open to all in Tokyo from 25 July-13 August and in Osaka from 21 August-8 September.

Japan-India Symposium

Ms Muanpuii Saiawi, First Secretary gave opening remarks at a seminar entitled "Japan-India Symposium" held at the VCC Auditorium, Embassy of India on 27 July. The seminar provided Japanese businesses considering doing business in India with a particular focus on the Cool Japan initiative. A yoga session was also conducted during the symposium.

Odisha Utsav

Ms Kazuko Yasunobu, VCC Odissi and Sambalpuri Dance Teacher, held an event titled "Odisha Utsav" at the VCC Auditorium on 17 July, showcasing performances by students of Studio Odissi and VCC Dance Classes. The event was attended by over 150 people.

“We should not give up and we should not allow the problem to defeat us.” – Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
Exercise Malabar-17 (21st Edition)

Exercise Malabar-17 (21st Edition) was held in India from 10-17 July. The exercise witnessed participation of the Indian Navy (IN), the United States Navy (USN) and the Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF). The Harbour Phase (10-13 July) was conducted at Chennai (India) and the Sea Phase (14-17 July) was held at the coast of Chennai. The primary aim of the 21st edition of Malabar was to increase interoperability amongst the three navies and develop a common understanding of procedures for Maritime Security Operations. The scope of Malabar-17 included professional interactions in harbour and a diverse range of activities at sea, including complex surface, sub-surface and air operations.

Revision of Indian Community Welfare Fund Guidelines

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved revision of the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) guidelines.

ICWF, set up in 2009, is aimed at assisting Overseas Indian nationals in times of distress and emergency in the most deserving cases on a means tested basis. The revised guidelines being made broad-based seek to expand the scope of welfare measures that can be extended through the Fund. The guidelines would cover three key areas namely Assisting Overseas Indian nationals in distress situations, Community Welfare activities and Improvement in Consular services. They are expected to provide Indian Missions and Posts abroad greater flexibility in swiftly addressing to requests for assistance by Overseas Indian nationals.

Apart from assisting Indian nationals in distress abroad, ICWF has been a critical support in emergency evacuation of Indian nationals in conflict zones in Libya, Iraq, Yemen, South Sudan and other challenging situations like assistance extended to undocumented Indian workers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during the Nitaqat drive in 2013 and the ongoing Amnesty drive in 2017.

The scale and speed of these evacuations and assistance rendered through the Fund has been universally appreciated. It has also created a sense of confidence among the migrant workers going overseas about the support they can expect from India during critical times.

ICWF stands extended to all Indian Missions and Posts abroad and is primarily funded by levying service charge on various consular services rendered by Indian Missions and Posts abroad.
Meeting between Prime Minister and Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan

On the margins of the G-20 Summit in Hamburg, Prime Minister Modi had a bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe.

The two leaders briefly reviewed progress in bilateral relations, including in important projects, since their last meeting in Japan during Prime Minister’s visit in November 2016. Prime Minister Modi expressed satisfaction at developments in bilateral relations since then.

The Prime Minister said that he looked forward to Prime Minister Abe’s forthcoming visit to India for the next Annual Summit and hoped that it would further strengthen their cooperation.

The entry into force of India-Japan Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy

The India-Japan Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy entered into force on July 20, 2017 with the exchange of diplomatic notes between Dr. S. Jaishankar, Foreign Secretary and H.E. Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu, Ambassador of Japan to India. The Agreement was signed on November 11, 2016 in Tokyo during the visit of the Prime Minister to Japan.

This Agreement is a reflection of the strategic partnership between India and Japan and will pave the way for enhanced cooperation in energy security and clean energy. The Agreement seeks to promote full cooperation between the two countries in the development and uses of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes on a stable, reliable and predictable basis.

