


**Overseas Market Information**
**Czech Republic - Country Profile** (...continued from previous issue)

**India's Total Trade with Czech Republic**
**All Commodities :**
*(Provisional Value in Rs. Lac:)*

S.No.	Subject	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
1.	Export	46,336.11	72,580.62	83,299.38	84,139.40	98,190.70
2.	Import	160,068.12	179,893.01	218,371.15	265,889.52	307,923.80
3.	Total Trade	206,404.22	252,473.63	301,670.53	350,028.91	406,114.50

*(Provisional Value in US\$ Million)*

S.No.	Subject	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
1.	Export	102.66	180.28	183.3	177.76	215.77
2.	Import	353.71	447.73	491.87	562.45	676.78
3.	Total Trade	456.37	628	675.17	740.21	892.54

*(Source : Website of Department of Commerce, Government of India)*
**Engineering Export to Czech Republic (Principal Commodities)**
**India's Export to Czech Republic by Principal Commodities**
*(Provisional Figures : Value in US\$ Million)*

Countries/ Commodities	Unit	March'2011		April'2010 - March'2011		March'2012		April'2011 - March'2012	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Mica	Kgs.	61000	0.05	229000	0.18	48025	0.03	535128	0.33
Ferro Alloys	Ton	49	0.05	263	0.35	49	0.05	326	0.49
Aluminium other than Products	Kgs.	-	-	2000	0.01	-	-	-	-
Non-Ferrous Metals		-	0.00	-	0.08	-	0.02	-	0.09
Manufactures of Metals		-	5.66	-	54.67	-	4.33	-	70.05
Machine Tools		-	0.05	-	0.27	-	0.01	-	0.39
Machinery and Instruments		-	2.67	-	28.12	-	2.45	-	34.24
Transport Equipments		-	1.17	-	16.38	-	1.95	-	14.83
Residual Engineering Items		-	0.04	-	0.64	-	0.06	-	0.39
Iron & Steel Bar/Rod etc. & Ferro Alloy	Ton	16	0.06	166	0.62	5	0.01	276	0.99
Primary & Semi-finished Iron & Steel	Ton	3	0.01	16	0.06	3	0.04	68	0.17

**Engineering Import from Czech Republic (Principal Commodities)**
**India's Import From Czech Republic by Principal Commodities**
*(Provisional Figures : Value in US\$ Million)*

Countries/ Commodities	Unit	March'2011		April'2010 - March'2011		March'2012		April'2011 - March'2012	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Primary Steel, Pig Iron based Items	Ton	-	-	71	0.08	-	-	73	0.76
Iron & Steel	Ton	1749	2.50	20205	27.08	742	0.99	7902	12.25
Non-Ferrous Metals			0.03		0.57		0.08		0.73
Manufactures of Metals			1.87		15.52		1.50		23.28



Countries/ Commodities	Unit	March'2011		April'2010 - March'2011		March'2012		April'2011 - March'2012	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Machine Tools		-	2.18	-	21.34	-	0.61	-	30.53
Machinery except Electric & Electronic		-	19.12	-	177.53	-	9.55	-	173.93
Electric Machinery except Electronic		-	3.25	-	26.42	-	2.43	-	28.19
Transport Equipments		-	21.32	-	202.80	-	9.60	-	168.88
Professional Instruments, etc. except Electronic		-	0.86	-	7.94	-	0.52	-	10.30

## Investing in Czech Republic

### FDI in figures

According to CzechInvest, Investment and Business Development Center, the Czech Republic is classified in the first place among the Central and Eastern European countries not only for the level of FDI stock but also for the FDI inflows per capita. This situation can be explained by the creation of investment incentives, by the presence of a skilled and inexpensive manpower and also by the natural advantages of the Czech Republic, such as its location in the heart of Central Europe. A change in FDI direction can be observed in the Czech Republic, from the manufacturing industry to the "strategic services centers".

Due to the deterioration of the international situation, the FDI flow declined in 2008 and 2009, but have since recovered. In 2011 new investment doubled in volume compared to 2010, half of it directed to the IT and software sectors.

The European Union and the United States are the two main foreign investors in the Czech Republic.

