

Territorial NEWSLETTER

ASEAN + 5

EPCINDIA
ENGINEERING THE FUTURE

Vaniya Bhavan (1st Floor)
1/1 Wood Street,
Kolkata - 700016
www.eepcindia.org

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations + China, Japan, Korea, Australia and New Zealand

Issue: August 2017

Chairman's Pen



T S Bhasin

In this issue of the newsletter on ASEAN+5, we highlight brief summary of the recent ASEAN-India and East Asia summits. Besides pitching for steps to boost regional trade, India is crafting a global approach to deal with growing challenge of terrorism and radicalization. The meeting revealed the ties between India and ASEAN which have been on an upswing in the last few years with focus being on ramping up cooperation in the areas of trade and investment as well as security and defence. According to the words of Indian Ambassador to Philippines Jaideep Mazumdar, **“Every single country in the ASEAN region wants India to be more engaged in the region in every possible way. That is the real synergy we have with ASEAN”**. These define the role for India and its strong ties with all other Southeast

nations.

We are hopeful that the information provided in the newsletter will be useful for our readers.

Message from Chairman, Committee on Trade with ASEAN countries



P K Shah

Promoting sustainable development remains a critical priority area for both ASEAN and the European Union (EU). This is a global commitment shared by ASEAN and the EU and an integral part of both the EU and ASEAN regional integration processes, helping to ensure that they are people-centered and leave no one behind. The **ASEAN-EU Dialogue on Sustainable Development** also briefed out some important tools like ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Master Plan on ASEAN

Connectivity 2025- all these would help contribute to the attainment of the SDGs.

In this issue of newsletter, we also highlight the India's engineering exports scenario to the ASEAN+5 countries in the first five months of the new fiscal 2017-18.

I hope this newsletter will be insightful for our readers and they will enjoy reading it.

ASEAN to partner with EU on achieving the SDGs

The inaugural **ASEAN-EU Dialogue on Sustainable Development: Towards Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals** was successfully convened in Bangkok on 17 November 2017, gathering Ministers and senior representatives of the Member States of ASEAN and of the European Union, the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat.

The Dialogue was co-chaired by Mr. **Don Pramudwinai**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, as ASEAN Coordinator on Sustainable Development Cooperation and Country Coordinator for ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations, and Mr. **Neven Mimica**, European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development.

The inaugural dialogue focused on cross-cutting development catalysts towards the achievement of multiple SDGs such as promoting gender equality; green growth and circular economy; sustainable consumption and production; and addressing the challenges of climate change. A roadmap on ASEAN-EU Sustainable Development Cooperation would be explored.

The new ASEAN-EU cooperation programmes were also launched at the dialogue. They include the Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI) to further strengthen EU-ASEAN policy dialogues and the flagship programme on economic and trade connectivity in support of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint 2025 (ARISE Plus). ASEAN and EU will also promote women migrant workers' rights and opportunities in ASEAN.

The event gathered Ministers and senior representatives of the Member States of ASEAN and of the European Union, the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat. It was co-chaired by Foreign Minister Don Pramudwinai of Thailand who is ASEAN Coordinator on Sustainable Development Cooperation and Country Coordinator for ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations, and Neven Mimica, European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development.

Trade Analysis & Statistics

Trade Analysis & Statistics

India's total engineering exports to ASEAN+5 country wise during April-August of 2017-18 stood at US\$ 5.85 billion. Some major highlights of engineering exports from India to ASEAN+5 for the month of August 2017 and cumulative exports during April-August 2017 are given below:

- ❖ In the month of August 2017, India's engineering exports to ASEAN+5 stood at US \$ 1280.13 million which is 22.1% of the total global engineering exports of India during the same period.
- ❖ India's engineering exports to ASEAN+5 maintained positive growth both on a cumulative basis as well as on monthly basis to the extent of 39% and 18% respectively.
- ❖ China topped the list for Indian engineering exports for cumulative exports during April-August 2017-18 as well as on monthly basis during August 2017 compared to August 2016. During April-August 2017, major engineering products exported to the country include Iron and Steel, Copper and products, Aluminium and products, Ship, Boats and Floating Bodies, Electric machinery, Industrial Machinery and parts, Auto Component and parts, etc.
- ❖ China recorded huge positive growth in imports from India to the extent of over 265% in August 2017 compared to August 2016 among the fifteen countries.

