

DOING BUSINESS IN
EUR
ASIA

THE EEPC INDIA 'DOING BUSINESS' SERIES

Doing Business in Eurasia
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EUR
ASIA

THE EEPC INDIA 'DOING BUSINESS' SERIES

Ravi Capoor
Joint Secretary - EP (Engg.)



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Ministry of Commerce & Industry
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MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to know that India-Eurasia business forum is being organized by EEPC India on the sidelines of 3rd edition of India Engineering Sourcing Show (IESS) in Mumbai. The event is rapidly emerging as an event for business & by business offering quality international buyers, focused trade delegations, workshops, seminars & buyer-seller meets, all on a single platform.

Eurasia has demonstrated robust pattern of growth over the last few years. Many countries in the region have been able to improve their ease of doing business rankings over these years. Countries like Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan are among the fast growing economies of the world, while Russia and Ukraine continue to be important trading partners. These countries along with the other CIS countries are now diversifying their international trade partnerships with emerging economies. The forum would be a significant platform in bridging the opportunity with the most promising frontier markets.

The India-Eurasia business forum will bridge the emerging partnerships for Indian engineering sector with the Eurasian counterparts while apprising latest business opportunities for, especially small and medium enterprises. I hope IESS 2014 would play a pivotal role in highlighting mutually beneficial partnerships in the engineering sector.

Ravi Capoor



सत्यमेव जयते



MESSAGE

I am delighted that EEPC India is organizing for the first time an India-Eurasia Business Forum on the sidelines of the 3rd edition of the India Engineering Sourcing Show (IESS 2014) to be held in Mumbai on 22-24 January 2014.

Countries in the Eurasian region have strong civilisational and historical bonds with India; they are today strategic and economic partners. These economies are rich in minerals and hydrocarbons. As a consumer market the region, however, remains to be exploited. Eurasia is an important frontier destination for 'Made in India' manufacturing, as the region is fast emerging and diversifying international business partnerships by looking towards new trading partners. The engineering sector could play a key role in framing the infrastructure for sustainable long term relationships. India already has been making efforts in building strategic inroads through many joint international projects in the region.

The IESS 2014 will be a unique platform showcasing India's capabilities and expertise in the engineering sector and can contribute to strengthening our economic bonds with Eurasia. I am sure both the Indian and overseas participants will develop long lasting mutually beneficial business relationships at this unique forum.

(Ajay Bisaria)

Joint Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs



MESSAGE

Eurasia is blessed with vast natural and mineral resources, providing attractive prospects for investments and partnerships. This fledgling economic block has also demonstrated robust economic growth.

The Eurasian countries realize that diversification through international trade can have a stabilizing impact on the region and actively encourage such processes. The countries are therefore integrating their economies with emerging Asian economies resulting in enhancing competition and value added supplies. In recent times, Eurasian countries have considerably improved upon their ease of doing business rankings by implementing structural and fiscal reforms. Therefore, it is my belief that this is one of the most opportune times for Indian engineering sector to tap Eurasian markets and establish sustainable long term trade partnership.

India and countries in Eurasia region have historically shared warm and cordial relations for over six decades which resulted in healthy trade and economic relations, albeit far below of its true potential. According to recent estimates, trade between India and Eurasia has the potential for touching USD 30 billion from the current bilateral trade of approximately USD 13.5 billion. Eurasian countries, as mentioned earlier, are rich in natural resources like petroleum, oil, natural gas, metals and minerals; all useful sources of raw materials of considerable importance to the manufacturing industry in India.

The India-Eurasia business forum is being organized on 22nd January by EEPC India along with the 3rd India Engineering Sourcing Show, 2014 (IESS 2014). The forum is intended to act as an effective platform for sharing information and opportunities of business networking, keeping in mind the emerging importance of the region, specifically for the Indian engineering sector. I wish the India-Eurasia Business Forum all success.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anupam Shah". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Anupam Shah

Chairman EEPC India



Franz Josef Land

Severnaya Zemlya

Kara Sea

Barents Sea

Novaya Zemlya

Finland

Russian Federation

St. Petersburg

Helsinki

Estonia

Latvia

Lithuania

Poland

Belarus

Moscow

Perm

Izhevsk

Omsk

Novosibirsk

Samara

Astana

Slovakia

Ukraine

Kazakhstan

Hungary

Romania

Black Sea

Caspian Sea

Mongolia

Bulgaria

Turkey

Turkmenistan

Uzbekistan

Kyrgyzstan

China

Georgia

Armenia

Azerbaijan

Maschhad

Bishkek

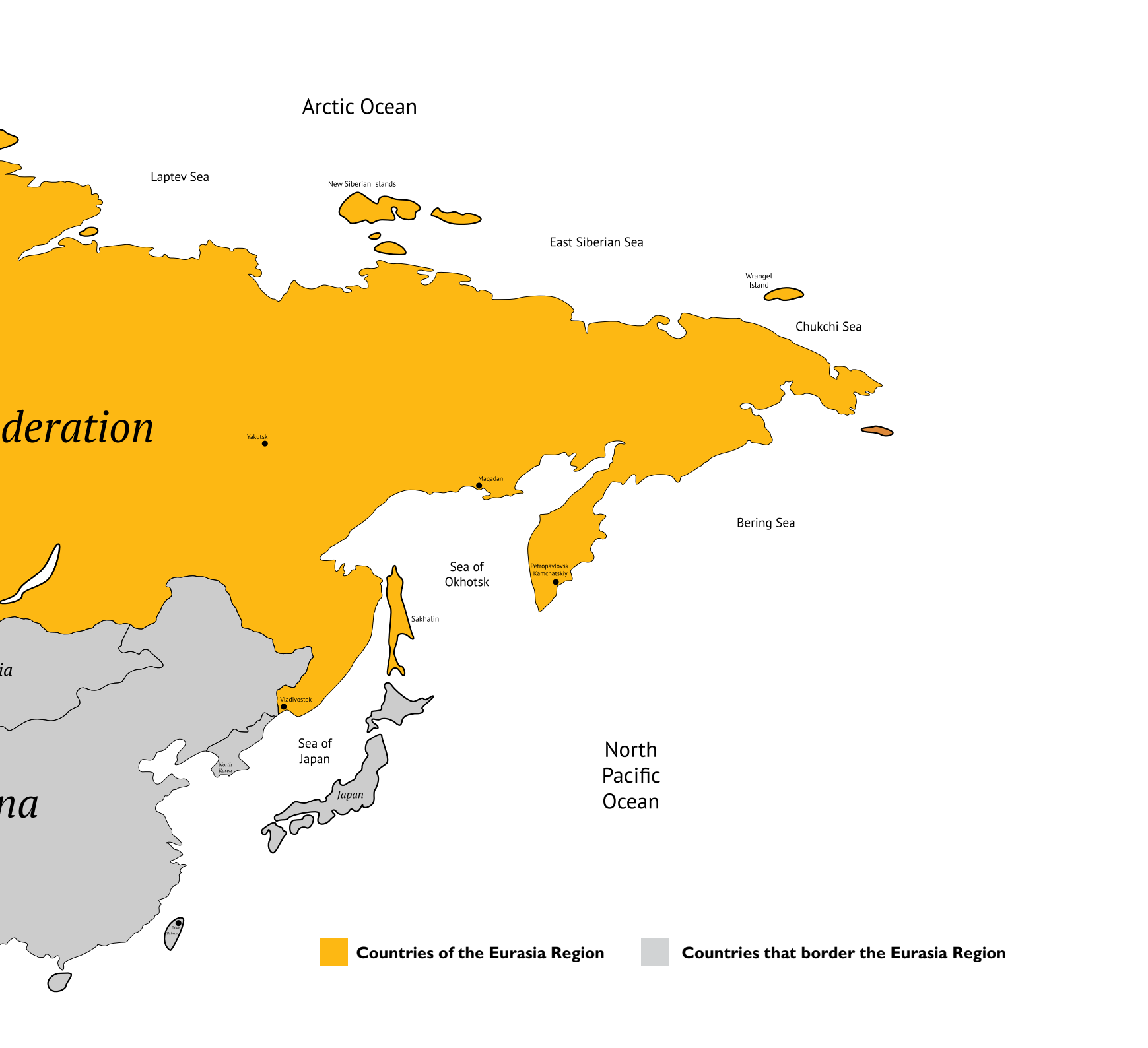
Tashkent

Dushanbe

Kabul

Iran

Afghanistan



FOREWORD

INDIA AND COUNTRIES IN THE EURASIAN REGION HAVE HISTORICALLY SHARED warm and cordial relations which further translated into trade and economic relations. This publication is an effort to provide a ready reckoner about economies of the countries in the region, the status of India's trade with them and the immense opportunities that lie untapped.

Eurasian countries are rich in natural resources like petroleum, oil, natural gas, metals and minerals and a useful source of raw materials that is of considerable importance to the manufacturing industry in India. Partnership holds great opportunities for the economies of the two countries and Indian companies are eager to look at emerging economies in the Eurasian region for investment and trade. The Indian engineering sector specifically plays a crucial role in further strengthening trade relations between India and countries in the Eurasian region

EEPC India has taken a number of initiatives to strengthen India's economic relations and has particularly focused on the region. We hope that our past endeavors and future plan of action will help to facilitate the long-term goal of enhancing trade and bilateral relations between India and the countries in the Eurasian region. In view of the significance of the region in India's trade and economic relations, EEPC India is, for the first time, organizing an India-Eurasia Business Forum on the sidelines of the third edition of the India Engineering Sourcing Show.

CONTENTS

Armenia	14
Azerbaijan	18
Belarus	22
Georgia	26
Kazakhstan	30
Kyrgyzstan	34
Russia	39
Tajikistan	44
Turkmenistan	48
Ukraine	53
Uzbekistan	58



ARMENIA

Brief country profile

Geography

Capital	Yerevan
Location	Southwestern Asia, between Turkey (to the west) and Azerbaijan
Area	29,743 sq km

Demography

Population	Population: 2,974,184 (July 2013 est.)
Languages	Armenian (official) 97.7%, Yezidi 1%, Russian 0.9%, other 0.4% (2001 census)
Population growth rate	0.14% (2013 est.)
Literacy	99.60%

Economy

GDP (official exchange rate)	\$10.07 billion (2012 est.)
GDP - real growth rate	7.2% (2012 est.)
GDP - per capita (PPP)	\$5,900 (2012 est.)
GDP - composition by sector	Agriculture: 21.1% Industry: 37.7% Services: 41.2% (2012 est.)
Industries	Diamond-processing, metal-cutting machine tools, forging-pressing machines, electric motors, tires, knitted wear, hosiery, shoes, silk fabric, chemicals, trucks, instruments, microelectronics, jewellery manufacturing, software development, food processing, brandy, mining
Exports	\$1.523 billion (2012 est.)
Exports - commodities	Pig iron, unwrought copper, nonferrous metals, diamonds, mineral products, foodstuffs, energy
Exports - partners	Russia 19.9%, Germany 11%, Belgium 9.4%, Bulgaria 8.8%, Iran 7.1%, Canada 6.2%, US 6.1%, Georgia 5.9%, Netherlands 5.2%, Switzerland 5% (2012)
Imports	\$3.603 billion (2012 est.)
Imports - commodities	natural gas, petroleum, tobacco products, foodstuffs, diamonds
Imports - partners	Russia 24.6%, China 9%, Germany 6.2%, Iran 5.4%, Ukraine 5.4%, Turkey 4.7% (2012)
Exchange rates	drams (AMD) per US dollar - 401.76 (2012 est.)

Business Information

Climate	Continental, mountain climate (over 90% of the territory is over 900m/2,286ft above sea level). During the summer, days can be hot and dry with temperatures falling sharply at night. Winters are extremely cold with heavy snow. May to June and September to October are good times to visit the country, as the weather is warm but mild.
Office hours & timings	0900 Hrs to 1700 Hrs (weekdays)
India's time difference with the country	India is one and a half hours ahead from Armenia

India-Armenia Bilateral trade

The level of bilateral trade and investments remains below potential though some growth has been registered in recent years. An MoU exists between the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry and the Armenian business delegation by the Union of Manufacturers & Businessmen (Employers) of Armenia. The MoU signed on 31 October 2011 in Yerevan envisages establishment of a Joint Business Council which is expected to serve as a platform for enhanced business interaction between the private sectors of the two countries.

The following tables give us a clear indication about the trade scenario between India and Armenia.

India's bilateral trade with Armenia (exports, imports & total trade) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Year	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
India's Export to Armenia	19.98	18.48	19.83	38.29	40.48
India's Import from Armenia	2.78	2.96	7.07	6.16	1.48
Total Trade with Armenia	22.76	21.44	26.9	44.45	41.96

Source: Ministry of Commerce

India's Export to Armenia by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Machinery and instruments	1.14	1.41
Primary & semi-finished iron & steel	0.02	0.42
Manufactures of metals	0.12	0.06
Transport equipment		0.05
Non-ferrous metals		0.01
Machine tools	0.01	
Total	1.29	1.95

Source: DGCI&S

India's Import from Armenia by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Machinery except electrical & electronic	0.03	0.2
Professional instruments, etc, except electronic	0.01	0.03
Non-ferrous metals	0.79	0
Electrical machinery except electronic	0	0
Total	0.83	0.23

Source: DGCI&S

Trade policy

Armenia has a liberal foreign trade regime, which consists of a simple two-band import tariff (at 0% and 10%), no taxes on exports, and no quantitative trade restrictions. Import, export, and domestic production licenses are required only for health, security, and environmental reasons. There are no limits on hard currency imports.

The new Customs Code, in force since 1 January, 2001, streamlines customs procedures and complies with WTO rules. The main features of the customs regulations are:

- All exports from Armenia are duty free.
- The import tariff rates are 0 or 10%. The 10% tariff is levied mainly on consumer and luxury goods.

DOING BUSINESS IN EURASIA

- Tariffs are in ad valorem terms and levied on CIF values.
- No import customs duties are payable in the following circumstances:
- Imported capital goods (included in the list defined by the Government of Armenia) forming a part of an investment in a business
- Transit goods transported across the territory of Armenia
- The means of transport (e.g. truck) used for regular interstate transport of freight
- Currency and stocks
- Goods temporarily imported into Armenia and temporarily exported from Armenia for the purpose of processing or reprocessing
- All payments must be made in the currency of Armenia

Trade agreements

Armenia has concluded Free Trade Agreements with Russia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Ukraine. Under the terms of these agreements, export and import of goods between Armenia and that states is free of customs duties or equivalent taxes and fees.

Excise taxes are charged at various rates on the import or production of some goods, including alcohol, tobacco and petrol.