<b>Foreign Direct Investment</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
FDI Inward Flow (million USD)	2,927	6,781	-
FDI Stock (million USD)	125,827	129,893	-
Performance Index*, Ranking on 181 Economies	72	80	65
Potential Index**, Ranking on 177 Economies	-	-	35
Number of Greenfield Investments***	12	39	39
FDI Inwards (in % of GFCF****)	6.8	15.1	10.5
FDI Stock (in % of GDP)	64.1	65.0	58.2

(Source : UNCTAD - Last Available Data)

Note: \* The UNCTAD Inward FDI Performance Index is Based on a Ratio of the Country's Share in Global FDI Inflows and its Share in Global GDP. \*\* The UNCTAD Inward FDI Potential Index is Based on 12 Economic and Structural Variables Such as GDP, Foreign Trade, FDI, Infrastructures, Energy Use, R&D, Education, Country Risk. \*\*\* Green Field Investments Are a Form of Foreign Direct Investment Where a Parent Company Starts a New Venture in a Foreign Country By Constructing New Operational Facilities From the Ground Up. \*\*\*\* Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) Measures the Value of Additions to Fixed Assets Purchased By Business, Government and Households Less Disposals of Fixed Assets Sold Off or Scrapped.

## Why You Should Choose to Invest in Czech Republic

### Strong Points

Good access to the European market, a long history of industrial production and the quality of the labor force are part of the positive factors of the Czech Republic. We can also name the following factors, which represent non-negligible advantages for the country :

- A strong and independent central bank and an extremely stable currency;
- Rapid economic growth;
- A good capacity to withstand the global economic crisis.

### Weak Points

The Czech Republic is very dependent in terms of export and on the influx of foreign investments, which makes it vulnerable during crises. The country's skepticism towards Europe and the lack of interest in the adoption of the Euro could discourage certain European entrepreneurs in the long term and make the country less competitive.



The country has also experienced political tensions, particularly in 2009, which could undermine its stability in the eyes of potential entrepreneurs.

The lack of labor force also slows down the country's development (it is often necessary to hire foreign workers in order to fulfill production demands).

**Government Measures to Motivate or Restrict FDI**

From 1998, the government put into place an investment incentive plan and has encouraged massive FDI inflow as well as projects on unused land ("greenfield"), as well as on used land ("brownfield" or development of existing structures). We can name amongst these measures:

- The non-discrimination and equality of treatment between nationals and foreigners;
- The protection of investment and the avoidance of double taxation;
- The protection of property rights and the export of profits.

**Visa Information**

Visas are not required by visitors from the following countries for visit up to 90 days in a 6 month period:

Albania, Andorra, Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macao, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, St Kitts and Nevis, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Vatican City and Venezuela.

For everyone else you can make an application for a visa and wait for a week. Transit visas can be given out the same day.

**Operating a Business in Czech Republic**

**Setting up a company**

**Legal business entities**

Types of Companies and Capital (Max/Min)	Number of Partners/Shareholders and Liability
Private Limited Company  Minimum CZK 200,000	No minimum. Maximum : 50.  Partners' liability is limited to the amount contributed.
Public Limited Company  Minimum CZK 2 million, at least 30% must be released before the constituting general meeting.	No minimum; can be a sole proprietorship. Liability is limited to the amount contributed.
The general partnership  No minimum capital.	At least 2 Liability is unlimited.
The limited partnership  No minimum capital but the input of the partner with limited liability must be at least CZK 5,000.	At least 2: 1 active partner and 1 sleeping partner. Liability of active partners is unlimited. Liability of sleeping partners is limited to the amount contributed.

**Reaching the consumers**

**Consumer behavior**

Czech consumers are traditionally sensitive to price. But several other factors are becoming increasingly important: the quality, the technology used. For instance, brands are seen as a sign of high quality, but this is more particularly valid for the young population and the products they buy). And advertising and after sales service are the core of business success.

60 % of consumers use a car for doing shopping and prefer going to the hypermarkets. When groceries are preferred, it is for the quality and the freshness of the products.



### **Consumer profile and purchasing power**

As in most European countries, Czech population is getting older. The average age of the population reaches 40,2 years. Services to old persons will get more and more growth potential.

The purchasing power of the Czech consumers is increasing: from 16,920 CZK (520 EUR per month) in 2003 to 21,000 CZK (800 EUR per month) in 2007.

But, the purchasing power of the active population is correlated with its education level. This means that the population which has the capacity to buy is composed of well educated persons. This induces some new consumption behaviors that are really specific. This population tends to prefer products it already knows and consumes more environmentally friendly products and bio products.

### **Distributing a Product**

#### **Evolution of the Sector**

The principal economic zones of the country are concentrated around the capital Prague and in metropolitan cities like Usti nad Labem and Plzen in the west and Brno and Ostrava in the east.

