

# INDIA BULLETIN

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सत्यमेव जयते

CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA

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*Season's Greetings from Consulate General of India - Perth*

*Wishing you all a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2021!*

अद्भुत भारत  
Incredible India

INDIA BULLETIN | CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA



## Economy:

### India only major country set to achieve targets of Paris Agreement: PM Modi



India is the only major country which is moving in the right direction to achieve the targets of the Paris Agreement, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi while adding that India is leading the world in environmental protection through international solar alliance. "Our country is spreading the message emanating from Visva-Bharati to the whole world. India today is leading the world in environmental protection through international solar alliance. India is the only country today which is on the right path to achieve the Paris Accord's environmental goals," said PM Modi during his address.

Read More:

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/renewable/india-only-major-country-set-to-achieve-targets-of-paris-agreement-pm-modi/79940761>

### Govt fully committed to 'reform, perform and transform'. No sector left out from reforms: PM Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the Indian diaspora across the world has put their faith in resurgent India while addressing the IIT 2020 Global Summit. He said, "Indian diaspora across the world have put their faith in resurgent India. They became ambassadors of a new India." The prime minister also highlighted how India used the pandemic as an opportunity to rethink its ways of doing business and referring to how India managed to attract investment during Covid-19.

Read More:

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/govt-fully-committed-to-reform-perform-and-transform-no-sector-left-out-from-reforms-pm-modi/story-DFJFQWytF2UxHZXIakE0sN.html>

### Leadership Lessons from Narendra Modi

There's an interesting public health study published by the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) on 'Lessons learned from the 1918-1919 influenza pandemic in Minneapolis and St Paul, Minnesota' that resonates, at multiple levels, with the measures taken by the Modi Government in the wake of the Covid pandemic, the biggest in a century. A century later, in India on March 24th, when Modi announced the politically risky decision to impose a countrywide lockdown, not much was known about the nature of the spread of the virus. Governments of countries reacted with shock and awe initially but had to grudgingly accept later that this was a bold and imperative decision for a nation of over 1.3 billion people.

Read More:

[https://openthemagazine.com/cover-stories/leadership-lessons-from-narendra-modi/?fbclid=IwAR0Wfo\\_vtG-NdncJDZtz6eyW1T5XcLpaNOWcQH-FShN4Fo9lcNdEA8i4kKo](https://openthemagazine.com/cover-stories/leadership-lessons-from-narendra-modi/?fbclid=IwAR0Wfo_vtG-NdncJDZtz6eyW1T5XcLpaNOWcQH-FShN4Fo9lcNdEA8i4kKo)

### President Trump presents Legion of Merit to Prime Minister Narendra Modi



The US President presented the prestigious Legion of Merit to PM Narendra Modi for his leadership in elevating strategic partnership of the two countries and emergence of India as a global power.

Read more:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/president-trump-presents-legion-of-merit-to-prime-minister-narendra-modi/articleshow/79849468.cms>



## India-Australia taking bilateral trade, cybersecurity & AI inter alia, to new heights



Australia and India plan to take their bilateral ties to newer heights by working together in frontier technologies, as quoted by Australian PM Scott Morrison at the Bengaluru Tech Summit. Bengaluru, the biggest technology cluster in India, and the 4th largest in the world, is home to India's technology professionals and to at least 25 Australian companies as well. These Australian companies have employed thousands of professionals in Bengaluru and Indian companies are also growing their footprints in Australia, PM Morrison said.

Read More:

<http://indbiz.gov.in/india-australia-taking-bilateral-trade-cybersecurity-ai-inter-alia-to-new-heights/>

## India on track to become US\$5 trillion economy by 2025: Piyush Goyal at The CII Partnership Summit 2020

"India has focused on reforms in 4 key areas for facilitating growth- capital, labour, land and removing barriers for new businesses". "Our intent is bold; ambition is large, and actions are focused. We aim not only to grow sustainably at high levels, but also achieve the target of becoming a US\$5 trillion economy by 2025."

Read More:

<https://indiaeducationdiary.in/india-on-track-to-become-us5-trillion-economy-by-2025-piyush-goyal-at-the-partnership-summit-2020/>

## CIM launches Australia Economic Strategy report



"India's opening up of engagement and activities with Australia is a great morale booster for the entire world, especially during the current crisis," stated Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry and Railways, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, on the occasion of the launch of "Enhancing India Australia Bilateral Economic and Trade Relationship".

