

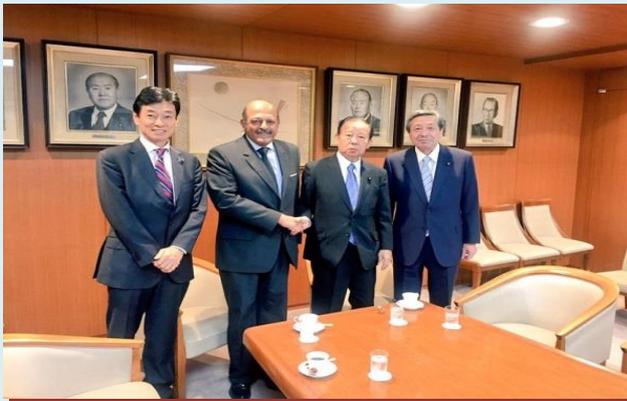


Embassy of India

Tokyo

October 2016

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“Complain is the work of cowards. Braves took over the task of preparing the way.” - Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Gandhi Jayanti

Gandhi Jayanti was celebrated at the Embassy auditorium on 03 October with a participation of around 120 people. The keynote address was delivered by Dr Yoshiko Nakano, President of OISCA International, who spoke about her organisation's activities in India. After this, Dr. Rabinder Malik, President of the Discover India Club gave a lecture on "Gandhi's Message for the Environment" which put focus on Gandhi's wisdom relating to conserving the environment- an often overlooked part of his philosophy. The programme included screening of a film based on Mahatma Gandhi's life and his philosophy; screening of excerpts of footage taken of the newly inaugurated Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra (PBK) in New Delhi including keynote remarks by PM Modi and EAM Sushma Swaraj; Indian dance performances; and presentation on Kerala mural paintings by members of the OISCA South India Chapter. As a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, a video of Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy playing Sitar, recorded during Gandhi Jayanti celebrations in Mexico, was also screened.

Innovation for Cool Earth Forum

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy attended the inaugural session of Innovation for Cool Earth Forum-3rd Annual Meeting held in Tokyo on 5 October on the invitation of METI Minister Mr. Hiroshige Seko.

India Japan Investment Partnership Seminar

A delegation led by Mr. R.V. Sheshan, CEO Hydro Energy, GMR Energy, visited Japan from 5-7 Oct. During the visit, India-Japan Investment Partnership Seminar was held on 5 October. Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy delivered the opening remarks and spoke about various issues including BBIN initiative, renewable energy and regional connectivity.

NASSCOM Japan Chapter Meeting and participation at CEATEC Exhibition

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy met Mr. Gagan Sabharwal, Director, Global Trade Development, NASSCOM on 6 October during his visit to Tokyo for attending the NASSCOM Japan Chapter Meeting and participation at CEATEC Exhibition. They discussed about NASSCOM's Japan Chapter in Tokyo and the opportunities in the Japanese IT market, especially in the IOT area.

Dinner with President of the Foreign Press Center Japan

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy attended a dinner hosted by Mr. Kiyotaka Akasaka, President of the Foreign Press Centre, Japan on 6 October; he also met Mr. Yasuhisa Kawamura, Press Secretary, MOFA.

Durga Puja celebrations

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy attended the 27th Durga Puja celebrations organised by Bengali Association of Tokyo, Japan. He released *Anjali* magazine commemorating the centenary of Rabindranath Tagore's first visit to Japan in 1916

Dussera Milan organized by HSS Japan

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy graced the celebrations of Dussera organised by Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS) Japan on 9 October. In his address to the gathering Ambassador emphasized the importance of discipline, education, effort, unity & service to society. He also released a book written by visiting Shri Ravi Kumar Iyer International Joint Coordinator of HSS.

Nakamura Hajime Eastern Study Prize Award Ceremony

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy delivered a congratulatory address on the occasion of the 26th Award Presentation Ceremony of the Nakamura Hajime Eastern Study Prize held at Embassy(10 Oct). Dr. Wada Toshihiro, Professor, Graduate School of Letters, Nagoya University was awarded the 26th

Nakamura Hajime Eastern Study Prize in recognition of his outstanding contributions to studies in Indian Philosophy, especially that of the Navya-Nyaya (New Logic).

Meeting with Mr Yohei Sasakawa

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy met Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of the Nippon Foundation and WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination on 12 October.

Meeting with Maestro Zubin Mehta

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy met Maestro Zubin Mehta on 12 October at the farewell party in Tokyo which was at the end of Wiener Philharmoniker Week in Japan 2016.

Indian participation in Japan International Aerospace Exhibition

The Indian defence industry was represented by Bharat Electronics Ltd, Bharat Dynamics Ltd, Mazagaon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd and Ordnance Factory Board at the Japan International Aerospace Exhibition, which was held at Tokyo Big Sight from 12-15 October. The exhibition is conducted once every three years and is seeing participation of approximately 200 Defence industrial companies globally

Inauguration of Diwali in Yokohama

Ambassador HE Sujan R Chinoy inaugurated Diwali in Yokohama organised by Indian Commerce and Industry Association Japan (ICIJ) on 15 October at the Yamashita Park in Yokohama with Mr. Katsunori Watanabe, Deputy Mayor of Yokohama and Mr Ryuko Hira, Honorary President of ICIJ. He also addressed the gathering and spoke of the contribution of Indian community to Yokohama, the first visit of Rabindranath Tagore to Japan in 1916 when he spent two months in Yokohama; and Swami Vivekananda's visit in 1893.

