Akhbar Al-Hind

Nov 2024 – Feb 2025

सत्यमेव जयते

भारतीय राजदूतावास

سفارة الهند

Embassy of India

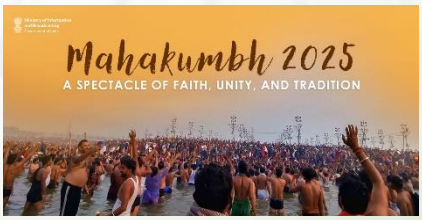
Doha - Qatar

Inside:

Hon'ble PM's remarks on AI Action Summit in Paris



Mahakumbh 2025



State visit of H.H. the Amir of Qatar to India



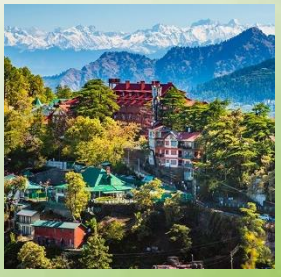
Focus State: West Bengal



Focus Sector: Space Industry



Tourism: Uttarakhand



75th Anniversary of the Republic Day of India



India's vision for AI: Prime Minister's address at the AI Action Summit, Paris

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the AI Action Summit in Paris, which he co-chaired with French President Emmanuel Macron.



Paris hosted the AI Action Summit, co-chaired by Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron. In his opening address, the PM highlighted India's vision for artificial intelligence (AI), emphasizing responsible governance, inclusive innovation, and global cooperation. He underscored AI's transformative potential while advocating for sustainable and ethical development.

The Need for Global AI Governance

The PM emphasized that AI reshapes governance, economies, security, and societies worldwide. Unlike previous technological advancements, AI is evolving at an unprecedented pace, necessitating global collaboration. PM urged collective efforts to establish governance frameworks that promote innovation while addressing risks such as bias, misinformation, and cyber threats.

"Governance is not just about managing risks and rivalries. It is also about promoting innovation and deploying it for the global good," PM stated, stressing the importance of trust-building mechanisms and equitable AI access, particularly for the Global South.

AI for Social Transformation and Sustainable Development

PM highlighted AI's potential to revolutionize key sectors such as healthcare, education, and agriculture, contributing to achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He called for:

- Open-source AI systems to enhance transparency and inclusivity.
- Bias-free datasets to ensure fair and representative AI models.
- Cybersecurity measures to counter AI-driven threats like deepfakes and misinformation.
- Integration of AI with local ecosystems for contextually relevant solutions.

The Prime Minister also addressed concerns about AI's energy consumption, calling for developing sustainable AI models that optimize power usage. He highlighted India's leadership in clean energy, citing the International Solar Alliance (ISA), a joint initiative with France.

AI and Employment: Adapting to the Changing Workforce

Recognizing concerns about job displacement due to AI, PM asserted that technological advancements do not eliminate work but transform its nature. The PM emphasized the need for large-scale skilling and reskilling programs to prepare the workforce for an AI-driven future. With its vast AI talent pool, India is already investing in upskilling initiatives to bridge the digital divide.

India's AI Leadership: Digital Public Infrastructure & National AI Mission

The PM showcased India's success in building Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for its 1.4 billion people, which provides a low-cost, open-access network for governance and commerce. India's Data Empowerment and Protection Architecture (DEPA) ensures secure and democratic data usage. He reiterated India's commitment to responsible AI development, citing the National AI Mission, which fosters public-private partnerships to make AI accessible and affordable for startups and researchers. India is also developing its Large Language Model (LLM) to reflect its cultural and linguistic diversity.

Mahakumbh 2025: A Spectacle of Faith, Unity, and Tradition

As the sacred waters settle, the echoes of devotion and grandeur leave an everlasting imprint on history



In a world marked by the hustle of modernity, few events hold the power to bring millions together in pursuit of something greater than themselves. The **Maha Kumbh Mela**, held from **13 January 2025 to 26 February 2025**, was a sacred pilgrimage that is celebrated **four times** over a course of **12 years**. Kumbh Mela, the **world's largest peaceful gathering**, draws millions of pilgrims who bathe in sacred rivers seeking to purify themselves from sins and attain spiritual liberation.

The Maha Kumbh Mela is deeply embedded in **Hindu mythology** and represents one of the most significant gatherings of faith in the world. This sacred event rotates between **four locations** in India – **Haridwar, Ujjain, Nashik,** and **Prayagraj** – each situated by a holy river, from the Ganges to the Shipra, the Godavari, and the confluence of the Ganges, Yamuna, and the mythical Sarasvati in Prayagraj. The expected turnout of 45 crore devotees in 45 days was exceeded within a month, reaching 66 crores+ by the concluding day.

International Tourism at Maha Kumbh: The Maha Kumbh 2025 in Prayagraj emerged as a global phenomenon, attracting foreign tourists, travel writers, and spiritual seekers from various countries. The Uttar Pradesh government and the Ministry of Tourism implemented extensive initiatives to facilitate international participation, promote cultural exchange, and position the event on the world tourism map.

International Participation and Tourism Initiatives: A group of **British travel writers** visited the Maha Kumbh on **February 25–26, 2025**, exploring religious, historical, and cultural sites in Prayagraj.

