



Section 1- Recently concluded meetings with FEBI Secretariat

1. Interaction with Joint Secretary, Mr. Sushil Pal, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, GoI [November 11th, 2025]

India and the European Union have a long-standing relationship in Technology. Both partners have established the EU-India Trade and Technology Council, which has a Working Group on “Strategic Technologies, Digital Governance and Digital Connectivity”. The discussions with Mr. Pal revolved around continued collaboration on topics of semiconductors, HPC, Quantum Technologies, and Digital India.

2. Interaction with Joint Secretary, DPIIT, Mr. Sanjiv [November 14th, 2024]

FEBI interaction with Mr. Sanjiv, Joint Secretary, Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, GoI included discussions on initiatives under the Trade and Technology Council (TTC) which will mobilise EU and India’s vibrant startup ecosystem, to identify and design innovative solutions for EU-India Strategic Partnership.

3. Interaction with Ms. Mamta Verma, Principal Secretary, Industries and Mines Department, Government of Gujarat [November 18th, 2024]

Gujarat has been an important hub of trade and commerce. With 49 ports, including one major port, Gujarat has been one of the most important states for business and investment opportunities for EU Businesses in India. Industry and Investment Policy conversations with Ms. Mamta Verma revolved around industrial growth and manufacturing in the EU-India partnership ecosystem.



Alok Kesari, Varda Taneja, Sushil Pal, Sonia Prashar



Sonia Prashar, Mr. Sanjiv, Varda Taneja, Alok Kesari

4. Meeting with Verband Deutscher Maschinen und Anlagenbau (VDMA) [December 6th, 2024]:
FEBI and German Engineering Federation (VDMA) deliberated on the importance of internationally harmonized standards and relevance of technical regulations on machinery.

5. Meeting with Mr. Gaurav Joshi, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries [December 23rd, 2024]
We had a productive meeting with Mr. Gaurav Joshi, focusing on priorities and cooperation in the area of electrical equipment including the next phase (May 2025) implementation of the Electrical Equipment (Quality Control) Order.

6. FEBI Advisory Board Meeting [December 10th, 2024]

The meeting was attended by Members of the Advisory Group, consisting of the representative of the EU Delegation and the representatives of the MS. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Petros Sourmelis, Member of the Advisory Group on behalf of EUDEL and Head of Trade and Economic Affairs Section. FEBI Secretariat presented its activities in 2024 and outlined its plans for 2025.



Alok Kesari, Mamta Verma,
Sonia Prashar



Alok Kesari, Hermann
Wegner, Rijoy Sengupta



Alok Kesari, Gaurav Joshi,
Varda Taneja



7. Panel on EU-India Collaborative Pathways on SDGs: Aligning Policy & Practices at India Sustainability Standards

Interaction with Centre for Responsible Business on important elements of policy and the future of EU-India trade in context of the evolving regulatory landscape and collaborative partnerships.

8. Launch of sectoral Committees in FEBI

i. Technology and Digital Services Sectoral Committee [November 25th, 2024]

FEBI launched its Technology and Digital Services Sectoral committee to address issues of European digital service companies in India. The discussions elaborated on the issues related to testing and certification, the Companies Act, the DPDP Act, Ease of Doing Business, and the need for a knowledge repository.

Dr. Lovneesh Chanana (SAP) was announced as the Chair of the committee, with Ms. Vijeta Arya (Ericsson) as the Co-Chair of the Committee.

ii. Consumer Goods and Retail Sectoral Committee [November 26th, 2024]

FEBI launched its Consumer Goods and Retail sectoral committee to address key challenges faced by European companies in India. During the meeting, members highlighted priorities such as the need for integration of European perspective across sectors, challenges from QCOs and need for forming strategic government relations.

Mr. Mohit Bansal (IKEA) was announced as the Chair of the committee, with Mr. Vivek Katoch (Oriflame) as the Co-Chair.

iii. Automotive and Mobility Sectoral Committee [December 6th, 2024]

FEBI has launched its Automotive and Auto Components Sectoral Committee to address key challenges faced by European automotive and related companies in India. During the inaugural meeting, members highlighted priorities such as improvements to PLI schemes, reduction in custom duties and GST rates, and addressing challenges related to QCOs.

