

# Newsletter

## POLITY & GOVERNANCE

### INDIA, NORDIC COUNTRIES ELEVATE RELATIONS TO GREEN TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



At the 3<sup>rd</sup> India-Nordic Summit in Oslo, attended by the prime ministers of all five Nordic nations, the bilateral relationship was formally elevated to a Green Technology and Innovation Strategic Partnership, institutionalising it as a core pillar of India-Nordic relations. PM Modi highlighted that trade between India and the Nordic region has grown four-fold over the past decade, while Nordic investments in India have risen by approximately 200%. The upgraded partnership aims to leverage each Nordic nation's specific strengths, Sweden's advanced manufacturing and defence, Finland's telecom and digital technology, and Denmark's cybersecurity and health tech, combined with India's talent pool to develop globally trusted solutions.

**READ MORE: [INDIA, NORDIC COUNTRIES ELEVATE RELATIONS](#)**

### INDIA, SWEDEN ELEVATE TIES TO STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

India and Sweden elevated their bilateral relationship to a Strategic Partnership during PM Modi's visit to Gothenburg, with both sides adopting a Joint Action Plan for 2026-2030 covering economic and security resilience, emerging technologies, trusted connectivity, and sustainability-linked cooperation. The two sides announced an ambitious target to double bilateral trade and investment, currently standing at nearly US\$ 7.75 billion, within the next five years, and launched the India-Sweden Technology and Artificial Intelligence Corridor (SITAC). Space cooperation was also deepened through an agreement between Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and Sweden's national space authority focused on India's upcoming Venus Orbiter Mission, Shukrayaan.



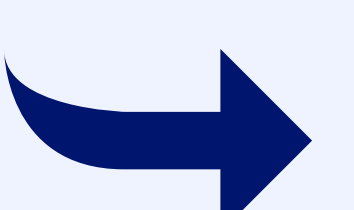
**READ MORE: [INDIA, SWEDEN ELEVATE TIES TO STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP](#)**

### PM MODI HOLDS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS NIKOS CHRISTODOULIDES IN NEW DELHI



President Nikos Christodoulides of Cyprus paid a state visit to India, meeting PM Modi in New Delhi for wide-ranging delegation-level talks at Hyderabad House, New Delhi. India and Cyprus elevated their bilateral relationship to a strategic partnership, with both sides agreeing to establish a joint task force for cooperation in infrastructure, shipping, and economic sectors. The leaders also discussed the West Asia crisis and the Ukraine conflict, with PM Modi reaffirming India's support for all efforts aimed at an early and lasting resolution to ongoing hostilities.

**READ MORE: [PM MODI HOLDS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS NIKOS CHRISTODOULIDES IN NEW DELHI](#)**



## INDIA, FRANCE HOLD 8<sup>TH</sup> MARITIME COOPERATION DIALOGUE IN PARIS, REAFFIRM INDO-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

The 8<sup>th</sup> India-France Maritime Cooperation Dialogue was held in Paris on May 20, co-chaired by India's Deputy National Security Advisor Pavan Kapoor and senior French defence and foreign affairs officials. Discussions focused on strengthening operational cooperation against illicit maritime activities, including piracy, maritime terrorism, drug trafficking, and illegal fishing, as well as other hybrid threats. The dialogue reflected strong strategic convergence and a shared vision of a free, open, and rules-based Indo-Pacific, and built on outcomes from the leaders' meeting in February 2026 and the NSA-level dialogue held in January 2026.



**READ MORE: [INDIA, FRANCE HOLD 8<sup>TH</sup> MARITIME COOPERATION DIALOGUE IN PARIS](#)**

## INDIA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UN CALLS FOR PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS DURING CONFLICT

Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni, India's Permanent Representative to the UN, addressed the Annual UNSC Open Debate on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict, stressing that protecting civilians in all situations, including armed conflict, is a central element of maintaining international peace and security. He noted that 2025 saw a decline in recorded civilian deaths after three consecutive years of increase, while reaffirming India's call for zero tolerance towards civilian casualties and its commitment to the principles of the UN Charter. India also condemned cross-border terrorism as a grave threat and underscored that the use of emerging technologies such as drones and AI-enabled weapons must conform fully to international humanitarian law.