Advantages of investing in Armenia

- Favorable investment legislation;
- Investment guarantees;
- Government active involvement in economic and structural reforms;
- Fast growing economy;
- Easy access to CIS and Middle East Markets;
- Well educated, skilled and easily trainable workforce;
- No restrictions on staff recruitment;
- Profit tax exemptions for companies engaged in agricultural production;
- 100% ownership permission for foreigners;
- No restrictions on remittances;
- Stable banking system and local currency;
- Competitive energy cost;
- Worldwide Diaspora
- Membership in the World Trade Organization
- liberal trade regime, no quotas and licenses on imports;
- No export duties & VAT refund on goods and services exported;
- Free conversion of foreign exchange;

- Free repatriation of profit;
- Political & economic stability

Profitable Sectors for Investment

- High-tech electronics projection
- Mining and Metallurgy
- Financial intermediation (Banking services)
- Business services
- Health and Education services
- Computer software engineering
- Food production and packaging
- Tourism
- Renewable energy
- Chemical industry
- Light industry

Trade Information Sources

Export Directory of the Republic of Armenia	http://www.export.am
Armenia. Business Support Center	http://www.bsc.am
Small and Medium Entrepreneurship Development National Center of Armenia (SME DNC of Armenia)	http://www.smednc.am
Armenian Business and Trade Portal	http://www.armport.com

Institutions (agencies) responsible for Investment Promotion

Ministry of Trade and Economic Development	www.minted.am
Armenian Development Agency (ADA) website	www.ossada.am
Business Support Center (BSC)	www.bsc.am
Armenian Development Agency	www.ada.am
Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Armenia	www.armicci.am armcci@arminco.com

Public Holidays in Armenia

No	Holiday	Date
1	New Years Day	01-Jan
2	Orthodox Christmas	06-Jan
3	Women's Day	08-Mar
4	Motherhood and Beauty Day	07-Apr
5	Good Friday	18-Apr
6	Genocide Remembrance Day	24-Apr
7	Victory and Peace Day	09-May
8	First Republic Day	28-May
9	Constitution Day	05-Jul
10	Independence Day	21-Sep
11	Earthquake Memorial Day	07-Dec
12	New Year's Eve	31-Dec

Visa formalities for Indians travelling to Armenia

Visa Requirements			
Tourist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport Valid at least six months • 1 Visa form • 2 photographs with white background • Covering letter for stating purpose of visit • Return confirm ticket 		
	Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Visa form • 2 photographs with white background • Covering letter for stating purpose of visit • Invitation letter from Armenia attested by Armenian Ministry of Foreign 	
		Visa Fee	Tourist - Less than 21 Days- Rs.400/- More than 21 Days- Rs.1900/- Business - Less than 21 Days- Rs.400/- More than 21 Days- Rs.1900/-
		Processing Time	07-10 Working days (Tourist) 07-10 Working days (Business)

Useful Contacts

Embassy of India in Armenia

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 Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
 50/2, Dzorapi Street
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 Website: www.indianembassy.am

Embassy of the Armenia in India

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 Fax: Local: (011) 24112853, International: (+91 11) 24112853
 E-mail: armindiaembassy@mfa.am
 Website: <http://www.armenian.co.in>

Bibliography

<http://www.mfa.am/en/>



Ruins of the Zvartnots Cathedral (7th century) in Armenia



AZERBAIJAN

Brief country profile

Geography

Capital	Baku
Location	Southwestern Asia, bordering the Caspian Sea, between Iran and Russia, with a small European portion north of the Caucasus range
Area	86,600 sq km

Demography

Population	9,590,159 (July 2013 est.)
Languages	Azerbaijani (Azeri) (official) 90.3%, other local languages
Population growth rate	1.01% (2013 est.)
Literacy	99.7% (2010 census)

Economy

GDP (official exchange rate)	\$68.8 billion (2012 est.)
GDP - real growth rate	2.2% (2012 est.)
GDP - per capita (PPP)	\$10,700 (2012 est.)
GDP - composition by sector	Agriculture: 6% Industry: 63.8% Services: 30.2% (2012 est.)
Industries	petroleum and natural gas, petroleum products, oilfield equipment; steel, iron ore; cement; chemicals and petrochemicals; textiles
Exports	\$30.96 billion (2012 est.)
Exports - commodities	oil and gas 90%, machinery, cotton, foodstuffs
Exports - partners	Italy 25.9%, France 7.7%, India 6.7%, Indonesia 6.6%, Germany 5.6%, Israel 5.1% (2012)
Imports	\$10.06 billion (2012 est.)
Imports - commodities	machinery and equipment, oil products, foodstuffs, metals, chemicals
Imports - partners	Turkey 18.6%, Russia 14.3%, China 7.8%, Germany 7.2%, UK 7.1%, US 5.1%, Ukraine 5% (2012)
Exchange rates	Azerbaijani manats (AZN) per US dollar -
Ports & Terminals	Baku (Baki)

Business Information

Climate	The expected climatic circumstances of Azerbaijan are indeed distinctive; with nine of the earth's eleven climatic zones found in the one country. The majority of the Azerbaijan region features a subtropical climate, however it due to great variation in altitude and weather conditions, the climate diverges right throughout the country.
Office hours & timings	0900 Hrs to 1800 Hrs (weekdays)
India's time difference with the country	India is one and a half hours ahead from Azerbaijan

India-Azerbaijan Bilateral trade

A sizeable volume of Indian goods is traded to Azerbaijan through UAE and other third countries which is not reflected in the trade statistics of India or Azerbaijan. India's bilateral trade with Azerbaijan has been growing steadily in recent years. India's pharmaceutical sector is well known in Azerbaijan and many Indian pharmaceutical companies are represented in Azerbaijan either through their own representative offices or tie ups with local dealers. A few Indian manufactured automobiles and mobile telephone handsets made their debut into Azerbaijan in 2010 and have increased in 2011. Double taxation treaty negotiations are currently underway with India.

The following tables give us a clear indication about the trade scenario between India and Azerbaijan.

India's bilateral trade with Azerbaijan (exports, imports & total trade) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Year	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
India's Export to Azerbaijan	33.8	29.91	38.65	71.62	87.16
India's Import from Azerbaijan	194.62	284.83	203.48	675	521.39
Total Trade with Azerbaijan	228.42	314.74	242.13	746.63	608.55

Source: Ministry of Commerce

India's Export to Azerbaijan by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Manufactures of metals	6.44	7.61
Machinery and instruments	2.61	3.17
Transport equipments	11.15	1.24
Primary and semi-finished iron and steel	0.15	0.47
Non-ferrous metals		0.01
Machine tools		0.01
Residual engineering items	0	0
Total	20.35	12.51

Source: DGCI&S

India's import from Azerbaijan by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Non-ferrous metals	0.63	0.44
Machine tools		0.01
Manufactures of metals	0.01	0
Professional instruments etc, except electronic	0	
Total	0.83	0.23

Source: DGCI&S

Trade policy

Formation of the trade legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan created the opportunity for enhancing cooperation in this field. Major trade commodities are oil and oil products. Firstly organizations were created to implement trade policy and decide functions of this policy. In Azerbaijan, more than 30 laws and number of normative legal documents have been adopted so far to regulate international trade relations. Azerbaijan has started negotiations with WTO on accession to the organization. The government has undertaken a number of steps to liberalize foreign trade. Import and export is one of the most rapidly developing business segment in Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan is developing trade relations with a number of countries. In

DOING BUSINESS IN EURASIA

2004 there were trade operations with more than 100 partners. European Union remained the major destination for export of Azerbaijani goods. Russia and CIS are the major importers. The main export commodities are oil and petrochemicals, a/c products. The import includes machinery and luxury goods, constructions materials etc.

Azeri law recognizes several customs regimes applicable to goods imported into Azerbaijan, of which most important to foreign investors are transit, customs storage, bonded warehouse, temporary import, processing in and outside customs territories.

In case of temporary import, no duties are applied and the goods must be re-exported from Azerbaijan until the deadline established by the customs authorities. The goods brought under the temporary import regime should be re-exported without substantial changes in their nature.

Import of goods into Azerbaijan is subject to imposition of imports duties (ad valorem duties ranging from 0% to 15%, per unit duties, duties per metric units). Excise tax applies to certain types of goods (e.g. tobacco and alcohol products). Azerbaijan adopted "destination VAT" principle and VAT (currently set at 18%) is payable (subject, of course, to applicable customs regime) on the declared value of goods (including assessed import duties and excise tax). Certain categories and types of goods are VAT exempt and to some others 0% VAT applies. 0.15% customs clearance fee is applicable to all imports/exports with certain minor exceptions. Exports are exempt from customs duties, except for certain types of metals and metal products. Azerbaijan has entered into bilateral treaties for the avoidance of double taxation with 18 countries, as well as indirect taxation treaties with Belgium, Canada, Italy and Germany.

Trade agreements

Government of Azerbaijan has signed a number of bilateral trade agreements with 20 countries from Africa, Europe, Asia, the Middle and Far East. Also Azerbaijan has signed many bilateral Free Trade Agreements with some CIS countries (Russia, Georgia, Ukraine, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Belarus). Azerbaijan also signed trade agreement with EU under which it receives MFN treatment. In addition, trade regimes extended to Azerbaijan by the EU, Japan and the United States under the generalized system of preferences (GSP) have created new market access opportunities but the quality of exports has to be brought into conformity with their standards. It also develops economic relations with BSEC, ECO, EFTA, OECD and other international organizations.

Advantages of investing in Azerbaijan

1. Favorable condition for foreign investments:
 - the highest per capita direct foreign investment indicator in the region.
 - Legal guarantees for investors.
2. Developing rapidly and open economy:
 - 26.4 %s annual growth of the GDP
 - Annual growth of 19.8 %s of the turnover of foreign trade.
 - Average import tariff degree: 5. 7%
3. Wide opportunities in non-oil sector:
 - High growth in 5 last years in the areas of most economical activities: Industry - 7.5 times, construction - 3.8 times, trade - 3.5 times, transport and communication - 2.9 times, social services - 2.8 times, agriculture - 2.1 times.
 - Tax concessions to producer of agriculture products
4. Natural reserves: Minerals and fertile soil:
5. Suitable strategic position
 - Direct access to the Central Asian and Caspian region.
 - Participation in international trade initiatives (Silk Road, North-South corridor)
 - Expanding Europe factor and joining to the policy of the New neighborhood.

Profitable Sectors for Investment

- Chemical, metallurgy industries
- Machine-building industry and production of construction materials
- Material - technical base of the agrarian sector
- Food and light industry
- Plant-growing
- Cattle breeding
- IT
- Tourism Sector

Trade Information Sources

Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)	http://www.ecosecretariat.org
Azerbaijan. Ministry of Economic Development	http://economy.gov.az
Azerbaijani Export and Investment Promotion Foundation (AZPROMO)	http://www.azpromo.org

Institutions (agencies) responsible for Investment Promotion

Azerbaijan Republic Chamber of Commerce and Industry	http://www.chamber.com.az
Trade Point Baku	http://www.kosia-smeda.com
Azerbaijan Export and Investment Promotion Foundation (Azerinvest)	www.azerinvest.com
Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Azerbaijan	www.chamber.com.az expo@chamber.baku.az

Public Holidays in Azerbaijan

No	Holiday	Date
1	New Year's Day	01-Jan
2	Martyrs' Day	20-Jan
3	International Women's Day	08-Mar
4	Novruz Bayram	20-26-Mar
5	Victory Day	09-May
6	Republic Day	28-May
7	National Salvation Day	15-Jun
8	Azerbaijan Armed Forces Day	26-Jun
9	Ramazan Bayram	09-10-Sep
10	National Independence Day	18-Oct
11	Flag Day	09-Nov
12	Constitution Day	12-Nov
13	Gurban Bayram	16-17-Nov
14	National Restoration Day	17-Nov
15	International Solidarity Day	31-Dec

Visa formalities for Indians travelling to Azerbaijan

- Passport valid at least six months
- 1 visa form
- photographs with white background
- Covering letter for stating purpose of visit
- Invitation letter from Azerbaijan

- Registration certificate of invitee company
 - Return Confirm ticket
 - Medical certificate for HIV by embassy authorize doctor
- Visa Fee : 2300/- : Single Entry (1 month), 4000/- : Double Entry (3 months)
Processing Time : 1000 Hrs. to 1200 Hrs. (Monday to Friday, except Govt. Holiday)
Collection Time : 1500 Hrs. to 1730 Hrs. (Monday to Friday, except Govt. Holiday)

Useful Contacts

Embassy of India in Azerbaijan

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Website: <http://www.azembassy.in>

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<http://www.unescap.org>
<http://wits.worldbank.org>
Doing Business and Investing in Azerbaijan 2011 edition- www.pwc.com/az



BELARUS

Brief country profile

Geography

Capital	Minsk
Location	Eastern Europe, east of Poland
Area	207,600 sq km

Demography

Population	9,625,888 (July 2013 est.)
Languages	Belarusian (official) 23.4%, Russian (official) 70.2%, other 6.4%
Population growth rate	-0.18% (2013 est.)
Literacy	99.6%

Economy

GDP (official exchange rate)	\$63.26 billion (2012 est.)
GDP - real growth rate	1.5% (2012 est.)
GDP - per capita (PPP)	\$15,900 (2012 est.)
GDP - composition by sector	Agriculture: 9.1% Industry: 47.2% Services: 43.7% (2012 est.)
Industries	metal-cutting machine tools, tractors, trucks, earthmovers, motorcycles, televisions, synthetic fibers, fertilizer, textiles, radios, refrigerators
Exports	\$45.51 billion (2012 est.)
Exports - commodities	machinery and equipment, mineral products, chemicals, metals, textiles, foodstuffs
Exports - partners	Russia 35.4%, Netherlands 16.5%, Ukraine 12.1%, Latvia 7.1% (2012)
Imports	\$45.01 billion (2012 est.)
Imports - commodities	mineral products, machinery and equipment, chemicals, foodstuffs, metals
Imports - partners	Russia 59.3%, Germany 5.9%, China 5.1%, Ukraine 5% (2012)
Exchange rates	Belarusian rubles (BYB/BYR) per US dollar
Ports & Terminals	Mazyr

Business Information

Climate	Belarus has a moderate continental climate, with cool humid winters and warm summers. Average temperatures in January, varies from -4.5°C to -8°C. In July the average temperature is +17°C to +18.5°C. Belarus has an average annual rainfall of 600-700 mm. 70% of the rain falls from April to October. It rarely experiences the extremes of temperature that can make travelling difficult.
Office hours & timings	0900 Hrs to 1800 Hrs (weekdays)
India's time difference with the country	India is two and a half hours ahead from Belarus

India-Belarus Bilateral trade

Economic and commercial cooperation with Belarus has been growing steadily ever since its independence in 1991. However, the bilateral trade is hovering around US\$ 500 million primarily because smaller import of Potash fertilizer by India. The trade balance remains in favour of Belarus primarily on account of large volume of imports of Potash from Belarus which is the second most important source for India's requirements of Potash fertilizer.

