चंदा मामा दूर के

INNOVATION JOURNEY





THE MOON IS FAR AWAY

"Chanda Mama Dur Ke" is a popular Hindi nursery rhyme that translates to "The Moon is Far Away." This nursery rhyme is often sung to engage and entertain toddlers, while at the same time introducing them to the large distance between the Earth and the Moon. Looking deeper, it also serves an analogy to convey a sense of unattainability or a distant goal. Like "Chanda Mama Dur Ke", our dreams and aspirations may seem far away at times, but with determination and hard work, we can reach for them just like the child reaching out for the Moon in the rhyme. It may take time and effort, but, like the child's persistence, our dedication can bring our goals closer and make them achievable.

This story resonates with indigenous Innovation and Intellect in India. India has been witnessing a growing startup ecosystem recently, particularly in technology, healthcare, fintech, and ecommerce sectors. Cities like Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Pune have emerged as hubs for innovation and entrepreneurship. Government initiatives like "Startup India", "Make in India"have provided support and incentives for startups. However, challenges such as access to funds, regulatory hurdles, and infrastructure limitations remained the same that lead "The Moon is Far Away." On the brighter side, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has continuously set several milestone examples to exhibit the results of perseverance and dedication to achieve one's goals. Despite the persistent challenges, the determination of ISRO to uplift the Indian Space Research endeavors put forth a commendable example for building a bridge to reach the "Moon". "Chanda Mama dur ke" not only depicts India's ambition to reach the moon, but also to explore the infinities of space. The Moon and/or The Space, thus, has become our "balcony" to absorb the spectacular spatial views.



THE STATUS OF THE INDIAN MOON

India has a strong presence in the global IT industry, with many Indian IT companies serving as key players in software development, IT services, and outsourcing. Indian software professionals and engineers have contributed significantly to technology innovation and software development worldwide. India has a robust education system with numerous prestigious universities and research institutions. Indian students and professionals continue to excel in various fields, both in India and abroad. Indian universities and institutes have been making efforts to enhance research and innovation in science and technology.

ISRO has made significant advancements in space technology, including successful missions to the Mars, the Moon, and now over to the Sun. India's space program has gained global recognition and has been contributing to scientific research and technological innovation. Since India is a significant player in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors as well, this further provides an edge to our space endeavors.

Despite these successes, India faces several challenges related to research infrastructure, quality of education, and access to resources, which could impact its ability to foster innovation and intellectual growth on a larger scale. Additionally, addressing issues like inequality, access to quality education, and skill development remained important for the country's long-term progress. The emigration of highly skilled and educated individuals, particularly professionals and intellectuals, from India to other countries is of a great concern. This is an irony that the best brains of India are eager to serve the superpowers, instead of making India the one. At the same time, ISRO has gained global recognition with support from perseverant and dedicated brains of the country.

The Moon is far away in innovation scale, whichhas been a subject of discussion and concern for several decades. The innovation culture of India is primarily driven by a combination of push and pull factors. Due to push factors viz. limited career opportunities, lower salaries, inadequate infrastructure, and sometimes, political instability, the innovation metrics drove down at a very low level. The pull factors from other countries include better job prospects, higher salaries, superior living conditions, and access to advanced technology and resources attract all our best intellect and innovation power.



LESSON FROM THE MOON MISSION

India presents a mix of challenges and opportunities when it comes to fostering an innovation culture. Developing a robust innovation ecosystem is vital for the country's growth and competitiveness on a global scale. ISRO is one of such examples of challenges and opportunities in fostering an innovation culture.

ISRO, as an organization, has cultivated a strong innovation culture that has contributed to its success in the space industry. ISRO's approach to innovation is characterized by a commitment to cost-effective and efficient solutions. Here are some key aspects of ISRO's innovation culture:

I.Frugal Innovation: ISRO is known for its ability to achieve ambitious space missions with limited resources. The organization practices "frugal innovation," which involves doing more with less. This approach has allowed ISRO to keep costs low while maintaining high-quality standards.

2.Emphasis on Research and Development: ISRO invests significantly in research and development (R&D). It encourages its scientists and engineers to explore new ideas, technologies, and methodologies, which has resulted in several groundbreaking innovations.

