



5.4 INDIA

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India has a GDP of RS 2,933 billion (C\$200 billion) and a population of 797 million. The focus of its industrial production is food, textiles, metallurgy, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and chemicals. ● ●

India spends about 1.13 percent of its GDP on R&D.

TECHNOLOGY TRENDS

The Indian government has targeted the following areas:

- environment
- ocean technologies
- non-conventional energy sources
- biotechnology
- space technologies (eg. telecommunications)
- electronics (eg. electronic switching, LSI/VLSI, computer architecture)
- nuclear power

TECHNOLOGY STRENGTHS

India's technology strengths include the space program, defence R&D and computer software.

KEY ORGANIZATIONS

A principal agency is the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). This organization consists of a network of 39 national laboratories, two cooperative research associations and 100 extension field centres. The Council's research programs are directed towards the effective utilization of India's natural resources and development of new processes and products for economic progress.

Other organizations include:

- The National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA)
- India Space Research Organization (ISRO)
- Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)

- Geographical Survey of India
- Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)

KEY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Support is directed to sectors such as space, military and telecommunications more than to support of manufacturing per se.

CONDITIONS OF ACCESS

While imports are discouraged, technology transfer agreements stimulating manufacturing in India are permitted. While India offers only niche technologies for outward licensing, exchanges of expertise and know how are unrestricted. Government approval procedures are to be accelerated for industrial collaboration.

TECHNOLOGICAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIANS

Principal opportunities are in communication technology, defence and software.

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