Mr. Vinod Pandey (BMW) was announced as the Chair of the committee, with Mr. Luca Matteucci (Marposs) as the Co-Chair.



Section 2- India's Bilateral Updates

India-EU Relations

The European Union (EU) remains one of India's most important trade partners, fostering bilateral economic engagement. Key trade figures include:

- **India's exports to EU** in Oct FY25 reached **Euro 6.5 Bn** with a Y-o-Y **growth of 22.3% over Oct FY24**. Cumulative exports to EU during Apr-Oct FY25 reached **Euro 44.1 Bn** with a Y-o-Y **growth of 8.9%** over Apr-Oct FY24.
- **India's imports from EU** in Oct FY25 reached **Euro 4.5 Bn** with a Y-o-Y **decline of -13.0%** over Oct FY24. Cumulative imports from EU during Apr-Oct FY25 reached **Euro 32.2 Bn** with a Y-o-Y **decline of -11.3%** over Apr-Oct FY24.
- **Cumulative FDI** from the EU till September 2024 reached **€112.5 Bn (Approx €113 Bn)**, showcasing strong economic ties.

Updates on India-EU Trade Relations

- **Poland to Lead EU Presidency in 2025:** On January 1, 2025, Poland will assume the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union, initiating a Trio with Denmark and Cyprus. Under Donald Tusk's pro-European government, Poland brings a strong transatlantic alliance, a frontline perspective on Eastern Europe, and a focus on enhancing the EU's resilience. Security remains a central theme as Poland prepares to shape the EU's agenda during this pivotal term.
- **The 9th round of India-EU FTA negotiations** was held in September 2024. Both sides discussed core trade issues, rules of origin, and technical trade barriers. India also raised concerns about the EU's sustainability measures, such as the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) and the Deforestation Regulation (EUDR).
- **India Raises Trade Barriers Issue with EU**
 - o On 20th December 2024, India highlighted trade barrier concerns with the European Union.
 - o Both sides committed to exploring a balanced, equitable, ambitious, and mutually beneficial Free Trade Agreement (FTA).
- **Strengthening India-Italy Trade Relations**
 - o Italy aims to become India's 3rd largest EU trade partner with the Cotton Route initiative to boost exports and enhance trade, focusing on undersea cables
 - o Italy plans to deepen space cooperation with India, opening a dedicated section in its Bangalore Consulate, announced by Italian Minister Adolfo Urso during her December 2024 visit
 - o At the G20 Summit in Rio, PM Modi and PM Meloni unveiled the Italy-India Joint Strategic Action Plan (2025-2029) to strengthen ties in politics, economy, technology, space, energy, defense, migration, and culture
- **Deepening India-France Economic Ties**
 - o Following a robust partnership in defense, India and France are now focusing on clean energy, new technologies, and aviation sectors.
 - o During the visit of French Foreign Trade Minister, Sophie Primas to India on 27th November 2024, she emphasized the importance of finalizing a "mutually beneficial" India-EU FTA.
 - o France looks forward to further negotiations with New Delhi for deepening trade relations
- **India has Launched EU's Proba-3 Space Satellite in December [5th Dec, 2024]:** Marking a milestone in Indo-EU space collaboration, India has launched the EU's Proba-3 satellite, highlighting ISRO's growing global role in space research.
- Dr. Singh credited policy reforms for India's burgeoning space sector, with over 300 startups driving innovation.
- **India and Norway forge deeper economic partnerships [8th Dec 2024]:** The India-Norway Business Forum, held in Mumbai, highlighted efforts to deepen trade and investment ties across sectors like renewable energy, maritime industries, and sustainability.
- Commerce Minister Mr. Piyush Goyal proposed launching a startup bridge to enhance collaboration, while Norway's Ambassador emphasized the potential of the recently signed TEPA agreement.
- Key issues, including regulatory and quality standards, were addressed



Section 3- 2024 Year-End Review of India

India witnessed a remarkable growth trajectory in 2024, advancing in manufacturing, startups, logistics, and industrial infrastructure while reinforcing its position on the global stage. Key highlights include:

- o **PLI Scheme Milestones:** The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme catalyzed **€ 16 Bn** in investments, **€ 141 Bn** in production, and **€ 45 Bn** in exports, generating 9.5 lakh jobs. Over 1,300 manufacturing units were established across 14 key sectors in 27 States and UTs, further enhancing India's manufacturing prowess.
- o **Startup Ecosystem Expansion:** The Startup India initiative continued to thrive, with 1.49 lakh startups creating 16 lakh jobs. Remarkably, 48% of these startups have at least one-woman director, and 50% are based in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, highlighting Inclusive and decentralized growth.
- o **Surge in FDI:** Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in the manufacturing sector rose by 69% over the past decade, from **€ 94 Bn** in 2004-2014 to **€ 158 Bn** in 2014-2024. Q1 FY25 saw a 26% increase in FDI inflows.
- o **Enhanced Logistics Infrastructure:** Under the PM Gati Shakti initiative, the Network Planning Group evaluated 213 projects worth **€ 175 Bn**. States recommended over 200 projects to improve logistics infrastructure, ensuring smoother supply chains and lower costs.
- o **Industrial Development through NICDP:** The National Industrial Corridor Development Program approved 12 greenfield infrastructure projects worth **€ 3 Bn**. These projects unlock investment potential of **€ 17 Bn** and are expected to create 9.4 lakh jobs, paving the way for robust industrial growth.
- o **IPR Achievements:** Intellectual Property Rights showed remarkable progress, with patent filings growing 17 times and trademarks 7 times since 2014-15. Streamlined processes and digitization contributed to this significant leap.

India's strategic initiatives, including fostering ease of doing business, expanding logistics capabilities, and enabling sustainable growth, have cemented India's position as a global manufacturing and innovation hub. The year 2024 reflects our unwavering commitment to realizing the vision of a self-reliant and globally competitive India.

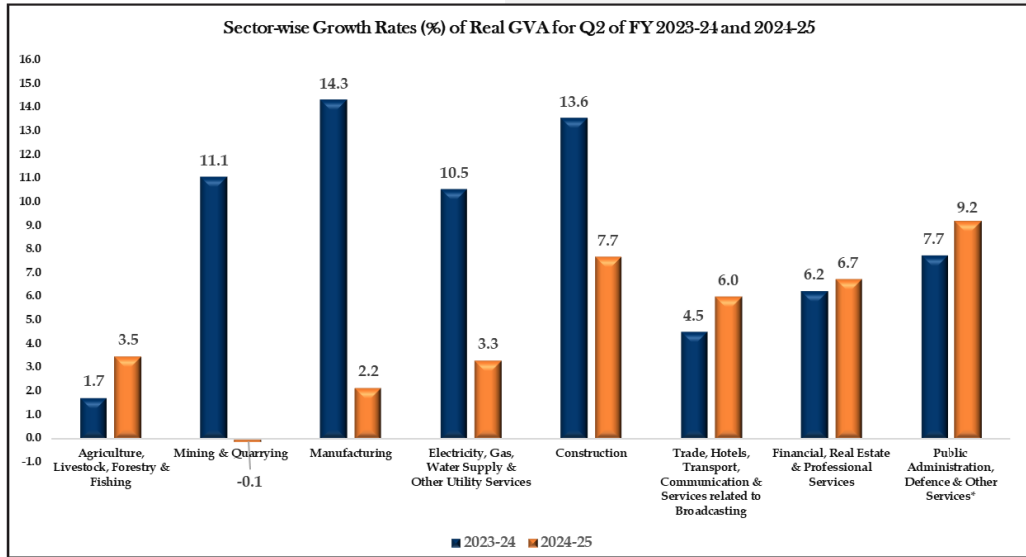
Section 4- India Policy and Macroeconomic Updates