3.Multi-disciplinary Teams: ISRO brings together scientists and engineers from diverse disciplines to work on projects. Collaborative efforts across various fields, such as space science, engineering, and technology, promote crossfertilization of ideas.

4.Indigenous Technology Development: ISRO has been committed to developing indigenous technologies and components for its space missions. This not only reduces dependence on foreign technology but also promotes innovation within the country.

5.Risk-Taking and Learning from Failure: ISRO acknowledges that space missions come with inherent risks. The organization encourages a culture that views failure as an opportunity to learn and improve. Successes and setbacks are analyzed and used to refine future missions.

6. Adaptability and Flexibility: ISRO has the ability to adapt to changing circumstances and requirements quickly. The organization's flexibility in responding to evolving mission objectives and technological advancements is a hallmark of its innovation culture.

7.Knowledge Sharing: ISRO actively shares its knowledge and expertise with educational institutions, research centers, and other organizations. This knowledge transfer helps cultivate a broader culture of innovation in India.

8.Talent Development: ISRO invests in talent development by providing training and opportunities for scientists and engineers to enhance their skills. This helps in keeping a pipeline of talented professionals.

9.Public Outreach and Inspiration: ISRO's achievements, including the Mars Orbiter Mission (Mangalyaan) and Chandrayaan missions, have inspired a new generation of scientists and innovators. The organization actively engages in public outreach to promote science and innovation.

10.Global Collaboration: ISRO collaborates with international space agencies and organizations, facilitating knowledge exchange and technology transfer.





INNOVATION TIMELINE

ISRO's innovative culture has resulted in numerous successful space missions, including those related to satellite deployment, lunar exploration, and planetary missions. This culture also contributes to India's emergence as a competitive player in the global space industry. ISRO's approach to innovation is characterized by a combination of determination, resourcefulness, and a commitment to pushing the boundaries of space exploration. Some significant achievements of the ISRO are highlighted below:

1. 1969: Formation of ISRO - The Indian Space Research Organisation was founded on August 15, 1969.

2. 1975: Aryabhata - India's first satellite, Aryabhata, was launched on April 19, 1975, using a Kosmos-3M launch vehicle from the Soviet Union.

3. 1980: Rohini Satellite - India's first satellite was placed in orbit by an Indian-made launch vehicle, the Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV-3), carrying the Rohini satellite, was launched on July 18, 1980.

4. 1983: INSAT Series - The Indian National Satellite System (INSAT) was expanded with the launch of additional satellites, enhancing telecommunications, broadcasting, meteorology, and search and rescue capabilities.

5. 2008: Chandrayaan-1 - India's first lunar probe, Chandrayaan-1, was launched on October 22, 2008. It made a significant discovery of water molecules on the moon's surface.

6. 2013: Mars Orbiter Mission (Mangalyaan) - ISRO successfully launched its Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) on November 5, 2013. India became the first Asian nation to reach Martian orbit and the first in the world to do so in its first attempt.

7. 2016: Reusable Launch Vehicle-Technology Demonstrator (RLV-TD) - ISRO successfully tested a prototype of a reusable spaceplane on May 23, 2016.

8. 2017: Record Satellite Launch - On February 15, 2017,



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ISRO set a world record by launching 104 satellites on a single rocket (PSLV-C37).

9. 2018: GSAT-29 - ISRO launched the communication satellite GSAT-29 on November 14, 2018, to meet the communication requirements of users in remote areas.

10. 2019: Chandrayaan-2 - India's second lunar exploration mission, Chandrayaan-2, was launched on July 22, 2019. It aimed to explore the lunar south pole.

11. 2020: RISAT-2B - Radar Imaging Satellite RISAT-2B was launched on May 22, 2019, to enhance all-weather earth observation capabilities.

12. 2021: PSLV-C51 - ISRO launched its first dedicated commercial mission for foreign customers using the PSLV-C51 rocket on February 28, 2021.

13. 2022: ISRO's work horse PSLV-C54 successfully launched EOS-06 satellite along with eight nanosatellites into two different SSPOS.

