

The Global Trade Driver

(An International Forum on Industry and Education)

June 2026

ISRAEL: GLOBAL INNOVATION HUB MARCHING TOWARDS A PEACEFUL & MORE PROSPEROUS FUTURE



HIGH-TECH &
CYBERSECURITY

AGRITECH &
SUSTAINABILITY

MEDTECH &
LIFE SCIENCE



ISRAEL - INDIA

“A GROWING PARTNERSHIP BUILT ON TRUST”



AN INTERVIEW WITH:
MADAM ORLI WEITZMAN
CONSUL GENERAL,
CONSULATE GENERAL OF ISRAEL,
SOUTH INDIA, BENGALURU

TOP ISRAEL COMPANIES (An Illustrative List)

COMPANY NAME	PRIMARY SECTOR	TOP PRODUCT/EXPORT	ANNUAL TURNOVER
Palo Alto Networks	Cybersecurity	Identity & Network Security	\$8.5B+ (Global)*
Teva Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceuticals	Generic Drugs & Biologics	\$17.3 Billion
Elbit Systems	Defense	Drones & Intelligence Systems	\$7.7 Billion
Israel Aerospace (IAI)	Aerospace	Missile Defense	\$6.8 Billion
ICL Group	Chemicals	Specialized Fertilizers	\$7.1 Billion
Bank Leumi	Banking	Financial Services	\$6.5 Billion



1. What are the broad and specific goals that you would like to achieve in your tenure as the Consul General of Israel for South India?

My objective is to ensure that the strong Israel-India partnership creates tangible impact in South India by translating government ties into real opportunities for students, entrepreneurs, researchers, businesses, and communities. I aim to deepen collaboration in innovation, technology, academia, water, agriculture, healthcare, and climate solutions while strengthening people-to-people connections. Success will be reflected in Israel being recognized as a trusted partner for sustainable growth and long-term cooperation.

2. How do you think Southern India is different from other parts of India, and what is strikingly similar across the country?

Although my professional experience has focused on South India, the region feels remarkably familiar to an Israeli due to its shared values, cultural pride, patriotism, and strong entrepreneurial spirit. Its blend of innovation, resilience, and problem-solving closely reflects Israeli society. Across India, I consistently see the central importance of people, education, ambition, and progress through hard work. These shared qualities make the India-Israel partnership both natural and enduring.

3. Apart from defence deals, which sectors should be prioritized in the growing India-

LEADER WITH A PURPOSE

Orli Weitzman, Consul General of Israel to South India, drives strategic bilateral growth from Bengaluru by spearheading collaborations in innovation, agriculture, and water technology.



Ms. Orli Weitzman

A veteran diplomat with the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs, she leverages extensive leadership experience across West Africa, Latin America, and Europe to strengthen regional partnerships.

Israel trade and investment partnership?

India and Israel already collaborate in key sectors, with strong potential in water management, agri-tech, healthcare, climate solutions, and advanced technologies. Israel's innovation strength combined with South India's scale and talent creates major trade and investment opportunities. The priority is to strengthen existing partnerships and scale pilot projects into sustainable, high-impact solutions.



4. What three key policy changes could accelerate India-Israel relations?

To accelerate Indo-Israel relations, three priorities stand out. First, streamline processes and enable faster decision-making to reduce barriers in trade, investment, and innovation partnerships. Second, create structured mechanisms to scale successful pilot projects into large-scale impact, especially at state and municipal levels. Third, strengthen mobility and exchanges among students, researchers, and innovators to deepen trust, enhance knowledge sharing, and build long-term strategic cooperation.

5. How can the growing people-to-people ties between India and Israel be further strengthened for mutual benefit?

India-Israel people-to-people ties are strong and warm, with deep mutual goodwill. To expand this bond, structured initiatives like innovation funds, academic exchanges, and joint programs should be strengthened. This will convert friendship into long-term, mutually beneficial cooperation.

