



April, 2018

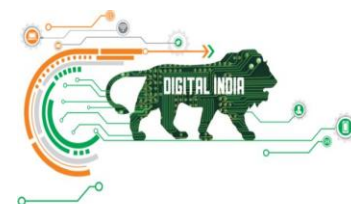
PART I: INDIAN ECONOMY

News Features

1. **Cotton exports to touch 7 million bales:** According to Cotton Association of India (CAI), cotton exports from India are likely to touch seven million bales this year, up about 27%, due to a surge in demand, as Indian cotton is selling at discount. With Indian cotton selling at discounts of 7-10% per pound, there is demand for all qualities of cotton.



2. **Digital transformation to add US \$154 billion to India's GDP by 2021:** According to a joint report by Microsoft and IDC Asia/Pacific, in 2017, about four per cent of India's GDP was derived from digital products and services created directly through the use of digital technologies such as mobility, Cloud, Internet of Things (IoT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI). Digital transformation will add close to \$154 billion to India's GDP by 2021 and increase the growth rate by 1% annually.



3. **India needs 3 million cyber security professionals right now:** According to IBM, there is a massive shortage of cyber security professionals in India, urging young graduates to look this segment, which is a high-margin segment for companies, as a lucrative career option. The company, which looks at India both as a market as well as a talent pool to serve the global markets on cyber security, stated that 3 million cyber security professionals are required in India but the supply is not even 100,000 now.



4. **Pharma exports climb to \$17.25 billion:** According to Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (PHARMEXCIL), pharmaceutical exports from India, a key component of the country's foreign trade basket, are estimated to have grown to US \$17.25 billion in the financial year 2017-18 or almost 2.5% higher than in financial year 2016-17.



Main Economic Indicators

Gross Domestic Product – GDP			
Fiscal Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18

Real GDP (% change, YoY)	8.2%	7.1%	6.6%
GDP (US \$ billion), current prices	2251.1	2300	/
GDP per capita (US \$), current prices	1718	/	/

Source: Indian Central Statistics Office

Foreign Trade

I. Merchandise Trade	
Exports & Imports: (US \$ Billion)	Apr
(Provisional)	
Exports (including re-exports)	
2017-18	24.64
2018-19	25.91
% Growth 2018-19/2017-18	5.17
Imports	
2017-18	37.88
2018-19	39.63
% Growth 2018-19/2017-18	4.60
Trade balance	
2017-18	-13.25
2018-19	-13.72
II. Trade in Services	
Exports & Imports: (US \$ Billion)	Mar 2018
(Provisional)	
Exports (Receipts)	16.83
Imports (Payments)	10.28
Trade balance	6.55

Source: Press Information Bureau, Government of India, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, dated 15th May 2018.

Industry

According to Indian Central Statistics Office (CSO) data, industrial production rose 4.4% in Mar 2018 over Mar 2017. For financial year 2017-18, industrial output rose by 4.3% over the 2016-17.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

The Indian Government is considering allowing 100% FDI in insurance intermediaries with a view to give a boost to the sector and attracting more funds. Intermediary services include insurance broking, third party administrators, surveyors and loss assessors. The FDI policy, at present, allows 49% foreign investment in the insurance sector, which includes insurance intermediaries.

Inflation

Indian Central Statistics Office (CSO) data showed that the consumer price inflation rose to 4.6% in Apr 2018 from a year earlier, mainly due to higher fuel and food prices.

PART II: INDIA-CROATIA ECONOMIC RELATIONS

News Features

1. **Provincial Economic Outreach:** Indian Ambassador, Mr. Sandeep Kumar visited cities of Bjelovar (23/04) and Slatina (24/04). In Bjelovar, Ambassador made a presentation on 'India Surging Ahead' in collaboration with Bjelovar Chamber of Economy. Representatives of various companies from Bjelovar County attended. The sectors identified were IT, power engineering, tourism, yoga, etc. Ambassador met with Mr. Dario Hrebak, Mayor of Bjelovar and discussed possibilities in expanding economic cooperation and possibility of organizing multifaceted 'India Day' with the components of Yoga, film screening, cuisine, and exhibition. In Slatina, Ambassador made a presentation on Indian economy 'India Surging Ahead' at Slatina Open University. It was attended by students, schools and city representatives. Ambassador also met with Mayor of Slatina, Mr. Denis Ostrosic, Principal of Slatina Open University, Ms. Danijela Fabric Fabijanac, Head of the Department for City Development, Mr. Marin Kokoric and President of the City Council of Slatina, Mr. Dario Vrbaslija and discussed economic opportunities. An 'India Day' event will be held in Q3 of 2018.



2. **Presentation on 'Indian Today':** Ambassador made (17/04) a presentation on 'India Today' to final year graduate students at Libertas International University. It was attended by 100 students followed by enthusiastic Q&A.



3. **"4th Smart City Conference":** Embassy participated (17/04) in the "4th Smart City Conference" at Zagreb Fair, organized by Lider (business magazine). The objective was to draw attention to concrete solutions and existing strategies in smart solution implementation for the purpose of sustaining the quality of city life. One of the major Government of India flagship programmes is "100 Smart Cities" aiming to retrofit/redevelop or build greenfield cities. Croatian industry is encouraged to participate in this.