Foreign Tourists and Cultural Engagement: Pilgrims and tourists from **South Korea, Japan, Spain, Russia, the United States**, and other nations participated in the festival. Many engaged with local guides at the **Sangam Ghat** to understand the **spiritual and cultural significance** of the event. A visitor from Spain described the experience as a **"once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."**

Promotion at International Tourism Fairs: Maha Kumbh 2025 was showcased at **FITUR in Madrid, Spain (January 24–28, 2025)** and **ITB Berlin, Germany (March 4–6, 2025)**.

Digital Maha Kumbh and Global Engagement: The event's **official website saw 33 lakh visitors from 183 countries** in the first week of January. Visitors from **6,206 cities worldwide** accessed the platform, with **India, the United States, Britain, Canada, and Germany** leading the traffic.

Incredible India Pavilion and Tourist Services
Maha Kumbh as a Global Cultural Brand
Luxury Accommodation and Travel Packages

Through these extensive efforts, Maha Kumbh 2025 successfully established itself as a **global spiritual and cultural event**, reinforcing Uttar Pradesh's identity as a premier destination for **religious tourism and international investment**.

News this Month

India's economic momentum strengthens despite global risks

India's economic activity is showing sustained momentum, with key growth indicators suggesting a sequential pickup in the second half of fiscal year 2024-25, according to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) February 2025 Bulletin. The report highlights improvements in vehicle sales, air traffic, steel consumption, and GST e-way bills, pointing to continued economic expansion. The RBI noted that rural demand is expected to strengthen further, supported by a resilient agricultural sector. Urban demand is also poised for recovery, driven by easing inflation and an increase in disposable incomes following significant income tax relief announced in the Union Budget for 2025-26.



Source: CNBC

India accelerates green energy transition with key policy moves

In a virtual address at India Energy Week 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted India's rapid progress in electric mobility and renewable energy while emphasising the need for swift action to meet the demands of a large and growing nation. He stressed that the battery and storage sector presents immense opportunities for both innovation and manufacturing. To accelerate this shift, the government has removed basic customs duties on various EV battery components as part of the Union Budget 2025, aiming to strengthen domestic production and push green energy adoption.



Source: Economic Times

India's semiconductor market set to reach $103.4 billion by 2030

India's semiconductor market is poised for significant expansion, with projections indicating it will reach US$103.4 billion in the next five years, powering its US$400+ billion electronics industry. According to the Indian Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA) report, *India Semiconductor Market Report 2030*, the sector was valued at US$52 billion in 2024-25 and is expected to grow at a CAGR of 13% through 2030.



Source: Economic Times

India's digital economy to outpace national growth by 2030

India's digital economy is poised for extraordinary growth, outpacing the overall economy and contributing nearly one-fifth of the country's national income by 2029-2030, according to a new report by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) titled 'Estimation and Measurement of India's Digital Economy'. The report is the first comprehensive effort to quantify the value addition and employment generated by India's rapidly growing digital sector. The report highlights the digital economy's transformative potential, noting that its contribution is expected to surpass agriculture and manufacturing in the next six years.



Source: Business Standard

Info you can use

One District One Product (ODOP)

The ODOP initiative is aimed at manifesting the vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to foster balanced regional development across all districts of the country.

The idea is to select, brand, and promote One Product from each District of the country

1. For enabling holistic socioeconomic growth across all regions
2. To attract investment in the district to boost manufacturing and exports
3. To generate employment in the district
4. To provide ecosystem for Innovation use of Technology at District level to make them competitive with domestic as well as International market

VIEW BROCHURE **VIEW PRODUCT LIST**

What Do We Do

Product Development
- Diversification
- Packaging & Branding
- Technology
- Upskilling
- Quality Standardization

Sales Improvement
- Domestic and International Market
- E2E E-commerce Onboarding and Fulfillment Assistance
- International Expos

Awareness
- Market Opportunities
- Buyer Needs
- Certifications (Organic/ as per exports standards)

COLLABORATE WITH US

State Emporiums

Procurement from Government E-Commerce Platforms

Explore and procure products under ODOP through official government-backed e-commerce platforms, including State Emporiums and Ministry-supported marketplaces. Showcasing the rich craftsmanship and unique heritage of each region, these platforms ensure quality and access to locally made products. To facilitate seamless procurement for individuals, businesses, and institutions, a curated list of links is provided below, offering a diverse shopping experience through government channels.

Focus Sector: Space Industry

India's space sector is rapidly expanding, driven by technological advancements and government support, with immense potential for growth and global collaboration



Sector Overview

Over the years, the Indian space sector has demonstrated remarkable technological prowess and accomplishments, displaying multifaceted potential and strategic significance. Launching satellites for communication, navigation, and earth observation, and interplanetary missions like the **Mars Orbiter Mission (Mangalyaan)** highlight the cost-effectiveness and reliable efficiency of the Indian Space Agency, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), making the agency **first in Asia** and **fourth in the world** to do so.

