



#48MonthsofTransformingIndia



India Canada Biz Digest

Delivering news impacting Indo-Canadian trade relations

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Manthan expands its footprint in Canada through a strategic partnership with AiBigData Technologies, Inc

Analytics and AI solutions startup Manthan has partnered with AiBigData Technologies Inc, expanding its footprint in the Canadian region. The partnership will provide CPG and retail businesses in Canada access to analytics solutions with customer focused innovations in AI, Advanced Analytics and Big Data. “We are excited to have AiBigData Technologies join our analytics ecosystem as a new Big Data and Analytics consulting partner in Canada,” said Sanjay Kupae, Head Alliances, Manthan.

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The Canadian pension fund CPPIB set to ramp up China, India investments

The Canadian pension fund CPPIB expects China and India to receive higher investment allocations as part of a strategy that will see it double emerging market assets by 2025. With C\$356.1 billion (\$274 billion) in total assets as of March-end 2018, CPPIB said in its annual report this month that it aims to raise its exposure to emerging market assets to a third of total assets by the end of March 2025 from 15.8% (or C\$56.1 billion) now. And Asia's two biggest economies, already integral to the CPPIB portfolio, look ideally placed to benefit from that.

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Foreign Investments Back In India’s Real Estate

Foreign investments into India’s real estate rebounded indicating revival in a sector that’s among the largest job creators for the economy. Foreign direct investment in construction development stood \$385 million in April-December 2017—up 250% from \$105 million in the year ago-period. Private equity investments in the sector for the quarter ended March was \$1.3 billion. Part of it came from overseas private equity firms like Brookfield Asset Management and Canadian Pension Plan Investment Board. CPPIB has a wide array of investments in India, its latest being \$142 million in an investment platform with developer Phoenix Mills Ltd.

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Fairfax looks for investment in India, U.S.

Prem Watsa, the billionaire head of Fairfax Financial Holdings Ltd., sees plenty of opportunities for investment in the U.S. and his native India. Watsa, who emigrated from India 46 years ago, is most excited about the opportunities being created there due to the policies implemented by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. “He’s very business friendly and he’s got a great track record,” he said. Fairfax has launched a public company, Fairfax India Holdings Corp., and invested about \$5-billion. Watsa said there’s room to expand Fairfax’s footprint there.

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WHO adopts resolution on digital health initiated by India

Health and Family Welfare Minister J.P. Nadda on Tuesday said the resolution on digital health brought out by India was adopted by the 71st World Health Assembly, the decision-making body of the World Health Organization (WHO). The resolution paves the path for WHO to establish a global strategy on digital health identifying priority areas including where WHO should focus its efforts and engages member states to optimize their health systems in sync with the global digital health agenda.

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India's exports may reach USD 350 bn this fiscal: FIEO

India's exports are expected to record a growth of about 15-20% and touch USD 350 billion in the current fiscal on account of a host of factors including rise in commodity prices, exporters body Federation of Indian Export Organisations said. (FIEO) President Ganesh Gupta said despite increasing global protectionism, the country's exports would continue to register healthy growth rates. "Growth is looking promising this fiscal, he said. "

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A growing number of Indian start-ups are venturing overseas

A growing number of Indian start-ups are venturing overseas, as they grow increasingly confident about their business models and their ability to take on global rivals. "The Indian market has become big and start-ups here have solved complex problems at scale, so they are well-placed to apply their solutions to international markets," said Anil Kumar, chief executive of RedSeer Consulting, the largest consumer internet consulting and market research firm.

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India turns hotspot for global firms offering smart mobility

India's quest for smart mobility has made the country a hot spot for international companies to offer their latest technologies such as pod taxis, hyperloop, electric vehicles, cable cars and ropeways. One such firm, skyTran, is a Nasa technology partner and is developing a pod car system—a driverless vehicle that runs along a pre-determined route. Virgin Hyperloop One, also plans to set up its low-pressure vacuum tubes, which could move at a speed of 1,000-1,200km per hour.

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F-16 production can make India fighter jet export hub: Lockheed

Global aerospace giant Lockheed Martin today said its proposal to manufacture custom-built F-16 fighter jets in India will make the country an export hub and give it access to an estimated \$165 billion fighter aircraft market over the next few decades. Eyeing India's lucrative defence market, the American aerospace major said F-16 production would place India at the centre of the world's largest fighter aircraft ecosystem, creating "unmatched" Make in India opportunities and export potential. Vivek Lall, vice president, Strategy and Business Development, Lockheed Martinthe said F-16 Block 70 being proposed to India will be the most technologically advanced and capable F-16 fighter jet ever produced.

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Why Walmart's Flipkart Deal Will Spur Entrepreneurship in India

The two creators of Flipkart, which was just scooped up by Walmart, met while taking extra courses in India to make up for poor grades. Now their creative thinking and business success will do more than simply create two new billionaires. They will have a net worth about \$1 billion when the transaction with Walmart is completed later this year. It will mark a major business success for professionals in India, outside the information technology businesses. Flipkart is India's largest online retailer with an estimated 40% market share. Amazon, its main and tough competitor, has about a third of the market.

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Crude steel production in India advanced 4.4 % year-on-year to 8.59 million tonne (MT) in April 2018.

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