

सत्यमेव जयते

## Embassy of India ASTANA

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# Embassy of India ASTANA NEWSLETTER

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## Prime Minister of India Visits USA

Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi visited United States of America from September 23-29, 2015. Apart from attending United Nations Summit at New York, he had several other engagements.

Prime Minister Modi chaired a meeting with top American CEOs from financial sector on 24th September. The CEOs expressed appreciation for the steps taken by the Prime Minister to improve ease of doing business, and his various initiatives including his push for infrastructure development and Digital India. They expressed keen interest in the Indian start-up sector and showed willingness to invest in entrepreneurial ventures and innovative start-ups. Making a strong pitch for increased investment in various sectors in India, the Prime Minister outlined his vision for "Start-up India, Stand-up India".

Prime Minister Modi chaired a meeting with top American CEOs from media and entertainment sector. The CEOs were enthusiastic about the digital transformation taking place in India through the Digital India initiative. They called for speeding up of television digitization and strengthening of cellular infrastructure. Prime Minister spoke of Government's vision to connect 600,000 villages through broadband connectivity. He articulated how India represents the biggest opportunity for them.

Prime Minister Modi also interacted with 42 American CEOs from manufacturing and infrastructure sectors. The CEOs expressed support for Make in India, Skill India and Smart Cities initiatives.

He held bilateral meetings with Prime Minister of Bangladesh Ms. Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, President of Guyana Mr. David Granger on 24th September.

On 25th September, Prime Minister Modi addressed the United Nations Summit for the Adoption of Post-2015 Development Agenda. He outlined developmental initiatives including financial inclusion, individual enterprise and renewable energy. He said that the government was focusing on providing housing, power, water and sanitation to all. He spoke about the government's plan of achieving additional capacity of 175 GW of renewable energy over next seven years, energy efficiency, huge afforestation programme, reformation of transportation and cleaning of cities and rivers. On addressing climate change, he said that the countries should forge a global public partnership to harness technology, innovation and finance to put clean and renewable energy within the reach of all. He emphasized that climate justice would help protect the poor from natural disasters.



Prime Minister addresses UN Summit



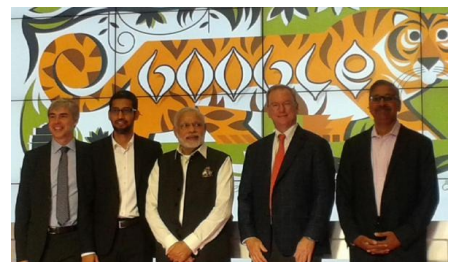
PM meets CEOs of Financial Sector Companies



PM meets CEOs from Media and Entertainment Sector



PM meets Fortune 500 CEOs



PM meets Google CEO

Prime Minister Modi met President of World Bank Mr. Jim Yong Kim who praised Prime Minister's initiative of Swachh Bharat. He also met United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki Moon. UN peacekeeping operations and reform of the United Nations Security Council came up for discussion. Prime Minister held bilateral meetings with King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, President of Egypt Mr. Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, Prime Minister of St. Lucia Mr. Kenny Davis Anthony, Prime Minister of Bhutan Mr. Tshering Tobgay, President of Sri Lanka, Mr. Maithripala Sirisena, Prime Minister of Sweden Mr. Stefan Lofven and President of Cyprus Mr. Nicos Anastasiades on 25th September.

On 26th September, Prime Minister Modi attended G-4 Summit in New York city. The G-4 grouping comprises Brazil, Germany and Japan besides India. Prime Minister Modi underscored that the world is now fundamentally different from the time when the UN was born. He underscored the need for reforming the UN Security Council within a fixed time frame by including world's largest democracies, major global economies and voices from all the major continents. Joint Press Statement issued at the summit emphasized that a more representative, legitimate and effective Security Council is needed more than ever to address the global conflicts and crises. They stressed that the G-4 countries are legitimate candidates for permanent membership in an expanded and reformed Council and supported each other's candidature.

