

#### Consulate General of India Perth

# India Bulletin March 2023



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India, Australia for early conclusion of pact on market access



Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and his Australian counterpart Don Farrell convened the India-Australia Joint Ministerial Commission on Saturday and discussed negotiations for a full-scale free trade pact and steps to spur investment flows into both countries.

Read More:

https://tinyurl.com/3ffykn2v

Australian CEOs should follow these three rules to succeed in India.



Prime Minister Albanese has attended a roundtable with CEOs and business leaders from Australia and India to discuss new trade opportunities under the Australia-India Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA), and future areas of growth for trade and investment.

Read More:

https://tinyurl.com/y27v949f

India to auction newly found lithium reserve -Pralhad Joshi

India has achieved clean energy targets nine years ahead of schedule Power Minister R.K. Singh said at the Sydney Energy Forum in Sydney, Australia.

Govt successfully bids out 29 Coal

blocks for commercial mining.

Read More:

https://tinyurl.com/bdm72het

India's northern federal territory of Jammu and Kashmir will auction a lithium block discovered last month. The block, with estimated reserves of 5.9 million tonnes, is the first known lithium reserve in the country.

Read More:

https://tinyurl.com/yckvj4hj

#### 1st India - Australia Annual Summit

At the invitation of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of Australia the Hon'ble Anthony Albanese MP, paid a State Visit to India from 8 to 11 March 2023. Prime Minister Albanese was accompanied by Minister for Trade and Tourism, Senator the Hon'ble Don Farrell, Minister for Resources, the Hon'ble Madeleine King MP, a high-level official delegation and a large business delegation. Prime Minister Albanese visited Ahmedabad, Mumbai and New Delhi on his first bilateral visit to India. Reaffirming the strength of the multifaceted bilateral ties that have deepened under the India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership established in June 2020, and based on the foundation of mutual trust, shared democratic values, common interests and strong people-to-people ties, both Prime Ministers held the 1st Annual Summit in New Delhi on 10 March 2023.

Both Prime Ministers expressed satisfaction at the rapid expansion of bilateral relations facilitated by frequent high-level contact and exchange of Ministerial visits, which have further strengthened and deepened cooperation across a diverse range of areas, including political and strategic, defence and security, trade and investment, education and research, agriculture and water, cyber and space, mining and critical minerals, climate change and renewable energy, and mobility of people. Welcoming the sustained momentum in bilateral and multilateral cooperation, the Prime Ministers agreed that the India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership was beneficial not only for both countries but also for an open, inclusive, stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific, where the rules-based international order is upheld.

Read More:

https://www.hcicanberra.gov.in/news\_letter\_detail/?id=100

Education deal between India - Australia

A qualifications recognition agreement between Australia and India to streamline education and career pathways was announced as a delegation of Australian education leaders visited the country. Deakin University plans to open a full International Branch Campus at GIFT City in India, joining University of Wollongong Australia which announced a teaching location in 2022.

Read More:

https://tinyurl.com/5n7jz8a7

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Growth with India is 'enormous': Resources Minister Madeleine King



Australia's supply of critical minerals to India will be a key aspect of realizing the "enormous" potential of the trade relationship between the two nations. The Australian Resources Minister Madeleine King said the country of 1.4 billion people presented a "remarkable opportunity" for Australia, which could make use of its "natural endowment" to work with likeminded partners. "The growth potential of our trade relationship with India is enormous". "India is a vast, vibrant democracy ... so a natural fit when it comes to working together on the extraction and processing of critical minerals." Critical minerals, including lithium, will be vital to decarbonizing economies and helping them meet ambitious climate targets.

#### Read More:

https://www.theleader.com.au/story/8117698/growth-with-india-is-enormous-resources-minister/

India's overall exports is projected to grow at 16.18% during April-February 2022-23 over the same period last year (April-February 2021-22), with one month remaining in the current financial year.

India's total exports (including both goods and services) are anticipated to reach US\$ 63.02 billion in February 2023, representing a gain of 7.81% over the same period last year. The estimated value of all imports in February 2023 is US\$ 65.85 billion.

Merchandise exports were US\$ 405.94 billion in April-February 2022-23, up from US\$ 377.43 billion in April-February 2021-22. The expected value of services exported in February 2023\* is US\$ 29.15 billion, up from US\$ 21.30 billion in February 2022. The expected value of services exported in April-February 2022-23 is US\$ 296.94 billion, up from US\$ 227.58 billion in April-February 2021-22.

#### Read More:

https://tinyurl.com/uddbsd8v

India's strides in building next-gen digital infrastructure.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi had a "fruitful meeting" with Nokia CEO Pekka Lundmark during which they discussed India's strides in building next-generation digital infrastructure. In a tweet, Lundmark said it was a privilege to meet Prime Minister Modi and discuss how Nokia is contributing to India's 5G journey and next phase of digital transformation, and also how the firm intends to support India's 6G ambitions.

#### Read More:

https://tinyurl.com/48eemuy2

#### Major achievements of Indian Railways in FY 2022-23



During FY 22-23, Indian Railways achieves record Freight loading of 1512 MT, record electrification of 6542 RKMs, record new lines 5243 Kms, highest ever scrap sale was achieved.

Read More:

 $\underline{https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1913104}$ 

## The Reserve Bank of India says 7% GDP growth achievable next fiscal.

India can achieve a growth of 7% in its real gross domestic product (GDP) in the next financial year, aided by the measures taken by the Centre in the Union Budget, the Reserve Bank of India said in its monthly bulletin. The projection is higher than the 6.4% GDP growth estimated by the RBI. The saving on taxes (from the rejig of the exemption-free income tax regime) will boost spending by households on consumption, leading to a 15 basis points (bps) boost to the growth.