**READ MORE: [INDIA CALLS FOR PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS DURING CONFLICT](#)**

## INDIA AND US REAFFIRM COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHEN COMPREHENSIVE GLOBAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



US Secretary of State Marco Rubio arrived in India for a four-day visit, his first as Secretary of State, and held delegation-level talks with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar at Hyderabad House, reviewing the full spectrum of the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership across trade, energy, defence, AI, and counter-terrorism. Rubio described the partnership as one of the most critical in the world, noting that as the two largest democracies, both nations have a natural foundation for deep and wide-ranging cooperation, including potential collaboration in new regions. He also met PM Modi, conveying a formal invitation from President Donald Trump for an early visit to the White House.

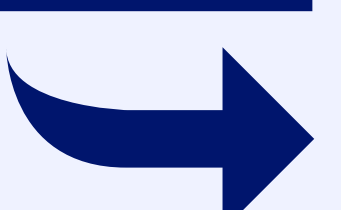
**READ MORE: [INDIA AND US REAFFIRM COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIP](#)**

## INDIA TO HOST QUAD FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING IN NEW DELHI ON MAY 26

India will host the Quad Foreign Ministers' meeting on May 26 in New Delhi, the first such engagement since July 2025, with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar chairing discussions with Australian FM Penny Wong, Japanese FM Toshimitsu Motegi, and US Secretary of State Marco Rubio. The meeting will focus on advancing cooperation across the Indo-Pacific in areas including maritime security, critical minerals, supply chain resilience, and emerging technologies, building on the framework established at the last gathering in Washington DC. The visiting ministers are also expected to hold bilateral meetings with Jaishankar and call on PM Modi, with the outcomes expected to set the agenda for the Quad Leaders' Summit later in the year.



**READ MORE: [INDIA TO HOST QUAD FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING IN NEW DELHI ON MAY 26](#)**



## INDIA HOSTS PRAGATI 2026 EXERCISE WITH 12 FRIENDLY NATIONS PARTICIPATING

The multilateral military exercise PRAGATI 2026, which stands for Partnership of Regional Armies for Growth and Transformation in the Indian Ocean Region, commenced at Umroi Military Station in Meghalaya, India with participation from 12 nations: Bhutan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam. The exercise provides a common platform for participating armies to strengthen military-to-military ties, exchange best practices, and build interoperability for joint operations including counter-terrorism, humanitarian assistance, and disaster relief. A major highlight of PRAGATI 2026 is the participation of Indian defence and technology firms showcasing indigenous military equipment under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.



**READ MORE: [INDIA HOSTS PRAGATI 2026 EXERCISE WITH 12 FRIENDLY NATIONS PARTICIPATING](#)**

## INDIA DISPATCHES URGENT MEDICAL AID TO AFRICA AMID EBOLA EMERGENCY



India dispatched the first tranche of urgent medical supplies and protective kits to the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention on May 24, in response to the escalating Ebola public health emergency. The WHO declared the Bundibugyo strain Ebola outbreak in the DRC and Uganda a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on May 17, while Africa CDC separately designated it a Public Health Emergency of Continental Security. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar announced the dispatch on social media, reaffirming India's commitment to supporting Africa in coordination with the African Union, with further tranches expected.

**READ MORE: [INDIA DISPATCHES URGENT MEDICAL AID TO AFRICA AMID EBOLA EMERGENCY](#)**

## ECONOMY & DEVELOPMENT

### INDIA, ITALY AGREE TO FURTHER DEVELOP INDIA-MIDDLE EAST-EUROPE ECONOMIC CORRIDOR

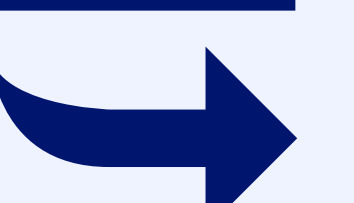
India and Italy reaffirmed their joint commitment to further developing IMEC, described by Italian PM Meloni as a major connectivity and economic corridor linking Europe, the Middle East, and India with significant potential to strengthen trade, investment, and supply-chain resilience. Meloni noted that the corridor, first unveiled during the G20 New Delhi Summit, could unlock major opportunities for businesses on both sides and deepen economic ties between India and Europe. The two leaders agreed that strengthening the IMEC interconnection was particularly important given the current emphasis on building resilient and diversified global supply chains.