Prime Minister Modi travelled to San Jose, California and visited Telsa Motors on 26th September. Renewable energy, Telsa's battery technology and innovations in energy storage figured in the discussions between him and the CEO of Telsa Motors. Prime Minister later met top officials of IT companies including Mr. Tim Cook of Apple Inc, Mr. Satya Nadella of Microsoft and Mr. Sundar Pichai of Google at San Jose. He talked about the inalienable role of internet and related applications in today's life. He mentioned about the use of Information Technology for common public in communication, banking, access to education, information on farming practices, e-governance and paperless transactions. He called for efforts to ensure that the technology is accessible, affordable and adds value. He highlighted the various programmes initiated in India in the field of IT such as connecting 600,000 villages, and all schools and colleges with broadband, expanding public Wi-Fi hotspots, providing free Wi-Fi in railway stations and building smart cities. He projected the digital India as a vast cyber world of opportunities to IT companies.

Prime Minister visited Facebook Headquarters in California. He participated in a Q & A Session with the CEO of Facebook Mr. Mark Zuckerberg. He also visited Google headquarters where he was received by CEO Mr. Sundar Pichai and was given an overview of some of Google's innovations and future plans.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chaired a round table meeting on renewable energy hosted by Stanford University at San Jose on 28th September. US Secretary of Energy Dr. Ernest Moniz, former US Secretary of Energy Mr. Steven Chu, CEOs of top energy companies, Investors and Professors from Stanford University were present. The participants stated that clean and renewable energy would soon be an inexpensive energy option with electricity storage becoming cheaper. They were of the view that the States and Cities in India should be allowed to take the lead in clean energy initiatives. In addition to solar and wind energy, biomass was also suggested as a key provider of clean energy. Prime Minister Modi said that there is massive scope of investment in the sector through the Railways where 100 percent FDI is allowed. He also gave an overview of the initiatives already undertaken in the area of renewable energy.

Prime Minister addressed the Start-up Konnect event organized by NASSCOM, which was a platform for Indian start-ups to showcase their innovations. He spoke of his vision for start-ups in India. India's own ecosystem of start-ups is evolving rapidly. It is driven by energy, enterprise and innovation of the youth. He mentioned that Atal Innovation Mission and SETU scheme had been launched by his government to promote start ups in India. Aimed at giving a boost to start-ups in India, seven MOUs were signed between various organizations of India and the USA.



Prime Minister meets leaders of G4 Summit



Prime Minister meets CEO of Telsa Motors



Prime Minister meets CEOs of IT companies



PM and Facebook CEO in a Q & A Session



Round table meeting on renewable energy



PM at Start-up Konnect



Prime Minister addressed the Indian community at the SAP area. He spoke of the partnership between India and USA, which is forged on shared values of democracy and innovation. He complimented the Indian IT professionals of Silicon Valley for their contribution to changing global perception of India for the better. He announced a direct Air India flight to San Francisco from India.

Prime Minister held a bilateral meeting with President of USA Mr. Barack Obama in New York on 28th September. Both the sides acknowledged the progress made in the relationship. They discussed the recently concluded Strategic and Commercial Dialogue and Discussions on Energy and Cyber Security. Prime Minister said that he was looking forward to working with the US for India's early membership of Asian Pacific Economic Community. They noted that they were meeting on a day when four American satellites were launched by ISRO. Prime Minister also met President of France Mr. Francois Hollande and Prime Minister of United Kingdom Mr. David Cameron on the same day.

Prime Minister Modi participated in Leaders' Summit on Peacekeeping convened by US President Mr. Barack Obama in New York on 29th September. He talked about the contribution of India to the UN peacekeeping operations and provision of training to peacekeeping officers from a large number of countries. He said that India was the first country to contribute a Female Police Unit to UN Mission in Liberia. He reaffirmed that India's commitment to UN peacekeeping would remain strong and grow.