“The engagement between Israel and India reflects a quiet, steady, and meaningful cooperation grounded in long-standing trust”



Ms. Orli Weitzman

6. How can the world better recognize the strong and close partnership between India and Israel?

Israel highly values its relationship with India, recognizing it as a strong, consistent, and trusted partner built on mutual respect and shared interests. The engagement between our countries reflects a quiet, steady, and meaningful cooperation grounded in long-standing trust. Israel deeply appreciates India's continued understanding, support, and commitment to strengthening this enduring partnership.

7. How would you explain to the world that Israel supports and respects religious freedom for all faiths, not just Judaism?

Israel is a vibrant and diverse society where people of different faiths live and practice freely, with pluralism embedded in daily life and public institutions. It is essential to view news and social media critically, as brief headlines rarely reflect the full complexity of a nation. The clearest understanding comes through direct experience—visiting Israel, meeting its people, and witnessing its diversity and coexistence firsthand.

ISRAEL COMPANIES IN INDIA

Israel and India share a strong and expanding economic partnership, with over 300 Israeli companies operating in sectors such as technology, agriculture, healthcare, water management, defense, and renewable energy. These companies foster technology transfer, innovation-led collaborations, and strategic joint ventures. Their presence in India supports sustainable development and strengthens long-term strategic and economic ties between the two nations.

- Teva Pharmaceutical Industries operates in India in the field of generic and specialty medicines, contributing significantly to the pharmaceutical and healthcare sector.
- Watergen provides innovative technology that generates drinking water from air, supporting water sustainability initiatives in India.
- Rivulis plays an important role in Indian agriculture by supplying drip irrigation and precision farming technologies that improve crop productivity and conserve water.
- Sarine Technologies supports India's diamond industry through advanced AI-based grading, planning, and analysis systems.
- In renewable energy, Ecoppia provides robotic solar panel cleaning solutions for large-scale solar power plants, improving efficiency and reducing operational costs.
- Aqwise contributes to sustainable environmental management in India through advanced wastewater treatment technologies.
- Plasjon supplies pipe fittings and water infrastructure systems used in agriculture, gas distribution, and municipal water projects.
- Amdocs, the company that is leading the way in telecom software, through its innovative technology solutions, has a huge pool of skilled labor in India and it is engaged in the reformation of telecom operations making them efficient for some of the biggest telecom service providers in the country.



INDIAN COMPANIES IN ISRAEL

Indian companies have established a strong and diversified presence in Israel across sectors such as information technology, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, infrastructure, defense, and banking. These collaborations reflect the growing strategic and economic partnership between India and Israel.

- TCS (Tata Consultancy Services) operates in Petah Tikva, providing IT services along with government and financial technology solutions. The company supports digital transformation projects and enterprise technology systems in Israel.
- Infosys, located in Ra'anana, focuses on software automation, fintech innovation, and cybersecurity solutions. It plays a key role in delivering advanced digital services and technology-driven business solutions.
- Wipro has operations in Tel Aviv and Kiryat Bialik. The company runs cybersecurity innovation centers and is also involved in aerospace component manufacturing, supporting high-tech industrial collaborations.
- Tech Mahindra, with offices in Lod and Tel Aviv, provides telecom network solutions and advanced 5G technology services. It contributes to strengthening communication infrastructure and next-generation connectivity.
- Sun Pharma operates in the Haifa Bay region, where it is engaged in pharmaceutical manufacturing and dermatology drug research and development. Its presence enhances India-Israel cooperation in healthcare and life sciences.
- Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, based in Petah Tikva, focuses on regulatory services, biotech collaborations, and drug development. The company supports innovation in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors.
- Adani Ports & SEZ manages port operations and infrastructure in Haifa, contributing to maritime trade efficiency and strategic logistics development.
- Adani Defense maintains liaison operations in Haifa, coordinating defense collaborations and UAV joint venture initiatives, thereby enhancing bilateral defense cooperation.
- State Bank of India (SBI) operates in Ramat Gan, providing banking services primarily for the diamond trade and international finance, facilitating financial connectivity between India and Israel.

