

INDEX

India greets President Peña Nieto	2
Ambassador Chinoy Presents Credentials in Belize	2
Diwali celebrated in Mexico	2
On India's Policies towards youth, United Nations	3
Students of The Cultural Centre showcase their Talents	3
Leading Indian agricultural University to Collaborate with CIMMYT	3
India mourns former Prime Minister Mr. I.K. Gujral	4
Russian President's State Visit to India	4
Prime Minister of Canada visits India	4
India, Ukraine sign 5 Pacts to boost ties	5
Indian Economy to grow at 6.8% in 2013	5
India to be 2nd largest manufacturing country	6
India emerges as hub for IT outsourcing	6
India is world's biggest rice exporter in 2012	6
India, China, and Brazil to emerge as key global players	6
Industry Focus: Automobile Industry	7
Indian States: Introducing Himachal Pradesh	8
They said It...	9
Trade Enquiries from India	10
Trade Fairs & Business Exhibitions in India in January-March 2013	11
India celebrates 64th Republic Day – 26 January 2013	11

India greets President Peña Nieto

The President of India, H.E. Mr. Pranab Mukherjee congratulated H.E. Mr. Enrique Pena Nieto on assumption of office as President of the United Mexican States. President Pranab Mukherjee conveyed that India and Mexico enjoy warm and friendly relations and both countries are inheritors of a great civilisational heritage: "It is thus a matter of satisfaction that our relations are based on shared values of democracy, rule of law and pluralism and have evolved significantly and successfully into a 'Privileged Partnership' with well established institutional mechanisms." He added that India looks forward to working with President Peña Nieto towards further consolidation and development of the multidimensional partnership between the two countries in the years ahead.

India's External Affairs Minister of India, H.E. Mr. Salman Khurshid, also greeted his counterpart, H.E. Mr. José Antonio Meade Kuribreña, on his appointment as the Foreign Minister of the United Mexican States. In his message, Mr. Khurshid observed that India and Mexico enjoyed close and friendly relations and that their Privileged Partnership had been cemented in recent years by growing engagement in diverse sectors, adding that he looked forward to working closely with Mr. Meade to further expand bilateral relations.

Ambassador Sujan R. Chinoy represented India at the inauguration of President Peña Nieto on December 1. Conveying his warmest congratulations to the President, he observed that India and Mexico enjoy warm and friendly relations, both are large and pluralistic democracies and inheritors of great civilization heritage, and that they are poised to fulfil their potential in the future as dynamic economies. He added that their Privileged Partnership had deepened cooperation in diverse fields and they looked forward to further strengthening their bonds of friendship in the years to come.

Ambassador Chinoy Presents Credentials in Belize

Ambassador Sujan R. Chinoy presented his Letter of Credence to the Governor General of Belize, H.E. Sir Colville Young, in Belmopan on December 6, accrediting him concurrently as the High Commissioner of India to Belize with residence in Mexico. He also had wide-ranging discussions on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest with the Hon. Prime Minister, Hon. Foreign Minister and other leaders in Belize. In his meetings, besides briefing the leadership on various initiatives India is taking with regard to Belize, in particular for meeting the training needs of Belize's human resources, Ambassador underlined the longstanding friendly bilateral ties based on membership of the Non-Aligned Movement, Commonwealth and the common use of the English language. He also interacted with the resident Indian community in Belize, including with the Belize-Indian Merchants Association at the Corozal Free Zone.

Diwali celebrated in Mexico

The Indian Women's Association of Mexico (IWAM), revived the tradition of marking the Festival of Lights and organized for the community a grand celebration of *Diwali* on November 10. The event was organised in the immaculate environs of the Northern Naval Club in Lomas de Chapultepec. Over 300 enthusiastic members of the resident Indian community and Mexican friends were in attendance. H.E. Mr. Sujan R. Chinoy, Ambassador of India to Mexico and Mrs. Vidya Chinoy, President of IWAM, were the Guests of Honour. The vibrant celebration included many delightful cultural presentations by children. The celebration began with the auspicious traditional *Ganesh Vandana*. Ms. Kate Asmara, Bollywood dance teacher at the Gurudev Tagore Indian Cultural Centre performed a popular and well-received colourful dance sequence along with members of her troupe, all of whom were Mexicans. A vibrant presentation of *Bhangra* from the Northern state of Punjab, by children of the resident Sikh community, in colourful costumes, added to the glitter of the show. The cultural segment ended with *Garba*, a traditional folk dance form from the State of Gujarat, on the Western coast of India, in which the audience joined the dancers on the stage, in their swirls and swings in the *Dāndiyā Rās*, which forms the essence of the dance form. All the children who participated in the cultural segment of the event were given trophies and certificates by Ambassador Chinoy and Mrs. Chinoy, by way of recognition and encouragement. The cultural show was followed by a sumptuous traditional Indian dinner. The celebrations ended with fireworks, in which the children enthusiastically participated.