*PM addresses Indian community at SAP area*



*PM on bilateral meeting with US President*

## Prime Minister of India visits Ireland

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Ireland on 23rd September, 2015 and held bilateral talks with Prime Minister Mr. Enda Kenny. Mr Modi presented Mr. Kenny reproductions of a selection of manuscripts and papers pertaining to two Irish officials viz, Geological Surveyor Mr. Thomas Oldham (1816-1878) and Civil Servant and Philologist Sir George Abraham Grierson (1851-1941) in recognition of their contributions. The two sides exchanged views on a broad range of international challenges including terrorism and radicalization and the situation in Europe and Asia.



He mentioned that Indian and Irish people have strong bonds of affinity from the friendship between Rabindranath Tagore and W.B. Yeats to the spiritual contribution of Sister Nivedita in India. He recalled the fact that the Directive Principles of State Policy in the Indian Constitution were inspired by the Irish constitution. He acknowledged that Irish experts gave India the institutions like Geological Survey of India and first Linguistic Survey of India.

Prime Minister Modi made a strong pitch for closer partnership and cooperation between the two countries. He noted that bilateral trade and investments are growing despite global and regional uncertainties. He stated that bilateral economic partnership can have a strong technology focus—information technology, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, agriculture and clean energy. He emphasized that greater sensitivity of the European Union to India's commercial interests and challenges would help India resume discussions on India-EU Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement. He said that the two countries are ideally placed to form productive partnerships to take advantage of the opportunities in the digital age. He expressed hope that the Joint Working Group on Information Technology would meet soon to chart out the roadmap for collaboration. He was hopeful that Ireland's visa policy would be sensitive to the requirements of Indian IT firms. He conveyed India's interest in concluding a social security agreement, which would be of great help to professionals from both the countries. He announced that there would soon be direct air services by airlines of both the countries.

Prime Minister Mr. Enda Kenny lauded the contribution of Indian doctors and nurses in Ireland and urged greater cooperation in research, pharma, healthcare and ICT. He welcomed extension of e-Tourist Visa facility to Ireland. He favoured enhanced linkages between educational institutions, mutual recognition of degrees, greater student exchanges and early signing of education exchange programme.

## Vice President of India visits Cambodia

Vice President of India Mr. Mohammad Hamid Ansari paid an official visit to Cambodia from September 15-17, 2015. He held official talks with Prime Minister of Cambodia Mr. Hun Sen. He also met President of Cambodian National Assembly Mr. Heng Samarin and President of Cambodian National Senate Mr. Say Chuum.



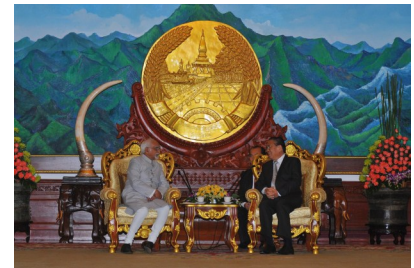
Addressing the Council of Ministers on 16th September, 2015, Vice President said that shared legacy of the two countries is reflected in the religious and cultural ties. He appreciated the support extended by Cambodia in the ASEAN-India context. He looked forward to Cambodia's strong support in building bridges and deepening its relationship with the entire region. He noted that bilateral trade and investments remain much below its potential. As part of the initiatives to partner Cambodia in its economic development, government of India set up a Special Purpose Vehicle to attract Indian investments into Cambodia and other CLMV countries. He suggested that agriculture and agro processing sector, mining, oil, gas, and small and medium enterprises offer opportunities for trade and investments by Indian companies in Cambodia. He announced a grant of US\$ 50,000 for the Entrepreneurship Development Centre which has been functioning with India's assistance since 2004. He stated that India is proud of its association with restoration of Angkor Wat temple complex and other sites. India has completed two phases of reconstruction of Ta Prohm temple recently and would undertake the third phase of restoration over the next ten years. Vice President announced the increase in the number of slots from 17 to 25 a year for training of Cambodian professionals under ITEC programme. He handed over the certificate of completion of India-Cambodia Friendship School built with Indian assistance. Vice President Mr. Ansari attended Indian community reception on 15th September. He also travelled to Siem Reap where the world famous temples of Angkor Wat are located.

