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INDIA PROVIDES PEDESTRIAN AID TO COLOMBIA AND BOLIVIA

**NASA HAS INVITED ISRO TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LUNAR
RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM UNDER THE ARTEMIS ACCORDS**

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Glasgow Hands Commonwealth Games Baton to India

The 2026 Commonwealth Games concluded in Glasgow with a closing ceremony at the OVO Hydro on 3 August, during which the Commonwealth Games flag was formally handed over to India for the centenary edition to be hosted by Ahmedabad in 2030.

India finished fourth in the overall medal standings with 39 medals: 13 gold, 17 silver and 9 bronze.

The flag and baton were received by Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra, Commonwealth Games Association of India President PT Usha and Gujarat Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi.



11th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting Held Under India's Chairship

The 11th BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting was held in Bhopal on 8 August 2026, under India's BRICS Chairship 2026, concluding with the adoption of the Bhopal Declaration, a forward-looking framework for strengthening cultural cooperation among BRICS member states and partner countries.

The meeting, attended by 55 delegates from 14 countries including 10 BRICS member states and 4 partner countries, adopted measures advancing cooperation in cultural and creative industries, including the exchange of best practices, support for creators and expanded market access through digital tools, as well as enhanced cooperation on UNESCO multinational nominations and the return and restitution of cultural property.



INDIA SENDS LIFE-SAVING & ESSENTIAL MEDICINES TO BOLIVIA

India dispatched an 8 metric tonne consignment of life-saving and essential medicines to Bolivia on 10 August to support the South American nation's public healthcare capacity, with the consignment formally handed over by India's Ambassador to Bolivia at El Alto Airport in La Paz in a ceremony attended by Bolivia's Foreign Minister and Health Minister.

The Ministry of External Affairs said the assistance reflects India's commitment to advancing cooperation through solidarity and shared progress with Global South partners.



The consignment builds on a consignment of 300,000 doses of Measles and Rubella vaccines provided to Bolivia in 2025.

INDIA SENDS RELIEF SUPPLIES TO EARTHQUAKE-HIT COLOMBIA

India dispatched the first tranche of a 20 metric tonne consignment of relief supplies to Colombia on 14 August to support post-earthquake recovery efforts following a 7.3-magnitude earthquake that struck Western Colombia on 11 August, killing over 265 people and injuring more than 3,400.

The consignment includes medicines and medical equipment, temporary shelter materials, hygiene supplies and other essential items.



EAM Jaishankar said India "stands in solidarity with the people of Colombia during these difficult times," reinforcing India's role as a first responder in global humanitarian emergencies.



INDIA'S TOTAL EXPORTS RISE 13.31% TO US\$ 80.14 BILLION IN JULY 2026

India's total exports of merchandise and services grew 13.31% year-on-year to US\$ 80.14 billion in July 2026, according to Commerce Ministry data released on 13 August.

Merchandise exports rose 19.63% to a record US\$ 44.24 billion, the highest-ever monthly merchandise export figure for July 2026, led by petroleum products (up 67.64%), electronic goods (up 57.4%) and engineering goods (up 17.71%).



For the April-July period of FY 2026-27, India's total exports increased 13.16% to US\$ 316.42 billion from US\$ 279.63 billion in the corresponding period last year.