Visit to Imabari City in Ehime Prefecture

Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy went on an Ambassadors' Study Tour organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Imabari city in Ehime Prefecture. He met H.E. Tokihiro Nakamura, Governor of Ehime on 17 October. He also met Mayor of Imabari City Mr Kan Ryoji. Ambassador appeared in Ehime Times on 19 October wearing a Samurai dress. He also interacted with students of Imabari West High School where they joined him in saying Namaste and Kachi Doki or Hip Hip Hooray in Japanese

Visit of West Bengal Delegation

A three member West Bengal delegation led by Dr. Krishna Gupta, Principal Secretary, Department of Commerce & Industry visited Japan from 13-14 October to have one-to-one meetings with companies/organizations and to invite prospective investors for the Bengal Global Business Summit (DGBS) 2017 to be held on 20th and 21st January 2017 at Kolkata. The delegation called on Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy on October 13. A Seminar was organized on October 14 at the VCC auditorium of the Embassy showcasing West Bengal's economic potential and reforms. Deputy Chief of the Mission Mr. Amit Kumar made the opening remarks at the seminar. The delegation also had meetings with JETRO, JICA and prominent companies.

Visit of Gujarat Delegation

A 12-member Gujarat delegation led by Mr. Manoj Kumar Das, Principal Secretary, Food, Civil Supply & Consumer Affairs Department of Government of Gujarat visited Japan from 17 to 19 October. A road show on "Investment Opportunities in Gujarat" was organized at the Indian Embassy's Vivekananda Cultural Center on 17 October. Deputy Chief of the Mission, Shri Amit Kumar made a special address at this occasion and the welcome address was made by Mr. Dai Ueda, Director

General, JETRO. The delegation had meetings with a delegation of Kanagawa Prefectural Government, led by Mr. Hitoshi Fujimaki, Director General of Kanagawa Prefectural Government. The Gujarat delegation also had meetings with International Business Incubation Center, JICA and other prominent companies and financial institutions.

Invitation to Heart of Asia

Ambassador of India H.E. Sujan R Chinoy and Ambassador of Afghanistan H.E. Dr. Sayed Mohammad Amin Fatimie presented Ambassador H.E. Tsukasa Uemura, Director-General of Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan on 21 October, with a joint invitation letter addressed to Foreign Minister H.E. Fumio Kishida to attend the Heart of Asia Conference which will be held in Amritsar on December 4, 2016.

Meeting with Mr. Toshihiro Nikai, Secretary General, LDP

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy had a meeting with Mr. Toshihiro Nikai, Secretary General of Liberal Democratic Party on 21 October. The meeting was held in the context of his visit to India (1-3 Nov, 2016) for participation in Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2016.

Meeting with Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy met Mr. Takeo Akiba, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs on 21 October and they discussed about India-Japan bilateral issues.

Delegation led by Additional Development Commissioner(Handlooms)

Ambassador HE Sujan R Chinoy received an exporters delegation led by Additional Development Commissioner(Handlooms) on 22 October.

India-Japan Tourism Meet

Ambassador HE Sujan R. Chinoy, Ambassador of Japan to India HE Kenji Hiramatsu and Dr. Jyotsna Suri, Chairperson & Managing Director of Bharat Hotels attended the India-Japan Tourism Meet at Lalit Hotel, Delhi on 25 October.

141st Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel celebrations

The 141st Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, freedom fighter and architect of the integration of India, better known as "Iron Man of India," was celebrated at the Vivekandanda Cultural Centre with a special screening of the film Sardar.

"If a country is to be corruption free and become a nation of beautiful minds, I strongly feel there are three key societal members who can make a difference. They are the father, the mother and the teacher." -- Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

Taming the spirit of pine

An Indian NGO has found productive use of pine needles, once the cause of many a fire in the hills, by generating electricity from them

When I was a kid, my Almora home in the Kumaon hills of Uttarakhand, was surrounded by a thick cover of pine trees. Anytime a southward breeze blew, we could smell the familiar whiff of resins. On some summer nights, the forest would come ablaze in circular patterns. Years passed and the green cover began to reduce, so much so that on a recent visit, I was shocked to be able to count them.

It took some growing up to realise that the pine needles or pirul, as we call them, were to blame. They are highly inflammable due to a high calorific value and low density. And their carpet on the forest floor causes rainwater to drain down the slope rather than be absorbed in the soil.

Sometimes villagers set them on fire to get rid of unwanted shrubs and at others, fire spreads uncontrollably due to negligence.

Whatever the case may be, they pose a huge threat to the jungles and ecological system. Watching it from close quarters all these years was Rajnish Jain and his wife Rashmi, co-founders of the non-profit organisation, AVANI.

They decided to expand the scope of their rural voluntary establishment and take on "harnessing the destructive energy" of the pine needles in Berinag village in Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand. The NGO dreamt of developing a technology that utilised the abundance of pine needles in keeping with the motto of capacity building and sustainable rural development. This ambitious hope pronounced itself as "electricity".

They are known as Saur Urja in the area because of their extensive work with solar energy which saw electrification of 25 villages. Jain travelled places with his hypothesis of using pine needles as fodder for creating electricity but was turned down everywhere on grounds of impracticality. "The density of pine needles was too low is what they all said," shares Jain. Without a background in scientific research, he continued to experiment on his own and finally managed to overcome the density problem by chopping pine needles into smaller pieces, and developing a technology which is in final stages of being patented. With this success, it was proved that pine needles could be used as feedstock for a biomass gasifier to produce electricity. But the work had only begun.