ISRAEL TRADE SHOWS - GATEWAY TO ISRAEL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

The Israel Export Institute plays a key role in promoting Israeli products globally through trade shows hosted in Israel. It organizes and supports international exhibitions where Israeli companies can showcase innovations in sectors like technology, agriculture, and healthcare. The institute invites global buyers, investors, and delegations to attend these events, creating strong business networking opportunities. It also assists companies with marketing, logistics, and coordination to ensure effective participation. Through these trade shows, Israeli products gain visibility, credibility, and access to international markets.

Major trade shows in Israel are given below:

- IMTM Tourism (Feb 3-4),
- Biomed (May 12-14),
- New-Tech (May 26-27).
- Other major 2026 events include MDI Medical Devices (Feb 17) and the Israfood/HOTEX/KITEX food/hospitality week in November.
- International Tourism Market February 3–4, 2026, at Expo Tel Aviv.
- MDI Expo 2026 (Medical Devices): February 17, 2026, at Avenue Convention and Events Center.
- Biomed Israel 2026: May 12–14, 2026, at Inter-Continental David Tel Aviv.
- New-Tech Exhibition 2026: May 26–27, 2026, at Expo Tel Aviv, focusing on hi-tech and electronics.
- Gym & Pools Israel 2026: May 26–27, 2026, at Expo Tel Aviv.
- DigiMarCon Mediterranean & Israel 2026: October 6–7, 2026, at Inter-Continental David Tel Aviv.
- Israfood, KITEX, & HOTEX 2026: November 17–18, 2026, at Expo Tel Aviv. These events cover food, beverage, and hospitality technologies.



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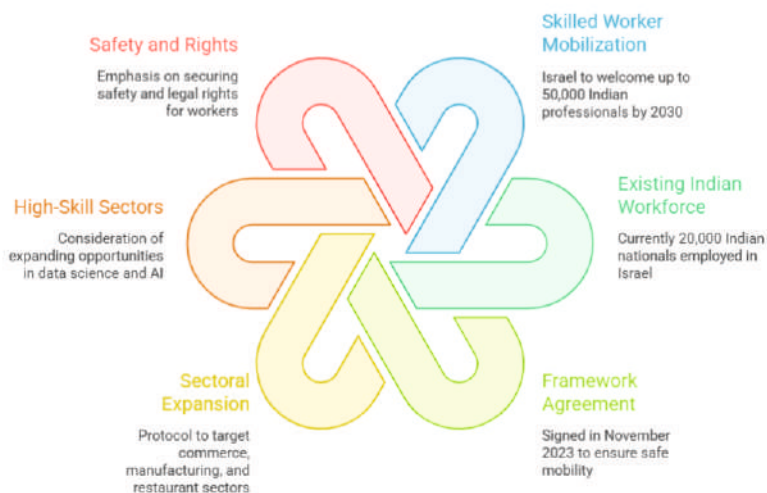
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Indian Workforce for Israel -

Israel to Recruit 50,000 Indian Professionals by 2030

India-Israel Collaboration on Workforce Mobility



In a significant move to bolster bilateral ties and address labor shortages, Israel has announced plans to welcome over 50,000 Indian workers by the year 2030. This landmark decision follows a high-level meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on February 26, 2026, where both leaders prioritized enhanced workforce mobility for the next five years.

Strategic Workforce Expansion

Currently, approximately 20,000 Indians are employed in Israel. This new agreement

seeks to more than double that figure, focusing on several key areas:

Immediate Needs: Recruitment will initially target skilled labor in the caregiving and construction sectors.

New Horizons: Both nations agreed to sign protocols expanding opportunities into manufacturing, commerce, services, and the restaurant industry.