On India's Policies towards youth, United Nations

Ambassador

Chinoy addressed the students of University of Matehuala on policies towards the youth in India and India and the United Nations. He pointed out that India had 600 million people under 25, with nearly 70 percent of its 1.2 billion people under 40, a demographic condition he called unprecedented in the history of modern India. "By 2020, it is expected that 325 million additional people in India will reach working age, which will be the largest in the world. This will come at a time when the rest of the developed world will be faced with an ageing population," he said. He elaborated in detail how the Government of India has prepared a Draft National Youth Policy 2012 in recognition of the fact that the future of India is intimately connected with that of its young people. The basic objective of the National Youth Policy which covers the age group 16-30 years is to strengthen patriotism, instil a sense of national unity and social cohesion in young people, respect for cultural diversity and the environment, imparting to them the right kind of education and training, making available nutrition and healthcare, and, ensuring that they emerge as a positive and productive force in building the nation's social, political, cultural and economic future.

On the subject of India-UN relationship Ambassador stated that right from the inception of UN, India has made significant contributions in implementing the goals of its Charter and the evolution of its specialized programmes and agencies. "Independent India viewed UN membership as an important guarantee for maintaining international peace and security and therefore stood in the forefront during the UN's tumultuous years of struggle against colonialism and apartheid," he said. He also highlighted the role India played during its seventh two-year term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council and elaborated why India should be given the permanent membership in the Security Council. "Judging by any objective criteria, such as population, territorial size, GDP, economic potential, civilizational legacy, cultural diversity, political system and past and ongoing contributions to the activities of the UN—especially peacekeeping—India is eminently qualified for permanent membership," he argued. Peacekeeping, peace-building and disarmament are among the most unique pursuits of the UN. India's solid commitment to assist the UN is evident from its participation in as many as 43 peacekeeping operations since the 1950s. On disarmament, India is committed to the goal of general and complete disarmament based on the principles of universality, non-discrimination and verifiability and has played an active role in the international community's endeavours towards nuclear disarmament.

Students of the Cultural Centre showcase their Talents

Students of the *Gurudev*

Tagore Indian Cultural Centre demonstrated the skills acquired by them over the last two years to Mexican connoisseurs, at the second edition of the *Nav Pratibha*, organized in the Embassy auditorium on December 7. *Nav Pratibha* literally translates to budding new talent. The presentation by students of all 7 disciplines of performing arts taught at the Centre lasted for two hours. Students of all four of the eight well-known forms of Indian classical dance forms taught at the Centre, viz. *Bharatanatyam*, *Mohiniattam*, *Odissi* and *Kathak* demonstrated their talents, besides those learning instrumental music (*Sitar* and *Tabla*), Yoga and Bollywood dance. Demonstration of select Yoga *asanas* (postures which are known to have definite therapeutic effects) and *Surya Namaskar* (Salutation to the Sun God) by students drew resounding applause from the audience, who also much appreciated the skills acquired by students of *Tabla*, a percussion instrument from North India. A jam-packed audience savoured every moment of the passionate and powerful performances by the students of the Cultural Centre, under the able guidance of their teachers, who ensured a flawless presentation.

Leading Indian agricultural University to collaborate with CIMMYT

The Punjab

Agricultural University has inked a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT), Mexico, to facilitate postgraduate research. Dr. Baldev Singh Dhillon, PAU Vice-Chancellor, and Mr. E. Duveiller, Director Research, South Asia (CIMMYT), signed the MOU, under which, Dr. Dhillon said, CIMMYT would award scholarships to enable postgraduate and doctoral students of PAU to carry out research activities in agriculture. The scholarship will be initially for a period of one year but extendable to a maximum duration of

24 months. He said the students would work at designated CIMMYT adaptive research sites in collaboration with a CIMMYT scientist.