Prime Minister Mr. Hun Sen appreciated India's development assistance. He sought relaxation of terms of two lines of credit which were offered in the last few years. He also requested for establishing direct air links between the two countries.

An MoU was signed to enhance tourism between the two countries. Under Mekong Ganga Cooperation Programme, an umbrella agreement was signed for four Quick Impact Projects - two in health sector and one each in agriculture and women's empowerment sectors. Both the sides agreed that a bilateral Investment Protection Agreement must be signed as soon as possible. In terms of increasing business relations, both the sides agreed to look at specific commodities which could be concentrated upon in the future.

## Vice President of India visits Lao PDR

Vice President of India Mr. Mohammad Hamid Ansari paid an official visit to Lao People's Democratic Republic on September 17-18, 2015. He held delegation level talks with Vice President of Lao PDR Mr. Bounnhang Vorachith. He called on President of Lao PDR Mr. Choummaly Sayasone. He also met Prime Minister of Lao PDR Mr. Thongsing Thammayong.



Vice President Mr. Ansari appreciated that Lao PDR had geared itself well economically to take into account the coming into force of the ASEAN Economic Connectivity by the end of this year. In response to the issue of requirement of trained personnel to man various jobs during the chairmanship of ASEAN by Lao PDR in 2016, he stated that Bureau of Parliamentary Studies, New Delhi could organize some training programmes in the fields of language, law, etc. He acknowledged

the contribution made by Lao PDR in setting up the Nalanda University in the state of Bihar in India. Addressing the Indian community in Vientiane on 17th September, he said that India and Lao PDR enjoy warm and friendly relations emanating from shared age-old civilization ties. India regards ASEAN grouping as an area in its immediate neighbourhood where 'Act East Policy' has replaced 'Look East Policy'. As part of this endeavour, India is building its political, economic and trade linkages, and is retaining and reviving cultural linkages.

Vice President Mr. Bounnhang Vorachith was appreciative of India's support to Lao PDR through line of credit, developmental assistance, grant for infrastructure projects and capacity building. He expressed gratitude for 150-200 scholarships granted to Laos for short term, undergraduate and post graduate courses annually. He said that the air services agreement would be helpful to the number of Lao monks who regularly visit Bodhgaya and other sacred Buddhist sites.

During the visit, Air Services Agreement was initialed to explore ways to introduce direct flights between the two countries. An umbrella agreement was signed under Mekong Ganga Cooperation Programme for three Quick Impact Projects viz., Establishment of National Biofertilizer Production Centre, Promotion of Indian Goats and Sheep in Lao PDR and Integrated Spices and Grapes Cultivation Project. Vice President announced gifting of 40 computers and related IT equipment to Kayson Phomvihane Academy of National Defence where an Indian army team has been teaching Lao National Army personnel English, IT and basic military tactics under government of India's ITEC programme since 1996.

## Seminar on Outcomes of the 7th BRICS Summit

The Kazakhstan State Humanities and Law University (KazGUU) Academic Diplomatic Club and BRICS Countries' Embassies jointly organized a Seminar on the outcomes of the 7th BRICS summit on 23rd September. Deputy Foreign Minister of Kazakhstan Mr. Askar Mussinov attended the Seminar as the Guest of Honour. Ambassadors of the five BRICS countries made presentations on specific outcomes of the BRICS summit.

Ambassador Shri Harsh Jain spoke about the establishment of New Development Bank (NDB) and Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA), and the business outcomes of Ufa Summit. He underlined that the launch of the NDB was culmination of India's initiative mooted in the 4th BRICS Summit in March, 2012 in New Delhi.