High-Tech Integration: Looking toward the future, the partnership aims to open doors for Indian experts in high-skill fields such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), data science, and hi-tech.

How can Indian Professionals benefit from Israel's 2030 Hiring Plan?

- Israel plans to hire 50,000 more skilled professionals boosting opportunities in caregiving and construction
- Job openings are available for professionals in data science, AI and hi-tech
- More Indian Professionals will join the existing community, fostering a sense of belonging
- The plan ensures safety, legal rights and welfare for Indian workers
- Reemphasizes India's role in stabilizing Israel's workforce

Safety and Simplified Immigration

The initiative operates under the Framework Agreement and Implementation Protocols originally established in November 2023. These protocols are designed to ensure the "safe and secure" mobility of workers, safeguarding their legal rights while streamlining the immigration process.

By simplifying bureaucratic hurdles, both governments aim to create a seamless pipeline for Indian talent to contribute to the Israeli economy. This collaboration not only addresses Israel's demand for skilled labor but also provides Indian professionals with lucrative international career pathways in both traditional and cutting-edge industries.

Despite its small size, **Israel** has made a remarkable impact in global science and culture. With a population of about nine million, the country ranks among the top nations in **Nobel Prize** winners per capita. Since its establishment in 1948, 14 Israelis have received Nobel Prizes in fields such as literature, chemistry, economics, and peace. This success is often attributed to a culture of discipline, strong education, curiosity, and dedication to research and innovation.

The first Israeli laureate was writer **Shmuel Yosef Agnon**, who won the **Nobel Prize in Literature** in 1966. Later, scientists **Aaron Ciechanover** and **Avram Hershko** won the **Nobel Prize in Chemistry** in 2004. **Ada Yonath** won in 2009, while **Daniel Kahneman** gained recognition in economics for behavioral research.



Alfred Bernhard Nobel,
(21 October, 1833 – 10 December, 1896) was a Swedish, Chemist, Inventor, Engineer, and Businessman. He is known for inventing dynamite, as well as having bequeathed his fortune to establish the Nobel Prizes. He also made several other important contributions to science, holding 355 Patents during his life.

Year	Name	Prize Motivation	Field
1966	Shmuel Yosef Agnon	For his profoundly characteristic narrative art with motifs from the life of the Jewish people	Literature
1978	Menachem Begin	For the peace treaty concluded between Israel and Egypt	Peace
1994	Shimon Peres , Yitzhak Rabin	For their efforts to create peace in the Middle East	Peace
2002	Daniel Kahneman	For integrating insights from psychological research into economic science	Economics
2004	Aaron Ciechanover , Avram Hershko	For the discovery of ubiquitin -mediated protein degradation	Chemistry
2005	Robert Aumann	For enhancing understanding of conflict and cooperation through game theory analysis	Economics
2009	Ada Yonath	For studies of the structure and function of the ribosome	Chemistry
2011	Dan Shechtman	For the discovery of quasicrystals	Chemistry
2013	Michael Levitt , Arie Warshel	For the development of multiscale models for complex chemical systems	Chemistry
2021	Joshua Angrist	For methodological contributions to the analysis of causal relationships	Economics
2025	Joel Mokyr	For identifying prerequisites for sustained growth through technological progress	Economics

Israel offers a rich blend of ancient history and modern culture, with top destinations including the sacred Old City of Jerusalem (Western Wall, Holy Sepulchre), the bustling beaches and nightlife of Tel Aviv, and the unique, buoyant waters of the Dead Sea. Other essential, must-see sites include the desert fortress of Masada, the lush Sea of Galilee, the Bahá'í Gardens in Haifa, and the historic port of Acre.



Jerusalem (Dome of Rock)

Key Places to Visit in Israel:

JERUSALEM - The spiritual heart of the country, home to the Old City's four quarters, the Western Wall, the Dome of the Rock, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Mount of Olives

TEL AVIV - A modern, vibrant city featuring Mediterranean beaches, the historic Jaffa port, the Carmel Market, and the Tel Aviv Museum of Art.



