

India

An overview of the economy and of the business environment



Cricket in India is more than just a sport—it's a cultural phenomenon that unites a diverse nation across languages, regions, and social segments. From busy urban centers to remote villages, cricket is played, watched, and celebrated with unmatched enthusiasm. The sport's popularity has grown exponentially since India's historic World Cup win in 1983, and today, it plays a significant role not only in the country's social fabric but also in its economic landscape.

India is home to the largest cricket fan base in the world, with hundreds of millions tuning in to watch domestic and international matches. The Indian Premier League (IPL), launched in 2008, revolutionized the sport by combining entertainment with high-stakes competition. The IPL alone contributes billions of rupees to the economy annually, generating revenue through broadcasting rights, sponsorships, ticket sales, merchandise, and tourism.



Major corporations and global brands compete for visibility during cricket events, making sports marketing a lucrative sector. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is one of the wealthiest cricket boards globally, and its financial strengths have positioned India as a central force in international cricket governance.

Cricket's economic influence offers a glimpse into the forces driving India's broader financial momentum—an economy now shaped by sectoral evolution and global trade ambitions.

India's economy in 2025 continues to demonstrate resilience and dynamism, positioning itself as a key player in global trade and investment. With a projected GDP growth of 6.4% for FY25, India remains one of the fastest-growing major economies. This growth is underpinned by robust domestic demand, strategic reforms, and sectoral diversification, making India an attractive partner for international businesses.



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India's economy is a mosaic of diverse activities, shaped by its agricultural heritage, industrial ambitions, and service-driven innovation. For companies engaging with Indian suppliers or customers, understanding the nuances of these sectors is essential to navigating opportunities and anticipating market shifts.

Agriculture remains deeply rooted in India's identity, supporting millions of livelihoods and shaping rural economies. While the sector is often associated with small-scale farming, it is also a major contributor to global food supply chains.



India is a leading producer and exporter of Basmati rice, prized for its aroma and quality, and spices such as turmeric, cumin, and cardamom, which have become staples in kitchens worldwide.

Other key exports include cotton, which feeds the global textile industry, and fresh fruits like mangoes, bananas, and pomegranates, increasingly sought after for their flavor and nutritional value. India's tea and coffee—especially from regions like Assam, Darjeeling, and Karnataka—are gaining popularity in specialty markets, while pulses such as lentils and chickpeas are being recognized for their role in global food security.



India's industrial sector is transitioning from traditional manufacturing to high-tech production. While textiles and garments remain important, the country is rapidly expanding into automotive components, pharmaceuticals, electronics, and engineering goods. These industries are supported by growing infrastructure, skilled labor, and increasing foreign investment.

The automotive industry is particularly dynamic, with India emerging as a hub for both conventional and electric vehicles. The pharmaceutical sector leverages India's expertise in generic drug production, supplying affordable medicines to markets across the globe.

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Meanwhile, electronics manufacturing is gaining traction, with companies investing in assembly plants and component production to meet rising domestic and international demand.



India's industrial clusters—spread across states like Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Gujarat—are becoming more integrated with global supply chains. For international businesses, this means access to competitive manufacturing partners capable of delivering quality at scale.

The service sector is India's most profitable and globally visible domain. It spans a wide range of activities, but several segments stand out for their growth and international relevance.

Information technology and business services are the crown jewels of India's service economy. Cities like Bengaluru and Hyderabad host thousands of software firms, offering everything from app development and cloud solutions to cybersecurity and data analytics. These services are not just outsourced—they're co-developed, customized, and increasingly strategic for global clients.



Financial services, including banking, insurance, and fintech, are expanding rapidly. India's digital payment systems and mobile banking platforms are among the most advanced in the world, attracting investment and partnerships from global financial institutions.



Healthcare and medical tourism are also rising stars. India offers high-quality medical care at competitive prices, drawing patients from around the world for procedures ranging from cardiac surgery to fertility treatments. Telemedicine and AI-driven diagnostics are further enhancing the sector's reach and efficiency.

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Education and e-learning are growing as well, with Indian platforms offering online courses, tutoring, and certification programs to global audiences. This is complemented by a booming startup ecosystem, where entrepreneurs are building solutions in logistics, retail, and sustainability.



Tourism and hospitality, especially in wellness and eco-tourism, are recovering post-pandemic and attracting international visitors seeking unique cultural and natural experiences.

