

# Newsletter

## POLITY & GOVERNANCE

### **AI IMPACT SUMMIT: MANAV VISION, PITCHES ‘DEVELOP IN INDIA, DEVELOP FOR THE WORLD’**



The India AI Impact Summit 2026 held at in New Delhi, presented the “MANAV” vision for Artificial Intelligence, which emphasises a human-centric and responsible approach to emerging technologies. The summit brought together global leaders, policymakers, researchers, and technology companies to discuss the future of AI and its transformative role across sectors such as governance, healthcare, education, and industry.

In his address, Prime Minister Modi highlighted India’s growing technological ecosystem and urged global collaboration under the principle of “Develop in India, Develop for the World.” The vision calls for AI development that prioritises trust, transparency, inclusivity, and societal benefit, positioning India as a key player in shaping global AI governance and innovation frameworks. The opening ceremony saw the participation of top executives from leading global technology companies. CEOs and industry leaders joined policymakers and researchers to discuss the transformative potential of artificial intelligence. Their presence reflected growing international interest in India’s rapidly expanding technology ecosystem. Discussions at the summit highlighted investment opportunities, innovation partnerships, and the role of AI in driving economic growth and digital transformation.

Leaders participating in the summit worked towards adopting a Leaders’ Declaration outlining shared principles for the development and deployment of artificial intelligence. The declaration aims to promote ethical AI practices, strengthen global collaboration, and ensure that AI technologies contribute to inclusive economic growth and societal well-being. The summit underscored India’s commitment to playing a leading role in shaping global norms for the responsible use of AI.

**READ MORE: [AI IMPACT SUMMIT: MANAV VISION](#)**

### **INDIA AND CANADA LAUNCH NEGOTIATIONS FOR COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held bilateral talks with Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney, who was on an official visit to India from 27 February to 2 March 2026. The meeting focused on strengthening diplomatic and economic relations between the two nations. The discussions took place alongside broader engagements aimed at revitalising cooperation in trade, innovation, and strategic sectors. Three agreements were signed covering critical minerals, renewable energy, and cultural cooperation.



Both leaders also agreed to expedite negotiations for the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and explored opportunities for collaboration in clean energy, critical minerals, education, and emerging technologies. CEPA is expected to facilitate stronger supply chains, promote bilateral investments, and create opportunities for collaboration across sectors including technology, clean energy, and manufacturing. Both sides have expressed optimism that the CEPA will unlock new economic opportunities and significantly boost bilateral trade in the coming years.

**READ MORE: [INDIA AND CANADA - COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT](#)**



## INDIA - FRANCE JOINT STATEMENT



President of the French Republic H.E. Mr. Emmanuel Macron paid an official visit to India from 17 to 19 February 2026. Following the visit, India and France issued a joint statement following high-level bilateral discussions, reaffirming their strategic partnership and cooperation across defence, technology, energy, and global governance. The statement emphasised expanding collaboration in areas such as space technology, defence manufacturing, renewable energy, and climate action. Both countries reiterated their commitment to strengthening economic ties and enhancing cooperation on international security and regional stability.

**READ MORE: [INDIA - FRANCE JOINT STATEMENT](#)**

## INDIA, UNITED STATES SIGN PAX SILICA DECLARATION



India and the United States have signed the Pax Silica declaration at the India AI Impact Summit in New Delhi. This declaration will strengthen collaboration in areas like the production of critical minerals and semiconductors and in the rapidly evolving Artificial Intelligence space, to create a safe and strong global silicon and technology ecosystem. Presiding over the signing ceremony, Union Minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw has said that the goal of India is to take a leadership role in Semiconductor and Electronics industries and that India's engineers are designing the most complex and advanced two nanometer chips. He added that the Industry requires more than one million talented pool and that will be fulfilled within the country. The partnership seeks to advance trusted AI globally, emphasising that peace comes through strength.

**READ MORE: [INDIA, UNITED STATES SIGN PAX SILICA DECLARATION](#)**

## PM NARENDRA MODI HOLDS TALKS WITH FINLAND PRESIDENT ALEXANDER STUBB



Prime Minister Narendra Modi held discussions with the President of Finland, Alexander Stubb on strengthening bilateral cooperation across a wide spectrum of areas. They exchanged perspectives on regional and global issues of mutual interest, including cooperation in multilateral fora. Mr Stubb arrived in New Delhi on 04 March 2026 on a four-day state visit to India and was accorded a ceremonial welcome and a Guard of Honour at the airport. This is the first visit of President Stubb to India in his present capacity. He also visited Mumbai and interacted with Indian business leaders and attended the India-Finland Business event.

