



INDIA MATTERS

PUBLICATION OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA IN DUBAI

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India Pavilion AT Expo 2020
Dubai.

Hair for Hope India.

Teacher's Day Celebration.

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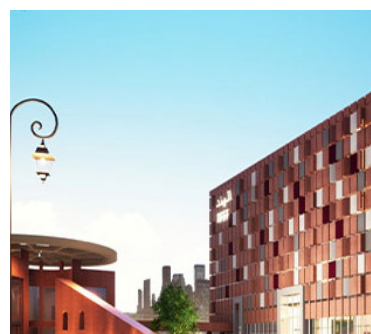
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FOREWARD



From Consul General's Desk
Dr. Aman Puri

Dear Reader,

The much awaited Expo 2020 Dubai is here and the India Pavilion had a spectacular inaugural by Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles Shri Piyush Goyal.

The India Pavilion, among the largest Pavilions at Expo 2020 Dubai, provides a glimpse into India's rich tradition and its vision for future.

Expo 2020 Dubai with 192 participating countries is a great platform for the participating Indian States, UTs and Corporates to showcase their potential and opportunities as the world looks forward to post pandemic economic recovery. Innovation hub at Indian Pavilion highlights India's rising Unicorns and startups.

We look forward to the exciting festive season at the India Pavilion that will include performances from renowned Indian artistes.

This edition features articles on PLI schemes that looks to strengthen manufacturing and export capacities of Indian firms and also covers Hair for Hope India Campaign that was organised in the Consulate.

Finally, I would like to thank you, the contributors and readers, for your interest and I encourage you to continue to send us your invaluable feedback and ideas for further improvement of the Magazine.

I hope you will enjoy reading this edition!

Happy reading!

Expos are the global events, which shape the future of the world by creating a fleeting miniature world in the city where it is hosted. The picturesque stage of Expo gives a platform for global progress and dialogue to all the participating countries. The motto of such gigantic events is to make harmonic ecosystem for humans and creating a world of tolerance and modernization. Expo 2021 is being held in Dubai's southern border with Abu Dhabi, enclosed by three large thematic districts. The theme of Expo is 'Connecting Minds, Creating the future'. It is notably going to be the world's greatest show hosted by Dubai. It is designed as a cosmopolitan village where we celebrate human brilliance and connect people from across the globe.

Expo 2021 Dubai have confirmed the participation of more than 190 countries, making it the most inclusive and international Expo ever to be organized. Each country through their pavilions or dedicated spaces can project itself to large, captive, and diverse audiences. It gives a huge opportunity to each participating country to engage in cultural diplomacy and open dialogues for bilateral ties with the host country as well as all other participants. Expo 2021 have come in the times of paradigm shift as the world is rising after a pandemic and have changed the vision for growth and progress in every sector. It will be an extensive change to frame the future of the world in profound digital era.

India Pavilion in Expo 2020 comes up with the most significant theme, 'INDIA ON THE MOVE' representing the present picture of India as fastest growing economy among the developing countries.



Expo opens a rare opportunity for India to promote multilateral public diplomacy and foster improved understanding in global relationships. India's vivid pavilion will showcase from its diverse cultural and traditional heritage to modern scientific innovations which are leading the world, like a global force. The India Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai is all set to display the emergence of a New India to the world. Coinciding with India's celebrations of Amrit Mahotsav, 75 years of Independence, Expo 2020 Dubai, which started on October 1, is be a significant platform for India to showcase its vibrant culture and tremendous growth opportunities for the next six months.

INDIA PAVILION AT EXPO 2020 DUBAI



Hon'ble Minister of Commerce, Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food, Public Distribution and Textiles Shri Piyush Goyal along with HE Ahmed Al Banna, UAE Ambassador to India, Shri S Kishore Spl. Secretary Department of Commerce, Govt. Of India and Ambassador of India to UAE Shri Pavan Kapoor inaugurating India pavilion.



HE Ahmed Ali Al Sayegh, Minister of State (UAE) and Chairman of Abu Dhabi Global Market and CG Dr. Aman Puri at India Pavilion

India's exceptional fightback against COVID-19 and the reforms ushered in by the government during the pandemic, has set the stage for a sustained high growth phase going ahead, and the country is well on course to becoming a \$5 trillion economy. India's participation in Expo 2020 Dubai will primarily focus on presenting the unlimited opportunities for the global community to participate in the country's growth story, and benefit from it.

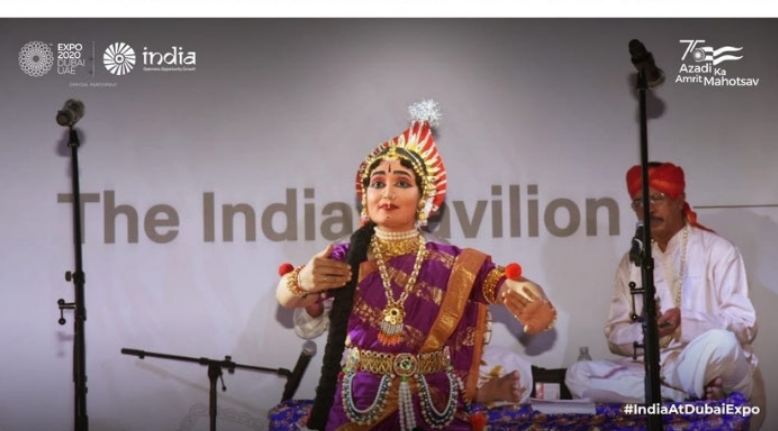
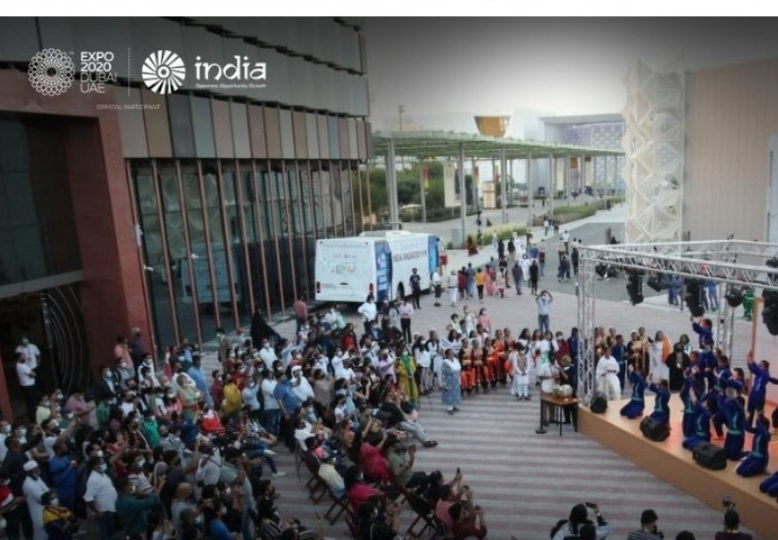
Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given a clarion call for attaining a sustainable growth paradigm for India in the next 25 years and be amongst the frontrunners in creating a safe and prosperous world. The India pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai will be an embodiment of the Prime Minister's vision of New India. The world will be experiencing the country's cultural diversity, ancient treasures, business achievements, and leading opportunities with cutting-edge technologies at the pavilion. It showcases a modern, robust India, high on technology while simultaneously exhibiting the beauty of Indian art, culture and cuisine during the 183 days that the event will

run till March 31, 2022.