Tel Aviv

THE DEAD SEA - Known as the lowest point on Earth, visitors can float in the salty water and experience its therapeutic, mineral-rich mud.



Dead Sea

MASADA NATIONAL PARK - A dramatic desert fortress overlooking the Dead Sea with a rich history of Jewish resistance.

GALILEE (NORTH) - Features the Sea of Galilee (Kinneret), Nazareth (site of the Basilica of the Annunciation), and stunning, serene landscapes.

HAIFA - Known for its diverse culture and the beautifully terraced Bahá'í Gardens on Mount Carmel.

EILAT - Located on the Red Sea, famous for snorkeling, diving in coral reefs, and sunny beaches.

ACRE (AKKO) - A UNESCO World Heritage site with well-preserved Crusader ruins and Ottoman-era, walled, seaside architecture.

JUDEAN DESERT & EIN GEDI - Perfect for hiking, this area features the Ein Gedi oasis and Qumran National Park, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found.

Best Times to Visit:

Spring (April-May) and Autumn (September-October) are generally considered the best times to visit for pleasant weather, ideal for exploring both the desert and cities



Western Wall

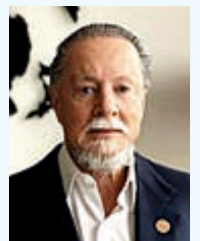
Inspiring Business Leaders from Israel

In the innovative and fast-growing economy of **Israel**, several visionary entrepreneurs have built powerful global businesses while also contributing to society. Their journeys show how determination, creativity, and leadership can transform ideas into worldwide success.



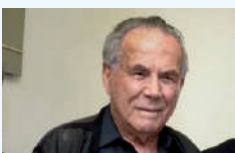
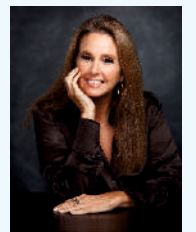
One inspiring personality is **Miriam Adelson**, who made her mark in the **casino and hospitality industry**. As the majority shareholder of **Las Vegas Sands**, she leads one of the largest casino and resort companies in the world. Beyond business, she supports medical research, addiction treatment programs, and educational initiatives.

In the world of **shipping, real estate, and global investments**, **Eyal Ofer** has built a strong international reputation. As chairman of **Ofer Global**, he manages multinational investments in shipping, technology, and energy while also contributing to arts and humanitarian causes.



Another important business leader is **Idan Ofer**, known for his influence in the **energy, shipping, and chemicals industries**. As chairman of **Kenon Holdings** and a major shareholder in **Israel Corporation**, he has helped expand Israeli business into international markets.

In the **banking and infrastructure investment sector**, **Shari Arison** stands out as a remarkable leader. Through **Arison Investments**, she has invested in banking, real estate, renewable energy, and water efficiency, while promoting business with a strong social purpose.



Israel's **industrial manufacturing sector** was greatly influenced by **Stef Wertheimer**, founder of **Iscar Metalworking**, a global leader in metal-cutting tools that strengthened Israel's industrial reputation worldwide.

Meanwhile, in the **technology and startup world**, **Yossi Vardi** became famous as a pioneer of internet entrepreneurship. He played an important role in developing **ICQ**, one of the earliest instant messaging platforms that changed global communication.



Together, these leaders tell the story of how Israel's entrepreneurs have shaped industries such as **technology, finance, energy, shipping, and manufacturing**, turning a small nation into a global hub of innovation and business excellence.