With **Chandrayaan 3**'s successful soft landing on the surface of the Moon in the South Pole area, India has opened avenues for collaboration and commercialization of space technologies. India has established partnerships with space agencies from various countries, such as the USA, UK, Singapore, and Germany, among others. India has so far launched **429 foreign satellites**, earning a revenue of $174 Mn. Enhancing self-reliance and fostering innovation in space technology, the ingenious satellite fleet, including navigation satellites like the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) and communication satellites like the GSAT series, continue to expand, marking the trajectory of India's growth in space. Furthermore, **Aditya L-1**, India's **first space-based mission to study the sun**, underscores the country's commitment to space exploration for holistic global development and information purposes. The importance of this sector underpins the interlinkages of various sectors such as railways, agriculture, roads & highways, and telemedicine for geospatial information, indicating the country's increased focus on innovative technologies through research and studies.

With an aim to tap a **market potential** of **$44 Bn industry by 2033**, capturing ~8% of the estimated global market, the Indian Space Sector is creating an ecosystem to reach **exports** worth **$11 Bn by 2033** through private, public, and start-up collaborations. The Indian Government has launched various initiatives and policy schemes, such as **Indian Space Policy 2023**, to augment the capabilities in technology development for the benefit of allied sectors, in addition to the inclusive socio-economic development of the nation. The **Seed Funding Scheme** also aims to increase the private participation of companies, start-ups, and industrial corporations to supplement and enhance the expanding infrastructure in the space sector. Leaping forward in the journey to become a global leader, the space sector of India offers a plentitude of opportunities.

$100 Bn
Anticipated size of Indian space economy by 2040

429
Foreign satellites launched for 30+ nations including Germany, Canada, Netherlands, etc. in the last nine years

$4.6 Bn
Market Size of Satellite Manufacturing in India by 2033.

Why Invest in Space

- **Cost-Efficient:** Low-cost access to space with launch on demand through the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV), which provides an opportunity for build and launch setup
- **Manufacturing Clusters:** Development of space manufacturing and clusters in Kerala and Tamil Nadu near launch stations
- **Human Resources:** Highly experienced talent pool of aerospace engineers and skilled labour in the space sector
- **Robust Supply Chain:** Robust supply chain of raw materials and component manufacturers

State Focus – West Bengal



Introduction: West Bengal is situated in eastern India and shares its borders with Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha, Sikkim, and Assam. The state also shares international borders with Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal. The Bay of Bengal is in the south of West Bengal.

West Bengal, India's sixth largest state in terms of economic size, has a projected Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of Rs. 18.8 trillion (US$ 227.05 billion) in 2024-25. The average annual GSDP is estimated to increase at 10.5% from 2023-24BE.

In FY25 (until August 2024) the total exports from the state stood at US$ 4,755.70 million. West Bengal exported key items such as Engineering Goods and Gems and Jewellery.

West Bengal is the second largest tea-producing state in India and is home to the globally acclaimed Darjeeling tea variety. West Bengal is the largest producer of rice in India. Its location advantage makes the state a traditional market for eastern India, the Northeast, Nepal, and Bhutan.

It is also a strategic entry point for markets in Southeast Asia. The cost of operating a business is lower in Kolkata than in other metropolitan cities. West Bengal has abundant natural resources of minerals and suitable agro-climatic conditions for agriculture, horticulture, and fisheries.

Advantages:

- **High Economic Growth:** The average annual GSDP is estimated to increase at 9.29% from 2018-19 to 2023- 24BE.
- **Rich labour pool:** 45 universities and sizeable research institutes in West Bengal. Knowledge of English is an advantage for the workforce of West Bengal.
- **Scope for industrial progress:** Close to mineral rich states like Jharkhand, Bihar and Odisha. In March 2024, Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi unveiled development projects worth Rs 15,000 crore (US$ 1.81 billion) for development projects related to railways, ports and petroleum, infrastructure in West Bengal.
- **Excellent connectivity:** Excellent connectivity to the rest of India in terms of railways, roadways, ports and airports. Major stretches of the golden quadrilateral project also pass through the state. Excellent connectivity

Key Government Policies and Objectives:

- **West Bengal Start Up Policy, 2016-21:** Brace up the culture of start-ups in West Bengal by acknowledging various auspicious start-ups and promoting them socially.
- **West Bengal Policy on Information & Communication Technology 2018:** Become one of the leading states in India in IT & ITeS and Electronic System Design & Manufacturing (ESDM) sectors.
- **West Bengal Logistics Park Development and Promotion Policy 2018:** Enhance network benefits for Logistics Parks through unified planning for industrial & urban infrastructure in the state.
- **West Bengal Tourism Policy 2016:** To increase availability of branded hotel accommodation rooms in the state to 100,000 by 2020 and make tourism more sustainable and in line with the basic tenets of environment, social and economic sustainability.
- **Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy 2021:** Position West Bengal as a sustainable transportation infrastructure hub.

