

Newsletter

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

GST REFORMS 2025: RELIEF FOR COMMON MAN, BOOST FOR BUSINESSES

India's Goods and Services Tax (GST), launched in 2017, unified multiple central and state taxes into one system, reducing cascading taxes, simplifying compliance, and creating a transparent national market. After eight years of evolution through digitalization and rate rationalisation, GST is now entering a Next-Gen reform phase.

At the 56th GST Council meeting, chaired by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, the Council approved a sweeping reform package that will lower rates for essentials, labour-intensive industries, and sectors crucial to farmers, MSMEs, youth, women, and the middle class.



7 Pillars of Next-Gen GST Reforms

Building on GST's success: One Nation, One Tax; simpler 2-tier system (5% & 18%).

Fairer taxation: Rationalised rates, smoother duty structures, quicker refunds.

Simplified filing with technology: Easy registration, e-invoicing, AI-driven compliance.

Consumers first: Essentials at 0-5%, high value items down from 28% to 18%.

Empowering MSMEs & manufacturing: Fixing duty inversion, supporting Make in India.

Stronger states: Sustainable revenue growth via rationalised rates.

Lower taxes = Higher spending: Boost to demand, cheaper goods, industry growth.

Effective from 22nd September 2025 Next-Gen GST reforms are designed to ease consumer burden, simplify business compliance, empower small enterprises, strengthen state finances, and drive India's long-term growth.

[READ MORE: GST REFORMS IN INDIA](#)

INDIA SENDS RELIEF MATERIAL TO QUAKE-HIT AFGHANISTAN

In response to the earthquake in Afghanistan, India extended urgent humanitarian assistance to support operations in the affected regions. 21 tonnes of relief materials including blankets, tents, hygiene kits, water storage tanks, generators, kitchen utensils, portable water purifiers, sleeping bags, essential medicines, wheelchairs, hand sanitizers, water purification tablets, ORS solutions and medical consumables were airlifted. It was stated that India will continue to monitor the ground situation and send more humanitarian aid over the coming days.



[READ MORE: INDIA'S HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN](#)

PM MODI HOLDS JOINT CALL WITH EU LEADERS



Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a joint telephone call with the President of the European Council, Antonio Costa and the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen. The leaders welcomed progress in bilateral relations in key sectors such as trade, technology, investment, innovation, sustainability, defence, security and supply chain resilience. They reaffirmed the shared commitment to an early conclusion of the India-EU FTA negotiations and implementation of the IMEEC corridor.

The leaders also exchanged views on regional and global issues of mutual interest, including the efforts to bring an end to the conflict in Ukraine. PM Modi reiterated India's consistent support for the peaceful resolution of the conflict and early restoration of peace and stability.

READ MORE: [INDIA-EU LEADERS JOINT CALL](#)

ECONOMY & DEVELOPMENT

INDIA'S MANUFACTURING PMI RISES TO 17.5-YEAR HIGH IN AUGUST

India's manufacturing sector gained further momentum in August, with the country's Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) climbing to 59.3 from 59.1 in July, according to the HSBC India Manufacturing PMI data. The report mentioned that strong domestic demand continued to underpin robust increases in factory orders and production during the month.



READ MORE: [MANUFACTURING PMI](#)

MAHINDRA AEROSTRUCTURES SECURES AIRBUS H125 HELICOPTER FUSELAGE MANUFACTURING CONTRACT



India's Mahindra Aerostructures Pvt. Ltd. has been awarded a contract by Airbus Helicopters to manufacture and assemble the main fuselage of its H125 light single-engine helicopter, marking another milestone for India's 'Make in India' vision. This contract is an addition to the already awarded contract to build fuselage for another helicopter H130, which was announced earlier in 2025.