India and Finland share warm, friendly and multi-faceted relations, rooted in shared democratic values. Finland is a valued partner for India in the European Union and the Nordic region. The visit of President Stubb, following the recent visit of Prime Minister of the Republic of Finland H.E. Petteri Orpo to India for the AI Impact Summit in February 2026, reflects the shared commitment of both countries to further strengthen bilateral cooperation across a wide range of sectors and to deepen people-to-people linkages.

**READ MORE: [PM NARENDRA MODI HOLDS TALKS WITH FINLAND PRESIDENT ALEXANDER STUBB](#)**



**RAISINA DIALOGUE 2026**

India's premier conference on geopolitics and global affairs, Raisina Dialogue 2026 was held in New Delhi from 5-7 March 2026. The conference addressed the challenging issues facing the international community. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Dialogue on 5 March. President of the Republic of Finland, H.E. Dr. Alexander Stubb, joined the inaugural session as the Chief Guest, and delivered the keynote address. The 11th Raisina Dialogue witnessed participation of representatives from 110 countries including Ministers, former Heads of State and Heads of Government, Members of Parliament, Military Commanders, Captains of Industry, Technology Leaders, Academics, Journalists, Scholars on Strategic Affairs, Experts from leading Think Tanks, and Youth.

The theme of the 2026 edition is "Samskāra - Assertion, Accommodation, Advancement". Around 2700 participants from 110 countries joined the Dialogue in-person, and the proceedings viewed by millions across the world on various digital platforms.

**READ MORE: [RAISINA DIALOGUE 2026](#)**

**INDIA COUNTRY PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK (CPF) FY2026-2031**

The World Bank's India Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for FY2026-2031 outlined a roadmap for collaboration between India and the World Bank to support sustainable development and economic growth. The framework focuses on areas such as infrastructure development, climate resilience, human capital, and digital transformation. Through targeted investments and policy support, the CPF aims to accelerate India's development goals while addressing challenges such as urbanisation, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion. The partnership reflects World Bank's commitment to supporting India's long-term growth trajectory.



**READ MORE: [INDIA COUNTRY PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK \(CPF\) FY2026-2031](#)**

**ECONOMY & DEVELOPMENT****CUMULATIVE EXPORTS DURING APRIL-JANUARY 2025-26 IS ESTIMATED AT US\$ 720.76 BILLION**

India's cumulative exports of merchandise and services reached an estimated US\$720.76 billion during April-January of the financial year 2025-26, reflecting strong performance across multiple sectors. The growth highlights India's expanding presence in global markets and increasing competitiveness in sectors such as manufacturing, technology services, pharmaceuticals, and engineering goods. The export figures also underline the country's continued integration into global value chains and its role as a major trading economy.

**READ MORE: [CUMULATIVE EXPORTS DURING APRIL-JANUARY 2025-26 AT US\\$ 720.76 BILLION](#)**

**INDUSTRY & SECTORAL INSIGHTS****GLOBAL TECH GIANTS TO INVEST US\$ 700 BILLION DOLLARS IN AI**

Major global technology companies including Microsoft, Meta, and Nvidia are expected to invest nearly US\$ 700 billion in artificial intelligence infrastructure and innovation. These investments reflect the rapidly expanding role of AI in global economic transformation. India is emerging as an important hub in this evolving ecosystem due to its large talent pool, digital infrastructure, and vibrant start-up environment. The country's technology sector continues to attract international partnerships and investments in AI development.

**READ MORE: [GLOBAL TECH GIANTS TO INVEST US\\$ 700 BILLION DOLLARS IN AI](#)**



## UN HAILS INDIA'S BANKING PROGRAMME FOR WOMEN AS GLOBAL MODEL



The United Nations has hailed India's banking programme, which has brought banking services to over 290 million women, as a global model for a transformative pathway for women and girls. Director of policy for UN Women, Sandra Hendriks, has said the Indian government's example of enabling digital identification for its entire population of women and girls, notably, is indeed a model. She further said that the easing of requirements for women and girls across India to open digital bank accounts has also emerged as a model for financial inclusion.

