



# Economic Bulletin

CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA, TORONTO



## ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE IN INDIA

### Q2 records 107% surge in fresh investments

Fresh investment proposals surged sharply in the second quarter of this year, rising 107% over the first quarter, with 2,219 new projects entailing an investment of ₹2.19 lakh crore. Private sector investments also recovered significantly, rising 87% from the previous quarter when an extensive lockdown had triggered a 23.9% contraction in the economy. On a year-on-year basis, fresh investments between July and September were still 11.32% lower, but marked a sharp recovery from investments in the first quarter that were nearly 73% lower.

Among the States, Chhattisgarh received the highest investments in the second quarter followed by Tamil Nadu, which had topped fresh investments in the first quarter, according to Projects Today's latest report on investment announcements in the July to September quarter. Karnataka was third in the list followed by Gujarat and Maharashtra. Read the full article [here](#).

### India considers \$23 billion package for global manufactures.

India is planning to offer incentives worth Rs 1.68 trillion (\$23 billion) to attract companies to set up manufacturing in the country. It will offer production linked incentives to automobile manufacturers, solar panel makers, specialty steel to consumer appliance companies, textile units, food processing plants and specialized pharma product makers. Read the full article [here](#).

**DISCLAIMER:** The data used in this bulletin has been obtained from various open/published sources. The Consulate General of India, Toronto does not accept any responsibility for accuracy/authenticity of this information.



## India will be among global AI superpowers: Brad Smith

India will inevitably be one of the world's Artificial Intelligence (AI) superpowers, Brad Smith, President and Chief Legal Officer, Microsoft Corp. said at the Responsible AI for Social Empowerment (RAISE 2020) event. Smith indicated that India's national strategy on AI is the right foundation, not just to advance AI but also to promote responsible AI built on firm ethical principles. The Government of India is in the process of finalizing a national strategy on AI which was released in June 2018. The strategy outlines the proposed efforts in research, development, adoption and skilling in AI. Read the full article [here](#).

## TCS surpasses Accenture to become most-valuable IT services firm globally

Tata Consultancy Services has become world's most valuable IT services company overtaking Accenture in market capitalization, with IBM at third place. The tables have turned since 2018, when IBM was in first place, Accenture second and TCS third. TCS is the second most valued company across sectors in India, just behind Reliance Industries. Earlier this week, TCS also became the second Indian company to cross a market capitalization of Rs 10 lakh crore.

## Ministry of Tourism launches "Saathi" app

Ministry of Tourism celebrated World Tourism Day through a virtual platform by launching an application, SAATHI. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Tourism with Quality Council of India to assist the hospitality industry to continue to operate safely and thereby instill confidence among the staff, employees and the guests about the safety of the hotel/unit.

## 8 Thrust Areas identified for Indian Space Industry



The International Space Research Conference and Exhibition organized by CII on 15 September 2020 laid 8 thrust areas that are key to future missions and which enhance national space capabilities 1) high power solar electric propulsion 2) Space optical communication 3) Advanced Life support & Resource Utilization 4) Mars Energy Descent and Landing Systems 5) Space Robotic Systems 6) Light weight Space Structures 7) Deep Space Navigation and 8) Space Observatory. It also outlined new frontiers of space sector such as Space based tourism, Space based energy/power, Space based Manufacturing, Asteroid Mining and Deep space missions. Innovative space technologies, services and business models.

## Indian startups raised up to \$63 billion since 2016, spawn 27 unicorns

The startups ecosystem has raised as much as USD 63 billion in growth capital between 2016 and 2020, when they spawned 27 unicorns, according to the data collated by the Indian Private Equity and Venture Capital Association and Praxis Global Alliance. According to them, this makes India the third largest tech startup ecosystem in the world. Of the total inflows, nearly half came in 2019 alone USD 34 billion and USD 17 billion in 2020 till May. The time period also created as many as 27 unicorns in the country. Unicorns are those with USD 1 billion or more valuation. Tech-enabled players continue to drive investors' interest and have dominated early stage funding landscape here. Read the full article [here](#).

## Uday Kotak Says Best Time To Invest In India, Lists 5 "Right Sectors".

Asia's richest banker, CEO of Kotak Mahindra Uday Kotak said that now is the best time for overseas investors to invest in India as the economic impact of coronavirus pandemic has made the valuation of businesses attractive. With half a billion internet users and growing, overseas investors had been pouring money into Indian companies in sectors from e-commerce to digital payments similar to the early days of China's digital boom. According to the banker, the "right sectors" to invest in India now include digital, e-commerce, technology, pharmaceutical, and consumers. Read the full article [here](#).

