

# Commercial Connect

## PM Gati Shakti Initiative Showcased at the 80th UNESCAP Session in Bangkok



The 80th Commission Session of UNESCAP (80CS) was held from 22 – 26 April 2024 at UN Conference Centre, Bangkok, on the theme “Leveraging digital innovation for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific”. Ambassador Nagesh Singh led the Indian delegation comprising of senior officers from Department of Scientific & Industrial Research and Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade.



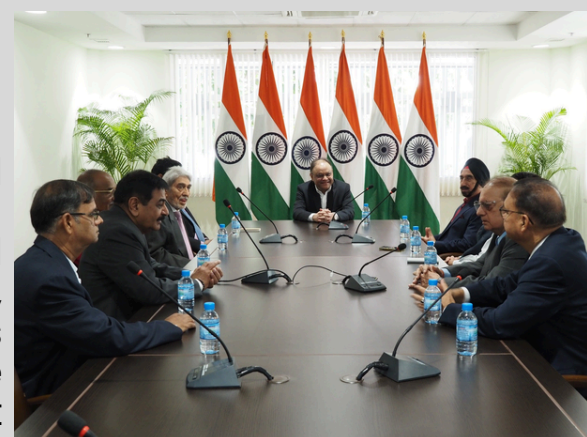
At the Digital Innovations Fair organized by UNESCAP during the Session, India presented the “PM Gati Shakti” initiative showcasing the transformational approach to integrated planning adopted under the Program for multi-modal connectivity. Ambassador Singh inaugurated the India’s booth, which attracted lot of attention from the delegates of Asia-Pacific countries, who expressed keen interest in replicating the programme in their country.



India also organized a side-event on 22 April 2024 on the topic “Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for Accelerating Implementation of SDGs in Asia-Pacific” with Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT). Speaking at the event, Ambassador Singh emphasised on the vital role of DPI in advancing the region towards the 2030 Agenda of sustainable development.

## India–Thai Business Association met Ambassador to Foster Growth in Bilateral Trade

Ambassador Nagesh Singh met the newly elected Committee of the India–Thai Business Association on 25th April, 2024. The discussion revolved around a range of topics like trade facilitation measures, investment incentives, market access opportunities, and collaborative initiatives with the objective of bolstering the trade and investment relationship between India and Thailand.



# Sectoral Talk



## Electric Mobility

- 36,68,544 electric vehicles are registered in India (as on 05-02-2024).
- 16,348 operational Public EV Charging Stations in India currently.
- India's EV market is expected to expand at a CAGR of 45.5% between 2022-2030, with the segment's volumes set to cross annual sales of 16 Mn units by 2030.
- 100% Foreign Direct Investment is allowed under this sector under the automatic route.

For more information: <https://www.investindia.gov.in/sector/automobile/electric-mobility>

## Government Support

- Production Linked Incentive Scheme on Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) to boost local manufacturing of advanced chemistry cell to bring down prices of battery as well as reduce the cost of electric vehicles.
- Charging stations do not need a separate licence under the Electricity Act of 2003 as charging for the purpose of charging an electric vehicle is classified as a service.

## India-Thailand Trade Statistics (April 2023 – February 2024)

Indian Exports  
USD 4,592.12 mn

Indian Imports  
USD 9,093.55 mn

Total Trade  
USD 13685.67 mn

## Tech-News from India

### India launches first home-grown gene therapy for cancer



The President of India launched India's first home-grown gene therapy for cancer at IIT Bombay. The line of treatment, named "CAR-T cell therapy", is accessible and affordable, and will provide a new hope for the whole of humankind. [Read more...](https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseframePage.aspx?PRID=2017142)

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### Bengaluru gets Asia's first dedicated centre for space domain awareness

Bengaluru has become home to Asia's first dedicated command and control centre for space domain awareness. The state-of-the-art facility was inaugurated at the newly opened global headquarters of Digantara, a space situational awareness (SSA) company. This advanced facility of the centre will play a vital role in ensuring safety and sustainability of satellite operations around the world by tracking objects in orbit. [Read more...](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/bluru-gets-asias-first-dedicated-centre-for-space-domain-awareness/articleshow/109446300.cms)

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/bluru-gets-asias-first-dedicated-centre-for-space-domain-awareness/articleshow/109446300.cms>



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