

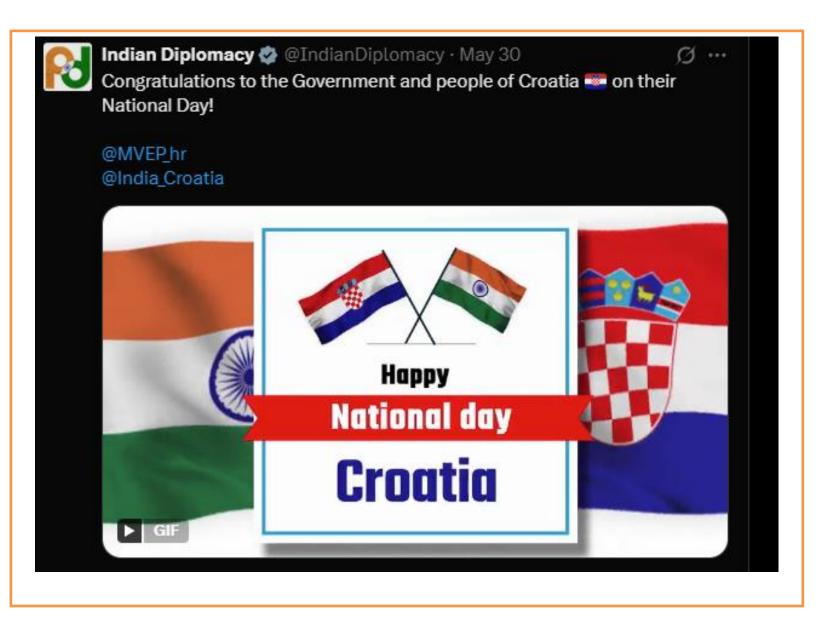
The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's speech at Adampur Airbase Sindoor



Read the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi interaction with the brave air warriors and soldiers at Adampur Air Force Station at the following link: https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2128411

Operation SINDOOR: India's Strategic Clarity and Calculated Force





Indian Economy on the Transformational Paths

India, EU aim for two-phase free trade deal amid global trade uncertainties

India and the European Union have concluded the 11th round of negotiations on their long-awaited free trade agreement (FTA), with both sides deciding to pursue the deal in two distinct phases. According to a senior government official, the phased approach is intended to fast-track progress on priority issues while allowing additional time to resolve more complex or politically sensitive matters. The EU has placed significant emphasis on reducing import duties on sectors such as automobiles, medical equipment, wines, spirits, poultry and meat products. In addition, it has called for stronger commitments from India on intellectual property rights and enforcement. Meanwhile, India is keen to secure better market access for high-performing its export sectors. including pharmaceuticals, garments, steel, petroleum products and electrical machinery.

Government eyes doubling telecom exports, creating 1 million jobs by 2030

The government is preparing to unveil the new National Telecom Policy (NTP), which includes an ambitious roadmap to double telecom product exports and ensure affordable, universal connectivity by 2030. Currently being drafted by the Ministry of Communications in consultation with stakeholders, this policy is expected to significantly boost the ICT sector's role in India's economy. It targets an increase in the sector's contribution to GDP from 7.8% to 11% by 2030 and aims to attract INR 1.5 lakh crore annually in telecom infrastructure investment. The upcoming NTP will also outline the government's plan to create one million jobs, largely centred around advanced technologies including 5G, 6G, the Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, big data, and quantum communications.

India tops list of Asia-Pacific investment destinations

According to the Bank of America's May 2025 survey, India has become the top investment choice among Asia-Pacific fund managers. It has outpaced Japan, which now ranks second, while China lags in third place. The accompanying data reveal a striking transformation in investor perception: in March 2025, fund managers were a net 13% underweight on India. Just two months later, that position had shifted dramatically, to a net 42% overweight. In investment terms, a net overweight position indicates that more managers allocate funds to India than those withdrawing from it.







Ambassador's visit to Makarska and Biokovo Nature Park



Ambassador Arun Goel visited the Biokovo Nature Park. As part of his inaugural visit, Ambassador Goel visited the famous Skywalk viewpoint, located at a height of 1,228 meters above sea level, which offers a spectacular view of the Dalmatian coast and islands. They were welcomed at the Park by the Director of the Biokovo Nature Park Public Institution, Slavo Jakša, who presented the Ambassador the characteristics and natural peculiarities of this protected area.