**READ MORE: [INDIA, ITALY AGREE TO FURTHER DEVELOP INDIA-MIDDLE EAST-EUROPE ECONOMIC CORRIDOR](#)**

### PM MODI CALLS FOR US\$ 100 BILLION INVESTMENT & 1 MILLION JOBS UNDER INDIA-EFTA AGREEMENT AT BUSINESS & RESEARCH SUMMIT IN NORWAY

Addressing the India-Norway Business and Research Summit in Oslo, attended by Crown Prince Haakon, Norwegian PM Jonas Gahr Støre, and over 250 participants from business and research communities, PM Modi called on EFTA stakeholders to actively work towards achieving the US\$ 100 billion investment target and the creation of one million jobs in India over the next 15 years, as committed under the India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA). TEPA, India's first FTA with four developed European nations, came into force in October 2025 and is the first Indian trade deal to include a binding investment pledge of this scale. PM Modi also invited Norwegian companies to expand into India's clean energy, blue economy, health-tech, and critical minerals sectors, emphasising India's target of 500 GW of renewable energy and 5 million tonnes of green hydrogen by 2030.

**READ MORE: [PM MODI ON INDIA-EFTA AGREEMENT AT BUSINESS & RESEARCH SUMMIT IN NORWAY](#)**



## **INDUSTRY & SECTORAL INSIGHTS**

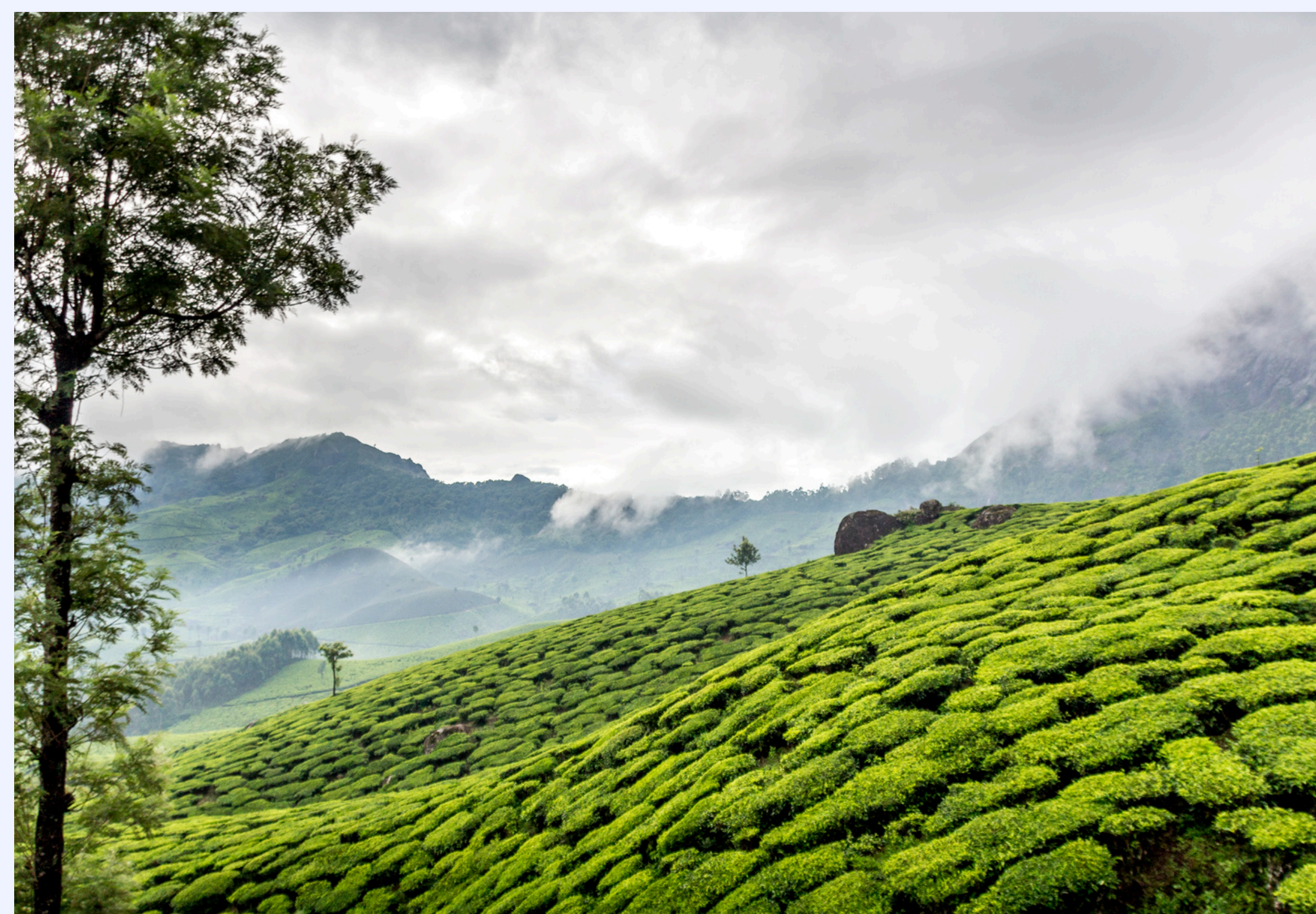
### **INDIA'S ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT INDUSTRY COULD TOUCH \$235 BILLION BY 2035: MCKINSEY**