D V Venkatagiri
CEO
The Global Trade Driver &
Explore The Space

Ever since the diplomatic relations was established in 1992 between India and Israel, the Indo-Israel relationship has evolved from a cautious, low-profile relationship into a **Special Strategic Partnership** that plays a pivotal role in the contemporary global geopolitical landscape. The bilateral ties between the two countries have grown rapidly across defense, agriculture, technology, and intelligence-sharing, maturing into a robust partnership characterized by "trust, innovation, and shared strategic vision

India & Israel are forging a deep and strategic Defence Partnership with India being the largest customer of Israelis' Defence Technology. This relationship has shifted from a B2B relationship to one that is based on

co-production and joint development of advanced weapons.

Of special and interesting significance is the ongoing collaboration between the Israel Space Agency (ISA) and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). The results can be great if a greater cooperation between the two nations' space industries can be ensured, encouraging joint ventures, innovation partnerships, and knowledge exchange to drive progress in the global space sector.

Moving forward, the People of Israel have a strong tradition of volunteerism and community service. It emphasizes the importance of gratitude and appreciation; The people of India are known for strong family bonds, remarkable resilience, and a great degree of tolerance, that appreciates variety.

The two great civilisations – India and Israel – also have a responsibility. Together India and Israel can demonstrate to the World that so much can be achieved by mutual respect and collaboration.

"Together, India and Israel can demonstrate to the World that so much can be achieved by mutual respect and collaboration"

By embracing the philosophy of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*, - world is one - individuals and nations can foster peace, promote inclusivity, and build stronger relationships across borders.

In today's interconnected world, this idea is more relevant than ever. Technology has brought people closer, yet divisions still exist.

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam is not just a philosophical statement but a guiding principle for a better world. By adopting this mindset, we can move toward a future where unity, compassion, and cooperation define

human progress—truly making the world one family.

The people of Israel and the people of India can do this, together. AND in this, people to people connects and non-government entities will have a key role to play.

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INDIAN PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI'S VISIT TO ISRAEL - FEBRUARY 2026



In February 2026, Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India, paid a two-day state visit to Israel (February 25-26) to strengthen the strategic partnership between the two nations. During the visit, he held bilateral talks with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, focusing on defence cooperation, technology partnerships, trade, and regional security.

Prime Minister Modi also

addressed the Israeli parliament and met the President of Israel, Isaac Herzog, reaffirming the strong diplomatic ties between the two countries. During his visit to Jerusalem, he paid tribute to Holocaust victims at Yad Vashem, highlighting India's respect for history and commitment to peace and global stability.

Strategic Defence, Technology, and Economic Cooperation:

A major highlight of the visit was the strengthening of defence cooperation under India's **Mission Sudarshan Chakra**, a ten-year initiative launched in August 2025 to build a powerful multi-layered air defence shield. As part of this collaboration, Israel agreed to a comprehensive Transfer of Technology for advanced systems such as the Iron Dome and the laser-based Iron Beam. These systems are expected to be jointly produced in India under the **Make in India** initiative. Agreements were also reached to deploy long-range interception systems including Arrow 3 and David's Sling, which will complement India's existing defence platforms such as the S-400 and the indigenous Akash Missile System. The two countries also explored cooperation in advanced military technologies such as loitering munitions and AI-driven precision-guided missiles.

At a technology exhibition in Jerusalem, Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with leading CEOs. Companies such as Quantum Machines and Classiq agreed to establish a **Quantum Research Hub in Bengaluru**.

In healthcare, AISAP partnered with Indian providers to deploy AI-powered ultrasound diagnostics in rural areas.

In sustainability initiatives, Watergen and N-Drip expanded their Centers of Excellence across India, promoting water-from-air technology and efficient irrigation. Meanwhile, Mobileye partnered to introduce sensor-based road-safety technology for Indian commercial vehicles.

Progress was also made toward a **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)** between India and Israel, with the first round of negotiations held in New Delhi. The agreement aims to expand economic cooperation and significantly increase non-defence trade between the two countries.

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COLORFUL & BEAUTIFUL ISRAEL...



Spring Bloom of Wildflowers in Galilee in Nasareth, Israel