



Embassy of India

Belgium, Luxembourg & the European Union

Mimansa

मीमांसा

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Let noble thoughts come to us from
all directions in the universe

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The Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters between the Republic of India and the Kingdom of Belgium was signed on 16 September 2021 in a ceremony held at the Egmont Palace, Brussels. The Agreement was signed by H.E. Mr. Santosh Jha, Ambassador of India to Belgium, Luxembourg and the European Union from the Indian side and H.E Mr. Vincent Van Quickenborne, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice and the North Sea, on behalf of the Belgian side.



The Agreement provides a framework for both countries to exchange requests for legal assistance in criminal matters with each other. This will ensure more effective cooperation between both countries in the prevention and prosecution of criminal matters in both India and Belgium. The Agreement will also further deepen bilateral legal cooperation.

India scores 46th rank in the Global Innovation Index 2021

India has climbed 2 spots and has been ranked 46th by the World Intellectual Property Organization in the Global

Innovation Index 2021 rankings. India has been on a rising trajectory over the past several years in the Global



Innovation Index (GII), from a rank of 81 in 2015 to 46 in 2021. Innovation has been at the forefront of our battle against the unprecedented crisis created by the pandemic, and will be pivotal in driving the country's resilience and self-reliance, as enshrined in the Prime Ministers' clarion

call on Atma Nirbhar Bharat. This September, the NITI Aayog, in partnership with the CII and the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), is hosting, virtually, the India Launch of the GII and the Global Innovation Conclave. (Source: PIB, 21 September 2021).

India's Vaccines Industry Can Grow from US\$ 2 billion Up to US\$ 5 billion by 2026: Report

According to a report released on Monday by global consulting firm Kearney in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), India's vaccines industry could grow from US\$ 2 billion to US\$ 4 billion or even US\$ 5 billion as new Indian and global pharmaceutical companies include vaccines as a key part of their portfolios. Given India's expertise, facilities, and investments, this study outlines the strategic calls required for the nation to get a bigger portion of the biopharmaceuticals market in two main areas (vaccines and biosimilars), which together represent a US\$ 10 billion potential. (Source: IBEF, 21 September 2021).



Telecom Reforms to boost employment, growth, competition and consumer interests

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi, on September 15, 2021, approved several structural and process reforms in the Telecom sector. These are expected to protect and generate employment opportunities, promote healthy competition, protect interests of consumers, infuse liquidity, encourage investment and reduce regulatory burden on Telecom Service Providers (TSPs). In the backdrop of the outstanding performance of the Telecom Sector

in meeting COVID-19 challenges, with huge surge in data consumption, online education, work from home, interpersonal connect through social media, virtual meetings etc., the reform measures will further boost the proliferation and penetration of broadband and telecom connectivity. The package is also expected to boost 4G proliferation, infuse liquidity and create an enabling environment for investment in 5G networks. (Source: PIB, 16 September 2021).



Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme approved for Auto Industry and Drone Industry to enhance India's manufacturing capabilities

Taking steps forward towards the vision of an 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat', the Government of India has approved the PLI Scheme for Automobile Industry and Drone Industry with a budgetary outlay of Rs. 26,058 crores. The PLI scheme for the auto sector will incentivize high value Advanced Automotive Technology vehicles and products, and will herald a new age in higher technology, more efficient and green automotive manufacturing. PLI Scheme for Automobile Industry and Drone Industry is part of the overall announcement of PLI Schemes

for 13 sectors made earlier during the Union Budget 2021-22, with an outlay of Rs. 1.97 lakh crore. With the announcement of PLI Schemes for 13 sectors, minimum additional production in India is expected to be around Rs. 37.5 lakh crore over 5 years and minimum expected additional employment over 5 years is nearly 1 crore. The PLI Scheme for the auto sector envisages to overcome the cost disabilities to the industry for manufacture of Advanced Automotive Technology products in India. The incentive structure

will encourage industry to make fresh investments for indigenous global supply chain of Advanced Automotive Technology products. It is estimated that over a period of five years, the PLI Scheme for Automobile and Auto Components Industry will lead to fresh investment of over Rs. 42,500 crore, incremental production of over Rs. 2.3 lakh crore and will create additional employment opportunities of over 7.5 lakh jobs. Further this will increase India's share in global automotive trade. (Source: PIB, 16 September 2021).



National Single Window System (NSWS) for Investors and Businesses

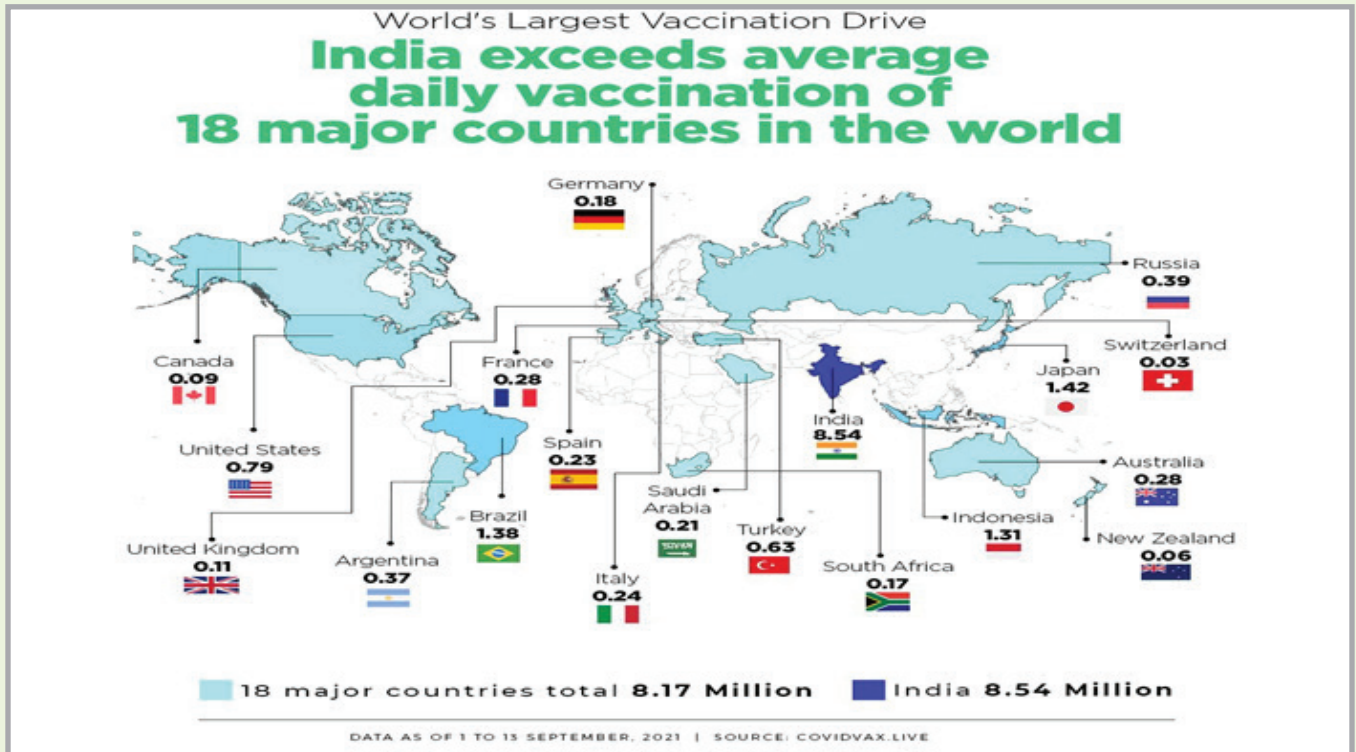
Union Minister for Commerce & Industry, Textiles, Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution Mr. Piyush Goyal said that Launch of National Single Window System is a giant leap, towards making India Aatmanirbhar. And added that this single window portal will become a one-stop-shop for investors for approvals & clearances. The portal currently hosts approvals across 18 Central Departments & 9 States, another 14 Central depts & 5 states will be added by Dec'21. This would bring Transparency, Accountability & Responsiveness in the ecosystem and all information will be available on a single dashboard. An applicant Dashboard would be there to apply, track & respond to queries. Services include Know Your Approval (KYA), Common Registration & State registration Form, Document repository & E-Communication. This system will provide strength to other schemes e.g., Make in India, Startup India, PLI scheme etc.



The beta version of the portal has now been completed and is being opened to all stakeholders and the public as trial soft launch. The beta version of the portal (under Phase I), hosts approvals from 18 Central departments and 9 States and is aimed at guiding investors to the list of business approvals they may need, based on information provided by them. Another 14 Central departments and 5 States will be onboarded by December 2021 (under Phase II).

The portal will progressively onboard a greater number of approvals and licenses, based on user / industry feedback. Though extensive testing by Ministries/States is ongoing and will continue for next three months to stabilize & optimize the platform, it is critical that extensive feedback from the industry users is accommodated to ensure comprehensiveness and high utility for Investors & Entrepreneurs. (Source: Press Information Bureau: September 23, 2021).

Another landmark achievement in India's fight against COVID-19 with an average of 8.54 million doses of vaccine being administered daily, India has surpassed 18 major countries in the world in terms of average daily vaccination.



Please read: India Perspective Volume 35, Issue 02 highlights on https://www.indiaperspectives.gov.in/mag/2021/Issue-02-2021-en_US/

