



August, 2021.

FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR SANDEEP KUMAR

I will be completing my tenure in Ireland at end of this month. Main focus of the Embassy over last three years has been on economic and commercial work. Even during the challenging Covid period, the effort was to forge opportunities out of challenges. Post-Covid, main sectors of bilateral complementarities will be ICT, pharma, health-care, fintech, agriculture and renewable energy. Provincial outreach has been a key component in advancement of economic work. I visited all 26 Counties of Ireland towards exploring economic opportunities with local chambers of commerce, resource centres and technical institutes. I sincerely thank all our business stakeholders for their constructive partnerships in various fields, and I am confident that these will be sustained in the medium-long term, taking advantage of Ireland's geo-strategic positioning in the post-Brexit phase. I wish you all well! 🙏



PART I: INDIAN ECONOMY

News Features

1. Launching of National Mission for a US\$ 400 bn merchandise exports target in 2021-22: PM Narendra Modi held a virtual meeting (06 Aug) with all stakeholders of trade and commerce sector, including the heads of Indian missions and embassies across the world, to share his views and strategies for enhancing trade and achieving the ambitious target of US\$ 400 bn of merchandise exports in 2021-22. He called upon the industry and exporters to take advantage of opportunities created in the post-Covid scenario, explore new destinations and expand the export basket to achieve PM listed four important factors for increasing the exports i.e. making manufacturing qualitatively competitive; removing problems of transport and logistics; enhancing government support to exporters and, finally, doubling efforts for the expansion of the international market for Indian products. The Govt has set a goal of US\$ 1 trillion in merchandise

exports in 2027-28 and US\$ 500 bn in the next two years. Deptt of Commerce has devised a detailed plan to meet the current target this fiscal year. This includes a focus on existing and new markets for the current and new products. Jul 2021 recorded the highest-ever merchandise exports of US\$ 35.17 bn, bringing the first four months' total to US\$ 130 bn.

(More Info: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1732297>)



2. E-RUPI Digital payment solution: PM Modi launched (02 Aug) digital payment solution e-RUPI, a cashless and contactless instrument for digital payments. E-RUPI is basically a digital pre-paid voucher which a beneficiary gets on his phone in the form of an SMS or QR code which can be redeemed at any center that accepts it. It is a one-time contactless, cashless voucher-based mode of payment that helps users redeem the voucher without a card, digital payments app, or internet banking access. This digital payment instrument may be used for the purchase of specific goods or services, but cannot be converted to cash or transferred to another person. PM said that the e-RUPI voucher is going to play a huge role in making Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) more effective in digital transactions in the country and will give a new dimension to digital governance.

(More Info: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1743056>)

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI
launched digital payment solution **e-RUPI**
on 2nd August

- e-RUPI is a cashless and contactless instrument for digital payment developed by National Payments Corporation of India
- Connects sponsors of the services with beneficiaries & service providers in a digital manner without any physical interface
- Assures timely payment without involvement of any intermediary.
- It can also be used for delivering services meant for providing drugs & nutritional support under Mother & Child welfare schemes, TB eradication programmes, etc

3. India Infrastructure Plan & National Hydrogen Mission: On the occasion of India's 75th Independence Day PM Modi addressed the Nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort on Sunday (15 Aug). PM said 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' will infuse new energy and new consciousness among the countrymen. In particular, he spoke about his vision for India's development, saying the next 25 years will mark the country's growth story. He talked about boosting manufacturing and exports, encouraging home-grown industries and promoting innovation. PM said the Govt would launch an infrastructure plan worth \$1.35 tn (£983 bn), aimed at ensuring that the benefits of the economy should trickle down to every village and town in India. He also announced the National Hydrogen Mission and pledged to make India a Global Hub for Green Hydrogen Production and Export.

(More Info: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1746070>)

PM Modi announces National Hydrogen Mission

INDIA@75 AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV

4. Indian Presidency of UNSC: In August, India held the Presidency of the UNSC which witnessed substantive outcomes on key global issues. PM Narendra Modi presided over, in virtual mode, a UNSC High-Level Open Debate on "Enhancing Maritime Security - A Case For International Cooperation" (09 Aug). PM called oceans the world's "shared heritage" and described maritime routes as "the lifelines of international trade." From Ireland, Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications and Transport, Eamon Ryan, participated. The Debate was focused on ways to effectively counter maritime crime and insecurity and strengthened coordination in the maritime domain. During India's Presidency of UNSC, External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar presided over two other important events, namely, the UNSC Open Debate on 'Protecting the Protectors: Technology and Peace keeping' (18 Aug) and 'Threats to International Peace and Security caused by Terrorist Acts' (19 Aug).