INDIA CONCLUDES 16TH BRICS TRADE MINISTERS' MEETING IN JAIPUR

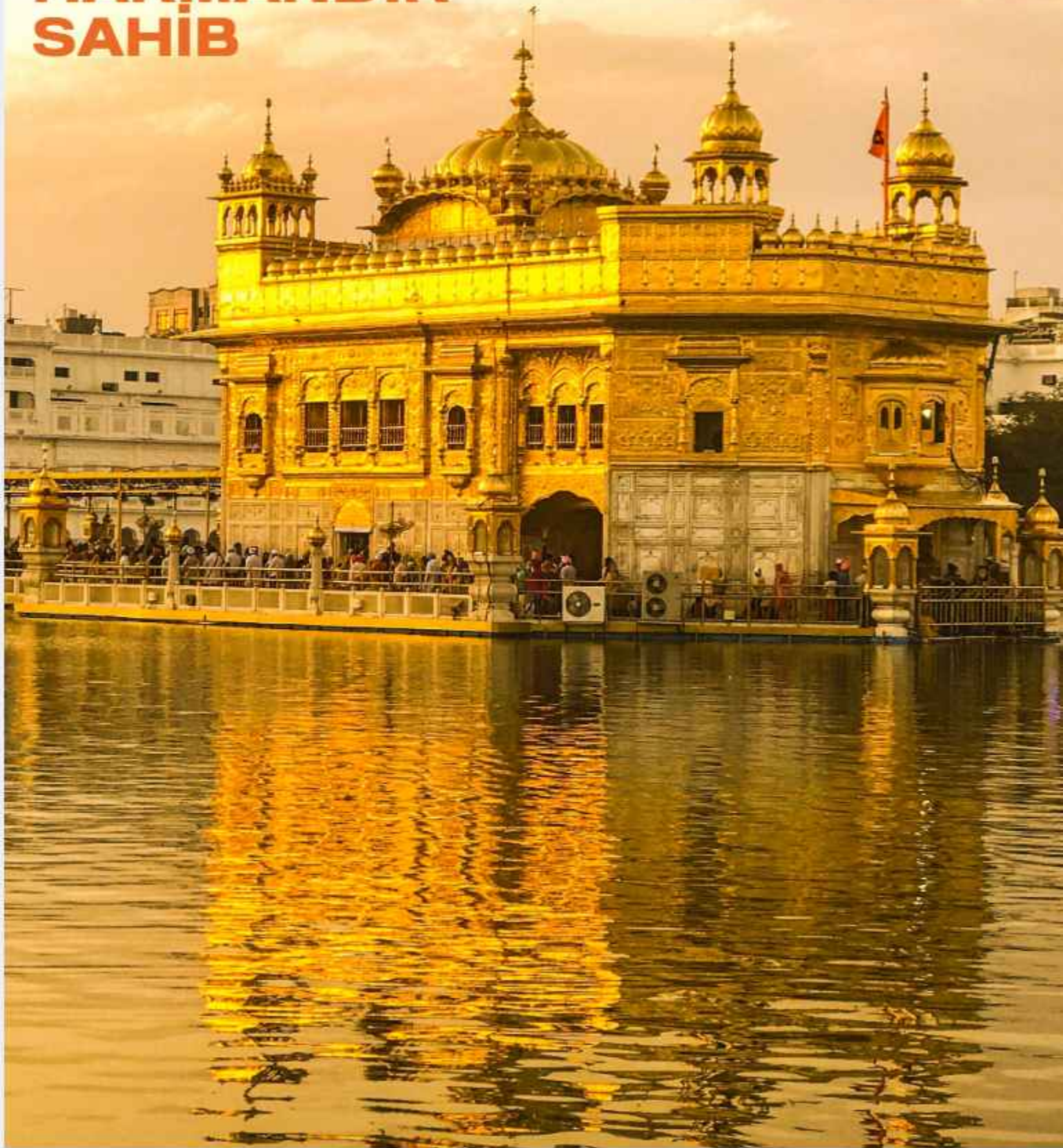
India successfully concluded the 16th BRICS Trade Ministers' Meeting in Jaipur on 7 August under its BRICS Chairship 2026, with member nations adopting a Joint Declaration, four key annexes and finalising the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership 2030 for submission to BRICS leaders at the New Delhi Summit.



Key outcomes included the Jaipur Consensus to study the feasibility of a BRICS Invoice Discounting Mechanism to address the estimated global trade finance gap of US\$ 2.5 trillion affecting small businesses, the adoption of Guiding Principles for Credit Assessment Frameworks for Export-Oriented MSMEs enabling evaluation based on cash flows rather than collateral, and a Workplan on the Internationalisation of MSMEs and resilient and diversified Global Value Chains.



HARMANDIR SAHIB



Harmandir Sahib

Located in Amritsar, India, Harmandir Sahib, also known as the Golden Temple, is the holiest site of Sikhism. Built in the 16th century in the center of a sacred pool and later adorned with gold on its upper levels, this historic structure symbolizes its openness to all humanity with its doors facing four directions. Embracing everyone regardless of religion or origin, the temple reflects a philosophy of equality and solidarity with its kitchen (Langar) that provides free meals to tens of thousands of visitors every day.

INDIA SUCCESSFULLY TEST-FIRES MEDIUM-RANGE AGNI-4 BALLISTIC MISSILE

India successfully test-fired the Agni-4 medium-range ballistic missile from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Odisha on 6 August 2026, under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command. The Ministry of Defence confirmed that the launch validated all operational and technical parameters of the missile.

Agni-4 is a surface-to-surface ballistic missile with a strike range of approximately 4,000 kilometres, developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation, and the test was described as part of a routine process to verify the reliability and operational readiness of the weapon system.



INDIA'S METAL EXPORTS RIDE GLOBAL ELECTRIFICATION WAVE

As per reports, India's metal exports, particularly in aluminium and zinc, are benefiting from surging global demand driven by electrification, including the expansion of EV manufacturing, renewable energy infrastructure and power grid build-out worldwide.



India is among the world's leading producers of aluminium and zinc, and its producers are increasingly well-positioned to supply the materials that underpin the global clean energy transition, with policymakers focused on expanding domestic capacity and reinforcing upstream value chains.

