

Newsletter

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

NEW DELHI GEARS UP FOR 4TH INDIA AFRICA FORUM SUMMIT



India will host the 4th India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS-IV) in New Delhi from 28 to 31 May 2026, in collaboration with the African Union Commission, marking the first such gathering since 2015. The summit, themed "IA SPIRIT: India-Africa Strategic Partnership for Innovation, Resilience and Inclusive Transformation," will bring together leaders from across the African continent, regional economic communities and the African diaspora. The schedule includes a Senior Officials Meeting on 28 May, an India-Africa Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 29 May and the Leaders' Summit on 31 May, alongside an India-Africa Business Dialogue and Exhibition, a Track-2 Dialogue and the India-Africa Music and Dance Festival.

India-Africa bilateral trade reached approximately US\$ 82 billion in 2024-25, recording 17% annual growth, while India's cumulative investments in Africa now exceed US\$ 80 billion. India has also expanded its diplomatic footprint on the continent from 29 to 46 resident missions in recent years through the establishment of 17 new embassies and missions.

READ MORE: [NEW DELHI GEARS UP FOR 4TH INDIA AFRICA FORUM SUMMIT](#)

INDIA TO HOST 1ST IBCA SUMMIT IN JUNE THIS YEAR

India's Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav launched the website and logo of the first International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) Summit 2026 in New Delhi, announcing that India will host the inaugural summit on 1-2 June 2026. Heads of State and Government from member and observer countries are expected to attend, along with senior officials, conservation practitioners and experts from 95 big cat range countries.



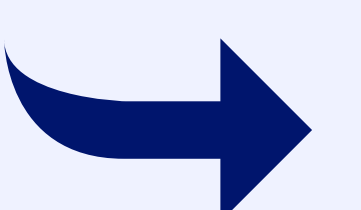
The IBCA, an inter-governmental organisation headquartered in India, was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2023 and is dedicated to the conservation of seven big cat species - lion, tiger, leopard, snow leopard, cheetah, jaguar and puma. The summit, themed "Save Big Cats, Save Humanity, Save Ecosystem," is expected to adopt the Delhi Declaration on big cat conservation, strengthening transboundary cooperation and aligning conservation efforts with global biodiversity and climate goals.

READ MORE: [INDIA TO HOST 1ST IBCA SUMMIT IN JUNE THIS YEAR](#)