**READ MORE: [UN HAILS INDIA'S BANKING PROGRAMME FOR WOMEN AS GLOBAL MODEL](#)**

## PLI SCHEME DRAWS US\$ 23 BILLION INVESTMENT, DRIVES US\$ 220 BILLION IN SALES ACROSS 14 SECTORS

As per official estimates, India's Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme has attracted investments worth US\$ 23 billion, generating US\$ 220 billion in sales across 14 key manufacturing sectors. As of 31 December 2025, 836 applications had been approved under the PLI scheme which had created more than 1.44 million direct and indirect jobs. The scheme aims to strengthen domestic manufacturing, enhance export competitiveness, and create employment opportunities. By incentivising production and innovation, the initiative is supporting India's goal of becoming a major global manufacturing hub.

**READ MORE: [PLI SCHEME DRAWS US\\$ 23 BILLION INVESTMENT](#)**

## ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

### INDIA REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ON WORLD WILDLIFE DAY



On World Wildlife Day (03 March 2026), India reaffirmed commitment to protecting biodiversity and conserving wildlife habitats across the country. India is home to a wide range of species and has implemented several conservation programmes to protect endangered wildlife. Initiatives such as Project Tiger, Project Elephant, and other ecosystem protection efforts highlight India's ongoing commitment to sustainable environmental stewardship. Conservation programmes also emphasise community participation and scientific management of protected areas.

**READ MORE: [INDIA REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ON WORLD WILDLIFE DAY](#)**

### KUNO NATIONAL PARK RECEIVES NINE CHEETAHS FROM BOTSWANA



As part of India's ambitious wildlife restoration programme, nine cheetahs, six females and three males, were translocated from Botswana to Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh. The initiative forms part of Project Cheetah, aimed at reintroducing the species to India after it was declared extinct in the country decades ago. The programme seeks to restore ecological balance, strengthen biodiversity conservation, and establish a sustainable cheetah population in the region. With this, India's thriving Cheetah population reaches 48, including 28 India-born cubs.

**READ MORE: [KUNO NATIONAL PARK RECEIVES NINE CHEETAHS FROM BOTSWANA](#)**

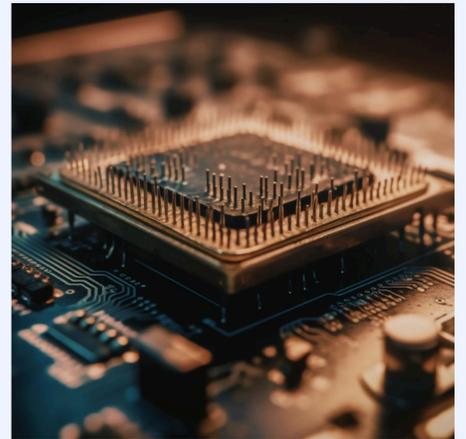


## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION**

### **HCL-FOXCONN JOINT VENTURE PROJECT, INDIA**

Indian technology company HCL and Taiwanese electronics manufacturer Foxconn have partnered to establish a joint venture focused on semiconductor and electronics manufacturing in Uttar Pradesh, India. The project is expected to support India's semiconductor ecosystem by strengthening local manufacturing capacity and enhancing technology collaboration. It also aligns with India's broader strategy to build resilient global supply chains and reduce dependence on imports in critical technology sectors.

**READ MORE: [HCL-FOXCONN JOINT VENTURE PROJECT, INDIA](#)**



### **INDIA HELPING DEMOCRATISE AI FOR DEVELOPING WORLD: IMF CHIEF**



IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva stated at the Asia in 2050 Conference in Bangkok that India is emerging as an important global player in Artificial Intelligence and is helping democratise AI for developing countries worldwide. She noted that Asia could see economic growth increase by nearly one percentage point annually if countries effectively use AI to boost productivity. India's large digital ecosystem, expanding tech sector, and young workforce position it to make AI technologies more accessible globally.

**READ MORE: [INDIA HELPING DEMOCRATISE AI FOR DEVELOPING WORLD: IMF CHIEF](#)**

### **IBM TO INVEST IN QUANTUM COMPUTING, CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE ACROSS INDIA**

India's Union Minister for Electronics and IT Ashwini Vaishnaw announced that IBM plans to invest in quantum computing and cloud infrastructure in India, which is expected to create new opportunities for the country's growing technology talent pool. The investment will also include strengthening IBM's semiconductor design teams, particularly in advanced 7 nm and 2 nm chip technologies, supporting India's ambition to become a global hub for advanced semiconductor design. The announcement followed discussions with senior IBM officials, as well as earlier meetings with IBM CEO Arvind Krishna and Meta's Chief Global Affairs Officer Joel Kaplan at the World Economic Forum in Davos.



**READ MORE: [IBM TO INVEST IN QUANTUM COMPUTING, CLOUD INFRASTRUCTURE ACROSS INDIA](#)**

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