14. 2023: The most awaited Chandrayaan-3 mission with an orbiter, lander (Vikram), and rover (Pragyan) began its journey to the moon on July 14, 2023, and successfully soft-landed on the south pole of the moon on August 23, 2023.

With this mission, India became the first country to land near the Moon's south pole and opened a tremendous opportunity for Indian Space Research.





INNOVATION TO REACH THE MOON

ISRO has been actively involved in research, development, and innovation in the field of space exploration and satellite technology. Like other space agencies, ISRO recognizes the importance of protecting its intellectual property through patents. A total of 425 inventions have been patented by ISRO till date out of which 249 patent applications were granted, 72 are pending, 94 have expired and 10 are lapsed. Here are some key points related to ISRO's patent filing landscape:

Launch Vehicle Technologies: ISRO has developed various launch vehicles, such as the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV). As per the available database, 56 patents have been filed in this segment. These patents cover the propulsion systems, guidance systems, and other technologies associated with these launch vehicles such asElectromechanical Systems, Chemical Compounds and Polymers, Coatings, and Propulsion and separation systems.

Spacecraft Design and Components: 85 Patents have been filed under this section. The patents broadly cover the design and components of spacecraft developed by ISRO. This includes innovations in materials, structures, and technologies used in the



construction of satellites and other space vehicles.

Remote Sensing Technologies: Given ISRO's involvement in Earth observation and remote sensing missions, 21 patents filed in this segment cover technologies related to sensors, imaging systems, and data processing methods used in remote sensing satellites.

Communication Systems: ISRO has been actively working on communication satellites to enhance telecommunications and broadcasting services. 84 patents have been filed to protect innovations in satellite communication technologies. Navigation and Positioning Systems:24 patents broadly cover technologies related to navigation and positioning systems used in spacecraft and satellites, ensuring accuracy in orbital and interplanetary navigation.

Earth observations: ISRO has filed 4 patent applications covering method and apparatus for a space-based earth observation which provides the system with faster and more convenient access to remotely sensed earth observation data like disaster management (IN20080293714) and weather monitoring (IN279733B).







MOON WALKERS FROM INDIA

India has made significant strides in space technologies through ISRO. ISRO has played a pivotal role in advancing India's capabilities in space exploration, satellite technology, and related fields. Here are some of the other key Indian playersand initiatives in space technologies:

I. Antrix Corporation: Antrix is the commercial arm of ISRO. It is responsible for promoting and commercially exploiting space products, technical consultancy services, and transfer of technologies developed by ISRO.

2. NewSpace India Limited: In addition to Antrix, ISRO has established NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) to further enhance its commercial activities. NSIL focuses on promoting, marketing, and commercially exploiting the products, services, and technologies developed by ISRO.

3. Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC): Located in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, VSSC is one of ISRO's main R&D centers. It specializes in the development of satellite launch vehicle technology and sounding rockets.

4. Space Applications Centre (SAC): SAC, based in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, focuses on the development of payloads for communication, remote sensing, and meteorology satellites.

5. ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC): ISTRAC, headquartered in Bengaluru, Karnataka, provides tracking, telemetry, and command support for satellite and launch vehicle missions.

6. Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC): LPSC, with facilities in Valiamala, Mahendragiri and Bengaluru, plays a crucial role in the development of liquid propulsion systems for launch vehicles and spacecraft.

7. TeamIndus: TeamIndus is a private aerospace company that was originally working on a lunar mission as part of the Google Lunar XPRIZE competition. Although the XPRIZE competition concluded without a winner, TeamIndus continues to work on space-related projects, including lunar exploration.

8. Bellatrix Aerospace: Bellatrix Aerospace is a startup working on developing efficient satellite propulsion systems. They are focused on green and cost-effective space transportation solutions.

9. Astrome Technologies: Astrome specializes in designing and manufacturing high throughput, low-cost satellite communication systems. Their focus is on providing affordable broadband internet services globally.

10. Pixxel: Pixxel is a startup working on building a constellation of Earth observation microsatellites to provide high-frequency, global monitoring capabilities. They aim to provide valuable insights for agriculture, forestry, and disaster management.

11. Agnikul Cosmos: Agnikul is a startup working on building small satellite launch vehicles. Their focus is on providing dedicated launch services for small satellites.

