

Newsletter

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

INDIA BEGINS THE WORLD'S LARGEST AND FIRST DIGITALLY CONDUCTED CENSUS-2027



India has launched preparations for Census 2027, which is set to be the world's largest population enumeration exercise and the first to be conducted digitally. This will be the 16th Census in the series and the 8th since Independence. The process will leverage mobile applications and digital platforms for data collection, aiming to improve accuracy, efficiency, and real-time monitoring. Enumerators will use handheld devices instead of traditional paper-based methods. The digital approach is expected to reduce errors, speed up data processing, and enable quicker release of results. The Census will collect demographic, socio-economic, and housing-related data, which will play a critical role in policy planning, welfare targeting, and governance decisions across sectors.

READ MORE: [INDIA BEGINS THE WORLD'S LARGEST AND FIRST DIGITALLY CONDUCTED CENSUS-2027](#)

PM MODI CHAIRS SECOND CCS MEETING ON WEST ASIA CRISIS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the second meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) to review the evolving situation in West Asia. The meeting focused on assessing regional security developments and their implications for India, including the safety of Indian nationals in the region. Discussions also covered contingency planning, diplomatic engagement, and coordination among relevant ministries. The government emphasized continuous monitoring of the situation and readiness to respond to emerging challenges.



READ MORE: [PM MODI CHAIRS SECOND CCS MEETING ON WEST ASIA CRISIS](#)