(More Info: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1744170>)

PM Chairs UNSC High-Level Debate, Lists Five Principles On Enhancing Maritime Security

- First:** We should remove barriers from legitimate maritime trade. The bottlenecks in this can be a challenge for the entire global economy
- Second:** the settlement of maritime disputes should be peaceful and on the basis of international law only
- Third:** we should face natural disasters and maritime threats created by non-state actors together. India has taken several steps to enhance regional cooperation on this subject
- Fourth:** we have to preserve the maritime environment and maritime resources. We have to keep our maritime environment free from pollution like plastics & oil spills
- Fifth:** we should encourage responsible maritime connectivity. Infrastructure creation is necessary to increase maritime trade

5. India's Fight Against Covid – News, Developments and Technologies :

(a) Zydus Cadila: India approves world's first DNA Covid vaccine: Zydus Cadila received approval (20 Aug) for emergency use authorisation (EUA) from the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) for ZyCoV-D. This indigenously developed DNA-based vaccine for COVID-19 is the world's first such vaccine. The three-dose vaccine has been developed in partnership with Deptt of Bio-technology (DBT) under the 'Mission COVID Suraksha'.

(More Info: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1747669>)



Make in India
DNA based COVID-19 Vaccine
ZyCoV-D
Receives Emergency Use Authorization

Developed under Mission COVID Suraksha, by Zydus Cadila and DBT-BIRAC*
*Department of Biotechnology - Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council

A three dose needle-free vaccine, to be administered to individuals aged 12 years & above

Big boost to AatmaNirbhar Bharat and the fight against Covid-19

Reportedly effective against coronavirus mutants, especially Delta variant

(b) Indian Institute of Science (IISc) develops CoviHawkes - AI tool for Covid-19: 'CoviHawkes', developed by IISc, is used for district-wise forecasting and monitoring of COVID-19 infections in India. It is backed by powerful machine learning techniques and the collection of data is at three levels: country, state, and districts. This data is used to forecast the daily case counts at each of these levels in the future. The tool combines the observed patterns in the case counts from the past with additional factors like demographics (e.g., population density) and mobility (e.g., decrease in the percentage of people traveling for work due to lockdown) of the region. It can help policymakers to identify local regions that must go into lockdown mode to control the infection rate, offering a sounder alternative to state-wide or nationwide lockdowns.

(More Info: <https://ai.iisc.ac.in/research-highlight/covihawkes-an-ai-tool-for-covid-19/>)

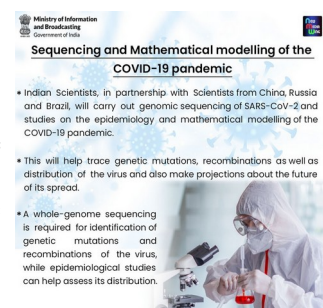


AI Technologies to Battle COVID-19

CoviHawkes - AI tool for Covid-19

(c) BRICS group to conduct genome sequencing of coronavirus: Indian scientists, in partnership with scientists from China, Russia and Brazil, will carry out genomic sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 and studies on the epidemiology and mathematical modelling of the COVID-19 pandemic. This will help trace genetic mutations, re-combinations as well as distribution of the virus and also make projections about the future of its spread. The collaborative research plan has been developed considering the strengths of international collaborators. The study will provide a common platform to share and analyse the data of four different countries and understand the spread routes and transmission dynamics of virus.

(More Info: <https://dst.gov.in/scientists-four-brics-countries-carry-out-genomic-sequencing-and-mathematical-modelling-covid-19>)



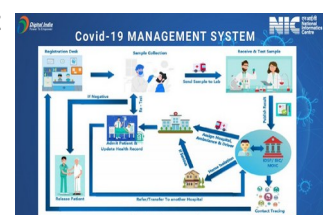
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Government of India

Sequencing and Mathematical modelling of the COVID-19 pandemic

- Indian Scientists, in partnership with Scientists from China, Russia and Brazil, will carry out genomic sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 and studies on the epidemiology and mathematical modelling of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- This will help trace genetic mutations, recombinations as well as distribution of the virus and also make projections about the future of its spread.
- A whole-genome sequencing is required for identification of genetic mutations and recombinations of the virus, while epidemiological studies can help assess its distribution.