12. Skyroot Aerospace: Skyroot Aerospace is a startup working on developing small satellite launch vehicles. They aim to provide reliable and affordable launch services for small satellite operators.

13. Digantara: Digantara specializes in space debris identification and sustainable space operations.

Indian Moon Walkers	Patent Applications
Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre	02
Astrome Technologies	02
Agnikul Cosmos	04
Digantara	04





GLOBAL MOON WALKERS

Several countries around the world are global players in space technology, contributing significantly to space exploration, satellite technology, and related endeavors. Here are some of the prominent global players in space technology:

United States: The United States has a long history of space exploration and is home to National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), which has conducted numerous pioneering missions to the Moon, Mars, and beyond. Additionally, numerous private aerospace companies like SpaceX, Boeing, and Blue Origin are pushing the boundaries of space technology.

Russia: Russia has a rich history in space technology, dating back to the launch of Sputnik I in 1957. The Russian space agency, Roscosmos, continues to be a key player in launching crewed missions to the International Space Station (ISS) and conducting interplanetary missions.

China: The China National Space Administration (CNSA) has rapidly advanced its space technology capabilities. China has launched missions to the Moon, Mars, and beyond, including the Chang'e lunar exploration program and the Tianzhou cargo spacecraft.

European Union: The European Space Agency (ESA) represents multiple European countries in space technology and

Japan: The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) is actively engaged in space exploration, satellite development, and scientific missions. They have been involved in missions like the Hayabusa series of asteroid missions.

Canada: The Canadian Space Agency (CSA) plays a crucial role in developing space technologies, robotics, and instruments for international missions. The Canadarm and Canadarm2 robotic systems were used on the Space Shuttle and the ISS, respectively.

Israel: Israel has been gaining recognition in space technology, with initiatives like SpacelL'sBeresheet mission, which aimed to land an Israeli spacecraft on the Moon. United Arab Emirates: The UAE has made a significant entry into space technology with the Emirates Mars Mission (Hope Probe), which successfully entered orbit around Mars in 2021.

North Korea: North Korea has made strides in space technology with its satellite launches, although they have been a source of international concern.

These countries and their respective space agencies or organizations contribute to various aspects of space technology, including satellite development, launch capabilities, planetary exploration, and scientific research, making them global players in the field of space technology.





Patent Database Sources: Orbit and Patent Lens

TECHNOLOGY SURROUNDING THE MOON

Launch Vehicles: Launch vehicles or rockets are essential for transporting payloads such as satellites, spacecraft, and crewed missions into space. These vehicles come in various sizes and types, from small rockets for launching small satellites to heavy-lift launchers for large payloads.

Satellite Technology: Satellites serve various purposes, including communication, Earth observation, navigation (GNSS systems like GPS), and scientific research. They are classified into different categories based on their functions, such as geostationary, polar orbiting, and space telescopes.

Spacecraft: Spacecraft are vehicles designed for travel in outer space. They include crewed spacecraft for human spaceflight (e.g., Apollo, Soyuz), robotic spacecraft for planetary exploration (e.g., Mars rovers), and space probes for deep space missions (e.g., Voyager).

Space Exploration: This segment involves missions to explore celestial bodies like planets, asteroids, comets, and moons. It includes robotic missions like Mars rovers, lunar landers, and interplanetary probes.

Space Stations: Space stations, like the ISS, are habitable structures in orbit around Earth. They are used for scientific research, international cooperation, and as platforms for future exploration.

Space Science: This includes space telescopes like the Hubble Space Telescope, which observe distant galaxies, stars, and cosmic phenomena. It also encompasses astrophysics, planetary science, and cosmology research.

Space Communications: Space technology enables global and interplanetary communication through satellite-based systems. This includes communication satellites, ground stations, and data relay systems.

Space Navigation and Positioning: Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) like GPS, GLONASS, and Galileo provide precise positioning and timing information for navigation on Earth and in space. Space Weather Monitoring: This segment involves monitoring solar activity and its effects on Earth's magnetosphere, ionosphere, and communication systems. Space weather monitoring is crucial for satellite operations and power grid management.