VAJRA Faculty Scheme: Participation of Overseas Faculty/scientists including Non-resident Indians

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) through the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) has launched a scheme titled VAJRA (Visiting Advanced Joint Research) Faculty to tap the expertise of Overseas Faculty/scientists including Non-resident Indians (NRIs). Hon’ble Prime Minister announced the Scheme during the 15th Edition of Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas (PBD) held on January 8, 2017 in Bangalore. The Scheme offers adjunct/visiting faculty positions to overseas scientist/faculty/R&D professional including NRIs to Institutions in India. The Scheme is expected to undertake collaborative research in frontier areas of S&T including the interdisciplinary areas of national priorities such as energy, water, environment, health, security, nutrition, waste processing, advanced materials, high performance computing, cyber-physical systems, smart machines and manufacturing, etc. and stimulate the latent potential of our academic and research sector.

Applications for the Scheme are open for submission from 1st July 2017 onwards through www.serbonline.in. Hon’ble Minister (Science & Technology and Earth Sciences) has recently launched the web portal for VAJRA. The Scheme details are available at www.vajra-india.in. A copy of brochure can be downloaded from this site.

“The world is not impermanent if one lives there after knowing God.” – Sri Ramakrishna Paramahamsa
Tourism & Hospitality Industry in India

Introduction

The Indian tourism and hospitality industry has emerged as one of the key drivers of growth among the services sector in India. Tourism in India has significant potential considering the rich cultural and historical heritage, variety in ecology, terrains and places of natural beauty spread across the country. Tourism is also a potentially large employment generator besides being a significant source of foreign exchange for the country.

Market Size

India’s rising middle class and increasing disposable incomes has continued to support the growth of domestic and outbound tourism.

Domestic Tourist Visits (DTVs) to the States/Union Territories (UTs) grew by 15.5 per cent year-on-year to 1.65 billion (provisional) during 2016 with the top 10 States/UTs contributing about 84.2 per cent to the total number of DTVs, as per Ministry of Tourism.

As per Ministry of Tourism, foreign tourist arrivals (FTAs) in India increased 19.5 per cent year-on-year to 630,000 in May 2017. FTAs on e-tourist visa increased 55.3 per cent year-on-year to 68,000 in May 2017.

India’s foreign exchange earnings (FEes) through tourism increased by 32 per cent year-on-year to reach US$ 2.278 billion in April 2017, as per data from Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.

India is expected to move up five spots to be ranked among the top five business travel market globally by 2030, as business travel spending in the country is expected to treble until 2030 from US$ 30 billion in 2015.

International hotel chains will likely increase their expansion and investment plans in India, and are expected to account for 50 per cent share in the Indian hospitality industry by 2022, from the current 44 per cent.

Investments

The tourism and hospitality sector is among the top 10 sectors in India to attract the highest Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). During the period April 2000-March 2017, the hotel and tourism sector attracted around US$ 10.14 billion of FDI, according to the data released by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP).

With the rise in the number of global tourists and realising India’s potential, many companies have invested in the tourism and hospitality sector. Some of the recent investments in this sector are as follows:

- MakeMyTrip raised US$ 330 million from Ctrip.com International Ltd, Naspers Ltd and few undisclosed investors, in a bid to withstand competition in the ticketing segment.
- MakeMyTrip has agreed to buy Ibibo Group’s India travel business at a deal value of US$ 720 million, thus creating India’s largest online travel firm with a value of US$ 1.8 billion, as estimated by Morgan Stanley.
• Yellow Tie Hospitality Management Llp, specialising in franchise management of food and beverages firms, plans to invest up to US$ 15-20 million in five restaurant ventures of celebrity chef Mr Harpal Singh Sokhi, with the aim to have 250 outlets under these brands by 2020.

• Chaudhary Group (CG) Hotels & Resorts aims to have 200 hotels operational by 2020.

• DineEquity Incorporation has signed a franchisee partnership deal with food services firm Kwal’s Group, in order to enter the Indian markets with their breakfast chain IHOP.

• As per industry experts, mid-hotel segment in India is expected to receive investments of Rs 6,600 crore (US$ 990 million) excluding land over next five years, with major hotel chains like Marriott, Carlson Rezidor and ITC planning to set up upscale, budget hotels in state capitals and tier-II cities.