INDIA SENDS HUMANITARIAN AID TO AFGHANISTAN FOLLOWING FLOODS AND EARTHQUAKES

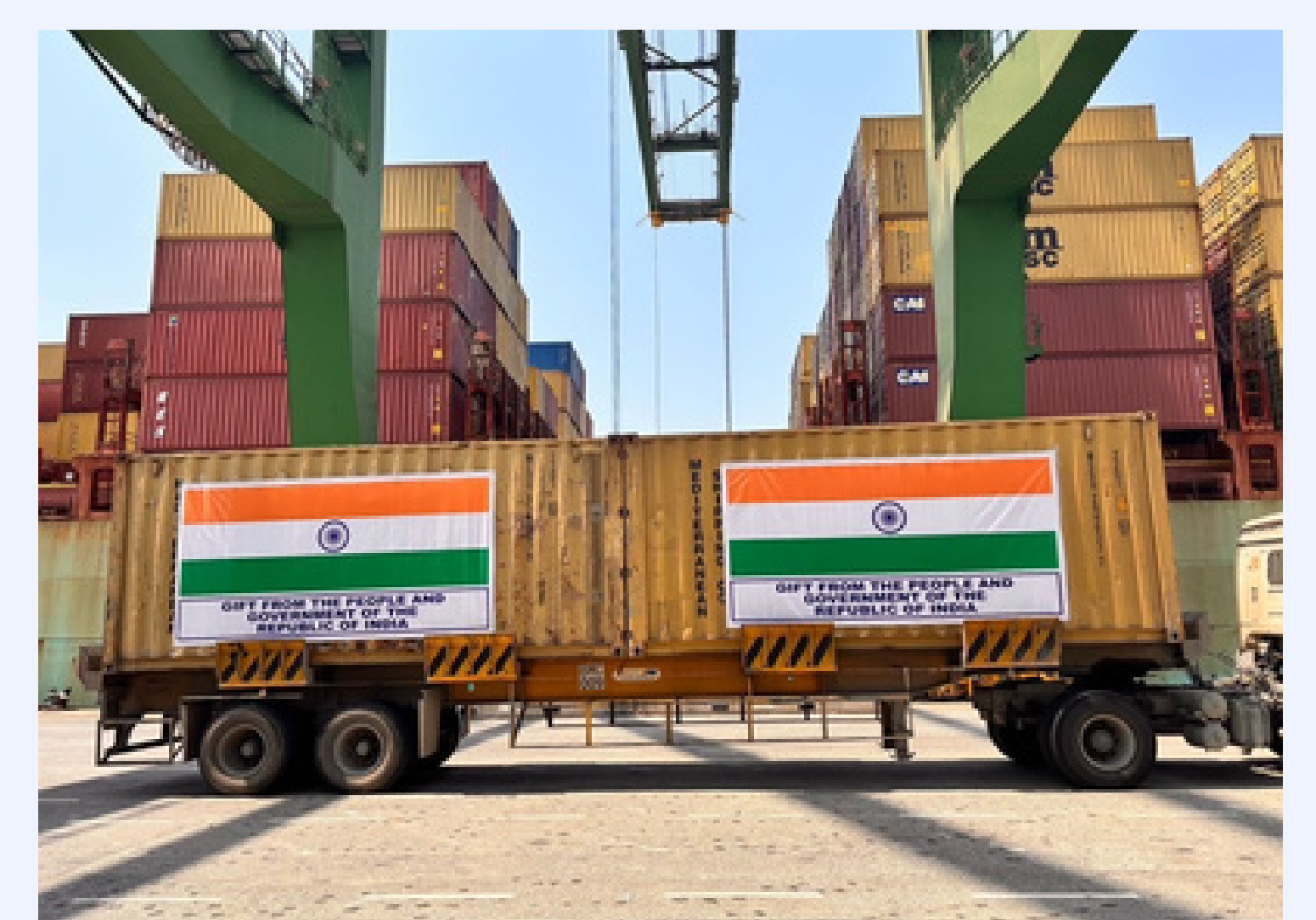


India has sent Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief materials to Afghanistan, which is currently facing a difficult situation due to recent floods and earthquakes. In a social media post, the External Affairs Ministry said that the aid includes kitchen sets, hygiene kits, plastic sheets, tarpaulins, sleeping bags, and other essential items. The ministry said that India stands in solidarity with the people of Afghanistan and remains fully committed to extending humanitarian assistance and support during this challenging time.

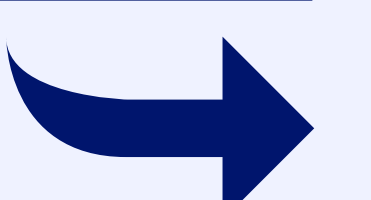
READ MORE: [INDIA SENDS HUMANITARIAN AID TO AFGHANISTAN FOLLOWING FLOODS AND EARTHQUAKES](#)

INDIA SENDS 1,000 METRIC TONNES OF RICE TO BURKINA FASO AS HUMANITARIAN AID

India has sent a consignment of one thousand metric tonnes of rice to Burkina Faso as humanitarian assistance. In a social media post, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said this initiative is aimed at supporting food security for vulnerable communities and internally displaced persons. He added that this step reflects India's continued commitment as a reliable developmental and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief partner to Global South countries.



READ MORE: [INDIA SENDS 1,000 METRIC TONNES OF RICE TO BURKINA FASO AS HUMANITARIAN AID](#)



ECONOMY & DEVELOPMENT

INDIA'S VC INVESTMENTS REACHED US\$ 16 BILLION IN 2025; DEAL ACTIVITY ROSE 18%



India's venture capital (VC) ecosystem recorded investments of approximately US\$ 16 billion in 2025, with deal activity increasing by 18% compared to the previous year. This growth reflects sustained investor interest across sectors such as technology, fintech, and startups. The rise in deal volume indicates a broadening investment base and continued confidence in India's innovation-driven economy. The trend also highlights the strengthening of the startup ecosystem and increasing availability of risk capital.

READ MORE: [INDIA'S VC INVESTMENTS REACHED US\\$ 16 BILLION IN 2025; DEAL ACTIVITY ROSE 18%](#)

UPI ACHIEVES 22.64 BILLION TRANSACTIONS IN MARCH THIS YEAR

India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) recorded 22.64 billion transactions in March 2026, marking a significant milestone in digital payments adoption. The platform continues to witness rapid growth in both volume and value of transactions. UPI's expansion reflects increasing digitalization of financial services and widespread acceptance across urban and rural areas. It has become a key component of India's digital economy, facilitating real-time, low-cost transactions.