AVANI set up a fully operational 9 kW plant, within the campus, as a pilot that worked favourably. Out of the 9 kW of electricity produced, 1.5 kW was used for running the system and the rest was available for other productive uses such as welding and calendering. Taking it a step further, the NGO set up Avani Bio Energy Pvt Ltd in 2012 in order to commercially utilise the electricity thus produced and get connected with existing power grids. Funds were pitched from organisations such as New York-based Acumen Funds, a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) was signed with UPCL, and a permission to collect pine needles on large scale was picked from the forest department. Finally, a 120 kW commercial plant was setup at Chachret village in Pithoragarh district. As of now, a couple of thousand units have been dumped in the grid. This aims to generate clean energy, jobs and restore biodiversity by stopping forest fires.

"An average pine needles' collector can make up to `25,000 a month as we pay them at a rate of `1 per kilo. During the shedding season, forests are covered with a huge number of them. Almost 1,200 tonnes in less than 200 hectares of forest land," Jain explains. The proposition has given options to the unemployed and women of the area. There is a team of local technicians hand trained by Jain himself who carry out the operations with dexterity. The process of gasification also produces a by-product – high-quality charcoal in powder form which, in turn, is converted into charcoal briquettes. These work as top-level fuel for rural kitchens, easily replacing wood, saving forests. The use of

briquettes ensures better health for women who would then cook in a smokeless environment. They come cheaper than other fuels and may be purchased for cash or in lieu of pine needles. Where localites welcomed the enterprise by donating lands, there are many challenges. The biggest among them is a lack of industrial culture in the area due to which people are discouraged from being actively involved. "Young men don't want to collect pine needles. They would rather move out of the village to bigger towns or cities," opines Jain about a problem that clubs with it a deeper issue of out-migration. AVANI Bio Energy Pvt Ltd plans to expand and go smaller. Jain says, "Smaller units are easier to manage and have the capacity to reach deeper into villages. The idea is to get local entrepreneurs involved, who can control and manage the supply chains, operations and retail of the charcoal."

Courtesy: XP Division, MEA.

"The biggest problem in the world today is not poverty or disease but the lack of love and charity and the feeling of being unwanted." – Mother Teresa

Education Sector in India

Introduction

India holds an important place in the global education industry. The country has more than 1.4 million schools with over 227 million students enrolled and more than 36,000 higher education institutes. India has one of the largest higher education systems in the world. However, there is still a lot of potential for further development in the education system.

India has become the second largest market for e-learning after the US. The sector is currently pegged at US\$ 2-3 billion, and is expected to touch US\$ 40 billion by 2017. The distance education market in India is expected to grow at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of around 34 per cent# during 2013-14 to 2017-18. Moreover, the aim of the government to raise its current gross enrolment ratio to 30 per cent by 2020 will also boost the growth of the distance education in India.

Market Size

The education sector in India is poised to witness major growth in the years to come as India will have world's largest tertiary-age population and second largest graduate talent pipeline globally by the end of 2020. In FY 2015-16, the education market was worth about US\$ 100 billion and is expected to reach US\$ 116.4 billion in FY 2016-17. Currently, higher education contributes 59.7 per cent of the market size, school education 38.1 per cent, pre-school segment 1.6 per cent, and technology and multi-media the remaining 0.6 per cent.

Higher education system in India has undergone rapid expansion. Currently, India's higher education system is the largest in the world enrolling over 70 million students while in less than two decades, India has managed to create additional capacity for over 40 million students. At present, higher education sector witnesses spending of over Rs 46,200 crore (US\$ 6.78 billion), and it is expected to grow at an average annual rate of over 18 per cent to reach Rs 232,500 crore (US\$ 34.12 billion) in next 10 years.

India's IT firms are working with academic institutions and setting up in-house institutes to groom the right talent as these companies move to Social Media, Mobility, Analytics and Cloud (SMAC) technologies.

Investment

The total amount of Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) inflow into the education sector in India stood at US\$ 1,256 million from April 2000 to March 2016, according to data released by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP).

The education and training sector in India has witnessed some major investments and developments in the recent past. Some of them are:

- The Government of India aims to increase digital literacy to at least 50 per cent of Indians from currently 15 per cent over a period of next three years.
- Training and skills development firm NIIT has partnered with US-based edX to offer online courses from leading international universities including MIT and Berkeley to about 5 lakh people over the next three years.
- Cisco Systems plans to invest US\$ 100 million in India over the next 2 years, will be used to fund early-stage and growth-stage companies in the country, open six new innovation labs, three centres of expertise and train around 250,000 students by 2020.
- Neev Knowledge Management Pvt. Ltd, which offers online and classroom-based certification courses under the brand name EduPristine, has raised US\$ 10 million from Kaizen Management Advisors and DeVry Inc., which will be used to increase its course offerings, and increase its presence to 15 cities across the country.
- BRS Ventures & Holdings Ltd, owned by Abu Dhabi-based billionaire Mr B R Shetty, plans to invest US\$ 1.8 billion in Amaravati in the state of Andhra Pradesh across projects in healthcare, tourism, hospitality, infrastructure, and education sector.
- Byju's, an education technology start-up, has raised US\$ 75 million from US-based venture capital firm Sequoia Capital and Belgium-based investment firm Sofina, which will be used to improve content delivery, expand product pipeline, launch in new markets and continue to build its talent pool.
- US based multinational technology major Intel Corporation, has partnered with Extramarks Education, a digital learning solutions provider, to tap the US\$ 40 billion private school sector in India and thereby provide optimised learning solutions and extend computing technologies to students and schools in the country.
- EdCast, a technology education start-up based in Silicon Valley, plans to invest up to US\$ 50 million in education based technology and tie-up with around 500 educational institutions to build digital content and curriculum for educational institutions in India.
- The World Bank has extended US\$ 50 million loan to support Indian government's Nai Manzil scheme which aims to address educational and livelihood needs of minority communities through its educational and skill development programmes.
- Tata Trusts, part of the Tata Group, has entered in to a strategic partnership with web-based free learning portal, Khan Academy, and seeks to use technology to provide free education to anyone, anywhere in India.
- Venture capital fund Acumen has invested in two Hyderabad-based education start-ups—Ignis Careers (US\$ 250,000) and SEED (US\$ 650,000)—working in the low-cost school education space.
- India Educational Investment Fund (IEIF), an early stage impact investment fund focused on the educational sector funded by Dell Foundation, has made its first two investments in education-based startups: Report Bee and Guru-G.
- Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) launched the 'School of Vocational Education' program to offer vocational training courses in 20 sectors or verticals in association with relevant training partners in 25 different cities across India.
- Anuna Education, a partner to National Skills Development Corporation (NSDC) has announced the eEntrepreneurship Program in collaboration with eBay India. Anuna Education will train

entrepreneur to sell their products on eBay globally in collaboration with eBay India along with a practical training on how to sell the products to global buyers.

- The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has launched Strategic Manufacturing Skill Council (SMSC) to train workforce for defence equipment manufacturing, ship building and repair, homeland security equipment and other fire fighting equipment.
- The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has mandated the appointment of a special educator for children with learning disabilities so that they could be assimilated with other students. This directive came as a part of "inclusive practices" philosophy of CBSE and strict guidelines of 'Right to Education' Act.
- In an attempt to improve health care infrastructure in West Bengal, nine new medical colleges will be opened, out of which five will be government-run while the other four will be set up under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) model.

Government Initiatives

Some of the other major initiatives taken by the Government of India are:

The Union budget 2016-17 has made the following provisions for the education sector:

- 10 public and 10 private educational institutions to be made world-class
- Scheme to get Rs 500 crore (US\$ 73.36 million) for promoting entrepreneurship among Schedule Caste/Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST)
- Digital Repository for all school leaving certificates and diplomas
- Rs 1,000 crore (US\$ 146.72 million) allocated for higher education financing
- Rs 1,700 crore (US\$ 250 million) allocated for 1500 multi-skill development centres
- 62 new Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNV) to provide quality education
- Digital literacy scheme to be launched for covering six crore additional rural households
- Objective to skill one crore youth in the next three years under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna (PMKVY)
- The Government of India has signed a financing agreement with The World Bank, for International Development Association (IDA) credit of US\$ 300 million, for the Madhya Pradesh Higher Education Quality Improvement Project, which aims to improve student outcomes, especially of disadvantaged groups in selected Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and increase the effectiveness of the higher education system in Madhya Pradesh.
- The Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry has entered into a partnership with private companies, including Tata Motors Ltd, Tata Consultancy Services Ltd and real-estate firm Hubtown Ltd, to open three Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs), through Public-Private Partnership (PPP), at Nagpur, Ranchi, and Pune.
- Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi launched the Skill India initiative – 'Kaushal Bharat, Kusal Bharat'. Under this initiative, the government has set itself a target of training 400 million citizens by 2022 that would enable them to find jobs. The initiatives launched include various programmes like: Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015, Skill Loan scheme, and the National Skill Development Mission.
 - PMKVY is the flagship program under the Skill India Initiative and it includes incentivising skill training by providing financial rewards on completion of training to the participants. Over the next year 2.4 million Indians are believed to be benefitted from this scheme.
 - National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015 is India's first integrated program to develop skill and promote entrepreneurship simultaneously. The vision of this programme is to skill the Indian youth rapidly with high standards and at the same time promote entrepreneurship thus creating wealth and gainful employment for the citizens.
 - Skill Loan Scheme is designed to disburse loans of Rs 5,000 (US\$ 75.3) to Rs 150,000 (US\$ 2,260) to 3.4 million Indians planning to develop their skills in the next five years.

- The National Skill Development Mission is developed to expedite the implementation of skilling activities in India by providing robust institutional framework at the centre and the state.
- The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) will train bureaucrats from the HRD ministry, experts from schools boards and primary school teachers in Mathematics and Science Subjects to enable them to learn skills to formulate lesson plans that stimulate students' learning and thus contribute to improving the quality of Mathematics and science education.
- The Government of India has launched a digital employment exchange that will enable industrial enterprises to find suitable workers and job-seekers to find employment.
- The Government of India has launched the National Web Portal for promotion of National Apprenticeship Scheme for Graduates, Diploma holders and 10+2 pass-outs vocational certificate holders.
- India and Australia have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to boost partnerships between the two countries in the fields of higher education and research, including technical and professional education, schools, vocational education and training.
- The National Skill Development Corporation of India (NSDC) under a Public Private Partnership promoted by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Center for Research & Industrial Staff Performance (CRISP), India to explore national and international opportunities for strengthening skills development in India.