The distribution market is currently booming due to modernization of the sector and the increase of the purchasing power of the population. Czech retail business is still growing more than 4 % per year.

#### **Market shares**

The distribution structure in the Czech Republic increasingly resembles to western countries, i.e. the dominance of big groups that disadvantages the traditional trade. In fact, until 1989, commercial distribution was under State control, but today it is entirely privatized. In 1997, the hypermarkets represented only 1% of retail business while traditional businesses represented 49%. Today, the trend has completely changed and hypermarkets largely dominate with 44% of retail trade, while the market-share of traditional traders is still falling down.

Today, the distribution market in the country is dominated by UK, Austrian, and German companies which were the first ones to enter the Czech market. A majority of Czech companies have gone bankrupt or have been taken over as they lost their competitive edge. The biggest retail operators are: TESCO, METRO (Makro), AHOLD (represented by brand Hypernova and Albert), KAUF LAND, REWE (Billa, penny), LIDL, PLUS Ove also had great success: 80% of the population living in big cities visits them. At these centers supermarkets rub shoulders with luxury stores.

### **Market Access Procedures**

#### **Non-tariff barriers**

In accordance with its European Union membership since May, 1st of 2004, Czech Republic applies the European Union trade policy such as antidumping or anti-subsidy measures, for instance. The European Union import rules, especially concerning the quotas on the textile products sector, is widespread in Czech Republic. If the country has adopted the main part of the community regulations on its accession to the EU, some transitional measures have been granted to the country regarding some EU rules like for example freedom of movement for workers or sabotage inside some countries.

While the European Union has a rather liberal foreign trade policy, some products need import licenses. There are some restrictions, especially on farm products, following the implementation of the CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) : the application of compensations on import and export of farm products, aimed at favoring the development of agriculture within the EU, implies a certain number of control and regulation systems for the goods entering the EU territory.

When being introduced in Czech Republic, some products must be "CE" marked in respect to the European Directives adopted on the basis of the New Approach and the Global Approach.

#### **Customs duties and taxes on imports**

Exchanges within the European Union are free and not charged.

Since its accession to the European Union on May, 1st of 2004, the Czech Republic has adopted the EU Common External Tariff. The duties for non-European countries are relatively low, especially for manufactured goods (3% on average for the general rate).



### Customs classification

The Combined Nomenclature of the European Community (EC) integrates the HS Nomenclature and comprises additional 8-digit subdivisions and legal notes specifically created to address the needs of the Community.

### Import procedures

Since its accession to the European Union on May, 1st of 2004, the Czech Republic has adopted the EU Common External Tariff. Consequently, trade with Czech Republic is totally free from customs duties, provided that the country of origin of the goods is one of the other 24 EU Member States. Nevertheless, when introducing goods into the Czech Republic, exporters shall fill in an intrastat declaration.

In case of non EU countries regular customs procedure must be done so that goods could enter the market. This procedure consists from customs declaration at the customs office. This customs office assesses customs duty. Customs office may claim a money deposit for this "customs debt". Customs debt must be paid in the given date.

### Organizing Goods Transport

#### Main useful means of Transport

Natural conditions limit means of transport of goods. The Czech Republic have neither direct access to the sea nor river are only a few month navigable. That means the road transport and railway transport are the most important mean of transport for economy. In terms of international transport also air transport becomes more important.

### Useful Addresses

#### Embassy of India in Czech Republic

Embassy of India  
Valdstejnska 6  
11800Prague 1  
Czech Republic  
Tel.: 00-420-257533490-93  
Fax : 00-420-257533378  
E-mail : [indembprague@bohem-net.cz](mailto:indembprague@bohem-net.cz)  
Website : [www.india.cz](http://www.india.cz)

#### Embassy of Czech Republic in India

**Embassy of the** Czech Republic  
50 M, Niti Marg  
Chanakyapuri  
New Delhi 110021  
Tel. : +91-11-2611 0205, 2611 0318, 2688 6218  
Fax : +91-11-2688 6221  
Email : [newdelhi@embassy.mzv.cz](mailto:newdelhi@embassy.mzv.cz)  
Website : [www.mfa.cz/newdelhi](http://www.mfa.cz/newdelhi)