The bank, with noted Indian banker Mr. K.V. Kamath as its first President and initial authorized capital of US\$ 100 billion, will establish a new paradigm for supporting inclusive growth, sustainable development and economic stability. The CRA, which is a self-managed reserve fund created to forestall short term balance of payment pressures, provide mutual support, respond to financial market fluctuations and strengthen financial stability, would serve as an additional mechanism for global financial safety net. He said that among the notable Business Council outcomes was the acknowledgement of the recommendation of the council on simplification of visa procedures for business travel, removal of administrative barriers for development of trade, investment and cooperation among the BRICS countries.

Ambassador of Russia Mr. Mikhail Bocharnikov said that Ufa Summit had confirmed the commonality of views of the member countries on key issues. He said that the readiness among the members to work together on global anti-narcotics measures and increase efforts to promote the reform of International Monetary Fund are important outcomes. Ambassador of China Mr. Zhang Hanhui said that Ufa Summit helped clarify the direction of long and medium term cooperation of BRICS countries. He underscored that the Ufa declaration fully reflected the common interest on international issues by defining the joint position on several significant issues such as the reform of United Nations, the world economic situation, the Palestinian-Israeli issue, the Iranian nuclear issue, the Afghan issue and the Ukraine situation. Ambassador of Brazil Mr. Demetrio Bueno Carvalho said that in Ufa, BRICS countries expressed their commitment to sound macro-economic policies, efficient regulated market and structural reforms. He emphasized that the new strategy for BRICS economic partnership, which provides a key guideline for expanding trade and investment in a vast range of areas is a significant development. Ambassador of South Africa Mr. Shirish M. Soni outlined the forthcoming events that would be taking place under the chairmanship of Russia until the next summit in 2016 in India. He highlighted the proposed launch of common website of the BRICS countries.

In his remarks, Mr. Mussinov outlined that along with BRICS Summit, the first outreach meeting of BRICS-SCO-EEU was held in Ufa where a broad range of international agenda were discussed. He informed that addressing the outreach meeting, President Nazarbayev sought cooperation with BRICS in five important sectors viz. (i) Development of trans-regional cooperation; (ii) Enlargement of transport and transit cooperation; (iii) Building of united system of regional financial support; (iv) Provision for global energy security; and (v) Finding a solution to food security. He concluded by saying that a collaboration among the EEU, SCO and BRICS serves as an example of unity and solidarity of the majority of our planet on the path to cooperation for security and prosperity and that these three international platforms have reach and expertise to play a significant role in resolving today's global challenges.

## Ambassador meets Prosecutor General of Kazakhstan

Ambassador Shri Harsh Jain met Prosecutor General of Kazakhstan Mr. Askhat Daulbayev on 23rd September, 2015. Mr. Daulbayev informed Ambassador about the measures taken by the law enforcement agencies of the country in accordance with the five institutional reforms announced by the Head of State. They discussed the issues pertaining to countering the organized transnational crimes and expansion of legal framework. They noted that fight against international crime and terrorism was one of the key activities of the law enforcement agencies of India and Kazakhstan and felt that the meeting would help enhance the cooperation between the two countries in this sphere. They discussed the possibility of training of Kazakh law enforcement officials in the fields of information technology and cyber crime in India.

They also discussed issues relating to ratification of Extradition Treaty and Agreement on transfer of sentenced persons and Cooperation among academies of law enforcement agencies of the two countries including exchange of specialists.