In keeping with the themes of the Expo, visitors will get a glimpse of Indian innovations and successes in the fields of Space Technology, Robotics, Electric Mobility, Edu-tech, e-Commerce, Energy, Cybersecurity, Healthcare, Cryptocurrency and Blockchain. In line with India's mission and in conjunction with the objectives of Expo 2020 Dubai, 11 key themes are being represented at the India Pavilion, viz, Climate and Biodiversity, Space, Urban and Rural Development, Tolerance and Inclusivity, Golden Jubilee, Knowledge and Learning, Travel and Connectivity, Global Goals, Health and Wellness, Food Agriculture and Livelihoods and Water.



Glimpses of Cultural activities in the India Pavilion



COVER STORY

These themes also represent the future of Modern India by showcasing the sectors that show promise and have the potential to grow. To highlight the Modern India's mission to the world, these themes will be strategically displayed at the India Pavilion every month. The India Pavilion, which is one of the largest pavilions at the Expo 2020 Dubai features an innovative kinetic façade made up of 600 individual colourful blocks. It is developed as a mosaic of rotating panels that depicts different themes as they rotate on their axis. It represents the theme of 'India on the move' and is a unique amalgam of the rich heritage and technological advances of the nation India, which has actively led the fight for climate change and sustainability will also be using Expo's global platform to fortify its place in the world's fight against climate change.

The States and Union Territories that have confirmed their participation at the India Pavilion along with their delegation for planned B2Gs and G2Gs meetings include Gujarat, Karnataka, Ladakh, Telangana, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, J&K, Goa, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana. These states will exhibit their culture, food and business opportunities at the India Pavilion.

Ministry of AYUSH; Ministry of Tourism; Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas; Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change; Department of Space; Ministry of Renewable Energy; Department of Pharmaceuticals and Ministry of Textiles, are among the participating ministries and departments at the India Pavilion.

Large number of Indian conglomerates and global companies are also participating, and the names include Tata Group, Reliance, Adani, Vedanta, Hinduja Group, L&T and UAE based

majority such as Lulu group, KEF Holdings, Aster, Malabar Gold, IFFCO etc. In addition several other organizations such as Hindustan Unilever Limited, PepsiCo, HSBC, ITC, Facebook, EaseMyTrip, Oyo, Standard Chartered Bank, Trident Group, Baidyanath, Apollo Hospital, Sun International, MIKO, Daawat Rice, Bank of Baroda, Patanjali, Dabur, BLS International, Petrochem, Nikai, Al Dobowi, Shyco-can, NPCI, Jagran Lake City University, Air India, and ICICI Bank and to name a few.

While India is celebrating the 75th year of its Independence under the global campaign 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav', UAE is also celebrating the 50th anniversary of its foundation. This is a significant time in the history of both the countries, and Expo 2020 Dubai is a tremendous opportunity to cement the already flourishing ties further.

Showcasing the country's innovation potential and capabilities, an 'Indian Innovation Hub' has been developed to offer a platform for the budding innovators and startups to showcase their

capabilities.

The magnificent India Pavilion was inaugurated by Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India on 1st October 2021 followed by a colourful cultural programme.

During the inaugural ceremony, Shri Piyush Goyal said that the reforms unleashed in the last seven years by the government under the guidance of Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, and especially during the Corona period, are set to boost the country's manufacturing and exports potential and make India a global economic hub, besides strengthening its capabilities in the technology space. India is already a leading player in the global markets in IT, Pharma and space technology, and with the development of research and innovation capabilities, the country's prowess in these areas would help reap the benefits of new-age technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Robotics,"





IS DECISION FATIGUE THE TWIN OF “BURN OUT” DURING THESE TIMES OF COVID?

- Sailaja Menon, Psychologist

Today we are going to talk about if - Decision Fatigue is the twin of Burn out? Before we start talking about this topic let's take a minute to reflect on what does a Burnout feel like? Most of us have gone through a burn out—it could be work induced or it could be induced by our emotions. Feeling numb about work, emotionally distancing ourselves, experiencing physical symptoms like headaches or stomach aches, feeling drained, feeling lethargic, lack of energy, difficulty concentrating and a total lack of creativity are a few of the outcomes. All of these symptoms start arising when we are exposed to prolonged work hours, unmanageable tasks, multiple decision making, unreasonable deadlines and working on tasks that are not particularly our expertise. **Burn out** can appear for something very different—now that we are in a lockdown or in a prolonged state of crisis – experts

call this “**Decision fatigue**” **Think about it** – most of us will agree that although we are not engaging in anything that seems time bound or with deadlines, we are all in a constant state of decision making. We are preoccupied with life and death decisions of keeping our loved ones and family safe. We are working through decisions of the very basics of existence such as cooking a meal, cleaning house, doing laundry, etc. In addition, we are now dealing with a few more decisions that we have to be vigilant every day – Do I wear gloves, do I wear the mask, do I wash down the groceries when I bring it home, do I wipe down the bags that brought the groceries in, what about the cardboard boxes that was delivered by Amazon or do I wipe down the door bolts and handles, what about my shoes—do I leave it out or bring it in? These decisions are constantly on your mind—and they are 24 hrs 7 days a week and only continuing—day after

day! I hear that many do not find enough hours in a day to get things done contrary to what we think that at a time like this being at home, and having the time at our disposal we should be much more relaxed and at a better pace— but on the contrary – we feel overwhelmed, tired, lethargic and unable to concentrate and go to bed and wake up feeling exhausted and tired. Do you see the parallel of a burn out here? Yes, very much, it is a constant psychological stress that puts immense mental strain considering our days in the past weeks has now become so monotonous with no clear sense of when and how this could get better and get back to normalcy within a certain time frame. . Therefore, days in the week has become today, yesterday, day before yesterday, tomorrow or day after tomorrow. We have lost count of the days and dates of the week. We are in a constant spiral of decision making which varies from borderline life or

death on one end of the spectrum and then basic survival decisions like breakfast, lunch and dinner on the other end. Everyone is trying hard to figure out how to exist in this new world. Trying to structure our day and priorities is becoming a challenging task especially when our home turf has become an “all in one” – home, office school, and last but not least our self isolation cell. No “me time” for quite some time! This decision fatigue accompanied with the pressures that

we are put through to make informed, responsible, smart decisions and choices about our well being for ourselves, our families, and our community has in some ways lead to a pandemic specific Burnout. Alias Decision Fatigue Please remember experiencing some emotional exhaustion and anxiety is normal, but the problem is that many of our usual coping mechanisms have vanished – for instance taking a walk, going to the gym, meeting a friend and talking things out - to name a few. Getting back to

some of our usual coping mechanisms might take time, so it is important for each one of us to find alternative ways to de-stress and de-fatigue – they have to be what works for you. It can be – sit in silence, do yoga, read a book, listen to music, paint/draw, or even binge on Netflix or potato crisps—whatever works for you. The focus is making sure that you stay the course and combat your decision fatigue with a few workable tips. The objective here today is to limit your number of daily decisions.