Road Ahead

Various government initiatives are being adopted to boost the growth of distance education market, besides focussing on new education techniques, such as E-learning and M-learning.

Education sector has seen a host of reforms and improved financial outlays in recent years that could possibly transform the country into a knowledge haven. With human resource increasingly gaining significance in the overall development of the country, development of education infrastructure is expected to remain the key focus in the current decade. In this scenario, infrastructure investment in the education sector is likely to see a considerable increase in the current decade.

Moreover, availability of English speaking tech-educated talent, democratic governance and a strong legal and intellectual property protection framework are enablers for world class product development, as per Mr Amit Phadnis, President-Engineering and Site Leader for Cisco (India).

The Government of India has taken several steps including opening of IIT's and IIM's in new locations as well as allocating educational grants for research scholars in most government institutions. Furthermore, with online modes of education being used by several educational organisations, the higher education sector in India is set for some major changes and developments in the years to come.

Exchange Rate Used: INR 1 = US\$ 0.0149 as on May 16, 2016

References: Media Reports, Press Releases, Press Information Bureau, RNCOS Report, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Union Budget 2016-17

Courtesy://www.ibef.org

“The More we come out and do good to others, the more our hearts will be purified, and God will be in them.” – Swami Vivekananda

Amritsar – a popular tourist destination in India

Fast Facts

Altitude: 760 feet

Temperature :
Summer: 42 – 23 C
Winter: 24 - 1 C

State: Punjab

Rainfall :
59.2 cm

STD Code:
0183

Tourism Centre:
Punjab Tourist Information Centre,
Outgate Railway Station, Amritsar.
Tel: 0183 2402452.
Website: <http://punjabgovt.nic.in>.



Golden Temple. Amritsar



Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar



Location Map of Punjab



Wagah Border, Amritsar

Amritsar, literally a Pool of Nectar, derives its name from Amrit Sarovar, the holy tank that surrounds the splendid Golden Temple. Guru Ramdas, the fourth Guru of the Sikh faith, founded Amritsar in 1579. He constructed a pool on land gifted by the Mughal Emperor Akbar and called it Amritsar.

Home to the world famous Golden Temple, the 400-year-old city of Amritsar is the most important seat of Sikh history and culture.

One of the most poignant memorials of free India -- Jallianwala Bagh – is also located in the city. Amritsar district was once a part of the vast area covered by the Indus valley Civilisation during the early period of history.

Sights to See

Golden Temple

Also known as Harmandir or Darbar Sahib, the temple is a white and gold majestic building, the foundation of which was laid by the Muslim saint, Mian Mir, an admirer and friend of Guru Arjun. The Mandir is built on a 67-ft square of marble and is a two storied structure. The top structure of the temple is covered with pure gold leaf, hence, the popular name, Golden Temple. Inside the temple lies the holy book of the Sikhs - the Granth Sahib.

The Granth Sahib is kept in the Temple during the day and in the Akal Takht or Eternal Throne in the night. Visitors to the Golden Temple must remove their shoes and cover their heads before entering the temple. The temple is less crowded in the early mornings on weekends. Located in the heart of Amritsar, the temple complex is surrounded by a maze of narrow lanes or katras, that house one of the busiest markets. But the Golden Temple is a serene presence, radiating calm.

The temple is overlaid in the center of a sarovar or pool. The pilgrims bathe in the pool. People believe that the water has healing properties that can cure many diseases.

People gather here to listen to hymns, and also pay respect to the Guru Granth Sahib Holy Scripture being read here. 'Guru ka Langar' - a meal provided to all the pilgrims who visit is a free meal which is prepared in the Golden Temple. The preparations are carried out by worshipers and pilgrims and volunteers. Voluntary donations are made by people, which are used for the cost of the meal and maintenance of the temple.

The lessons taught here are of egalitarianism and humanity. The four entrances symbolize the unity of people from all walks of life.

The Golden Temple can be visited anytime. The time of festivals can be the best time to visit the temple. However, this period attracts huge crowds. Summer is too hot and winter too cold. So the best time to visit is October and March.

While in Amritsar, one can easily reach by taking a taxi to the Golden temple. Other forms of local transport here are cycle rickshaws and city buses. Other cities are also well connected to the Golden Temple.

Durgiana Temple

A Durga Temple near the Golden temple founded by one of the greatest reformers and political leaders of resurgent India, Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya.

Akal Takht

Adjacent to the Golden Temple, Akal Takht, the supreme seat of Sikh religious authority was established by the sixth Sikh guru, Guru Hargobind (1606-1645). The Akal Takht also houses the ancient weapons used by the Sikh warriors.

Baba Atal Rai Tower

This octagonal, nine-storeyed tower located south of the Golden temple, represents the nine years of life of Atal Rai, son of the sixth Guru Hargobindji. The inner walls are decorated with frescoes on the life of Guru Nanak. The Adi Granth is enshrined within.

Central Sikh Musuem

The museum located atop the Tower of Baba Atal houses some fine old paintings of battles fought by the Sikhs, old manuscripts, coins and weapons.

Jallianwala Bagh

Among the most poignant memorials of free India is Amritsar's Jallianwala Bagh. On April 13, 1919, British General O'Dyer opened fire on a group of people attending a peaceful freedom movement meeting being held here, which took the lives of about 2,000 innocent men, women and children.