## India Sourcing Fair at Almaty

India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) organized India Sourcing Fair at Atakent Expo Centre, Almaty from September 25-29, 2015. Ambassador Shri Harsh Jain inaugurated the Fair and released the Fair Guide in presence of Mr. Brij Lal, Deputy General Manager, ITPO; Mr. Rymtai Karibzhanov, Deputy Head of Representative Office of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Almaty; Mr. Abilshaikov Nariman, Head of Economic Analysis Department of Almaty Chamber of Entrepreneurs; and Mr. Sabit Narbayev, Representative of Kaznex Invest in Almaty. About 40 Indian companies representing sectors such as power generation and transmission, telecom, science and technology, hand tools, industrial sewing machines, textiles, fashion accessories, personal care products, ayurvedic/herbal medicines, handicrafts, decorative items, steam boiler, footwear, machinery, electrical, construction material and machinery, steel rolling mills, CNC machines, IT, auto parts and food products participated in the Fair.



In his remarks, Ambassador recalled the successful visit of the Prime Minister of India to Kazakhstan in July, 2015, which placed a special emphasis on developing economic cooperation between the two countries. He said that India is a fast growing large economy with a huge domestic market and demand for resources and has a vibrant industry and service sector. He underscored that Indian products are known for their high quality and cost competitiveness all over the world. On the other hand, Kazakhstan is rich in natural resources. He stated that the government of Kazakhstan has introduced several incentives to attract investors to diversify its economy with a view to reduce its dependence on the hydrocarbon resources. Ambassador emphasized that given the strong complementarity between the two economies, there is a huge potential for trade and investment cooperation. Though the bilateral trade was over US\$ 1.3 billion last year, it remained far below the potential. He said that the formation of Eurasian Economic Union and coming into operation of Kazakhstan-Turkmenistan-Iran rail link offered new opportunities for Indian companies to explore the Kazakhstan market for trade and investments. He informed that Kazakhstan is working on the proposal to set up a cargo terminal in the western coast of India to establish a dedicated freight corridor between India and Kazakhstan which would further improve connectivity. He mentioned that the exclusive India Sourcing Fair provided an excellent business opportunity for organisations in Kazakhstan and participating Indian companies. Ambassador concluded his remarks by thanking ITPO, Trade Promotion Council of India, Almaty Chamber of Entrepreneurs, Atakent Expo Centre and Kaznex Invest for putting together the Fair.

Mr. Brij Lal spoke about the activities undertaken by ITPO in promoting trade between India and other countries and the broad sectors of companies represented in the Fair. Mr. Rymtai Karibzhanov talked about the growing bilateral relations between the two countries and hoped that the Fair would contribute to strengthening of bilateral relations. Mr. Abilshaikov Nariman briefed the participants about the potential for increased bilateral trade and offered full support of Almaty Chamber of Entrepreneurs to the Indian companies. Mr. Sabit Narbayev provided a brief overview of the investment policies and incentives provided by the government of Kazakhstan to foreign investors.

## National Infocommunication Holding 'Zerde' Delegation Visits India

A two-member delegation from National Infocommunication Holding 'Zerde' of Kazakhstan comprising Mr. Arman Doskaliyev, Managing Director for Innovative Development and Mr. Darkhan Mukhatov, Director of Department of Education and Science visited India from September 14-18, 2015. They met senior officials of Department of Electronics and Information Technology, National Informatics Centre (NIC), Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), NASSCOM, Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) and Standardization Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) and discussed the development of modern information and communication technologies. They also visited Software Technology Parks in Bangalore and Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research (SAMEER) in Mumbai.



The delegation studied the government of India's flagship programme of 'Digital India' launched with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy and 'Smart Cities Programme' launched for rapid upgradation of urban infrastructure and providing online services to citizens and explored the possibility of cooperation in the field of Information Technology.

## Indian Feature Film Wins Prize in International Film Festival, Almaty

An Indian feature film 'Labour of Love' directed by Mr. Aditya Vikram Sengupta won Special Jury Prize in the XI EURASIA International Film Festival held at Almaty from September 19-25, 2015. It is Mr. Aditya's first feature film. It earned him Indian National Film Award for the Best Debut Director. The film has also won a number of other awards.