Government Vision for the State

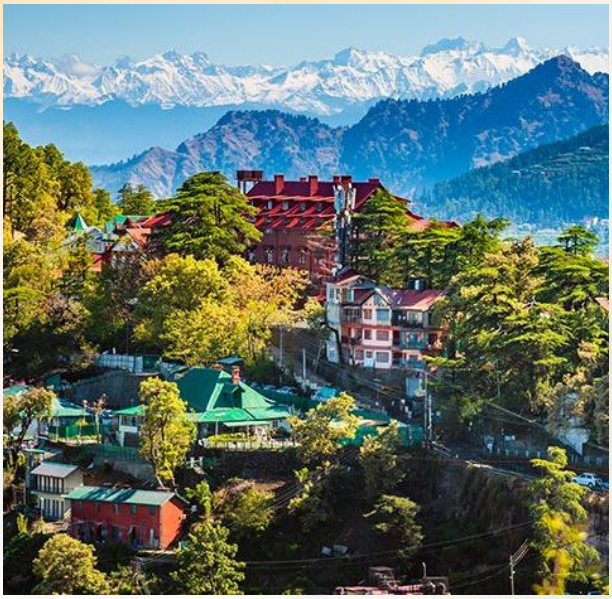
- **Transport Infrastructure:** Facilitating road connectivity throughout the state, upgrading air transportation, transformation of the state's port to world class facilities for container management and shipping.
- **Agriculture:** Training farmers to use scientific agri practices and using innovative crop production methods, research, new seed technologies.
- **Power Generation:** Introducing reforms in sector to improve overall efficiency and encouraging renewable energy power plants.
- **Economic Development:** Providing funding support, infrastructure, land and logistics to high importance sectors.

KEY SECTORS

- In June 2022, various Indian Railways projects to the tune of Rs. 254 crore (US$ 30.83 million) were launched in West Bengal's Hooghly district.
- In August 2022, a Special Food Processing Fund of Rs. 2,000 crore (US$ 242.72 million) was set up with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to provide affordable credit for investments in setting up Mega Food Parks (MFP) and processing units in the MFPs.
- Tea production in West Bengal stood at 426.59 million kg in FY24.
- In 2021, domestic tourist arrivals in the state were 243.25 million and foreign tourist arrivals had crossed over 0.34 million.
- In FY23 total exports of iron and steel from West Bengal stood at US$ 1,579.03 million, which was 12.39% of the total exports.
- GAIL, its JV company Bengal Gas Co and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd's will invest Rs. 17000 crore (US$ 2.2 billion) in various CNG projects in West Bengal over the next five years.
- ONGC will invest Rs. 1,500 crore (US$ 193.85 million) over the next 3-4 years for gas exploration at Ashoknager in North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal.
- In State Budget 2024-25 Rs. 22,620 crore (US$ 2.73 billion) has been allocated to Agriculture and Allied Activities of which Rs. 5,800 crore (US$ 700.48 million) has been allocated for financial support to Krishak Bandhu and Rs. 1,200 crore (US$ 144.93 million) has been allocated for crop insurance.
- As per State Budget 2024-25 Rs. 47,470 crore (US$ 5.73 billion) has been allocated for Education, Sports, Arts, and Culture of which Rs. 18,029 crore (US$ 2.18 billion) has been allocated for assistance to non-government secondary schools and Rs. 7,732 crore (US$ 0.93 billion) has been allocated for assistance to non-government primary schools.
- West Bengal had 21 SEZs; of this, seven were operational, five were notified, seven were formally approved and two had in-principle approval.
- The government has allocated Rs. 183.51 crore (US$ 25.35 million) for development of the IT and Electronics Department in West Bengal.
- Moreover, the state is also a key producer of petroleum and petrochemicals.
- The State Government introduced West Bengal Information Technology and Electronics Policy 2018 which envisages West Bengal as one of the leading states in India in the IT, ITeS, ICT and ESDM sectors.

Uttarakhand: Land of Gods

In the northern part of India, amidst the majestic mountains and rich mythological heritage, Uttarakhand unfolds as a mesmerising destination. This beautiful state is also known as "Devbhoomi," or the abode of the gods, cradled within the embrace of the Himalayas and is geographically divided into Garhwal and Kumaon regions. While Uttarakhand boasts well-known destinations such as Nainital, Mussoorie, Auli, and sacred pilgrimage sites like Kedarnath, Badrinath, Rishikesh, and Haridwar, it also invites you on an adventure to explore its hidden gems.



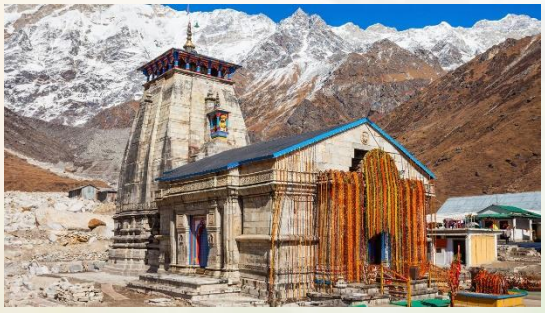
Mussoorie – The Queen of Hill Stations

Rich heritage of the land of gods: Amidst the towering Himalayas and serene valleys, you'll discover a treasure trove of traditions and stories that have withstood the test of time. From ancient temples that echo with the whispers of devotion to vibrant festivals that paint the towns with colours and fervour, Uttarakhand's heritage is a living testament to its glorious past. Take a spiritual trip to the revered Char Dham sites, namely Kedarnath, Badrinath, Yamunotri, and Gangotri. Additionally, you can seek solace at the Panch Prayag, where five majestic river confluences give birth to the mighty River Ganga.