READ MORE: [MAHINDRA AEROSTRUCTURES](#)

INDUSTRY & SECTORAL INSIGHTS

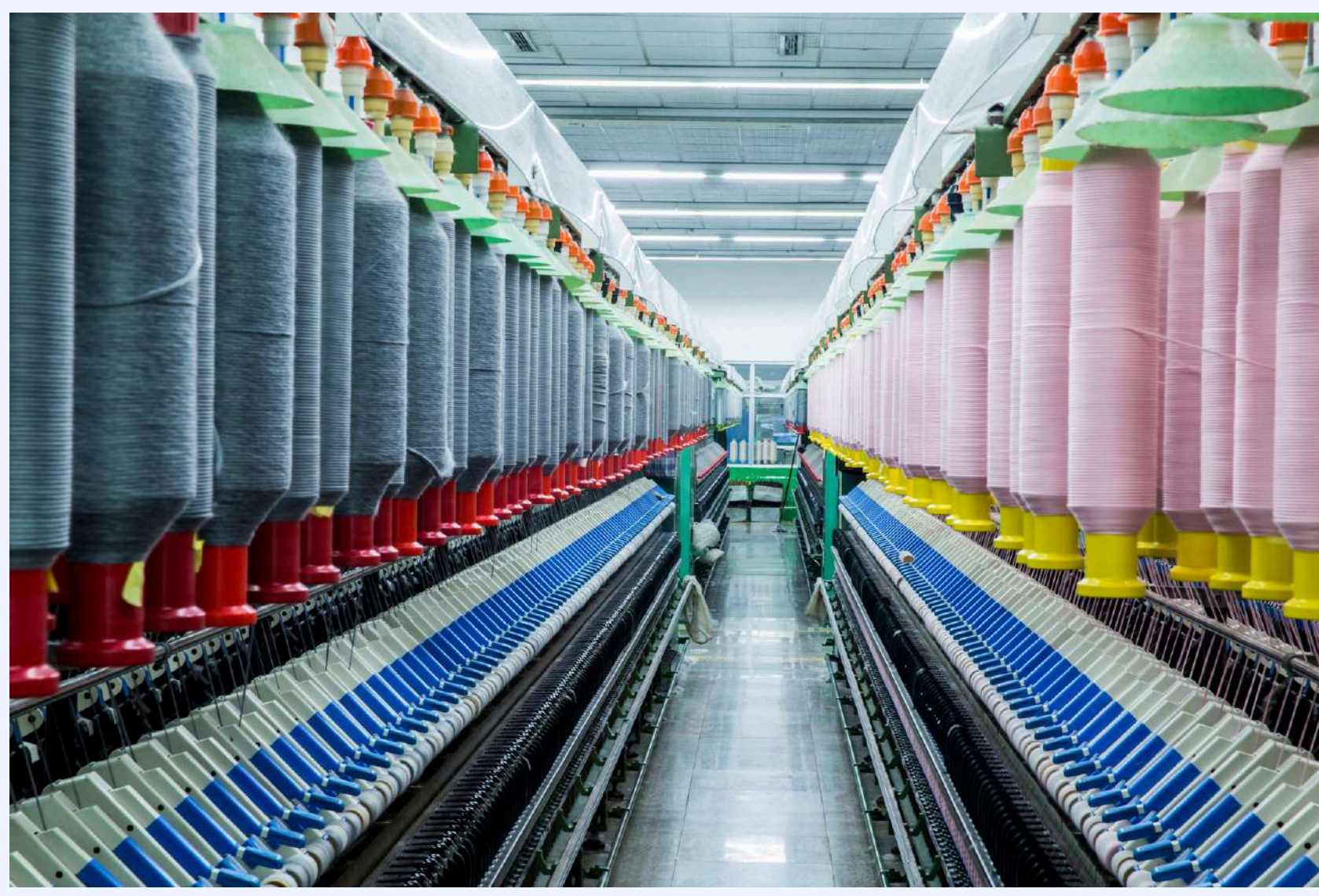
SEMICON INDIA - 2025

The SEMICON India 2025, the country's largest semiconductor conference, was held in New Delhi from 2-4 September 2025, marking a significant milestone in India's journey towards making India the next semiconductor powerhouse. The event brought together over 350 exhibiting companies and participants from 48 countries and regions.