The film made in Bengali language titled 'Asha Jaoar Majhe' uses the visual medium of cinema in its most captivating sense and presents a story with minimum aide of words.



## Dr. R.K. Pachauri Attends Meeting of the Council of Sages

Dr. R.K. Pachauri, Director General, TERI and formerly Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, visited Kazakhstan from September 17-19, 2015 to attend the meeting of the 'Council of Sages'. He also met the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Defence, Chairman of the Senate and President and Vice President of Nazarbayev University. He accepted Nazarbayev University's invitation to serve as a member of the International Selection Committee of EXPO-2017 Energy Best Practices Area and to address Future Energy Forum in Paris on December 9, 2015. He invited a team from Nazarbayev University to visit TERI to explore possibility of developing collaborative relationship between TERI, TERI University and Nazarbayev University. He also invited President and Vice President of the University to attend the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit in February, 2016.



## IL&FS Delegation Visits Kazakhstan

A three-member delegation from IL&FS, New Delhi, led by Textile Expert Mr. M. Tyagi, visited Kazakhstan from August 17-22, 2015. The delegation conducted a need assessment study for designing an Integrated Cotton and Textile Sector Development Programme for Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The study was sponsored by Department of Commerce, Government of India, with the objective to map the cotton, textile and apparel sector of Kazakhstan, identify gaps and constraints along the value chain, propose interventions to plug gaps, analyze the trade pattern of Kazakhstan with India and suggest measures to increase trade between the two regions and explore potential for Indian investments in these sectors.

The delegation held discussions with the Committee of Textiles, Ministry of Investments and Development, Experts from Kazakh Ministry of Agriculture, National Chamber of Entrepreneurs and Kaznex Invest in Astana. They visited special economic zone, cotton processing plants and cotton plantations in Shymkent. They also held discussions with Kazakh Scientific Research Institute of cotton processing plants and cotton plantations in Shymkent. They also held discussions with Kazakh Scientific Research Institute of Cotton Growing, Shymkent and World Bank, Almaty.

## Participation of Armed Forces Officers in ITEC Courses

Senior Lieutenants Yerbol Berdaliyev and Yernur Rapikov of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Kazakhstan were selected for Combined Officer Explosive Disposal Course conducted by College of Military Engineering, Pune from 21.9.2015 to 31.10.2015 and Intelligence Staff Course conducted by Military Intelligence Training School and Depot, Pune from 21.9.2015 to 28.11.2015 respectively under the ITEC programme. Col. L.S. Lidder, Defence Attache handed over the air tickets to the two candidates for their travel to India. He also briefed them about the respective courses and the city of Pune.



## India Launches First Space Observatory ASTROSAT

Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) successfully launched PSLV-C30 (Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle) carrying ASTROSAT and six foreign satellites from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota on 28th September, 2015. The 320 tonne, 45 m tall PSLV-C30 placed the seven satellites in a 644.6 x 651.5 km orbit inclined at an angle of 6° to the equator. The 1500-kg ASTROSAT is India's first dedicated multi wavelength space observatory. It is carrying four x-ray payloads, a UV telescope and charge particle monitor. This scientific satellite mission endeavours for a more detailed understanding of the universe. It will study celestial objects from 650 kms above the earth during its five-year life span. It is designed to observe universe in the visible, ultraviolet, low and high energy X-ray regions of the electromagnetic spectrum. The foreign satellites launched along with ASTROSAT are Canada's NLS-14 nanosatellite, Indonesia's LAPAN-A2 microsatellite and USA's four LEMUR nano satellites.



## India emerges Top FDI Destination in 2015

India has emerged as the most favoured destination for foreign direct investment (FDI) in 2015 so far outpacing China and the USA. The FDI inflows to India during the period Jan-Jun, 2015 stood at US\$ 31 billion, ahead of China's US\$ 28 billion and USA's US\$ 27 billion. The FDI inflows into India had grown 47% to US\$ 24 billion in 2014, a year when many other FDI destinations posted declines. A ranking of top destinations for greenfield investment (measured by estimated capital expenditure) in the first half of 2015 shows India at number one.





