

JULY 1-15, 2026
ISSUE 43



**INDIA HAS PROVIDED OVER US\$ 175
MILLION IN ASSISTANCE TO PALESTINE
PEOPLE**

AMAZON'S RECORD US\$ 48 BILLION INVESTMENT IN INDIA

India Launches Campaign for UN Security Council Seat for 2028-29 Term

India formally launched its campaign for election as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for the 2028-29 term on 14 July 2026, with External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar unveiling the official candidature at UN headquarters in New York under the banner "SHANTI: India for the United Nations Security Council 2028-29 - Norms, Trust, Integrity."

Jaishankar said India would seek to strengthen the Security Council's decision-making through wider consultations, amplify Global South concerns, champion dialogue and diplomacy, and advocate for better-equipped peacekeeping operations with realistic mandates.

The election is scheduled for June 2027. India has previously served as a non-permanent member eight times, most recently in the 2021-22 term. [READ MORE](#)



India & New Zealand Elevate Ties to Strategic Partnership

India and New Zealand elevated their bilateral relationship to a Strategic Partnership during PM Modi's visit to Auckland, adopting the "India-New Zealand Strategic Partnership: Roadmap to 2030" as a framework for cooperation across trade, agriculture, security, innovation and people-to-people exchanges.

The two Prime Ministers set a target of doubling bilateral trade in goods and services to US\$ 3.68 billion by 2030, welcomed the conclusion of a Free Trade Agreement between the two countries, and signed a reciprocal logistics support pact between the Indian Navy and the New Zealand Defence Force.

They also established an annual Maritime Security Dialogue and agreed to institute regular Foreign Ministers' Dialogues and annual senior officials' meetings. [READ MORE](#)





PM MODI CONCLUDES STATE VISIT TO AUSTRALIA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi concluded his state visit to Australia from 8-10 July, centred on the third India-Australia Annual Summit in Melbourne with PM Anthony Albanese, where both leaders reviewed six years of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

The visit yielded outcomes across civil nuclear energy, maritime security, critical minerals, cyber and emerging technologies, space and people-to-people ties, including the finalisation of a dedicated critical minerals corridor and a new Partnership on Advanced Cyber and Critical Technologies.

Albanese called PM Modi's personal engagement "absolutely central" to the deepening of India-Australia ties. [READ MORE](#)

Operation Amistad: Venezuela Thanks India for Timely Help & Support

Operation Amistad concluded successfully with the return of the Indian contingent to New Delhi after the Indian Army Field Hospital at La Rinconada, Caracas, treated more than 1,900 affected people, providing care including surgeries, dental treatment, X-ray services and emergency medical support at a rate of around 400 patients per day.

Venezuelan Acting President Delcy Rodriguez personally thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the timely help and solidarity extended by India, while Venezuelan Foreign Minister Yvan Gil described the field hospital as a "moving demonstration of solidarity."

India also donated two BHISHM Cube portable hospitals to Venezuela as part of the mission. [READ MORE](#)



India Has Provided Over US\$ 175 Million in Assistance to Palestine People: Permanent Representative of India

India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Parvathaneni Harish, stated at the UNRWA Pledging Conference that India has provided over US\$ 175 million in assistance to the Palestinian people, comprising development and humanitarian support, including projects worth US\$ 40 million currently at various stages of implementation.

He noted that India has provided approximately 150 tonnes of humanitarian and disaster relief material, including emergency medicines, to Palestine over the last three years, and announced a recent US\$ 5 million pledge to UNRWA.

Harish reaffirmed India's support for a negotiated two-state solution leading to the establishment of a sovereign, independent and viable State of Palestine. [READ MORE](#)



JAPAN PM SANAE TAKAICHI'S VISIT TO INDIA FOR 16TH INDIA-JAPAN ANNUAL SUMMIT

Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi undertook her first official visit to India from 1-3 July 2026 for the 16th India-Japan Annual Summit in New Delhi, which produced 16 formal outcomes and three joint statements covering economic security, energy resilience, defence co-development, artificial intelligence, critical minerals and mobility.