Let's see how we can do that - To start off with -

- **Make fewer decisions** – learn to recognize the difference between urgency and emergency. Review how important it is to make a particular decision today. If it can wait, let it wait. Everything cannot be top priority for it to be done now!
- **Delegate decisions** – Handover some of the decisions you usually make (work or home related) to another colleague or family member during this lockdown. Your plate might already be full. Ask for help and develop a team spirit—with your office colleagues and within your home.
- **Make big decisions first thing in the morning** – this is the best time of the day, you are just waking up, you have much of the day ahead of you to still work with and therefore there is a sense of feeling that you can achieve much more. So get it done first thing and one less thing to worry about
- **Limit your options and Keep the decisions simple** – you already have a lot to handle and your mind is constantly in a state of alert with decisions to make. For instance if you go into a grocery store to pick up a bottle of cooking oil, this might not be the time to go over all the different oils displayed on the shelves in the aisle, to check where they are made and what the ingredients are – instead pick one which would be most useful and economical for you. Your decision need to be that simple – not more than few minutes to pick up that bottle of oil. Current situation warrants quick decisions.
- **Set deadlines to execute your decisions** – this will give you a sense of progress and completion. All the more, it will also help you to visually cross out one decision off from your check list.
- **Go minimal** – Drop the excess commitments out of your life. Take a look at your list. This is a very uncertain time in everyone's life and has its own level of stress. Having fewer tasks on your plate will lead to fewer decisions and this will help you to feel in control of the choices you make
- **Routine** – Establishing daily routines will help you to minimize and simplify your choices. Having firm habits and a strict routine will help you to put certain decisions on auto pilot – for example – waking up time, meals, office work time, exercise/relaxation time, going to bed time, etc., instead of leaving it loose ended. These are major decisions and they need to be off your plate. Put them on autopilot. So, keep a routine – it is a must.
- **Aim for good enough than perfection**– We often get trapped in our mind box – that everything we do needs to be perfect – you will agree that puts us in a lot of pressure to do things “right” because if not - a wrong thing will ruin everything. It is ok if your meal is burnt or your child is glued on to the computer longer than agreed or your spouse did not get the dishes done as agreed. Take a deep breath; let it go as these are little things in the bigger picture. Focus on what you got accomplished and it might be lot more than you expected. Celebrate it and be kind to yourself. It is all about pushing through – one day at a time now.

TEACHER'S DAY CELEBRATION



Consul General Dr. Aman puri, Consul Press, Information, Culture and Labour Ms. Tadu Mamu and senior teachers from Schools lighted the Lamp in the occasion of teachers day.

On September 5 every year we celebrate this day to mark the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, a symbol of academics and education and thus this day is dedicated to all teachers and celebrated as Teacher's Day in every school in India. Dr. Radhakrishnan was a renowned philosopher, statesman as well as a teacher. He is remembered for being one of the greatest

thinkers of the 20th century. He was the one who introduced western philosophies into Indian society and is considered one of the greatest philosophers in Indian history. United Arab Emirates is home to large number of Indian Curriculum Schools. These schools mainly comprise of teachers who have completed their educational qualifications in India. Under the jurisdiction of Consulate General of India in Dubai we

have more than 80 schools with CBSE curriculum. This year as we celebrate Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the celebration of 75 years of progressive India and the glorious history of it's people, culture and achievements. We marked this year's Teacher's Day by recognizing 75 teachers from Indian Curriculum schools in Dubai and Northern Emirates. These 75 teachers came from different educational backgrounds and have achieved various awards in



Students of Indian High School performing on Teachers Day.

the sphere of teaching. The teachers have not only been instrumental in the successful running of schools but have also added a valuable experience in the life of students. Consul General Dr. Aman Puri presented Certificates of Appreciation to these teachers and thanked them for their constant support and services rendered to schools. All teachers thanked the Consulate for the recognition and honor, most of the senior teachers got overwhelmed with joy and considered it a special moment in their teaching life. School students gave cultural performances as a token of gratitude for teachers and showed their respect and love for teachers through their dances and skits.



Consul General Dr. Aman Puri presented certificates of appreciation to teachers.

HAIR FOR HOPE INDIA

Hair for Hope India is a campaign to create awareness about hair donation, the brain child of Premi Mathew, a cancer survivor. In 2013 she officially launched Hair for hope india in India after inspiring a lot of Indians in UAE to donate hair from 2011. Hair for Hope India is the first national campaign to create awareness about hair donation in a country steeped in tradition, where the length of hair is a measure of a woman's beauty!. Awareness was zero and all cultural values were against it. Today hair for hope India is the most respected brand in the category and has held events in over 17 states in India and has an organic following of 41000 followers on facebook and 10,000 on instagram. Despite covid they held the First Global Cut A Thon live on zoom where 120 people from New York to Singapore cut their hair in June 2021! The event was inaugurated by bollywood star Mr Milind Soman at Lona-vala who cut the first ponytail!. After hosting the first event 10 years ago and donating the first wig in India in 2013, the campaign now focuses on educating NGOs, Clubs, Churches, Schools and even MNCs to host events and convert it into wigs and give it directly to patients. Step by step assistance is provided free of cost to ensure that the hair really reaches the chemo patients. The hair donated is converted into wigs and given free of cost to cancer patients to give them to strength to fight the disease. For a lot of Indian women lose their confidence when they lose their hair and find it tough to face society with dignity. Today thousands of wigs have been



Consul General Dr. Aman Puri with boys from different Emirates who participated in Hair donation drive.



Consul Press, Information, Culture and Labour Ms. Tadu Mamu and Consul Shri Jitender Negi cutting the hair of the youngest male hair donor Taksh.



Consul General Dr. Aman Puri presenting trophy to youngest male hair donor Taksh.

donated as NGOs around the country joined the movement. A unique contribution of the campaign is to provide a forum to connect 5 donors directly with a patient so that the donor knows exactly where the hair goes and can be rewarded with tears of joy as she personally gives the wig! It also averts the possibility of frauds misusing the cause. The campaign is run without any funds and staff and is manned by Premi who handles the social media, organises events and PR and correspondence. What is beautiful is that the campaign is run by students as young as 7 who organize events at their own schools at zero cost. A milestone in 2021 was when 26 Boys from over 20 schools in Dubai donated hair, a unique way of helping cancer patients. Aarunya a 7 year old also became the youngest to host a hair donation event.

The hair donated in UAE goes to Friends of Cancer Patients, an initiative by the Sheikha of Sharjah while the hair donated in India goes to cope with cancer and Amala cancer Centre. The Consul General of India, Dubai, H.E Vipul cut a ponytail and inaugurated a special hair donation/ breast cancer awareness event in 2020 and supported the movement. 2021 was also no different as the Consul General of India H.E Aman Puri felicitated 20 boys who grew their hair to donate to cancer patients against all odds. Consul Jitender Singh Negi cut the hair of three-year-old Taksh Jain who is probably the youngest boy in the world to donate 16" of clean, dry, hair, tied as per instructions at www.protectyourmom.asia could be the best gift for a cancer patient!

CONDUCT OF NEET(UG) FOR THE FIRST TIME IN DUBAI, UAE



Photos from Indian High School during the conduct of NEET(UG) 2021

The Indian High School Dubai was one of the largest centres allotted outside India to conduct the NEET 2021 in the Gulf countries. The National Testing Agency (NTA) through the Indian Consulate in UAE selected this school to carry out the highly demanding examination professionally. The Indian High School deputed over 430 school staff to administer this examination under the consul education Mr Ram Kumar as the City Coordinator and the Principal Abraham Manoharan, as the centre Superintendent. The NTA appointed the Consul Education Mr Ram Kumar Thangaraj as the city coordinator along with 3 vice

consuls Mr Ashish Dabas, Mr Ravi Remuka, Mr Sahil Aggarwal as the observers for this medical entrance exam. The consulate education provided extraordinary leadership and guidance to conduct this massive exam for 1853 students in this Dubai centre in a meticulous manner. The Indian High Group of Schools CEO Mr Punit Mk Vasu and the school management provided all the facilities of the school benevolently and kept open all the facilities for the smooth conduct of the exam. All the teachers of the Indian High School were well oriented on the overall conduct of the NEET 2021. The candidates appeared for the NEET exam were comfortable from

the entry to exit. Early arrivals were provided with refreshments from the school. Even on their exit students were offered with snacks box. Covid protocol were followed and social distancing maintained throughout the campus. Documentation, after the examination, were extensive and enormous with so many annexures. All the tasks were completed by the dedicated school team with the consulate officials. The sealed boxes were taken by airfreight and handed to the NTA on the same night in the city office. To our surprise the Dubai centre was the first centre to deposit the exam materials box to the NTA in Delhi.

OUTREACH INITIATIVE: BREAKFAST WITH THE CG



Breakfast with CG at M/s Amber Packaging Industries LLC, RAK

As part of the 6th edition of the series "Breakfast with Consul General" an outreach initiative with blue collar workers, was held at the premises of M/s. Amber Packaging Industries LLC, Ras Al Khaimah on Friday 17 September 2021. During the event, Dr. Aman Puri, Consul General and Ms. Tadu Mamu, Consul(Labour&PIC) visited the factory premises and joined the workers for breakfast and interacted with them. CG encouraged them to learn new skills and mentioned about Consulate's ongoing upskilling initiative, an endeavour to make the workers ready with skill sets for the technology driven future

and also assured that the Consulate is dedicated to the service of the workers 24x7 and also informed them of various consular and welfare services available for them, grievance redressal mechanism, significance of EXPO 2020, and Importance of Pension and Insurance, etc. CGI, Dubai has also arranged a health check-up camp in association with DM Aster Healthcare Hospitals and financial literacy camp in association with Bank of Baroda for the benefit of the workers of the company. A raffle was conducted and prizes were given to the workers by the CG. Around 120 Indian workers have benefitted from the programme. During the visit, Consul General

also met the Committee Members of the Indian Business and Professional Council and invited them along with RAK Chamber of Commerce to take part in the Dubai EXPO 2020. CG also asked them to enhance their activities especially following Covid Pandemic as business is getting back to normalcy in UAE and in this connection if any assistance is required, CGI would be ready to extend in all possible ways. CG presented a memento to Mr. Dharmdev Bhatt, MD of M/s. Amber Packaging Industries in commemoration of achieving 100% company ownership of UAE Mainland business.

AWARENESS CAMP



Awareness Camp for Indian blue Collar workers

As part of the monthly workshops to raise awareness on health and financial management, etc., among the Indian blue collar workers at various Labour Camps in Dubai and other Northern Emirates, during the month of September 2021,

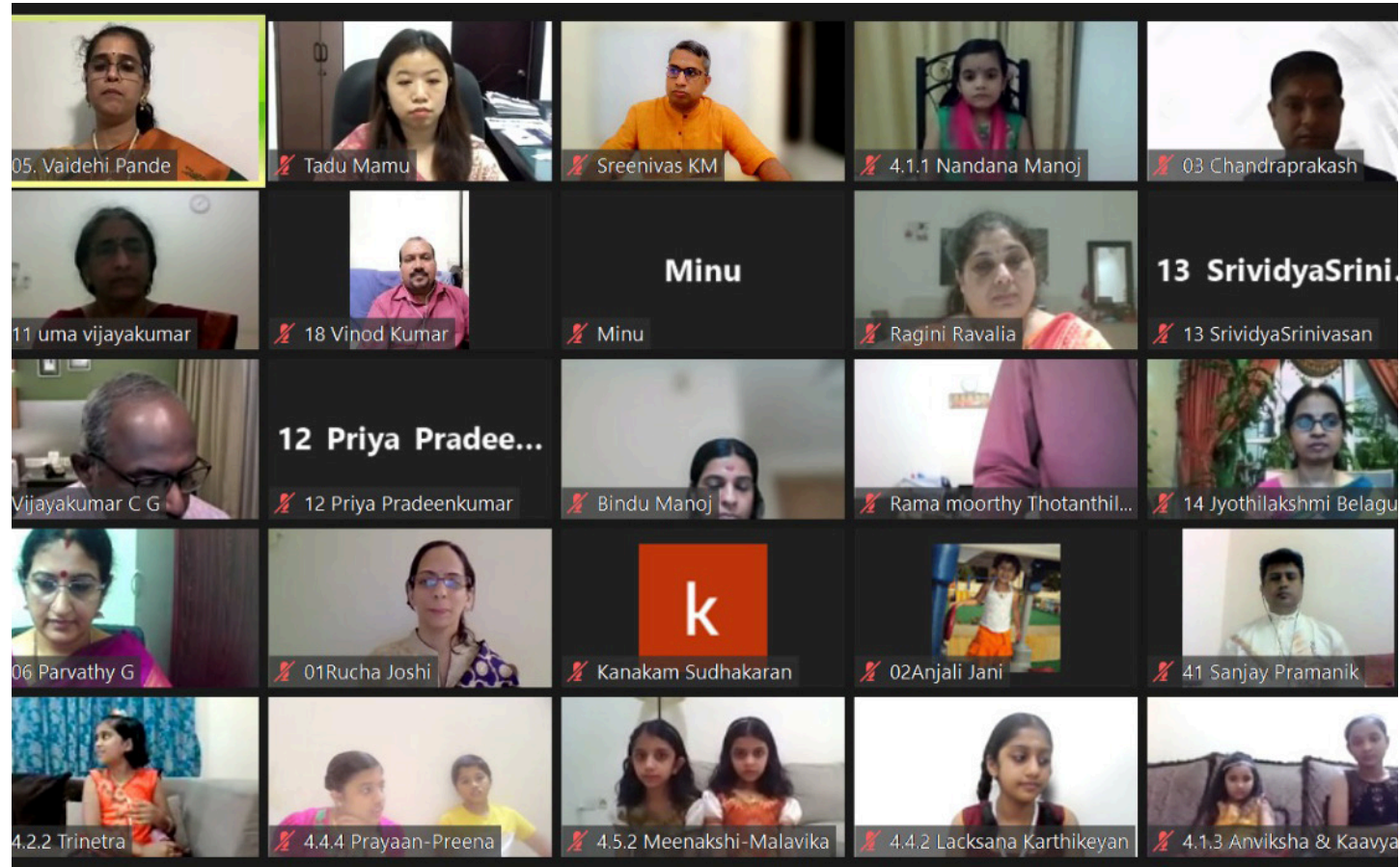
the Consulate has organised a Labour Health Awareness campaign on Tobacco, Alcohol and financial management at ASGC Workers accommodation, Jebel Ali, Dubai, on Friday, 24 September 2021. During the event, Dr T C Satish briefed them through his presentation of the ill ef-

fects of alcoholism and smoking, State Bank of India officials on financial literacy and PBSK official on Consular and labour services and PBSK Mobile App., grievance redressal mechanism, etc. Around 150 Indian workers have benefitted from the programme.



SAMSKRITAM ACTIVITIES IN THE UAE IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE CONSULATE

अयं निजःपरो वेति गणना लघुचेतसाम्।
उदारचरतिनां तु वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्॥



virtual Prize distribution ceremony for month long activities carried by Samskritam

Samyak kritam iti Samskritam -That which has been refined is Samskritam. Samskritam is not a term new for Indians and also many non-Indians across the world. As there has been a constant rise in the demand for learning the Sanskrit language in the UAE, Consulate General of India, Dubai has been collaborating with Samskrita Bharati and actively promoting Samskritam since 2015. In this endeavor many programs, such as Samskrita Sambhashana varga (basic level for all) Balakendram (weekly - for kids) etc. are arranged (now online) as a stepping stone for a full-fledged learning as one progresses in Samskritam. One of the many

programs conducted by Samskritabharati is Samskritamanthanam which is a series of Samskritam lectures - organized every month, wherein learned scholars in the field, from India are invited to impart their knowledge through lectures, seminars and interactive sessions. Another of which is Samskritotsava, a month-long program, celebrated yearly, where students of all age groups perform various cultural programs in Samskritam. Samskritamanthanam was celebrated on the 23rd of September 2021, with Chief Guest Ms. Tadu Mamu – Consul (Press, Info & culture) and Guest speaker being Prof. Dr. Vijayakumar C.G, Vice Chancellor, Maharshi Paanini Sanskrit Evam Vedic

Vishwavidyalaya, Ujjain, MP (India). Prof. Dr. Vijayakumar C.G enlightened everyone on the importance of the language that is Samskritam, and why it is important for every Bhaaratiya to learn the language. Also many Samskritam competitions were conducted to mark the Samskritotsava during the months of August and September. The categories were Action-songs, Subhashitam-recitation, Handwriting, Singing, Storytelling, Picture making based on a given topic, and Speech on a given topic. First second and third prizes were awarded for each category. Nandana Manoj, S.Madhvesha and Anviksha Vishal came first second and third respectively in

the 5 – 7 years category for Abhinayageetam. S.Madhvesha and Trinetra Senthil Pandian shared first place for Subhashitam (5 – 7 years category) and second and third prizes went to Rakhi pushpan and Rashi Pushpan. For Lekhanam (8 – 10 years) Rujula Bhosale, Shyam Manikandan, won the first and Second prizes respectively. Third prize was shared by Akshitha Kaamakshi Sairam and Aparajita Srinivasan. Geetam(8 – 10 years) had Shreyash Sanjay and Prayaan Gopakumar as first and third prize winners. Second prize was shared by Lacksana Karthikeyan and Saisri Thirumalairayan. Aparajitha Srinivasan, Meenakshi Sankar and Malavika Sankar were the first second and third-prize winners respectively, for Kathakathanam (8 – 10 years). Sai Chandra Rongali, Shruti Sanjay, Preenaa Gopakumar,



Consul Press, Information, Culture and Labour Ms. Tadu Mamu along with members of Samskritam

bagged the first second and third prizes respectively for Chitrarachana (11 years and above). Archana Warriar, Anayka Manoj and Kanav Sharma were the first second and third prizewinners respectively for Bhaashanam.

For any queries, please email to soochanapatram@gmail.com



Smt. Sri Pranavi performing bharatnatyam during Samskritam celebrations.

LEGAL REFORMS IN THE PERSONAL STATUS AND CRIMINAL LAWS OF THE UAE

- Ashish Mehta (Founder and Managing Partner of Ashish Mehta & Associates).

INTRODUCTION:

The year 2020 was a year of big legal reforms in the UAE. This was the year when the country had witnessed a paradigm shift from its traditional legal framework. While some reforms were aimed at enhancing the ease of doing business in the coun-

try, the others were planned to improve conditions of life, especially of the large expatriate population living and working in the UAE. The reforms introduced were in respect of laws regarding corporate, personal status and criminal matters.

REFORMS IN THE PERSONAL STATUS LAW:

For expatriates working and living with families in a foreign country, the application of inheritance and matrimonial laws hold special relevance. Often, due to contradicting provisions of laws in one's native country and in the country of one's residence, an expatriate is likely to experience problems in concluding transactions pertaining to inheritance. Likewise, problems may arise in respect of proving the validity of marriage and divorce as well. In the UAE, the erstwhile position of laws regarding inheritance and divorce was set forth by the Federal Law No 28 of 2005 on Personal Status which

was applicable to all UAE nationals and expatriates, alike. The Personal Status Law is based on the Islamic Shari'a. The Personal Status Law invariably applied to matters of succession or divorce, unless the parties involved made a specific request to the competent adjudicating court for application of their own personal laws. This led to several practical problems subsequently, whereby a divorce decree issued by a Court in the UAE may not be recognised in the country where the marriage was solemnised, because the personal laws of the parties to the marriage were not followed. However, this position

In the previous edition of India Matters, the UAE's key corporate legal reforms from 2020 were highlighted. In this edition, the legal reforms pertaining to the personal and criminal matters are recounted.

has now changed by the Federal Decree Law No (29) of 2020 ("FDL 29/2020"). Pursuant to Article One thereof, unless the expatriates choose otherwise, the laws of their respective native countries shall apply for specific matters under the Personal Status Law. Additionally, by FDL 29/2020 certain provisions of the Federal Law No 5 of 1985 on the Issuance of the Civil Transactions Law were also amended. Consequently, the position of laws regarding inheritance, matrimonial matters and guardianship also witnessed a shift. The amended position is described here in after.

INHERITANCE:

In matters of inheritance for a person dying intestate (i.e., without a will), the pre-reforms position was that Islamic Shari'a would apply by default. However, by FDL 29/2020, certain provisions of the Personal Status Law and the Civil Transactions Law, were amended. Following the amendments, the general provisions in respect of inheritance is summarily described as follows:

- Matters pertaining to inheritance or "heritage" are to be governed by the laws applicable of the deceased person's native state at the time of his

death.

- Where an expatriate dies intestate and without any heirs his assets at the time of his death shall automatically be transferred to the State. (i.e., the UAE).
- Where an expatriate had made a will, UAE laws would only apply if the same was so specified in the will of the deceased expatriate. Otherwise, the laws of his native country would be applicable.

Quite interestingly, the FDL 29/2020 has also made provisions for each Emirate in the UAE to create a specific registry

named "Non-UAE National Wills". Although, this presumably is still under development, the establishment of such registries shall be of great assistance to expatriates interested in registering their wills in the UAE.

MARRIAGE:

By the FDL 29/2020, certain amendments have been made to provisions of the Civil Transactions Law in respect of validity of marriages. The key changes are summarily stated as follows:

- The validity of marriage shall be determined by the law of the country where the marriage was solemnized.

- Further, a marriage between two expatriates shall be deemed valid if the marriage was solemnized in accordance with the laws of the state where the marriage was solemnized.

However, it may be noted that marriage between a UAE national and an expatriate shall be subject to the laws of the UAE.

ALIMONY / MAINTENANCE:

Following the amendments by FDL 29/2020, matters pertaining to "financial impacts" post-marriage like alimony or maintenance are also to be governed in accordance with the laws of the state where the marriage was solemnized.

DIVORCE, REPUDIATION AND SEPARATION:

REFORMS IN CRIMINAL LAWS:

The UAE penal laws are largely provided in the Federal Law No 3 of 1987 on the Issuance of the Penal Law (the "Penal Law"). By the Federal Decree Law No (15) of 2020 ("FDL 15/2020") certain provisions of the Penal Law were amended, whereupon certain acts which were punishable by law before, have now either been decriminalised or the applicable penalties have been reduced.

COHABITATION WITHOUT MARRIAGE:

By Article 356 of the Penal Law (before FDL 15/2020) the act of sexual cohabitation without marriage used to be a punishable offence, even if the same was with

Further, following the amendments by FDL 29/2020, matters like divorce, repudiation of marriage and separation between spouses are to be governed by the laws of the state where the marriage was solemnized.

GUARDIANSHIP, CUSTODY, TUTELAGE:

The objective matters related to guardianship, custody, tutelage, and other objective systems to protect persons lacking capacity are to be governed by the laws of the native state of the person whose protection is required.

NOTE FOR INDIANS IN THE UAE:

In view of the reforms, Indians living in the UAE, shall now invariably be subject to the personal laws of India, in so far as inheritance and matrimonial matters are concerned. However, it may

mutual consent. This was called the offence of indecent assault. By FDL 15/2020, Article 356 has been amended entirely, and the provisions for indecent assault have been removed. Following this, unmarried couples may now live in the same accommodation, and cohabit without marriage.

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION:

Traditionally, in the UAE, trade and consumption of alcoholic beverages has been highly regulated. By the FDL 15/2020, Article 313 of the Penal Law has been amended entirely and some leniency has been introduced inasmuch as consumption, posses-

still be prudent and essential to check how judgements, orders and decrees of the UAE courts in respect of inheritance, succession and divorce would pass the enforceability test in India.

It is interesting to note that FDL 29/2020 has also created a provision for each Emirate to have its own "Non-UAE National Will" registry. While this is still under development, it may be noted that non-Muslim expatriates may approach the DIFC Wills Service Centre for registration of their wills in the UAE, for their assets around the world.

Indian expatriates in the UAE may also get their Wills attested by the Consulate General of India in Dubai. For further information, one may contact the Indian Embassy in Abu Dhabi or the Consulate General of India in Dubai

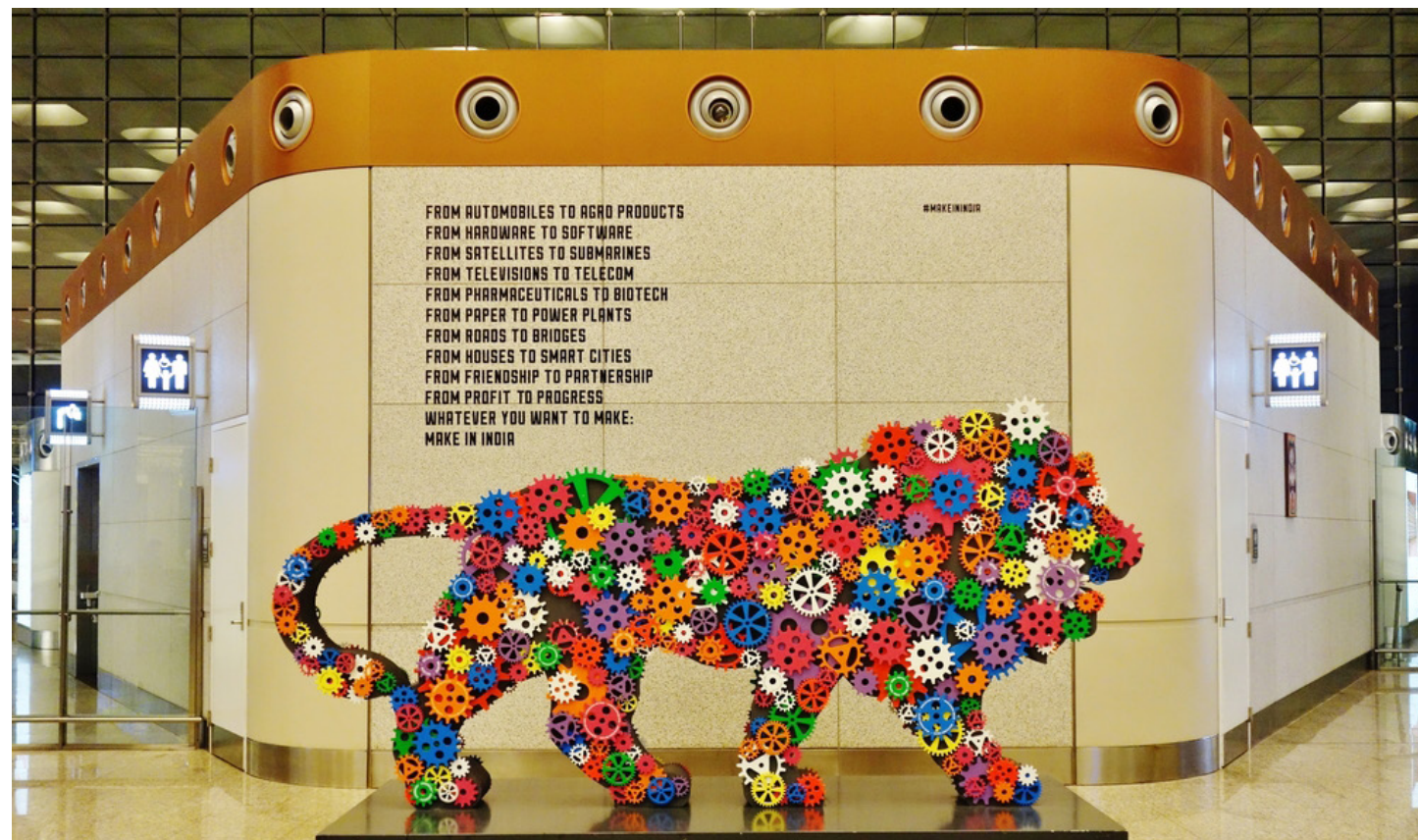
sion or trading in alcoholic drinks is no longer a punishable offence so long as these acts are done in permitted places and as per applicable legislations.

However, in this context, the following points must also be noted

- Each Emirate is empowered to frame its own regulations for consumption, possession and dealing with and trading in alcoholic beverages. For instance, in Dubai, one would still require a license to legally purchase alcoholic beverages from authorised dealers.
- The minimum legal age for consumption of alcoholic drinks is 21 years.

CONCLUSION:

The UAE has traditionally been a progressive country, but deeply rooted in its culture, traditions, and values. It is also a country which has welcomed and continues to welcome people from around the world with open arms and has always been considerate of their happiness and well-being. The year 2020 reforms do exhibit a big legislative shift in the UAE, aimed at betterment of lives, and they demonstrate, how strongly the principles of tolerance and universal brotherhood are espoused in the UAE and amongst its leadership.



PRODUCTION LINKED INCENTIVE (PLI) SCHEME: A GAMECHANGER FOR INDIAN MANUFACTURING

- Devika Chawla, Strategic Investment Research Unit, Invest India

Over the past few decades, India's economic growth trajectory has been grabbing attention and interest globally, not the least because of our strong economic fundamentals and our vast market size. Our economic growth rates in the recent past have also consistently been among the highest in the world, attracting some of the most prominent companies and investors to Indian shores. Increasing economic clout, in turn, has led to a broader global consensus about a larger role and place for India, both in geo-economic and geo-political terms. Our industrial policy has been an important pillar of our accelerating economic growth and with the most visible impact being witnessed in the remarkable journey of India's IT services sector, specifically in

the 21st century. However, there is wide agreement that domestic manufacturing has been somewhat unable to match the exponential growth of the services sector we have seen in the last decades. The advent of the coronavirus pandemic nearly two years ago hasn't helped and in fact, had brought most manufacturing and other economic activities to a grinding halt last year. But, like every crisis that comes with a so-called 'silver lining', this pandemic too, has given us all its fair share of lessons and learnings. Among the most prominent of these have been the risks of concentrating supply chains in a few geographies and exposing businesses to severe shocks in times of crises like this. A lot of countries such as India have an unprecedented opportunity to benefit from this global trend of seeking alternative sourcing des-



tinations by big businesses and to entrench themselves into the international supply chains. Taking a cue from this learning, the Indian government launched last year what can aptly be termed as one of modern India's most economically impactful initiatives to bolster Indian manufacturing and our domestic industries in general. Since its launch last year, the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' campaign has witnessed a massive government push towards strengthening Indian industries through a slew of measures like incentives, subsidies and funding. Among the most significant of these measures was the approval by the country's Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Modi to extend the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme.

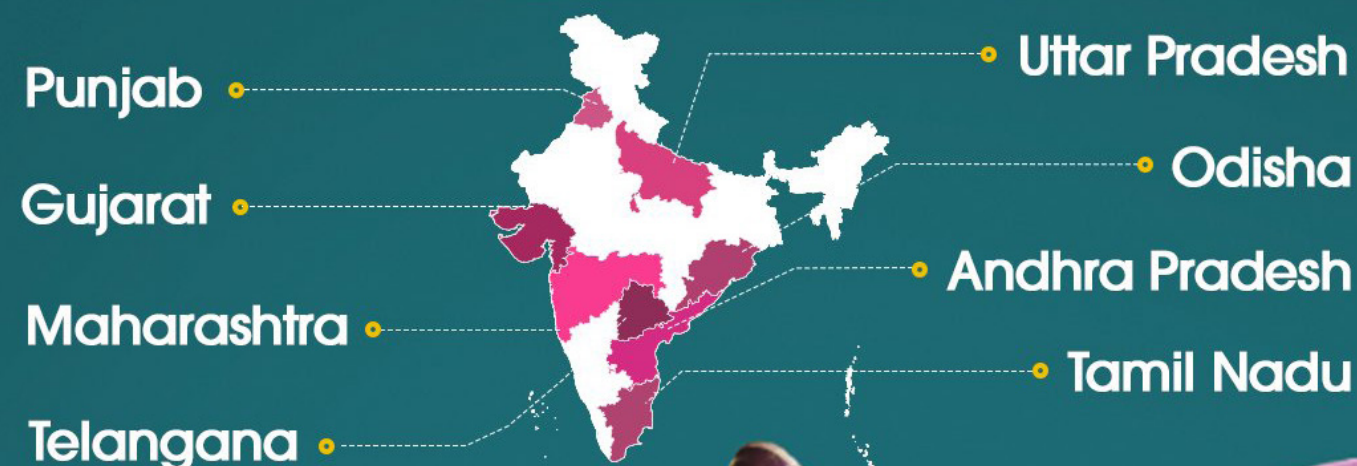
The scheme, centred on incremental outputs, aims to widen the manufacturing and export capacities of Indian firms thereby, putting them at the heart of global supply chains. Based on an incentive-led encouragement model for domestic and foreign firms, these schemes aim to create technologically advanced and globally competitive national sectoral champions and expand the country's international trade. The main rationale behind extending the PLI across different sectors include developing the core competencies of Indian industries, encouraging innovation, enhancing job creation within the country, creating economies of scale through efficient processes and boosting their overall global presence. As mentioned repeatedly by our Prime Minister, an efficient, dynamic and resilient domestic manufacturing ecosystem is of utmost significance for India to

emerge as a global manufacturing hub. In the Union Budget 2021-22, our finance minister announced an outlay of INR 1.97 lakh crore (~USD 26 Billion) for the PLI schemes for 13 major sectors which have been shortlisted on the basis of their potential for revenue and employment generation. Covering employment generating sectors such as ESDM, automobiles, pharmaceuticals, telecommunications, textiles, food products, renewable energy, white goods and steel, the scheme envisions to provide an average 5 per cent of the production value as an incentive, implying that the minimum value of production in the country as a result of the PLI schemes stands to be around INR 3.92 lakh crore (~USD 500 Billion) in the next five years, as estimated by the NITI Aayog. This tremendous rise in production has the potential to create nearly 1.40 crore man-months'

worth of jobs directly from 2021-22, effectively translating to nearly doubling the existing Indian workforce across sectors. With the inclusion of the suppliers and vendors of the companies benefitting from this scheme, a total of 4.20 crore man-months of jobs are expected to be generated, according to data from the Indian Staffing Federation. PLI schemes will further help in reducing our import dependency by fulfilling domestic demand in the identified sectors. For instance, the PLI in telecom sector will aid in addressing over 80 per cent of import dependency in the telecom and wireless networking equipment segments. Similarly, the PLI for food processing will help facilitate an expansion of processing capacity to generate processed food output of about INR 33,494 crore (~USD 3.6 Billion).

SPECIAL INCENTIVE SCHEME FOR TEXTILES

FOCUS STATES



PRODUCTION LINKED INCENTIVE (PLI) SCHEME

In terms of visible, tangible outcomes, the most exemplary example of the PLI's success in transforming the manufacturing landscape of a sector can be seen from the electronics manufacturing domain, in which, within a few months of the scheme's launch, the 16 approved companies have produced goods worth over INR 35,000 crores (~USD 3.8 Billion), invested nearly INR 1,300 crores and are anticipated to generate around 22,000 jobs.

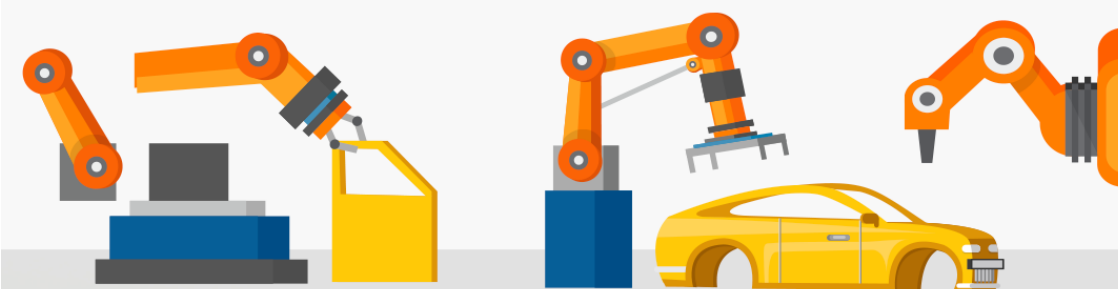
Identically, a major feat has also been seen in the Indian medical devices sector where 14 applications are approved with a committed investment of INR 873.93 crores (~USD 118 Mn). Setting the perfect precedent for replication by other sectors, the domestic pharmaceutical industry to witness a similar growth trajectory. For key starting materials/drug intermediaries and active pharmaceutical ingredients, approvals have been given to 16 applicants having committed a total investment of INR 348.70 crores (~USD 40 Mn) and employment generation estimates

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SPECIAL INCENTIVE SCHEME FOR AUTOMOBILE SECTOR

Champion OEM Incentive scheme:

Applicable on Battery Electric Vehicles and Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicles



Source: PIB

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of about 3,042 overall jobs. The government estimates the PLI scheme to yield employment creation from the next financial year onwards to be: 1.80 lakh job opportunities for manufacturing electronics/ technology products, one lakh jobs for pharmaceuticals drugs, 2.5 lakh jobs for the PLI-covered food segments, about four lakh direct and indirect livelihood opportunities in the white goods sector ; and another 30,000 direct and 1.2 lakh indirect employment opportunities in the solar PV manufacturing ecosystem. The PLI scheme is widely anticipated to have a ripple effect on India's MSME sector as such SME units, along with the anchor and supplier units will help in generating large-scale primary and secondary employment opportunities. Moreover, the specific product lines identified in each of the thirteen 'Champion' sectors are all based on

their high growth potential and ability to generate medium- to large-scale employment in the country within the next five to seven years.

The PLI schemes are a game-changing opportunity for Indian manufacturing to expand by leaps and bounds. Through their emphasis on higher value-addition, these schemes will aid in enhancing investments in innovation, research and development and upgradation of technologies developed and deployed by each of the identified 'Champion' sectors. Announced as a part of the larger flagship campaign of the Indian government to promote resilience in domestic industries and strengthen their capacities, the PLI scheme will be instrumental in ensuring that India becomes better integrated within the global value and supply chains. Thus, providing immense scope for Indian manufacturing to bolster and prosper in the years to come.

SEPTEMBER 2021

16448 Passports Issued

420 Visas Issued

42 OCI Cards

12257 Attestation Services

967 Birth Registrations

216 ECs Issued

144 Death Registered

728 Consular cases

49 Marriages Registered

155 Labour Cases Registered

93 Death Compensation Cases

14 Destitute Housemaid Cases Provided Assistance

27 Medical Cases

29 Air Ticket Issued

07 Mortal remains sent to India at Govt. cost

71 Helpline enquiries responded

**Snapshot of
Consular services
provided by CGI, Dubai
in the month of
September 2021**

Food in India is not just food to satiate appetite. Food is a celebration and often in Indian homes it is part of worship. Indeed cooking involves at times chanting of mantras which improves the food with energy for the Prana (Life form). The styles of cooking and the ingredients have so much simplicity and yet complexity, that from a meal in a bowl, Khichdi (rice-lentil gruel) to the 48 hour biryani, India's cuisine is a work of art and science. Gastronomy happens in every home and in restaurants and hotels and also in roadside eateries. It is not for nothing that India was a major part of the famous spice route. In India, it is said that the landscape, culture, food changes every few hundred kilometres and how true that is! There are endless styles of cooking & cuisines from North to South and East to West across the country. Indian cuisine is based on holistic approach to nutrition with locally available of food grains, vegetables, spices etc. The food culture in India is very vibrant and available in different forms and style



Statue of Unity Kevadia, Gujarat



of various lentils, spice mixes, use of tamarind etc. In western India, the cuisine is famous for its unique taste. Combination of lentil based dishes, use of wheat, millets such as Sorghum, Pearl Millet for breads & Rice along with use vegetables, meat, and fish is a part of the diet. Goan food stands out little separate as the Portuguese influence in the cooking style can be seen. The Indian Cuisine can be divided into various styles such as Punjabi, Mughlai, Kashmiri, Awadhi, Rajasthani, Hyderabadi, Goan, Chettinad, Assamese, Bengali and the list is endless! These cuisines are famous for their distinct style of cooking, spiciness, use of grains, veggies variety of meats etc. defined by geographical conditions, impact of historical invasions, trading communities etc. The variety of breads, different styles of cooking rice, curries, salads, sweet & savoury dishes etc. which makes Indian food stand apart from the rest of Asian food and one of the popular cuisine across the globe.



INDIAN CUISINE

from home cooked food, street food to a fine dine experience. Moreover, what makes Indian cuisine more appealing in today's world is the fact that it was developed on the science of wellness and a system of thali, which allows the body to take the right amount of nutrients required as per one's occupation. The staple food of Indian cuisine

is a combination of numerous grains in different forms mainly consists of wheat, rice, millets, lentils, vegetables, meat, spices etc. Indian cuisine is an extensive balance of many different tastes and includes a range of dishes from mild to very spicy, sweet, sour etc. Historical invasions, trade relations, and colonialism have played an important role in

introducing certain food grains, wheat, rice, maida, besan (chick-pea flour / gram flour) etc. In East and North-Eastern Indian food, staple food is a combination of rice, fish, meat, vegetables etc. The variety of milk based sweets such as roshogollas, sandesh can't be missed. The food from Southern India is mostly uses fresh coconut, spices etc. The made from various flours such as

wheat, rice, maida, besan (chick-pea flour / gram flour) etc. In East and North-Eastern Indian food, staple food is a combination of rice, fish, meat, vegetables etc. The variety of milk based sweets such as roshogollas, sandesh can't be missed. The food from Southern India is mostly uses fresh coconut, spices etc. The made from various flours such as

PHOTO GALLERY



indi@tive

KNOWING INDIA

This quiz is compiled by Murali Krishnan Sankaran.

India is one of the oldest civilizations in the world with a kaleidoscopic variety and rich cultural heritage. As the largest democracy in the world, it has achieved all-round socio-economic progress since Independence. Yet, there is so much to know about Incredible India – this quiz attempts to help you discover more about our great motherland!

1 From an Indian perspective, just like the Olympics, the recent edition of the Paralympics in Tokyo will never be forgotten - India ended up winning 19 medals in all, including 5 gold, 8 silver and 6 bronze, to mark its best ever outing. India's medal haul crossed the double-figure mark in a single edition of the Paralympics for the first time in history. Who became the first Indian woman ever to win two medals at a single edition of the Paralympics?

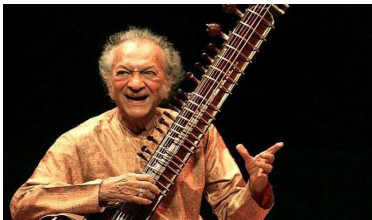


3 Nearly 70 years after this carnivore was declared extinct in India, the animal is set to be reintroduced, with the first batch arriving from South Africa and Namibia by the end of 2021. Experts from Africa and India have already provided their input on the selected habitats. The central government's initiative to reintroduce the only large mammal to become extinct after India's Independence, was approved by the Supreme Court last year in response to a petition filed by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA). Which animal are we talking about?



4 India has recently crossed a landmark number of COVID vaccinations on its way to achieving the target to vaccinate every adult individual by December 2021. What is this milestone number (in million)?

5 In whose honour did Pandit Ravi Shankar compose the Raga Mohankauns?



6 This city in India, nestled on the banks of the holy Ganges River, was first settled over 3,000 years ago and has been inhabited ever since. Celebrated author Mark Twain, who visited India in 1897, described the city as "older than history, older than tradition, older even than legend." Name the place you can see a glimpse of, in the picture alongside that is one of the oldest continually inhabited settlements in the world.



7 Identify this endangered raccoon-like mammal, about the size of a large domestic cat that is found in the mountain forests of North East India - Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and parts of West Bengal, and subsists mainly on bamboo and other vegetation, fruits, and insects.

8 You may recognize this monument and mosque located in Hyderabad, Telangana, India. The landmark was built in 1591 by Mohammed Quli Qutab Shah, the fifth sultan of the Qutb Shahi dynasty of Golkonda who founded the city of Hyderabad. What is the most widely accepted reason behind building this architectural marvel?



10 At the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi while addressing world leaders announced that India is moving towards achieving 450 GigaWatt renewable energy capacity by 2030, along with other actions to decarbonize India's economy. "India to become the world's biggest Green _____ hub. We are answerable to future generations with our decision making," said PM Modi talking about the fuel that is created using renewable energy instead of fossil fuels. Fill in the blank.



9 You may be aware that Vaccine-Maitri is a humanitarian initiative undertaken by the Indian government to provide COVID-19 vaccines to countries around the world. Having started providing vaccines from 20 January 2021, India has already delivered around 66+ million doses of vaccines to 95 countries. Of these, more than 10 million doses were gifted to 47 countries by the Government of India. Which two countries were the first to receive COVID vaccines from India?

ANSWERS

1. Avari Lekhara
2. They will be converted into a massive screen on which Indian tourist destinations and dance sequences will be projected.
3. The fastest animal on the planet – Cheetah
4. 900 Million
5. Mahatma Gandhi
6. Varanasi
7. The Red Panda
8. It was built to commemorate the eradication of the plague, a deadly infectious disease which was widespread during that period in the city.
9. Bhutan and Maldives
10. Hydrogen



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75
Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav

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