READ MORE: [SEMICON INDIA - 2025](#)



NEXT-GENERATION GST REFORMS BOOSTS INDIA'S TEXTILES SECTOR



The recently announced next-generation GST reforms mark a historic leap forward for India's textile sector, serving as a catalyst for the country's journey towards becoming a \$350 billion textile economy by 2030, the government has said. The Ministry of Textiles reaffirmed its commitment to work closely with industry stakeholders, exporters, artisans, and entrepreneurs to ensure the smooth implementation of these reforms.

READ MORE: [GST REFORMS IN TEXTILES](#)

BHARATI TO SUPPORT 100 AGRI-FOOD STARTUPS, TARGET \$50 BILLION EXPORTS BY 2030

India's Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) launched its new initiative, BHARATI, to boost India's agri-food exports. BHARATI has been designed to support 100 agri-food startups, promote innovation and boost exports to US\$ 50 billion by 2030. BHARATI stands for Bharat's Hub for Agritech, Resilience, Advancement and Incubation for Export Enablement.



READ MORE: [BHARATI INITIATIVE](#)

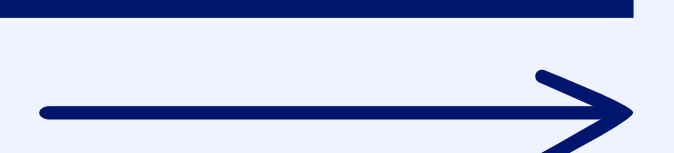
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

INDIA, GERMANY EXPLORE SPACE COOPERATION



External Affairs Minister of India Dr. S. Jaishankar and German Foreign Minister Johann David Wadepuhl held a productive discussion on India-Germany cooperation and their relationship with the European Union. The two sides exchanged views on political cooperation, security, defence, climate, future technologies, and people-to-people exchanges. Highlighting that India and Germany have completed 50 years of scientific collaboration, Dr. Jaishankar stressed the need to intensify this partnership and link it more closely with industry. He also emphasised the importance of actively exploring space cooperation between the two countries.

READ MORE: [INDIA-GERMANY COOPERATION](#)



DID YOU KNOW?



While there had been several exchanges between the Mughals and the Ottomans before 1605, it was during Emperor Jahangir's reign (1605-1627) that we find significant recorded accounts of the Mughal court hosting ambassadors from the Ottoman Sultans, most notably Sultan Ahmed I (around 1613-1614), and later Sultans Mustafa I and Osman II. These embassies were political missions and also symbolic encounters that bound together two of the largest empires of the early modern world. Jahangir noted in his memoirs, the *Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri*, the arrival of "the envoy of the Sultan of Rum," who sought Mughal cooperation in the upkeep of Mecca and Medina, the holy cities under Ottoman protection, as well as ensuring the safe passage of Indian pilgrims.

The Ottoman envoys carried exquisite gifts, including Qur'anic manuscripts, relics, and robes of honor. In return, Jahangir presented fine Mughal textiles, caskets of jewels, and gold. These encounters are preserved in the emperor's own words in the *Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri*, a memoir written in Persian that blends politics, art, and autobiography. Although sections were later completed by court historians after Jahangir's death, the work remains a unique source for Ottoman-Mughal diplomacy.

READ MORE: [JAHANGIR'S MEMOIRS: TUZUK-I-JAHANGIRI](#)