Top 5 nations which had the highest demand for Indian engineering products during April-August of 2017-18 in absolute values include:

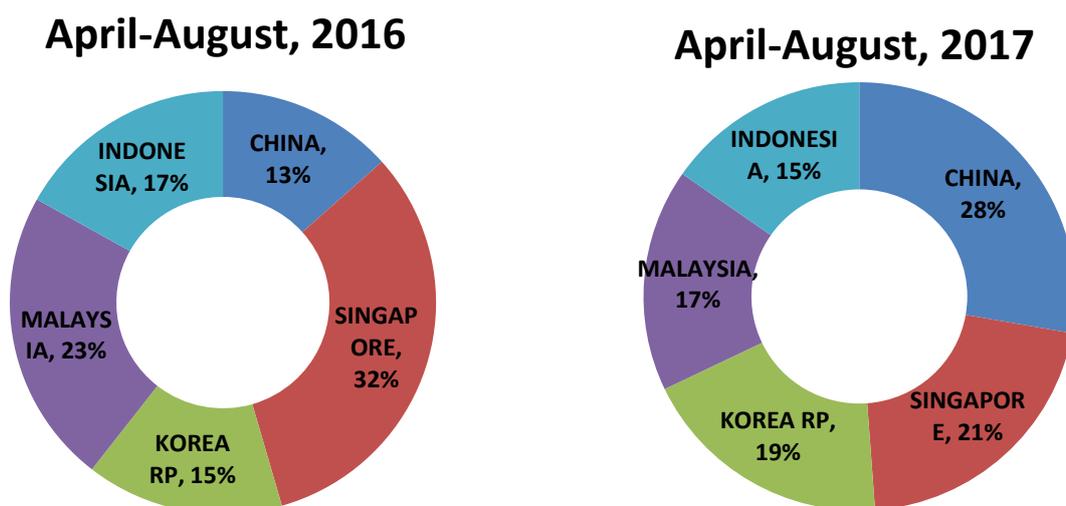
Values in US\$ million

COUNTRY	APRIL-AUGUST 2016	APRIL-AUGUST 2017	Growth (%)
CHINA	469.8	1084.0	130.7%
SINGAPORE	1126.9	823.5	-26.9%
KOREA RP	525.9	744.1	41.5%
MALAYSIA	791.5	656.8	-17.0%
INDONESIA	592.1	597.7	0.9%

Source: DGCI&S, Government of India

A comparison of top 5 nations which had the highest demand for Indian engineering products during April-August 2016 and its subsequent change in April- August 2017 is shown in the pie chart below:

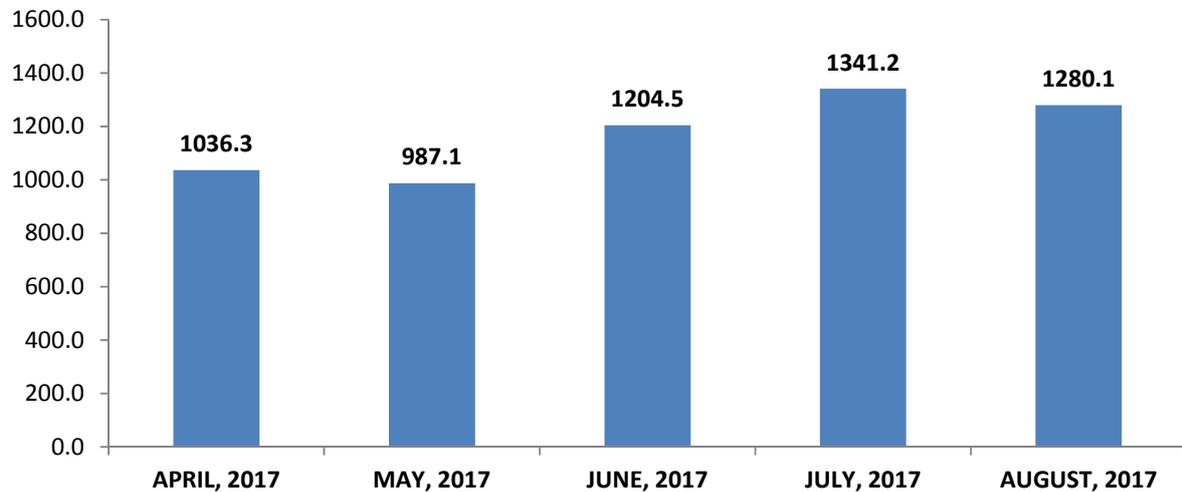
Fig 1: Change in Engineering Export among the top 5 ASEAN+5 countries (April-August 2017 viz-a-viz April- August 2016)