The International Monetary Fund report on 'Growing Retail Digital Payments' had earlier recognized UPI as the world's largest retail fast-payment system (FPS) by transaction volume. Further, as per ACI Worldwide report on 'Prime Time for Real-Time' 2024, UPI has around 49% share in the global real-time payment system transaction volume.

READ MORE: [UPI ACHIEVES 22.64 BILLION TRANSACTIONS IN MARCH THIS YEAR](#)

INDUSTRY BODIES WELCOME GOVERNMENT DECISION TO CUT CUSTOMS DUTY ON PETROCHEMICALS, CITE BENEFITS FOR MEDICAL DEVICES SECTOR



India's Industry bodies have welcomed the government's decision to reduce customs duties on petrochemicals, noting that it will lower input costs for several sectors. The move is expected to benefit industries such as medical devices manufacturing by improving cost competitiveness. The reduction in duties is seen as a step towards boosting domestic manufacturing and enhancing supply chain efficiency. It may also contribute to increased investment and production in downstream industries.

READ MORE: [INDUSTRY BODIES WELCOME GOVERNMENT DECISION TO CUT CUSTOMS DUTY](#)

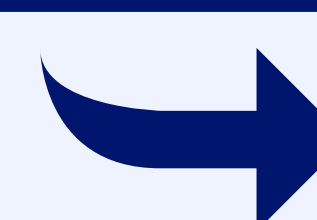
INDUSTRY & SECTORAL INSIGHTS

DEFENCE EXPORTS SKYROCKET TO RECORD US\$ 4.1 BILLION IN 2025-26, 62.7% RISE OVER PREVIOUS FISCAL

India's defence exports reached a record of around US\$ 4.1 billion in the financial year 2025-26, marking a 62.7% increase over the previous fiscal year. This growth reflects expanding global demand for Indian defence equipment and systems. The increase highlights India's progress in indigenous defence manufacturing and export capabilities. It also aligns with efforts to position the country as a significant player in the global defence market.



READ MORE: [DEFENCE EXPORTS SKYROCKET TO RECORD US\\$ 4.1 BILLION IN 2025-26](#)



INDIA'S SEAFOOD EXPORTS RECORD STRONG GROWTH AT AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF 7% OVER PAST ELEVEN YEARS



India's seafood exports have recorded strong and sustained growth, expanding at an average annual rate of seven per cent over the past eleven years. Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying said that the marine product exports have more than doubled during the period, rising from over US\$ 3.2 billion in 2013-14 to over US\$ 6.7 billion in 2024-25. The Ministry said, India's seafood exports span a wide and diversified basket, with over 350 varieties of products shipped to nearly 130 global markets. It said, India's fisheries sector has emerged as a major contributor to food security, employment, export earnings and sustainable livelihoods.

[READ MORE: SEAFOOD EXPORTS RECORD STRONG GROWTH AT 7%](#)

INDIA'S MAJOR PORTS RECORD 915 MILLION TONNES CARGO IN FINANCIAL YEAR 2025-26

Major ports in India recorded 915 million tonnes Cargo in Financial Year 2025-26, surpassing the annual target with over 7%. In a statement, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways said the achievement reaffirms the sector's strong recovery, enhanced efficiency, and sustained growth trajectory. It also highlights the impact of transformative reforms and strategic investments undertaken by the government to modernise port infrastructure, enhance logistics efficiency, and strengthen India's position as a leading maritime nation. The Ministry said, the performance reflects consistent growth across major ports, with Deendayal Port Authority emerging as the top performer, followed by Paradip Port Authority and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority.