On May 16th, the Ambassador Arun Goel, visited Metković. During his visit, he stopped by the birthplace of Father Ante Gabrić. He was guided through the home of the missionary—who left a lasting mark through his humanitarian work in India—by members of the "Father Ante Gabrić" Foundation.

Ambassador's visit to National Park Mljet and Korčula



On 17 May, Ambassador Arun Goel, was warmly received by representatives of Mljet National Park. The visit underscored the strong ties between India and Croatia and their shared commitment to nature, culture, and sustainable development.



In an atmosphere of friendship, cultural exchange and international cooperation, the Kumpanjija Knights Association – Blato had the honor to host Ambassador Arun Goel on the 18th May. This ceremonial visit is the crowning achievement of the successful cooperation between the Embassy of the Republic of India in Zagreb and the Knights Association, which began through the joint promotion of the intangible cultural heritage of Croatia and Europe at the prestigious 9th India Music and Dance Festival in October 2023 in New Delhi. It was then that the members of the association represented the rich tradition of Blato and

Celebration of IDY in the island of Korčula, Lumbarda



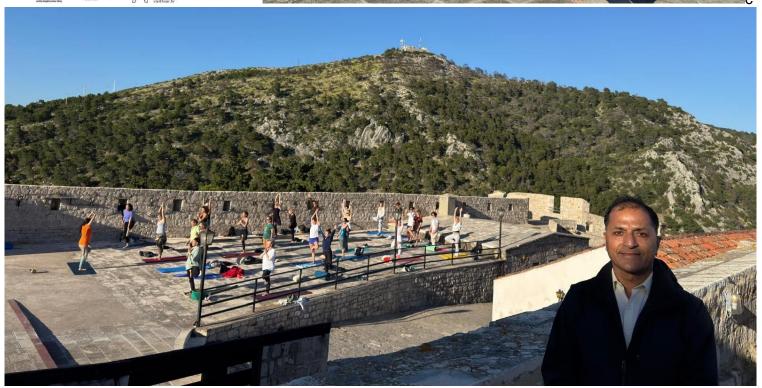
On the 18th May, the Pržina Beach in Lumbarda hosted a vibrant celebration of International Yoga Day, organised in collaboration with the Embassy of India in Croatia. The event featured a peaceful yoga session led by the Wellbeing Academy and guided by Aleksandra Horwood of "Pause To Breathe Retreats." Ambassador Arun Goel and the Mayor of Lumbarda, Marija Klisura, joined participants in embracing the spirit of wellness, unity, and mindfulness. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who took part in this inspiring celebration.

Ambassador Arun Goel participated in the International Day of Yoga IDY 2025 celebration held at Tvrđava Fortica on the island of Hvar

Ambassador Arun Goel participated in the International Day of Yoga IDY 2025 celebration held at Tvrđava Fortica on the island of Hvar on May 25th, with strong support from the Hvar Tourist Board.







Ambassador's visit to Vis and Hvar

On May 25th, Ambassador Arun Goel visited the island of Hvar and met with Ms. Valentina Belaj Šantić, Director of the Hvar Tourist Board. During the meeting, both officials discussed Hvar's potential as an ideal destination for Bollywood film screenings and explored ways to support the local community through cultural and tourism-related initiatives. The Embassy looks forward to continued collaboration, such as marking the International Day of Yoga 2025.



On May 26th, Ambassador Arun Goel met with Mr. Tonči Gulišija, a yoga teacher with over 30 years of experience, to discuss preparations for the upcoming International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2025 celebration scheduled for June.



Ambassador Mr. Arun Goel met with the Mayor of Hvar, Mr. Rikardo Novak, during an official visit to Hvar. Discussions focused on deepening India-Croatia relations through cultural, educational, and tourism exchanges. Ambassador Goel also encouraged local institutions to explore India's scholarship and skill development programmes.



As part of his official visit to the island of Hvar, Ambassador of India to Croatia, H.E. Mr. Arun Goel, met with the newly elected Mayor of Stari Grad, Mr. Vinko Vranjičan, to explore avenues for deeper cooperation between India and this historic Dalmatian town. Discussions focused on promoting cultural diplomacy, sustainable tourism, and youth and academic exchanges.





NOTICE INVITING TENDER No: ZAG/885/01/2025

The Embassy of India in Zagreb invites sealed tenders from eligible and qualified service providers for hosting, redesigning, and managing the Embassy's official website.

This project aims to enhance the digital outreach and operational efficiency of the Embassy through a secure, user-friendly, and modern web platform.

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LINK: https://www.indianembassyzagreb.gov.in/tenders_detail/...