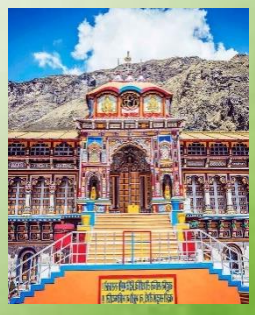


Nainital

In the joyous celebrations of festivals like Kumbh Mela and Nanda Devi Raj Jat, you'll find yourself not just witnessing the history, but becoming a part of it. The warm hospitality of the locals, the aroma of authentic Garhwali and Kumaoni cuisine, and the resonating chants in sacred shrines all come together to create an unforgettable journey through Uttarakhand's heritage.







Most-loved destinations: Uttarakhand's tourist attractions are diverse. The Valley of Flowers, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, unfolds colours and rare flora during the monsoon season, making it a paradise for nature enthusiasts. Nanda Devi National Park offers a rugged terrain for trekkers and mountaineers while its pristine wilderness and diverse wildlife invites you to get closer to the nature. These attractions, among many others, define Uttarakhand's allure as a destination that seamlessly combines natural beauty and adventure.

Tourism Focus: Uttarakhand

An adventurer's paradise: Uttarakhand offers a haven for those in search of adrenaline-pumping escapades. With its snow-blanketed slopes perfect for high-altitude skiing in Dayara Bugyal, the majestic Himalayan ranges that beckon trekkers, mountaineers, and rock climbers, meandering rivers ideal for white-water rafting in Rishikesh, pristine lakes for serene canoeing and kayaking in New Tehri, and rugged mountain trails ready to challenge biking enthusiasts in Chopta – Uttarakhand leaves no adventure unexplored. Whether you seek the thrill of conquering towering peaks or the rush of navigating untamed rapids, this enchanting region promises an adventure of a lifetime, drawing you into its untamed embrace.



Dayara Bugyal



Auli



White water rafting



Jim Corbett National Park

Seeking wellness amidst serenity: Uttarakhand is home to the Yoga capital of the world, Rishikesh. From Parmarth Niketan, one of Rishikesh's largest ashrams, to Patanjali Yogpeeth in Haridwar, envisioned by renowned yoga practitioner Swami Ramdev, and even Ved Niketan Dham, among the oldest ashrams in Rishikesh, Uttarakhand offers a transformative journey for the soul and a harmonious renewal of the senses.

A culinary journey of flavours: The cuisine of Uttarakhand is a delightful fusion of locally sourced organic grains and vegetables. Infused with an array of lentil-based delicacies, the pahadi cuisine, cherished by the mountain people, offers a subtle yet high-on-protein culinary experience. With hearty staples like millets, rice, and lentils, complemented by regional treasures like the aromatic Aloo Ke Gutke, the wholesome Kafuli spinach curry, and the comforting Rus lentil preparation, dining here is a flavourful adventure.

Heed the call of this enchanting destination, where pristine landscapes meet vibrant heritage, and embark on a journey that will leave an indelible mark on your heart. Uttarakhand welcomes you with open arms, get ready to share its timeless treasures and create memories to last a lifetime.

पर्यटन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF TOURISM
सत्यमेव जयते

Chalo INDIA

Incredible India - Uttarakhand
https://uttarakhandtourism.gov.in/
https://www.chaloindia.gov.in/

India this Month



India clinches ICC Women' U-19 World Cup for the 2nd time



Men's Kho Kho team clinched the inaugural Kho Kho World Cup



Women's Kho Kho team clinched the inaugural Kho Kho World Cup



Women's Kabaddi team defended the crown, clinching their 5th Asian title

State visit of H.H. the Amir of the State of Qatar to India
February 17-18, 2025







HH the Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani was welcomed upon arrival at Palam Air Base by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar, Ambassador of Qatar in New Delhi HE Mohammed bin Hassan Al Jaber and Ambassador of India in Doha HE Vipul. Amir is accompanied by the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs HE Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani and an official delegation. During the meeting, they discussed bilateral cooperation between the two countries, in addition to the latest regional and international developments.

Hon'ble EAM called on H.H. the Amir of the State of Qatar







External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar met with HH the Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani his accompanying delegation, in New Delhi. During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations between the two countries, in addition to the latest regional and international developments. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs HE Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani and a number of members of the accompanying official delegation.

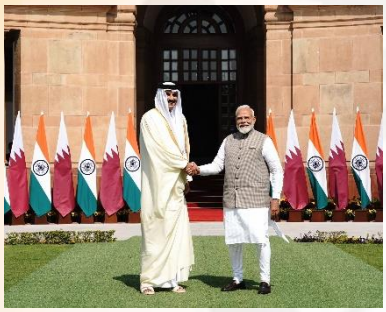
Ceremonial Reception of HH the Amir of the State of Qatar at Rashtrapati Bhavan





HH the Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani was accorded an official reception ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi, India. Hon'ble President of India Smt Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi led well-wishers to welcome the Amir. The official reception ceremony began with the entry of the Amir's motorcade accompanied by the President's Cavalry Regiment to the ceremony venue. A 21-gun salute was fired in honour of the Amir's visit and in recognition of the strong relations between the two countries.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi warmly welcomed HH the Amir of Qatar and held an official session of talks at the Hyderabad House in New Delhi













Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and HH the Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani held an official session of talks at the Hyderabad House in New Delhi. Bilateral relations and ways to enhance and expand them, particularly in the areas of economy, investment, and energy, in addition to several regional and international issues of mutual interest were discussed during the session. Amir and Indian Prime Minister witnessed the exchange of two agreements between the governments of the two countries. They witnessed the exchange of an agreement on establishing a bilateral strategic partnership and an agreement aimed at avoiding double taxation and preventing fiscal evasion concerning income taxes. On this occasion, the Prime Minister of India hosted a luncheon banquet in honour of the Amir and the accompanying delegation.