[READ MORE: INDIA'S MAJOR PORTS RECORD 915 MILLION TONNES CARGO IN FINANCIAL YEAR 2025-26](#)

INDIA'S SUGAR PRODUCTION RISES 9% TO 27.23 MILLION TONS, AS ON MARCH 31, 2026



India's sugar production increased by 9% to reach 27.23 million tons as of March 31, 2026, according to industry data. The rise is attributed to favorable climatic conditions and improved agricultural practices. Higher production levels are expected to support both domestic consumption and export potential. The growth also reflects stability in the sugar sector and continued output expansion.

[READ MORE: INDIA'S SUGAR PRODUCTION RISES 9% TO 27.23 MILLION TONS](#)

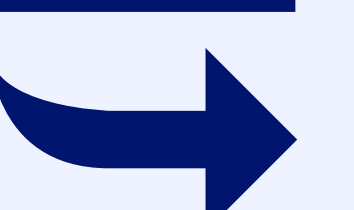
ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

INDIA EMERGES AS THIRD-LARGEST RENEWABLE ENERGY MARKET IN 2025: IRENA



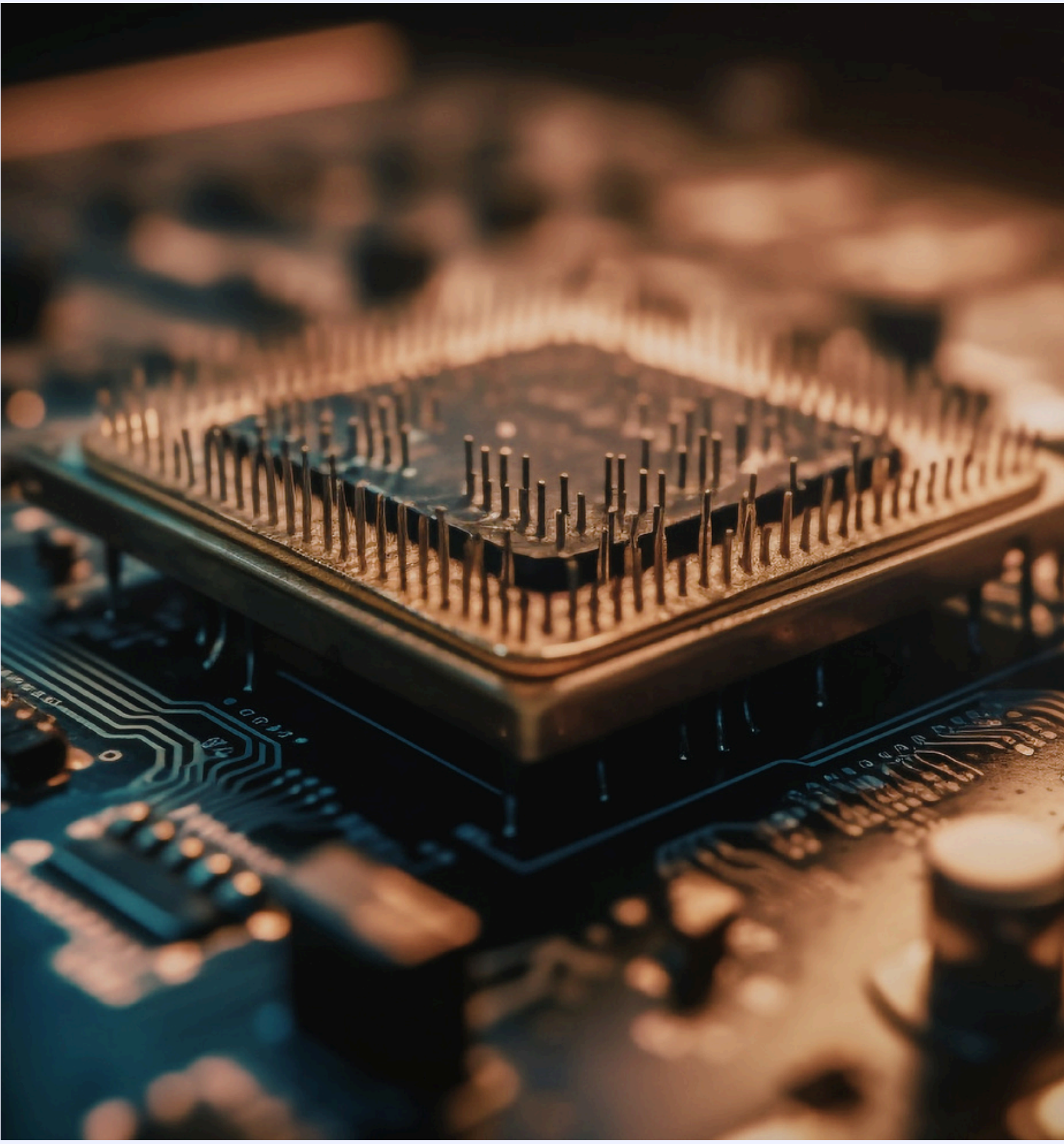
In a major boost to the government's efforts to expand solar and wind energy capacity, India emerged as the third-largest renewable energy market globally in 2025, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) said in its report. Installed renewable energy capacity rose from 175.9 GW in 2023 to 250.5 GW in 2025, driven largely by the addition of about 37 GW of solar energy capacity in 2025.