The potential for increased cooperation is considerable which needs to be explored, identified and exploited. It offers promising market for India's pharmaceutical and chemical products, automobile and knowledge-based enterprises.

The following tables give us a clear indication about the trade scenario between India and Belarus.

India's bilateral trade with Belarus (exports, imports & total trade) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Year	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
India's Export to Belarus	36.49	37.86	36.31	121.72	55.27
India's Import from Belarus	279.65	432.14	204.3	178.17	214.55
Total Trade with Belarus	316.13	470	240.62	299.89	269.81

Source: Ministry of Commerce

India's Export to Belarus by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Machinery and instruments	4.4	3.88
Manufactures of metals	0.75	0.79
Transport equipment	75.59	0.32
Iron & steel bar/rod etc, & ferro alloys	0.06	0.29
Machine tools	0.02	0.04
Residual engineering items	0	0.02
Mica	0	0
Non-ferrous metals		0
Total	80.82	5.34

Source: DGCI&S

India's Import from Belarus by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Transport equipments	0.08	3.87
Machinery, except electrical and electronic	0.87	1.16
Professional instruments, etc, except electronic	0.31	0.67
Manufactures of metals	0.27	0.51
Iron & steel	0.63	0.39
Primary steel, pig iron based items	0.06	0.04
Machine tools		0.02
Electrical machinery except electronic	5.45	0.01
Non-ferrous metals	0	0
Total	7.67	6.67

Source: DGCI&S

Trade policy

Belarus is an active participant of international integration processes, the key aspect of which was the appearance on January, 1 2010 of the Customs Union with Russia and Kazakhstan on the geopolitical map. CU is an organization open to other countries, especially within EurAsEC and CIS.

DOING BUSINESS IN **EURASIA**

CU participants use uniform tariffs and rules of customs activity in respect of goods from third countries. On the inside CU territory duty-free goods are provided.

Since January 1, 2012 the members of the Customs Union passed to a new level of cooperation — the Common Economic Space (CES), which implies the free movement of capital, goods and services.

In order to ensure the effective operation and development of the Customs Union, a supranational body — the Eurasian Economic Commission was established. The scope of EEC also includes: customs tariff and non-tariff regulation, technical regulation, sanitary, veterinary and phytosanitary measures, other aspects.

Belarus offers partners of the Customs Union to focus on joint efforts to support the export of machinery, combining political and diplomatic resources and the availability of these issues for business entities of the three countries. In particular, it is the introduction of a single business registration in one of the CES, but at the same time providing opportunities for business to operate in the three countries.

Trade relations with traditional partners in Latin America — Brazil, Venezuela, Argentina, and in Asia — China, India, and Vietnam are developing dynamically. In recent years the volume of trade with Indonesia and Nigeria has significantly increased.

Trade agreements

Belarus has strong business ties with more than 150 countries and has been making concerted efforts to further improve trading agreements around the world. Belarus has bilateral governmental agreements within CIS on free trade currently in force with Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Russia, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Georgia. Belarus is at the final stage of accession negotiations and is actively adopting legislative positions to comply with the WTO's requirements, with particular reference to tariffs. In mid 2009 the Belarusian authorities announced they would enter a joint bid for membership with Russia and Kazakhstan. On 9 November 2010, New Zealand, Russia and its Customs Union partners Belarus and Kazakhstan agreed to commence negotiations on a comprehensive and modern Free Trade Agreement (FTA). The atmosphere between the parties has been consistently positive and focused, and good progress has been made across the negotiation. Free trade agreement between Serbia and Belarus stands for mutual elimination of custom duties and other taxes on variety of products.

Advantages of investing in Belarus

- Direct access to the market of the Customs Union and Common Economic Space (Belarus, Russia, and Kazakhstan)
- Completion of the formation of Common Economic Space and the unification of January 1, 2012 the national legislation in the economic sphere:
- The geographical position at the crossroads of major routes between the EU and the CIS, the Baltic to the Black Sea.
- Well-developed infrastructure
- Political, social and economic stability. The lack of ethnic and religious conflicts
- Favorable environmental conditions
- Highly Skilled labor
- Public-private partnership
- A Large Scale Privatization Programme
- Legal safeguards for the protection of investors' rights
- Preferential treatment of investment -six Free Economic Zones and a specialist High Technologies Park (HTP).
- Active cooperation with international organizations
- International recognition of the business environment
- Competitive taxation conditions

Profitable Sectors for Investment

- Manufacturing
- Construction
- Financial and Professional Services
- IT and Telecommunications
- Pharmaceuticals
- Agriculture
- Food and Drink
- Tourism
- Retail
- Transport & Logistics
- Petrochemicals and Chemicals
- Energy

Trade Information Sources

Belarusian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

<http://www.cci.by>

Public Holidays in Belarus

No	Holiday	Date
1	New Year	01-Jan
2	Orthodox Christmas	07-Jan
3	International Women's Day	08-Mar
4	Constitution Day	15-Mar
5	Day of Unity of the Peoples of Belarus and Russia	02-Apr
6	International Labor Day	01-May
7	Victory Day	09-May
8	Day of the State Coat of Arms and Flag	second Sunday of May
9	Independence Day	03-Jul
10	October Revolution Day	07-Nov
11	Catholic Christmas	25-Dec

Visa formalities for Indians travelling to Belarus

Visa Requirements	
Tourist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport valid at least six months • 1 visa form • 1. Personal information form • 2 photographs with white background 35 x45mm • Return Confirm ticket • Covering letter fro stating purpose of visit • Tourist voucher from Belarus tourist company • Medical insurance by embassy authorize agent
Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport valid at least six months • 1 visa form • 1 Personal information form • 2 photographs with white background 35 x 45 mm • Covering letter fro stating purpose of visit • Invitation letter from Belarus attested by Ministry of External affairs Belarus • Certificate of registration of Belarus company • Medical insurance by embassy authorize agent.
Visa Fee	<p>Euro 60 - This is the Common Visa Fees structure for Tourist and Business.</p> <p>Visa Fee should be deposit in ABN AMRO BANK in embassy account- Embassy of The Republic of Belarus in Republic of India A/C # 1497768</p>
Processing Time	<p>03-04 Working Days - (Tourist)</p> <p>03-04 Working Days - (Business)</p>

Useful Contacts

Embassy of India in Belarus

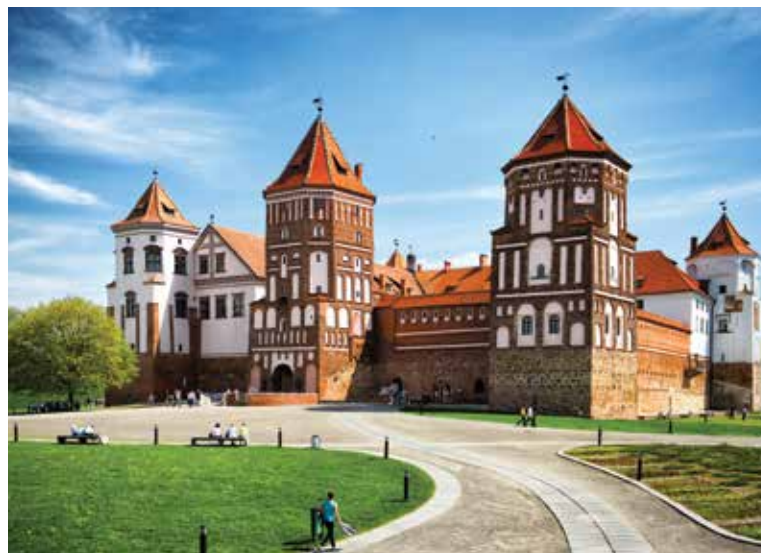
Mr Manoj K. Bharti
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 Belarus
 Tel: Local: (017)2629399, International: (+375 17) 2629399
 Fax: Local: (017) 2884799, International: (+37517) 2884799/2161896
 E-mail: indembassy@indemb.bn.by
 Website: <http://www.indembminsk.org>

Embassy of Belarus in India

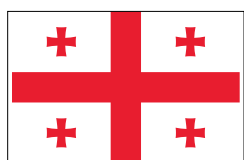
Mr Vitaly A. Prima
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 E-mail: india@belembassy.org
 Website: <http://india.mfa.gov.by>

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<http://www.economy.gov.by/>
http://www.mfa.gov.by/en/foreign_trade/trade_regime/
<http://indembminsk.in>



Medieval castle in village Mir in Belarus



GEORGIA

Brief country profile

Geography

Capital	Tbilisi
Location	Southwestern Asia, bordering the Black Sea, between Turkey and Russia, with a sliver of land north of the Caucasus extending into Europe; note – Georgia views itself as part of Europe
Area	69,700 sq km

Demography

Population	4,555,911 (July 2013 est.)
Languages	Georgian (official) 71%, Russian 9%, Armenian 7%, Azeri 6%, other 7%
Population growth rate	-0.33% (2013 est.)
Literacy	99.7%

Economy

GDP (official exchange rate)	\$15.93 billion (2012 est.)
GDP - real growth rate	6.5% (2012 est.)
GDP - per capita (PPP)	\$6,000 (2012 est.)
GDP - composition by sector	Agriculture: 7.8% Industry: 23% Services: 69.2% (2012 est.)
Industries	steel, machine tools, electrical appliances, mining (manganese, copper, and gold), chemicals, wood products, wine
Exports	\$3.305 billion (2012 est.)
Exports - commodities	vehicles, ferro-alloys, fertilizers, nuts, scrap metal, gold, copper ores
Exports - partners	Azerbaijan 13.8%, US 8.5%, Germany 8.3%, Bulgaria 7.4%, Kazakhstan 7%, Turkey 6.4%, Ukraine 6.3%, Lebanon 5.7%, Canada 4.2% (2012)
Imports	\$6.628 billion (2012 est.)
Imports -commodities	fuels, vehicles, machinery and parts, grain and other foods, pharmaceuticals
Imports - partners	Turkey 13.9%, China 8.2%, Ukraine 8.2%, Russia 7.4%, Azerbaijan 7.1%, US 6%, Germany 5.6%, Bulgaria 4% (2012)
Exchange rates	laris (GEL) per US dollar: 1.6513 (2012 est)
Ports & Terminals	Bat'umi, P'ot'i

Business Information

Climate	Georgia's climate along the Black Sea coast is Mediterranean. Farther inland the climate is continental, with warm summers and cold winters. July's mean temperature is 23°C (73.8° F). The mean temperature in January is -3° C (27.3° F). The annual rainfall in Georgia is 51 cm.
Office hours & timings	0900 Hrs to 1800 Hrs (weekdays)
India's time difference with the country	India is one and a half hours ahead from Georgia

India-Georgia Bilateral trade

According to Indian statistics, the bilateral trade between the two countries is relatively small and was registered at US \$ 66 million in 2009-10. Balance of trade has always been in favour of India. According to Georgian statistics, the total bilateral trade in 2012 stood at USD 88.81 million, including India's exports USD 73.87 million and imports USD 14.94 million, an increase of 19.5 per cent compared to 2011. The main commodity of Georgian exports to India is the ferrous waste and scrap, whereas meat and meat products are India's main items of exports.

The following tables give us a clear indication about the trade scenario between India and Georgia.

India's bilateral trade with Georgia (exports, imports & total trade) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Year	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
India's Export to Georgia	72.44	55.86	72.86	121.74	124.16
India's Import from Georgia	16.52	10.3	37.83	58.91	57.53
Total Trade with Georgia	88.96	66.16	110.7	180.65	181.69

Source: Ministry of Commerce

India's Exports to Georgia by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Primary & semi-finished iron & steel	12.98	8.23
Machinery and instruments	4.94	7.19
Transport equipments	1.39	2.86
Manufactures of metals	2	1.69
Non-ferrous metals	4.48	0.71
Machine tools	0.06	0.07
Ferro alloys		0.03
Residual engineering items	0.01	0.03
Mica	0	0
Iron & steel bar/rod etc, & ferro alloys	0	0
Total	25.86	20.81

Source: DGCI&S

India's Import from Georgia by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Non-ferrous metals	0.64	2.49
Iron & steel	1.89	0.87
Machinery, except electrical and electronic	1.38	0.47
Machine tools	0.03	0.32
Electrical machinery except electronic	0.08	0.11
Professional instruments, etc, except electronic	0.34	0.06
Transport equipment	0.13	0.04
Primary steel, pig iron based items	0.23	0.03
Manufactures of metals	0.27	0
Total	4.99	4.39

Source: DGCI&S

DOING BUSINESS IN EURASIA

Trade policy

Georgia is pursuing a liberal trade policy marked by:

- Low import duty- Import taxes are imposed only on selected products such as construction materials and agricultural products. Today Georgia's tariff rates are the second lowest worldwide (0%, 5%, and 12%).
- Georgia has no quantitative restrictions (quotas, or tariff rate quotas) on trade.
- Excise tax and VAT apply equally on both import and local products. The VAT rate shall make 18% of a taxable turnover or a taxable import.
- Drastic Reduction of Export/Import Licenses- In 2005, the number of permits for import and export was reduced from 14 to 8.
- Since 2000 Georgia is a full-fledged member of the WTO. Trade relations with the WTO member countries (159) are based on Most Favored Nation (MFN) treatment.
- In the frames of WTO, Georgia has joined multilateral agreements, like Information Technology Agreement, Agreement on Civil Aircraft, also number of sectoral initiatives.

Trade agreements

Georgia has signed Agreements on Free Trade with Turkey, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Ukraine, Russia, Moldova, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Belarus, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. Negotiations with the European Union (EU) concerning a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) between Georgia and the EU are at the last stage; the DCFTA (Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area) is an integral part of the wider Association Agreement between the EU and Georgia. Consultations are held to sign the Agreements on Free Trade with the USA.

Georgia benefits from a Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) when trading with the USA, Canada, Switzerland, Norway and Japan.

In July 2005, Georgia became one of the 15 beneficiaries in the world of the new EU GSP Plus (EU GSP+) scheme. This is an important factor in terms of facilitating export from Georgia. After being granted the GSP Plus beneficiary status, Georgia can import 7200 products to the EU market duty free.

Advantages of investing in Georgia

- Georgia is a bridge connecting several economic regions and is a particularly important transit country. Located at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, it serves as a natural transport corridor. Georgia is the shortest

transit route between the West and Central Asia for transportation of oil and gas as well as dry cargo.