Cleanliness is next to godliness. We can no more gain God's blessing with an unclean body than with an unclean mind. A clean body cannot reside in an unclean city.

- Mahatma Gandhi

India mourns former Prime Minister Mr. I.K. Gujral

India condoled the passing away of its former Prime Minister Mr. Inder Kumar Gujral on November 30. He was 93. The Cabinet expressed profound sorrow at his sad demise and stated that India had lost a great patriot, a visionary leader and a freedom fighter. Born into a family of freedom fighters in 1919, Mr. Gujral was an erudite scholar, an eminent intellectual and a well respected commentator on national and international affairs. Before he became Prime Minister of India in April 1997, he had held various ministerial positions, including that of Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Water Resources. A distinguished diplomat, he also served as India's Ambassador to the erstwhile Soviet Union and India's Special Envoy to a number of countries.

Russian President's State Visit to India

President of the Russian Federation, H.E. Mr. Vladimir V. Putin paid an official visit to New Delhi on December 24 for the 13th India-Russia Annual Summit. India's Prime Minister H.E. Dr. Manmohan Singh and President Putin reviewed the progress made in all important areas of cooperation, including in sectors such as energy, trade & investment, high technology and military-technical cooperation. The countries also signed defence deals worth \$4 billion and a \$2 billion investment deal between Russia's sovereign private equity fund and India's largest lender, State Bank of India. 10 bilateral pacts including two military contracts for aircraft and helicopter supplies, and three business-to-business agreements for joint investments were also signed during the visit. Dr. Singh also stressed the need for cooperation in the energy sector: "[The] two countries' energy cooperation must expand to joint investment projects for oil and natural gas exploration in third countries." Observing that bilateral trade had grown by over 30% in 2012, Prime Minister pointed that there was still untapped potential in areas such as pharmaceuticals, fertilizers, mining, steel, information technology, civil aviation, telecommunications, infrastructure, food processing, innovation and services, adding that President Putin and he had asked their inter-governmental and business level groups to recommend specific steps for enhancing bilateral trade and investment flows. Both leaders also welcomed the operationalization of the India-Russia Joint Science and Technology Centres in India and Russia, which could assist the development and commercialization of promising technologies, including in nanotechnology, biomedicine and supercomputing.

Both leaders also discussed regional and global issues, on many of which there is a marked congruence in their approach. India-Russia consultations in international fora, such as the UN Security Council and BRICS, have deepened during the year. India and Russia both share the objective of a stable, united, democratic and prosperous Afghanistan, free from extremism, terrorism and external interference. Dr. Singh and Mr. Putin reviewed the ongoing developments in Afghanistan and agreed to work together against threats posed by extremist ideologies and drug trafficking. They also discussed the situation in West Asia, and agreed to continue consultations. Prime Minister also congratulated President Putin on Russia's assumption of the Chair of G20, adding that India looked forward to working closely with Russia in promoting reform of global economic and international structures of governance.

Prime Minister of Canada visits India

The Prime Minister of Canada, The Right Honourable Stephen Harper, paid a State Visit to India from November 4-9, leading a high-level delegation comprising Ministers, Members of Parliament, Senators, senior officials and business persons. In the consultations he had with Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, the two had detailed discussions on bilateral issues and on regional and international issues of mutual interest, conducting a comprehensive review of the wide-ranging partnership. They agreed on the imperative to forge a forward-looking relationship by deepening the bilateral

engagement at a strategic level by instituting a Strategic Dialogue at the level of Foreign Ministers and better leveraging significant complementarities existing between the two countries in key areas of mutual interest such as energy security; agriculture and food security; mineral resources; education; infrastructure development; and advanced civilian, defence and space technologies. They reaffirmed their desire to conclude a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement by the end of 2013. The leaders also identified energy cooperation, particularly exports of Canadian oil and natural gas as well as renewable energy cooperation, as an area with enormous potential, and they agreed to explore the possibility of a memorandum of understanding in the field of oil and gas. A ministerial-level energy dialogue will supplement the Strategic Dialogue and promote specific projects. Both India and Canada have a common interest in the stability of the global financial system. They closely cooperate in the G20, co-chairing the Working Group on a Framework for Strong, Sustainable and Balanced Growth. The two Prime Ministers endorsed the decision to start a financial sector policy dialogue to facilitate mutual understanding of developments in the financial sectors of the two countries and to discuss and coordinate positions on developments in the global fora. Besides, they agreed to enhance bilateral security cooperation, including through a dialogue to be led by India's National Security Council Secretariat and Canada's Office of the National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister. Both countries agreed to work closely together to improve cyber security as well as broaden their dialogue and cooperation on cyberspace policy. Also, condemning violent extremism in all its forms and committing to continue to counter global terrorism, they agreed that India and Canada would work together to address this challenge.

