

CANADA INDIA FOUNDATION



CIF E-Newsletter



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Chair's Message



Canada's Leadership Must Remain Inspirational

Hello friends,

Sometimes events overtake us - happily so in this case. Just a month ago, I shared my concerns about the current state of Canada and some of its most pressing challenges. Yet I also expressed hope that enlightened leadership in Ottawa would begin addressing these problems, which have built up over years, and in some cases, decades.

As an organization, we have reason to welcome the very promising development in our bilateral diplomatic engagement. At the same time, challenges remain - some old, some new. Anti-immigrant rallies are new red flags when it comes to risks of Canadian soil used for targeted agendas

against certain communities or countries at long term cost of Canadian interests.

The idea of Canada being against immigrants is as outlandish as the US railing against capitalism. Canada is a nation built by immigrants. From its inception as a country, the foundation of this country has been laid by the hard work, skills, strengths and spirit of successive generations of immigrants who chose to call Canada home. Who are the voices or groups rallying against immigration today? To me, this does not appear to be a spontaneous groundswell of frustration, but rather the outcome of agendas being driven - sometimes deliberately - to divide communities. We must remain alert to such forces and resist efforts to pit Canadians against one another.

Mistakes have been made, whether by design or through neglect. Today, we face a reality where too many people are seeking too few opportunities, whether in housing, jobs, or business. This is not the making of immigrants, but a failure of policy. When a nation faces economic strain, it becomes all too easy to deflect attention from policy shortcomings and place the blame on immigrants as the source of all economic woes.

Since Canada opened its doors and heart to immigrants with a reasonably fair immigration policy, Canada has been blessed with some of the finest talent in the world. Earlier generation of immigrants had ample opportunities, and they made the best use of it to build their lives while immensely contributing to Canada's growth story. Canada was and remains one of the most welcoming and open societies in the world. There has always been a win-win equation between Canada and its talented immigrants motivated to do their best for Canada's prosperity.

The current difficulties, however, have cast a shadow over this mutually beneficial arrangement, largely because of Canada's over-enthusiastic promotion of international students and temporary workers. Ottawa has now begun correcting some of these mistakes. At the same time, I want to request and caution all stakeholders that immigration should never be used as a wedge issue for short-term political gain. Canada must safeguard social cohesion while ensuring immigration serves our long-term national interests. ([Read more](#))

HEADLINES

India - Canada pre-foreign office consultations



India & Canada held pre-FOC consultations in New Delhi on Sept 19, led by Secretary (East) P. Kumaran & Deputy Foreign Minister David Morrison. Both sides welcomed the return of High Commissioners, reviewed bilateral ties, agreed to reactivate all dialogue mechanisms, & address capacity issues at respective diplomatic missions. ([Read more.](#))

India's First World Champion in Skating



This did not make it all the way to the top of the news headlines, but the stunning achievement of a young athlete from Tamil Nadu on the world stage, did elicit the attention of even the prime minister of India, Narendra Modi. Modi congratulated him saying “His grit, speed and spirit have made him India's first World Champion in skating. His accomplishment will inspire countless youngsters.” ([Read more.](#))

EU Actively Seeking Trade Deal with India

In a clear acknowledgement of India's increasing importance in the world of trade and investment for the non-US Western bloc, EU President Ursula von der Leyen, stated that they are currently in the process of trade deals with “India to reduce dependencies on the US”. ([Read more.](#))



India-US Trade Talks Positive

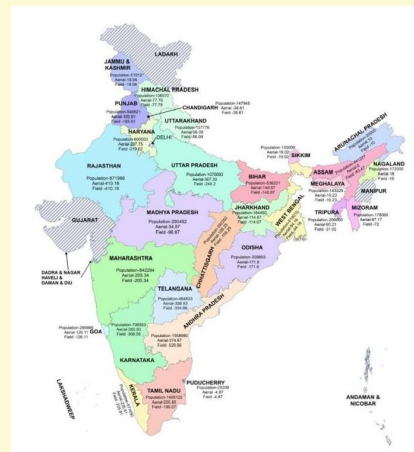


Following an intense seven-hour long meeting between the negotiating teams from India and the US, and a softening tone from President Trump, industry leaders are now hopeful of an India-US trade deal materializing soon. To sweeten the atmosphere further, Trump called Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his birthday Sept.

7 to congratulate him. [\(Read more.\)](#)

99.8% of India's Rural Land Records Digitized

Since India launched the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme in 2016, it has made great progress having digitized almost all the available rural land records in India. Except for Gujarat, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, India's urban land records are yet to be digitized. According to government sources this will be done in the next six months. The digitization is said to be crucial for ownership integrity and the next round of land reforms. [\(Read more.\)](#)



India Incentivizing Rare Earths Production



Rare earths and magnets have become the central themes in many bilateral and multilateral forums as they are considered critical to national security. India is taking steps to create and incentivise this most crucial sector that will make or break all important current and future industries. [\(Read more.\)](#)

Fifteen Foreign Universities Plan Campuses in India

The movement of international students around the world in their hundreds of thousands has proven that education is big business. Given the current negative climate regarding student visas, some of the universities may be planning to go to where the markets. In other words, where the students are. Fifteen prestigious



universities from Europe, the UK and the US are currently in the process of setting up campuses in India to cater to the higher education demands of Indian students. [\(Read more.\)](#)

Millions of Manuscripts on India's Traditional Knowledge to be Digitized



India is estimated to have the largest collection of manuscripts (ten million) related to traditional knowledge systems and heritage. These are currently held in various academic institutions, museums, libraries and private collections spread across the world. Titled Gyan Bharatam Mission, India has launched an initiative to digitize the original manuscripts to facilitate open access to all. [\(Read more.\)](#)

India Retains Top Position in Crypto Adoption

India has once again secured the top spot in the global digital asset adoption rankings, marking its second consecutive year as the undisputed leader, according to blockchain analytics firm Chainalysis. India and the U.S. are now setting the pace for global digital asset adoption, while the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region continues to rise as the epicenter of grassroots-level engagement with digital assets. [\(Read more.\)](#)



Astronaut Shukla Speaks on His Stay on ISS



At a Future Frontier Conclave held in New Delhi, Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla who recently spent time on the International Space Station, spoke of the real challenges faced by humans in space. He also noted that "Of all the places on Earth, India looks the most beautiful when seen from above." [\(Read more.\)](#)

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Katpana Nagendra
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Dipika Damerla
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CIF Urges Community Members to Donate Blood

Canada India Foundation continued its efforts to help create awareness in the community to donate to the Canadian Blood Services. Blood is always a critical element in healthcare with the power to save lives. CIF is encouraging members of the Indo Canadian community to be proactive and help in this crucial program.

[Click here to join today](#)



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