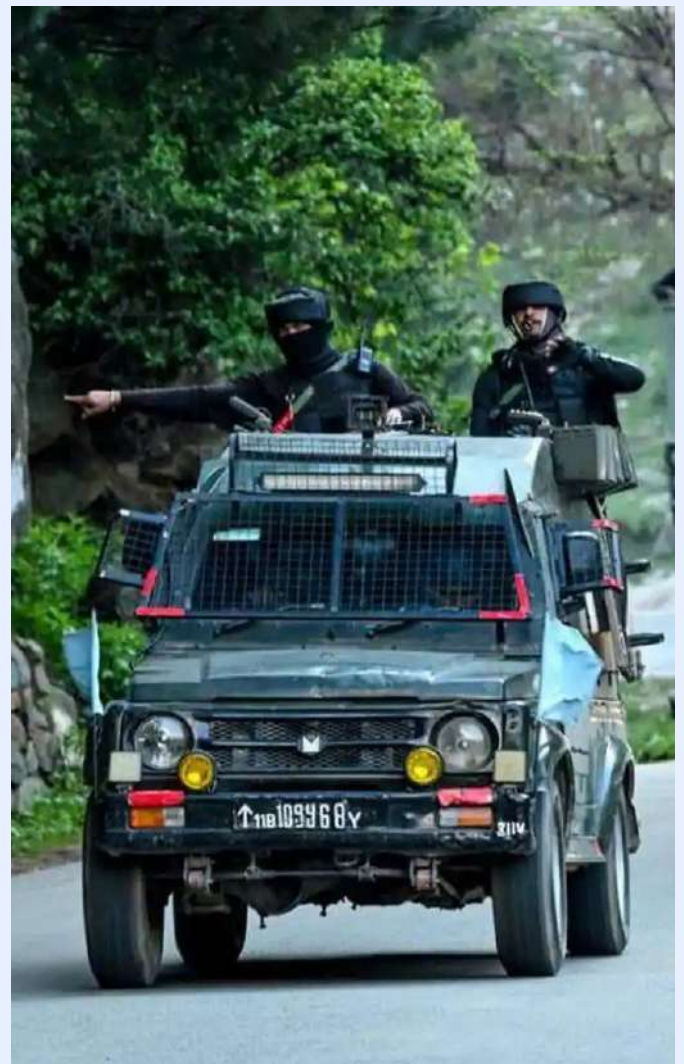
A major breakthrough was the agreement in principle on the remaining technical aspects of the UNICORN Project - the Unified Complex Radio Antenna for Indian Navy warships - marking the first- ever India-Japan defence co-development project.

The summit also saw 150 Japanese firms pledge over US\$ 12.5 billion in fresh investments, while Japan reaffirmed support for India's membership of the International Energy Agency and invited PM Modi to visit Tokyo for the 17th Annual Summit. [READ MORE](#)

India Says FATF Remains Indispensable in Fight Against Terror Financing

Speaking at a UN event on the sidelines of Counter-Terrorism Week, India's Permanent Representative to the UN, P. Harish, described the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) as "an indispensable pillar of the global counterterrorism financing and anti-money laundering architecture," stating that attempts to question its credibility often reflect fear of scrutiny rather than genuine process-related concerns.

He said countries facing adverse FATF assessments should address identified deficiencies, strengthen domestic enforcement and demonstrate irreversible action against error financing networks, and outlined India's efforts to strengthen its anti-money laundering framework, including tighter regulations for virtual asset service providers. [READ MORE](#)



16th BRICS National Security Advisers' Meeting Held in New Delhi: NSAs Discuss Global Security Challenges

National Security Advisers and senior security officials from BRICS nations called for stronger cooperation to address a widening range of global security challenges during the 16th BRICS NSA Meeting hosted by India, with discussions ranging from energy and food security to climate-related instability and the misuse of emerging technologies by terrorist organisations.

The two-day gathering, chaired by India's National Security Adviser Ajit Doval, brought together representatives from member countries to discuss both traditional and emerging threats, with members extending full support to India's BRICS Chairship 2026 under the theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability." [READ MORE](#)



INDIA REJECTS PAKISTAN, OIC REMARKS ON JAMMU AND KASHMIR AT UNHRC

India firmly rejected "baseless and malicious allegations" by Pakistan and dismissed references to Jammu and Kashmir made by the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) at the 62nd session of the UN Human Rights Council on 19 June.

India reiterated that Jammu and Kashmir "was, is, and will always remain an integral and inalienable part of India," stating that the only unresolved issue is Pakistan's illegal occupation of Indian territories. The unrest in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir was described as reflecting decades of repression, military control and denial of fundamental rights under an illegal occupation. [READ MORE](#)



PM MODI ADDRESSES G7 OUTREACH SESSIONS IN EVIAN, FRANCE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed G7 Outreach Sessions in Evian on 17 June, underscoring the importance of trust in building international partnerships and highlighting India-led initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance, the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and Mission LiFE as reflections of India's "humanity-first" approach.