A McKinsey & Company report titled 'Wired for Growth: India's Electrical Equipment Opportunity' projects that India's domestic electrical equipment production could rise to US\$ 195-235 billion by 2035, up from approximately US\$ 50 billion in 2025, growing at an annual rate of 11-13%. Domestic consumption is expected to grow to US\$170-205 billion, while exports could exceed US\$ 60 billion as India expands its global manufacturing footprint in cables and wires, transformers, solar PV equipment, switchgear, batteries, and power electronics. However, the report warns that without action, import dependence, which has already risen from 22% in 2020 to 33% in 2025, could exceed 70% by 2035, creating a production shortfall of over US\$ 130 billion, and recommends a five-fold expansion of domestic manufacturing capacity to bring import dependence below 14%.



**[READ MORE: INDIA'S ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT INDUSTRY COULD TOUCH \\$235 BILLION BY 2035: MCKINSEY](#)**

### **ASSAM TEA DRIVES INDIA'S EXPORT SURGE AS TEA SHIPMENTS RISE 93% TO US\$ 920 MILLION**

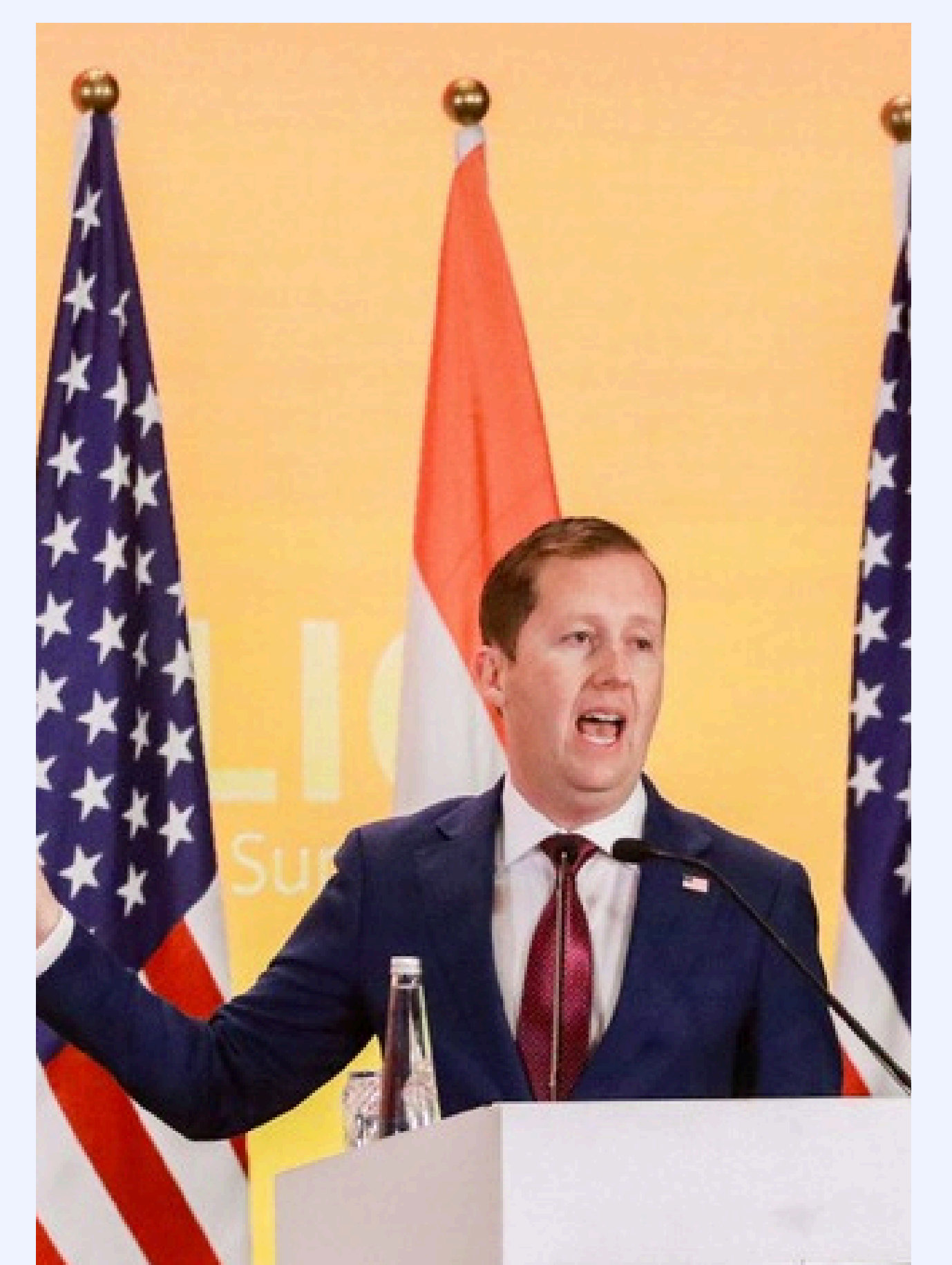


India's tea exports have grown 93% over the past decade, rising from US\$ 475 million in FY2013-14 to about US\$ 920 million in FY2025-26, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal announced on International Tea Day. India is the