INDIAN COFFEE EXPORTS REACH 140 COUNTRIES IN FY 2025-26

Indian coffee was exported to more than 140 countries in FY 2025-26, with significant growth in emerging markets such as the UAE, Libya, Australia, South Korea, Egypt, Kuwait and the United Kingdom, and new destinations including Djibouti, Micronesia and Timor-Leste, the government informed Parliament.



The average export unit values of GI-registered Arabica and Robusta coffees increased 34.36% and 29.73% respectively compared with FY 2024-25, driven by the Coffee Board's promotion of GI-tagged varieties, the Integrated Coffee Development Project and participation in international trade fairs and capacity-building programmes.

INDIA MEDICAL DEVICE 2026 SPOTLIGHT SELF-RELIANCE, INNOVATION AND GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS IN MEDTECH SECTOR

The 9th edition of India Medical Device 2026 was held in New Delhi on 7-8 August, organised by the Department of Pharmaceuticals in collaboration with FICCI under the theme "Towards Viksit Bharat: Advancing India as a Global Hub for Quality Medical Devices."

The conference brought together policymakers, regulators, industry leaders, healthcare professionals, start-ups and global stakeholders to discuss the future roadmap of India's medical devices sector, which is currently valued at over US\$ 15 billion and supported by the National Medical Devices Policy 2023, the PLI Scheme and the development of Medical Device Parks. Sessions covered component manufacturing, AI in healthcare, regulatory reforms, export opportunities and strengthening India's MedTech service ecosystem.

INDIA'S ASIATIC LION POPULATION IS THRIVING, WITH ITS HABITAT & RANGE EXPANDING

On World Lion Day (10 August), India highlighted the remarkable recovery of its Asiatic lion population, which has grown from 523 in 2015 to 891 in 2025, a 70% increase over a decade, while the species' geographical range has expanded from approximately 30,000 sq km in 2020 to nearly 35,000 sq km across 11 districts.



The Asiatic lion, found exclusively in India's Greater Gir landscape in Gujarat, is the world's only remaining wild population of the subspecies. The recovery is attributed to India's Project Lion initiative launched in 2020, which adopts a landscape-level approach encompassing habitat enhancement, disease monitoring, scientific population tracking and community involvement.

INDIA CROSSES 300 GW OF NON-FOSSIL FUEL-BASED INSTALLED ELECTRICITY GENERATION CAPACITY

India crossed 300 GW of non-fossil fuel-based installed electricity generation capacity as of 31 July 2026, with total clean capacity standing at 300.50 GW, more than 54% of India's total installed electricity generation capacity of approximately 552 GW and over 60% of the 500 GW target set for 2030. The capacity comprises 164.59 GW of solar (up from 2.8 GW in 2014), 58.14 GW of wind (up from 21 GW in 2014), 57.24 GW of hydro, 11.75 GW of bio-power and 8.78 GW of nuclear.

A record 55.29 GW of non-fossil fuel-based capacity was added during FY 2025-26 alone, including 44.6 GW of solar and 6 GW of wind, while renewable energy generation increased from 190.96 billion units in 2014-15 to 477.79 billion units in 2025-26.



INDIA TO HOST 12TH BRICS ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS MEETING IN NEW DELHI

India is set to host the 12th BRICS Environment Ministers Meeting at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on 18 August 2026, preceded by the BRICS Senior Officers' Meeting of the Environment Working Group and Contact Group on Climate Change and Sustainable Development on 17 August.

The meetings will be held under the theme of India's BRICS Chairship 2026 "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability" and will deliberate on shared environmental priorities including resource efficiency and circular economy, carbon markets and adaptation, land degradation, desertification and drought, and integrated wildfire management.



NASA, ISRO'yu Artemis Mutabakatları Çerçevesinde Ay Üssü Programına Davet Etti

NASA, Artemis Mutabakatları kapsamındaki iki ülke ortaklığını temel alarak aşamalı robotik ve insanlı misyonlar aracılığıyla Ay'ın Güney Kutbu yakınında kalıcı bir insanlı varlık oluşturmayı hedefleyen Ay Üssü programına katılmak üzere Hindistan Uzay Araştırmaları Örgütü'ne (ISRO) davet ilettili.

Davet, 5-6 Ağustos'ta Bengaluru'daki ISRO genel merkezinde düzenlenen 9. Hindistan-ABD Sivil Uzay Ortak Çalışma Grubu toplantısında iletildi. Toplantıda her iki taraf, Mutabakatlar çerçevesinde açık bilimsel veri paylaşımında işbirliğini ilerletme konusunda da mutabık kalırken 2025 yılında fırlatılan NASA-ISRO ortak Sentetik Açıklıklı Radar (NISAR) misyonundaki ilerleme de değerlendirildi.