At a separate session on "Reviving a Balanced, Shared and Sustainable Economic Growth for All," PM Modi argued that growth should be measured not by GDP or trade numbers alone, and proposed a new International Mobilisation Partnership for

Accelerating Connectivity and Trade (IMPACT) combining G7 capital, India's talent and Global South ownership to extend IMEC-style connectivity projects to Africa, Latin America and the Pacific Islands. [READ MORE](#)

India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement Comes Into Force

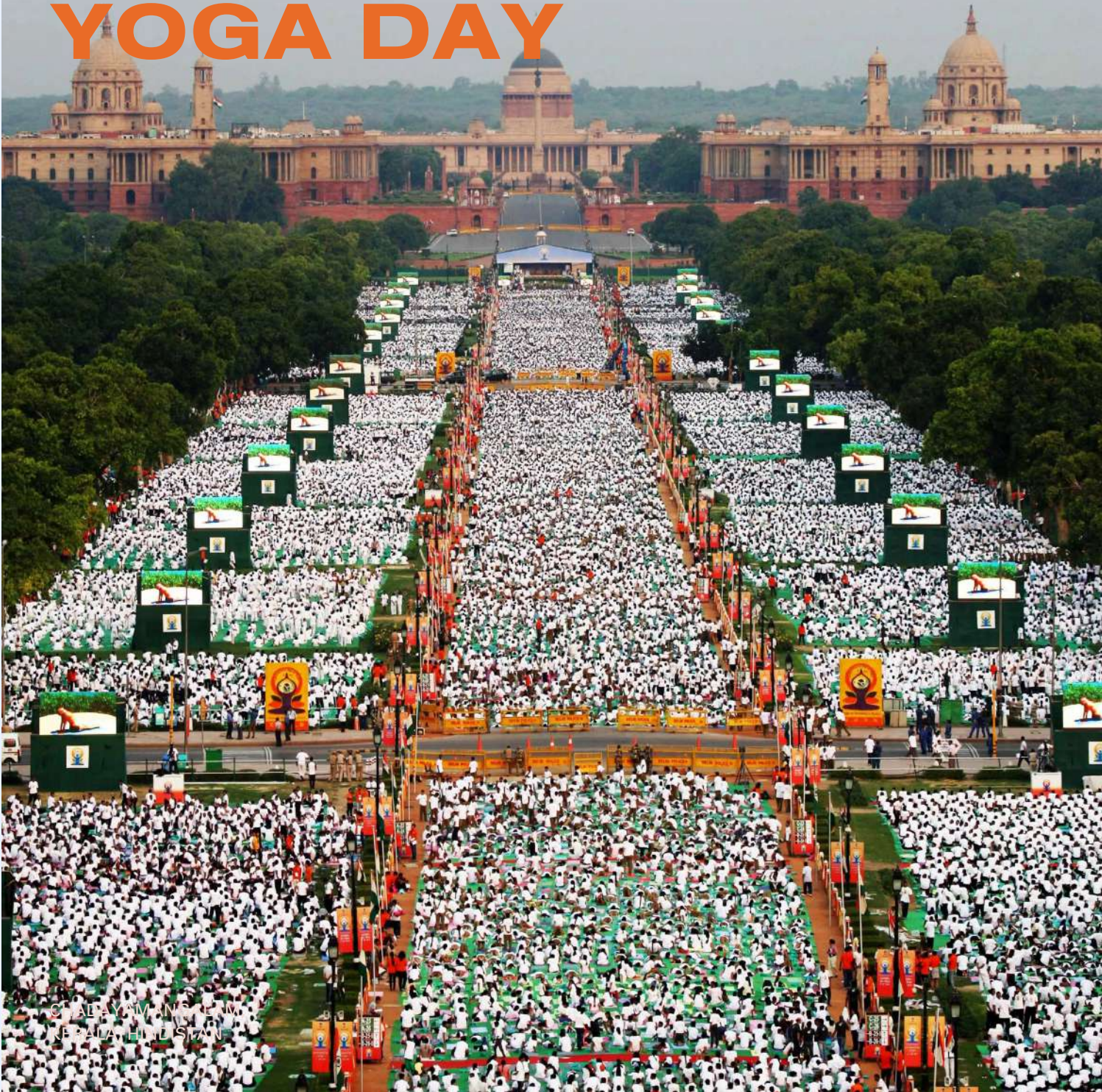
The India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and the accompanying Double Contribution Convention (DCC) on social security entered into force on 15 July 2026.

Indian exporters receive zero-duty access on around 99% of tariff lines, with labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, leather, footwear, marine products, gems and jewellery among the primary beneficiaries, while the agreement opens a market worth over US\$ 500 billion for Indian businesses.

The DCC exempts more than 75,000 Indian professionals on temporary UK assignments from paying social security contributions in both countries, with the exemption period extended from three to five years. [READ MORE](#)



THE WORLD'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY



On June 21, 2015, thousands of participants practiced yoga on Rajpath Boulevard in New Delhi. MOD/AFP/Getty Images

With 35,985 participants, the event in New Delhi was declared the largest yoga demonstration ever held in a single venue, surpassing the previous record set in 2005 with approximately 30,000 Indian school students.

AMAZON'S RECORD US\$ 48 BILLION INVESTMENT IN INDIA

PM Modi welcomed Amazon's record US\$ 48 billion investment commitment in India following a meeting with CEO Andy Jassy in New Delhi on 25 June 2026.