Hon'ble President hosted a banquet dinner in honour of HH the Amir of Qatar



Hon'ble President Smt. Droupadi Murmu hosted a banquet dinner in honour of HH the Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and his accompanying delegation at Rashtrapati Bhavan. At the beginning of the banquet, Hon'ble President Smt. Droupadi Murmu delivered a speech welcoming the Amir and the accompanying delegation, expressing her thanks to His Highness for the visit, and lauding the level of Qatar-India relations. HH the Amir also delivered a speech during the banquet.







Hon'ble Vice-President called on HH the Amir of Qatar in New Delhi



Hon'ble Vice-President Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar met with HH the Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and his accompanying delegation in New Delhi. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the friendly relations and bilateral cooperation between the two countries and the ways to enhance them, in addition to exchanging views on a host of issues of mutual interest. The meeting was also attended by the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani and the official delegation.

Union Minister and BJP National President called on HH the Amir



Minister of Health and Family Welfare Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda met with HH the Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani. They discussed bilateral relations and the ways to foster them, particularly across areas of health and medical care, along with topics of mutual interest. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani and the accompanying delegation.

Outcomes of the visit of H. H. the Amir of the State of Qatar to India











India-Qatar Business Forum





Minister of Commerce and Industry of India Shri Piyush Goyal and Minister of Commerce and Industry of the State of Qatar, H E Sheikh Faisal bin Thani bin Faisal Al Thani inaugurated the India-Qatar Business Forum in New Delhi. The event was held on the sidelines of the official visit of the Amir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani to India.

The session focused on expanding bilateral trade, promoting non-hydrocarbon sectors, and increasing private sector engagement in both countries.

The forum also witnessed the signing of several MoUs, including a memo of understanding between the Qatari Businessmen Association (QBA) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) to foster economic cooperation in trade, investment, and technical collaboration. A second memorandum was signed between Invest Qatar and Invest India, marking a significant step toward strengthening trade and investment ties and creating opportunities for mutual projects.



Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas met Qatar's Minister of State for Energy Affairs

Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas of India Shri Hardeep Singh Puri met with HE the Minister of State for Energy Affairs, Saad Sherida al-Kaabi, on the sidelines of the India Energy Week 2025, in New Delhi. Discussions during the meeting dealt with energy relations and cooperation between Qatar and India, and means to enhance them.

India-Qatar Business Council holds first meeting

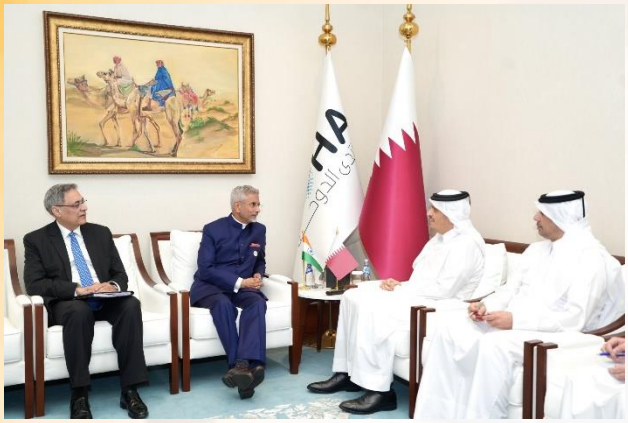


The first meeting of the India-Qatar Joint Business Council was held virtually. The Council was co-chaired by Qatar Chamber and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). The JBC discussed ways and means to further enhance trade and investment relationship between the two countries.

Hon'ble EAM's Participation in Doha Forum



Hon'ble External Affairs Minister of India Dr. S. Jaishankar participated in the 22nd edition of the Doha Forum. He participated in the panel on "Conflict Resolution in a New Era" in Doha, alongside HE Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway Mr. Espen Barth Eide. He Highlighted that as conflicts rise globally, the need for more diplomacy is greater than ever.





Hon'ble External Affairs Minister of India Dr. S. Jaishankar met with HE Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani, on the sidelines of the Doha Forum. He also met Qatari Minister of Commerce & Industry Sheikh Faisal bin Thani bin Faisal Al Thani and MoS Ahmed Al Sayed.

Qatar participates in 29th edition of Partnership Summit 2024





Qatar participated in the 29th edition of the Partnership Summit 2024, which was held over two days in New Delhi. The State of Qatar's delegation was headed by Minister of State for Foreign Trade Affairs at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry H E Dr. Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Sayed.

Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal held a fruitful meeting with H.E. Dr. Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Sayed, Minister of State for Foreign Trade Affairs, Qatar. They explored opportunities to expand trade, investment, and economic collaboration to further strengthen the India-Qatar bilateral relationship.