• Hyatt Hotels Corporation has outlined plans of bringing its Hyatt Centric brand to India soon along with three new hotels in Kochi, Rameswaram and Hyderabad by 2017.

• Vatika Hotels Pvt Ltd has raised Rs 495 crore (US$ 74.25 million) in debt from Axis Bank Ltd to expand its hotels and quick-service restaurant chain besides its business centres.

• AccorHotels, a French multinational hotel group, plans to expand its footprint in Guwahati and Kolkata by adding more than 550 rooms to its portfolio of hotels in the next three years.

**Government Initiatives**

The Indian government has realised the country's potential in the tourism industry and has taken several steps to make India a global tourism hub.

In the Union Budget 2017-18, the Government of India announced some initiatives to give a boost to the tourism and hospitality sector such as setting up of five special tourism zones, special pilgrimage or tourism trains and worldwide launch of Incredible India campaign among others.

Some of the major initiatives taken by the Government of India to give a boost to the tourism and hospitality sector of India are as follows:

• The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, is planning to revise India's coastal regulation norms aimed at opening up the 7,500 km long coastline for developmental activities like tourism and real estate.

• The Central Government has taken a number of steps for smooth transitioning to cashless mode of payment to ensure that no hardship is faced by the tourists and the tourism industry remains unaffected from government's demonetisation move.

• Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC) has come up with a unique tourism experience of visiting the open cast coal mine of Gondegaon and underground coal mine of Saoner, which are near Nagpur and part of Western Coalfields Limited.

• A Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed among the Indian Ministry of Tourism, National Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC), National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC) and Government of Jammu and Kashmir for the implementation of tourism projects in Jammu and Kashmir.

**Road Ahead**

India’s travel and tourism industry has huge growth potential. The tourism industry is also looking forward to the expansion of E-visa scheme which is expected to double the tourist inflow to India. JW Marriott plans to have 175-200 hotels in India over the next four years.
AccorHotels India has adopted a ‘born in France, made in India’ approach to increase its properties in India, which has reached a total of 45 hotels and is expected to increase to 55 hotels by 2017.

Exchange Rate Used: INR 1 = US$ 0.0155 as of April 17, 2017.

References: Media Reports, Ministry of Tourism, Press Releases, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Press Information Bureau (PIB), Union Budget 2017-18

Source: www.ibef.org

“God, our Creator, has stored within our minds and personalities, great potential strength and ability. Prayer helps us tap and develop these powers” – Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
Arunachal Pradesh – a popular tourist destination in India

Fast Facts

Area: 83,743 sq km
Population: 1,097,968
Capital: Itanagar
Best time to visit: October to May
STD Code: 0360

Useful Information: Foreign tourists require Restricted Area Permits from Government of India to visit Arunachal Pradesh. Indian tourists need an Inner Line Permit from the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
The widely scattered archaeological remains at different places in Arunachal Pradesh bear testimony to its rich cultural heritage. A serene land tucked into the North Eastern tip of India, offers an enchanting experience, with its picturesque hills and valleys, wholesome climate and simple and hospitable people. The State’s glorious heritage of arts and crafts and colourful festivals reflect the people’s ancient faith in the inexorable power of nature. In addition, the state provides abundant scope for angling, boating, rafting, trekking and hiking. Besides, there are a number of wild life sanctuaries and national parks where rare animals, birds and plants will fascinate the visitor.

Arunachal Pradesh is home to a variety of orchids, known for their exquisitely beautiful blooms, from one of the dominant taxa with more than 600 species, occurring in varying elevations and climatic conditions throughout the state. It is habited by 26 major tribes and a number of sub tribes.