Rambagh Gardens

Outside the old walled city are the Rambagh Gardens, which surround Maharaja Ranjit Singh's summer palace, now a museum. On display are weapons dating back to Mughal times, portraits of ruling houses of Punjab and a replica of the diamond Kohinoor.

Excursions

Serai Amanat Khan: It is situated in a small village south west of Amritsar. The Serai has a beautiful gate constructed in Mughal style of architecture. The tomb of Amanat Khan is surrounded by four minarets. The mosque near the tomb is decorated with Persian verses.

Ram Tirath (10 km): Legendary birthplace of Lav and Kush and the spot where the sage Valmiki's ashram stood. The town has an ancient tank and many temples. The Bedis of Punjab (Guru Nanak Dev, the founder Prophet of Sikhism was a Bedi) trace their descent from Kush and Sodhis (the 10th Prophet of Sikhism, Guru Gibind Singh was a Sodhi) from Luv. A four day fair, held since times immemorial, is celebrated here starting on the full moon night in November.

Taran Taran (22 km): The Gurudwara of Taran Taran was built in 1768 in memory of Guru Ram Das. Taran Taran is a name which means the temple whence people swim across the sea of ignorance to save many a drowning soul. The waters of the tank are said to have medicinal properties.

Wagha (28 km): Wagah, an army outpost on the Indo-Pakistan border - between Amritsar and Lahore -- is an elaborate complex of buildings, roads and barriers on both sides. The daily highlight is the evening "Beating the Retreat" ceremony. Soldiers from both countries march in perfect drill, going through the steps of bringing down their respective national flags. As the sun goes down, nationalistic fervour rises and lights are switched on marking the end of the day amidst thunderous applause. It is also the last Indian outpost on the Indo-Pak border.

Gobindwal Sahib (30 km): This served as the headquarters of the third guru, Guru Amar Dasa, a great social reformer. Close by in Khadur Sahib, the samadhi of Angad Devji, the 2nd Sikh Guru, is located.

Hari Ke Patten (38 km): A picnic spot where the rivers Beas and Sutlej meet. In winter many species of migratory birds congregate here.

Baba Bakala (45 km): The magnificent gurudwara of Baba Bakala is dedicated to the ninth Guru Teg Bahadur.

Dera Baba Jaimal Singhji (62 km): On the banks of the Beas river, 5 km from the town of Beas, it is the home of the Radha Saomi faith.

Dera Baba Nanak (70 km): This is where Guru Nanak spent 12 years of his life.

Pathankot (107 km): An important tourist centre at the foot of the Himalayas, on the highway to Jammu and Kashmir.

Shahpur Kandi Fort (114 km): Built by Bhao Singh and named to commemorate the visit of Shah Jahan.

Reaching Amritsar

By Air

The Rajasansi airport, about 11 km from city centre, is connected by domestic flights to Delhi, Srinagar and Chandigarh.

By Rail

Amritsar is connected by rail with major cities in India.

By Road

Amritsar is connected by bus with:

Agra 643 km
Chandigarh 235 km
Delhi 435 km
Ferozpur 160 km
Jalandhar 80 km
Jammu 219 km
Kullu 389 km
Ludhiana 137 km
Pathankot 111 km
Srinagar 515 km
Wagah Border 29 km

Courtesy: <https://www.incredibleindia.org>, <http://www.mapsofindia.com>,
<http://www.punjabtourism.gov.in>

“To be successful in life what you need is education, not literacy and degrees” - Munshi Premchand

State Profile: Himachal Pradesh

Himachal Pradesh is located in the northern region of India. The state is surrounded by Jammu and Kashmir on the north, Punjab on the west and the south-west, Haryana on the south, Uttar Pradesh on the south-east and China on the east.

Himachal Pradesh is one of the fastest growing states in India. The gross state domestic product (GSDP) grew at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10.2 per cent between 2004-05 and 2014-15. Its per capita GSDP is estimated at US\$ 2,008.5 during 2014-15 compared with the national per capita GDP of US\$ 1,389.61.

As of January 2016, Himachal Pradesh had a total installed power generation capacity of 4,424.3 megawatt. With a hydro power potential of 27,436 megawatt (MW) (of which just 9,433 MW has been harnessed), Himachal Pradesh accounts for 25.9 per cent of the country's total hydro power potential. The state also boasts of a high level of village electrification; about 17,484 of 17,495 villages had been electrified by the end of May 2015. The state has also attracted investments in other sectors including in pharmaceuticals, IT and engineering industries.

The State Government of Himachal Pradesh offers a wide range of policy and fiscal incentives for businesses under the Industrial Policy, 2013. The state has also undertaken other policies such as Tourism Policy 2005 and IT Policy 2001 for upgradation of these sectors in the state. Himachal Pradesh has announced a Revised Solar Policy 2016 under which it plans to establish 700 MW of solar photovoltaic cell capacity.

Courtesy://www.ibef.org

FACTFILE

Capital: Shimla

Geographical Area (sq km):
55,673

State Language: Hindi and
Pahari

Literacy Rate: 82.8 per cent

Key Industries: Textiles,
pharmaceuticals, food
procurement and processing, light
engineering, IT and electronics,
cement, tourism and hydropower

Economic Snapshot: GSDP of Himachal Pradesh

Himachal Pradesh's gross state domestic product (GSDP) was US\$ 14.4 billion over 2014-15.