- Favourable business environment; Low duties; Fair and simplified tax administration system
- Effective, business supporting and incorrupt government
- Market development through the Agreement on free trade
- Solid independent balance
- Stable and conservatively regulated banking sector
- Multimodal (maritime, land and air) infrastructure for trade, logistics and industry
- Stable energy supply at competitive prices
- Flexible Labour legislation
- The lowest criminality

Profitable Sectors for Investment

- Hydro Power Hub
- Tourism and real Estate
- Manufacturing
- Agriculture
- Regional Logistics Corridor

Trade Information Sources

Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	http://www.gcci.ge
Georgian National Investment Agency	http://www.investinggeorgia.org

Institutions (agencies) responsible for investment Promotion

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia	http://www.mfa.gov.ge
Georgian Export Promotion Agency (GEPA)	http://www.gepa.org.ge

Public Holidays in Georgia

No	Holiday	Date
1	New Year	01-Jan
2	Orthodox Christmas	07-Jan
3	Baptism Day of our Lord Jesus Christ	19-Jan
4	Mother's Day	03-Mar
5	International Women's Day	08-Mar
6	Day of National Unity	09-Apr
7	Victory Day	09-May
8	Saint Andrea the First Day	12-May
9	Independence Day	26-May
10	Saint Mary's Day	28-Aug
11	Day of Svetitskhoveli Cathedral	14-Oct
12	Saint George's Day	23-Nov

Useful Contacts

Embassy of India in Georgia

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Fax: Local: (011) 47078603, International: (+91 11) 47078603
E-mail: delhi.emb@mfa.gov.ge
Website: www.india.mfa.gov.ge

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<http://www.mea.gov.in/indian-missions-abroad.htm>



The village Adishi. Upper Svaneti, Georgia



KAZAKHSTAN

Brief country profile

Geography

Capital	Astana
Location	Central Asia, northwest of China; a small portion west of the Ural (Zhayyq) River in eastern-most Europe
Area	2,724,900 sq km

Demography

Population	17,736,896 (July 2013 est.)
Languages	Kazakh 64.4%, Russian
Population growth rate	1.2% (2013 est.)
Literacy	99.5%

Economy

GDP (official exchange rate)	\$196.4 billion (2012 est.)
GDP - real growth rate	5% (2012 est.)
GDP - per capita (PPP)	\$14,100 (2012 est.)
GDP - composition by sector	Agriculture: 5.2% Industry: 37.9% Services: 56.9% (2011 est.)
Industries	oil, coal, iron ore, manganese, chromite, lead, zinc, copper, titanium, bauxite, gold, silver, phosphates, sulfur, uranium, iron and steel; tractors and other agricultural machinery, electric motors, construction materials
Exports	\$93.07 billion (2012 est.)
Exports - commodities	oil and oil products, natural gas, ferrous metals, chemicals, machinery, grain, wool, meat, coal
Exports - partners	China 21%, Russia 9.9%, France 9.3%, Germany 6.9%, Italy 5%, Canada 4.8%, Ukraine 4.7%, Romania 4.1% (2012)
Imports	\$47.89 billion (2012 est.)
Imports -commodities	machinery and equipment, metal products, foodstuffs
Imports - partners	Russia 31.6%, China 26.6%, Germany 6%, Ukraine 4.4% (2012)
Exchange rates	tenge (KZT) per US dollar
Ports & Terminals	Aqtau (Shevchenko), Atyrau (Gur'yev), Oskemen (Ust-Kamenogorsk), Pavlodar, Semey (Semipalatinsk)

Business Information

Climate	The Climate in Kazakhstan is continental. In summer the temperatures average more than 30 °C (86 °F) and in winter average –20 °C (–4.0 °F). Annual precipitation ranges from less than 100mm a year in the deserts to 1500mm in the Altay Mountains.
Office hours & timings	0900 Hrs to 1800 Hrs (weekdays)
India's time difference with the country	Kazakhstan is half an hour ahead from India

India-Kazakhstan Bilateral trade

Trade between India and Kazakhstan do not match the existing vast potential in this field. Major commodities of export from India to Kazakhstan are Tea, Pharmaceuticals, Medical equipments, Machinery, Tobacco, Valves and Consumer Items etc. Major items of import by India are asbestos, soft wheat, steel, aluminium, wool and raw hides. Prospects for cooperation in spheres of Oil and Gas, Civil Nuclear Energy, Uranium, agriculture, public health, information technology, education, culture and defence are promising.

The following tables give us a clear indication about the trade scenario between India and Kazakhstan.

India's bilateral trade with Kazakhstan (exports, imports & total trade) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Year	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
India's Export to Kazakhstan	131.68	136.54	172.16	244.39	286.23
India's Import from Kazakhstan	159.03	154.91	138.42	191.86	139.99
Total Trade with Kazakhstan	290.7	291.44	310.59	436.25	426.22

Source: Ministry of Commerce

India's Export to Kazakhstan by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Machinery and instruments	13.53	21.83
Transport equipment	7.12	3.86
Non-ferrous metals	0.01	3.8
Manufactures of metals	1.49	1.69
Mica	0.29	0.48
Primary & semi-finished iron & steel	0.03	0.21
Machine tools	0.23	0.17
Residual engineering items	0.04	0.01
Iron & steel bar/rod etc, & ferro alloys	0.01	
Total	22.75	32.05

Source: DGCI&S

India's Import from Kazakhstan by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Non-ferrous metals	49.49	26.97
Iron & steel	0.69	8.54
Primary steel, pig iron based items	4.65	7.17
Machinery, except electrical and electronic	0.98	0.37
Machine tools		0.23
Manufactures of metals	0.03	0.03
Transport equipment	0.1	0.03
Electrical machinery except electronic	0.12	
Professional instruments, etc, except electronic	0.09	
Total	56.15	43.34

Source: DGCI&S

Trade policy

Kazakhstan continues to transform its economy to create a more transparent, less regulated, and more market-driven business environment. The Government of Kazakhstan has stated that one of its priorities is the diversification of its economy. This represents a major challenge in light of the dynamics that oil wealth tends to create. An economic policy that is able to achieve diversification will have to use many of its limited degrees of freedom to achieve it. Hence, all policy instruments should be used. Kazakhstan has a healthy appetite for imported goods and in some, not all, cases is willing to pay more for higher quality and innovative technology/service.

Trade agreements

Kazakhstan has free Trade Agreement with Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. New Zealand, Russia and its Customs Union partners Belarus and Kazakhstan agreed to commence negotiations on a comprehensive and modern Free Trade Agreement (FTA). Other agreements are in their negotiation stage.

Advantages of investing in Kazakhstan

- Favourable location-Gateway to European and Russian markets
- Vast natural resources- Kazakhstan has the 6th largest reserve of natural resources in the world
- Skilled human resources
- Favourable business climate
- Customs Union of Kazakhstan, Russia and Belarus opens to investors
- Guaranteed protection of investor's rights

Profitable Sectors for Investment

- Oil refining and infrastructure development for the oil and gas sector
- Mining and metallurgical sector
- Chemical industry
- Atomic industry
- Machine industry
- Pharmaceutical industry
- Light industry
- Agricultural sector
- Information technologies

- Construction industry and manufacture of construction materials
- Tourism industry
- Biotechnology
- Space activities
- Alternative energy
- Nuclear power

Trade Information Sources

Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)	http://www.ecosecretariat.org
SME Trade Center	http://www.smetradecenter.net
Corporation for Export Promotion and Development (KAZNEX)	http://legacy.intracen.org/dbms/tirs/TIR_Browser_details.EK.Asp?DS=MONOGRAPHS&TY=CACD=1086

Institutions (agencies) responsible for investment Promotion

Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Kazakhstan	http://www.ccikaz.kz
Kazakhstan Investment Promotion Center (Kazinvest)	www.kazinvest.kz/english
Chamber of Commerce and Industry Astana	www.chamber.kz akmcci@dan.kz

Public Holidays in Kazakhstan

No	Holiday	Date
1	New Year	01-Jan
2	Orthodox Christmas	07-Jan
3	International Women's Day	08-Mar
4	Persian New Year (Nauryz Meyrami)	21-Mar
5	People's Unity Day	01-May
6	Victory Day	09-May
7	Constitution Day	30-Aug
8	Eid al-Adha (Feast of Sacrifice)	04-Oct
9	Independence Day	16-Dec

Visa Formalities for Indian travelling to Kazakhstan

Tourist	Tourist visa not issue																						
Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport valid at least six months • 3 visa forms • 3 photographs with white background 35x45mm • Covering letter for stating purpose of visit from company on their letter head with company and applicant full details • Company profile • Invitation letter from invitee company • Visa approval from ministry of Foreign Affairs Kazakhstan arrange by Invitee • HIV Test certificate by embassy approved Doctor 																						
Visa Fee	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Tourist-</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Single Entry (for 30 days)</td> <td>INR 960</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$ 20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Double Entry(for 60 days (not exceeding 30 days during each stay)</td> <td>INR 1440</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$ 30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Tourist-		Single Entry (for 30 days)	INR 960		\$ 20	Double Entry(for 60 days (not exceeding 30 days during each stay)	INR 1440		\$ 30												
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	\$ 80																						
Triple entry (valid upto 1 year)	INR 4800																						
	\$ 100																						
Multiple entry (valid upto 1 year)	INR 9600																						
	\$ 200																						
Legalization (Per Stamp)	INR 1440																						
	\$ 30																						
Processing Time	7 working days																						

Useful Contacts

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 Website: www.kazembassy.in

Bibliography

<http://www.mfa.gov.kz/>
 Investor's Guide-Republic of Kazakhstan -2012



Astana, Kazakhstan by night



KYRGYZSTAN

Brief country profile

Geography

Capital	Bishkek
Location	Central Asia, west of China, south of Kazakhstan
Area	199,951 sq km

Demography

Population	5,548,042 (July 2013 est.)
Languages	Kyrgyz (official) 64.7%, Uzbek 13.6%, Russian (official)
Population growth rate	0.97% (2013 est.)
Literacy	98.7%

Economy

GDP (official exchange rate)	\$6.473 billion (2012 est.)
GDP - real growth rate	-0.9% (2012 est.)
GDP - per capita (PPP)	\$2,400 (2012 est.)
GDP - composition by sector	Agriculture: 20.8% Industry: 23.3% Services: 55.9% (2012 est.)
Industries	small machinery, textiles, food processing, cement, shoes, sawn logs, refrigerators, furniture, electric motors, gold, rare earth metals
Exports	\$2 billion (2012 est.)
Exports - commodities	gold, cotton, wool, garments, meat, tobacco; mercury, uranium, electricity; machinery; shoes
Exports - partners	Uzbekistan 28.8%, Kazakhstan 22%, Russia 14.6%, China 7%, UAE 6.3%, Afghanistan 5.7% (2012)
Imports	\$4.981 billion (2012 est.)
Imports - commodities	oil and gas, machinery and equipment, chemicals, foodstuffs
Imports - partners	China 55.9%, Russia 17.7%, Kazakhstan 6.4% (2012)
Exchange rates	soms (KGS) per US dollar 30.84 (2012 est.)
Ports & Terminals	Balykchy (Ysyk-Kol or Rybach'ye)

Business Information

Climate	<p>Kyrgyzstan has a continental climate with cold winters and warm summers. In the lowlands, the temperature ranges from around -6°C (21°F) in January to 24°C (75°F) in July. In the low-lying Fergana Valley of the south temperatures may peak as high as the low 40s in summer.</p> <p>In the highlands, the temperatures range from between -20° (-4°F) in January to 12°C (54°F) in July, although some high mountain valleys can drop as low as -30°C (-22°F) in winter. Rainfall is fairly low throughout the country but there can be heavy snowfalls during winter. The wettest area is the mountains above the Fergana Valley; the driest, the southwest shore of Lake Issyk-Kul. March to May and October to November are usually the wettest months</p>
Office hours & timings	Monday - Friday 09:00-12:00 13:00-18:00
India's time difference with the country	Kyrgyzstan is 0:30 hours ahead of India

India-Kyrgyzstan Bilateral Trade

India has had close contacts with Central Asia, especially countries which were part of the Ancient Silk Route, including Kyrgyzstan. During the Soviet era, India and the then Kyrgyz Republic had limited political, economic and cultural contacts.

Items like apparel and clothing (both knitted and crocheted as well as not-knitted and crocheted), leather goods, drugs and pharmaceuticals, fine chemicals, and tea are some of the important items in India's export basket to Kyrgyzstan. Kyrgyz exports to India consist of raw hides, metaliferous ores and metal scrap etc.

The following tables give us a clear indication about the trade scenario between India and Armenia.

India's bilateral trade with Kyrgyzstan (exports, imports & total trade) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Year	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
India's exports to Kyrgyzstan	22.92	26.84	25.79	30.55	34.99
India's imports to Kyrgyzstan	1.03	0.64	1.2	0.67	2.13
India's total trade with Kyrgyzstan	23.95	27.48	26.98	31.22	37.12

Source: Ministry of Commerce

India's Export to Kyrgyzstan by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Machine tools	0	0
Machinery and instruments	1.38	1.43
Manufactures of metals	0.14	0.08
Non-ferrous metals	0.03	0.04
Residual engineering items	0	0.01
Transport equipment	0.01	0
Iron & steel bar/rod etc, & ferro alloys	0.09	0.05
Non-ferrous metals		
Manufactures of metals		
Total	1.65	1.61

Source: DGCI&S

India's Import from Kyrgyzstan by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Electrical machinery except electronic		0
Machinery, except electrical and electronic	0.05	0.17
Non-ferrous metals		0.24
Transport equipment	0	0.01
Total	0.05	0.42

Source: DGCI&S

Trade policy

The changes in foreign trade policy of the country resulted from accession of the Kyrgyz Republic to the WTO in 1998 have contributed to establishing more stable and predictable trade regime in the Kyrgyz Republic. The evidence of that was a significant and stable development of foreign trade since 2002. During the period from 2002 to 2008 the foreign trade turnover of the Kyrgyz Republic has grown in 5 times. Such development has occurred at the expense of both export and import growth. The average growth rate of trade turnover for the considered period has made up 30,0%, export –

DOING BUSINESS IN EURASIA

21,3%, import – 36,7%. As a result of the world financial crisis the volume of foreign trade was reduced by 24% in 2009. The foreign trade of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2010 was 4982,9 mln.USD which is higher than in 2009 by 5,7%, including CIS countries – 2499,1 mln. USD (growth rate 1,2%), far abroad countries – 2483,8 mln.USD (growth rate 10,7%). In total trade the export share is 35,3%, import 64,7%. In 2010 Kyrgyzstan has trade and economic relations with 123 countries of the world community (2009 - 119), including import – 118 (114), export – 78 (74).

As a result of implementing the commitments to the WTO, the Kyrgyz Republic has significantly liberalized its trade regime by reducing customs duties and eliminating non-tariff barriers. Import restrictions and licensing mainly apply for the purposes of protecting human health and safety, national security and environmental protection in accordance with international conventions.

Kyrgyz Republic neither applies trade embargo/sanctions nor tariff quotas. In respect of its trading partners Kyrgyzstan applies the following trade regimes:

- CIS countries, including the Eurasian Economic Community – free trade regime (duty-free),
- WTO countries – most-favored treatment (according to the commitments to the WTO),
- Least-developed countries – preferential treatment (duty-free).