**Things to do/sights to see and enjoy in Arunachal Pradesh**

**Trekking**

Foreign tourists, particularly adventure seekers are regular visitors who come here to explore the numerous trekking routes located in the mountains. For trekkers, the Bomdila-Tawang area offers enormous scope. The area around Tawang Chu is both interesting and challenging for trekkers. Starting from Jong, one can trek to Mago passing through a breathtaking jungle where one can see some superb waterfalls. The best months for trekking are May and October. Some more fascinating trekking routes are: Bomdila-Seppa, Along-Mechuka, Daporijo-Taksing, Pasighat-Tuting, Pasighat-Mariang, Daporijo-Along and Bomdila-Daimara-via-Ramlingam and Chakku.

Moreover, one of the trekking routes is very popular because of Mahseer (a fish) angling opportunities. Starting from the plains of Siang, this route passes through a thick forest. This route also offers great views for those who like to capture Arunachal’s wild and pristine beauty in their cameras.

For boating, tourists usually head for the Salley Lake where boating facilities are provided to visitors.

**Angling**

Angling & Fishing in Arunachal Pradesh India offers lots of opportunities for angling and fishing lovers. The abundance of water and the simplicity of the sport have helped the sport to grow in Arunachal Pradesh India. Arunachal Pradesh offers numerous possibilities to catch fish especially trout and Mahseer. Throughout the planet, catching a Golden Mahseer is rated as an important accomplishment by anglers. Mahseer is very tough to catch – as it puts on a fight once it is hooked. Mahseer tests the skill of the anglers. Besides enjoying the fun in fishing, you can take back memories that last a lifetime.

**Note:** Anglers should dutifully release the catch. Golden Mahseer especially is an endangered species which deserves utmost respect for their marvelous body and their ability to test even the best of
anglers. This mysterious fish, a queen of the Himalayan Rivers, is also considered holy in Hinduism, many legends being associated with it.

Rafting

Those who have a penchant for river sports make it a point to indulge in rafting on the Siang River which is so thrilling. Geographical explorers of the past used to address this river as the ‘Missing link’ while trying to unravel the link between the Brahmaputra of Assam and Tibet’s Tsangpo River. As per Tibetan belief, the Siang River is considered as ‘horse mouth river’ and its sands are actually emeralds that flows towards east. They also believe that one can become as strong as a horse by drinking its water. Other interesting river rafting routes include Kameng (Seppa- Bhalukpung), Subansiri (Taliha-North of Daporijo) and Dibang (Anini- Assam Border).

Wildlife

At a time when the population of the big cat family is declining rapidly in other parts of the world, Arunachal Pradesh proudly enjoys the distinction of having the big four namely tiger, leopard, clouded leopard and snow leopard in its jungles. In addition, the State is also home to two endangered feline species- golden cat and marbled cat.

Regarding avian varieties, over 500 species are found in Arunachal Pradesh with a notable number being highly endangered and rare. Species like white-winged duck, scatter, monal bangal florian etc are not found anywhere except here.

Apart from these, there are also other varieties of wildlife including the exclusive Takin (one of seven species of primates found in Arunachal) and the majestic mammal called Mithun.
National Parks & Sanctuaries

Arunachal Pradesh is the perfect destination for wildlife enthusiasts as there are several naturally well-endowed sanctuaries as well as national parks. Some of the notable one are: Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary, Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary, Kane Wildlife Sanctuary, Mouling National Park, Dr. D.Ering Memorial Wildlife Sanctuary, Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary, Dihang-Debang Biosphere Reserve and Namdapha Wildlife Sanctuary.

The wildlife of Arunachal is so varied that you will spot creatures which you normally won’t see in other parts of the country. You can see animals like Red Panda, Himalayan Black Bear and Goral etc. For bird enthusiasts, the list includes exotic and dazzling species like White Winged Wood Duck, Bengal Florican, Temmincks Tragopan, Mishmi Wren and Sclater’s Monal etc.

Arunachal Pradesh being a unique geographical zone is naturally blessed with diverse topography and changing altitudes. The altitude dependent climatic conditions have created a wildlife population that is diverse as well as precious. The rare and endangered species of wildlife thrive in the seven wildlife sanctuaries and two national parks within the state.