Read More:

<https://www.cii.in/PressreleasesDetail.aspx?enc=cadAuP8ZcM0s4Oifa0cObwXKC+V+fbxe8JiOSVHEza6veSaAASsELGXVJS8TCxS5qrCYIRsC8ZW+sowlpphanha5R6fEgrCHbhRRPuNISeAxqaBRGe9qJPCmNnNifcvUvk5pzluwrMiluW3WKAb6PL4rzIHe5YdGTYSpng377oY=>

## Lowy Institute event: In conversation with India's External Affairs Minister Dr Subrahmanyam Jaishankar

Lowy Institute Executive Director Dr Michael Fullilove chair conversation with EAM with range of topics such as India's place in the world, its relations with China, the impact of COVID-19, and the India-Australia connection. "The world is not going to carry on with business as usual," Dr Jaishankar recently observed. "Those with a more self-centered view of world politics will have to come to terms with the needs of the day."

Read More:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BA52q7LWQSA>



## Foreign Minister S Jaishankar Speaks to Australian Counterpart Marise Payne



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar spoke to his Australian counterpart Marise Payne, covering various regional and global developments and "current concerns". On her part Ms Payne described the virtual conversation as "valuable".

Read More:

<https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/foreign-minister-s-jaishankar-speaks-to-australian-counterpart-marise-payne-2332811>

## FDI equity inflows into India cross \$500 billion milestone



Foreign direct investment (FDI) equity inflows into India crossed the USD 500 billion milestone during April 2000 to September 2020 period, firmly establishing the country's credentials as a safe and key investment destination in the world. According to the data of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), the inflows during the period stood at USD 500.12 billion. About 29 per cent of the FDI came through the Mauritius route. Singapore (21 per cent), the US, the Netherlands, Japan (each 7 per cent), and the UK (6 per cent).

Read more:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/markets/stocks/news/fdi-equity-inflows-into-india-cross-500-billion-milestone/articleshow/79589698.cms>

## EAM S Jaishankar launches economic diplomacy website

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has launched economic diplomacy website which will showcase India's economic, sectoral, and state-wise strengths. The website positions a multidimensional and dynamic Brand India to the global business community through a specific focus on government's ease of doing business initiatives, policy reforms and incentives aimed at attracting foreign investment. It is in line with Prime Minister's vision of doubling farmers' income by 2022, the website highlights opportunities for the country's agriculture exports abroad.

To Read:

<http://newsonair.com/News?title=EAM-S-Jaishankar-launches-economic-diplomacy-website&id=406226>

## UN declares 'Invest India' winner of Investment Promotion Award 2020



The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has declared 'Invest India' as winner of the United Nations Investment Promotion Award 2020. The award recognizes the outstanding achievements of the world's investment promotion agencies.

Read More:

<https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/un-declares-invest-india-winner-of-investment-promotion-award-2020/2145189/>



## Investments:

### Ola to invest Rs. 2,400 crores for 'world's largest' e-scooter factory

The firm expects to make India an electric vehicle manufacturing center. A memorandum of understanding for this facility with the Tamil Nadu government has been signed by Ola. The factory would produce nearly 10,000 jobs upon completion. It will be the largest scooter production facility in the world and will potentially have a total annual capacity of 2 million units.

Read More:

<https://www.ibef.org/news/ola-to-invest-rs-2400-crore-for-worlds-largest-escooter-factory>

### Samsung to invest Rs 4,825 cr in India; to move display production unit from China

South Korean smartphone giant Samsung will make an investment of Rs 4,825 crore in India. The company will relocate its mobile and IT display production unit from China to Uttar Pradesh, a UP government's spokesperson said. He added that this is the first high-technique project of the multinational major that is being set up in India.

Read More:

<https://www.businesstoday.in/current/economy-politics/samsung-to-invest-rs-4825-cr-in-india-to-move-display-production-unit-from-china/story/424689.html>

### Hindustan Foods unit to invest US\$ 16.91 million to set up facility in north India

FMCG company Hindustan Foods said its subsidiary would invest Rs. 125 crores (US\$ 16.91 million) to set up a manufacturing facility in northern India as part of its objective to more than double its revenue to Rs. 2,000 crores (US\$ 270.52 million) by fiscal year 2021-22.