(d) ICMR develops COVID-19 sample collection management system for rapid antigen, antibody, and RT-PCR tests: Timely collection of correct data is very important during these challenging times of pandemic. The data relating to COVID19 RT-PCR, Rapid Antibody, and Rapid Antibody tests is being collected by the Govt of India with the help of authorized collection centers spread throughout the country. The portal at <https://covid19cc.nic.in> is primarily for use by authorized persons/Govt officials for transferring RT-PCR, Rapid Antigen, and Rapid Antibody tests data to ICMR portal through the App on their mobile phones.

(More Info: <https://covid19cc.nic.in/ICMR/Login.aspx>)



(e) Vaccination status: Total vaccine doses administered in India exceeded 818 mn, as of 20 Sep, under the Nationwide Vaccine Drive, one of the largest such drives in the world. Vaccination coverage now stands at more than 60 % of the adult population.

(More Info: <https://www.mygov.in/covid-19/>)



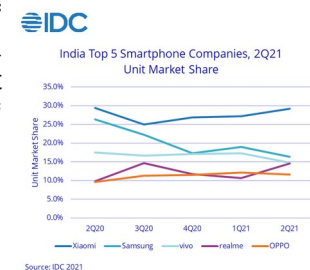
CONGRATULATIONS
INDIA
+ 700 MILLION
COVID-19 VACCINE DOSES
ADMINISTERED IN TOTAL!

6. India and World Bank sign \$250 mn New project to make existing dams safe and resilient: Central Water Commission, govt representatives from 10 participating states and the World Bank signed (05 Aug) a \$250 mn project, to support the Govt of India's long-term dam safety program and improve the safety and performance of existing dams across various states of India. The 2nd Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP-2) will strengthen dam safety by building dam safety guidelines, bring in global experience, and introduce innovative technologies. Another major innovation envisaged under the project that is likely to transform dam safety management in the country is the introduction of a risk-based approach to dam asset management that will help to effectively allocate financial resources towards priority dam safety needs. The project will be implemented in approximately 120 dams across the states of Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Tamil Nadu.



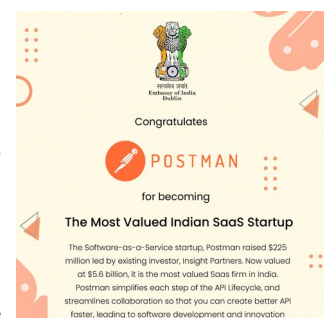
(More Info: <https://www.ibef.org/news/india-and-world-bank-sign-250-million-project-to-make-existing-dams-safe-and-resilient>)

7. India among top 4 markets for 5G devices in terms of smartphone shipments: According to market research organisations, India is nowhere near deploying 5G services, but it has emerged as the 4th largest market for devices supporting the next-generation technology in terms of shipments. According to International Data Corporation (IDC), India lags behind China, the US, and Japan in terms of 5G smartphone shipments, with an average selling price of US\$ 410. This is despite the fact that Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, and Vodafone Idea are still testing 5G networks, and the supporting airwaves auction isn't scheduled until early 2022. According to IDC, India will ship over 40 mn 5G smartphones by the end of 2021, accounting for around 24% of total shipments, up from around 3.5 mn in 2020. 5G smartphone sales are projected to reach about 25-30 mn by the end of the year, according to CyberMedia Research (CMR), a market intelligence firm.



(More Info: <https://www.ibef.org/news/india-among-top-4-markets-for-5g-devices-sans-network-support-40-mn-shipments-likely-in-2021>)

8. 'Postman' App becomes most valued Indian SaaS startup: 'Postman', an API development tool, helps to build, test and modify APIs. Almost any functionality that could be needed by any developer is encapsulated in this tool. It is used by over 5 mn developers every month to make their API development easy and simple. It has the ability to make various types of HTTP requests(GET, POST, PUT, PATCH), saving environments for later use, converting the API to code for various languages (like JavaScript, Python). Postman has secured US\$ 225 mn of additional investments and is now valued at US\$ 5.6 bn as a result of this financing. The seven-year-old business, founded in Bengaluru in 2014, has now surpassed BrowserStack, which was valued at US\$ 4 bn in June, as the most valuable SaaS (software-as-a-service) firm from India. Freshworks, the poster child for SaaS, is presently valued at US\$ 3.5 bn and is ready to go public in the US. The additional funds will be used to grow the company's staff and invest in its developer community. On its platform, there are around 17 mn individuals and 500,000 organisations. The fresh investment in Postman comes at a time when foreign investors are becoming more interested in Indian SaaS firms.