Culture - Tribes & Beliefs

The culture of Arunachal Pradesh is truly varied in the sense that the State has 26 major tribes including sub-tribes. Every tribe has their own unique set of traditions and customs. The major tribes of Arunachal are: Adi, Galo, Aka, Apatani, Nyishi, Tagins, Bori, and Bokar etc.

The sun and the moon are the presiding deities of the major tribes who follow the Donyi-Polo religion (the name stands for sun and moon). The West Kameng and Tawang district are mainly inhabited by the Tibetan influenced Monpa and Sherdukpen tribe. In Lohit district, it is the Khampti and the Singpho tribe. All these four major tribes are followers of two different sects of Buddhism (Mahayana Hinayana). The other tribes are basically followers of ancient beliefs with animal worship being quite prominent amongst them.
Festivals

Arunachal’s cultural lifestyle is dominated by colourful festivals. Since agriculture is the mainstay here so people generally celebrate festivals as a mark of thanksgiving to the Almighty for giving them a good harvest. These festivals also showcase the artistic skills of the various tribes. To experience the cultural festivals of the State, one should visit Ziro district which is very popular for festivities.

Spiritual

Arunachal Pradesh is gifted with many spiritually important places like Tawang Monastery, Urgyelling Gompa, Chillipam Gompa, Golden Pagoda, Dangoria Baba temple, Shivlinga at Kardo Hills, Parasuram Kund, Akahshiganga, Malinithan, and many more. One can immerse itself in the spirituality of these places and enjoy the spiritual side of Arunachal Pradesh.

Heritage

Arunachal Pradesh is a treasure trove of heritage. Arunachal Pradesh has many notable spots that bear testimony to its rich heritage. One such landmark is the magnificent Tawang Monastery which is 113 feet long and 80 feet wide. Built in 17th century, this monastery is inhabited by Buddhist monks belonging to the Mahayana School of Buddhism (Gelukpa sect). Many valuable antiquities as well as handwritten and printed books and manuscripts on Buddhism can be found here.

Reaching there

By Air

The nearest airport is Tezpur in Assam, 216 km from Naharlagun and 226 km from Itanagar, Naharlagun is also connected by helicopter service from Mohanbari (Dibrugarh) and Guwahati in Assam.

By Rail

The nearest railway station is at Harmoti in Assam, 33 km from Itanagar

By Road

Itanagar is connected by a network of roads with all important cities and towns in the neighbouring states and major cities in the country.


“Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony.” – Mahatma Gandhi
Jharkhand is located in the eastern part of India. The state shares its borders with West Bengal in the east, Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh in the west, Bihar in the north and Odisha in the south.

Jharkhand is one of the richest mineral zones in the world and boasts of 40 per cent and 29 per cent of India's mineral and coal reserves respectively. Due to its large mineral reserves, mining and mineral extraction are the major industries in the State.

Jharkhand is rich in mineral resources such as coal (27.3 per cent of India's reserves), iron ore (26 per cent of India's reserves), copper ore (18.5 per cent of India's reserves), uranium, mica, bauxite, granite, limestone, silver, graphite, magnetite and dolomite. Jharkhand is the only State in India to produce coking coal, uranium and pyrite. With 25.7 per cent of the total iron ore (hematite) reserves, Jharkhand ranks second among the States.

The state's industries enjoy a unique location-specific advantage as it is close to the vast market of eastern India. It is closer to the ports of Kolkata, Haldia and Paradip which helps in transportation of minerals.

The state has attracted Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) equity inflows worth US$ 93 million during the period April 2000 to March 2016, according to data released by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP).

Jharkhand offers a wide range of fiscal and policy incentives to industries, under the Industrial Policy, 2012. The State also has policies for IT and Special Economic Zones (SEZs) offering sector-specific incentives, as well as the Jharkhand Energy Policy 2012 which aims to supply reliable and quality power in an efficient manner at a reasonable price. Jharkhand stands 3rd among Indian States in rankings based on ease of doing business and reforms implementation, according to a study by the World Bank and KPMG.

