

Embassy of Italy New Delhi

ITALYININDIA

Webinar "Italian Institutions & Companies faced with the current health emergency" 15 April 2020







Where were we before Covid-19... Business Conclave 28 February 2020



Italy – India Partnership

Bilateral trade

- 2016 2019 → +18% (ISTAT)
- Italian Exports to India to grew +20% between 2016-2019 (Istat) GOAL \rightarrow reach +30% in 2025

Investments

- Important Indian investments in Italy (Mittal, Mahindra, Jindal)
- Italian investments in India $\rightarrow \in 6.4$ Bn

Tourism

 The average Indian tourist spends approx. \$1800 and \$2500 per week in Italy
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Italy – India Partnership 2020-2025 · Sectors

Pursuing the "Granular approach" focused on 4 main sectors

1) Green and Circular Economy

 \rightarrow Renewable energies and clean-tech

- 2) Infrastructure
 - \rightarrow Railways
- 3) Food processing
- 4) Make in India
- 5) Lifestyle









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Italy – India Partnership 2020-2025. The objectives are the same but...postponed!

State Visit of PM Modi to Rome (originally scheduled in May)

Comprehensive Business Delegation led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs (originally scheduled in October 2020)



Conclusion of MoUs in several fields (from double taxation to environment...)

The Lockdown and its implications...

- Closing of both public offices, commercial and industrial establishments with the exception of essential commodities.
- Core domains of production activities allowed:
 - Pharmaceutical/Medical Equipment
 - Food
- Measures to be adopted by operational productive plants:
 - Social distancing.
 - Regular sanitization.
 - 20% to 25% capacity in single shift as a start (for big companies in electronic manufacturing, textiles, automobiles).
 - "Phase two" to be rolled-out **district-wise based on the evolution of the contagion.**
- Suspension of all transport services air, rail, roadways with the exception of transportation for essential goods.





- Government spending to grow at 15% in FY21
 compared to 9.8% in FY20 due to fiscal stimulus.
- Expected slow-down in personal consumption, trade (both imports and exports) and capital investments.



Impact of the lockdown on the Indian Economy at Macro Level

Inflation, that has been high before the spread of Covid-19 (hitting a 7.6% high in January) is expected to go down as oil prices dwindle (\$23 bpd).





Rupee has been **depreciating** (record low of 76.55 against the dollar last week).

Fiscal and Monetary measures taken by GOI

India announced a \$22.6 billion economic stimulus plan (=0,8% GDP) providing direct cash transfers and food security measures.



- The RBI cut **repo rate to 4.40%,** the lowest in at least 15 years.
- The reverse repo rate was cut by 90 bps to 4%, thus creating the so-called "asymmetrical corridor".

What we are working on...

- **Survey** in cooperation with the IICC
- Financial tools to support Italian investments in India. Role of SACE & SIMEST.
- Economic and Commercial Task-force to support the companies in tackling critical issues stemming from the lockdown (also in coordination with the EU)
- Resumption of international flights and subsequent resumption of visas services in cooperation with the Indian Embassy in Rome and MEA.
- Organization of a series of webinars:
- **15th April, in cooperation with IICC,** for Italian Companies already established in India.
- **28th April, in cooperation with ITA,** for Italian Companies in Italy wishing to explore the Indian market.
- More to come: with Sector-wise and State-wise insights.



PIANO STRAORDINARIO PER IL MADE IN ITALY

In the 2020 ITA budget, € **134 MLN** are allocated for:

- Communication
- E-Commerce

The **Curaltalia decree** also foresees additional funds to strengthen the ITA communication strategy.





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