## India's commitment to reform being taken seriously by foreign investors: FM Sitharaman

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said India's commitment to reform is being taken seriously by foreign investors, which is evident from the good inflow of FDI even during the time of COVID-19. Releasing the state rankings based on the implementation of State Business Reform Action Plan 2019, Sitharaman said Aatmanirbhar Bharat would help India build on its strengths and become self-reliant.

## IN-ROADS TO INDIAN MARKET

### Textile & Apparel Industry: The Change Agent of India

Throughout history, the richness and diversity exhibited by India's textile potential has transcended borders. From the presence of exquisite, traditional handloom and handicrafts to the fabrics produced in capital intensive mills, India is proud of its rich heritage in textiles. Today, the textile and apparel industry in India is marked by radical innovation, shifting markets, evolving supply chains and distribution channels and is gradually drifting towards responsible and sustainable manufacturing. Being the second largest in the world, this industry holds immense potential to double its share of five per cent in the global trade in the coming five years. India's strengths have been defined in traditional textiles and natural fibres globally wherein, it is the largest producer of cotton and second largest producer of polyester and silk in the world. Widely referred to as a change agent owing to its transformative powers, this industry alone has the capability to generate 70 jobs for every INR 1 crore (\$ 132,426) invested, as compared to 12 jobs created on an average in other industries. This report below elaborates on the current scenario of textiles and apparel industry in India and highlights the ways to tap into India's growth potential in this sector. Read the entire report [here](#).



# INDIA CANADA TRADE CORRIDOR

## Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivers Keynote address at Invest India Conference in Canada

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 8 October 2020 virtually delivered keynote address at the Invest India Conference in Canada. In his address, the Prime Minister said in the post-Covid world, India showed resilience and emerged as a land of solutions to overcome various kinds of problems related to manufacturing, supply chains, etc. The Prime Minister explained how India's story is growing stronger by listing the initiatives of the Government in creating a business friendly environment.

He listed initiatives like liberalizing the FDI regime, creating a friendly tax regime for Sovereign Wealth and Pension Funds, bringing significant reforms for developing a robust Bond market and Incentive schemes for Champion sectors. The Prime Minister said due to these improvements, India has already received over USD 20 Billion during the first 6 months of this year from across the globe when Covid-19 has been at peak globally. He stressed that continuing confidence of the global investor community in India can be seen by the fact that FDI into India went up by 20% in 2019 when global FDI inflows fell by 1%.

He highlighted that Canada is home to some of the largest and most experienced infrastructure investors. He said Canadian Pension Funds were the first ones to start investing directly in India and that many of them have already discovered great opportunities in a range of areas like highways, airports, logistics, telecom and real estate. He said mature Canadian investors who have been in India for many years now can be our best brand ambassadors and their experience to expand and diversify can be the most credible evidence for other Canadian investors to Invest in India. The text of Prime Minister address can be viewed [here](#).



**INVEST INDIA**  
NATIONAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION  
& FACILITATION AGENCY



**PM Modi Delivers Keynote Address at Invest India Conference in Canada**

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- India has the most favourable investment climate
- There is an opportunity for everyone including Institutional Investors, manufacturers, innovators & infrastructure companies
- India has political stability, investment friendly policies, transparency, skilled talent pool
- The India story is strong today and will be stronger tomorrow

(1/3)



**PM Modi Delivers Keynote Address at Invest India Conference in Canada**

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- India showed resilience & emerged as a land of solutions
- Trinity of reforms in Agriculture, Labour & Education Sectors opens wide investment opportunities in India
- Reforms in education will further harness the talent of our youth & set the stage for more foreign universities in India
- India provided medicine to around 150 countries & played the role of the pharmacy to the world

(2/3)



**PM Modi Delivers Keynote Address at Invest India Conference in Canada**

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- India is undergoing a rapid change in mindsets as well as market
- India's vibrant democracy & conducive ease of doing business environment make it an attractive investment destination
- India-Canada bilateral ties are driven by shared democratic values & many common interests
- Trade & investment linkages between India-Canada are integral to our multifaceted relationship

(3/3)



## India can be an Export Hub for Bombardier Like China, says the Canadian company's President, Danny Di Perna



President of Bombardier said that India can be an Export Hub for Bombardier Like China in his interview conducted with Economic times recently. He said that company has been able to almost triple backlog to roughly \$900 million with the recent win of RRTS (Delhi–Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System) and Agra-Kanpur. Bombardier has invested over \$100 million over the last 20 years and will continue investing in India. The first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) will operate one of the fastest trains in India with a design speed of 180 kilometers per hour reducing travel time between Meerut and Delhi to less than 60 minutes. Global mobility technology leader Bombardier Transportation and India's National

Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) celebrated the unveiling of train design for India's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS).