India, Ukraine sign 5 Pacts to boost ties

The President of Ukraine, H.E. Mr. Viktor Yanukovich, paid a State Visit to India from December 9-12. During his visit, he had meetings with inter alia the President of India, H.E. Mr. Pranab Mukherjee and Prime Minister H.E. Dr. Manmohan Singh. The two sides held detailed discussions in a friendly atmosphere, reviewed the status of bilateral cooperation and exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual interest. They agreed on the imperative to develop a meaningful relationship of bilateral engagement by better leveraging significant complementarities existing between the two countries in key areas of mutual interest, such as civil nuclear cooperation, defence and space technology, fertilizers, healthcare and pharmaceuticals, agriculture and food security, industrial engineering and mining. They agreed to enhance interaction at the political, official and business levels to achieve this objective. Given the existing enormous potential to enhance ties between the countries, the two sides felt that it was time for India and Ukraine to forge a comprehensive partnership and agreed to draw up a joint action plan for this purpose. Agreements in the fields of legal assistance, defence cooperation, science and technology, nuclear safety and standardisation were signed. The agreement on defence is aimed to provide the framework for expanding military technical co-operation on an institutionalised basis. The Prime Minister also conveyed to President Yanukovich India's interest in visa arrangements to facilitate travel by businessmen, professionals, students and people.

There are eternal principles which admit of no compromise and one must be prepared to lay down one's life in the practice of them.
- Mahatma Gandhi

Indian Economy to grow at 6.8% in 2013

A report by Dun & Bradstreet (D&B) has predicted that Indian economy is likely to witness a growth rate of 6.8 per cent in the next financial year driven by the reform push of the government, even though the growth rate during 2012 has been cut down at 5.5 per cent. "GDP is likely to clock a growth rate of 6.8 per cent during 2013 as policy environment improves, investment conditions revive and inflationary pressures abate," says D&B India Senior Economist Arun Singh. The report says that 2013 is likely to see resurgence in the industrial activity and modest upturn in the services sector which would support revival in growth levels. The report also noted that in order to boost investment activity and overall growth momentum, the government initiated a slew of reforms like allowing FDI in multi-brand retail, aviation and broadcasting, hiking diesel price, capping the

number of subsidised LPG cylinders, opening up pension sector to foreign investment and raising the FDI cap in insurance to 49 per cent.

India to be 2nd largest manufacturing country

Leading professional services firm Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu has, in its 2013 Global Manufacturing Competitiveness Index report, estimated that India is expected to be the second largest economy in manufacturing in next five years. The report included over 550 survey responses from Chief Executive Officers around the world collected throughout 2012. "The competitiveness of each nation's manufacturing innovation ecosystem will continue to be a focus area for policymakers, business leaders and much of society," it says. The recent restrained growth in China, changes in the US, a dark cloud over much of the Euro Zone, trade wars in South America, an ongoing malaise in Japan and the percolating but elusive rise of India would be influencing the directions of manufacturing in the years to come. According to the Deloitte report, five developed economy nations that were ranked in the top 10 as of this year were Germany (second), the US (third), South Korea (fifth), Canada (seventh) and Japan (tenth). Five emerging economy nations were also ranked in the top 10 including China (first), India (fourth), Taiwan (sixth), Brazil (eighth) and Singapore (ninth).

India emerges as hub for IT outsourcing

The availability of cost-efficient skills and huge potential for growth has transformed India as a preferred destination for outsourcing. India's market share in the IT outsourcing industry has moved up from 55 per cent in 2010 to 58 per cent in 2011. As per market estimates, the total global and domestic outsourcing market opportunity for India is expected to grow threefold from US\$ 500 billion in 2008 to US\$ 1.5 trillion by 2020. IT outsourcing companies from India have been dominating force in the markets abroad and also working hard to win outsourced government contracts. The government and defence contracts are expected to create a global market worth about US\$ 100 billion for technology and business services providers. In fact, the rise of India as the hub for IT outsourcing has played a vital role in taking the Indian IT companies onto the global landscape.