Together, these segments make India's service sector a magnet for foreign investment and a reliable partner for global business. Its strength lies not just in cost efficiency, but in innovation, adaptability, and a deep pool of talent.

India plays a vital role in global trade, with a diverse economy that supports a wide range of exports and imports. Its export strengths lie in petroleum products, electronics, pharmaceuticals, machinery, and agricultural goods, reflecting both industrial capacity and global demand. On the import side, India relies heavily on crude oil, electronics, precious metals, and chemicals to fuel its domestic growth and consumption.

The country maintains strong trade relationships with partners such as the United States, China, the United Arab Emirates, and several European and Asian nations. These ties are shaped by strategic interests, historical connections, and evolving market needs. However, India's trade balance continues to show a deficit, driven by higher import volumes compared to exports.



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In recent years, India has faced growing challenges in its trade environment. One of the most significant has been the imposition of steep tariffs by the United States, particularly in response to India's continued purchase of Russian oil. These measures have disrupted access to key markets and raised concerns about long-term competitiveness. At the same time, India's share in global merchandise exports has stagnated, hindered by structural issues such as high logistics costs, regulatory complexity, and limited diversification in manufacturing.

Global trends toward protectionism and the weakening of international trade institutions have further complicated India's position. The rise of reshoring and nearshoring strategies in developed economies is reducing demand for Indian exports, while non-tariff barriers are making market access more difficult.

In response, India is pursuing a range of initiatives to strengthen its trade resilience. These include export promotion schemes, efforts to diversify export destinations, and negotiations for new trade agreements. The government is also focusing on expanding manufacturing capabilities and integrating more deeply into global value chains.



Despite these challenges, India remains a resilient and adaptive economy. Its strong domestic market, growing services sector, and strategic policy shifts position it to navigate the evolving global trade landscape. Continued reforms and targeted investments will be key to enhancing India's competitiveness and securing its place in the future of international commerce.

India offers a compelling landscape for international business, making it highly profitable to establish relationships with local suppliers, customers, and investment partners. Its vast market, competitive industries, and skilled workforce provide strong opportunities across sectors such as manufacturing, technology, pharmaceuticals, and agriculture. Yet, navigating this dynamic environment requires reliable insights to ensure safe and successful partnerships.

To mitigate risks and make informed decisions, it is essential to rely on trusted sources of business intelligence. In this regard, SkyMinder stands out as the ideal solution.

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By leveraging the expertise of the best local providers, SkyMinder delivers in-depth, accurate, and up-to-date information on any Indian company. Whether you're conducting due diligence, assessing financial stability, or verifying business credentials, SkyMinder ensures transparency and confidence in every step of your business engagement in India.



All SkyMinder Full Reports on Indian companies are freshly investigated and compiled using the expertise of the most reliable local providers, ensuring accuracy, depth, and relevance. Each report includes:

- Complete company identification details: correct company name, address, contact details such as phone, fax, email, webs, etc.
- Company registration details: our local providers try to access local registries and to get registration number, company id, fiscal code, and any information that can be retrieved at the local registry
- Directors and company structure: board of directors, shareholders and related companies
- Financials: most times financials are not filed at the local registries, however, our local providers thanks to their information network and to the interview to the company try to get the most detailed financial information on the requested company
- Peer comparison
- Credit rating and suggested credit limit
- Number of employees
- Activity details: sector and industry of the company, when possible also, information on import and export activities, company brands, main suppliers and customers names, etc.
- Relevant events and negative information on the company
- GSTIN details

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Beyond Full Reports, SkyMinder offers a range of specialized solutions tailored to specific business needs. These include:

- Verification Report: synthetic information about the company, including shareholding structure.
- Compliance Check Report: through SkyMinder you can access the Lexis Nexis Risk Solutions platform and check if a business partner is involved in financial crimes, bribery, corruption and money laundering actions.
- Cyber Risk Report: thanks to the test performed to a company website and related domains and emails, you can understand in advance if a partner or potential partner is vulnerable to a cyber-attack.
- Registry documents, company profile and shareholder list from the Legal Entity Identifier official registry

SkyMinder ensures the fastest delivery times, providing highly accurate and freshly investigated reports within just a few working days. Each report is complete, up-to-date, and designed to be easy to read and interpret. Thanks to the depth and reliability of SkyMinder reports businesses can confidently establish secure and profitable partnerships with any Indian company.



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