Read More:

<http://www.businessworld.in/article/Hindustan-Foods-Unit-To-Invest-Rs-125-Crore-To-Set-Up-Manufacturing-Facility-In-North-India/22-12-2020-356809/>

## Export / import:

### Export demand improving: GJEPC



The Gem and Jewelry Export Promotion Council of India said that if the current rate continues, total shipments are projected to hit about Rs. 1.6 lakh crore (US\$ 20-21 billion) in this financial year with improvement in export market conditions.

Read more:

<https://newindialife.com/gem-jewellery-shipments-may-reach-rs-1-6-lakh-crore-in-fy21-as-export-demand-improves-gjepc/>

### India ships record 21 million smartphones in October



India shipped 21 million smartphones in October, making it the highest ever shipments for the month and second highest in a single month in calendar year 2020, according to International Data Corporation (IDC).

Read More:

<https://www.livemint.com/technology/gadgets/india-ships-record-21-million-smartphones-in-october-idc-11608198876488.html>

## Agriculture:

### An intellectual biography of India's new farm laws



A comprehensive guide to the history of India's agriculture policy in the context of the recently enacted Farm Laws. The three laws that have been enacted by Parliament attempt to take farmers towards harvesting economic gains; they have thus far been held back by outdated laws, manipulated markets and vested interests-driven corruption. This is aside from macro-factors, such as India moving away from food shortages into an era of surpluses.

Read More:

<https://www.orfonline.org/research/intellectual-biography-india-new-farm-laws/?fbclid=IwAR1ryfM-aFXjYtPOzcl3tentEnpDKse5iel6cwh0vFNTQ-mc3mk49W5895M>

## Renewables:

### PM Modi lays foundation of India's largest renewable energy park in Gujarat

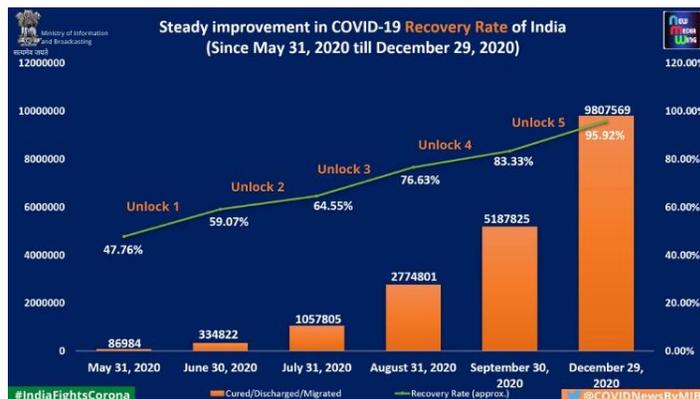
PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation of India's largest hybrid renewable energy park having 30 GW capacity at Vighakot village in Kutch, Gujarat. The park will be constructed on 72,600 hectares of land, the size of Singapore. He said that the plant would provide employment to about one lakh individuals and would reduce its carbon dioxide emissions by up to 50 million tonnes per year which is equivalent to planting 90 million trees.

Read More:

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/renewable/pm-modi-lays-foundation-of-indias-largest-renewable-energy-park-in-gujarat/79742469>

## Health:

### India's COVID19 recovery rate improves to 95.92%



### Health ministry's telemedicine service eSanjeevani records 1 million teleconsultations



India has crossed a landmark milestone in its eHealth journey. eSanjeevani telemedicine service of the Health Ministry has crossed 1 million (10 lakh) tele-consultations today. Telemedicine entails delivery of health services from a distance using internet and it not only extends the reach of health services but also improves quality of health services besides saving time and money. The roll out of eSanjeevani in India is supposedly the first of its kind of digital transformation in the delivery of health services at national scale by a developing country.

Read More:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/health-ministries-telemedicine-service-esanjeevani-records-1-million-teleconsultations/articleshow/79721625.cms?from=mdr>



## Technology / Digital India / e-commerce:

### EY to hire 9,000 professionals in India in 2021 in various technology roles



EY, a global professional services organization said it would induct 9,000 new hires in India in various technology roles in calendar 2021. These hires would be from the STEM background and in areas including artificial intelligence, machine learning, cybersecurity, analytics, and other emerging technologies.

Read More:

<https://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/ey-to-hire-9000-professionals-in-2021-in-various-technology-roles/article33411707.ece>

### Mahindra Logistics teams up with 1Bridge for last-mile delivery

Mahindra Logistics has teamed up with Bengaluru-based social enterprise and largest village commerce network, 1Bridge, for last mile delivery in the rural parts of the country. Mahindra Logistics has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with 1Bridge. Under the tie-up, over the next three years, the two partners look to build last-mile delivery capability covering over 1,00,000 villages in the country.