(More Info: <https://www.ibef.org/news/postman-becomes-most-valued-saas-startup-at-56-billion-after-fresh-funding>)

Opportunities in Agri-tech Sector

9. Promoting Nutri-Cereal (Millets) Farming in India: The importance of millets as a balanced diet gets highlighted in these times of fast-paced urban and rural lifestyles. Millets (now notified as 'Nutri-cereals' that include three major and five minor millets- Sorghum, Pearl, Finger, Barnyard, Proso, Foxtail, Kodo, and Little) are three to five times more nutritious than wheat and rice in terms of proteins, minerals, and vitamins. They need very little water for production and can be grown in vast dryland areas using farmyard manures, reducing the dependence on synthetic fertilizers too. Thus, millet-farming provides multiple securities including nutrition and at the same time addressing the impact of climate change issues such as water stress, high temperatures, recurrent droughts, and erratic rainfall. Among the states, the maximum area under millets is in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh (Bajra), followed by Maharashtra, Karnataka (Jowar), Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttarakhand (Ragi), Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh (small millet). **The declaration to celebrate the year 2023 as the 'International Year of Millets' by the UNGA (on India's proposal) has brought the millets into the limelight.** The Govt of India through the revamped National Food Security Mission Operational Guidelines (NFSM) has laid specific focus on 202 Nutri-cereal districts in 14 states to provide incentives to farmers for seed mini kits, field-level demonstrations, training, processing clusters, and research support. The \$14 bn Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF) has pushed investments across states to support millet entrepreneurs, primary processing machines for millets dehulling, and the formation of millet farmer collectives. There is need for a promotion impetus to millets through new high-yielding varieties, a scientific package of practices, bio-fortification, farm gate processing, price support, and value addition.



(More Info: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseFramePage.aspx?PRID=1741993>)

Main Economic Indicators

Gross Domestic Product – GDP			
Fiscal Year	2018-19	2019-20	Est* 2020-21
Real GDP (% change, YoY)	6.5 %	4.0 %	- 7.3 %
GDP (current US\$) - India	2701	2871	2623

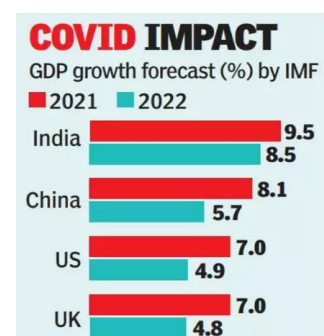
(More Info: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.KD.ZG?locations=IN>)

(More Info: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1701119>)

India's GDP latest news

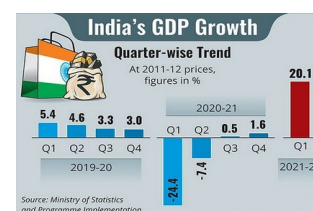
(i) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept its estimate unchanged for economic growth at 9.5 % for the current fiscal (FY2021-22). The central bank has observed that economic activity has started normalizing, private consumption is improving while investment and external demand as indicated by high-frequency data are on the path of regaining traction.

(ii) The International Monetary Fund (IMF) cut its economic growth forecast for India to 9.5 % for the fiscal year to Mar 31, 2022, as the onset of a severe 2nd COVID-19 wave cut into recovery momentum. This forecast for 2021-22 is lower than the 12.5 % growth in GDP that IMF had projected in Apr before the 2nd wave took a grip. For 2022-23, IMF expects economic growth of 8.5%, larger than the 6.9 % it had projected in the Apr quarter.



Source: World Economic Outlook, July 2021

(iii) The National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has released the estimates of GDP for Q1 of 2021-22, along with the corresponding quarterly estimates of expenditure components of the GDP. Accordingly, real GDP has strongly bounced back in the Q1 of the FY 2021-22 with growth rate of 20.1% as against the contraction of 24.4 % witnessed in the Q1 of FY 2020-21.



India's Foreign Trade:

India's overall exports (Merchandise and Services combined) in Aug 2021* are est* to be USD 52.20 bn, exhibiting a positive growth of 33.99 % over the same period last year and a positive growth of 19.89 % over Aug 2019. Overall imports in Aug 2021* are estimated to be USD 58.57 bn, exhibiting a positive growth of 45.38 % over the same period last year and a positive growth of 16.00 % over Aug 2019.

		August 2021 (USD Billion)	August 2020 (USD Billion)	August 2019 (USD Billion)	Growth vis-à-vis August 2020 (%)	Growth vis-à-vis August 2019 (%)
Merchandise	Exports	33.28	22.83	25.99	45.76	28.03
	Imports	47.09	31.03	39.85	51.72	18.15
	Trade Balance	-13.81	-8.20	-13.86	-68.30	0.37
Services*	Exports	18.92	16.13	17.55	17.33	7.83
	Imports	11.48	9.25	10.64	24.11	7.94
	Net of Services	7.44	6.88	6.91	8.21	7.66
Overall (Merchandise+ Services)*	Exports	52.20	38.96	43.54	33.99	19.89
	Imports	58.57	40.29	50.49	45.38	16.00
	Trade Balance	-6.37	-1.33	-6.95	-379.58	8.36

* Note: The latest data for services sector released by RBI is for July 2021. The data for Aug 2021 is an estimation, which will be revised based on RBI's subsequent release. (ii) Data for 2019 and 2020 are revised on pro-rata basis using quarterly balance of payments data.

		April-August 2021 (USD Billion)	April-August 2020 (USD Billion)	April-August 2019 (USD Billion)	Growth vis-à-vis April-August 2020 (%)	Growth vis-à-vis April-August 2019 (%)
Merchandise	Exports	164.10	98.06	133.14	67.33	23.25
	Imports	219.63	121.42	210.39	80.89	4.39
	Trade Balance	-55.54	-23.35	-77.25	-137.79	28.11
Services*	Exports	92.08	79.79	88.10	15.40	4.51
	Imports	53.81	45.13	54.13	19.24	-0.57
	Net of Services	38.26	34.66	33.98	10.40	12.61
Overall (Merchandise+ Services)*	Exports	256.17	177.85	221.24	44.04	15.79
	Imports	273.45	166.55	264.51	64.18	3.38
	Trade Balance	-17.27	11.30	-43.27	-252.82	60.08

* Note: The latest data for services sector released by RBI is for Jul 2021. The data for Aug 2021 is an estimation, which will be revised based on RBI's subsequent release. (ii) Data for 2019 and 2020 are revised on pro-rata basis using quarterly balance of payments data.

India's overall exports (Merchandise and Services combined) in Apr-Aug 2021* are estimated to be USD 256.17 bn, exhibiting a positive growth of 44.04 % over the same period last year and a positive growth of 15.79 % over Apr-Aug 2019. Overall imports in Apr-Aug 2021* are estimated to be USD 273.45 bn, exhibiting a positive growth of 64.18 % over the same period last year and a positive growth of 3.38 % over Apr-Aug 2019.

Services Trade:

Trade in Services		
Exports & Imports: (US \$ billion) (Provisional)	July '21	Apr - July '21
Exports (Receipts)	18.52	73.15
Imports (Payments)	11.06	42.33
Trade balance	7.47	30.82

(More Info: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1754836>)

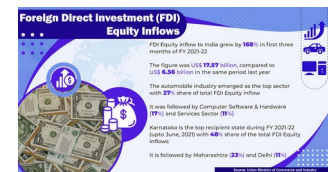
Industry

According to data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) grew by 11.5% in July mainly due to a low-base effect and good performance by manufacturing, mining and power sectors but the output remained slightly below the pre-pandemic level. For Jul 2021, the quick estimates of IIP, with base 2011-12 stands at 131.4, a statement by the Statistics and Programme Implementation Ministry said. The IIP for the mining, manufacturing and electricity sectors for July stood at 104.6, 130.9 and 184.7, respectively. As per the ministry data, the manufacturing sector's output surged 10.5 %, while mining output rose 19.5 % in July 2021. Power generation also saw an 11.1 % jump. As per the use-based classification, the indices stood at 128.5 for primary goods, 91.8 for capital goods, 143.1 for intermediate goods and 143.5 for infrastructure/ construction goods for Jul 2021. Further, the indices for consumer durables and consumer non-durables stand at 119.5 and 146.6, respectively, for the said month. In percentage terms, primary goods output grew 12.4 %, while capital goods production saw 29.5 % growth. Intermediate goods and infrastructure/construction goods saw a 14.1 % and 11.6 % rise in production, respectively. Consumer durables saw 20.2 % growth in July, while consumer non-durables production declined 1.8 %.

(More info: http://mospi.nic.in/sites/default/files/IIP_PR_july21.pdf / <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1753865>)

FDI

Measures taken by the Govt of India on the fronts of FDI policy reforms, investment facilitation and ease of doing business have resulted in increased FDI inflows into the country. The following trends in India's FDI are an endorsement of its status as a preferred investment destination amongst global investors: India attracted total FDI inflow of US\$ 22.53 bn during first three months of 2021-22, i.e. Apr-Jun 2021 which is 90% higher as compared to first three months of 2020-21 (US\$ 11.84 bn).



FDI equity inflow grew by 168% in the first three months of F.Y. 2021-22 (US\$ 17.57 bn) compared to the year ago period (US\$ 6.56 bn). 'Automobile Industry' has emerged as the top sector during the first three months of F.Y. 2021-22 with 27% share of the total FDI Equity inflow followed by Computer Software & Hardware (17%) and Services Sector (11%) respectively. Under the sector 'Automobile Industry', majority of FDI Equity inflow (88%) was reported in the state of Karnataka during the first three months of the current financial year (2021-22). Karnataka is the top recipient state during the F.Y. 2021-22 (upto Jun 2021) with 48% share of the total FDI Equity inflows followed by Maharashtra (23%) and Delhi (11%).

(More info: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1749890>)

Inflation

According to data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) and MoSPI, India's retail inflation in Aug marginally eased to 5.3 %, staying within Reserve Bank of India's comfort zone for a 2nd month. The retail inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 5.59% in Jul and 6.69 % in Aug 2020. As per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), inflation in the food basket was 3.11% in Aug compared to 3.96 % in the preceding month. Inflation is within RBI's 2 %-6 % comfort range for a 2nd month. But it has been above the medium-term target of 4 % for nearly two years. The Price data are collected from representative and selected 1114 urban Markets and 1181 villages covering all States/UTs through personal visits by field staff of Field Operations Division of NSO, MoSPI on a weekly roster. During the month of Aug 2021, NSO collected prices from 99.7% villages and 98.6% urban Markets while the Market-wise prices reported therein were 87.1% for rural and 87.4% for urban.

(More info: http://mospi.nic.in/sites/default/files/press_release/CPI_PR_13sep21.pdf)

PART II: INDIA-IRELAND ECONOMIC RELATIONS:

1. India-Ireland Govt-to-Govt (G2G) Virtual Meet: A G2G virtual meeting, led by Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), India and Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment of Ireland was held (12 Aug) to exchange best practices/policies on MSME's in both countries and to discuss sectors for the subsequent B2B meetings between the two sides. Both sides gave an overview of Govt policies for SME sectors in their respective countries and outlined the areas, such as education (ed-tech, e-learning), digital technologies (IOT, cloud based software sectors); banking and fintech; life sciences; aviation; agri-tech and agri-science; etc. for further collaboration in this regard. It was also decided that as a next step, reps from industry associations should be involved to identify the exact sectors of cooperation. First Secretary (Com) from Embassy also gave an overview of the India-Ireland relations, exploring further avenues for strengthening of economic cooperation between two countries.



2. Embassy Provincial Outreach Programmes: During the month, Ambassador visited Galway (16 Aug) and Co. Kildare (20 Aug). In Galway, Embassy hosted the Independence Day Reception in partnership with National University of Ireland Galway (NUIG), with aim to strengthen the institutional linkages between the two countries. It was attended by the Deputy Mayor of Co. Galway, Cllr Martina O'Connor, Mayor of Co. Mayo Cllr Michael Smyth, VP of NUIG Prof Pol O Dochartaigh, Former Minister Pat Breen, Galway Chamber President Aengus Burns along with other Irish dignitaries and Indian community members from Galway, Donegal, Clare & Mayo. During his visit to Co. Kildare (20 Aug), Ambassador met with Cllr Rob Power, Mayor of Kildare and Newbridge Municipal District, Prof. Aidan Mulkeen, Deputy President-Registrar at Maynooth University and Indian community representatives, students and front-line health-care workers. Discussions with the Mayor were centered around economic, education, health-care, IT, and cultural collaboration, as well as forging of institutional linkages, with Kildare county bodies and Maynooth University. An orientation programme for new students will be held in Sep.



Ambassador met with Cllr Rob Power, Mayor of Kildare and Newbridge Municipal District

3. Celebration of 75th Indian Independence Day: Embassy organised various events on the occasion, around the theme of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (Festival of Independence). Particular focus was on showcasing India's achievements in the last 75 years, especially in business, S&T and space. Virtual events consisted of essay writing and story telling competitions relating to India's achievements. A major 'India Day' event by the Federation of Indian Communities in Ireland (FICI) was also supported.



75th ID: Flag-hoisting in Dublin



75th ID: Guests at the event in Dublin



Indian food served at the event



75th ID: Guests at the event in Galway

4. PM Modi acknowledges Irish Sanskrit teacher, Rutger Kortenhorst: PM Narendra Modi, in his monthly radio talk programme, Mann Ki Baat, acknowledged (29 Aug) the commitment and dedication of Rutger Kortenhorst towards teaching and propagation of Sanskrit. Kortenhorst, an Irish Sanskrit scholar, researcher & teacher at John Scottus School in Dublin, was earlier awarded the ICCR World Sanskrit Award-2020. The school has been teaching Sanskrit at primary level since its inception (1986).



5. Embassy's Consular Services and ongoing response to COVID-19: During the month, 294 passports, 46 visas, and 45 Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) cards were issued. Other services were also continued to be provided, mostly through the post, in line with Irish Govt health protocols. Limited in-house services were strictly by appointment. The Embassy maintained its support structures, helplines, and Community Support Groups in all key cities, to provide assistance to the Indian community.



Bilateral Trade

For the period Jan-July 2021 (for which period the latest figures are available), total bilateral trade stood at Euro 654 mn. India's exports to Ireland were worth Euro 419 mn and India's imports worth 235 mn. The balance of trade was 184 mn in favor of India. Trade data show positive trends and the start of normalization of trading in post-Covid time. [The analysis of data available for the period Jan-Dec 2020 showed that total bilateral trade stood at Euro 890 mn. India's exports to Ireland were Euro 524 mn and India's imports from Ireland worth Euro 366 mn. The balance of trade was Euro 158 mn in favor of India.]

**Overall negative trends shows reflection of the economic impact of Covid-19.*

Year/Period	2018	2019	2020	Jan - July '20	Jan - July '21
Ireland's Exports to India	€ 327	€480	€366 (-23.75%)	€197	€235 (19.45 %)
Ireland's Imports from India	€ 560	€636	€524 (-17.57%)	€301	€419 (39.29 %)
Total Trade	€ 887	€1116	€890 (-20.23%)	€498	€654 (31.43 %)

PART III: UPCOMING EVENTS

Events, fairs and conferences held / to be held in Aug 2021 in India			
Organizer	Event / Tender	Date	City/State
EEPC INDIA (Engineering Export Promotion Council) has been mandated by the Department of Commerce, Government of India	India Electricity Expo 2021 VIRTUAL FAIR	3-12 Aug 2021	Event link: www.eepcindia.org or https://eepcvirtualexpo.com/visitor/ovex_visitor_registration_form/MjA
Bus & Car Operators Confederation of India (BOCI)	BOCI organises biennial event Prawaas: The Bus & Car show focusing on Public Transport. 'Prawaas' is a common word in Indian languages which means 'The Travel'.	05-07 Aug 2021	Event link: http://www.prawaas.com/
Upcoming events, fairs and conferences in India			
Organizer	Event / Tender	Date	City/State
The Council of EU Chambers of Commerce in India	Panel Discussion on "Industry 4.0 and Evolution of Cross Industry Collaborations"	01 Sep 2021	Register in advance for this meeting: https://bit.ly/EUC_Industry4_0
Chamber for Import, Export & Health and Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs & relevant Government of India agencies	Food & Beverage Pro + Agro Organic World Expo'21 one of India's best trade shows for this industry and 7th Annual Outbound Tourism International (Worldwide Tourism) Expo & Conference	02-04 Sep 2021	Event link: https://www.agrofnbpro.in/ Event link: www.ttindiaexpo.com
PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in partnership with NITI Aayog, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, DSIR and TERI	'International Climate Summit 2021 - Powering India's Hydrogen Ecosystem'	03 Sep 2021	Event link: https://www.phdcci.in/press_releases/international-climate-summit-2021-to-pave-way-for-indias-hydrogen-ecosystem/
Indian Electrical & Electronics Manufacturers' Association (IEEMA) is an Apex Industry Association of the Indian electrical equipment, industrial electronics and allied equipment manufacturers	The 10th virtual editon of ELROMA - 2021 emphasizes on "Smart Efficient Electrical Rotating Machines, Drives & Applications, Control Solutions for a Greener World"	06-08 Sep 2021	Event link: http://elroma.ieema.org/ Event Registration Form: https://elroma.ieema.org/event/vfair/register/ip
The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)	Leadership, Excellence, and Adaptability of business built on pillars of Diversity and Sustainability 'LEADS 2021' - is a unique multi-faceted 2-day global thought leadership initiative . 'Future of Sustainable Technologies in India-Europe Partnership'- a unique multi-faceted international platform to 'Re-imagine the World'	14-15 Sep 2021	Event link: https://registrations.ficci.com/FICCILEADS2021/online-registration.asp
Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) in association with Indian Embassies & Consul General Offices in United Kingdom, European & CIS Countries and support of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India	VIRTUAL BUYER-SELLER MEET of Indian Handicrafts Exporters / Manufacturers	21-24 Sep 2021	Event link: https://indianhandicrafts.epch.in/index.html Registration page: https://indianhandicrafts.epch.in/registration.html
Organised under: "Make in India"	IMS 2020- India Manufacturing Show	27-29 Sep 2021	Event link:

major national programme of the Govt of India and MS Foundation-organization in service for the well being and overall development of the Manufacturing Sector in India	"India's Premier Industrial Exhibition for MSME and Heavy industries"		http://www.indiamanufacturingshow.com/ims2020/index.php
The Council of EU Chambers Of Commerce in India (EU Chambers)	29 th Annual General Meeting LIVE 'Lessons from EU for Indian Corporate on the ESG Agenda'	29 Sep 2021	To Register click on link: https://euchambersagm2021.com/ LIVE link: https://youtu.be/zTJTfTnvkA
EEPC INDIA (Engineering Export Promotion Council) has been mandated by the Department of Commerce, Government of India	India Electricity Expo 2021 VIRTUAL FAIR	27-30 Sep 2021	Event link: https://eepcvirtualexpo.com/visitor/ovex_visitor_registration_form/MjA
World EXPO – Dubai "2020"	FICCI - Industry's Voice for Policy Change	Oct 2021- Mar 2022	Event link: https://www.expo2020dubai.com/
The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, and recently by NITI Aayog, Government of India	15 th Edition of FICCI HEAL on the theme, "Transforming Healthcare beyond COVID" - on virtual platform	20-22 Oct 2021	Request you to confirm your participation at the earliest at sudhanshu.gupta@ficci.com and register on the below link to join the conference: https://ficci.in/registration/invitee-form.asp?evid=25692
Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in association with the Ministry of Railways, Government of India	IREE - 14 th International Railway Equipment Exhibition (IREE 2021)	21-23 Oct 2021	Email contact: rajesh.wadhwa@cii.in Event link: www.ireeindia.com
Export Promotion is an apex organization in India for development and promotion of exports of Handicrafts Council for Handicrafts [EPCH]	Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair (IHGF Delhi Fair)	28-31 Oct 2021	Event link: www.ihgfdelhifair.in Event email: trade@epch.com Registration link: https://www.ihgfdelhifair.in/register.php
Knowledge Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) of India along with FLS Communication and media	Knowledge Millennium Virtual Summit - Green Processing Revolution - Agriculture, Innovations & Market through Agribusiness, Technology & value chain at large	29-30 Oct 2021	Event link: https://www.knowledgechamber.org/about.php Email for participation: events@knowledgechamber.org
Chamber for Import, Export & Health and Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs & relevant Government of India agencies	Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair (IHGF Delhi Fair) Food & Beverage Pro + Agro Organic World Expo'21 one of India's best trade shows for this industry and 7th Annual Outbound Tourism International (Worldwide Tourism) Expo & Conference	25-27 Nov 2021	Event link: https://www.agrofnbpro.in/ Event link: www.tindiaexpo.com
BOCI (Bus & Car Operators Confederation of India)	3 rd Edition of Prawaas 3.0., India's Biggest Bus & Car Show for Public Transport	25-26 Feb 2022	Event link: http://www.prawaas.com/prawaas_forms/enquiry.php Event link: http://prawaas.com/index.php



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FICCI HEALTH CARE 2021

'TRANSFORMING HEALTHCARE BEYOND COVID'
Oct 20-22, 2021
(Virtual Platform)

CHIEF GUEST

SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA
Hon'ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India (Invited)

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Nehru Center Halls Dr. AB Road, Worli

MUMBAI
25 - 27 November 2021
BEC, Nesco Complex Goregaon East

OTHER CITIES
Contact for other Indian Cities & also world expos in foreign countries

Compiled by

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