**Factfile**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capital</th>
<th>Ranchi</th>
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<tr>
<td>Geographical Area (sq km):</td>
<td>79,714</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Language:</td>
<td>Hindi, Santhali, Urdu, Bengali and English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Literacy Rate:</td>
<td>66.4 per cent</td>
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<td>Key Industries:</td>
<td>Mining and mineral extraction, engineering, iron and steel, chemicals, handloom, food and beverages, automotive and cement.</td>
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**Economic Snapshot: GSDP of Jharkhand**

![GSDP Chart](image)
About 80 per cent of the rural population of the State depends on agriculture. Rice is the major food crop of the State, covering 80 per cent of the cropped area.

Recent Developments:

- The Ministry of Power has electrified 56 villages in Jharkhand as a part of Government of India's objective to electrify 18,500 un-electrified villages by May 2018.
- Energy department of Jharkhand plans set up rooftop solar power plants on 100 government office buildings.
- Jharkhand has received an approval from the Central Government for US$ 210 million assistance from the World Bank for urban infrastructure projects.
- Jharkhand Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy 2016 has been drafted in order to foster manufacturing and innovation, create employment opportunities and state-of-the-art infrastructure and enhance inclusivity through various sectors of the State.

Key Sectors:

- The natural resources, policy incentives and location-specific advantages of Jharkhand support investments in sectors such as mining and metal extraction, engineering, iron and steel, and chemicals.
- As Jharkhand has around 40.0 per cent of the country’s mineral wealth, its extensive mineral resources make mining, metals and related sectors especially lucrative for investments.
- Forests account for 29 per cent of the land area in Jharkhand with thriving bio-diversity, fertile land and moderate climate.
- The major growth drivers of the engineering industry in Jharkhand are availability of raw material (iron and steel, aluminium, copper and other metals and non-metals), power, water and industrial labour.
- During 2015-16, Jharkhand had around 634.41 million tonnes of limestone reserves. With the reserves of cement grade limestone, this region is well suited for creating additional capacities, both in large and mini cement plants.

Courtesy: [www.ibef.org](http://www.ibef.org)

“Political tyranny is nothing compared to social tyranny and a reformer who defies society is a more courageous man than a politician who defies government.” - B. R. Ambedkar
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<td>International Trade Fair for Packaging Technology</td>
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<td>August 3-6, 2017</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.iedcommunications.com">http://www.iedcommunications.com</a></td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Gifts India International Mumbai</td>
<td>Introduction Trade Shows Pvt. Ltd.</td>
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<td>IIFJAS Mumbai</td>
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<td>International Trade Fair for Costume and Fashion Jewellery</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Floratech India Bangalore</td>
<td>Media Today Group</td>
<td>International Exhibition of Plants and Horticulture</td>
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<td>Agri Asia Gandhinagar</td>
<td>Radeecal Communications</td>
<td>International exhibition on agricultural technology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>September 1-3, 2017</td>
<td><a href="http://www.agriasia.in">http://www.agriasia.in</a></td>
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<td>TTF Travel &amp; Tourism Fair</td>
<td>Fairfest Media Ltd.</td>
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<td>Expotim International Fair Organisation Inc.</td>
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<td><strong>Analytica Anacon India Hyderabad</strong></td>
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**Trade Queries from India**