### Infosys looks to double headcount in Canada in 12-18 months: Nandan Nilekani

Infosys co-founder and Non-Executive Chairman Nandan Nilekani said the company is looking at doubling its headcount in Canada to over 4,000 employees in the next 12-18 months. Speaking at the annual Invest India Conference, Nilekani said Canada is an important country for Infosys. The IT major has centres in three cities — Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver — with over 2,000 employees in the country.

### India emerges as market hungry for Canadian heavy oil

The growing global appetite for Canadian heavy oil is on clear display with a new major monthly purchase by Indian oil refiner Reliance Industries. Reliance will reportedly import two million barrels per month from Canada to replace supplies from Venezuela as the country's production levels zero. Many refineries around the world are tailored to process heavy oil, which only comes from a handful of jurisdictions. Resources in Canada and Venezuela are the largest. The largest contributor to the demand growth is anticipated to be India, which currently gets the majority of its oil supply from Saudi Arabia and Iraq, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. OPEC forecasts that India's demand will increase by 6.3 million barrels per day between 2019 and 2045, driven by an expanding middle class, high population growth rates and stronger economic growth potential. Read the full article [here](#).

### 50th Edition IHGF Delhi Fair- 4 to 9 November 2020

The 50th edition of India Handicrafts and Gift Delhi Fair is scheduled to be held virtually from 4-9 November 2020. During the fair, India's leading manufacturers will showcase the best that India has to offer in Home, Fashion, Lifestyle, Textiles and Furniture. The fair will be an interactive virtual incarnation of the physical show, which will be perfected with several onsite experiences that will enable buyers to connect with over 1300 suppliers in 12 display segments across 25 virtual halls, in real time. Theme displays of regional crafts celebrating India's diversity, Fashion Shows showcasing innovations and upcoming trends, Live Craft Demonstrations displaying a rich heritage, Insightful Knowledge Webinars and much more await you. Register for free at : <https://ihgfdelhifair.in/register.php>

# TRADE PROGRAMS SEPTEMBER

3 SEPTEMBER

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria and Consul General Apoorva Srivastava over a virtual meeting with Hon'ble Ralph Eichler, Minister of Economic Development and Training, Manitoba and Chief of Protocol discussed opportunities for collaboration between India and Manitoba.



8-12 SEPTEMBER

High Commissioner Shri Ajay Bisaria visited Toronto in September 2020 and had series of meetings with prominent trade chambers and CEO's of Indian companies.

16 & 24 SEPTEMBER

Consulate participated exclusive investment forum for textiles-apparels & pharma organized by Invest India.



17 SEPTEMBER

Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce in association with consulate organized leader's talk session on India Canada Trade 2025.

29 SEPTEMBER

The Consulate in collaboration with Indo Canadian Business Chamber (ICBC) organized the first webinar of Brand India Virtual Tour of seven provinces of Canada.



Click [here](#) to read articles in full.

# TRADE PROGRAMS OCTOBER

4 OCTOBER

Canada India Foundation with support of Consulate launched webinar series on “Ayurveda Guidelines for Selecting Healthy Food”.



7 OCTOBER

High Commissioner Ajay Bisaria and Consul General Apoorva Srivastava over a virtual meeting with Premier of Nova Scotia Hon'ble Stephen McNeil and discussed opportunities for collaboration between India and Nova Scotia.

7 OCTOBER

Consul General interacted with prominent food companies over a roundtable meeting



14 OCTOBER

Consulate in association with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Agency APEEDA & Canada Organic trade association (COTA) organizes a virtual buyer seller meet for exploring opportunities for organic products in Canada.

15 OCTOBER

Consulate in association with Indo Canada Chamber of Commerce held leader's talk series on Ontario-Uttar Pradesh Trade and Investment Collaborative initiative.



15 OCTOBER

Consul General addressed a webinar focused on “cluster based manufacturing” arranged by Indian Chamber of International Business (ICIB) held virtually.

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