

CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA
SAN FRANCISCO
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Trade News Highlights- May 2017

1. Infosys says It Will Create 10,000 U.S. Jobs.

Infosys, one of India's leading tech outsourcing companies, said Tuesday that it will hire up to 10,000 Americans to serve its clients in the United States.

Infosys is also making its move to hire American driven by other forces. "Building talent pools that define the future of America is what we want to do," said Ravi Kumar S., Infosys's president, in a phone interview from Indiana. The company intends to open a new technology and innovation office in or near Indianapolis in August, recruiting 100 new workers this year and several hundred more next year, with a goal of adding a total of 2,000 employees by 2021.

Infosys said it would seek out three other sites for American expansion, looking for places that are close to clients and universities and where state and local governments are willing to offer significant economic incentives. The company already has an innovation hub in Silicon Valley.

2. US companies continue to bet big on India: USIBC

American companies continue to bet big on India, a top US corporate leader has said, noting that the world's two largest democratic countries have incredible opportunities to come closer through digitisation. "At a time of global uncertainty, the only constant element that businesses and markets across the world will continue to face is technological disruption," USIBC chairman and CISCO executive chairman John Chambers said on May 8th. The US and India have incredible opportunities to come closer through digitisation; creating jobs, driving citizen engagement and transforming the lives of 1.3 billion people in India and over 300 million in the US, he said.

3. India Announces Policy for Strategic Partnerships in Defense.

India on May 20 finalised a policy that would allow local private companies to work with foreign players to make high-tech defense equipment, in a boost to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's bid to cut reliance on imports.

The policy, whose finer details are still to be formalized, will initially allow the entry of private companies into the manufacture of submarines, fighter aircrafts and armored vehicles through foreign partnerships, a statement issued by the Defense Ministry said. "In future, additional segments will be added," the statement said.

4. Nasscom steps up US lobbying on immigration, visa issues

Facing rough weather amid large-scale layoffs and visa curbs in the US, the Indian IT industry body Nasscom has stepped up its lobbying with the American

lawmakers significantly with an over one-third increase in money spent on such activities.

According to the latest lobbying disclosure reports filed with the US Senate, the National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) paid a total amount of USD 1,50,000 (nearly Rs 1 crore) to its two registered lobbyists in the first quarter of 2017.

5. 'Mentor on Road' initiative to strengthen India-US trade relations.

United States (US) Consulate General (Mumbai) has partnered with a Gujarat-based management consultant to start an initiative called Mentor on Road, with an aim to strengthen India-US trade relations. Ahmedabad-based Jagat Shah will be on a road trip around the US starting June 4 where he will meet universities, business groups, entrepreneurs, and some tourist tourism sector players.

Greg Taevs, Principal Commercial Officer at the U.S. Consulate in Mumbai said, "Mentor on Road is an amazing initiative aimed at boosting trade between India and the United States. Shah will be traveling around America presenting to eager small and medium U.S. enterprises about the opportunities of the Indian market." According to a media release sent by the US Consulate General (Mumbai) Shah will be visiting 32 cities.

Trade Figures:

Given below are the trade figures for the states in this Post's jurisdiction for the first quarter of 2017 (Jan 2017- March 2017).

States	India's Exports (values in USD)	India's Imports (values in USD)
Alaska	321,820	504,727
Arizona	82,954,417	44,340,676
California	869,232,382	1,024,715,059
Hawaii	2,058,961	129,750
Idaho	3,648,875	4,523,727
Montana	953,716	3,783,423
Nevada	29,791,916	365,684,213
Oregon	34,923,365	26,066,035
Utah	29,225,353	12,274,714
Washington	96,347,705	207,168,164
Wyoming	403,358	208,679

Trade Delegations and Events

1. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh delegation visit: May 4-9, 2017.

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Nara Chandrababu Naidu visited the San Francisco Bay Area from May 4-9, 2017. He was accompanied by AP

Finance Minister, senior officials from the Chief Minister's office, IT, Energy and other departments, as well as officials from the AP Economic Development Board.

The visit included meetings with prominent companies all over the Bay Area, such as Tesla, X, Cisco. The Chief Minister also met with California's Governor Jerry Brown in Sacramento.

2. Event at Stanford University to commemorate 25 years of diplomatic relations between India and Israel: May 10, 2017

Congressman Ro Khanna, Ambassador Venkatesan Ashok (Consul General of India, San Francisco), and Consul General of Israel, Andy David, participated in a lively panel discussion on relations between America, India, and Israel. They explored themes such as technology, democracy, and the future of India-Israel partnerships.

Trade Enquiries

Here are some of the trade enquiries that this post received during these months and they have been attended to appropriately.

SGX Exports	Paper and Paper products
Surya Exports	Flowers
Medisiddh Pharma Pvt. Ltd.	Siddha and Ayurveda medicines
Golden White Industries	Hardware fittings, furniture