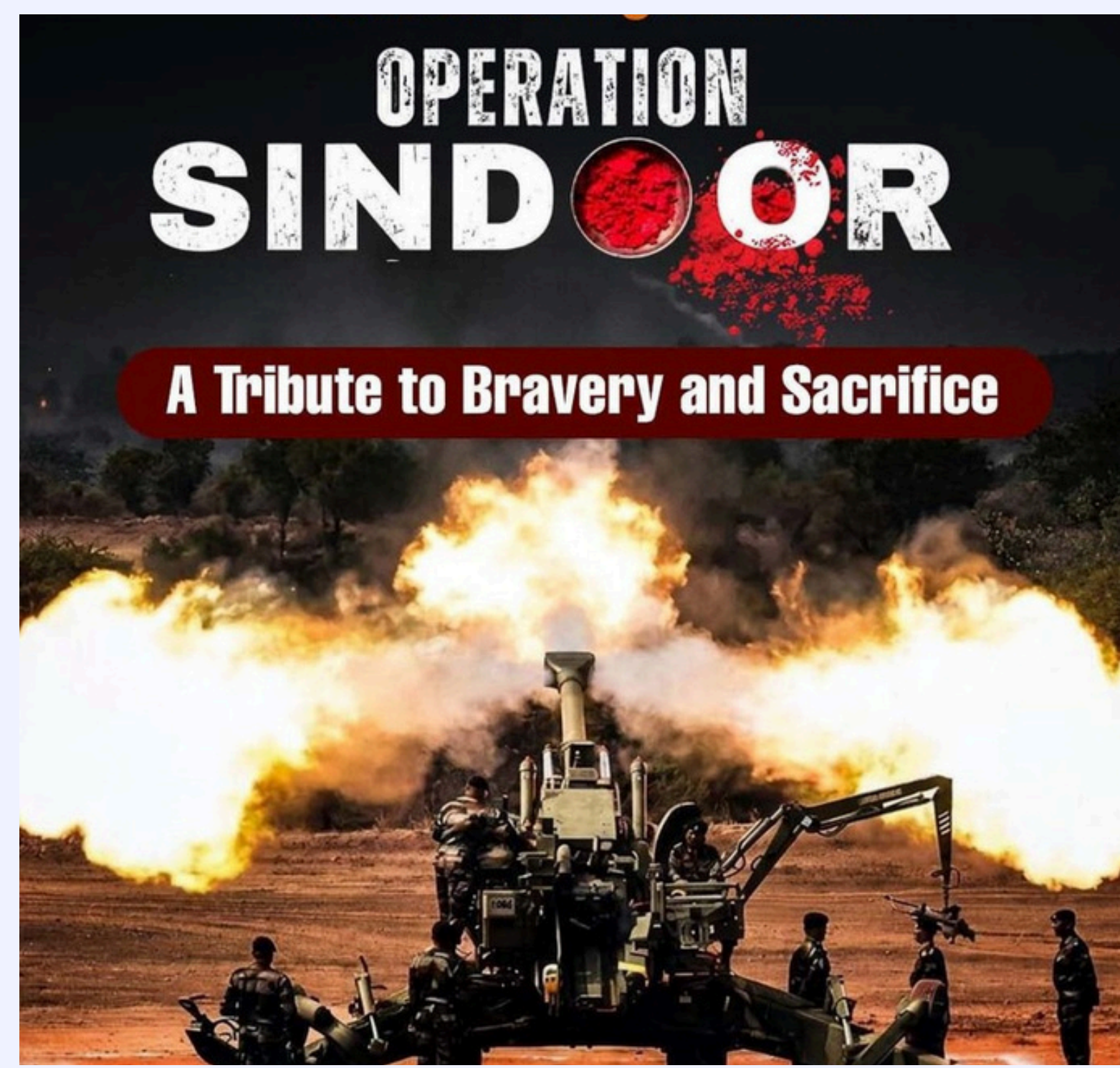
STATE VISIT OF VIETNAMESE GENERAL SECRETARY AND PRESIDENT TO LAM TO INDIA

During the State Visit of Vietnamese General Secretary and President To Lam to India from 5 to 7 May 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the two countries had formalised a strategic roadmap to elevate bilateral trade to US\$ 25 billion by 2030. Speaking at a joint press statement at Hyderabad House on 6 May, PM Modi highlighted that MoUs signed between the two countries' drug authorities will improve access to Indian medicines in Vietnam, while exports of Indian agricultural, fisheries and animal products to Vietnam will also be eased. Agreements were exchanged across sectors ranging from rare earths and payment systems to tourism, culture, education and maritime cooperation. The leaders reaffirmed Vietnam's status as a key pillar in India's Act East Policy, Vision MAHASAGAR and Indo-Pacific Vision, and welcomed Vietnam's role as a BRICS Partner Country alongside India's 2026 BRICS Chairmanship. The visit also coincided with the 10th anniversary of the elevation of bilateral relations to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

READ MORE: [STATE VISIT OF VIETNAMESE GENERAL SECRETARY AND PRESIDENT TO LAM TO INDIA](#)



INDIA SALUTES BRAVERY AND SACRIFICE OF ARMED FORCES ON FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF OPERATION SINDOOR



India marked the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor on 7 May, saluting the courage, commitment and sacrifice of the armed forces. Launched a year ago in response to the terrorist attack on tourists in Pahalgam on 22 April 2025, Operation Sindoor involved precision airstrikes on nine terror infrastructures in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, eliminating at least 100 terrorists. President Droupadi Murmu called the operation a defining testament to India's unwavering resolve against terrorism, while Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan described it as a defining moment when India responded firmly to terror forces threatening the country's sovereignty.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the armed forces displayed unparalleled courage, precision and resolve, adding that Operation Sindoor reflected India's firm response against terrorism and an unwavering commitment to safeguarding national security.