Read the latest interview with Croatian Parliamentarian & member of Croatia - India
Interparliamentary Friendship Group, Mr. Zvonimir Troskot, headlined
"The Croatian Adriatic is a key geostrategic hub of the 21st century and a top-tier interest for India".





THE CROATIAN ADRIATIC is a key geostrategic hub of the 21st century—and a top priority for India

A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT from MOST and a member of the Croatian-Indian parliamentary friendship group discusses the relationship between the two countries and reveals why India sees Croatia as an important strategic partner in the coming years...

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was scheduled to visit Croatia in the middle of last week, abruptly cancelled his trip due to rising tensions and the escalation of conflict between India and Pakistan, who exchanged fire in the border area of Kashmir at the beginning of May. During his European tour, planned from May 13 to 17, Prime Minister Modi was also supposed to visit the Netherlands and Norway, and the mere inclusion of Croatia alongside these two developed Western countries suggests that India considers Croatia an important strategic partner for the coming years. Modi's visit was supposed to take place less than a month after the Indian Minister of Commerce, Shri Sunil Barthwal, visited Zagreb, further indicating that talks between the two countries are rapidly moving to a higher level. Since the military operations, mediated by American negotiators, have calmed down in the meantime and both warring parties have agreed to a ceasefire, it is likely that the Croatian and Indian state administrations will soon find a new date for the visit, which is of exceptional importance for both Croatia and India. India is one of the fastest-growing economies in the world, making great strides forward and rapidly seeking new markets for expansion. Croatia and the Adriatic may be the key to solving this Indian challenge. What does India expect from Croatia, what can Croatia offer India, and how can we use this crucial moment to position ourselves as an important geostrategic and geopolitical player in Europe and how can we maximize the economic benefits of what India brings to Europe? This is analysed for Nacional by Zvonimir Troskot, a MOST MP, member of the Committee on Internal Policy and National Security, and member of the parliamentary friendship group between the Republic of Croatia and India, who commented on Prime Minister Modi's planned visit to Croatia.

NACIONAL: The news of Indian Prime Minister Modi's visit did not attract much interest from domestic media, even though the visit is extremely important for Croatia. Why is that, and what topics was Modi supposed to discuss with Milanović and Plenković?

This would have been the first visit of an Indian prime minister to Croatia—a milestone event in Croatian-Indian relations. The visit would have confirmed the political weight of bilateral cooperation and positioned Croatia as a key partner within India's "Act West Policy." With this approach, India is increasingly turning to Europe—primarily through trade, transport, and energy channels. The tour itself was to symbolize the realization of joint strategic goals and confirm the free trade agreement within the IMEC (India-Middle East-Europe Corridor), an ambitious project agreed upon at the G20 summit in India in 2023, whose importance was later confirmed by the Three Seas Initiative members at the summit in Warsaw at the end of April this year. The planned discussions were to include confirmation and acceleration of IMEC corridor implementation, with a special focus on involving Croatian ports Rijeka and Ploče as key logistical points for access to Central and Eastern Europe. Another important topic was energy cooperation, including possibilities for collaboration around the LNG terminal on Krk, as well as strengthening defence cooperation.

Croatia is not only positioning itself as a logistical transit point, but also as a partner with its own capacities, as confirmed by the strategic cooperation of Croatian company DOK-ING with Germany's Rheinmetall in advanced defence technologies, which could serve as a model for cooperation with India. In addition to bilateral topics, strengthening cooperation in multilateral forums was also expected, especially in the context of United Nations Security Council reform. For years, Croatia has actively supported expanding membership in both categories—permanent and non-permanent members—which aligns with the goals of the G4 initiative (India, Germany, Brazil, and Japan). This opens space for joint advocacy for better representation of Eastern Europe and Asia in this key global security body. This visit was supposed to strengthen the operational and strategic foundation of Croatian-Indian cooperation at a time when global routes of trade, energy, and security are being redrawn, and the Adriatic is becoming the intersection of three spheres of interest: Western, Asian, and Middle Eastern.

NACIONAL: India is very interested in a corridor that would allow it trade and energy access to Europe, and Croatia is strategically on a very favourable route that enables rapid maritime access to Central Europe. Will this be a topic of discussion between Croatian representatives and the Indian prime minister, and what can Croatia offer India?