#### Consulate General

Marcopia 5, Dr. G. Deshmukh Marg  
Mumbai 400 026  
Tel. : +91-22-24924484, 8457, 8456  
Fax : +91-22-24950442  
E-mail : [gkbombay@bom3.vsnl.net.in](mailto:gkbombay@bom3.vsnl.net.in)  
Website : [www.mfa.cz/bombay](http://www.mfa.cz/bombay)

#### Honorary Consulate

64, Thirmalai Pillai Road  
T Nagar  
Chennai 600017  
Tel. : +91-44-28157877  
Fax : +91-44-28157885  
E-mail : [chennai@honorary.mzv.cz](mailto:chennai@honorary.mzv.cz)

#### Honorary Consulate

Koh-I-Noor Building, 5th Floor  
Suite No. 27, 105, park Street  
Kolkata 700016  
Tel. : +91-33-22260124  
Fax : +91-33-22264161

### Trade Associations

#### Economic Chamber of the Czech Republic

Freyova 27, 190 00 Praha 9  
130 00 PRAGUE  
Czech Republic  
Tel. : 22 4096 111  
Fax : 22 4096 222  
E-mail : [info@hkcr.cz](mailto:info@hkcr.cz)  
Website : <http://www.komora.cz>

### Useful Links

Business Environment

### Standards

#### National Standards Organizations

Czech Standards Institute (CNI) (<http://www.cni.cz/>)  
Czech Office for Standards, Metrology and Testing (UNMZ) (<http://www.unmz.cz/>)

#### Online Consultation of Standards

Czech Standards Institute (<http://www.unmz.cz/en/index.html>)

#### Certification Organizations

Czech and Slovak Testing Board (<http://castb.org/tiki-index.php?page=Welcome&bl>)  
Institute for Testing and Certification (in Czech) (<http://www.itczlin.cz/>)  
Czech Institute for Accreditation (<http://www.cai.cz/>)





## Business Practices

### General Information

Doing business in CR (<http://www.kwintessential.co.uk/etiquette/doing-business-czech.html>)

Czech culture, customs and etiquets (<http://kwintessential.co.uk/resources/global-etiquette/czech.html>)

Czech business culture ([http://www.communicaid.com/cross-cultural-training/culture-for-business-and-management/doing-business-in/Czech\\_business\\_culture.php](http://www.communicaid.com/cross-cultural-training/culture-for-business-and-management/doing-business-in/Czech_business_culture.php))

Guide to Czech Republic ([http://executiveplanet.com/index.php?title=Czech\\_Republic](http://executiveplanet.com/index.php?title=Czech_Republic))

Guía para al República Checa ([http://executiveplanet.com/index.php?title=Czech\\_Republic](http://executiveplanet.com/index.php?title=Czech_Republic))

### Ministries

Ministry of Finance (<http://www.mfcr.cz/cps/rde/xchg/mfcr/xsl/en.html>)

Ministry of Interior, coll. of codes (<http://www.mvcr.cz/>)

Ministry of Agriculture (<http://www.mze.cz/>)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (<http://www.mzv.cz/>)

Ministry of Industry and Trade (<http://www.mpo.cz/>)

### Tax Authorities

Czech Tax Administration (<http://cds.mfcr.cz/cps/rde/xchg/SID-3EA9846D-D4903732/cds/xsl/4230.html?year=0>)

### Statistical Office

Czech National Statistical Office (<http://www.czso.cz/>)

### Central Bank

Czech National Bank (<http://www.cnb.cz/>)

### Stock Exchange

Prague Stock Exchange (<http://www.pse.cz/>)

Czech capital market association (<http://www.afamcr.cz/>)

### Search Engines

Atlas (<http://www.atlas.cz/>)

Best (<http://www.best.sk/>)

Katalog (<http://www.katalog.sk/>)

O<sup>2</sup> Active (<http://search.quick.cz/>)

Superzoznam (<http://szm.sk/>)

Surf (<http://www.surf.sk/>)

### Economic portals

Czech Happenings, Czech Press Bureau (in Czech and in English) (<http://www.ceskenoviny.cz/news/>)

Businessinfo.cz, Czech business web portal (<http://www.businessinfo.cz/en/>)

Financni Noviny, News in English (<http://www.financninoviny.cz/english/>)

### Reaching the consumers

#### Consumers Associations

Czech consumer's association : Spotrebitel (<http://www.spotrebitel.cz/>)

## Main Advertising Agencies

ARBO media (<http://www.media-master.cz/>)

Media Marketing Services (only in Czech) (<http://www.mms.cz/>)