Space Propulsion: Advancements in propulsion systems are vital for efficient space travel. Technologies like chemical propulsion, ion propulsion, and nuclear propulsion are used in various space missions.

Space Debris Management: As space debris poses a threat to satellites and spacecraft, technologies and strategies for tracking, mitigating, and cleaning up space debris are essential.

Space Tourism: An emerging segment, space tourism involves commercial ventures to take private individuals on suborbital or orbital flights for recreational purposes. Astronomy and Astrophysics: Space technology supports the observation of celestial objects and phenomena, allowing astronomers and astrophysicists to study the universe.

Space Mining: This emerging field explores the extraction of valuable resources from celestial bodies like asteroids and the Moon for use in space and on Earth.

Space Agriculture: Research in space technology supports the development of agriculture in space habitats, crucial for long-duration space missions and future space colonization.

Space Medicine: Space technology is used to develop medical equipment and research aimed at understanding and addressing the challenges of human health in space environments.







BREAKTHROUGH TOWARDS THE MOON

Sputnik I (Soviet Union): Launched in 1957, Sputnik I was the world's first artificial satellite, marking the beginning of the space age. It was a groundbreaking invention that ushered in the era of space exploration.

Apollo Lunar Module (LM) (USA): The Apollo program's Lunar Module allowed astronauts to land on and take off from the Moon. The successful Apollo 11 mission in 1969, which saw humans land on the Moon for the first time, was a groundbreaking achievement.

Voyager Spacecraft (USA): The Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 spacecraft, launched in the 1970s, have traveled beyond the solar system, becoming the farthest human-made objects from Earth. They continue to send data about interstellar space.

Hubble Space Telescope (USA): Launched in 1990, the Hubble Space Telescope has provided breathtaking images and invaluable scientific data about distant galaxies, stars, and other celestial objects, greatly advancing our understanding of the universe.

International Space Station (ISS) (Multiple Countries): The ISS, a collaborative effort involving space agencies from the USA, Russia, Europe, Japan, and Canada, has been continuously inhabited since the year 2000. It serves as a platform for scientific research, international cooperation, and as a stepping stone for future deep space exploration.

Global Positioning System (GPS) (USA): The development of GPS by the United States has revolutionized navigation on Earth and in space. GPS technology enables precise positioning and timing information, with applications ranging from navigation to agriculture to disaster management.

Curiosity Rover (Mars Science Laboratory) (USA): NASA's Curiosity rover, which landed on Mars in 2012, has conducted extensive research on the Martian surface. It has provided insights into the planet's geology and the potential habitability of Mars in the past.

China's Chang'e Missions (China): China's Chang'e lunar exploration missions, including Chang'e 3, Chang'e 4, and Chang'e 5, have made significant contributions to our understanding of the Moon's geology and history.

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Rosetta Mission (ESA): The European Space Agency's Rosetta mission successfully deployed the Philae lander to Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko in 2014. It provided valuable data about comets, their composition, and the early solar system.

Hayabusa Missions (Japan): Japan's Hayabusa missions, including Hayabusa and Hayabusa2, have successfully returned samples from asteroids Itokawa and Ryugu, contributing to our understanding of asteroid composition and potential resource utilization.

Interplanetary Rovers (NASA): NASA's Mars rovers, including Sojourner, Spirit, Opportunity, Curiosity, and Perseverance, have revolutionized our understanding of Mars and paved the way for future human exploration.

Deep Space Telescopes (Various): Besides Hubble, several other deep space telescopes, such as the Kepler Space Telescope, the James Webb Space Telescope (scheduled for launch), and the TESS mission, have expanded our knowledge of exoplanets and the universe.

Space Tourism (Various Companies): Several private companies, including SpaceX, Blue Origin, and Virgin Galactic, are pioneering space tourism by developing spacecraft capable of carrying private individuals to the edge of space.

Reusable Spacecraft (SpaceX, Blue Origin): SpaceX's Crew Dragon and Blue Origin's New Shepard are examples of reusable spacecraft designed to carry astronauts and tourists into space, potentially reducing the cost of human spaceflight.

Mars Helicopter (NASA): NASA's Mars Helicopter, named Ingenuity, became the first aircraft to achieve powered flight on another planet, demonstrating the feasibility of aerial exploration on Mars.