world's second-largest tea producer and third-largest exporter, contributing approximately 19% of global output, with tea cultivation now expanding beyond traditional hubs to states including Tripura, Bihar, and Arunachal Pradesh. Regional varieties such as Darjeeling, Assam, and Nilgiri teas, many protected by Geographical Indication (GI) tags, continue to drive the country's strong international presence across global markets.

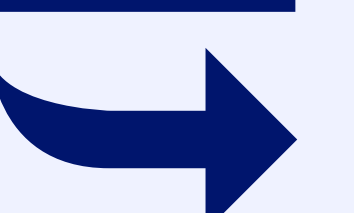
**[READ MORE: ASSAM TEA DRIVES INDIA'S EXPORT SURGE AS TEA SHIPMENTS RISE 93% TO US\\$ 920 MILLION](#)**

### **INDIAN COMPANIES COMMIT OVER US\$ 20 BILLION IN INVESTMENTS IN US**

US Ambassador to India Sergio Gor announced that Indian companies committed over US\$ 20.5 billion in investments across the United States at the annual SelectUSA Investment Summit, spanning sectors including aerospace and defence, energy, advanced manufacturing, technology, and pharmaceuticals, with the investments expected to create approximately 1,500 jobs in the US. Gor noted that the US Embassy in India ranked first globally among all embassies in bringing investment into the United States, calling it an "incredible achievement." He also confirmed that the US-India interim trade agreement is in its final phase and nearing execution, reflecting the strengthening economic partnership between the two countries.