Source: TechSci Estimates based on 'Advanced Estimates' provided by Directorate of Economics and Statistics of Himachal Pradesh

I. Trade Fairs & Business Exhibitions in India from November 2016 – January 2017

SN	Event	Organizer	Product Profile
1	9th Urban Mobility India Conference cum Exhibition November 08-11, 2016	Institute of Urban Transport (India) http://www.urbanmobilityindia.in/Index.aspx	International Conference and Exhibition for Urban Transport Technology and Systems
2	Aeromart Summit India 2016 November 8-10, 2016	BCI Aerospace http://www.bciaerospace.com/index.php?lang=en	International Congress for the Aerospace and Defense Industries
3	Biofach India November 10-12, 2016	NürnbergMesse India Pvt. Ltd. http://biofach-india.com/en	International Organic Trade Fair
4	BioPharma India 2016 November 15-16, 2016	Terrapinn http://www.terrapinn.com/conference/biopharma-india/index.stm	International Conference and Exhibition on Biopharma Industry
5	12th edition of Agro Tech 2016 November 19-22, 2016	The Confederation of Indian Industry http://cii.in/Events.aspx	International B2B trade fair on Agriculture & Agro technology.
6	CPHI India November 21-23, 2016	UBM India http://www.cphi.com/india/	International Exhibition on Pharmaceutical Ingredients and Intermediates
7	7th Plastshow Ahmedabad 2016 November 26-29, 2016	Radeecal Communications http://www.plastshowindia.com	International Conference & Exhibition on Plastic Processing Industry
8	WIN – World of Industry December 1-3, 2016	Hannover Messe Co-hosted by Department of Heavy Industry http://www.win-india.com	International Trade Fair on Hydraulics & Pneumatics, Electro-Mechanical Transmission & Industrial Automation
9	LED Expo December 2-4, 2016	Messe Frankfurt Trade Fairs India Pvt. Ltd. http://led-expo-newdelhi.in.messefrankfurt.com/newdelhi/en/exhibitors/welcome.html	International Trade Fair on LED Products and Technology
10	INDIA ITME 2016 December 3-8, 2016	India ITME Society http://itme2016.india-itme.com	International Trade Fair for Textile Machinery
11	Petrotech 2016 December 5-7, 2016	Indian Oil Corporation http://www.petrotech.in	International Exhibition and Conference on Petrochemicals
12	IFSEC India 2016 December 8-10, 2016	UBM India http://www.ifsec.events/india/	International Trade Fair on Security and Fire Safety
13	ZAK Doors & Windows Expo 2016	Zak Trade Fairs & Exhibitions Pvt. Ltd. http://www.zakdoorsandwindows.com/ind	International Trade Fair on Doors, Windows, Facades, Technologies,

	December 9-11, 2016	ex.html	Components & Products
14	29th Industrial India Trade Fair December 23, 2016 – January 01, 2017	Bengal National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (BNCCI) http://www.indiatradefair.org/index.html	International Industrial Exhibition
15	Travel & Tourism Fair Chennai January 06-08, 2016	First Media Limited http://www.ttfotm.com	International Trade Fair for Travel and Tourism
16	Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2017 January 10-13, 2017	Industrial Extension Bureau (iNDEXTb) http://www.vibrantgujarat.com/index.htm	International Industry Exhibition
17	Energy Storage India January 11-13, 2017	Messe Düsseldorf India Pvt. Ltd http://www.esiexpo.in	International Trade Fair for Production and Storage of Renewable Energy
18	Travel & Tourism Fair Bengaluru January 13-15, 2016	First Media Limited http://www.ttfotm.com	International Trade Fair for Travel and Tourism
19	India International Tea & Coffee Expo Kolkata January 13-15, 2017	India International Tea & Coffee Expo http://www.teacoffeeexpo.in	International Tea and Coffee Trade Fair
20	India Rubber Expo 2017 January 19-21, 2017	All India Rubber Industries Association http://indiarubberexpo.in	International Exhibition and Conference on Rubber Technology, Machineries
21	Bengal Global Business Summit January 20-21, 2017	West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Limited http://www.bengalglobalsummit.com/index.php	International Business Summit
22	Acetech January 20-22, 2017	The Economic Times Acetech Secretariat http://www.etacetech.com/index.html	International Trade Fair for Architecture, Building Materials, Innovation and Design
23	Tooltech January 26 – February 1, 2016	Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association http://www.imtex.in	International Trade Fair for Tooling Technology