4.1 Overview of India's Macroeconomic Environment

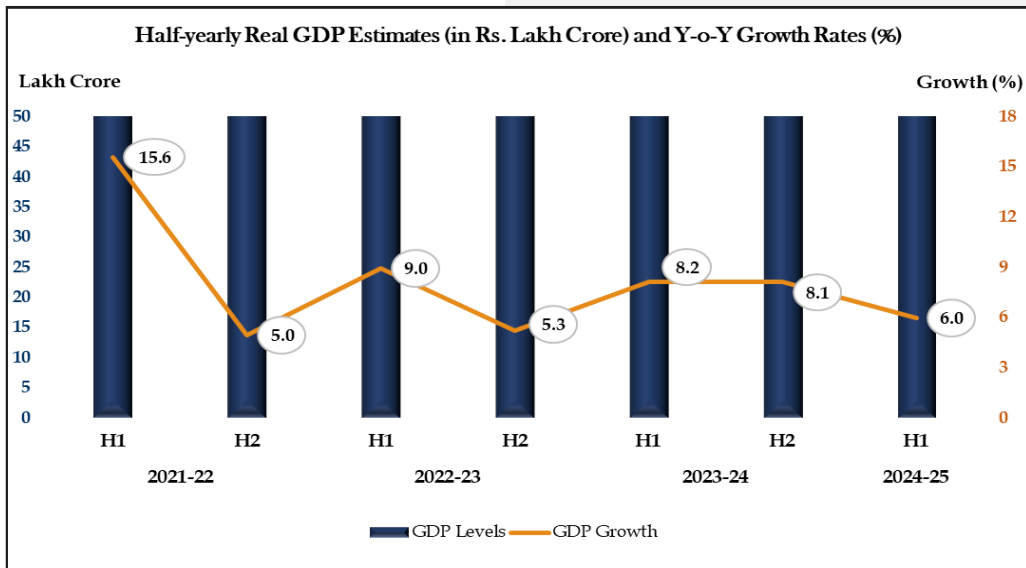
I. GDP Growth and Economic Outlook

- o **GDP Growth:** Q2 FY24-25 Real GDP growth at 5.4%. H1 FY24-25 Real GVA growth: 6.2%. Manufacturing grew by 2.2%
- o **Agriculture:** Q2 FY24-25 growth: 3.5%, recovering from previous suboptimal growth (0.4%-2.0%)
- o **Construction:** Growth driven by domestic steel consumption: 7.7% in Q2 FY24-25, 9.1% in H1 FY24-25
- o **Tertiary Sector:** Growth reached 7.1% in Q2 FY24-25 (Q2 FY24: 6.0%). Trade, Hotels, Transport, Communication & Broadcasting grew by 6.0%
- o **Private Consumption:** PFCE growth reached 6.0% in Q2, 6.7% in H1 FY24-25
- o **Government Spending:** GFCE rebounded to 4.4% growth in Q2 FY24-25 after three-quarters of low/negative growth.