**[READ MORE: INDIAN COMPANIES COMMIT OVER US\\$ 20 BILLION IN INVESTMENTS IN US](#)**



## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION**

### **CHANDRAYAAN-3 RECEIVES 2026 AIAA GODDARD ASTRONAUTICS AWARD**



India's Chandrayaan-3 lunar mission was honoured with the 2026 Goddard Astronautics Award, the highest honour bestowed by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), at the AIAA ASCEND 2026 Conference in Washington DC on May 21. The award recognised Chandrayaan-3's historic achievement on August 23, 2023, when it became the first spacecraft to successfully achieve a soft landing near the Moon's south pole, confirming the presence of key chemical elements in the lunar south polar soil with implications for future human missions and resource utilisation. India's Ambassador to the US, Vinay Kwatra, accepted the award on behalf of ISRO and used the occasion to call for strengthened India-US collaboration across government, industry, and research institutions.

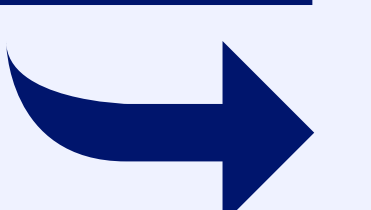
**READ MORE: [CHANDRAYAAN-3 RECEIVES 2026 AIAA GODDARD ASTRONAUTICS AWARD](#)**

### **INDIA, US DISCUSS EXPANDING COOPERATION IN BIOTECH, QUANTUM TECHNOLOGY AND SPACE SECTORS**



During US Secretary of State Marco Rubio's visit to India, discussions between the two sides covered expanding bilateral cooperation in high-priority technology domains including biotechnology, quantum technology, and space. These discussions complement the broader India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership and align with both countries' shared interests in maintaining leadership in critical and emerging technologies. The talks build on the momentum generated by previous high-level engagements and are expected to translate into concrete collaborative frameworks in the months ahead.

**READ MORE: [INDIA, US DISCUSS COOPERATION IN BIOTECH, QUANTUM TECHNOLOGY AND SPACE SECTORS](#)**



## EMBASSY & CONSULATE UPDATES



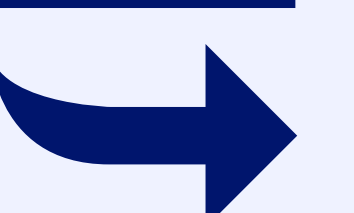
The newly elected Executive Committee of the Friends of India Association (FOIA) called on the Consul General at the Consulate. The Consulate extended warm congratulations to the new office bearers and discussed various measures, including forthcoming activities to bring together the Indian community.



Mr. Bogdan George, AVP – Business Development, Sri City, called on the Consul General at the Consulate General of India, Istanbul. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the growing prospects for Turkish enterprises seeking to expand their footprint in India.



Consul General interacted with the students at the International Relations Club of Marmara University.



## EMBASSY & CONSULATE UPDATES



On the 19th of May, the commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day, the Embassy of India, Ankara, organised a special Yoga session paying tributes to the founding fathers of India and Türkiye.



Ambassador Muktesh Pardeshi received Chairman of RST Group International, and Mr. Saffet Aydın, Chairman of Aysa Construction, for discussions on enhancing cooperation in biotechnology, health technologies, infrastructure, and global investment opportunities between the two countries.



Ambassador Muktesh Pardeshi received Hon'ble Mr. Mustafa Zavlak, Mayor of Eskil, at the Embassy. The meeting featured fruitful discussions on potential avenues of cultural cooperation in connection with the White Nights Festival Eskil Tuz Golu Festival to be held at Tuz Gölü in June 2026.

THANK YOU FOR READING

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