Source: DGCI&S, Government of India

Fig 2: Trend in Total Engineering Export in ASEAN +5 during April-August 2017 (Month wise)

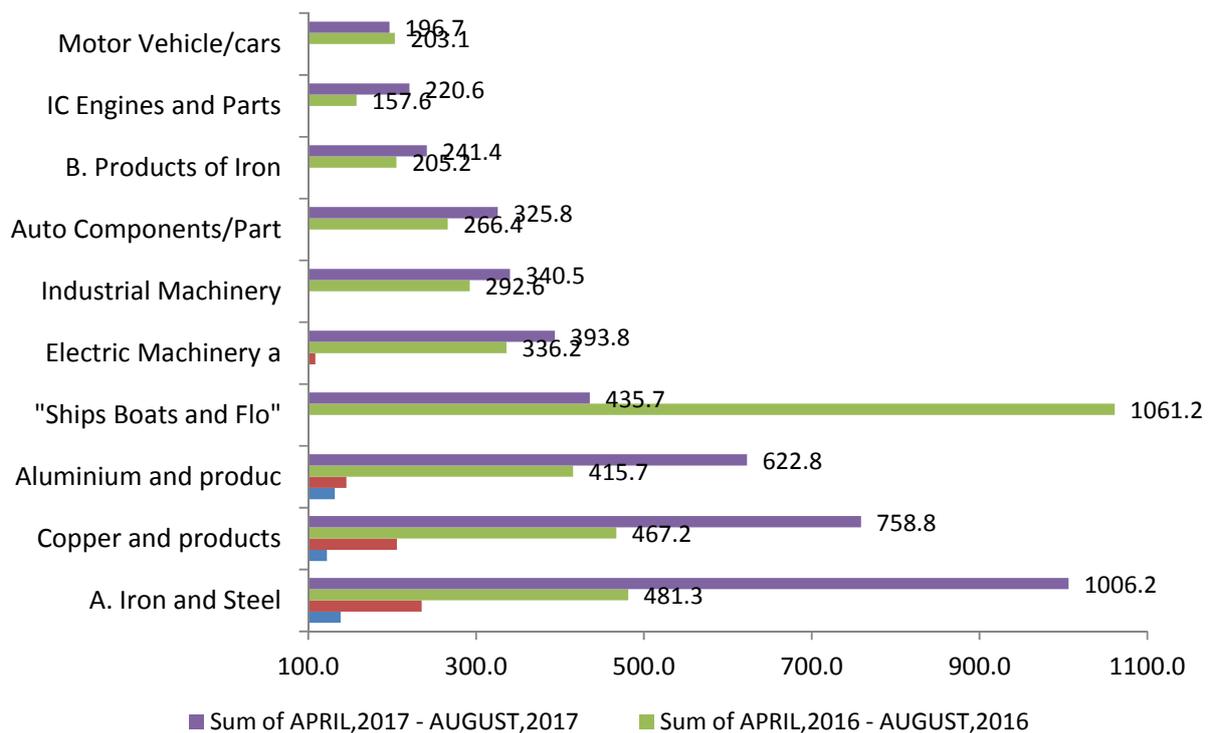
India's Exports to ASEAN+5 Countries during April-August 2017 (Monthwise)



Source: DGCI&S, Government of India

Top 10 engineering panels exported to ASEAN+5 during April-August 2017 viz-a-viz April-August 2016 are provided in bar diagram along with their respective values.