Trade Agreements

- Trade agreements signed between the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Government of the Republic of Moldova, 1995
- Tajikistan-Kyrgyz Free Trade Agreement, signed in 1996, but not yet in effect
- Agreement on Free Trade between Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan, was signed in 1995

Advantages of investing in Kyrgyzstan

- **Strategic location of the Kyrgyz Republic-** Kyrgyzstan is a trade intersection in the Central Asian region, a link between China, Kazakhstan and Russia. Kyrgyzstan has a developed system of transport communications
- **Geographical feature-** Its geographic features allows it to be one of the most efficient hydro energy producers in the world
- **Population of the Kyrgyz Republic-** Cheap labor. The average salary of the country's citizens is about \$ 150, which is almost three times

lower than the average earnings of Kazakhstani and 4 times lower than the Russian.

• State guarantees to foreign investors-

1. Applicability of national economic activities regime to local and foreign investors and equal investment rights: non-intervention to investors' business activities: protection and rehabilitation of investor's rights and interests in case of violations as described by the Kyrgyz national legislation and international agreements:
2. Guarantees of export or repatriation of investment income, means came out from investment activities in the Kyrgyz Republic, property and information outside the Kyrgyz Republic
3. Guarantees for Protection from Expropriation (nationalization, requisition, or other equivalent measures, including actions or omissions by the state bodies of the Kyrgyz Republic which have resulted in forced withdrawal of investors' funds or in their deprivation of an opportunity to gain on the investments' results)of Investments. Expropriation is possible in exclusive cases for public need, in such a case investor will be provide compensation of losses.
4. Guarantee of free use of proceeds of business activities in Kyrgyzstan:
5. Guarantee of the right to invest in any form in any objects/assets and types of business activities, which are not prohibited by the Kyrgyz National legislation, including those liable for licensing;
6. Guarantee of free currency transactions (free convertation. free unhampered money transfers - if the Kyrgyz national legislation introduce limits on transactions in foreign currency - such a restriction shall not be applicable to foreign investors, but for illegal operations, such as cases of money laundering);
7. Free access to public information;

Profitable sectors for Investment

- small machinery,
- textiles,
- food processing,
- cement,
- shoes,
- sawn logs,
- refrigerators,
- furniture,
- electric motors,
- gold, rare earth metals

Trade Information Sources

Kyrgyzstan Chamber of Commerce and Industry	www.kig.kg
SME Trade Center	www.smetradecenter.net

Institutions (agencies) responsible for investment Promotion

Bishkek Chamber for Trade Promotion	http://www.bishkekchamber.kg
Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic	http://www.ihk-kg.de
Ministry of External Trade and Industry	http://www.mvtp.kg
Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic	http://www.kig.kg

Public Holidays in Kyrgyzstan

No	Holiday	Date
1	New Years Day	01-Jan
2	Eastern Orthodox Christmas	January 7
3	Fatherland Defender's Day	February 23
4	International Women's Day	01-May
5	Nooruz Mairamy	March 21–23
6	Day of National Revolution	March 24
7	Kyrgyzstan People's Unity Day	May 1
8	Constitution Day	May 5
9	Remembrance Day	May 8
10	Great Patriotic War Against Fascism Victory Day	May 9
11	Independence Day	August 31
12	Day of the Great October Socialist Revolution	November 7

Visa formalities for Indians travelling to Kyrgyzstan

Tourist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport valid at least six months • 1 visa forms • 2 photographs with white background 35 x45mm • Covering letter for stating purpose of visit • Return confirm ticket (Kyrgyzstan Airlines) • Hotel confirmation • Note: All application refer to Ministry of Kyrgyzstan for approval 																								
Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport valid at least six months • 3 visa forms • 3 photographs with white background 35 x45mm • Covering letter for stating purpose of visit from company • Return confirm ticket • Business invitation letter from Ministry of Foreign Affairs arrange by invitee. • Note: All application refer to Ministry of Kyrgyzstan for approval 																								
Visa Fee	<p>The payment for visa need to be sent to the bank account of the Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic to the Republic of India, New Delhi:</p> <p>ABN AMRO Bank, A/c No I 109278.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Tourist-</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Single Tourist visa (15 days only)</td> <td>INR 2695</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single Tourist visa (15 days only) [Visa on an urgent base - 1 or 2 days.]</td> <td>INR 4165</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single Tourist visa (1 month only)</td> <td>INR 3185</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single Tourist visa (1 month only) [Visa on an urgent base - 1 or 2 days.]</td> <td>INR 5145</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Business-</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Single entry visa (1 month)</td> <td>INR 3675</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single entry visa (1 month) [Visa on an urgent base - 1 or 2 days.]</td> <td>INR 6125</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Double entry visa (1 month)</td> <td>INR 4165</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$ 100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Double entry visa (1 month) [Visa on an urgent base - 1 or 2 days.]</td> <td>INR 6125</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Legalization (Per Stamp)</td> <td>INR 1440</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Tourist-		Single Tourist visa (15 days only)	INR 2695	Single Tourist visa (15 days only) [Visa on an urgent base - 1 or 2 days.]	INR 4165	Single Tourist visa (1 month only)	INR 3185	Single Tourist visa (1 month only) [Visa on an urgent base - 1 or 2 days.]	INR 5145	Business-		Single entry visa (1 month)	INR 3675	Single entry visa (1 month) [Visa on an urgent base - 1 or 2 days.]	INR 6125	Double entry visa (1 month)	INR 4165		\$ 100	Double entry visa (1 month) [Visa on an urgent base - 1 or 2 days.]	INR 6125	Legalization (Per Stamp)	INR 1440
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Legalization (Per Stamp)	INR 1440																								
Processing Time	Tourist 4-5 working days after getting approval																								

Useful Contacts

Embassy of India in Kyrgyzstan

Mr Jayant Khobragade

Ambassador

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00-996-312- 217842,

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Website URL: <http://www.kgzembind.in/index.html>

Bibliography

<http://www.kig.kg/>



The parliament (Supreme Council) of the Kyrgyz Republic



RUSSIA

Brief country profile

Geography

Capital	Moscow
Location	North Asia bordering the Arctic Ocean, extending from Europe (the portion west of the Urals) to the North Pacific Ocean
Area	17,098,242 sq km

Demography

Population	142,500,482 (July 2013 est.)
Languages	Russian (official), many minority languages
Population growth rate	-0.02% (2013 est.)
Literacy	99.6%

Economy

GDP (official exchange rate)	\$2.022 trillion (2012 est.)
GDP - real growth rate	3.4% (2012 est.)
GDP - per capita (PPP)	\$18,000 (2012 est.)
GDP - composition by sector	Agriculture: 3.9% Industry: 36% Services: 60.1% (2012 est.)
Industries	complete range of mining and extractive industries producing coal, oil, gas, chemicals, and metals; all forms of machine building from rolling mills to high-performance aircraft and space vehicles; defense industries including radar, missile production, and advanced electronic components, shipbuilding; road and rail transportation equipment; communications equipment; agricultural machinery, tractors, and construction equipment; electric power generating and transmitting equipment; medical and scientific instruments; consumer durables, textiles, foodstuffs, handicrafts
Exports	\$529.6 billion (2012 est.)
Exports - commodities	petroleum and petroleum products, natural gas, metals, wood and wood products, chemicals, and a wide variety of civilian and military manufactures
Exports - partners	Netherlands 14.4%, China 6.4%, Italy 5.3%, Germany 4.5% (2012)
Imports	\$334.7 billion (2012 est.)
Imports -commodities	machinery, vehicles, pharmaceutical products, plastic, semi-finished metal products, meat, fruits and nuts, optical and medical instruments, iron, steel
Imports - partners	China 15.5%, Germany 9.5%, Ukraine 5.5% (2012)
Exchange rates	Russian rubles (RUB) per US dollar - 30.84 (2012 est.)
Ports & Terminals	Kaliningrad, Kavkaz, Nakhodka, Novorossiysk, Primorsk, Saint Petersburg, Vostochnyy

Business Information

Climate	The climate of Russia is formed under the influence of several determining factors. The enormous size of the country and the remoteness of many areas from the sea result in the dominance of the continental climate, which is prevalent in European and Asian Russia except for the tundra and the extreme southeast. Mountains in the south obstructing the flow of warm air masses from the Indian Ocean and the plain of the west and north makes the country open to Arctic and Atlantic influences
Office hours & timings	Usual business hours in Russia: Banks 8 ^{am} or 9 ^{am} -5pm or 6pm Mon-Fri Offices 8 ^{am} or 9 ^{am} -5pm or 6pm Mon-Fri
India's time difference with the country	India is 1.30 hours ahead of Moscow

Bilateral Relations: India-Russia Relations

Bilateral ties with Russia are a key pillar of India's foreign policy and Russia has been a longstanding time-tested partner of India. Since the signing of "Declaration on the India-Russia Strategic Partnership" in October 2000 (during the visit of President Vladimir Putin to India) India-Russia ties have acquired a qualitatively new character with enhanced levels of cooperation in almost all areas of the bilateral relationship including political, security, trade and economy, defense, science and technology and culture. Under the Strategic Partnership, several institutionalized dialogue mechanisms operate at both political and official levels to ensure regular interaction and follow up on cooperation activities. During the visit of Russian President to India in December 2010, the Strategic Partnership was elevated to the level of a "Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership". The 65th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and the Russian Federation was marked on 13 April 2012.

Commercial relations

Bilateral Trade has been growing steadily from US \$ 7.5 bn (2009) to US \$ 8.5 bn (2010), to US \$ 8.9 bn (2011) and to US \$ 11.04 bn (2012). During January - May 2013, the bilateral trade amounted to US \$ 3.9 bn. India's exports to Russia amounted to US \$ 1.3 bn while imports from Russia amounted to US \$ 2.6 bn. The two-way investment between the two countries stands at approximately US\$ 7.8 billion.

Both sides acknowledge vast potential for an increase in bilateral trade

volumes and investment, given the respective sizes of the Indian and Russian economies, as also the untapped economic complementarities. In 2009, both sides set the target of US \$ 20 bn bilateral trade by 2015. Special efforts are being made in the fields of energy, pharmaceuticals, IT, steel, hydrocarbons, diamonds aerospace, fertilizers, and food products.

The following tables give us a clear indication about the trade scenario between India and Armenia.

India's bilateral trade with Russia (exports, imports & total trade)

Year	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
India's exports to Russia	1,096.34	980.69	1,689.43	1,778.27	2,292.40
India's imports from Russia	4,328.28	3,566.79	3,600.02	4,624.53	4,068.85
India's bilateral Trade with Russia	5,424.62	4,547.49	5,289.45	6,402.80	6,361.25

India's Export to Russia by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Mica	0.95	1
Ferro alloys	4.86	2.27
Non-ferrous metals	1.03	0.01
Manufactures of metals	48.7	60.94
Machine tools	2.15	3.58
Machinery and instruments	105.76	166.28
Transport equipment	127.67	305.13
Residual engineering items	3.59	1.86
Iron & steel bar/rod etc, & ferro alloys	9.65	10.13
Primary & semi-finished iron & steel	55.97	107.53
Total	360.33	658.73

India's Import From Russia by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Primary steel, pig iron based items	63.03	72.25
Iron & steel	513.35	424.62
Non-ferrous metals	540.69	736.17
Manufactures of metals	13.84	44.52
Machine tools	6.51	18.08
Machinery, except electrical and electronic	68.48	143.55
Electrical machinery except electronic	36.2	6.48
Transport equipment	23.98	76.56
Professional instruments, etc, except electronic	4.67	6.42
Total	1270.75	1528.65

Trade policy

In 2012, the value of merchandise exports and imports of Russia was USD 524 and 316 billion correspondingly. The trade surplus contracted slightly from 2011, but still amounted to around 9 % of GDP. Another important element with regard to exports is the low domestic value added embodied in exports, which is explained by the structure of the Russia's foreign trade. Despite its efforts, Russia's policies have not led to a reduction of the level of oil & gas dependency. This reduces the prospects for the country's modernization and "innovation-based" growth.

Foreign trade is very important for the Russian economy, which is already very open by international standards. Openness combined with high levels of export and import concentration have, however, made the country vulnerable to fluctuations abroad and to changes in the competitive environment, including: contractions in global oil and other commodity prices, exchange rate fluctuations of major currencies and contractions in major export markets.

Trade Agreements

Russia has signed free trade agreements with many countries. These are: Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Serbia, Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus

Advantages of investing in Russia

- Dynamic Economic Growth
- One of the Largest Consumer Markets
- World-Renowned Human Capital
- Vast Natural Resources
- Unique Geographic Position
- Technologically Advanced Economy
- Attractive Taxation System
- Extensive Government Support
- Stable Social and Political System

Profitable Sectors for Investment

- Chemical & petrochemical
- Machinery & automotive parts production
- Construction & building materials production
- Agriculture & food processing
- Medicine & pharmaceuticals
- IT & telecommunications
- Halal industry
- Service industry & tourism

Trade Information Sources

Russia. St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry	www.spbcc.ru/english
Russian Union of Exhibitions and Fairs (RUEF)	www.uefexpo.ru
Exhibitions of Russia	www.exponet.ru/index.en.html
SME Trade Center	www.smetradecenter.net
RusMarket	www.rusmarket.com

Institutions (agencies) responsible for investment Promotion

Ministry of Economic Development of Russian Federation	http://www.economy.gov.ru
Foreign Investment Advisory Council	http://www.fiac.ru
Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Russian Federation	http://www.tpprf.ru
Moscow Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI)	www.mtpp.org
Saint-Petersburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry	www.spbcc.ru

Public Holidays in Russia

No	Holiday	Date
1	New Years Day	January 01
2	Bank Holiday	January 02
3	Bank Holiday	January 03
4	Bank Holiday	January 04
5	Orthodox Christmas Day	January 07
6	Bank Holiday	January 08
7	Defence of the Motherland	February 23
8	Womens Day	March 08
9	May Day	May 01
10	Bank Holiday	May 02
11	Bank Holiday	May 03
12	Celebrates the Russian victory over Nazi Germany and the end of the Second World War	May 09
13	Bank Holiday	May 10
14	National Day	June 12
15	Day of Unity	November 04