Greetings on the occasion of Republic Day of India



HH the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani and HH the Deputy Amir Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad Al-Thani sent cables of congratulations to HE President of India Smt Droupadi Murmu on the anniversary of India's Republic Day. HE Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani sent a cable of congratulations to Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi on India's Republic Day.

India showcases startup strength at Web Summit Qatar 2025





The Government of India, through its Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and the Startup India initiative, registered a strong presence at Web Summit Qatar 2025. The Indian Pavilion at Web Summit Qatar 2025 was officially inaugurated by India's Ambassador to Qatar HE Vipul. During the inauguration, Ambassador Vipul emphasised the deep-rooted synergies between India and Qatar in technology and entrepreneurship. He highlighted the significant opportunities for bilateral collaboration in innovation-driven sectors and reaffirmed India's commitment to strengthening ties with Qatar's startup and investment ecosystem.

Celebration of Qatar National Sports Day



Ambassador of India Shri Vipul leads Embassy officials and members of Indian community for celebrations of Qatar's National Sports Day!

Indian Pavilion at DJWE 2025



India Pavilion dazzles at Doha Jewellery and Watches Exhibition (DJWE) 2025, showcasing the finest in Indian craftsmanship and heritage.

Sheikh Faisal launched book in Malayalam edition at New Delhi World Book Fair

H.E. Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim Al Thani launched a book titled: 'As Seen, Read, & Lived. Qatar Through my Eyes. History, People & Sovereigns' in Malayalam edition at New Delhi World Book Fair. Ambassador of India to Qatar H.E. Mr. Mohammed Hassan J. Al Jabir attended the book launch event.





75th Anniversary of the Republic Day of India









The Embassy of India, Doha organized celebrations of the 75th Anniversary of India's Republic. The auspicious day began with Ambassador of India to Qatar Shri Vipul unfurling the National Flag, followed by the singing of the national anthem joined by over 250 members of the Indian community at Indian Cultural Center, Doha. Ambassador also read excerpts of the Address to the Nation by Hon'ble President of India on the eve of Republic Day.

Ambassador shared his thoughts on the strong India-Qatar relations and recent developments marked by high-level visits, interactions at business and official level promoting trade, investment, energy and cultural contacts between India and Qatar. The event also featured patriotic performances by children and community members and felicitations of the 'Bharat Ko Janiye' quiz top scorers.

On the same day, the Embassy hosted a vibrant reception that was attended by about 700 distinguished dignitaries including Qatari businessmen, government officials, diplomats, and members of Indian community. HE Minister of State for Energy Affairs and Chairman of QatarEnergy Mr Saad bin Sherida Al Kaabi attended the reception as the Chief Guest. Chief of Protocol Ambassador Ibrahim Yousif Abdullah Fakhro and Dean of Diplomatic Corps and Ambassador of Eritrea to Qatar Ambassador Ali Ibrahim Ahmed and Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim Al Thani graced the occasion as the guest of honour.

Ambassador Vipul, in his remarks, emphasized the deep-rooted ties founded on historic relations between the peoples of two countries. The relationship has grown to become multifaceted under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and HH the Amir of the State of Qatar spanning trade, investment, energy, health, education, culture and other areas. Ambassador expressed hope of even stronger partnership between India and Qatar in future. Ambassador also appreciated the contributions of Indians living in Qatar in facilitating deeper engagements between the two countries especially in the field of trade, tourism and culture. The evening also included cultural performances by a group of classical and contemporary artists including Manipuri dancers, Santoor and Tabla artists from India.

Launch of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Website





Ambassador Vipul joined Indian community members at Indian Cultural Center Doha for launch of 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas website by Hon'ble EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar and Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha Mohan Charan Majhi.

Indian delegation from Qatar at 18th PBD

Indian community in Qatar formed one of the largest contingents, with over 200 participants, at the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention (PBD) 2025, held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, from 8 to 10 January 2025. Their presence underscored the strong ties between India and Qatar's vibrant Indian diaspora. The Qatar delegation interacted with Minister of State for External Affairs Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh and Minister of Education Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, on various issues such as business to business ties and close cultural connect between two countries.



Food & Agri sector BSM

IGTD Exim Chamber of Commerce India and IBPC Qatar along with Embassy of India organized Food & Agri sector BSM on 12 November 2024. 14 companies from India and over 25 companies from Qatar explored potential for enhancing bilateral trade in agri-food products sector and strengthening supply chains.



Qatar Medicare



Embassy of India in collaboration with Indian Pharmacists Association Qatar & IBPC Qatar participated in Qatar Medicare Dec 3–5, highlighting India's advancements in AI in healthcare and its role as "Pharmacy of the World".

Qatar Travel Mart 2024



Embassy of India & Rajasthan Tourism participated at Qatar Travel Mart 2024 and showcased India's rich cultural heritage and tourist destinations.

Embassy Events

World Hindi Day (Vishwa Hindi Diwas) celebrations





Vishwa Hindi Diwas 2025 celebrations held in Qatar. Poets, students and Hindi enthusiasts in Doha presented their language skills through speeches, poetry recitations and cultural performances.