Chandrayaan 3 (ISRO) (India): With this mission, India became the first country to land near the Moon's south pole. and opened a tremendous opportunity for Indian Space Research. Chandrayaan-3 followed by Chandrayaan-2 demonstrated endto-end capability in safe landing and roving on the lunar surface.

MOVIES ON THE MOON

2001: A Space Odyssey (1968): This classic film directed by Stanley Kubrick is known for its groundbreaking visual effects and realistic portrayal of space technology.

Apollo 13 (1995): This film, directed by Ron Howard, chronicles the true story of the Apollo 13 mission and the challenges faced by astronauts and engineers.

Contact (1997): Based on the novel by Carl Sagan and directed by Robert Zemeckis, "Contact" explores the first contact with extraterrestrial intelligence. Jodie Foster plays the lead role.

Sunshine (2007): Directed by Danny Boyle, "Sunshine" is a sci-fi thriller about a group of astronauts on a mission to reignite the dying sun.

Gravity (2013): Alfonso Cuarón's visually stunning film depicts the challenges faced by astronauts in orbit after a space debris incident.

Europa Report (2013): A found-footage-style film, it depicts a fictional mission to Jupiter's moon Europa to search for signs of life.

Interstellar (2014): Directed by Christopher Nolan, this film explores interstellar travel, black holes, and advanced space technology.

The Martian (2015): Ridley Scott's film, based on Andy Weir's novel, follows an astronaut stranded on Mars who uses space technology to survive.

Hidden Figures (2016): This film, directed by Theodore Melfi, highlights the contributions of African-American women mathematicians and scientists to the early years of the NASA space program.

The Space Between Us (2017): This film explores the life of a boy born on Mars and his journey to Earth, highlighting the challenges of space colonization.

First Man (2018): Directed by Damien Chazelle, "First Man" tells the story of Neil Armstrong, the first man to walk on the moon. Ryan Gosling stars as Neil Armstrong.

Ad Astra (2019): Starring Brad Pitt, this film follows an astronaut on a mission to find his missing father and explores deep-space exploration.





INDIAN MOVIES ON THE MOON

Chand Par Chadayee (1967): Directed by T.P. Sundaram, this black-and-white Hindi film is one of the early Indian movies with a moon-related theme. The story revolves around an attempt to land on the moon.

Tik TikTik (2018): A Tamil-language science fiction film, "Tik TikTik" directed by Shakti Soundar Rajan, revolves around an asteroid threat to Earth and a mission to divert the asteroid's path. It is one of the few Indian films in the spacethemed genre.

Antariksham 9000 KMPH (2018): A Telugu-language space thriller directed by Sankalp Reddy, this film follows the story of an Indian astronaut who must save a communication satellite from a software virus while on a space mission.

Mission Mangal (2019): This Bollywood film, directed by Jagan Shakti, is inspired by ISRO"s Mars Orbiter Mission (Mangalyaan). It explores the challenges faced by a group of scientists in launching India's first interplanetary mission.



HOW FAR IS OUR MOON

The future scope for mankind in space research is expansive and holds the potential for significant advancements across various domains. The future of space research holds immense promise, with the potential to reshape our understanding of the cosmos, address global challenges, and pave the way for new opportunities and industries beyond Earth. International collaboration, technological advancements, and a continued commitment to exploration will be essential in reducing the distance to the Moon.

It's worth noting that the innovation culture in any country is a dynamic and evolving aspect. India has shown resilience and determination in its space endeavors, and with continued efforts, it has the potential to further strengthen its position in space

exploration and technological innovation. It's important to recognize that the distance to the Moon is not just a physical measure but also a metaphorical one representing the level of technological and scientific achievement. While India has achieved remarkable milestones in space exploration, including successful Mars and Moon missions, continuous efforts are essential to minimize the distance to the Moon. The Moon from India is not too far if we are able to address some potential approaches like Improving Education and Research Infrastructure, Research Funding and Opportunities, Industry-Academia Collaboration, Entrepreneurship Support, Government Policies and Incentives, Improving Work Culture, Intellectual Property Education, Policy Stability and Predictability, and Quality of Life.



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