The IMEC project envisions direct connections from India to Europe via the Middle East, including energy and transport flows. Croatia, as an active member of the Three Seas Initiative (TSI), offers India a stable alternative to existing Asia-Europe transport routes, especially those under strong Chinese influence, like Piraeus. The Port of Rijeka, in combination with the port of Ploče and the LNG terminal on Krk, forms an integrated transport-energy corridor that enables India efficient access to the EU market with over 500 million consumers. The geostrategic position of Rijeka is such that it can supply both Western European countries and the TSI member states, which connect energy terminals from Croatia to Poland and the Baltic countries. By participating in the TSI through the Croatian hub, India can secure continuous access to European markets and energy sources, further strengthening its role as a strategic partner for Europe's energy needs. Within this corridor, Croatia could achieve a 20–30% increase in port traffic over the next five years, which, according to industry experts, could result in several million additional TEU containers annually. Such growth generates several thousand new jobs in logistics and supporting sectors and further stimulates the development of energy infrastructure through projects such as the expansion of LNG capacity on Krk—the energy jewel of Croatian geopolitics—and railway connections to Central Europe. It is important to note that investments like MAERSK's €380 million investment in the modernization of the Port of Rijeka confirm global investor confidence in this corridor. Thus, Rijeka has the potential to become a new strategic gateway for Europe—not just as a transit point, but as a central hub for managing the flow of goods and energy between Asia and Europe. In conclusion, Croatia offers India not only infrastructure and logistics, but also stability, predictability, and strategic cooperation within the broader European and transatlantic policy framework.

NACIONAL: You recently stated that India cannot become a dominant power in this region without access to the Adriatic Sea. Can you explain that position and what Croatia gains from cooperation with India?

To become a global power, India must secure stable and more direct access to the European market, which is not possible without an Adriatic foothold like Croatia. The Adriatic Sea penetrates deepest into the European continent and currently offers what the wider Mediterranean increasingly lacks: political stability, maritime route security, and strategic reliability through the EU and NATO membership of coastal states. That is why the US regularly projects power through the presence of aircraft carriers in the Adriatic—a strong signal to both partners and adversaries. For India, as a rising power seeking its place in the new multipolar order, it is clear that without a firm foothold in the Adriatic, it remains dependent on unpredictable factors—from Suez to the Eastern Mediterranean. At the same time, China is investing billions in its Belt and Road Initiative, which ends in the Adriatic, while Russia is expanding its political influence in Montenegro via the Serbian Orthodox Church as an instrument of its geopolitical activity. All this makes the Croatian Adriatic a key geostrategic hub of the 21st century—and a top interest for India.

NACIONAL: Regarding the transport corridor that Croatia can offer India, can you clarify how Croatia is included in the main rail and road routes in Europe, especially in the context of the TEN-T network and the strategic High-Speed Rail Backbone? Are we part of these routes or excluded, and why?

Croatia is officially integrated into the European transport network through several key TEN-T corridors, including the Mediterranean Corridor and the Rhine-Danube Corridor. Recently, according to Regulation (EU) 2024/1679, it was also included in the expanded Western Balkans—Eastern Mediterranean and Baltic Sea—Adriatic Sea corridors. However, despite this formal integration, Croatia remains marginalized in the strategic High-Speed Rail Backbone, meaning it will not have rail lines exceeding 250 km/h until 2040. This strategic omission causes multiple and long-term damages to the Croatian economy and transport competitiveness. Unlike Poland, the Czech Republic, and Hungary, which are aggressively developing high-speed rail infrastructure, Croatia has been stuck for almost a decade modernizing outdated lines with a maximum speed of up to 160 km/h. This results in much slower and less efficient transport flows of goods and passengers, hampers regional connectivity, and reduces Croatia's attractiveness as a logistics and investment hub. In the long run, this stagnation reduces Croatia's opportunities for economic integration into the EU and its geostrategic significance, especially in the context of Europe's growing focus on fast and digitalized transport corridors. Without political will, Croatia risks further marginalization, loss of investment, and missing key development opportunities in the coming decades. In the context of Croatia's strategic positioning within the broader European and global infrastructural vision—especially in light of initiatives like IMEC—the current government approach to railway investment represents a serious strategic weakness, with both transport and geopolitical consequences.

NACIONAL: According to a recently published map of European high-speed rail routes (High-Speed Rail Backbone) by 2040, it is clear that Croatia is completely excluded from these routes. Why is this the case, and could it be an obstacle to Croatia-India cooperation in transport, as well as an obstacle to Croatia's integration into global strategic corridors like IMEC?