Fig 2: Top 10 engineering panels exported to ASEAN+5 in April-August 2017 viz-a-viz April-August 2016



Source: DGCI&S, Government of India

News in Focus

❖ PM Modi in the Philippines to attend India-Asean Summit: Key Highlights

Prime Minister Narendra Modi met the Prime Ministers of Australia, Vietnam, Japan, New Zealand, China and the Sultan of Brunei today as part of his 3-day visit for the ASEAN Summit in Manila, Philippines. The Prime Minister attended the 12th East Asia Summit and the RCEP Leader's meetings before heading back to India.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held "very expansive" talks with US President Donald Trump on the sidelines of the 31st ASEAN Summit or the Association of South-East Asian Nations. He also interacted with the Indian community in Philippines and thanked them for their warmth. He also visited the International Rice Research Institute where he learnt about salinity tolerant rice varieties and drones that can greatly aide agriculture.

PM Modi is the second Indian Prime Minister to visit Manila since Indira Gandhi. He started his three-day Manila visit to attend the ASEAN Summit and East Asia Summits.

Source: <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/31st-asean-summit-in-manila-live-narendra-modi-to-meet-pms-of-australia-japan-1775054>

❖ For first time, north eastern states to play a big role during India-ASEAN summit

The northeastern states will, for the first time, play a big role during the India-ASEAN summit in January.

Last week, Sushma Swaraj called in the governors of all seven northeastern states and the lieutenant-general of Andaman & Nicobar islands for a unique meeting - to begin the process of integration of domestic and foreign policy. Raveesh Kumar, MEA spokesperson tweeted "The interactive discussion will feed into the deliberations at the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit 2018 ... featuring an enhanced role for the Northeastern Region, India's gateway to the ASEAN." Sources said all governors came with suggestions and these have been prioritized into short and medium term deliverables.

Bhutan will be the first country to open up a consulate in Guwahati, but India will open up Guwahati for select countries like Japan as well. Japan is becoming a major development partner for India's northeast transformation programme. At some point, India's BBIN initiative will segue into its Act East policy. Within MEA, the new initiative will be run by several departments from the States division to ICCR, officials in charge of Bangladesh and Myanmar and the big "South" division that is in charge of the Asean region. Outside MEA, the state governments and home ministry will be roped in, said officials.

It's not only the Republic Day celebrations that will see action with the presence of all the ASEAN heads of government - for the first time, Assam, with a BJP government will host an 'Invest Assam' summit, on the lines of Vibrant Gujarat, which will see heads of state of several ASEAN countries hoping to create economic linkages.

Source: <http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/india-says-asean-crucial-to-asia-pacific-security/story-AyGET9gsX0MLeLsQLHtyLN.html>

❖ **Biggest Asean-India business summit in Delhi in January**

Manila, Underlining the importance of building physical connectivity with the Asean region to further strengthen its economic ties with India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday announced that the largest so far Asean-India business and investment summit is slated to be held in New Delhi in January next year.

Addressing the Asean Business and Investment Summit here, Modi also said that a conference to discuss increasing connectivity between both regions is also due to take place next month in New Delhi.

"India's Look East policy puts this region at the centre of our engagement. So, connectivity with Asean by land, sea and air remains our priority," Modi said pointing to the ongoing Trilateral Highway Project involving Myanmar and Thailand, which India is seeking to extend to three other countries.

"An Asean-India Connectivity Summit will take place next month with all the countries participating," he said.

"To coincide with the Asean-India Commemorative Summit in January, an Asean-India Business and Investment meet and expo will be held, which will be the biggest Asean focused event that India has ever organised," he added.

The Prime Minister also said that work is in progress to conclude a maritime transport agreement with the Asean.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/biggest-asean-india-business-summit-in-delhi-in-january/articleshow/61629020.cms>

❖ **Shinzo Abe's re-election can spell big gains for India-Japan alliance**

Shinzo Abe's re-election in Japan will not only ensure continuity in India-Japan strategic and economic partnerships that have been on an upswing, but also boost New Delhi's Indo-Pacific outreach stretching from the Pacific region to the coast of Eastern Africa in the backdrop of China's expansionist strategy.

