



NITI Aayog to host first Move Summit 2018 in New Delhi on 7th and 8th September 2018



### India Canada Biz Digest

Delivering news impacting Indo-Canadian trade relations

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#### India's economy to outpace China in 2019 and 2020: Here is how Canadian investors can take advantage

On July 19, the Asian Development Bank reiterated its forecast for India's economic growth in FY 2019 and FY 2020. It projected that India will post 7.3% growth in 2018-2019 and 7.6% growth in 2019-2020. According to the Asian Development Outlook, this growth will be powered by higher private investment, increased public spending, and a higher capacity utilization rate. India has managed to outpace China's growth in the latter half of this decade due to a number of factors.

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#### India, leader of the BRICS' growth story, recording a 14% upturn

India's containerised trade with the BRICS' nations trademarks a rise of 14%. Export trade from India to Brazil, China, Russia and South Africa increases 7.5% Year-On-Year. South Africa turned to be Indian's top trade partner. In volume terms, India -followed by China- leads the EXIM trade whilst Brazil, South Africa and Russia witness a slump in the trade as compared to Q1 2017. India has the highest exports in Q1 2018 pegged at 13% in the past five years.

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#### The evolving energy landscape in India: Opportunities for investments

India's energy use will grow at a rapid pace to fuel economic development, urbanisation, and improved energy access. This provides a \$750 billion investment opportunity for investors. Emerging trends reveal a plethora of investment opportunities across the value chain. While part of this investment would be towards capacity ramp-up and development of supporting infrastructure, a large share of it would also be attributed to systemic innovation and digital interventions across the value chain.

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#### How India's Deep Tech Startup Ecosystem is poised for growth

There has never been a more exciting time for India's artificial intelligence and deep tech Startup ecosystem, which is at a tipping point. The Artificial Intelligence industry in India is currently estimated to be \$180 million annually in revenues and there are approximately 29,000 AI professionals in India. India is the third largest AI Startup ecosystem with Bengaluru a leading hub for deep tech start-ups. Investors are investing in Indian AI Startup's with India soon becoming home to a clutch of biggest privately backed deep tech Startup's.

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### Canada's Brookfield invests \$100 million in clutch of INCOR's residential projects in Hyderabad

Canada's Brookfield Asset Management Inc. has invested \$100 million in a clutch of residential projects of Hyderabad-based real estate company INCOR. The investment was made from Brookfield's \$4.5 billion global PE fund. It is a structured investment with an equity upside. "Brookfield has done 11 transactions in residential projects in India so far, and now plans to scale up its investments in this segment and aims to build a \$1 billion portfolio in the residential sector," said a person familiar with the firm's plans. PE inflows in real estate rose 15% year-on-year to \$2.6 billion in the January-March quarter.

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### Walmart looks to double wholesale presence in India, open 20 stores over next three years

Walmart India plans to double its wholesale store presence in the next three years with 20 new stores in the country, said a senior company executive. Walmart India currently operates 21 cash and carry stores across 19 cities. In May, Walmart agreed to buy 77% in online retailer Flipkart for \$16 billion. According to Krish Iyer, President and Chief Executive Officer of Walmart India, "Walmart India has already signed six memoranda of understanding, while three more are in the pipeline. It is also set to open a fulfilment centre, which is part of a pilot run, in Hyderabad".

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### Blackstone is said to pick banks for \$1 billion India REIT

Blackstone Group LP, the world's largest alternative asset manager and local partner Embassy Group picked banks including Bank of America, Morgan Stanley, Kotak Mahindra Bank and JPMorgan Chase for real estate investment trust (REIT) listing. The REIT listing would raise about \$1 billion. Axis Bank Ltd., Deutsche Bank AG, HSBC Holdings Plc and JM Financial Ltd. have also been picked for the transaction.

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### Could India's growth send this Canadian stock soaring?

It's no secret that the economy of India is on fire. Outpacing China with a frothy 7.7% growth rate, it's rapidly on pace to become a global economic powerhouse. That could be great news for one of Canada's leading fertilizer companies. Nutrien Ltd, world's largest producer of potash and the second-largest producer of nitrogen-based fertilizers. The company also just happens to do a tonne of business with India.

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### Maersk Report: India's Trade Growth

India's containerized trade has made a strong start to 2018 with an overall Q1 increase of 11%, fuelled largely by an increase in dry bulk imports. Imports of dry cargo rose by 22%, a sharp contrast with Q1 2017 when it jumped by 2%. Steve Felder, Maersk Line Managing Director for India, said: "These numbers become more relevant when viewed through a global lens."

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### India pavilion to bring 40 exhibitors to Canadian market

India is a nation with a rich and vibrant culture. One area in which this is evident is through their apparel and textiles. This August, Indian companies will gain exposure to a new market through Apparel Textile Sourcing Canada's (ATSC) "India Pavilion." Through (ATSC), the exhibitors will not only be introduced to the Canadian market, but also North America as a whole.

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**STATBOX**

The Indian auto industry became the 4th largest in the world with sales increasing 9.5% year-on-year to 4.02 million units in 2017.

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