READ MORE: [INDIA SALUTES BRAVERY AND SACRIFICE OF ARMED FORCES - OPERATION SINDOOR](#)

ECONOMY & DEVELOPMENT

INDIA'S OVERALL EXPORTS HIT ALL-TIME HIGH OF US\$ 863 BILLION IN FY26

India's total exports of goods and services rose 4.59% year-on-year to reach an all-time high of US\$ 863.11 billion in FY 2025-26, up from US\$ 825.26 billion in FY 2024-25, according to data released by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics and the Reserve Bank of India. Services exports surged 8.71% to a historic US\$ 421.32 billion, driven by strong demand for IT, business, financial and professional services, while merchandise exports grew 0.93% to US\$ 441.78 billion. Notably, each of the four quarters of FY 2025-26 individually recorded their highest-ever export performance, a feat achieved for the first time in India's trade history. Total imports rose 6.49% to US\$ 979.65 billion during the year. The milestone reinforces India's growing integration with global value chains and its expanding competitiveness despite ongoing geopolitical disruptions.

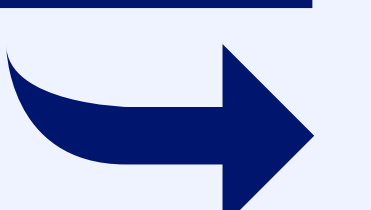
READ MORE: [INDIA'S OVERALL EXPORTS HIT ALL-TIME HIGH OF US\\$ 863 BILLION IN FY26](#)

WALMART SAYS INDIA SOURCING HAS CROSSED US\$ 40 BILLION AMID EXPORT PUSH



US retail giant Walmart said it has sourced more than US\$ 40 billion worth of goods from India and is working to expand supplier capabilities, raise compliance standards and help Indian manufacturers scale exports worldwide. Speaking at the second edition of the Walmart Growth Summit - India 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi on 7 May, Walmart President and CEO John Furner described India as one of the most dynamic opportunities in global commerce. The company has trained over 115,000 Indian MSMEs since 2019, with plans to support a total of 170,000 MSMEs by 2028. Walmart had earlier committed to sourcing goods worth up to US\$ 10 billion per year from India by 2027.

READ MORE: [WALMART SAYS INDIA SOURCING HAS CROSSED US\\$ 40 BILLION AMID EXPORT PUSH](#)



INDUSTRY & SECTORAL INSIGHTS

INDIA'S COFFEE EXPORTS JUMP 27% IN JANUARY-APRIL ON STRONG ROBUSTA, INSTANT COFFEE DEMAND

India's coffee exports rose 26.6% year-on-year to 174,000 tonnes during January-April 2026, mainly driven by higher shipments of robusta and instant coffee, according to Coffee Board data. In value terms, total exports rose to US\$ 98.65 million from US\$ 79.74 million in the year-ago period, while unit value realisation edged higher to US\$ 5200 per tonne. Robusta exports climbed 36% to 85,168 tonnes, while instant coffee shipments rose to 20,332 tonnes from 17,504 tonnes. Re-exports of instant coffee increased to 38,169 tonnes from 30,274 tonnes, while arabica exports fell 58% to 30,589 tonnes.



The Coffee Board's post-blossom estimate for 2025-26 projects record output of 4,03,000 tonnes, with gains expected across Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, supported by improved yields and better moisture availability.

READ MORE: [INDIA'S COFFEE EXPORTS JUMP 27% IN JANUARY-APRIL](#)