Trade Queries from India

SN	Company Name	Commercial Interest
1.	Mr. Vishal Gwala M/s Vishal Gwala Enterprises vg_exim9999@yahoo.com Mobile no. +917415710277 E-mail :vg_exim9999@gmail.com	Soya Beans
2.	Mr. Arun K. TAR Marketing Pvt Ltd. Sanmach Executive Center, Mount Road, Teynampet, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India arun.k@tarmarketingservices.com Tel No. 91-97899290878	Kitchen Equipment
3.	M/s. PRIME KITCHEN EQUIPMENTS (INDIA) PVT. LTD. Unit No.201/202, 2nd Floor, B-Wing, Shree Annapurna Society, Nr. Oshiwara Junction, New Link Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai - 400 053, India. sales@primekitchen.in Tel.: 91-22- 4264 9061/62/63, Fax: 91-22-4264 9064 Email: sales@primekitchen.in	Kitchen Equipment
4.	(Ms.) Mansi Sharma Apex International 2-C, Tilak Bhawan, Tilak Marg, C-scheme Jaipur-302005 INDIA Web: www.apexherbex.com ; www.apexherbex.net ; www.senna-india.com Email: sales@apexherbex.com ; sales@senna-india.com ; sharma@apexherbex.com PH +91-141-4029037, 2225577	Medicinal Herbs
5.	Mr. Vinay, Vinay Exports Madurai/Tamilnadu/India. vinayexports09@gmail.com	Home Textile
6.	Mr. Praveen M/s Praveen Exim Indpik@gmail.com Ph. 91-9176-433-125	Vegetables and Fruits
7.	Mr. D. Karthikeyan Director Navadhane Agro Foods Pvt. Ltd Regi Office: Pl No.2, 4th Crs St, CBI Officers Colony, Sri Baba Nagar, Medavakkam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India, Pin Code-600100 Branch Office: D.No.LIG 49, AP Housing Board Colony, Tada, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh, India, Pin Code-524401 navadhanegroup@gmail.com info@navadhane.com & navadhanegroup@gmail.com www.navadhane.com Ph: +91-44-26532642 +91-9444831521	rice, spices, herbs, tea and all agro products
8.	Mrs. Dr. C. Sumathi M/s OSIS Corporation 25, Perumalpuram Main Road, Tirunelveli City, Tamilnadu, India osiscorporation@gmail.com	Coco peat and herbal comp.
9.	Mr. Arun Kumar	Coconut, peanut ground nuts

	<p>M/S Jak Enterprises B-15, Birds street, Block-12, Neyveli-607803, T.N, India jakenterprises@gmail.com Mobile : 91-9841202218, 91-9600662218 Email-id : jakenterprisesworld@gmail.com</p>	
10.	<p>Mr. Sumeet Agrawal M/s GREEN MILLER Greenmiller Corporation 82, Ashok Nagar, Indore 452 001 India sumeet@greenmiller.com Ph: 91-731-6517227 Mobile : 91 – 9826477227 Skype : sumeetagrwal</p>	spices and agro products
11.	<p>Mr. Arun K. M/s TAR Marketing Pvt Ltd. Sanmach executive center, No. 329(old no.244), Mount road, Teynampet, Chennai, Tamil nadu, India, Pin -600006. Tel: 91 9789929088 arun.k@tarmarketingservices.com</p>	Indian Spices, Nuts, Rice, Dry Fruits Textile products, Indian Handicraft products
12.	<p>Mr. G.K.Manipillai M/s G.K.M.Exports gkmexport30@gmail.com</p>	Natural indigo powder
13.	<p>Mr. Shreyansh Gadia M/s GADIA STONEX Kishangarh, Rajasthan, India. Mob: +91 7737651494, +91 9829880835, +91 9414280835 gadia.stonex@gmail.com www.indiamart.com/gadia-stonex https://www.facebook.com/groups/gadia.stonex/</p>	Welding Consumables and India Natural Stones.
14.	<p>Mr. Sourabh Mishra M/s TAWAR ENTERPRISES 12, Nasia Road, Near Serwate Bus Stnd, Indore, Madhya Pradesh 452001, India. Sales@tawarexim.com Sourabh@tawarexim.com info@tawarexim.com www.tawarxim.com</p>	Dehydrated Products, Spray Dried Products, Fresh Vegetables & Fruits, Wire & Cables, Submersible Pumps & Motors, Wheat Flour, Basmati & Non- Basmati Rice, Seeds & Seed's Oil, Pure Natural Honey Etc.
15.	<p>Mr. Chetan Borad Mr. Anil Maheshwary M/s BIG FLY HYGIENE PRODUCTS LIMITED. Opp. Marwadi Finance, Nr. Silver Heights, Nana Mava Main Road, Rajkot-360005, Gujarat, India. info@bigflyhygiene.com www.bigflyhygiene.com</p>	Natural Sesame Seeds, Wheat, Cumin Seeds, Dry Whole Chilli, Mustard, Coriander, Fennel, Nigella, Turmeric, Fenugreek and other Powder Spices.
16.	<p>Mr. Gaurav Verma M/s EARTH STONE GLOBAL C-247, Krishna Marg, Malviya Nagar, Jaipur(RAJ.) India-302017 Tel: +91-141-4003799, +91-141-4046399, Fax: +91-141-4002399 customercare@earthstoneglobal.co.in www.earthstoneglobal.co.in</p>	Natural stones
17.	<p>Mr. H. Simson Jeyanand Madurai, TamilNadu, India. simsonjeyanand@gmail.com</p>	Granite

Photo Gallery



1. Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy met Chairman of the Nippon Foundation and WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination, Mr. Yohei Sasakawa



2. Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy and Ambassador of Afghanistan H.E. Dr. Sayed Mohammad Amin Fatimie met Ambassador H.E. Tsukasa Uemura, Director-General of Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau, MOFA with a joint invitation to Heart of Asia Conference



3. Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy in celebrations of Dusseera



4. Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy Sujan Chinoy and Mrs Vidya Chinoy with maestro Zubin Mehta and Mrs. Mehta



5. Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy in Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations



6. Ambassador H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy inaugurates Diwali in Yokohama

One of the very important characteristics of a student is to question. Let the students ask questions. – Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam