



**INDIA NEWSLETTER**

**January 2018**

**Embassy of India  
Milady Horákové 93/60  
Prague 170 00  
Czech Republic**

**[www.eoiprague.in](http://www.eoiprague.in)**

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM INDIA

### 1.1 STATE VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA TO INDIA (FEBRUARY 17 - 23, 2018)

Prime Minister of Canada The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau was on a State visit to India from February 17-23, 2018, at the invitation of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The visit was aimed at further strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries in key areas of mutual interest including trade and investment, energy, science and innovation, higher education, infrastructure development, skill development and space. Cooperation in security and counter-terrorism as well as exchange of views on global and regional issues of mutual interest were also form important components of the visit. India and Canada share a strategic partnership underpinned by the values of democracy, pluralism, equality for all and rule of law. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had paid a bilateral visit to Canada in April 2015.

### 1.2 PM'S BILATERAL MEETINGS ON THE EVE OF ASEAN-INDIA COMMEMORATIVE SUMMIT

On the eve of the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit (AICS) to celebrate 25 years of India-ASEAN partnership, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had separate bilateral meetings with Her Excellency Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor of Myanmar, His Excellency Mr. Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Prime Minister of Vietnam and His Excellency Mr. Rodrigo Roa Duterte, President of the Philippines on Wednesday. Prime Minister welcomed the three leaders to India for participation in the ASEAN-India. During the meeting of Prime Minister Modi with State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi, discussions were held on various issues of mutual interest and ways of further strengthening our bilateral relations, including follow up on key decisions taken during the visit of the



Prime Minister Modi to Myanmar in September 2017. In the meeting with Prime Minister Phuc, the two leaders expressed satisfaction at the growth of bilateral relations between the two countries within the framework of Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, including in the fields of maritime cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region, defence, oil and gas, trade and investment. The leaders agreed that The two

agreements signed during this visit viz., on cooperation in the fields of Information & Broadcasting and on establishment of tracking and data reception station and data processing facility in Vietnam under the ASEAN-India Space.

### 1.3 9TH SESSION OF INDIA-SOUTH AFRICA FOREIGN OFFICE CONSULTATIONS

The 9th Session of India-South Africa Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) took place in New Delhi on January 18. The Indian Delegation was led by Dr. Neena Malhotra, Joint Secretary (East and Southern Africa), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, and the South-African side was led by Ambassador (Prof) Anil Sooklal, Deputy Director General, Asia and Middle-East, Department of International Relations and Cooperations, South African Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



During the meeting, the two sides discussed wide gamut of issues in the overall bilateral relations. They also reviewed the action taken on the decisions emerging from high-level visits between the two countries, and implementations of agreements between India and South Africa. The two sides reviewed the implementation of the decisions of the 9th JMC on areas ranging from Defence, Security Matters, Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation, Arts, Culture, Sports and Recreation, Minerals

and Energy, Communication and Information Technology, Human Resource Development, Consular and Immigration Affairs, Science, Technology and Innovation.

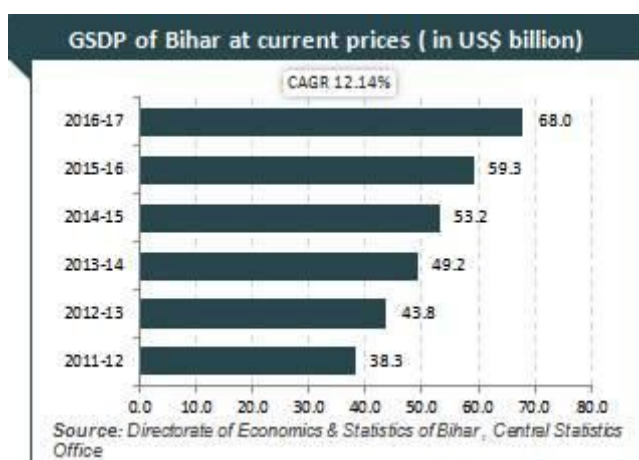
### 1.4 EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER'S MEETING WITH NRI AFFAIRS MINISTERS OF STATES/ UT FOR PROMOTING SAFE AND LEGAL MIGRATION (JANUARY 10, 2018)

Smt. Sushma Swaraj, External Affairs Minister held a meeting with NRI Affairs Ministers of States/UTs on 10 January 2018 in Jawaharlal Nehru Bhawan, New Delhi on the subject of promoting safe and legal migration overseas. The meeting was attended by 12 State Ministers including Chief Minister of Haryana and 31 Senior Officials of 25 States.

At the outset, EAM welcomed the dignitaries and impressed upon the need of curbing the malpractices perpetrated by unregistered Agents who despatch innocent people abroad on false pretext of overseas employment and thereafter abandon them. These helpless victims are left in the lurch in foreign land, penniless and the Indian Government is hard pressed to secure their rescue and repatriation. She exhorted that since these agents function from the States' jurisdiction and law and order being a State subject, it is incumbent on the State Government to take stringent and punitive action against them which would abate this menace.

# Bihar

## Agriculture, Industries, Economy Growth, Geography



### 1.4.1 Factfile

- Capital: Patna
- Geographical Area (sq km): 94,163
- State Language: Hindi, English, Urdu and Bhojpuri
- Literacy Rate: 61.8 per cent
- Key Industries: Food and beverages, rubber and plastics, transport equipment, chemicals, tobacco, textile,

■ Bihar is located in the eastern part of India. The state is surrounded by Nepal in the north, West Bengal in the east, Uttar Pradesh in the west and Jharkhand in the south. Bihar is one of the strongest agricultural states. The percentage of population employed in agricultural production in Bihar is around 80 per cent, which is much higher than the national average.. The state has planned initiatives for the development of other sectors such as education and tourism and also provides incentives for information technology and renewable energy.

#### 1.4.1.1 Key Sectors:

**Food Processing and Dairy:** In 2016-17, total fruit production in Bihar was 4.27 million tonnes and total production of major vegetables was recorded to be 14.23 million tonnes. Bihar is the sixth largest producer of fruits and third largest producer of vegetables in India.

**Education:** The state government has allocated a capital outlay of US\$ 3.92 billion as per the budget 2017-18 for the development of education sector.

**Textile & Leather Industry:** Government has allocated a sum US\$ 1.53 million during FY 2015-16, for the development of five common facility centres (CFCs) under the Jute Common Facility Centres (CFCs) scheme for product development, training, market development, etc. These CFCs are sanctioned at five locations, with 3 locations situated in West Bengal, 2 locations in Assam and 1 location in Bihar.

**Tourism:** The Bihar government has identified total 900 spots, which are to be developed as tourist places, map to attract tourists from across the world.

### 1.5 INDIA'S RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS AT ALL-TIME HIGH

Renewable energy projects of close to 6,650 megawatt (Mw) was tendered in February, taking the total for 2017-18 past 10,000 Mw—a record in a financial year. Of these, wind power projects account for 2,500 Mw and solar power 4,150 Mw. Of these, wind power projects account for 2,500 Mw and solar power 4,150 Mw. These include state-level projects in Uttar Pradesh (1,000 Mw), Karnataka (200 Mw), Maharashtra (1,500 Mw), and Andhra Pradesh (750 Mw). Wind power projects totalling a generation capacity of 2,000 Mw will be farmed out by Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI), a state-run company under the aegis of the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). Maharashtra accounts for the remaining 500 Mw. Under the Paris Climate Change accord, India has committed itself to building renewable energy projects with a combined capacity of 175 gigawatt (Gw) by 2022. Of the 175 Gw, 60 Gw is solar and 40 Gw wind. The Narendra Modi government last year introduced a competitive bidding process for wind power projects on the lines of solar. According to the plan, 30 Gw each will be tendered in 2018-19 and 2019-20. However, market experts are cautious about the coming financial year because several regulatory changes would affect the renewable energy landscape.



### 1.6 GOVT TO INTRODUCE POLICY FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES: GEETE

The government is planning to come up with a new policy to support electric vehicles. Anant Gangaram Geete, Union Cabinet minister for heavy industries and public sector enterprises, said on February 8 that the new policy would address all concerns of the automobile industry. An electric policy would be announced soon, he added. The minister's assurance came after Abhay Firodia, president of Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers and chairman of Force Motors, urged him to address various concerns of the industry, including taxation and regulatory issues. Firodia has also suggested that the government should not write off diesel engines after BS-VI implementation, considering it will be cleaner by then.

## 1.7 ITPO's FAIRS IN PRAGATI MAIDAN , NEW DELHI

Sl. No.	Name of the Fair	Dates	Products	Contact Person
1	New Delhi World Book Fair	6-14 Jan 2018	Books, Periodicals, Journals, Publications etc.	Mr. Jayanta Das General Manager Tel: 91-11-23378929/9810189400 Fax: 91-11-23371673 E-mail: jd@itpo.gov.in
2	Nakshatra	Jan./Feb.2018	Holistic products, Astology, Numerology, Yoga etc.	Mr. S.R. Sahoo General Manager Tel: 91-11-23371965 Fax: 91-11-23370257 E-mail: companysecretary@itpo.gov.in
3	India International Leather Fair	01-03 February, 2018	Leather & Leather Products, Chemicals Machinery & Accessories.	Mr. Jayanta Das General Manager Tel: 91-11-23378929/9810189400 Fax: 91-11-23371673 E-mail: jd@itpo.gov.in
4	Tex-Styles India	Feb/March, 2018	textile items-Cotton yarns, fabrics & Home Furnishings	Mr. Jayanta Das General Manager Tel: 91-11-23378929/9810189400 Fax: 91-11-23371673 E-mail: jd@itpo.gov.in
5	India International Leather Fair	26-28 Feb 2018	Leather & Leather Products, Chemicals Machinery & Accessories.	Mr. Jayanta Das General Manager Tel: 91-11-23378929/9810189400 Fax: 91-11-23371673 E-mail: jd@itpo.gov.in
6	Tex-Styles India	Feb/March, 2018	textile items-Cotton yarns, fabrics & Home Furnishings	Mr. Jayanta Das General Manager Tel: 91-11-23378929/9810189400 Fax: 91-11-23371673 E-mail: jd@itpo.gov.in

7	Aahar- The International Food & Hospitality Fair	13-17 March 2018	Food , Beverages , Hotel & Restaurant Equipment & Supplies etc.	Ms. Hema Maithy General Manager Tel: 91-11-23371819 Mob: 91-9971240168 E-mail: hemamaity@itpo.gov.in
8	Aajeevika	23 Mar 1 Apr 2018	Handicrafts,textiles,food products.	Mr. Rohit Sonker Deputy Manager Mob: 91-9716943120/ 91-9013713832 E-mail: rsonker@itpo.gov.in

***More information available at:***

[www.indiatradefair.com](http://www.indiatradefair.com)

[www.cii.in/CII\\_Events.aspx](http://www.cii.in/CII_Events.aspx)

[www.ficci.com/ficci-exhibitions.asp](http://www.ficci.com/ficci-exhibitions.asp)

[www.assochem.org/events/index.php](http://www.assochem.org/events/index.php)

[www.fieo.org/view\\_detail.php?lang=0&id=0.22&evetype=0](http://www.fieo.org/view_detail.php?lang=0&id=0.22&evetype=0)



## 2 USEFUL LINKS

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The National Portal of India <http://india.gov.in>

## 3 THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

[HTTP://MEA.GOV.IN/](http://MEA.GOV.IN/)

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India Public Diplomacy [www.indiandiplomacy.in](http://www.indiandiplomacy.in)

Invest India [www.investindia.gov.in](http://www.investindia.gov.in)

India In Business <http://indiainbusiness.nic.in>

Incredible India [www.incredibleindia.org](http://www.incredibleindia.org)

India Brand Equity Foundation [www.ibef.org](http://www.ibef.org)

India Trade Promotion Organization [www.indiatradefair.com](http://www.indiatradefair.com)

EXIM Bank <http://eximbankindia.com>

The Confederation of Indian Industry [www.cii.in](http://www.cii.in)

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry [www.ficci.com](http://www.ficci.com)

Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India [www.assochem.org](http://www.assochem.org)

The Federation of Indian Export Organizations [www.fieo.org](http://www.fieo.org)

PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry [www.phdcci.in](http://www.phdcci.in)