India is world's biggest rice exporter in 2012

One of the latest reports by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) suggests that India has emerged as the world's biggest exporter of rice piping traditional leader Thailand by exporting almost nine million tonnes of rice in 2012. India gained this position when it lifted an over two year-long ban on exports, which allowed its private traders to push Indian rice in traditional as well as new markets at a price which was much lower than the prevailing rates, thereby leading to a surge in exports. FAO has also said that India would have record exportable cereal surplus of almost 15.7 million tonnes in 2012-13, which will include 7.7 million tonnes of rice, about five million tonnes of wheat and three million tonnes of corn.

India, China, and Brazil to emerge as key global players

"Global Trends 2030: Alternative Worlds," the fifth instalment in the US National Intelligence Council's series aimed at providing a framework for thinking about the future states that Asia would surpass North America and Europe combined in terms of global power by 2030 with China, India and Brazil becoming especially important to the global economy. The report says that China alone will probably have the largest economy, surpassing that of the United States a few years before 2030. However, the Report also warns that despite their growing economic clout, developing countries will face the challenges to continue the momentum of rapid economic growth. "China faces the prospect of being trapped in middle-income status, with its per capita income not continuing to increase to the level of the world's advanced economies." "India faces many of the same problems and traps accompanying rapid growth as China: large inequities between rural and urban sectors and within society; increasing constraints on resources such as water; and a need for greater investment in science and technology to continue to move its economy up the value chain," the report said. However, it said, "India is in a better position, benefiting from higher growth, but it will still be challenged to find jobs for its large youth population."

Industry Focus: Automobile Industry

Introduction

The Indian automotive industry has emerged as a 'sunrise sector' in the Indian economy. India is emerging as one of the world's fastest growing passenger car markets and second largest two wheeler manufacturer. It is also home for the largest motor cycle manufacturer and fifth largest commercial vehicle manufacturer. Also, India is the largest base to export compact cars to Europe. Moreover, hybrid and electronic vehicles are new developments on the automobile canvas and India is one of the key markets for them. Global and Indian manufacturers are focussing their efforts to develop innovative products, technologies and supply chains.

Key Statistics

The amount of cumulative foreign direct investment (FDI) inflow into the automobile industry during April 2000 to July 2012 was worth US\$ 6,992 million, amounting to 4 per cent of the total FDI inflows (in terms of US\$). The Indian small and light commercial vehicle segment is expected to grow at 18.5 per cent compound annual growth rate (CAGR) for the next five years, according to a report titled 'Strategic Assessment of Small and Light Commercial Vehicles Market in India' by Frost & Sullivan. According to the recent data passenger vehicles segment grew at 9.71 per cent during April-June 2012, while overall commercial vehicle segment registered an expansion of 6.06 per cent year-on-year basis. Also, two-wheelers sales registered a growth of 10.51 per cent during April-June 2012 wherein mopeds, motorcycles and scooters grew by 6.60 per cent, 6.79 per cent and 29.14 per cent, respectively

Major Developments and Investments

Mercedes-Benz India plans to increase its investment to Rs 850 crore (US\$ 158.88 million) by 2014. The German car maker through its dealer partners has already invested over Rs 480 crore (US\$ 89.72 million) in India. The company has also announced the starting of its new, start-of-the-art paint shop that is capable of water-based painting

The Volkswagen Group aims to increase output by 10-15 per cent on a €100 million (US\$ 126.35 million) investment at its production facilities in Aurangabad and Chakan in Maharashtra

Nissan plans to introduce ten new passenger vehicles by the end of March 2016. Nissan India aims to double its vehicle sales in 2012-13 from 33,000 vehicles in 2011-12

VE Commercial Vehicles (VECV), the joint venture (JV) between Volvo and Eicher, is readying a whole new range of trucks with new platforms, engines and cabins. VECV has already invested Rs 700 crore (US\$ 130.84 million) in the business

Toyota Kirloskar plans to increase capacity at its two plants in Bidadi, Karnataka, from 310,000 units to 400,000 units a year. Capacity at the first plant would rise from 90,000 units to 100,000 units, at a cost of Rs 70 crore (US\$ 13.08 million) and the second plant's capacity is being increased from 120,000 units to 210,000 units, with an investment of Rs 830 crore (US\$ 155.14 million)