Croatia is not included in the planned core high-speed rail network primarily due to a combination of internal and external factors. Internal problems include decades of neglect of rail infrastructure, the absence of clear long-term national strategies, and weak project management, resulting in inefficient investments and delays. At the same time, the EU currently prioritizes the development of northern transport corridors such as Rail Baltica, which receives significant funding. Analysis by the Croatian Regulatory Agency for Network Industries (HAKOM) shows that transit on the Rijeka-Koprivnica route is, on average, twice as slow as planned due to outdated infrastructure, technical requirements, uncoordinated works, and poor coordination between managers and carriers. This clearly indicates the urgent need for modernization and better management. As a member of the Three Seas Initiative, Croatia shares strategic interests with the Baltic countries and Poland, providing an opportunity for joint lobbying and securing greater funding for transport infrastructure development. The vision of a high-speed rail line up to 250 km/h on the Rijeka-Zagreb-Budapest axis (Rail Panonica) would be a key infrastructural breakthrough, connecting the Adriatic with Central European corridors and strengthening Croatia as a strategic transport hub.

Read the full article at the following link

Join us in Celebrating the International Day of Yoga 2025 across Croatia

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA

Yoga for One Earth, One Health





Shri Narendra Modi Hon'ble Prime Minister of India





International Day of Yoga 2025

Yoga for One Earth, One Health



Yoga is not about what one can get out of it. It is rather about what one can give up,
what one can get rid of.

- Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



As we approach this year's **International Day of Yoga (IDY)**, we are excited to share that celebrations will take place across Croatia from **May 18 to June 29**, culminating in the **main event in Zagreb at Bundek on 21st June**. We warmly invite your **organisation or community** to participate in this nationwide celebration of wellness, unity, and inner peace. To join the IDY 2025 program, Please find the full list of the International Day of Yoga locations **across Croatia** at the following <u>link</u>.