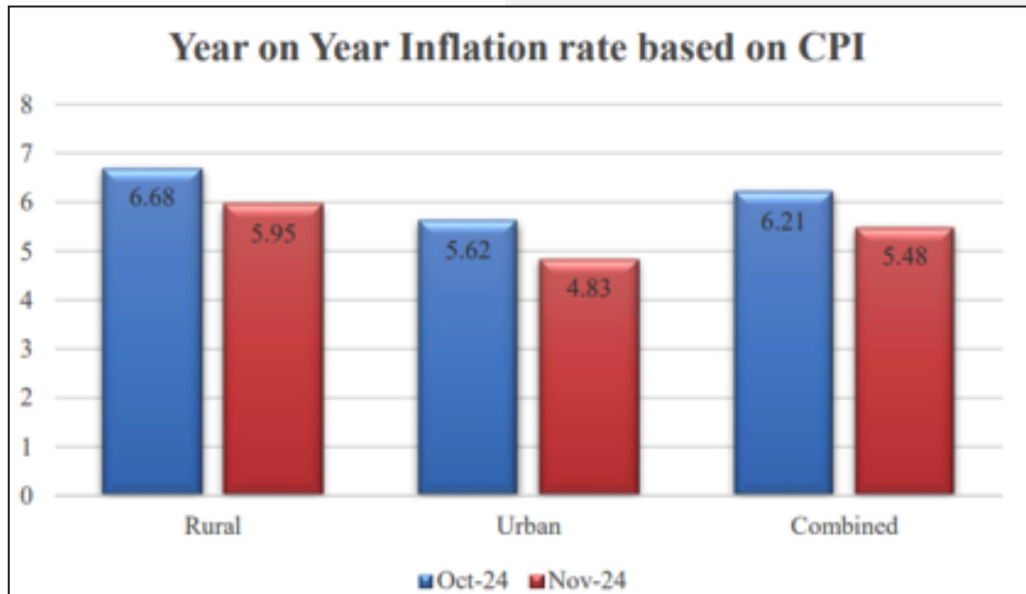




Source: Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation



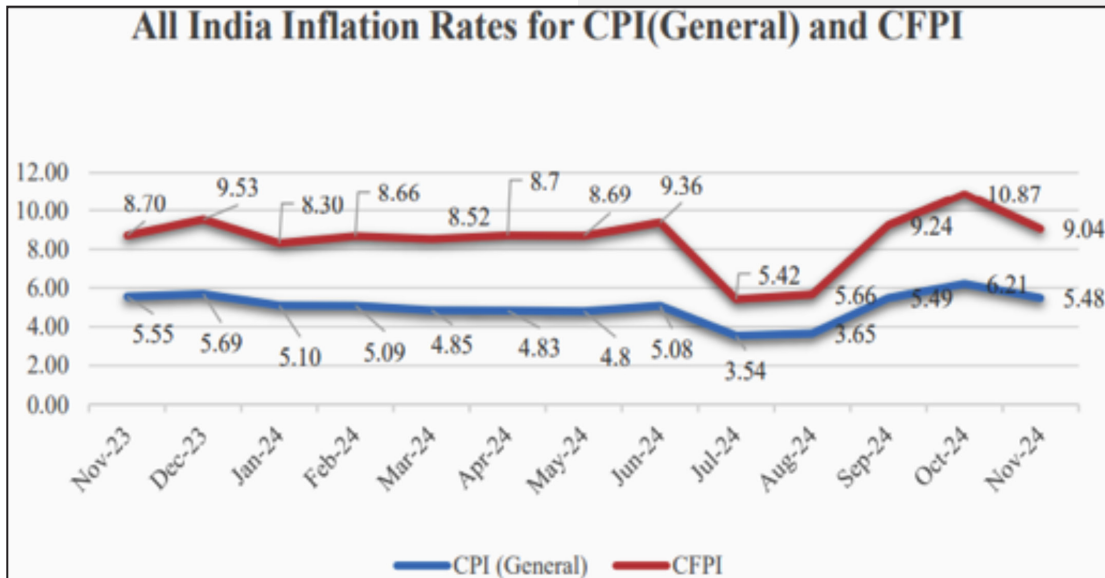
II. Inflation and Monetary Policy



Source: MoSPI



- o The year-on-year inflation rate based on the All-India Consumer Price Index (CPI) for November 2024 over November 2023 is 5.48% (Provisional). The corresponding inflation rates for rural and urban areas are 5.95% and 4.83%, respectively, showcasing balanced price trends. This moderate inflation indicates steady consumer demand and a healthy economic outlook, with urban areas showing particularly strong stability.



Source: MoSPI

III. Open Economy Indicators

Trade & Export Updates

- o **Overall Exports (April-November 2024):** €515 Bn, up 7.61% from €479 Bn in the same period of 2023.
- o **Merchandise Exports (April-November 2024):** €273 Bn, growing 2.17% over €267 Bn in 2023.
- o **FDI in Manufacturing (2004-2024):** 69% growth; €158.6 Bn (2014-2024) vs. € 94 Bn (2004-2014)
- o **FDI Inflows (Q1 FY 2024-25):** 26% increase to €21.6 Bn, up from €17 Bn in FY23-24
- o **Total Trade (November 2024):**
 - Exports: €65 Bn
 - Imports: €84 Bn



Source: MoSPI



4.2 Key Government Policies & Projects

Some notable updates include:

1. **Cabinet Approves €885.6 Mn Multitracking Projects to Boost Rail Connectivity [25th Nov, 2024]:** Cabinet has approved three multitracking projects across Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh, spanning 639 km at a cost of **€885.6 Mn**, which will ease congestion, improve connectivity, support freight movement. They align with the PM Gati Shakti plan.
2. **Cabinet Approves €216.2 Mn Heo Hydro Electric Project in Arunachal Pradesh [25th Nov, 2024]:** The Cabinet has approved the 240 MW Heo Hydro Electric Project in Shi Yomi District, Arunachal Pradesh, with a **€216.2 Mn investment** and a 50-month completion timeline. The project will generate **1,000 Million Units of energy**, enhance power supply, and benefit the state through 12% free power, 1% Local Area Development Fund. It aligns with Aatmanirbhar Bharat and creates direct and indirect employment for over 600 workers, alongside local business opportunities.
3. **Cabinet Approves €195.2 Mn Tato-I Hydro Electric Project in Arunachal Pradesh [25th Nov, 2024]:** The Cabinet has approved the 186 MW Tato-I Hydro Electric Project in Shi Yomi District, Arunachal Pradesh, with a **€195.2 Mn investment** and a 50-month completion timeline. The project will generate **802 Million Units of energy**, improving state power supply and aiding national grid balance.
4. **€126 Mn approved for disaster mitigation & capacity building projects [26th Nov 2024]:** Under the leadership of Union Home Minister Mr. Amit Shah, the High-Level Committee approved **€126 Mn** to strengthen disaster resilience in line with PM Modi's vision. The funds include **€113 Mn** for the National Landslide Risk Mitigation Project across 15 states and **Rs. €13 Mn** for civil defense training and capacity building under the NDRF window.
5. **Govt. enhances semiconductor design ecosystem with Siemens EDA support [26th Nov 2024]:** The Government of India is strengthening the semiconductor design ecosystem by expanding access to the National Chip Design Infrastructure through the *ChipIN* Centre (CDAC), supported by Siemens EDA. Additionally, companies approved under the DLI Scheme will access the advanced Veloce hardware verification solution—featuring 128 CPU cores and a capacity of 640 million gates—to address System-on-Chip (SoC) design and validation challenges.
6. **Ministry of Steel Ensures Quality in Domestic and Imported Steel [27th Nov, 2024]:** The Ministry of Steel, in collaboration with BIS, is ensuring that only quality steel is produced or imported into India through stringent Quality Control Orders and BIS standards covering 1376 steel grades. To address this, the Ministry grants import NOCs only for grades not covered under BIS standards, ensuring quality and protecting domestic manufacturers.
7. **Mr. Piyush Goyal launches CII's Ease of Doing Business Portal [28th Nov, 2024]:** Union Minister Mr. Piyush Goyal launched the *CII Ease of Doing Business and Regulatory Affairs Portal* to enhance transparency and facilitate industry feedback on business reforms. He emphasized the importance of inputs from industries for the *National Single Window System* and the need for technological upgrades in state and central portals to ensure faster processing. Mr. Goyal urged cooperation between governments and industries.
8. **MCA implements reforms to enhance ease of business and compliance [3rd Dec 2024]:** The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has introduced several reforms to simplify business processes and reduce compliance burdens including decriminalizing 63 offences under the Companies and LLP Acts, striking off 13,560 companies in FY 2023-24 and 11,855 companies in FY 2024-25 through C-PACE, and centralizing LLP strike-offs.



New e-Forms like SPICe+ and FiLLiP ease company registration and associated registrations, while the definition of small companies and LLPs has been expanded with reduced compliance costs. Additionally, centralized mechanisms such as the Centralized Registrar of Companies (CRC), Central Scrutiny Centre (CSC), and Central Processing Centre (CPC) have been established to ensure uniformity and expedite approvals. Further, **zero fees for company incorporation** and shifting registered offices have been introduced and fast-track merger processes have been expanded.

9. **€3.2 Bn approved for 12 new industrial smart city projects [6th Dec, 2024]:** The Government of India has approved **12 new industrial smart city projects** worth **€3.2 Bn** to develop critical trunk infrastructure packages. Funded through the *National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT)* and state contributions, these projects will focus on sectors like heavy engineering, automotive, electronics, IT, pharma, aerospace, agro-food processing, and semiconductors.
10. **Government initiates various steps for promotion and facilitation of setting up of new industries across State/UTs [10th Dec 2024]:** The Government of India, under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP), is developing world-class industrial corridor projects to establish greenfield industrial areas and nodes that rival global manufacturing and investment destinations. Initiatives like Make in India, PM Gati Shakti, and the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme are enhancing industrial development, supported by mechanisms such as the National Single Window System and Project Development Cells.
11. **India's FDI Journey Hits €961.8 Bn [12th Dec 2024]:** India has crossed the remarkable milestone of **€961.8 Bn** in gross foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows since April 2000, driven by progressive policies, a dynamic business environment, and competitive incentives.
12. **PLI for promoting domestic manufacturing of medical devices [17th Dec 2024]:** The Government of India's Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Medical Devices, with a financial outlay of **€386 Mn** and a production tenure from FY 2022-23 to FY 2026-27 offers a 5% incentive on incremental sales for products under four target segments. So far, 19 greenfield projects have been commissioned, enabling domestic production of 44 advanced medical devices like MRI machines and CT scans, previously imported. Total sales under the scheme reached **€907 Mn** by September 2024.