Monthly meeting with Ambassador






Consular and community related issues were addressed during Ambassador's monthly meetings with Indian nationals. Embassy officials and office bearers of ICBF provided guidance and support.

Special Consular Camps






Glimpses from the different Special Consular camps held at Imara Healthcare, Asian Town and Seashore Engineering & Contracting Office, Al Khor

Media Corner

India in Local News

Qatar Tribune

GULF TIMES

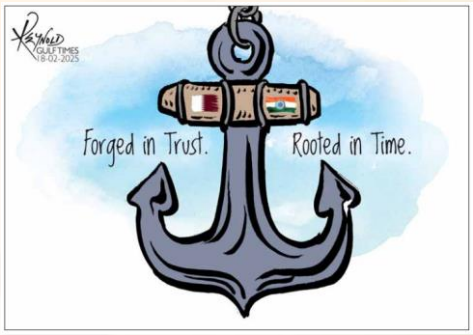
The Peninsula

NewsTrail

AMIR, INDIAN PM DISCUSS TIES, REGIONAL & GLOBAL DEVELOPMENTS

QATAR, INDIA VOW TO TAKE BILATERAL TIES TO BROADER HORIZONS

India key trade partner for Qatar: QC chief



Qatar, India trade volume reaches $13.1bn in 2024

Strong Met services key to development, India model for developing countries: WMO chief

Indian space agency achieves satellite docking milestone

India's Triple Naval Launch Shows 'Self-Reliance'

India's Space Regulator Launches $58 Mn Fund To Boost Startups

India's EV boom: Industry poised for $114 bn surge by 2029

India emerging as a global manufacturing hub

Global music stars head to India as young, affluent Indians pack concerts

India set to build $21 bn green hydrogen hub

India Outpaces China in Green Investments as Renewables Surge

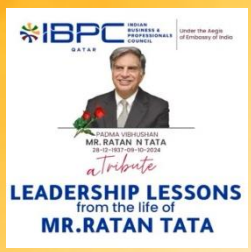
Indian real estate records all-time high foreign investment of $11.4 billion

India set to witness surge in billionaire entrepreneurs over next decade: UBS Report

ISRO's PSLV successfully places two European satellites into orbit

Russia's Rosneft invested $20 bn in India

Leadership Lessons from the life of Mr. Ratan Tata







Business community Qatar paid tributes to Sh. Ratan Tata in an online event organized by Ambassador and President IBPC reflected on his contribution business and social service.



9th World Telugu Literary Conference

Former Vice President of India Hon'ble Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu addressed the 9th World Telugu Literary Conference in Doha. Ambassador of India to Qatar Shri Vipul was also present on the occasion.

Silver Jubilee celebrations of the College of Engineering Trivandrum Alumni Association

Ambassador Vipul joined the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the College of Engineering Trivandrum Alumni Association, Qatar.





Union Budget 2025: Impact and Analysis

ICAI Doha Chapter hosted a seminar "Union Budget 2025: Impact Analysis" on 25 Feb 2025 at Dusit West Bay. Inaugurated by Ambassador of India Mr. Vipul, the event featured Padma Shri TN Manoharan and Mr. Girish Chand as speakers. Over 200 attendees benefited from the discussions

Bharat Ko Janiye (BKJ) Quiz

Indian workers in Qatar also participated enthusiastically in Bharat Ko Janiye quiz. Thanks to ICBF for support.



Embassy Notice Board

Upcoming Events and Announcements









Embassy Notice Board

Upcoming Events and Announcements







Embassy Notice Board

Advisory

In order to make the Consular Services delivery more efficient, it has been decided to revise the timings for the Consular Services. All applicants are requested to note that the revised timings will be effective from **19th May, 2024 (Sunday).**

Revised timings for Consular Services:

i. *Timings for Passport, PCC & Visa services* ***[No Change]***

a. *08:00 AM to 11:15 AM: Submission of applications*

b. *14:00 PM to 16:15 PM: Delivery of services*

ii. *New timings for Attestation, POA, NRI, NOC & other miscellaneous services* ***[Change]***

c. *12:00 PM to 15:00 PM: Submission of applications & Delivery of services*

Embassy at your service
Consular Service Report for the Months Nov 2024 – Feb 2025

S. No.	Service	No of Services Rendered
1	Passport & EC	30,516
2	Misc. Consular Services	17,193
3	Visa issued	2269
4	OCI issued	43
	Total Services	**50,021**

Apex Bodies

Indian Cultural Centre under the aegis of Embassy of India, Doha - Qatar

Website: ICC Qatar
iccqatarcons@gmail.com
Tel No.: 4468 6607

INDIAN COMMUNITY BENEVOLENT FORUM Under The Patronage of EMBASSY OF INDIA, QATAR

Website: icbfqatar
icbfqatar@gmail.com
Tel No.: 7786 7794

IBPC QATAR INDIAN BUSINESS & PROFESSIONALS COUNCIL

Website: ibpcqatar
info@ibpcqatar.com

Indian Sports Centre UNDER THE AEGIS OF EMBASSY OF INDIA

indiansportscentre@gmail.com
Tel / Whatsapp : 6612 7451

सत्यमेव जयते

भारतीय राजदूतावास

سفارة الهند

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