

Asian Exporters' Chamber Of Commerce and Industry

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

AECCI EVENTS & SEMIINAR

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TRADE ASSISTANCE CENTER

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VOL. 6.20

BY: VINUTH KUMAR(DIGITAL EFFORTS)

INDIAN EXPORTERS URGE MYANMAR TO START TRADE <u>SETTLEMENTS USING</u> ₹



India and Russia are in talks about a potential free trade agreement (FTA) amidst the current geopolitical tensions, aiming to strengthen the bilateral relationship that has thrived since the start of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

The announcement of FTA talks with Russia comes at a time when New Delhi is also engaged in discussions with Britain, the European Union and the Gulf Cooperation Council about FTA.

Speaking with Livemint, Swarup Gupta, financial services lead and head ESG rating service, at Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) said that with Russia displacing Iraq as its top supplier of crude oil, India will be intent on narrowing its trade deficit with Russia.

In recent years, India has employed economic diplomacy to establish a favourable position for itself in global oil geopolitics. It is to be further noted that as per ORF, India is

purchaser of Russian crude oil (as of March 2022), and was also the largest importer of US crude oil in 2021.

It is to be further noted that Indian consumers pay 20 per cent more for oil than Americans, whose per capita income is 30 times greater, India's priority is to obtain the most advantageous deals.

Gupta further stressed that the <u>India-Russia FTP</u>, if concluded, would indicate that India is intent on pursuing an independent foreign policy and will continue to support Russia even as the war in Ukraine drags on. Meanwhile, Indian Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar <u>noted</u> that the COVID pandemic had disrupted <u>discussions</u> on an FTA between India and the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union and that he stressed "Our colleagues will pick up on this because we do believe it will make a real difference to our trade relationship".

Source: Mint















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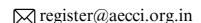
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SERVICES EXPORTS MAY REACH USD 400 BN DURING 2023-24: SEPC

NEW DELHI: Buoyed by a significant jump in exports during 2022–23, Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC) on Wednesday said the healthy growth trend will continue and shipments are expected to reach up to USD 400 billion this fiscal. During 2022–23, the country's services exports rose by 42 per cent to USD 322.72 billion from USD 254 billion in 2021–22, according to provisional data from the Commerce Ministry.

"The services sector had targeted USD 300 billion but accomplished USD 322 billion. Subject to the final data we might touch USD 350 billion in 2022-23 and based on the current trend and the continuing growth our estimate is around USD 375 billion to USD 400 billion for 2023-24," SEPC Chairman Sunil H Talati told PTI.

Sectors that contributed to the services exports growth during the last fiscal include travel,

transport, medical, and hospitality, he said.

He further said that the council has been working tirelessly in collaboration with the government to catapult services sector growth with business delegations, B2B meets, and market specific initiatives.

"Export of IT and IT enabled services is going strong and is highly likely to maintain the growth momentum. Travel sector is catching up soon. The post-pandemic economic recovery has created increasing demand for goods and services from foreign markets, the stabilization of freight charges and the normalization of supply chains are positive developments for the transport sector," he pointed out.

The business services such as engineering, architecture, legal and accounting services as well as research.

Source: All About News















Asian Exporters' Chamber θt Commerce and Industry

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ABOUT AECCI: A dynamic Chamber of Commerce aiding exporters and importers community, enhancing business operations worldwide & fostering partnerships with professionals through diverse mediums of support.

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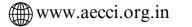
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HEADLINES [



- > Russia accounted for \$8.5 billion of the \$18.3 billion India has spent on arms imports since 2017
- > India is now the second biggest purchaser of Russian crude oil (as of March 2022), and was also the largest importer of US crude oil in 2021.
- Diversification of export destinations can help to reduce dependence on traditional markets and open up new opportunities for service exports



- > The ads for the new campaign on billboards, TV, and social media sites also feature financial rewards of signing up for the Russian military, but it is "highly unlikely" that Russia will meet its target of 400,000 volunteer recruits
- > European Free Trade Association Free Trade Agreement (EFTA), Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) are also keen to start talks for similar pacts with India.
- > The country's budget for defence projects was \$5.5 billion in 2002, now it has reached \$75 billion, including the ones in the bidding process













LATEST IN UKRAINE: RUSSIA, UKRAINE TRADE CLAIMS IN BATTLE OVER BAKHMUT

Russia and Ukraine traded claims on Sunday over the embattled city of Bakhmut.

Moscow said its forces had taken two more neighborhoods in the western area of the nearly destroyed city but offered no details.

Russia, which invaded Ukraine 14 months ago, sees taking Bakhmut as a pathway to other advances in eastern Ukraine.

However, Ukrainian Colonel General Oleksandr Syrskyi posted on the messaging app Telegram images of he and his troops at the frontline and said, "We hit the enemy, often unexpectedly for him, and continue to hold strategic lines."

Neither The Associated Press nor Reuters could verify the battlefield

reports.

Last month, Deputy Ukrainian Prime Minister Iryna Vereshchuk said Bakhmut, which had a pre-war population of more than 70,000, now has fewer than 4,000 civilians, including 38 children, remaining, Reuters



reported. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said those left are eking out an existence in underground shelters under heavy shelling.

Late Saturday, the Institute for the Study of War said that geolocated footage published by pro-Kremlin military bloggers seemed to show that Ukraine was preparing for a long-awaited spring counteroffensive

against Russian troops.

The Washington-based think tank said the pro-Kremlin bloggers indicated that Ukrainian troops had established positions north of the town of Oleshky in the Kherson region in southern Ukraine.

Analysts have said a major goal of a possible Ukrainian counteroffensive would be to break through the land corridor between Russia and the annexed Crimean Peninsula, which would necessitate crossing the Dnieper River in the country's south, the AP reported. Vladimir Saldo, the Kremlin-installed head of the Kherson region, said in a Telegram post that Russian forces are "in full control" of the area and speculated that the images referenced by the ISW may have depicted Ukrainian sabotage units that "managed to take a selfie" across the Dnieper before being forced back.

Source: News Limit













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