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<td>No: 387/1, Jai Nagar 2nd Street, Rakkiyapalayam Pirivu, Kangeyam Road, Tirupur – 641606 Tel: +91 86 10 933 245 E-mail: <a href="mailto:naveen@selenointl.com">naveen@selenointl.com</a> selenointl.com</td>
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<td>M/s Shine Exports Mr./Ms. Minna Noordeen</td>
<td>Turmeric</td>
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<td>8/134, M.A.S campus, Dindigul Road, Ramji Nagar, Trichy-620009, Tamil Nadu Tel: +91 99 94 557 880 E-mail: <a href="mailto:shineexportstrichy@gmail.com">shineexportstrichy@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>M/s African Commodities DMCC Mr. Sanjay Tiwari</td>
<td>Sesame Seeds</td>
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<td>P.O. Box 1006, Apapa, Lagos, Nigeria. Tel: +234-1-2773400 E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@africanindustries.com">info@africanindustries.com</a> URL: <a href="http://www.africanindustries.com">www.africanindustries.com</a></td>
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<td>M/s Kainaat Traders Mr. Yogesh Mathur</td>
<td>Scarves &amp; Shawls</td>
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<td>17/51 Tilak Nagar, New Delhi, Delhi-110018</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>M/s Siddhi Vinayak Knots &amp; Prints Pvt Ltd. / Laxmipati Sarees</td>
<td>Mr. Shajeel Kamal Nair</td>
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<td>M/s Advait Streamliners</td>
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<td>Mr. Hasmukh Joshi</td>
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<td>12</td>
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| Kind Attn: Mr. Tarun Rathi,  
B-5/75, Lower Ground Floor, Safdarjung Enclave, New Dehli-110029  
Phone: +91-11-41650833-35  
E-mail: tarun@lavinagranites.com  
URL: www.lavinagranites.com |  
|---|---|
| **13**  
M/s J & J International  
Messrs. Pranav Jadeja & Abhishek Joshi  
Shop No. 18, Morbi Shopping Center, Opp. Shriji Hospital, Ayodhya Puri Road, Morbi - 363 641, Gujarat  
Tel: +91-99099 88997, +91-98257 57577  
E-mail: info@jjinternational.com  
URL: www.jjinternational.com | Ceramics & sanitary products |
| **14.**  
Mr. Sumit Shah  
M/s Bhairav Steel Industries  
Shop no.2, Siddhesh Darshan, Opp 10th Khetwadi main road, Mumbai-4, India.  
Mob: +91-9029766970  
Tel: 02266595935  
E-mail: info@bhairavsteelindustries.com,  
sales@bhairavsteelindustries.com,  
marketing.bhairavsteelind@gmail.com | Stainless Steel products |
| **15.**  
Ms. Yatina Bali,  
M/s Sida Life Care Pvt. Ltd.  
Mob. +91 7042402070  
Skype id:- yatina.sidak  
E-mail: yatina.bali@sidakcare.com  
URL: www.sidaklifecare.com | Diagnostic |
| **16.**  
Mr. Kashyap Arya  
M/s Advait Streamliners  
201, Takashashila Greens, Mangaldip party plot road, Sola, Science city, Ahmedabad 380060, Gujarat, India.  
M : +91 99986 86433 +91 81284 30005  
E-mail: info@advaitstreamliners.com  
URL: www.advaitstreamliners.com | food |
| **17.**  
Mr. T. Subramanian  
M/s Meridian Fabrica  
No.290-A, Amutham Nagar, M.G.Road, Karur - 639002, TN – INDIA  
Tel: +91 4324 237187 / 237367  
Mobile: + 91 8344865298  
Email: subra@meridianfabrica.com | Home Textiles |
Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy and Dr. J.N. Singh, Chief Secretary, Government of Gujarat meets with Mr Tadao Yanase, METI Vice Minister for international Affairs

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy visits Toyo University in Kawagoe to inaugurate the HAXPES (Hard X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy)

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy attended the International Joint Congress 2017 on the theme "Message from the Mind-Body Complex and the Science of Healing" in Fukuoka

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy with Mr Shozaburo Sakai, President of Chuo University
Dr Rajiv Sharma, Chief Adviser to the Govt. of Telangana visits the Management of the CAT23 (Clean Authority Tokyo)

Re-inventing Japan through IIT Madras and Nagaoka University of Technology Collaborative Education

Ms. Muanpuii Saiawi at Photo Exhibition titled "The Reign of Maharajas - The Radiant Light of India" by celebrated Japanese photographer Kazuyoshi Miyoshi to celebrate Nikon’s 100th anniversary.

Dr Hemant Sharma, VCC Yoga Teacher conducts public yoga session in Kitanomaru Park