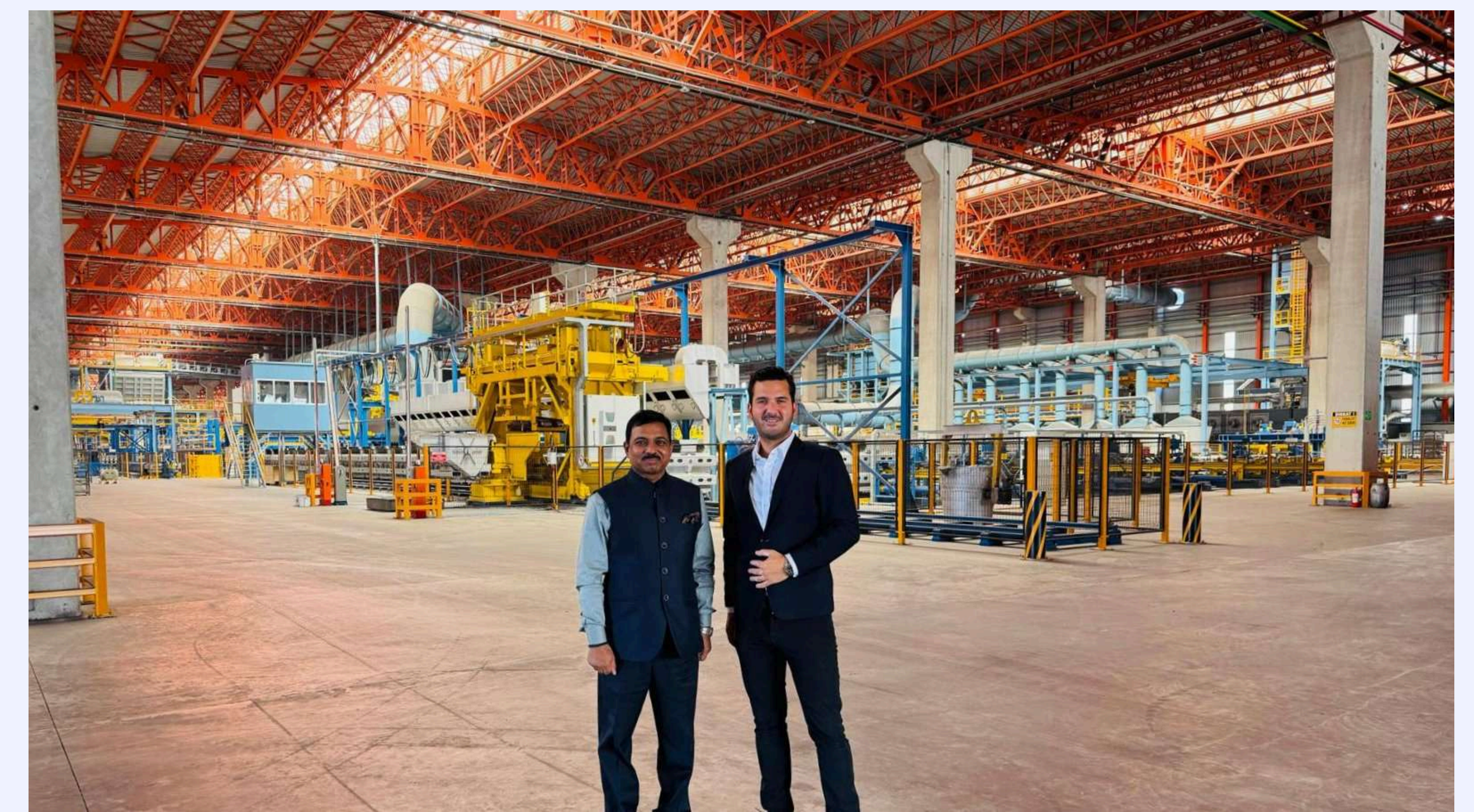
EMBASSY AND CONSULATE UPDATES



Ambassador Muktesh Pardeshi visited Foreign Policy Institute and met its President, Amb Hüseyin Diriöz. They agreed to work on collaborative projects aimed at creating better mutual understanding on both sides. Amb. Pardeshi also spoke to participants of Foreign Policy Internship Programme on India's relations with Türkiye



Ambassador Muktesh Pardeshi visited TAFE tractor manufacturing facility in Manisa Industrial Zone near Izmir. TAFE Tractors is one of the world's largest tractor manufacturers and a leading brand for Tractors and Agriculture Equipment in Türkiye.



Ambassador Muktesh Pardeshi visited Aliğa industrial Zone near Izmir and visited Atik Metal in the presence of Mr. Can Atik, COO

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