### For further information

Czech Custom Administration (<http://www.celnisprava.cz/en/Pages/default.aspx>)

## Organizing goods transport

### Airports

Prague ([http://www.csl.cz/en/site/uvodni\\_stranka.htm](http://www.csl.cz/en/site/uvodni_stranka.htm))

Brno (<http://www.airport-brno.cz/index.php?id=0&lang=en>)

Ostrava (<http://www.airport-ostrava.cz/en/>)

### Sea transport organizations

Ministry of transport - Water transport (<http://www.mdcz.cz/en/Water+Transport/?showlogo=1>)

### Air transport organizations

Ministry of Transport - Air transport (<http://www.mdcz.cz/en/Air+Transport/?showlogo=1>)

### Road transport organizations

Ministry of Transport - Road transport (<http://www.mdcz.cz/en/Road+Transport/?showlogo=1>)

### Rail transport organizations

Ministry of Transport - Railway transport (<http://www.mdcz.cz/en/Railway+Transport/?showlogo=1>)

## Multi-sector Directories

eSTAV.cz (<http://www.stavebniportal.cz/>) - Website of Czech construction companies, materials, products. Finance, building news, events in the construction sector, housing and civil laws.

All.biz - Czech Republic (<http://www.cz.all.biz/en/>) - Directory of companies in Czech Republic.

Confederation Industry of the Czech Republic (<http://www.spcr.cz/en/alphabetical-list>) - List of members of the Czech Confederation Industry.

Czech Exporters (<http://www.czech-exporters.com/>) - Database of export companies offering their products and services to the international market. It contains detailed information and advanced searching tools to find companies that own quality certificates, export or achieve certain turnover.

Czech Exporters Directory (<http://exporters.czechtrade.cz/en/>) - Official database of CzechTrade provided by the National Trade Promotion Agency.

European Databank (<http://www.edb.cz/?L=EN>) - Directory of Czech companies.

Expats (<http://www.expats.cz/directory/>) - Prague's business directory.

HBI (<http://www.hbi.cz/index.php?Lang=en>) - Directory of companies located in Slovakia and the Czech Republic.



Ifirmy Directory (<http://ifirmy.cz/>) - CZ Online business directory  
Inform.cz (<http://www.inform.cz/>) - Database of Czech companies.

Inform.cz (<http://www.ik.inform.cz/>) - Directory of exporters in the Czech Republic.

Sireh.com (<http://cz.sireh.com/>) - Directory of companies in the Czech Republic.

Wer liefert was? (<http://cz.wlw.cz/Default.aspx?lang=en>) - Leading supplier search engine in B2B : manufacturers, service providers and distributors in the Czech Republic.

Wer liefert was? Czech Republic (<http://www.wlw.cz/>) - Database of Czech companies.

### **Yellow Pages**

([http://en.zlatestranky.cz/?locale=en\\_CZ&visitorUId=8a97b29e309099e9013092da85f21256&newSession=true](http://en.zlatestranky.cz/?locale=en_CZ&visitorUId=8a97b29e309099e9013092da85f21256&newSession=true)) - Find a business in the Czech Republic.  
Zlate Stranky (<http://www.zlatestranky.cz/>) - Czech Republic's Yellow Pages.

Trade Agencies and Their Representations Abroad

Czech chamber of commerce (<http://www.komora.cz/?langid=2>)

### **Enterprises Federation**

Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic (SPCR) (<http://www.spcr.cz/en>)

Association of small and medium-sized enterprises and crafts of the Czech Republic (<http://www.amsr.cz/>)

Czech Confederation of Commerce and Tourism (in Czech only) (<http://www.socr.cz/>)

### **Business Setup Procedures**

To know about procedures to start a Business in Czech Republic - Consult Doing Business Website (<http://www.doingbusiness.org/data/exploreeconomies/Czech-Republic/starting-a-business/>)

### **For Further Statistics**

Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (<http://www.mpsv.cz/en/>)

Czech statistical office (<http://www.czso.cz/>)

### **Labor regulation bodies**

Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (<http://www.mpsv.cz/>)

Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic (SPCR) (<http://www.spcr.cz/>)

Czech Council for Safety, Hygiene and Health at Work ([http://cz.osha.europa.eu/index.php?set\\_language=en](http://cz.osha.europa.eu/index.php?set_language=en))

### **Competent Organization for the Declaration**

CzechInvest (<http://www.czechinvest.org/>)