Section 5- Call for Partnership with DPIIT

Set Up a Corporate Incubator and Drive a Manufacturing Revolution!

Join hands with DPIIT to become a trailblazer in corporate-startup collaboration. Together, we can:

- o Shape the future of Indian manufacturing
- o Create lasting value for your company and the nation
- o Contribute to flagship initiatives like Make in India and Aatmanirbhar Bharat
- o Be the catalyst for transformative change in India's innovation ecosystem

Government Support is Just a Step Away!

Here's How Startup India Can Empower You:

1. Unparalleled Access to Startups
2. Comprehensive Marketing Support
3. Networking and Strategic Collaborations
4. World-Class Infrastructure and Events

Reach out to the FEBI Team to connect with DPIIT and shape a self-reliant and innovative India. Let's co-create a legacy of growth, innovation, and impact. Together, we can turn aspirations into achievements!

Section 6- India Investment Bulletin

1. **Hon'ble Minister Hardeep Puri announced India is eyeing €82 Bn investment in the petrochemicals** sector over next decade [18th Oct, 2024]
2. AM Green places India's largest electrolyzer order with Belgium company, John Cockerill Hydrogen for one of the world's largest **one-million-ton green ammonia projects** at their existing plant in Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh. John Cockerill Hydrogen will supply advanced pressurized alkaline electrolyzers, of 640 MW capacity in phase 1 guaranteeing low-cost green hydrogen. [30th Oct, 2024]
3. Vehicle sales in India **grew by 11.21% in November 2024**, reaching 32,08,719 units, driven by strong **two-wheeler demand**, reports FADA.
4. AM/NS India will **invest €15 Bn** to set up a 17.8 million tonnes integrated steel project in Andhra Pradesh, one of the largest greenfield projects in recent times, announced in November 2024.
5. 10 of the recently approved **industrial cities** are located on India's key economic and industrial corridors, with **12 new projects** under the **National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP)** attracting an estimated investment **€3.1 Bn** across 10 states [19th Nov, 2024]
6. **India and the EU have finalized a roadmap** for the green hydrogen sector, including infrastructure development and technology cooperation, while adopting a work plan for the third phase of the India-EU Clean Energy and Climate Partnership 2025-28 [28th Nov, 2024]
7. The Indian government is considering **mandatory hallmarking for gold bullion** to ensure quality and protect consumers, following the successful implementation of hallmarking for gold jewelry since June 2021, said Consumer Affairs Secretary Nidhi Khare [3rd Dec, 2024]
8. **Over 1 hundred 50 thousand (1.5 Lakh) entities have been recognized as startups** by the government till October this year [3rd Dec, 2024].
9. India's leading **manufacturing and industrial firms**, including TII Murugappa, Bajaj Hindustan, and Pidilite are collaborating with the government to tap into the expanding global electronics supply chain [5th Dec, 2024].
10. **Aditya Birla Group announces €5.5 Bn investment plan for Rajasthan** [9th Dec, 2024]
11. India's Shipping Ministry has launched a **€11.1 Mn scheme to incentivize inland waterways** transport and support scheduled cargo services on National Waterways NW-1, NW-2, and NW-16 [15th Dec, 2024].
12. India's **passenger vehicle sales** are projected to grow by 5% in 2025, driven by government spending, a strong monsoon, and positive rural sentiment, with **rising demand** for entry-level cars and two-wheelers. The economy is forecasted to expand by 6.7% in FY26 [22nd Dec, 2024]
13. Investments in dedicated **EV assembly lines** within existing factories will qualify for **incentives** under India's SMEC scheme, the government clarified [23rd Dec, 2024]

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