Read More:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/roadways/mahindra-logistics-teams-up-with-1bridge-for-last-mile-delivery/articleshow/79916123.cms?from=mdr>

### India public cloud services market to touch US\$ 7.4 billion by 2024: IDC

India's public cloud services (PCS) market is projected to reach US\$ 7.4 billion by 2024 at a CAGR of 22.2%, research firm IDC said. In the first half of 2020, India's PCS segment, comprising infrastructure-as-a-service (IaaS), platform-as-a-service (PaaS) solutions and software-as-a-service (SaaS), reached US\$ 1.6 billion. IDC said spending continues to strengthen with the top two cloud providers, securing approximately 52% of the Indian market for public cloud services in the first half of 2020.

Read More:

<https://www.ibef.org/news/india-public-cloud-services-market-to-touch-us-74-billion-by-2024-idc>

### Paytm Payments Gateway aims to facilitate US\$ 811.55 million worth of transactions next year

Paytm Payments Gateway (PPG) stated that it is collaborating with mobile phone and DTH retailers to make cashless payments from telecom and satellite television service distributors for bulk recharge purchases and aims to facilitate Rs. 6,000 crore (US\$ 811.55 million) worth of company volume transactions next year.

Read More:

<https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/paytm-payments-gateway-aims-to-facilitate-rs-6000-cr-worth-of-transactions-next-year/2155309/>

### Google invests in two Indian startups

Google announced that it had invested in two Indian startups, Glance and VerSe Innovation, as part of its US\$ 10 billion Google for India Digitization Fund, to empower them further expand the availability of content in various formats across multiple Indian languages. Google was involved in Glance's US\$ 145 million (~Rs. 1,071.5 crore) and VerSe Innovation's US\$ 100 million (~Rs. 739 crore).

Read More:

<https://www.ibef.org/news/google-invests-in-two-indian-startups>



### **India's watch time jumped 45% in July 2020 versus same time last year, says YouTube**

YouTube said that in July 2020, watching time on the platform in India jumped 45% compared to the same period last year with regional language content being among the biggest determinants of this development. Compared to July 2019, YouTube watch time has increased 45% in July 2020 with regional language content being one of the strongest drivers of this development. 93% of YouTube viewers choose to watch content in regional languages, according to the September 2019 Google/Kantar Video Landscape Study.

Read More:

<https://www.ibef.org/news/indias-watch-time-jumped-45-in-july-2020-versus-same-time-last-year-says-youtube>

### **Amazon and CII join hands to bolster export of MSMEs**

Amazon India along with the country's prime industry body, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) aims to bolster the export of MSMEs through training and educating MSMEs on building and surmounting both national and international markets through technology and e-commerce adoption.

Read More:

<http://indbiz.gov.in/amazon-and-cii-join-hands-to-bolster-export-of-msmes/>

### **Audio streaming grows 40% in India in 2020**

The regional language music which now contributes 39% of all streams, is up from 33% from previous years, across services, and the lockdown also saw growth personalized playlists such as cleaning, home workouts, kids' content, and cooking. India witnessed growth in audio streaming platforms of nearly 40% in 2020.

Read More:

<https://www.ibef.org/news/audio-streaming-grows-40-in-india-in-2020>

### **AI alone can add US\$ 500 billion to economy: Google India**



Google India said that artificial intelligence itself could add US\$ 500 billion to the economy and help to better predict floods and diagnose diseases accurately. It has allocated US\$ 10 bn to extend India's digital footprint.

Read More:

<https://www.ibef.org/news/artificial-intelligence-alone-can-add-us-500-billion-to-economy-google-india>

### **Indian SaaS startups to capture 7-9% global market share by 2022**



Indian software as a service (SaaS) companies are poised to reach \$18-20 billion in revenue and capture 7-9% share of the global SaaS market by 2022, as they build new capabilities to drive the next wave of growth, with strong covid tailwinds driving collaboration and productivity tools and remote working pushing enterprises towards digital channels.

Read More:

<https://www.livemint.com/companies/start-ups/indian-saas-startups-to-capture-7-9-global-market-share-by-2022-bain-11606792009077.html>



## Engineering & Construction:

### L&T prints India's first 3D ground-plus-one building in TN's Kancheepuram



India's first 3D printed ground plus one-floor building with reinforcement has been constructed in Kanchipuram. The 3D printed building, a Ground plus one-floor building of 700 square feet built-up area, is constructed at Larsen and Toubro's Kanchipuram facility with a special, in-house developed concrete mix using indigenously available regular construction materials.