Visa formalities for Indians travelling to Russia

Tourist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport valid at least six months • 1 visa form • 2 photographs with white background 35x45mm • Covering letter for stating purpose of visit • Return confirm ticket • Tourist voucher in original from Russian Tourist company • Tourist confirmation (in Russian language) from a receiving Russian travel agency, registered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. The confirmation must contain the agency's reference number and registration number <p>If visit relatives- sponsor send (OVIR) from Office of Visas and Registration of Foreigners of the Russian Home ministry</p>
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Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport valid at least six months • 1 visa form • 2 photographs with white background 35x45mm • Covering letter for stating purpose of visit from company • Business invitation letter from Russia attested by Ministry of External Affairs Consular Dept. in original and one copy fax directly in embassy also. • Return confirm ticket • Note: for multiple entry Visa Medical insurance from embassy authorize agent and HIV test certificate from embassy appoint Doctor 																				
Transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport valid at least six months • 1 visa form • 2 photographs with white background 35x45mm • Covering letter for stating purpose of visit • Return confirm ticket • Onward Visa 																				
Visa Fee	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Entry Type</th> <th>Visa Charges</th> <th>Salvia Visa Facilitation Service</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Single Entry</td> <td>Rs. 2,610/-</td> <td>Rs. 500/-</td> <td>Rs. 3,110/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Double Entry</td> <td>Rs. 5,220/-</td> <td>Rs. 500/-</td> <td>Rs. 5,720/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Multiple Entry</td> <td>Rs. 6,728/-</td> <td>Rs. 500/-</td> <td>Rs. 7,228/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transfer Visa</td> <td>Rs. 2,610/-</td> <td>Rs. 500/-</td> <td>Rs. 3,110/-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Express Charges - INR 2610 extra over the visa fee</p> <p>The Applications are to be submitted by the Embassy approved Agency:- Salvia Visa Facilitation Service. The charges are at the rate of INR 500/- per passport</p>	Entry Type	Visa Charges	Salvia Visa Facilitation Service	Total	Single Entry	Rs. 2,610/-	Rs. 500/-	Rs. 3,110/-	Double Entry	Rs. 5,220/-	Rs. 500/-	Rs. 5,720/-	Multiple Entry	Rs. 6,728/-	Rs. 500/-	Rs. 7,228/-	Transfer Visa	Rs. 2,610/-	Rs. 500/-	Rs. 3,110/-
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Transfer Visa	Rs. 2,610/-	Rs. 500/-	Rs. 3,110/-																		
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Business	02-03 Working Days																				
Transit	02-03 Working Days																				

Useful Contacts

Embassy of Russian Federation in the Republic of India

Mr Alexander M. KADAKIN

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Russian Federation to the Republic of India
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Fax : (91-11) 26876823

E-mail : emb@rusembassy.in

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Mr Ajai Malhotra

Ambassador of India to The Russian Federation

Embassy of India Moscow, Russia

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Consular Wing and Commercial Wing (4, Vorontstovo Polye)

Tel: (7495)-783-7535 (10 lines)

Fax: (7495)-916-3632; 917-2285

Website: www.indianembassy.ru

Bibliography

http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/main_eng



Christ the Saviour Church in Moscow, Russia, at sundown



TAJIKISTAN

Brief country profile

Geography

Capital	Dushanbe
Location	Central Asia, west of China, south of Kyrgyzstan
Area	143,100 sq km

Demography

Population	7,910,041 (July 2013 est.)
Languages	Tajik (official), Russian widely used in government and business
Population growth rate	1.79% (2013 est.)
Literacy	99.7%

Economy

GDP (official exchange rate)	\$7.592 billion (2012 est.)
GDP - real growth rate	7.5% (2012 est.)
GDP - per capita (PPP)	\$2,300 (2012 est.)
GDP - composition by sector	Agriculture: 20% Industry: 20.2% Services: 59.8% (2012 est.)
Industries	aluminum, cement, vegetable oil
Exports	\$1.803 billion (2012 est.)
Exports - commodities	aluminum, electricity, cotton, fruits, vegetable oil, textiles
Exports - partners	Turkey 30.5%, China 9.6%, Iran 7.7%, Afghanistan 6.5%, Kazakhstan 4.9%, Russia 4.3% (2012)
Imports	\$4.029 billion (2012 est.)
Imports - commodities	petroleum products, aluminum oxide, machinery and equipment, foodstuffs
Imports - partners	China 42.3%, Russia 16.2%, Kazakhstan 10.1%, Turkey 5.7%, Iran 4.2% (2012)
Exchange rates	Tajikistani somoni (TJS) per US dollar - 4.738 (2012 est.)

Business Information

Climate	Tajikistan's climate is continental, subtropical, and semiarid, with some desert areas. The climate changes drastically according to elevation, however. The Fergana Valley and other lowlands are shielded by mountains from Arctic air masses, but temperatures in that region still drop below freezing for more than 100 days a year.
Office hours & timings	Standard workday in manufacturing sector is 8 hours per day for a 5-day workweek; and 7 hours for a 6-day workweek (either way, 40 hours per week). The country's Labour Code lays down that the minimum daily rest required is 12 hours.
India's time difference with the country	Tajikistan is 0:30 hours behind India

India-Tajikistan Bilateral Trade

Trade between India and Tajikistan, on a large scale, was done by "suitcase traders" who visited India as tourists. They purchased leather goods, pharmaceuticals and woollens for retail sale in Tajikistan. Indian goods are well known in the local market. Meat and meat products, Pharmaceuticals, Iron and Steel and articles of apparel and clothing accessories are the important items imported from India. Organic chemicals and essential oil, cotton and aluminum are the products exported to India from Tajikistan. Tajikistan has appointed Mr Makhmadi Turaev, General Director of trading company "Orion-2001" as the Trade Representative of Tajikistan to India and he has started functioning from their Embassy in New Delhi, since October 2006. The Tajik Chamber of Commerce and Industry has also placed its representative in India since late 2008.

The following tables give us a clear indication about the trade scenario between India and Tajikistan.

India's bilateral trade with Tajikistan (exports, imports & total trade) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Year	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
India's exports to Tajikistan	16.71	15.71	18.31	21.28	35.16
India's imports from Tajikistan	17.47	16.85	23.02	7.09	10.5
India's total trade with Tajikistan	34.17	32.57	41.33	28.37	45.66

India's Export to Tajikistan by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Manufactures of metals	0.05	0.01
Machinery and instruments	1.67	0.95
Transport equipment	0	0.17
Residual engineering items	0.02	
Primary and semi-finished iron and steel	0.06	
Total	1.8	1.13

India's Import from Tajikistan by Principal Engineering Commodities – VALUE IN MILLION USD

Countries/Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Non-ferrous metals	5.64	10.38
Machinery except electrical and electronic	0.15	
Electrical machinery except electronic	0	
Total	5.79	10.38

Trade policy

A lot of measures have already been taken by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan for the liberalization and improvement of external trade relations. The main principles and rules of foreign economic relations have been defined by a series of legislative acts in the 1990s (in particular Law on Foreign Economic Activities of Tajikistan, 1993; Resolutions on Foreign Trade Liberalization in the Republic of Tajikistan, 27 June 1995 and on Liberalization of Currency and Export Operation, 24 February 1996, etc.). Administrative constraints and trade protective measures have been gradually removed and

DOING BUSINESS IN EURASIA

everybody recognizes now that trade regime is highly liberalized in Tajikistan and close to best international standards. At present Tajikistan's foreign trade policy is oriented towards development of the export potential of the country. Export duties were abolished and differential rates for import duties were adopted. Since independence, Tajikistan has created trade links with more than 80 countries all over the world. These trade relations are developed on the basis of bilateral agreement and treaties usually including a clause on most-favored nation treatment. At the same time, Tajikistan pays attention to the development of relations within the framework of regional trading arrangements and custom unions. Tajikistan is a member of the Euro-Asian Economic Community, CIS, Central-Asian Economic Community, ECO.

Trade Agreements

Partnership and Cooperation Agreement establishing a partnership between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tajikistan, of the other part to take account of the accession of the Republic of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union, was signed in Luxembourg in 2004.

Even the Central Asian Union (grouping Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan) was formed in 1994 as a regional integration arrangement, but it was only in 1998, that it became the Central Asian Economic Union (CAEU).

Advantages of investing in Tajikistan

- Privatization of small-enterprise
- Privatization of medium-sized and large-owned enterprises (SOEs)
- Assisting household and small commercial farms to increase income and food production for home consumption and improve nutrition and health outcomes.
- Developing capacity of local institutions and community-based organizations.
- Completing effective agrarian reforms in selected districts in Khatlon Province.

Profitable Sectors for Investment

- Hydro-power engineering,
- Extraction and processing of precious metals,
- Stones and polymetallic ores,

- Telecommunication and infrastructure development,
- Cotton processing,
- Agriculture production

Trade Information Sources

Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)	www.ecosecretariat.org
SME Trade Center	www.smetradecenter.net
Eurasianet	www.eurasianet.org

Institutions (agencies) responsible for investment Promotion

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Tajikistan	www.tpp.tj/en
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Public Holidays in Tajikistan

No	Holiday	Date
1.	New Year's Day	January 1
2.	International Woman's Day	March 8
3.	Persian New Year	March 20 - March 22
4.	International Labour Day	May 1
5.	Victory Day	Victory Day
6.	National Unity Day	June 27
7.	Independence Day	September 9
8.	Constitution Day	November 6
9.	National Reconciliation Day	November 9

Useful Contacts

Embassy of India in Tajikistan

Mr Asith Bhattacharjee,

Ambassador of India to Tajikistan

Contacts of Indian Embassy in Tajikistan

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Embassy of Tajikistan in India
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Mr Saidbeg Saidov Ambassador
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Bibliography

<http://mfa.tj>



The Madrasa-e Kohna in Hisor, Tajikistan



TURKMENISTAN

Brief country profile

Geography

Capital	Ashgabat (Ashkhabad)
Location	Central Asia, bordering the Caspian Sea, between Iran and Kazakhstan
Area	488,100 sq km

Demography

Population	5,113,040 (July 2013 est.)
Languages	Turkmen (official) 72%, Russian 12%, Uzbek 9%, other 7%
Population growth rate	1.15% (2013 est.)
Literacy	98.8%

Economy

GDP (official exchange rate)	\$33.68 billion (2012 est.)
GDP - real growth rate	11% (2012 est.)
GDP - per capita (PPP)	\$8,900 (2012 est.)
GDP - composition by sector	Agriculture: 7.5% Industry: 24.4% Services: 68.1% (2012 est.)
Industries	natural gas, oil, petroleum products, textiles, food processing
Exports	\$15.4 billion (2012 est.)
Exports - commodities	gas, crude oil, petrochemicals, textiles, cotton fiber
Exports - partners	China 66%, Ukraine 7%, Italy 4.5% (2012)
Imports	\$10.19 billion (2012 est.)
Imports -commodities	machinery and equipment, chemicals, foodstuffs
Imports - partners	China 20.1%, Turkey 17.5%, Russia 13%, UAE 6.9%, Germany 4.8%, UK 4.4% (2012)
Exchange rates	Turkmen manat (TMM) per US dollar - 2.85 (2012 est.)
Ports and terminals	Turkmenbasy

Business Information

Climate	Turkmenistan has a cold desert climate that is severely continental. Summers are long (from May through September), hot, and dry, while winters generally are mild and dry, although occasionally cold and damp in the north. Most precipitation falls between January and May; precipitation is slight throughout the country, with annual averages ranging from 300 millimeters (11.8 in) in the Kopet Dag to 80 millimeters (3.15 in) in the northwest. The capital, Ashgabat, close to the Iranian border in south-central Turkmenistan, averages 225 millimeters (8.9 in) of rainfall annually. Average annual temperatures range from highs of 16.8 °C (62.2 °F) in Ashgabat to lows of -5.5 °C (22.1 °F) in Daşoguz, on the Uzbek border in north-central Turkmenistan. The almost constant winds are northerly, northeasterly, or westerly.
Office hours & timings	Monday-Friday, except holidays, 9:00-18:00 Lunch 13:00-14:00
India's time difference with the country	Turkmenistan is 0:30 hours behind India.

India-Turkmenistan Bilateral Trade

The year 2012 marked the 20th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic ties between India and Turkmenistan. TAPI (Turkmenistan–Afghanistan–Pakistan–India) gas pipeline project has made steady progress since the TAPI Summit was held in Ashgabat in December 2010. This project which will elevate bilateral ties to a strategic partnership, is expected to be operational in August 2017. The following tables give us a clear indication about the trade scenario between India and Turkmenistan.

India's bilateral trade with Turkmenistan (exports, imports & total trade) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Year	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
India's exports to Turkmenistan	41.4	36.15	26.16	43.95	69.92
India's imports from Turkmenistan	12.1	10	9.73	16.89	7.28
India's total trade with Turkmenistan	53.5	46.15	35.89	60.84	77.2

India's Exports to Turkmenistan by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Non-ferrous metals		0
Manufactures of metals	0.84	1.8
Machine tools	0.03	0.05
Machinery and instruments	17.19	42.69
Transport equipment	0.05	0
Residual engineering items		0.15
Primary and semi-finished iron and steel	1.57	2.27
Total	19.68	46.96

India's Imports from Turkmenistan by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Countries/Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Manufactures of metals	0.03	
Machinery except electrical and electronic	0.07	
Electrical machinery except electronic		0.08
Transport equipment	0.1	
Total	0.2	0.08

Trade policy

Following its independence in 1991, Turkmenistan has opted for a gradual transformation from a planned to a market economy. Turkmenistan authorities have recently implemented several trade liberalizing measures, such as reducing duty and excise taxes. However, economic activity continues to be dominated by the public sector, and the trade system is still relatively restrictive as all trade transactions have to be registered with the Turkmen State Commodity Exchange. Nonetheless, based on its 5.1 percent simple average of the MFN applied tariff in 2002, the latest year during 2009-2010, for which internationally comparable tariff data is available, Turkmenistan had a regime more open to trade than an average Europe and Central Asia (ECA) (9.5 percent) or lower-middle-income (15.8 percent) country. Similar to the

DOING BUSINESS IN EURASIA

majority of countries in its comparator groups, Turkmenistan is more protective of its agricultural goods (12.8 percent tariff) than of its non-agricultural ones (3.9 percent tariff). Moreover, the 80.1 percent share of tariff lines with zero MFN tariff in 2002 was by far the highest in the region, where the average was 14.7 percent. In response to the global crisis, Turkmenistan's president signed a decree in October 2008 which allows the Ministry of Finance to establish a stabilization fund as a cushion against the impact of the global slowdown.

Government of Turkmenistan is to expand cooperation with international financial institutions that are associate agencies within the UN system, such as the World Bank and The International Monetary Fund and regional development banks, such as the Asian, European and Islamic Development Banks. On 2010, the Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the UN and the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS)

Trade Agreements

Bilateral relations between Turkmenistan and the EU are governed by an Interim Trade Agreement (1998), pending ratification of a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) by the EU member countries and the European Parliament.

The Government of Ukraine and the Government of the Turkmenistan, signed a free trade agreement during 1994 for free development of mutual economic cooperation, taking into account the integrative economic relations that evolved between Ukraine and Turkmenistan, desiring to develop trade and economic cooperation between Ukraine Turkmenistan on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, recognizing that the free movement of goods and services requires effecting mutually agreed measures.

Even Armenia and Turkmenistan signed a Free Trade Agreement in 1995 and an agreement on free trade between the Government of Georgia and the Government of Turkmenistan was also conducted and signed on 20 March 1996.