Blackstone Capital Partners (Singapore) has signed an agreement to acquire 12.5 per cent stake of International Tractors Ltd (ITL) in a structured transaction worth US\$ 100 million

Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd has started a technical centre in Troy, Michigan, to leverage on the design and consulting service resources available in the region. The firm intends to use the centre to support company's automotive and tractor engineering requirements in India

Yamaha Motor, Japan plans to use India as a key global hub for motorcycles and scooters. Yamaha will also use India as one of its four regional procurement bases to source parts for its global two-wheeler operations. The company also plans to expand its sales network across

India in order to take its product closer to its customer base particularly in the tier II and tier III cities

Bajaj Auto Ltd has entered into an agreement with Kawasaki Heavy Industries, under which Bajaj motorcycles will be assembled and sold in Indonesia through Kawasaki's distribution network as co-branded products

Government Initiatives

The Government of India allows 100 per cent foreign direct investment (FDI) in the automotive industry through automatic route. The Automotive Mission Plan (AMP) 2006-2016 aims at doubling the contribution of automotive sector in gross domestic product (GDP) by taking the turnover to US\$ 145 billion in 2016 with special emphasis on export of small cars, multi-utility vehicles (MUVs), two & three wheelers and auto components. Gujarat has been one of the most proactive states in terms of investor-friendly policies and environment. Maruti Suzuki India Ltd (MSIL) has recently signed a state support agreement (SSA) with the state government for the purchase of land to set up its third manufacturing facility.

Road Ahead

The rapid improvement in infrastructure, huge domestic market, increasing purchasing power, established financial market and stable corporate governance framework have made the country a favourable destination for investment by global majors in the auto industry, as per Automotive Mission Plan (AMP) (2006-16). The vision of AMP 2006-2016 aims India "to emerge as the destination of choice in the world for design and manufacture of automobiles and auto components with output reaching a level of US\$ 145 billion accounting for more than 10 per cent of the GDP and providing additional employment to 25 million people by 2016."

Courtesy: India Brand Equity Foundation

Even as Truth is eternal, so is bliss derived from it. Hence we know God as Sat-chit-ananda, one who combines in Himself Truth, Knowledge and Bliss. -Mahatma Gandhi

Indian States: Introducing Himachal Pradesh

Himachal Pradesh, popularly known as *Devbhumi*, "Land of the Gods", is a beautiful hill state in India, nestles in north western region of western Himalayas. The state is landlocked with the Tibetan plateau to the east, Jammu and Kashmir to the north, and the Punjab to the west. However, Himachal Pradesh is known for its sheer topographic diversity and breathtaking pristine natural beauty. It has everything in plenty; from vast tracts of high-altitude Trans-Himalayan desert to dense green deodar forests; from apple orchards to cultivated terraces; from snow capped high Himalayan mountain ranges to snow fed lakes and gushing rivers.

Himachal Pradesh, situated in the western Himalayas covers an area of 55,673 sq. km. The elevation of the mountain ranges from about 350 to 7,000 m above sea level. The drainage system of Himachal is composed both of rivers and glaciers which provides water to both the Indus and Ganges basins. The most popular rivers are the Chenab, the Ravi, the Beas, the Sutlej and the Yamuna. These rivers are perennial and are fed by snow and rainfall. They are protected by an extensive cover of natural vegetation. There is great variation in the climatic conditions of Himachal due to extreme variation in elevation. The climate varies from hot and sub-humid tropical in the southern tracts to cold, alpine and glacial in the northern and eastern mountain ranges with more elevation. The state has areas like Dharamsala that receive very heavy rainfall, as well as those like Lahaul and Spiti that are cold and almost

rainless. Broadly, Himachal experiences three seasons: hot weather season, cold weather season and rainy season. Summer lasts from mid April till the end of June and most parts become very hot (except the alpine zone, which experience a mild summer) with the average temperature ranging from 28°C to 32°C. Winter lasts from late November till mid March. Snowfall is common in alpine tracts, generally above 2,200 m in the higher and trans-Himalayan region.