## Incredible India Destination : Chennai

Chennai, capital of the state of Tamil Nadu, is a major industrial, commercial, cultural, economic and educational centre. Chennai is known as the 'Detroit of India' for its automobile industry. This metropolis is often called the 'Cultural capital of India' for its deep-rooted traditions and age-old heritage. Beautiful beaches, leisure outlets, convenient multi-transport system, theme park, industrial clusters, Hi-tech software silicon valley parks, sophisticated multi-speciality hospitals and world class universities are the present day outlook of the city.

Fort St. George is believed to have marked the birth of the city. British bought this piece of land from the King of Vijayanagar in 1639 and built the fort. Today, the fort houses state legislature and secretariat. The fort museum inside is decorated with cannons of Tipu Sultan and displays many interesting artefacts. Marina beach is the pride of Chennai and the second longest beach of this kind in the world. Numerous statues of famous personalities adorn the roadside along the beach.

Santhome Cathedral Basilica, situated to the south of marine beach, is believed to house the mortal remains of St. Thomas. Kapaleeswarar temple, located at Mylapore, is one of the sacred shrines in Chennai with a lovely and majestic tower and exhibits the Dravidian style of architecture. Valluvar Kottam at Kodambakkam is the memorial of the great poet-saint Tiruvalluvar who had created the most popular couplets, Tirukkural. It is shaped like a temple chariot. The memorial has a 33 m life-size statue of the saint. 133 chapters of Thirukkural in bas relief and 1330 couplets on the granite pillars are special feature of this memorial.

Vedanthangal lake is located at 85 kms from Chennai. Thousands of birds from different parts of the globe visit this bird sanctuary and breed there from November to March. 60 kmm from Chennai is a seashore town called Pulicat where watching Flamingos and beach activities are attractive. Over 20,000 migratory birds visit Pulicat for breeding from October to March. Mamallapuram located at 60 kms from Chennai houses long bas-relief remains of the Pallava Dynasty of 7th and 8th centuries. Beach, shore temple, five rathas and sculpture workshops are part of the town.

Gujarati Shwetambar Murtipujak Jain Mandir, Shri Parthasarathy Temple, St Mary's church, St. Thomas Mount, Chennai Snake Park, Guindy National Park, Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Semmozhi Poonga, Theosophical Society, Kalakshetra, Vivekananda Museum, Government Museum and Elliot Beach are other tourist attractions in Chennai. Anna Salai, Pondy Bazaar, Burma Bazaar, Ranganathan Street, Egmore street and T. Nagar market are popular shopping centres.



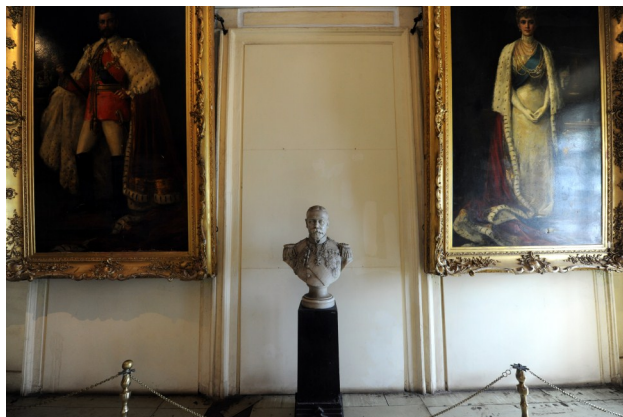
Valluvar Kottam



Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary



Mamallapuram



St. George Fort Museum



Marina Beach



## PHOTO FEATURE

### Seminar on outcomes of the 7th BRICS Summit



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### India Sourcing Fair from Sep 25-29, 2015



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