CABINET CLEARS US\$ 1.9 BILLION CREDIT GUARANTEE SCHEME FOR AVIATION, MSMEs

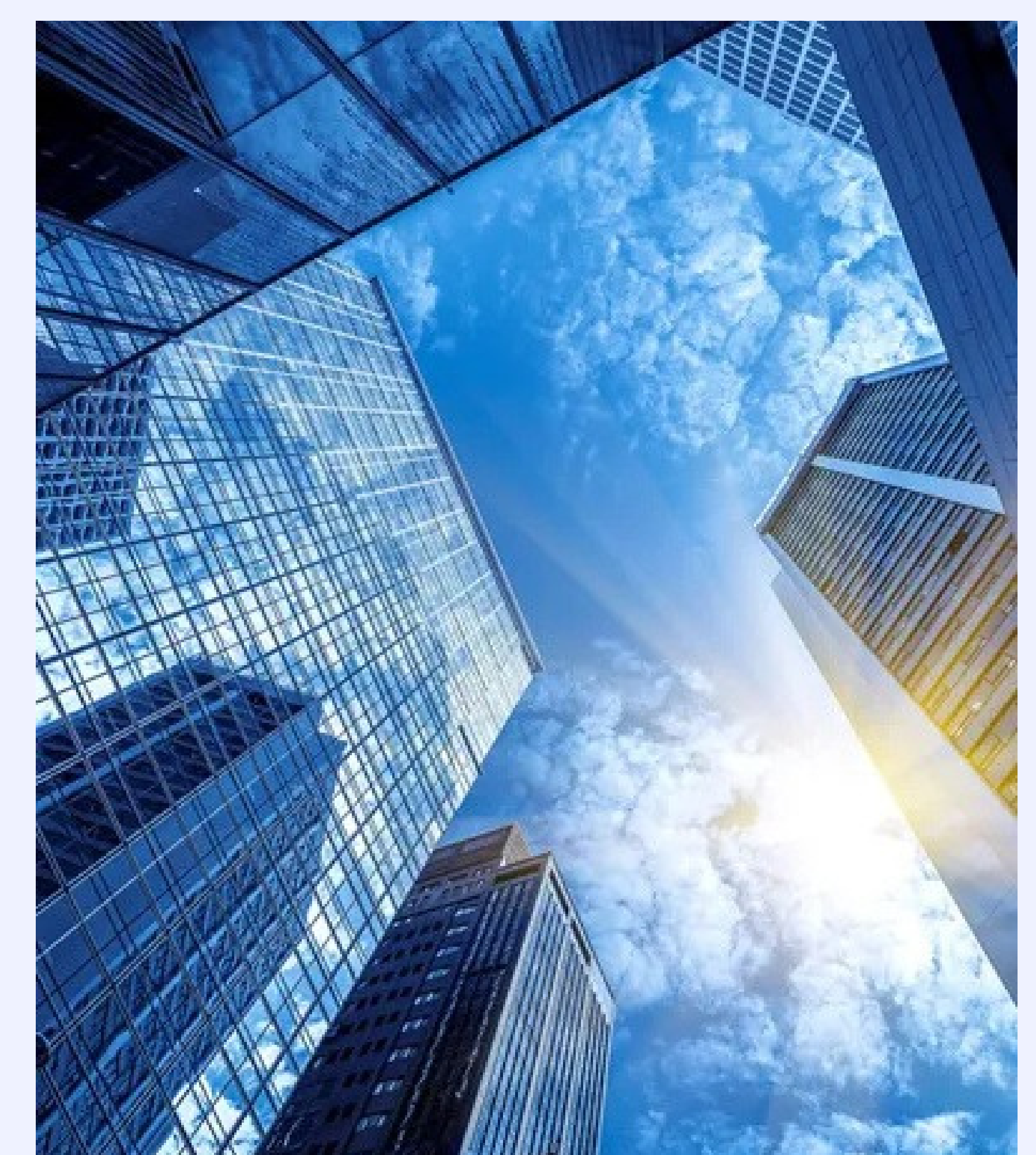


India's Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the fifth edition of the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS 5.0) on 5 May, with an outlay of about US\$ 1.9 billion to support MSMEs, airlines and other businesses facing working capital stress amid the West Asia crisis. Eligible businesses can access additional loans of up to 20% of their peak working capital utilised in Q4 FY26, while passenger airlines can borrow up to 100% of their requirement. Loan tenures are five years for MSMEs and non-MSMEs (with a one-year moratorium) and seven years for airlines (with a two-year moratorium). The government guarantee covers 100% of losses for MSMEs and 90% for larger firms and airlines, and the scheme will apply to loans sanctioned up to 31 March 2027.

READ MORE: [CABINET CLEARS US\\$ 1.9 BILLION CREDIT GUARANTEE SCHEME FOR AVIATION, MSMEs](#)

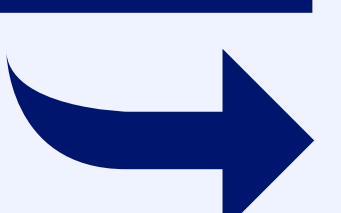
INDIA'S REAL ESTATE SECTOR PROJECTED TO TOUCH US\$ 5.8 TRILLION BY 2047: KPMG

India's real estate market is projected to grow nearly nine-fold to US\$ 5.8 trillion by 2047, up from US\$ 650 billion in 2025, according to a joint report by KPMG and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) titled "Reimagining India's Real Estate Landscape: The role of technology in value chain transformation." AI adoption in the corporate real estate sector has surged to 91% in 2025 from less than 5% in 2023, with developers increasingly adopting digital twins, blockchain, drones and IoT-enabled systems across the value chain. The sector currently contributes 7.3% to national GDP and remains a major employment generator. Over US\$ 15.8 billion has already been unlocked through REITs and InvITs, while foreign firms leased a record 9.1 million sq. ft. of office space across India's top nine cities in Q1 2026.