Economy

The Economy of the Himachal Pradesh is currently the third fastest growing economy in India and has been ranked fourth in the list of the highest per capita incomes of Indian states. Due to the abundance of perennial rivers, Himachal also sells hydroelectricity to other states of India. The economy of the state is highly dependent on three sources: hydroelectric power, tourism and agriculture. Agriculture and tourism is the backbone of the economy of the state. Agriculture contributes over 45% to the net state domestic product. It is the main source of income and employment in Himachal. Over 93% of the population in Himachal depend directly upon agriculture which provides direct employment to 71% of its people. The main cereals grown are wheat, maize, rice and barley. Fruit cultivation is another field which has been widely used by the farmers due to several reasons. There

are vast tracts of land in Himachal suitable only for growing fruits. It does not add to the problem of soil erosion and its employment potential is higher. Special efforts are also being made to promote cultivation of new crops like olives, figs, hops, mushrooms, flowers, pistachio nuts, sarda melon and saffron.

Tourist attractions

Himachal Pradesh offers much for those looking to experience the mountaineering, trekking and other adventures activities in the lap of Himalayas. There are plenty of other tourist attractions to visit in the state. Shimla, Manali, Dalhousie, McLeodganj, Dharmshala and Kullu are some of the famous hill stations in the states which attract large number of tourists across the globe. Dalhousie a world-famous hill station, located in the western part of Himachal Pradesh has many beautiful churches and charming colonial architecture. Kullu Valley is also very popular and often called as *Valley of Gods*. It is situated on the Beas river bank in the lower reaches of Himalayas. Kullu is known for its ancient temples, festivals and apple orchards, handicraft work and woollen work. Spiti Valley, another major tourist attraction, also known as the Little Tibet due to its vegetation, terrain and climate which are similar to Tibet. Lahul Valley is green compared to Spiti Valley and is covered with snow for most of the year. Its main attractions are Patten Valley and *Sri Trilokinath Temple* and monasteries.

They Said It...

"The two major markets for us are India and Brazil... in the next decade India is going to be known as the product economy... The big opportunity is a growing internet base and the huge middle class here." - **Paul Singh, Partner, 500 Startups, a US-based seed fund accelerator**

**A reformer cannot afford to have close intimacy with him whom he seeks to reform.
- Mahatma Gandhi**

Trade Enquiries from India

Company	Commercial interest
KING EXPORTS C-141, Phase -V, Focal Point, Ludhiana 141010 Tel: (91 161) 2673959, 5014665, Fax: 5053997, 2673386 Contact: Mr. Satwinder Singh Email: info@kingindia.com	Three point linkage parts for tractors
CHASE INTERNATIONAL HB-9; Phase 6; Focal Point, Ludhiana-141010 Mob: (91) 9317310777, 9814810777 Contact: Mr. Mark Chase Email: chaseindia7@gmail.com	Bicycle and bicycle spares
YNG SEAL CO. LTD. Vindhychal Appt., Sector 13, Flat No. 1, Rohini, Delhi-110085 Contact: Mr. T.K. Gupta, Director Email: tkgupta@ynggroup.in, Web: www.ynggroup.in	Bicycle and bikes
SHREE SIDDHIVINAYAK INDUSTRIES 334, 3rd Floor, Unnati Tower, Central Spine, Vidhyadhar Nagar, Jaipur-302023 Mob: (91) 9929106939 Contact: Mr. Ghanshyam Jasoria Email: sio2solutions@gmail.com	Silica sand, feldspar, dolomite, china clay, quartz, lime stone and soap stone
GLOBE TEXTILES (INDIA) PVT. LTD. 1449/ 1st Floor, RMG house, Opp Mithakhali Bus Stop, Mithakhali Gam, Ahmedabad, Gujarat-380006 Mob: (91) 9909009980, 9974009991 Contact: Mr. Nilay Vora Email: globetextiles@yahoo.in, nilay@globetextiles.net	polyester and cotton dyed & printed fabrics for men, women and kids
CAP & SEAL (INDORE) PVT. LTD. Plot No. 5, Flat No. 302, 3rd Floor, Shri Balaji Heights, Rajgarh Kothi, Manoramaganj, Indore 452001 Tel: (91 731) 4039506, Mob: (91) 9179796926 Contact: Mr. Vatsalya Pareek Email: vatsalya.pareek@gmail.com	Aluminum proof caps with or without plastic pourer and aluminums seals
EISCO LABS Electronic Instrumentation, 12, Mahesh Nagar, Ambala Cantt Tel: (91 171) 2663087, 2662797, Fax: 2663595 Contact: Mr. P. K. Jain Email: office_eisco@eiscolabs.com, Web: www.eiscolabs.com	Scientific and laboratory instruments
EASTMAN IMPEX Industrial Area-C, Dhandari Kalan, Ludhiana 141010 Tel: (91 161) 2511604, 2511605, Fax: 2511600, 5021715 Contact: Mr. Gulshan Kumar Email: gulshan@eastmanimpex.com	Natural rubber, latex and rubber products
M.L. COMMODITIES Vijay Box, 352 Murlidhar Compound, JSS Road, Mumbai 400002 Mob: (91) 9969027106 Contact: Mr. Anand Agarwal Email: gayatri7@vsnl.com	Incense sticks & perfumed incense sticks
KAILASH FLOUR MILLS 262, Civil Lines, Jagadhari Road, Yamuna Nagar Tel: (91 173) 2238678 Contact: Mr. Ramesh Sharma Email: kailashflourmills@gmail.com	Wheat, soya bean meals and spices