Advantages of investing in Turkmenistan

- Favorable investment legislation
- Investment guarantees
- Government active involvement in economic and structural reforms
- Attract foreign technology and investment to create chemical and petrochemical industry facilities for producing polymeric materials and

consumer products

- Foreign investment needed in textiles and communications, which require modern technology and knowledge of international markets.

Profitable Sectors for Investment

- Oil and gas
- Agricultural
- Construction sectors
- Natural Gas
- Petrochemicals

Trade Information Sources

Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)	www.ecosecretariat.org
SME Trade Center	www.smetradecenter.net
Eurasianet	www.eurasianet.org

Institutions (agencies) responsible for investment Promotion

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Turkmenistan	http://cci.gov.tm/en/
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Public Holidays in Turkmenistan

No	Holiday	Date
1.	New Year's Day	January 1
2.	Memorial Day (honoring those who fell on 12 January 1881 defending the Geok Tepe fortress against the Russian troops)	January 12
3.	State Flag of Turkmenistan Day	February 19
4.	Turkmen Woman's Day (coincides with International Woman's Day)	March 8
5.	Nowruz Bayram, national spring holiday	March 20-21 –
6.	"A Drop of Water—A Grain of Gold" Festival	First Sunday in April
7.	Turkmen Racing Horse Festival	Last Sunday in April
8.	Day of Commemoration of the National Heroes of the 1941-1945 World War	May 8

9.	Victory Day (World War II)	May 9
10.	Day of Revival, Unity, and the Poetry of Magtymguly	May 18-19
11.	Carpet Day	Last Sunday in May
12.	Day of Turkmen Workers of Culture and Art (introduced in 2009)	June 27
13.	Galla Bayramy (celebration of the wheat harvest)	Third Sunday in July
14.	Turkmen Melon Day	Second Sunday in August -
15.	Day of the Workers in the Oil, Gas, Power, and Geological Industry	Second Saturday in September
16.	Turkmen Bakhshi Day (celebrating the Turkmen folk singers)	Second Sunday in September
17.	Day of Commemoration and National Mourning (commemorating the victims of the 1948 earthquake that destroyed Ashgabat)	October 6
18.	Independence Day	October 27-28
19.	Health Day	First Saturday in November
20.	Harvest Festival (celebration of the cotton harvest)	Last Sunday in November
21.	First Sunday in December –Day	Good Neighborliness
22.	Day of Neutrality and Student Youth Day. The day celebrates the status of permanent positive neutrality recognized by the UN General Assembly Resolution on Permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan on December 12, 1995.	December 12

Visa Formalities for Indians travelling to Turkmenistan

Tourist	Tourist visa not issued
Visit Relatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport valid at least six months • 2 visa forms • 2 photographs with white background 35x45mm • Return confirm Ticket / Foreign Exchange • Covering letter for stating purpose of visit • Letter of Sponsorship from invitee attested through Ministry of External Affairs directly send in embassy of Turkmenistan in India

Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport valid at least six months • 2 visa forms • 2 photographs with white background 35x45mm • Return confirm Ticket / Foreign Exchange • Covering letter for stating purpose of visit from company • Business Invitation letter form invitee attested by Ministry of External affairs 	
Transit	Visa documents same as tourist	
Visa Fee	This is the Common Visa Fees structure for Tourist and Business Note: The Embassy reserves the right to determine the INR/ USD exchange rate. Please confirm with Embassy before the Draft is made.	
	Up to 10 days Single Entry/ Multiple Entry/ Urgent Single Entry/ Urgent Multiple Entry	INR
		\$ 35.00/ na/ \$55.00/ na
	Up to 20 days Single Entry/ Multiple Entry/ Urgent Single Entry/ Urgent Multiple Entry	INR
		\$ 45.00/ na/ \$ 75.00/ na
	Up to 1 month Single Entry/ Multiple Entry/ Urgent Single Entry/ Urgent Multiple Entry	INR
		\$ 55.00/ \$ 75.00/ \$ 95.00/ \$ 135.00
	Each Additional Month Single Entry/ Multiple Entry/ Urgent Single Entry/ Urgent Multiple Entry	INR
	\$ 30.00/ \$ 40.00/ \$ 60.00/ \$ 80.00	
Processing Time	Visit Relatives	05-06 Working Days
	Business	05-06 Working Days

Useful Contacts

Embassy Of India In Turkmenistan

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<http://www.turkmenembassy.in/html/contact.html>

Bibliography

<http://www.mfa.gov.tm/en/>



The President's palace in Ashgabat Turkmenistan



UKRAINE

Brief country profile

Geography

Capital	Kyiv (Kiev)
Location	Eastern Europe, bordering the Black Sea, between Poland, Romania, and Moldova in the west and Russia in the east
Area	603,550 sq km

Demography

Population	44,573,205 (July 2013 est.)
Languages	Ukrainian (official) 67%, Russian 24%, other
Population growth rate	-0.63% (2013 est.)
Literacy	99.7%

Economy

GDP (official exchange rate)	\$176.2 billion (2012 est.)
GDP - real growth rate	0.2% (2012 est.)
GDP - per capita (PPP)	\$7,500 (2012 est.)
GDP - composition by sector	Agriculture: 10.2% Industry: 31.6% Services: 58.2% (2012 est.)
Industries	coal, electric power, ferrous and nonferrous metals, machinery and transport equipment, chemicals, food processing
Exports	\$69.81 billion (2012 est.)
Exports - commodities	ferrous and nonferrous metals, fuel and petroleum products, chemicals, machinery and transport equipment, food products
Exports - partners	Russia 23.7%, Turkey 6%, China 4.1% (2012)
Imports	\$90.3 billion (2012 est.)
Imports - commodities	energy, machinery and equipment, chemicals
Imports - partners	Russia 19.4%, China 10.2%, Germany 9.6%, Belarus 7.8%, Poland 7.1% (2012)
Exchange rates	hryvnia (UAH) per US dollar – 7.991 (2012 est.)
Ports and terminals	Feodosiya (Theodosia), Illichivsk, Mariupol', Mykolayiv, Odesa, Yuzhnyy

Business Information

Climate	Ukraine has a temperate continental climate with cool winters and relatively hot summers. Only the southern Crimean coast of Ukraine has a humid subtropical climate. Ukraine's climates are influenced by the humid air from the Atlantic Ocean. Precipitation in Ukraine is disproportionately distributed, with the most falling in the west and the north, and much less falling in the east and the southeast. June and July are usually the wettest months, while February is usually the driest. Winters vary from cool along the Black Sea to cold farther inland; summers are warm across the greater part of the country, and tend to be very hot in the south.
Office hours & timings	Official weekday working hours are 9 ^a m to 5pm or 10 ^a m to 6pm. Some banks close for the day at 4.30pm.
India's time difference with the country	India is 3:30 hours ahead of Ukraine

India-Ukraine Bilateral Trade

More than 17 bilateral agreements have been signed between India and Ukraine, including agreements on Co-operation in Science and Technology, Foreign Office Consultation, Co-operation in Space Research, Avoidance of Double Taxation and Promotion and Protection of Investments.

The India Ukraine trade relation and economic co-operation has developed on the basis the long-standing friendship between the two countries. In March, 1992 the Treaty on Friendship and Co-operation was signed between India and Ukraine, providing a major boost to India-Ukraine trade relations.

India Ukraine trade relations have been developing at a very fast pace. There has been a threefold increase in the India Ukraine trade during 2003-2005 and it has exceeded US\$1 billion. Ukraine imports from India have doubled and stand at US\$ 3,214 million in 2006, while Ukraine exports to India have increased by 3.6 times and stands at US\$ 7,369 million in 2006. The total turnover in India Ukraine trade during 2005-2006 has exceeded US\$ 1.2 billion. The main items being imported by Ukraine from India are drugs, pharmaceutical production, Ores and minerals, tobacco products, tea, coffee, spices, silk and jute. The main items imported by India from Ukraine are chemicals, equipment, machines and engines.

The following tables give us a clear indication about the trade scenario between India and Ukraine.

Year	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
India's exports to Ukraine	400.7	289.03	514.28	491.22	519.66
India's imports from Ukraine	1,538.13	1,593.52	1,418.46	2,374.23	2,584.27
India's total trade with Ukraine	1,938.83	1,882.55	1,932.73	2,865.45	3,103.93

India's Export to Ukraine by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Mica	0.8	0.05
Ferro alloys	49.03	25.1
Aluminium other than products	0.09	0.32
Non-ferrous metals	0.02	
Manufactures of metals	12.63	18.59
Machine tools	0.82	0.13
Machinery and instruments	19.56	15.63
Transport equipment	46.64	43.62
Residual engineering items	0.03	0.04
Iron & steel bar/rod, etc and ferro alloys	13.91	12.56
Primary and semi-finished iron and steel	7.88	3.35
Total	151.41	119.39

India's Import From Ukraine by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Countries/Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Primary steel, pig-iron based items	0.49	0.78
Iron & steel	471.99	259.14
Non-ferrous metals	24.4	5.03
Manufactures of metals	10.08	2.03
Machine tools	6.88	3.22
Machinery except electrical and electronic	41.23	22.3
Electrical machinery except electronic	3.25	1.68
Transport equipment	1.78	17.43
Professional instruments, etc, except electronic	1.4	1.14
Total	561.5	312.75

Ukraine Trade Policy

Ukraine is a small open economy highly interested in a favourable environment which allows easy access to external markets and ensures stable trade flows. The membership in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) has significantly contributed to the achievement of this goal, ensuring a certain level of stability and transparency of trade policy in Ukraine and in partner countries. Still, a deeper regional integration provides additional opportunities for trade liberalisation and thus economic development.

The main tenet of Ukraine's trade policy is to gain early accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO). The Ukrainian government concentrates single-mindedly on resolving all the outstanding issues. The primary focus is to accelerate the composition and adoption of a final report on Ukraine's trade regime and adopt all the requisite legislation for entry into the WTO. Second, remaining bilateral issues need to be resolved to complete the seven remaining bilateral negotiations, notably with the US and Moldova. Third, Ukraine aim to formulate a clear policy on agricultural subsidies and reach agreement with its WTO partners. For Ukraine, swift entry into the WTO is far more important than the exact conditions of accession, because its membership of the WTO is the only plausible basis of its trade policy.

Trade Agreements

Currently Ukraine has appeared in a unique situation sandwiched between two custom unions, the European Union and the Customs Union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan (RBK CU) established in the EurAzEs framework. Ukraine's has officially declared European integration as a strategic objective of its foreign policy. In 2007, the talks on Association Agreement with the EU were launched, and the negotiations regarding the establishment of deep and comprehensive FTA (DCFTA) have followed in 2008. In October 2011, the technical completion of DCFTA negotiations was announced, though the initialisation and ratification of the agreement is under risk given challenges faced in the political dialog between the partners. The DCFTA will be part of a future Association Agreement, which will replace the present Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Ukraine (which dates from 1998). The initialing of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement took place in Brussels in March 2012, except for the DCFTA which was initialed on 19th July 2012.

The cooperation with the CIS countries has been also considered as a strategic priority of Ukraine. So far, the officials have emphasized a free trade agreement as the desired level of economic integration with post-

Soviet countries. The signature of the CIS FTA Agreement is an important component of this strategy. At the same time, Russia has become increasingly active in trying to persuade Ukraine to join the RBK CU.

Advantages of investing in Ukraine

Among the main advantages of investing in Ukraine are worth noting:

- 46 million consumers - one of the largest markets in Eastern Europe;
- High scientific and educational potential - powerful network of universities and research centres;
- A competitive skilled labour force - Ukraine has large number of certified professionals in the field of hi-tech;
- Strategic advantages of location- Ukraine is at the crossroads of trade routes East-West and North-South;
- Widely developed transport infrastructure - railways, ports in the Black Sea and the pan-European transport corridors;
- Large number of investor success of leading international companies- Kraft Foods, Coca-Cola, Hewlett Packard, Cargill, Knauf, Yazaki-Ukraine, Raiffeisen Bank and others.
- Investment Climate is a set of economic, legal, regulatory, political and other factors that ultimately determine the investment risk and the possibility of their effective use.

Parts of the investment climate

1. Political situation
2. Macroeconomic factors
3. The legal environment
4. Tax Environment
5. Regulatory impact

Profitable Sectors for Investment

- Agricultural industry
- Automotive sector
- Food processing industry in Ukraine
- Information technology
- Construction and building materials market in Ukraine
- Solid waste management in Ukraine
- Renewable energy in Ukraine
- Healthcare in Ukraine

DOING BUSINESS IN EURASIA

- Oil & gas industry
- Machine-building industry
- Chemical industry
- Hospitality industry of Ukraine
- Retail in Ukraine
- Infrastructure & PPP in Ukraine
- Banking and insurance in Ukraine
- Pharmaceutical industry in Ukraine
- Metals and mining in Ukraine

Trade Information Sources

SME Trade Center	www.smetradecenter.net
Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (UCCI)	www.ucci.org.ua
Expo Top	www.expotop.ru/Exhibition/lang/en/

Institutions (agencies) responsible for investment Promotion

Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine	http://www.me.gov.ua
State Agency for Investment and National Projects	http://www.ukrproject.gov.ua/en
ACCOUNTING CHAMBER OF UKRAINE	http://www.ac-rada.gov.ua/control/main/uk/index
Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Crimea	www.cci.crimea.ua
Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade	www.mfert.gov.ua
The Kyiv Chamber of Commerce and Industry	www.kiev-chamber.org.ua
The Lviv Chamber of Commerce and Industry	www.lcci.com.ua
Ukrainian Center for Foreign Investment Promotion	www.investukraine.org

Public Holidays in Ukraine

No	Holiday	Date
1.	New Year's Day	January 1
2.	Orthodox Christmas	January 7
3.	International Women's Day	March 8
4.	Easter	Orthodox
5.	Pentecost	Holy Trinity Day (Tryitsya) - Orthodox
6.	Labour Days	May 1 & 2
7.	Victory Day (Memorial Day in Lviv Oblast)	May 9
8.	Constitution Day	June 28
9.	Independence Day	August 24