The report also projected that new homes in India could touch US\$ 906 billion in value by 2034, and 41 million sq. ft. of new retail developments are expected to become operational by 2028.

READ MORE: [INDIA'S REAL ESTATE SECTOR PROJECTED TO TOUCH US\\$ 5.8 TRILLION BY 2047: KPMG](#)



INDIA EXPLORING GREATER OPPORTUNITIES IN BEAUTY AND PERSONAL CARE INDUSTRY

India's Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on 8 May that discussions were held with French beauty and personal care major L'Oréal Groupe on strengthening sourcing, manufacturing and exports from India, while also exploring new opportunities for the country's beauty and personal care sector. The minister met a delegation led by the President - South Asia Pacific, Middle East and North Africa Zone at L'Oréal.

The talks come on the heels of L'Oréal's launch of the world's largest Beauty Tech Global Capacity Centre in Hyderabad, announced earlier this year with an initial investment of about US\$ 383.4 million. India's beauty and personal care market continues to witness rapid growth, driven by rising consumer demand, increasing digital adoption and the expansion of premium and organised brands, with global companies looking to diversify manufacturing and sourcing operations in the country.

READ MORE: [INDIA EXPLORING GREATER OPPORTUNITIES IN BEAUTY AND PERSONAL CARE INDUSTRY](#)

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

INDIA & EUROPEAN UNION LAUNCH JOINT INITIATIVE TO STRENGTHEN EV BATTERY RECYCLING CAPACITY



India and the European Union jointly launched a € 15.2 million initiative on 5 May 2026 to develop advanced recycling technologies for electric vehicle (EV) batteries, under the India-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC) Working Group 2 on Green and Clean Energy Technologies. The programme, the third coordinated call for proposals between the two sides, is funded through the EU's Horizon Europe programme on the European side and the Ministry of Heavy Industries on the Indian side, with applications open until 15 September 2026. It aims to secure critical raw materials, accelerate the transition to a circular economy and strengthen India-EU bilateral relations.

The initiative will focus on high-efficiency material recovery, safe and digitalised collection systems, and pilot-scale demonstrations, with a joint India-EU pilot line to be established in India. Key focus areas include higher recovery rates, handling of mixed battery chemistries, and safety standards for second-life applications of materials such as lithium, graphite and cobalt.

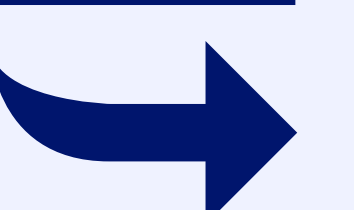
READ MORE: [INDIA & EUROPEAN UNION LAUNCH JOINT INITIATIVE - EV BATTERY RECYCLING CAPACITY](#)

APPLE TO INVEST RS US\$ 10.53MILLION IN INDIA'S RENEWABLE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE



US tech giant Apple announced on 7 May an investment of about US\$ 10.53 million to support the development of renewable energy infrastructure in India as part of its broader sustainability and carbon neutrality goals. The investment will be made in partnership with CleanMax, one of India's leading renewable energy developers, to build more than 150 MW of new renewable energy capacity across the country. The planned capacity would be sufficient to power nearly 150,000 Indian households annually and may be expanded further. The initiative is aimed at strengthening renewable energy adoption across Apple's supply chain operations in India and supports the company's target of becoming carbon neutral across its entire footprint by 2030.

READ MORE: [APPLE TO INVEST RS US\\$ 10.53MILLION IN INDIA'S RENEWABLE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE](#)



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

CABINET CLEARS TWO NEW SEMICONDUCTOR UNITS WORTH US\$ 415 MILLION IN GUJARAT

India's Union Cabinet approved two new semiconductor manufacturing projects in Gujarat under the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), with a cumulative investment of around US\$ 415 million and expected to generate employment for 2,230 skilled professionals. Crystal Matrix Limited will establish an integrated facility for compound semiconductor fabrication and ATMP in Dholera for manufacturing Mini/Micro-LED display modules and GaN foundry services, with an annual production capacity of 72,000 sq. metres of display panels and 24,000 sets of RGB wafers.