M.H. CARPETS Bazar Sardar Khan, Choari Road, Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh Mob: (91) 9919510152 Contact: Mr. Muzammil Hussain Email: mhcarpets@gmail.com Web: www.mhcarpet.com	Handmade woolen carpets and rugs
I SUSTAIN ENERGY PVT. LTD. 48, Udyog Kendra II, Ecotech III, Greater Noida-201307 Contact: Mr. Sundeep Mehta Email: exports@ledtechshop.com Web: www.ledtechshop.com, www.displaytechshop.com	Sustainable and energy efficient technology (LED lighting devices, solar products)
SUNFLOWER EXPORT IMPORT PVT. LTD. 58, Aradhna Society, Sunflower House, Rajkot-360001 Tel: (91 281) 2452661 Contact: Mr. Nitin Email: mktg@maheshindia.com, Web: www.maheshindia.com	Auto & tractor parts, agricultural equipments, submersible & centrifugal pumps, castings, fasteners

Trade Fairs & Business Exhibitions in India in January-March 2013

Event	Organizer	Product Profile
Nakshatra (Feb. 4-10, 2013)	India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) Web: www.indiatradefair.com	Astrology, Vastu and healing therapies
World Book Fair (Feb. 04-13, 2013)	National Book Trust, India www.nbtindia.gov.in	Paper and Paper products
Aero India (Feb. 6-10, 2013)	Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India www.mod.nic.in	Aviation and Shipping
Enviro Tech (Feb./March, 2013)	India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) Web: www.indiatradefair.com	Environment-friendly technologies & systems, waste water management etc.
Energy Tech (Feb./March, 2013)	India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) Web: www.indiatradefair.com	Energy management, alternative/ sustainable energies and related equipments
Ahar International Food Fair (March 14-18, 2013)	India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) Web: www.indiatradefair.com	Food, processed food, hotel & restaurant equipment & supplies
International Fashion Jewellery & Handicraft Expo (April 26-29, 2013)	Jewellery Market Tel: (91 11) 45032676	Fashion Jewellery, Handicraft and Accessories

For more information, contact the Embassy at trade_eoimex@prodigy.net.mx

India celebrates 64th Republic Day – 26 January 2013

On the occasion of the 64th Republic day of India, there will be a Flag Hoisting ceremony at 9 a.m. on 26th January 2013 on the lawns of the Embassy. The National Tricolor will be hoisted by Ambassador Sujan R. Chinoy. He will also read out the President of India's Address to the Nation on the occasion; this will be followed by the singing of patriotic songs. All members of the Indian community, friends and well-wishers of India, together with their families, are cordially invited to participate in the Ceremony.

India in Mexico and Belize



Ambassador Chinoy presenting his Letter of Credence to H.E. Sir Colville Young Governor-General of Belize in Belmopan, Dec. 6



Ambassador Chinoy greeting H.E. Mr. Wilfred Peter Werlington, Foreign Minister of Belize in Belmopan, Dec. 5



Hon'ble Finance Minister Mr. P Chidambaram with Senators of Mexico and Amb. Chinoy at India House, Nov. 3



Ambassador Chinoy and Mrs. Vidya Chinoy lighting the traditional lamp during Diwali celebrations, Nov. 10