#### Read More:

https://www.financialexpress.com/economy/rbi-says-7-gdp-growth-achievable-next-fiscal/2985092/

India's overall exports cross an all-time high of US\$ 750 Billion in the 75th year of independence: Mr. Piyush Goyal



Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Piyush Goyal announced that the country's merchandise and services exports are expected to exceed US\$ 760 billion in the current fiscal year, ending March 31, 2023. Despite the global economic downturn, rising inflation, and high-interest rates, India is doing well.

Read More:

https://tinvurl.com/5n6eb9f6

Indian tech sector to grow 8.4% in FY23 to \$245 billion: Nasscom.



The Indian technology sector is set to grow 8.4% in FY2023 to hit \$245 billion in size, as per IT industry body Nasscom. The sector saw revenues of \$226 billion in FY2022, the industry body said in its Strategic Review 2023 presented on the sidelines of Nasscom Technology Leadership Forum (NTLF 2023).

Read More:

https://tinyurl.com/mxs9tzwm

India to launch its own ChatGPT rival soon-Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw



India can launch its own chatbot similar to ChatGPT at any moment as revealed by Indian Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. Within initial two months of its launch, ChatGPT had more than 100 million users, and as of 2023, it received more than 13 million daily visitors.

Read More:

https://tinyurl.com/3twe6hck

## Indian airports' revenues to rise 26% to US\$ 3.9 billion next fiscal year: CAPA

According to CAPA, aviation an consultancy, the airport operators of India are expected to report a 26% increase in revenues at US\$ 3.9 billion in the next fiscal year. The air passenger traffic for 2023-24, is estimated to be 395 million, which would include both domestic international traffic. In addition, CAPA has forecasted that by FY30, the domestic pax will increase to 700 million passengers and the international airport pax will increase to 160 million passengers.

Read More:

https://tinyurl.com/msvnt9cu

ISRO launches LVM3-M3/Oneweb India-2 Mission.

Indian Space Research Organization's heaviest payload rocket, LVM3 carrying 36 OneWeb satellites onboard took off on March 26 from the second launch pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre. The 43.5-metre-tall vehicle weighs 643 tonne. This is the second mission for Network Access Associates Limited, United Kingdom (OneWeb Group Company) under a commercial agreement with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) to launch 72 satellites to Low-Earth Orbits.

Read More:

https://tinyurl.com/msnx6baw

5G in India to reach 300 million subscribers by March 2025

As per a CRISIL report, the 5G services across India is expected to have around a third of wireless users or about 300 million subscribers by March 2025. This is because Reliance Jio and Airtel are aggressively rolling out their 5G network across the country. It was earlier estimated as 20-25 million as of March 2023. Currently about 30-35% of the 150-170 million smartphones shipped in India on an annual basis are 5G enabled.

Read More:

https://tinyurl.com/3fwr3wp5

International Space Investment India Projects grants now open.



The Australian Space Agency is unlocking opportunities for Australian organisations to collaborate with the Indian space sector. The International Space Investment India Projects (ISI India Projects) grant program is now open for applications. The grant \$20.69 million in funding over 4 financial years (2022-23 to 2025-26).

Read More:

https://www.industry.gov.au/news/international-space-investment-india-projects-grants-now-open

#### **Incredible India Tourism**

#### Buddhism in India: The life and times of the enlightened one

Buddhism is a religion, or dharma that propagates mindful meditation, powerful living- free from materialistic desires and has set an array of approaches, practices, beliefs, art and literature to claim that there's alleviation possible from the pain and suffering inflicted upon mankind.

It encourages people to opt for a "lifestyle" that appreciates life as it is and invites them on self-exploration to learn life teachings through practicing moral principles. Following Buddha's teaching, a person learns to protect himself/herself from all suffering and problems. Buddhism states that the quality of life is not established by external development or progress in materialistic possessions, but instead it's the inner development that assures peace and happiness in life of a person.

One needs to learn about Buddhism core principles and familiarize themselves with the rules stated to accomplish all the stated things. There is so much to understand about this 2500-year-old religion and its remarkable popularity all across the globe. Step on board to reveal its splendor and educate yourself with its wisdom.













For more information visit: https://www.incredibleindia.org/content/incredibleindia/en/destinations/buddhism-in-india.html

# 12-16 October 2023 Autumn

#### Forthcoming Trade Fairs in India







### For Importing Items from India

- https://www.tradeindia.com/
- https://www.indiamart.com/
- https://www.indiantradeportal.in/
- https://indbiz.gov.in/

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's radio broadcast 'Mann Ki Baat' will complete its 100th edition on April 30, 2023.



Tune in: <a href="https://www.narendramodi.in/mann-ki-baat">https://www.narendramodi.in/mann-ki-baat</a>

### Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Celebrations for Month of March 2023













International Women's Day, 03 March 2023



Incredible India Tourism and International Year of Millets promotion stall, 19 March 2023













Vishva Hindi Diwas celebrations & Painting Exhibition celebrating '75 years of living in harmony within multicultural society' presented jointly with Kashmiri Pandits Perth, 24 March 2023



Cricket Tournament in collaboration with Maharashtra Mandal Perth, 27 March 2023.



Theatrical drama "Bunty Ki Aunty" in Hindi & Marathi with Natraj Productions, 31" March & 01 April 2023