Suchi Semicon Private Limited will set up an Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) facility in Surat for discrete semiconductors, with a proposed capacity of 1,033.20 million chips per annum, targeting automotive, industrial automation and consumer electronics. With these approvals, the total number of projects sanctioned under ISM rises to 12, with cumulative investments of around US\$ 17.5 billion.

READ MORE: [CABINET CLEARS TWO NEW SEMICONDUCTOR UNITS WORTH US\\$ 415 MILLION IN GUJARAT](#)

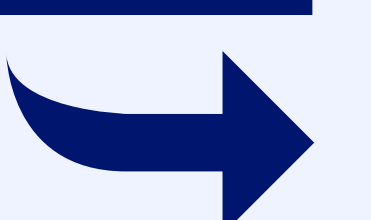


INDIA AND FRANCE REVIEW EXPANDING CANVAS OF BILATERAL COOPERATION IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & SPACE



India and France held a meeting to review India-France cooperation in science, technology and space. It was noted that the declaration of 2026 as the Indo-French Year of Innovation offers a significant opportunity to scale up collaboration in emerging areas such as artificial intelligence, applied mathematics, advanced materials, ocean sciences and space technologies. The long history of collaboration between ISRO and France's CNES, including joint missions such as Megha-Tropiques, SARAL and the ongoing TRISHNA mission, as well as French support for India's Gaganyaan programme. It was proposed to enhance collaboration in human spaceflight, including astronaut training and microgravity experiments, and ocean data-sharing through the "Space for Ocean Alliance." India was to participate in the International Space Summit in Paris in September 2026.

READ MORE: [INDIAN SPACE START-UP GALAXEYE LAUNCHES MISSION DRISHTI ON SPACEX FALCON 9](#)



EMBASSY & CONSULATE UPDATES



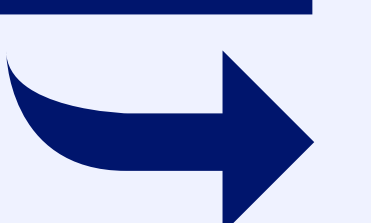
Consul General and Commercial Officer met the senior board members of Bursa Industrialists and Businessmen Association (BUSIAD). CG briefed about the latest developments in India and the opportunities for Turkish businesses in India's growing economy. A roadmap of activities with BUSIAD for stronger business ties was also discussed.



Consul General visited Floteks in Bursa and met Mr. Celal Beysel, Chairman of the Board. Floteks is a leading manufacturer of rotational moulded automotive parts and industrial components in Türkiye. The visit provided an opportunity to learn about the company's manufacturing processes and to discuss prospects for strengthening commercial ties.



A curtain-raiser Yoga session kicked off the celebration of '90 Years of Turkish Indology' at Ankara University. The session was attended by faculty members, Indologists from Türkiye and university students.



EMBASSY & CONSULATE UPDATES



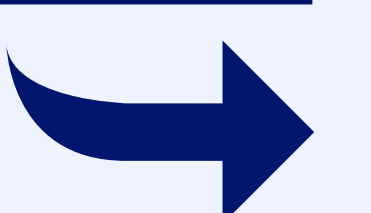
Indian Embassy in Ankara hosted two exhibitions - "India Through Turkish Eyes" and artworks by Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore as a visual tribute to the cultural connection between India and Türkiye as part of 90 Years of Indology celebrations.



A historic gathering took place at Ankara University's Muzaffer Göker Conference Hall. "90 Years of Turkish Indology: Historical Foundations and Contemporary Dynamics in Türkiye-India Relations" is a landmark symposium that brings together academicians and Indologists, celebrating 90 years of knowledge sharing.



Consul Dr. Rishabh Shukla called on Mr. Alim Karaca, Mayor of Fethiye Municipality, and his team. Discussions focused on the upcoming International Day of Yoga, and Indian film screenings during the month of June.



EMBASSY & CONSULATE UPDATES



The Coffee Board of India proudly presented some of India's finest coffee at COFFEX Istanbul!



Consulate General of India in Istanbul hosted a media briefing reception on 8 May 2026. Consul General briefed on the one year anniversary of Operation Sindoor and reaffirmed India's policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism. He also highlighted India's economic growth and the opportunities for business community.

THANK YOU FOR READING

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