[READ MORE: INDIA EMERGES AS THIRD-LARGEST RENEWABLE ENERGY MARKET IN 2025: IRENA](#)



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

FOUR SEMICONDUCTOR PLANTS TO BE READY IN INDIA THIS YEAR



India's Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that India's semiconductor sector is progressing on an accelerated timeline, with four plants expected to be operational by 2026, two more by 2027, and the country's first fabrication unit in Dholera by 2028. The recent inauguration of the Kaynes Semicon OSAT facility in Sanand, following Micron's plant in February, reflects rapid execution, with projects moving from foundation to production in about 14 months. The government is simultaneously building a broader ecosystem covering machinery, chemicals, and testing, while strengthening human capital of around 60,000 engineers from 315 universities have been trained in advanced chip design tools, contributing to design work for global firms such as Nvidia, AMD, and Intel.

Under the Semicon 2.0 programme, India aims to localise the full value chain and position itself among the top six semiconductor nations by 2032 and top three by 2047, with Gujarat emerging as a key hub through infrastructure development, policy support, and skill-building initiatives.

READ MORE: [FOUR SEMICONDUCTOR PLANTS TO BE READY IN INDIA THIS YEAR](#)

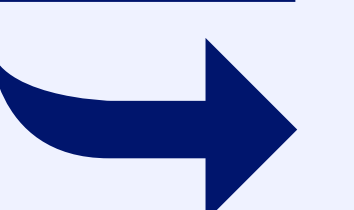
EMBASSY & CONSULATE UPDATES



Consul General met with Mr. Turgut Tepret, Chairman of the Board of Erte Cosmetics. The meeting focused on exploring collaboration opportunities in the cosmetics sector and strengthening India-Türkiye commercial engagement in this space.



Chairperson of Contemporary Istanbul Mr. Ali Güreli, along with Ms. Tara Ceylan Tansel, Exhibitor Relations Manager, visited the Consulate and met with the Consul General. They discussed their upcoming art fair and opportunities for collaboration with Indian artists, collectors and galleries. Contemporary Istanbul is a leading contemporary art platform that brings together galleries, artists, collectors, curators, and academics, fostering dialogue and creative exchange.





Ambassador Muktesh K. Pardeshi held a review meeting with the team of the Consulate General of India in Istanbul. Ambassador reviewed the functioning of various wings of the Consulate and discussed steps to further strengthen engagement across key areas in the coming year.



Secretary West Amb Sibi George met Ambassador and Consul General during his brief transit at Istanbul.

THANK YOU FOR READING

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