Visa Formalities for Indians travelling to Ukraine

Visit Relatives	<p>Personal Presence of the Applicant is mandatory for visa application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport must be valid for at least three months after the declared exit date from Ukraine. In case substantial grounds are presented the said requirement may not apply. It must have at least two spare pages and must not be issued more than ten years ago. • One Visa form (Photocopy not allowed). • Two passport-size photographs. <p>• A short-term visa application should be accompanied by one of the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Standardized invitation of a person or entity issued by the regional body or by the state division of the Immigration Service of Ukraine. ➤ Invitation from the ministry, other central executive authorities, state institutions, enterprises or organizations. ➤ Document confirming family relationship with a citizen of Ukraine or a foreign citizen or stateless person that has permanent or temporary residence permit (such as a marriage certificate or birth certificate). ➤ Certificate of the Person of Ukrainian origin and his/her application along with the results of the interview with the Ukrainian diplomatic or consular staff and evidence for Ukrainian ethnical descent or Ukrainian origin of the foreign citizen or stateless person. The spouse and children of the Person of Ukrainian origin, if traveling and staying in Ukraine together, have to submit an application and provide documents confirming family relationships. ➤ Document confirming that the nature of travel is tourism in accordance with the Ukrainian Law On Tourism.
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Visit Relatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ Invitation from a Ukrainian medical treatment facility. ➔ Document confirming that the person is a co-founder of a joint venture or a company (firm, association etc.) representative and that he/she travels to Ukraine to monitor the performance of contracts. ➔ Confirmation from the Committee on Humanitarian Aid of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on the entry of the foreign citizen or stateless person for the purpose of providing humanitarian aid or charity. ➔ Invitation from a duly registered religious organization attested by the Ministry of Culture, for short-term stay in Ukraine for religious matters. ➔ Petition from the head of a foreign mass media for a foreign correspondent or representative of a foreign media who travels to Ukraine for short-term stay to perform his/her professional duties. ➔ Petition from state authorities of foreign states or international organizations. ➔ Photocopy of OVERSEAS medical insurance policy + REPATRIATION, evacuation cover. Please carry your original insurance for verification at the time of submission of visa application form. 																								
Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport valid at least six months • 1 visa form • 2 photographs with white background • Return confirm ticket • Covering letter from company stating purpose of visit with official seal • Business invitation letter from Ukraine in original attested by Immigration Department of Ukraine • Ukraine company registration certificate <p>Medical Insurance - from Radiant Overseas P. Ltd. 517,UG-51 , Ansal Chamber-II, 6 Bhikaji Cama Palace, New Delhi-I 10066. Tel: 26172270 Fax: 26172309</p> <p>Medical Certificate (AIDS) by embassy appointed Doctor - Dr Ved Prakash Kohli , 2 Golf Links, New Delhi-I 10003, Tel :24646272</p>																								
Visa Fee	<p>This is the Common Visa Fees structure for Tourist and Business.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="210 1086 824 1445"> <tr> <td>Single Entry (90 Days)</td> <td>INR 4250</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>USD 85</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Urgent: Single Entry (90 Days)</td> <td>INR 8500</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>USD 170</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Double Entry (90 Days)</td> <td>INR 6500</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>USD 130</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Urgent: Double Entry (90 Days)</td> <td>INR 13000</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>USD 260</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Multiple Entry (90 days)</td> <td>INR 10000</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>USD 200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Urgent: Multiple Entry (90 days)</td> <td>INR 20000</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>USD 400</td> </tr> </table>	Single Entry (90 Days)	INR 4250		USD 85	Urgent: Single Entry (90 Days)	INR 8500		USD 170	Double Entry (90 Days)	INR 6500		USD 130	Urgent: Double Entry (90 Days)	INR 13000		USD 260	Multiple Entry (90 days)	INR 10000		USD 200	Urgent: Multiple Entry (90 days)	INR 20000		USD 400
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Processing Time	Business 10 working days
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Useful Contacts

Embassy Of India In Ukraine

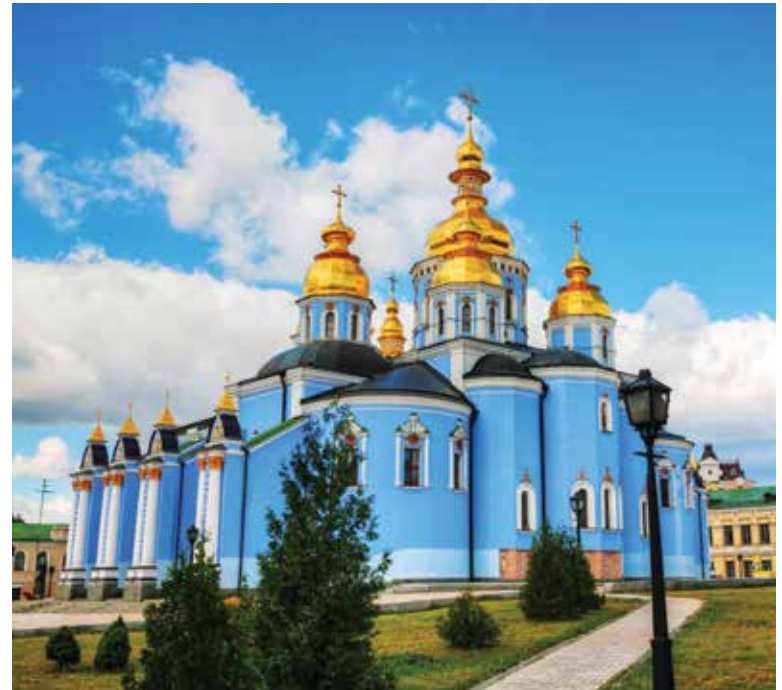
Mr Rajiv K. Chander – Ambassador;
 20-B, Maxima Berlinskogo Street
 E-mail: india@indianembassy.org.ua
<http://embassyofindiaukraine.in/english/contactus.htm>

Embassy Of Ukraine In India

Mr Oleksandr Shevchenko
 Ambassador
 E-1/8, VasantVihar, New Delhi, Delhi, I 10 057, E-3, Block E, Vasant Vihar
 New Delhi, DL 110057
<http://india.mfa.gov.ua>

Bibliography

<http://mfa.gov.ua/en>



St. Michael Monastery in Kiev, Ukraine



UZBEKISTAN

Brief country profile

Geography

Capital	Tashkent (Toshkent)
Location	Central Asia, north of Turkmenistan, south of Kazakhstan
Area	447,400 sq km

Demography

Population	28,661,637 (July 2013 est.)
Languages	Uzbek (official) 74.3%, Russian 14.2%, Tajik 4.4%, other 7.1%
Population growth rate	0.94% (2013 est.)
Literacy	99.3%

Economy

GDP (official exchange rate)	\$51.17 billion (2012 est.)
GDP - real growth rate	8.2% (2012 est.)
GDP - per capita (PPP)	\$3,600 (2012 est.)
GDP - composition by sector	Agriculture: 18.5% Industry: 36.4% Services: 45.1% (2012 est.)
Industries	textiles, food processing, machine building, metallurgy, mining, hydrocarbon extraction, chemicals
Exports	\$16.65 billion (2012 est.)
Exports - commodities	energy products, cotton, gold, mineral fertilizers, ferrous and nonferrous metals, textiles, food products, machinery, automobiles
Exports - partners	China 18.5%, Kazakhstan 14.6%, Turkey 13.8%, Russia 12.8%, Ukraine 12.5%, Bangladesh 8.9% (2012)
Imports	\$15.53 billion (2012 est.)
Imports - commodities	machinery and equipment, foodstuffs, chemicals, ferrous and nonferrous metals
Imports - partners	Russia 20.6%, China 16.5%, South Korea 16.3%, Kazakhstan 12.8%, Germany 4.6%, Turkey 4.2% (2012)
Exchange rates	Uzbekistani soum (UZS) per US dollar – 1,891.1 (2012 est.)
Ports and terminals	Termiz (Amu Darya)

Business Information

Climate	Uzbekistan's climate is classified as continental, with hot summers and cool winters. Summer temperatures often surpass 40 °C (104 °F); winter temperatures average about -2 °C (28 °F), but may fall as low as -40 °C (-40 °F). Most of the country also is quite arid, with average annual rainfall amounting to between 100 and 200 millimeters (3.9 and 7.9 in) and occurring mostly in winter and spring. Between July and September, little precipitation falls, essentially stopping the growth of vegetation during that period.
Office hours & timings	Monday – Friday, 09.00 - 18.00
India's time difference with the country	India is 0:30 hours ahead of Tashkent, Uzbekistan

India-Uzbekistan Bilateral Trade

Trade Relations between India and Uzbekistan are governed by the Agreement on Trade and Economic Cooperation signed in May 1993. This agreement provides for such things as mutual MFN treatment, promotion of economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation, including in the field of personnel, active participation of small and medium enterprises in bilateral economic cooperation and counter trade, etc. India and Uzbekistan also signed an agreement Avoidance of Double Taxation in 1993. The Inter-Governmental Commission (IGC) has met nine times and the last Session was held in Tashkent on 4th May 2011.

The following tables give us a clear indication about the trade scenario between India and Uzbekistan.

India's bilateral trade with Uzbekistan (exports, imports & total trade) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Year	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
India's exports to Uzbekistan	45.53	54.03	60.42	89.39	124.9
India's imports from Uzbekistan	70.74	29.97	20.63	61.58	32.56
India's total trade with Uzbekistan	116.27	84	81.05	150.97	157.46

India's Export to Uzbekistan by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Non-ferrous metals	0.26	0.06
Manufactures of metals	1.91	2.36
Machine tools	0.12	0.1
Machinery and instruments	15	17.92
Transport equipment	11.62	35.48
Residual engineering items	0.48	0
Iron and steel bar/rod, etc and ferro alloys	0.91	0
Primary and semi-finished iron and steel	0.01	0.14
Total	30.31	56.06

India's Import From Uzbekistan by Principal Engineering Commodities (Provisional Figures) VALUE IN MILLION USD

Commodities	2011-2012	2012-2013
Primry steel, pig iron-based items	0.08	
Iron & steel		0
Non-ferrous metals	0.61	4.04
Manufactures of metals	0.02	0.04
Machine tools	0.07	
Machinery except electrical and electronic	1.86	0.43
Electrical machinery except electronic	0.03	0.01
Transport equipment		0.02
Professional instruments, etc, except electronic	0.01	0
Total	2.68	4.54

Trade policy

Uzbekistan's trade regime has been shaped by the government's development priorities, which include the following:

- Achieve economic independence by reducing imports, developing import-substituting industries and ensuring adequate domestic supply of essential goods, including energy and food products.
- Introduce new technologies and modernize domestic industries
- Develop export potential and increase international reserves
- Diversify the composition of exports away from primary commodities towards high value added finished goods and
- Pursue mutually beneficial economic cooperation with other countries without falling into the sphere of influence of any country

There are also tax privileges for import-substituting industries and exporters of manufactured products. It is relatively easy to import capital goods, especially for state sponsored investment projects, but imports of consumer goods considered to be non-essential face high barriers.

Establishment of relations with many countries on the principles of equal rights and mutual understanding helps Uzbekistan to be integrated into the world community, and realize international political, economic, scientific and cultural cooperation.

Enhancement and development of relations with neighboring countries is one of the most important foreign policy priorities of Uzbekistan. Further intensification of regional cooperation is a vitally important condition of peace, stability and prosperity in Central Asia.

Developing dynamically and gradually its relations with the countries of the West, Asia-Pacific, South-East and South Asia, Uzbekistan aspires to make these relations more substantial.

Based upon the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (1996) between Uzbekistan and the European Union, our country intensifies a political dialogue and trade relations with the EU.

Trade Agreements

Uzbekistan has bilateral free trade agreement with Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine and Tajikistan. These agreements were implemented, but have narrow coverage. Uzbekistan signed the 1994 agreement between the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) to create free trade area. However this agreement was not implemented for a variety of political, economic and technical reasons. In October, 2011 eight CIS countries entered into a new

free trade agreement. Uzbekistan did not sign this agreement.

Even, the United States of America and the Republic of Uzbekistan signed a bilateral agreement on November 1993, for better mutual understanding and cooperation, taking into account the favorable implications for trade expansion of the economic restructuring and the development of a market-based economy in Uzbekistan.

Advantages of investing in Uzbekistan

- Broad spectrum of legal guarantees and preferences for foreign investors, developing integral system of measures on encouragement of activity of enterprises with foreign investments.
- Uzbekistan's foreign investment law is liberal
- Uzbekistan has introduced taxation incentives to encourage FDI
- Tax rates for small businesses and private enterprises reduced from 38% down to 7%, i.e. 5.4 times. Micro-firms and small enterprises are entitled to choose simplified system of taxation, which entitles to pay unified tax instead of generally established taxes and other mandatory charge
- Uzbekistan has attractive unexploited resources of minerals and hydrocarbons and attractive exploration potential for additional discoveries. The country has a clear strength in gold mining potential. However, its attractiveness for base metals mining is less clear.
- Uzbekistan also has significant upstream hydrocarbon development potential, especially for gas.
- Uzbekistan is seen as presenting a sizeable market for investment in consumer goods and for services especially where distance or transport costs provide some natural shield from foreign supply
- Existing foreign investors in Uzbekistan are uniformly impressed with the levels of education and skills of the workforce and their high level of motivation.

Profitable Sectors for Investment

- Electric and thermal power
- Oil & gas sector
- Municipal-communal sector
- Transportation
- Wastes
- Agriculture
- Chemical Industry

Trade Information Sources

Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations	http://gov.uz
Uzbek Foreign Economic Info. and Commercial Center (UZINCOMCENTER)	http://legacy.intracen.org
Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)	www.ecosecretariat.org
SME Trade Center	www.smetradecenter.net
Eurasianet	www.eurasianet.org
Center for Economic Research	www.cer.uz

Institutions (agencies) responsible for Investment Promotion

National Bank of Uzbekistan (NBU)	http://www.nbu.com/en
Central Bank of the Republic Uzbekistan (CBU)	http://www.cbu.uz/eng

Public Holidays in Uzbekistan

No	Holiday	Date
1.	New Year Holiday	January 01
2.	Day of Defenders of the Motherland	January 14
3.	International Women's Day	March 08
4.	Nowruz (Persian New Year)	March 21
5.	Memorial/Remembrance Day	May 09
6.	Independence Day	September 01
7.	Teacher's Day	October 01
8.	Constitution Day	December 08

Visa Formalities for Indians travelling to Uzbekistan

Visit Relatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport valid at least six months • 1 visa form • 2 photographs with white background 35x45 • Covering letter for stating purpose of visit • Return confirm ticket • Foreign Exchange • Hotel confirmation arrange by Local tourist company in Uzbekistan and get visa approval through Ministry of External Affairs Uzbekistan and Ministry send approval directly to embassy • Bank statements last three months and Tax returns <p>If employed - Letter from employer stating No Objection for travel to Uzbekistan</p>
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Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport valid at least six months • 1 visa form • 2 photographs with white background 35x45 • Covering letter for stating purpose of visit from company • Business invitation from Uzbekistan company and Uzbek company submit applicant details in Ministry of external affairs then ministry send approval directly to Embassy • Return confirm ticket • Foreign Exchange • Bank statements last three months and Tax returns <p>If employed - Letter from employer stating No Objection for travel to Uzbekistan</p>																																
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Embassy Of India In Uzbekistan

Embassy of India, Tashkent

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Ambassador

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Embassy Of Uzbekistan In India

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Uzbek Embassy in New Delhi, India

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The Tillya-kori temple at sunset in Registan, Samarkand, Uzbekistan

Doing Business in Eurasia
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