International Day of Yoga 2025 across Croatia

No	City	Date	Time	Location (EN)	Organizer
1	Zagreb	21-06-2025	09:00	Park Bundek (stage)	Embassy of India, Zagreb
2	Zagreb	02-06-2025	18:00	Nova cesta 86	Branko Radosavljević
3	Zagreb	03-06-2025	19:00	Ožujska 1	Branko Radosavljević
4	Rijeka	04-06-2025	19:30	Sušački gat	Bhakti Marga Hrvatska
5	Vodnjan	07-06-2025	08:30	Brist olive oil	TZ Vodnjan
6	Kostajnica	07-06-2025	11:00	Park Zrinski	Bhakti Marga Hrvatska
7	Varaždin	07-06-2025	09:00	Koradovica 142	Bhakti Marga Hrvatska
8	Split	08-06-2025	19:00	Sustipan	Bhakti Marga Hrvatska
9	Zagreb	08-06-2025	10:00	Maksimir entrance	Bhakti Marga Hrvatska
10	Pula	09-06-2025	14:00	Veruda School	Mohanji Hrvatska
11	Rijeka	09-06-2025	19:30	Pećine Beach	Bhakti Marga Hrvatska
12	Pula	10-06-2025	14:00	Veruda School	Mohanji Hrvatska
13	Pula	11-06-2025	14:00	Monte Zaro School	Mohanji Hrvatska
14	Pula	12-06-2025	14:00	Tome Peruško School	Mohanji Hrvatska
15	Karlovac	13-06-2025	18:00	Mostanje Beach	Bhakti Marga Hrvatska
16	Zagreb	14-06-2025	09:00	Maksimir Stage	Joga u svakodnevnom životu
17	Split	14-06-2025	09:30	Sustipan	Joga u svakodnevnom životu Split
18	Rovinj	14-06-2025	09:00	Ars.Polis, Monter 11	Mohanji Hrvatska
19	Zagreb	14-06-2025	18:00	III Južna Obala 11	Yoga Studio Padma
20	Slunj	14-06-2025	10:00	River Slunjčica	Slunj Tourist Board & Vanja Bastaja
21	Samobor	15-06-2025	19:00	Yoga in Daily Life Alley	Joga u svakodnevnom životu
22	Komiža	15-06-2025	10:00	Cultural Center Terrace	Tena yoga
23	Pula	17-06-2025	14:00	Kindergarten Šumska djeca	Mohanji Hrvatska
24	Pula	13-06-2025	08:00	Beach Bar Zeppelin	Mohanji Hrvatska
25	Krk Island	17-06-2025	08:00	Activity Center Krk	Svjetlana Vrkljan Radovčić
26	Zadar	17-06-2025	19:00	Zadar Riva	Art of Living
27	Zagreb	18-06-2025	09:00	Psychiatric Clinic Sveti Ivan	Mohanji Hrvatska
28	Zagreb	19-06-2025	20:00	Rooftop Martićeva 45	Verbasana Yoga + H.S. for Yoga
29	Zagreb	20-06-2025	18:00	MO Središće, Ivana Šibla 8	Universal Wish, Sankalpa
30	Zagreb	21-06-2025	09:00	Garićgradska 9	Nitya Yoga Studio
31	Čakovec	20-06-2025	18:00	Square of the Republic 3	Udruga za ljudske vrijednosti
32	Punat, Krk	20-06-2025	08:00	Street Workout Park	Svjetlana Infinity Sport Krk
33	Poreč	20-06-2025	19:00	Materada	Yoga Poreč Vitasana
34	Rastovac Budački	21-06-2025	18:00	Hindu Center, Budački 1	Hindu Religious Society of Croatia
35	Krk Island	21-06-2025	11:30	Lotus Resort	Institute for Yoga and Ayurveda "SUN"
36	Novigrad	21-06-2025	10:00	Novigrad Diocese Park	Udruga "Amrit Sagar"
37	Ludbreg	21-06-2025	09:00	Island of Youth	Ayana Yoga Ludbreg
38	Rijeka	21-06-2025	08:30	1 10 /	Yoga with B.
39	Lovran	21-06-2025	08:00	Lovran Pier	TZ Lovran
40	Lumbarda	21-06-2025	08:00	Pržina Beach	Wellbeing Academy & Pause to Breathe
41	Osijek	21-06-2025	10:00	Secession Well	Centar Osobne Moći
42	Labin	21-06-2025	19:00	Behind Erste Bank	JOGA U SVAKODNEVNOM ŽIVOTU LABIN
43	Makarska	21-06-2025	19:00	Happy Yoga Home	Art of Living
44	Pula	21-06-2025	09:00	Šijanska šuma (Kids 9:00, Adults 10:00)	Mohanji Hrvatska
45	Rijeka	21-06-2025	08:30	Yoga in Daily Life, Spinčićeva 2	Yoga in Daily Life Rijeka
46	Vela Luka	21-06-2025	19:00	Elementary School Vela Luka	Art of Living, Veseli i zdravi bili
47	Rijeka	21-06-2025	17:00	Rijeka Korzo	ISKCON Rijeka
48	Oprtalj	21-06-2025	10:00	Oprtalj Park	Općina Oprtalj
49	Umag	22-06-2025	10:00	Afrika Beach	YOGA IN DAILY LIFE LABIN
50	Rovinj	22-06-2025	19:00	Forest above Porton Biondi	YOGA IN DAILY LIFE LABIN
51	Goričan	22-06-2025	09:30	Mohanji Peace Center	Mohanji Hrvatska
52	Dubrovnik	29-06-2025	09:30	Lokrum Island	We DU Yoga, Elixir Vitae, others

Discover India: Upcoming Trade Fairs, Conferences & Business Events 2025

Explore Opportunities Across Diverse Indian States

11th iPHEX - India's Mega Pharma Exhibition

Date and Venue: Bharat Mandapam, Delhi, India, 04-06

September 2025

Website: www.iphex-india.com

iPHEx is an International Exhibition of Pharma and Healthcare organized every year by the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) with the support of the Department of Commerce since 2013. iPHEX is an initiative to position "India as Pharmacy of the World" and showcase the entire spectrum of the pharmaceuticals and healthcare sector to the world. The exhibition has now become an integral part of the annual business plan of exhibitors and business visitors globally. Over 700 Indian companies from the Pharma and healthcare sector would be exhibiting their products and services. The exhibition attracts over 20000 domestic visitors as well.



Auto EV Bharat 2025

Date and Venue: KTPO Convention Centre, Whitefield,

Bengaluru, 19-21 November 2025 **Website:** <u>www.autoevexpo.com</u>

The fourth edition of Auto EV Bharat 2025 showcases a wide range of technologies related to electric vehicles, hybrid vehicles (HVs), and fuel cell vehicles (FCVs). This encompasses components, modules, semiconductors, motors, inverters, rechargeable batteries, chargers, parts, lightweight materials, software, as well as simulation and testing equipment. The exhibition attracts automotive original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and Tier 1 suppliers, among others, who are looking to identify suppliers and forge partnerships. This event offers a valuable opportunity to engage with manufacturers and suppliers committed to the latest innovations and the extensive ecosystem of the e-mobility sector.



Compiled by Embassy of India, Zagreb

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