4. **3rd CCE Conference:** Ambassador attended (18/04) the third CCE Conference 'Croatia – A Way To a Better Business Climate?' organized by the Croatian Chamber of Economy (CCE) in Zagreb. At the Conference, results of CCE survey on business climate in Croatia were presented. Survey showed that the frequent changes in legal regulations, long-term solving of court proceedings and frequent changes in tax rates are the main factors that create insecurity of entrepreneurs. Survey also showed that human capital, innovation and the use of disruptive technologies have become key factors for the development of the companies. Entrepreneurs gave the relevant authorities a set of recommendations for the improvement of the overall business and investment climate such as: increasing the number of work permits for workers of Non-EU countries, simplifying the administrative procedures, and not to change legal regulations too frequently.



5. **Meetings with business leaders:** During the month, Embassy held meetings with several business leaders in sectors of automotive, food processing, IT, media, gastronomy, textiles, etc.

Bilateral Trade

During the period Jan-Feb 2018 (for which local statistics are available) the total bilateral trade stood at Euro 25.68 million (**+36%**), i.e. India's exports worth Euro 24.13 million and India's imports worth Euro 1.55 million.

Euro million

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	Jan-Feb 2018
Croatia's Exports	€ 13.50	€ 17.53	€ 11.05	€ 15.36	€ 1.55
Croatia's Imports	€ 88.19	€ 104.5	€ 100.60	€ 126.14	€ 24.13
Total Trade	€ 101.69	€ 122.03	€ 111.65	€ 141.50	€ 25.68

(Source: Croatian Central Bureau of Statistics)

Trade Queries from India for Import/Export			
No.	Enquiry Originator	Product	Nature
			Import/Export
1	TMR Global FinCorp	Consultancy Services	Export
2	Bicero Tiles LLP.	Tiles	Export
3	Lines International	Engineering Services	Export
4	Divyadhara Overseas	Fruits & Spices	Export
5	Nag Trading Element	Rice	Export
6	Sunhearrrt Ceramik	Ceramic Tiles	Export
7	Dhanlaxmi Exports	Fabrics	Export
8	Shreeji Sales Agency	Rice & Vegetables	Export
9	Savio Ceramica	Tiles	Export
10	Pooja International	Vegetables	Export
11	Duckling International	Rice	Export
12	ACE Exports	Tiles	Export
13	Ganesh Foods	Dehydrated Onion & Garlic	Export
14	Quro Vitrified Pvt. Ltd.	Tiles	Export
15	SMRV Exports	Spices	Export
16	Futurelife Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceuticals	Export
17	Nilkanth Polytex	Fabrics	Export
18	Al-Habib Enterprise Ltd.	Ship Spare's	Export
19	Inviry Overseas	Fruits & Vegetables	Export
20	Hardik Gosai	Tiles	Export
21	Routelinx	Spices	Export
22	Kapsun	Industrial Air Coolers	Export
23	Larken Ceramic	Ceramic Tiles	Export
24	Jesson Exports	Spices	Export
25	Fabtech Technologies Int.	Pharmaceuticals	Export
26	Ceres Organics	Pesticides	Export
27	Panchvati Export	Dehydrated Onion & Garlic	Export
28	Intas Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceuticals	Export
29	K M Vasudevan	Textile	Export

30	TGB International	Onion	Export
31	T Stanes and Co. Ltd.	Fertilizers	Export
32	Narendra Explosives Ltd.	Weapons & Ammunition	Export
33	Barkat Rice	Rice	Export
34	Samaritan International	Metal Scrap	Export
35	Futurelife Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceuticals	Export

Trade Queries from Croatia for Import/Export			
No.	Enquiry Originator	Product	Nature
			Import/Export
1	Marinada	Vegetables	Import/Export
2	Mikroprocesorski mjerni uredjaji	Electrical Power Systems	Export

PART III: UPCOMING EVENTS, FAIRS, CONFERENCES & TENDERS IN INDIA

No.	Organizer	Event / Tender	Date	City/State
1	Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC), India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)	4 th edition of the Global Exhibition on Services (GES)	15-18 May 2018	Mumbai, Maharashtra
2	Exhibitions India Group	4th Smart Cities India Expo	23-25 May 2018	New Delhi
3	Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)	Exhibition and conference on technical textiles - 'Technotex 2018'	28-29 Jun 2018	Mumbai, Maharashtra
4	Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts	Indian Fashion Jewellery & Accessories Show (IFJAS)	16 - 18 Jul 2018	New Delhi
5	International Trade and Exhibitions India	International Exhibition on Engineering and Manufacturing (Tech India)	29-31 Aug 2018	New Delhi
6	IED Communications Ltd.	Automation Expo	29 Aug-01 Sep 2018	Mumbai, Maharashtra
7	MMI India Pvt. Ltd.	India Lab Expo	06-08 Sep 2018	Hyderabad, Telengana
8	GlobeTech Media Solutions	Globe-Tech Engineering Expo	14-16 Sep 2018	Pune, Maharashtra

9	Good Governance India Foundation	15th Municipalika Exhibition and Conference on Smart & Sustainable City Solutions	19-21 Sep 2018	Mumbai, Maharashtra
10	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals	India Chem	04-06 Oct 2018	Mumbai, Maharashtra
11	Messe Essen GmbH	India Essen Welding & Cutting	27-29 Nov 2018	Mumbai, Maharashtra
12	Ministry of Steel, Government of India	International Exhibition & Conference on Steel Industry – 'INDIA STEEL EXPO 2019'	22-24 Jan 2019	Mumbai, Maharashtra

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