

UKRAINE, INDIA BRACE FOR A STRONGER ASSOCIATION

India and Ukraine are laying the foundation of a mutually beneficial future. The two nations are not just partnering in areas of economy and business but also share bonds in scientific, defence and technical areas, besides political ties.

Bilateral trade has grown substantially and stood at \$2.34 billion, making India Ukraine's 8th largest trading partner. During 2017, India became the 3rd largest export destination for Ukrainian commodities.

India is the third largest exporter of pharmaceutical products to Ukraine. Indian companies like Dr. Reddy's Laboratories and Sun Pharma have their representative offices in Ukraine. Other products include organic chemicals, tobacco, plastic, coffee, tea, rubber, etc.

GLOBAL INVESTORS BET BIG ON UKRAINE

Ukraine is a European country with significant potential and opportunities. Since September 1, 2017 the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union has been put into full implementation, launching unprecedented economic, social and political reforms to accelerate integration with the EU. Due to lifting of customs duties and other barriers — EU has become one of the main trade partners of Ukraine. Let us have a look at some of the lucrative sectors of investment in Ukraine:

AGRIBUSINESS: Ukraine is considered as a global agricultural superpower. Over 70 per cent of the country's total area is agricultural land. Agriculture accounts for over 18 per cent of GDP. Ukraine is among the five largest grain exporters globally and is world's largest supplier of sunflower oil. The largest part of Ukraine's agricultural output consists of a diverse combination of cereal and forage crops including wheat, maize, barley, sunflowers, sugar beets, legumes, fruits and vegetables.

ENERGY: Ukraine has a diverse endowment of natural energy resources and continues to be a



net exporter of electricity and certain types of coal. The country also has high potential in alternative energy, with total investment projected to reach \$18 billion by 2020. Nuclear power meets half the country's electricity needs. Electricity consumption in Ukraine is expected to double over the next 15 years that requires sustainable investment inflow in modernization of four existing nuclear power plants. Projects for the exploration and extraction of this type of energy resources in Ukraine can be of great interest for foreign investors.

GAS SECTOR: The restructuring of the largest oil and gas company «Naftogaz of Ukraine» is underway and should be completed by 2020, allowing transparent and free third party access to the Ukrainian gas transportation system. Ukraine possesses Europe's third-largest reserves of shale gas, estimated between 5 to 8 trillion cubic meters. Projects for the exploration and extraction of this type of energy resources in Ukraine can be of great interest for foreign investors.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Ukraine's IT industry is a driving force in the country's resurgent economy. It varies from cutting edge work in AI, cyber security and nanotechnologies to commercial ventures in Blockchain, Fin-tech, Big Data Gaming, e-commerce, etc. Ukraine has the fastest-growing number of IT professionals in Europe expected to increase to 144,000 in 2018. IT industry has a significant impact on the Ukrainian economy and in 2018 its growth is expected to reach 25%. IT outsourcing is Ukraine's third

largest export sector.

INFRASTRUCTURE: Ukraine's vast road, rail, air and sea infrastructure along with benefits of its geographic location, makes the country an important transit corridor for trade and travelling activities between Europe, Asia and the Middle East. Ukraine has an extensive highway network of 170,000 km that cover the whole territory of Ukraine and includes four international corridors passing through the country. Ukraine's maritime transport sector is a multi-functional complex of river and seaports along with related infrastructure. All ports along the Black Sea coastline provide year round access to the Mediterranean and the Atlantic Ocean. Ukraine has 23 major airports, 12 of them providing scheduled international flights for commercial airlines. The 'Open Skies' agreements with US and EU has given an impetus to airport modernization and expansion throughout the country.

HEAVY INDUSTRY: Ukraine's heavy manufacturing sector is dominated by an extensive network of machine building enterprises. Over 25% of the population is employed by manufacturing companies involved in mining, railway rolling stock, energy, farm equipment, road construction equipment, machine tools, aircraft engines, instrumentation, light and food industries.

AVIATION/AEROSPACE: Ukraine enjoys a leading place in the world market for development and production of transport and regional passenger aircrafts. The assembling capacities of the aviation industry's enterprises

INDIA AND UKRAINE CELEBRATE 27TH ANNIVERSARY OF COOPERATION

“India and Ukraine enjoy warm and friendly relations. The India-Ukraine economic co-operation has developed on the basis of the long standing friendship between the two countries. Ukraine is ready for closer cooperation with India in order to promote high-technology and science intensive projects. Government of Ukraine has introduced 'Visa on arrival facility' for Indian citizens for tourism and business purposes. There is great interest in Indian culture in Ukraine at the public level, covering various aspects such as dances, yoga, philosophy, Ayurveda and spirituality. “Festival of India”, a yearlong celebration to mark 27 years of India-Ukraine Diplomatic relationship and 70 years of India's Independence was held in Kyiv. The 3rd international Day of yoga was celebrated by holding of a Yoga Marathon in Kyiv City. The event was attended by more than 4,000 people including local dignitaries, diplomatic corps, Indian diaspora, friends of India and enthusiastic yoga lovers from different cities of Ukraine”
— Honorary Consul General of Ukraine | H.E. K K Singh

allow it to manufacture up to 24 planes of Antonov's chain per year. Ukraine is home to several of world's leading aerospace design and production facilities. The “Antonov State Company” is known for designing and manufacturing of world's largest cargo transport plane An-225 «Mriya».

SHIP BUILDING: Ukraine ranks among the 10 largest shipbuilding countries in Europe. Over 35 major state companies, are engaged into design and construction of a wide range of vessels, including powerboats, barges, bulk carriers (dry cargo ship), tankers, including LPG carriers.
(With inputs from Consulate of Ukraine in Mumbai)