Japan, trying to develop as a "normal" nation under Abe by reorienting its pacifist constitution, is emerging as Delhi's partner in the Indo-Pacific region under its own 'Free and Open Indo Pacific Strategy aiming to provide a viable alternative to China's One Belt and One Road (OBOR) initiative that has been marked by expansionist and non-transparent goals. India's Act East Policy could synergise with Japan's strategy to stabilise the vast Indo-Pacific region.

A key takeaway from Abe's visit for the 12th Indo-Japan annual Summit in Gandhinagar ahead of the snap polls in Japan was a memorandum of understanding to create an 'India Japan Act East Forum', with an eye on marrying India's Act East Policy with Japan's Free and Open Asia Pacific strategy in the backdrop of China's OBOR. The forum aims to enhance connectivity and promote developmental projects in the north-eastern Region of India in an efficient and effective manner to smoothly connect the rest of the country with Southeast Asia.

Japan, with historical connection to India's Northeast, is among a handful of countries that have been allowed to have a presence in the eight landlocked states in the region, which is India's gateway to Asean via land corridors.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/shinzo-abes-re-election-can-spell-big-gains-for-india-japan-alliance/articleshow/61328830.cms>

❖ **ASEAN, China, Japan, S. Korea call for open trade system**

Japan, China, South Korea and member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have emphasized the need to pursue an open trading system for the region to allow sustainable growth of trade and investments.

In a joint statement released on Monday, the ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries noted that in 2016 alone, total merchandise trade between the 13 states amounted to USD694.2 billion or 31 percent of the bloc's total merchandise trade.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows from the Plus Three Countries into ASEAN, meanwhile, was valued at USD27.1 billion, accounting for 27.6 percent of the total FDI inflow to ASEAN.

"We emphasized the need to pursue an open trading system for the region that would allow sustainable growth of trade and investments," it said.

On the other hand, the 13 nations said it will continue cooperation on economic issues as it encouraged closer collaboration on ASEAN's new priorities and projects through the adopted ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Economic Cooperation Work Programme 2017-2018, covering areas such as connectivity, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) development, trade facilitation, and e-commerce.

The work program reinforces the foundation for enhanced economic relations, through sustained dialogue and consultations and technical cooperation activities between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries.

During their meeting in Manila, the state leaders recognized the important role of private sector in enhancing economic cooperation in the East Asian region and noted the efforts made by the East Asia Business Council (EABC) in supporting MSMEs to capture and maximize the opportunities offered by digital trade and to find new ways of doing business.

On research, they acknowledged the countries' continuous business engagements including through the conduct of relevant research studies.

"We welcomed the collaboration among the EABC, ASEAN-China Centre, ASEAN-Japan Centre, and ASEAN-Korea Centre to extend the reach of cooperation in the context of the APT in order to increase trade and investment," it said.

In setting long-term goals of regional integration, they noted the proposal to study the next phase of East Asia Vision Group III to include a focus on the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Source: <http://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1016503>

Business opportunities		
Location	Title	Deadline
Philippines	Construction Materials And Supplies	12th Dec 2017
Philippines	68. Purchase Of 65 Pieces Tactical Pants, 40 Pieces Tactical Jacket To Be Used For Emergency Response.	14 Dec 2017
Philippines	Supply Of Electric Bicycle, Cenro	4 th Dec 2017
Indonesia	Procurement Of Equipment, Machine Of Motor Vehicle Testing Equipment.	31 st Dec 2017
China	The Avalon Project (480b) Of Tianjin Faw Toyota Motor Co., Ltd.	5 th Dec 2017
Philippines	Procurement Of General Support Services-construction Of Water Waste Treatment Facility, Lopez Jaena Commercial Center, Lopez Jaena	4 th Dec 2017
Philippines	Agricultural Machinery And Equipment	7 th Dec 2017
Indonesia	Procurement Of Equipment, Machine Of Motor Vehicle Testing Equipment.	31 st Dec 2017
New Zealand	Vacuum Sewer Monitoring System	6 th Dec 2017
Thailand	Hire Contractors To Install And Dismantle Scaffolds	3 rd Dec 2017

For more contract notices, Please register with Tender info and follow the link: <http://www.tendersinfo.com/> and search for respective countries.