Read More:

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2020/dec/24/lt-prints-indias-first-3d-ground-plus-one-building-in-tns-kancheepuram-2240654.html>

### India Will Produce Cheapest Electricity From Renewable Sources: Gautam Adani

Gautam Adani said India is at a dramatic inflexion point from where its economy will grow to ten times by 2050 with the nation having several trillion-dollar companies and cheapest power from renewable energy. In his talk on 'Incredible India and the opportunities ahead for India' at the TiE Global Summit, Adani saw India's GDP rising to \$28 trillion by 2050 from the current \$2.8 trillion, stock market valuation swelling to \$30 trillion and a \$10 trillion retail market.

Read More:

<https://www.bloombergquint.com/business/india-will-produce-cheapest-electricity-from-renewable-sources-gautam-adani>

## Manufacturing:

### 'Electronics manufacturing will contribute \$1 trillion by 2025'

Domestic manufacturing of electronic gadgets, including mobile phones and components, televisions, and laptops, is expected to contribute one-fifth to India's economy by 2025, communications, electronics and information technology (IT) minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said. The government has set a target of manufacturing one billion mobile phones, 50 million televisions and 50 million hardware devices such as laptops and tablets by 2025

Read More:

<https://www.livemint.com/news/india/govt-sees-electronics-manufacturing-contributing-one-fifth-to-economy-by-2025-11608288599559.html>

### India will soon become manufacturing hub of space assets: PM Modi



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with key industries, startups and academia from the space sector and expressed that India will soon become a manufacturing hub of space assets. The Prime Minister noted that the professionalism and transparency in policies, as well as the decision-making process of the government, will prove beneficial for the companies joining the space sector.

Read More:

<https://zeenews.india.com/india/india-will-soon-become-manufacturing-hub-of-space-assets-says-pm-narendra-modi-2330816.html>



## Automobile:

**Electric vehicle market in India expected to hit 63 lakh units per annum mark by 2027: IESA**



According to a report by India Energy Storage Alliance, the electric vehicle (EV) segment in India is anticipated to reach 63 lakh per unit mark per year by 2027. 'The EV market is expected to expand at a CAGR of 44% between 2020 and 2027 and is forecasted to touch 6.34 million units of annual sales by 2027,' the IESA report said. The estimated potential of the battery industry in 2019 is US\$ 580 million and is expected to increase to US\$ 14.9 billion by 2027.

Read More:

<https://www.ibef.org/news/electric-vehicle-market-in-india-expected-to-hit-63-lakh-units-per-annum-mark-by-2027-iesa>

## Space:

**Isro launches India's 42nd communication satellite CMS-01**

The Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) on Thursday afternoon launched the country's 42nd communication satellite named CMS-01. The CMS-01 is envisaged to provide services in the Extended-C Band of the frequency spectrum whose coverage will include the Indian mainland, Andaman-Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands, according to news agency ANI. The satellite will be the first in a new series of communication satellites by India after the GSAT and INSAT series.

Read More:

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/isro-launches-india-s-42nd-communication-satellite-cms-01/story-USMAcN7NWpx5G8w25QJs3O.html>

## Tourism:

**International Blue Flag hoisted at 8 beaches across the Country.**



Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar virtually hoisted the international blue flags in 8 beaches across the country. India secured the International Blue Flag Certification for these beaches on 6th October 2020, when an International Jury comprising of member organizations UNEP, UNWTO, UNESCO, IUCN, ILS, FEE etc. announced the award at Copenhagen, Denmark. Blue Flag certification is a globally recognized eco-label accorded by the "Foundation for Environment Education in Denmark" based on 33 stringent criteria.

Read More:

<https://www.punekarnews.in/international-blue-flag-hoisted-at-8-beaches-across-the-country/>

## Education:

**India and UK to strengthen education collaboration**

India and UK have agreed to set up a joint Task Force consisting of designated higher education organizations from both countries to work towards mutual recognition of academic qualifications. The composition of the Task Force and its modalities are to be decided at official levels. Both sides expressed hope and confidence that they would further enhance mutual engagement in the field of education, research and innovation, leading to deeper and stronger bilateral relations.

Read more:

<https://www.ibef.org/news/india-and-uk-to-strengthen-education-collaboration>

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