### **Investment Aid Agency**

CzechInvest (<http://www.czechinvest.org/>)

Czech Invest representation abroad in Brussels (Belgium), London (UK), Paris (France), Hong Kong (China), Yokohama (Japan), Munich and Koeln (Germany), Chicago (USA). (<http://www.czechinvest.org/zahranicni-zastoupeni>)

## **Traveling in Czech Republic**

### **Entry Requirements**

#### **Passport and Visa Service**

Entry formalities for Czech Republic ([http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1099.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1099.html))

To get more information on visa and entry requirements, visit the website of the ministry of Foreign affairs of Czech Republic (<http://www.mzv.cz/wwwo/mzv/default.asp?id=25931&ido=7306&idj=2&amb=1>)

[http://www.mzv.cz/wwwo/mzv/default.asp?id=25931&ido=7306&idj=2&amb=1\\_blank](http://www.mzv.cz/wwwo/mzv/default.asp?id=25931&ido=7306&idj=2&amb=1_blank)

### **Organizing Your Trip**

#### **Means of Transport Recommended in Town**

There are many taxi operators in Czech cities. But Prague's taxis belong to the most expensive taxi within European capital cities. And foreigners may pay much more than the normal price, if they don't take care. For these reasons, it is better to take a public transport (bus, subway, tram, rail etc). The subway in Prague (the only one in the Czech Republic) operates more than 30 years and is still expanding.

#### **Maps of Urban Networks**

Prague's urban networks - Subway and Tram (<http://www.dpp.cz/files/imgs/pid/schema-metro-tramvaje.pdf>)

Prague's urban networks - Subway and Bus ([http://www.dpp.cz/files/imgs/pid/BUS\\_10\\_12\\_2006.pdf](http://www.dpp.cz/files/imgs/pid/BUS_10_12_2006.pdf))

Means of Transport Recommended in the Rest of the Country

When travelling through the Czech Republic, it is recommended to take trains or bus. Frequency as well as price conditions are very advantageous. During the night, for more security, it is better to take Eurocity or Intercity trains, with Policemen on board.

Czech Airlines propose also domestic flights between the main cities of the country.

For more information, visit the Idnes.cz, the national timetable information system. (<http://www.idnes.cz/>)

#### **Rail Companies**

Czech railways (<http://www.cdrrail.cz/>)

### **Travelling by Yourself**

#### **Recommendation**

Can be useful to travel in the country. The network of highways is growing each year, joining the biggest cities. Signalization is quite good.

But you should take care. Czech drivers do not care about traffic rules; they do not respect speed limits although they may obtain the significant penalties. In the biggest cities traffic jams occur regularly in the morning and in the late afternoon; in Prague it is during the whole day.

**Road Maps****Roads and Motorways**

([http://www.rsd.cz/rsd/rsd.nsf/0/80345976071FCBACC12575CF004E133E/\\$file/RSD2009en.pdf](http://www.rsd.cz/rsd/rsd.nsf/0/80345976071FCBACC12575CF004E133E/$file/RSD2009en.pdf))

**Taxes Road**

([http://www.rsd.cz/rsd/rsd.nsf/0/80345976071FCBACC12575CF004E133E/\\$file/RSD2009en.pdf](http://www.rsd.cz/rsd/rsd.nsf/0/80345976071FCBACC12575CF004E133E/$file/RSD2009en.pdf))

Other maps (<http://www.rsd.cz/Maps>)

**Find an Itinerary**

[www.mapy.cz](http://www.mapy.cz)

**Tourism Organization**

Czech Tourism (<http://www.czechtourism.com/>)

Prague Information Service (<http://www.praguewelcome.cz/en/>)

Tourist server of the Czech Republic (<http://www.czecot.com/en/>)

**Type of Climate**

The climate is mild but variable locally and throughout the year. It is characterized by a cold winter (from January to March) and warm summer (from June to August). The temperature falls below 0°C in winter and can be in excess of 30°C in summer.

**Getting Some Knowledge**

Learn some Basic phrases in Czech (<http://www.goethe-verlag.com/book2/EN/ENCS/ENCS002.HTM>)

**Free Translation Tools**

Slovník : Multilingual Dictionary (<http://www.slovník.cz/>)

*(Source : EEPC INDIA Website, Statistics Department – EEPC INDIA, [www.fita.org](http://www.fita.org))*

*[Prepared by TID Department, EEPC INDIA (H.O.), Kolkata]*