

India and Oman sign Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)

Comprehensive Agreement Signed: India and Oman sign a Comprehensive Trade Agreement Advancing a New Era of Economic Partnership and Opportunity under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

In the presence and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and his Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the India–Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) was signed by Hon’ble Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal and Oman’s Minister of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion H.E. Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, marking a major milestone in India’s strategic engagement with the Gulf region.

Agreement Unlocks Export Opportunity for India’s Labour-Intensive Sectors including textiles, leather, footwear, gems & jewellery, engineering products, plastics, furniture, agricultural products, pharmaceuticals, medical devices and automobiles generating employment and empowering artisans, women-led enterprises and MSMEs

Unprecedented Market Access for Indian Goods with zero-duty access on 98.08% of Oman's tariff lines, covering 99.38% of India's exports by value

This is the 2nd Free Trade Agreement signed in the last 6 months after

United Kingdom

Ambitious Services Commitments - First of its kind by Oman

Oman has offered 127 sub-sectors: A wide-ranging package covers Computer Related Services, Business Services, Professional services, Audio visual services, R & D Services, Education services and Health Services - unlocking high-value opportunities and job creation.

Enhanced Mobility for Indian Professionals

For the first time, Oman has offered commitments across key Mode 4 categories, High quality temporary entry and temporary stay commitments for Intra-Corporate Transferees, and Contractual Service Suppliers, Business Visitors and

Independent Professionals
and liberalised entry and stay for professionals in
accountancy, taxation, architecture, medical and
allied sectors

Commitment on 100% Foreign Direct Investment for
Indian companies in major services sectors (Mode 3)

Provision for future negotiations on Social Security
coverage of workers upon implementation of Oman's
contributory social security system

First-ever commitment by any country on Traditional
Medicine across all modes opening significant
opportunities for India's AYUSH and wellness
sectors, promotes medical value travel, and
strengthens cooperation in traditional healthcare
systems.

Fast tracking of marketing authorizations for
Pharmaceutical products approved by USFDA, EMA,
UKMHRA, etc.; acceptance of GMP inspection
documents reducing time and cost for Indian pharma
exporters.

Facilitates mutual recognition arrangements for Halal
certification, acceptance of India's NPOP certification

for organic products, and enhanced cooperation in standards and conformity assessment.

Posted On: 18 DEC 2025 3:53PM by PIB Delhi

India and Oman have taken a significant step in building a stronger economic partnership with the signing of Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement today under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal and Oman's Minister of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion H.E. Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef signed the agreement.

This Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) marks an important milestone in India's engagement with the Gulf region and reflects the shared commitment to deepen bilateral economic integration. Oman is an important strategic partner in the region and is a key gateway for Indian goods and services to the wider Middle East and Africa. Nearly 7 lakh Indian nationals reside in Oman, including Indian merchant families with a presence of over 200–300 years, contributing significantly to Oman's economy and society. Indian enterprises have built a strong presence in Oman, with over 6,000 Indian establishments operating across sectors. Annual remittances of around USD 2 billion further reflect the depth of economic engagement. Bilateral trade between India and Oman stands at over USD 10 billion, with strong potential for expansion under the CEPA framework.

This is the 2nd Free Trade Agreement signed in the last 6 months after United Kingdom and is a part of strategy to sign trade agreements with developed economies that are not competing with our labour-intensive interests and provide opportunities for Indian businesses.

The CEPA secures unprecedented tariff concessions for India from Oman. Oman has offered zero-duty access on 98.08% of its tariff lines, covering 99.38% of India's exports to Oman. All major labour-intensive sectors including Gems & Jewellery, Textiles, leather, footwear, sports goods, plastics, furniture, agricultural products, engineering products, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and Automobiles receive full tariff elimination. Out of the above, immediate tariff elimination is being offered on 97.96% Tariff Lines.

India is offering tariff liberalization on 77.79% of its total tariff lines (12556) which covers 94.81% of India's imports from Oman by value. For the products of export interest to Oman and which are sensitive to India, the offer is mostly a tariff-rate quota (TRQ) based tariff liberalization.

To safeguard its interest, sensitive products have been kept in the exclusion category by India without offering any concessions, especially agricultural products, including dairy, tea, coffee, rubber, and tobacco products; gold and silver bullion, jewellery; other labour-intensive products such as footwear, sports goods; and scrap of many base metals.

The Services sector, a strong driver of India's economy, will also see wide-ranging benefits. Oman's substantial global services imports amounting to USD 12.52 billion, with the share of India's exports in Oman's global imports basket as 5.31%, indicating significant untapped potential for Indian service providers. The agreement features a comprehensive and forward-looking services package, with Oman extending substantial commitments across a broad spectrum of sectors including Computer Related Services, Business and Professional Services, Audio-visual Services, Research and Development, Education and Health Services. These commitments are expected to unlock significant new opportunities for Indian service providers, promote high-value job creation, and support expanding commercial engagement between the two countries.

A major highlight of the CEPA is the enhanced mobility framework for Indian professionals. For the first time, Oman has offered wide-ranging commitments under Mode 4, including a notable increase in the quota for Intra-Corporate Transferees from 20 per cent to 50 per cent, together with a longer permitted duration of stay for Contractual Service Suppliers—extended from the existing 90 days to two years, with

the possibility of a further two-year extension. The agreement also provides for more liberal entry and stay conditions for skilled professionals in key sectors such as accountancy, taxation, architecture, medical and allied services, supporting deeper and more seamless professional engagement.

The CEPA further provides for 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment by Indian companies in major services sectors in Oman through commercial presence, opening a wide avenue for India's services industry to expand operations in the region. In addition, both sides have agreed to hold future discussions on social security coordination once Oman's contributory social security system is implemented, reflecting a forward-looking approach to facilitating labour mobility and worker protection.

A landmark element of the Agreement is Oman's commitment on Traditional Medicine extended across all modes of supply representing the first such comprehensive commitment made by any country, and creating a significant opportunity for India's AYUSH and wellness sectors to showcase its strength in the Gulf region.

Apart from the above, provisions in CEPA also address non-tariff barriers persisting despite tariff concessions, limiting real market access.

This is the first bilateral agreement that Oman has signed with any country since United States of America in 2006.

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, expressed profound gratitude to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his visionary guidance, stating: "The India-Oman CEPA strengthens the historical strong ties of India with Oman and signifies an ambitious and balanced economic framework that significantly enhances opportunities for Indian exporters and professionals. It unlocks nearly universal duty free access for Indian goods in the Omani market, expands services commitments across key high growth sectors, and ensures greater mobility for Indian professionals. The agreement reinforces India's commitment to inclusive growth benefiting farmers, artisans, workers, MSMEs while safeguarding core national interests."

The CEPA is expected to significantly boost bilateral trade, generate employment, expand exports, strengthen supply chains, and open new avenues for deeper, long-term economic engagement between India and Oman.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister [@NarendraModi](#) ji and His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, India and Oman have inked the India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), marking a significant milestone in India's strategic engagement with the Gulf region.... pic.twitter.com/VI2RzSpO2O

— Piyush Goyal (@PiyushGoyal) [December 18, 2025](#)

Abhishek Dayal/ Shabbir Azad

(Release ID: 2205889)