The investment, to be deployed between 2026 and 2030, includes an incremental US\$ 13 billion directed at cloud and AI infrastructure through Amazon Web Services, raising Amazon's total planned AI and cloud investment in India to over US\$ 21 billion over the five-year period.

Jassy noted that Amazon has invested US\$ 40 billion in India since 2010, with the company's cumulative financial commitment between 2010 and 2030 set to exceed US\$ 88 billion across e-commerce, quick commerce and technology infrastructure. [READ MORE](#)



The four-day event is expected to draw over 7,000 global buyers, 130,000 trade visitors and over 1,600 exhibitors spanning the complete textile value chain from fibres, yarns and fabrics to apparel, home textiles and technical textiles, across 1.6 million square feet of exhibition space.

International exhibitors from 14 countries are participating alongside delegations from the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Japan and others, with the event expected to facilitate over 4,000 curated B2B meetings and the signing of more than 30 MoUs. [READ MORE](#)

AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS OF INDIA EXPAND TO NEARLY 500 PRODUCTS

India's agricultural export basket has expanded significantly over the past decade, growing from around 280 products to nearly 500 products, according to Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) Chairman Abhishek Dev.

India's agricultural exports reached approximately US\$ 53 billion in the previous year, helping the country consistently rank among the world's top ten agricultural exporting nations despite strong competition from the United States, Brazil, China and the European Union.

The expansion reflects growing shipments of value-added and high-demand products including pulses, cocoa products, pineapples, grapes and pomegranates, beyond traditional staples such as rice and spices. [READ MORE](#)



BHARAT TEX 2026 BEGINS AT BHARAT MANDAPAM IN NEW DELHI

The third edition of Bharat Tex 2026, India's largest global textile exhibition, opened on 14 July 2026 at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, organised by the Bharat Tex Trade Federation with support from the Ministry of Textiles.

Defence Minister Announces Record Defence Production of Over US\$ 21 Billion in FY 2025-26



India's annual defence production reached an all-time high of approximately US\$ 21.4 billion in FY 2025-26, registering 15.6% growth over the previous year and a 110% rise since FY 2020-21, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced.

Defence Public Sector Undertakings accounted for around 76% of total production, while the private sector's contribution reached a record 24% of output, up from 22% the previous year.

The growth in domestic defence production has also driven record defence exports of over US\$ 4 billion during FY 2025-26, the highest ever, reflecting the growing momentum of India's self-reliance initiatives in defence manufacturing. [READ MORE](#)





INDIA BECOMES WORLD'S TOP SHIP RECYCLING NATION IN 2025

India achieved the world's leading position in ship recycling in 2025, reaching its Maritime India Vision 2030 target five years ahead of schedule, according to a UNCTAD report.

India's share of global ship recycling rose to 35.4% in 2025 from 30.1% in 2024, with recycling volumes climbing nearly 60% to 2.99 million gross tonnes.

The Alang Ship Recycling Yard in Gujarat, India's primary hub, is set to nearly double its capacity to around 9 million light displacement tonnes, positioning India to recycle 500-600 vessels annually as global demand grows, with more than 16,000 vessels expected to be recycled worldwide over the next decade. [READ MORE](#)



INDIA CALLS FOR STRONGER BRICS COOPERATION ON ENERGY SYSTEMS

Addressing the 11th BRICS Energy Ministers' Meeting in Gurugram, India's Union Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs Manohar Lal highlighted India's energy transformation over the past decade, noting that the country has emerged as the world's third-largest producer and consumer of electricity with installed capacity of nearly 540 GW, of which more than half now comes from non-fossil fuel sources.

He noted that India's solar capacity has expanded from about 3 GW in 2014 to over 154 GW in 2026, driven by the International Solar Alliance and the Global Biofuels Alliance, and stressed that developing countries need adequate time, resources and policy space to pursue sustainable development. [READ MORE](#)



ISRO SUCCESSFULLY CARRIES OUT THREE MAJOR TESTS OF GAGANYAAN CREW MODULE SYSTEMS

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully completed three critical qualification tests for the Gaganyaan mission's crew module on 12 July 2026, validating key safety systems for astronaut protection during splashdown, re-entry and descent.

The first test demonstrated the Crew Module Uprighting System, which uses stored cold-gas technology to ensure the capsule returns to an upright position after splashing down in the sea; the second validated the clean separation of the umbilical connector linking the crew and service modules during re-entry; and the third confirmed the structural integrity of the crew module during the separation of the Apex Cover that shields the parachutes.

Gaganyaan aims to make India the fourth nation, after USA, Russia and China, to independently send astronauts into space and return them safely to Earth. [READ MORE](#)



India Launches World's First Nuclear Process Heat-Based Hydrogen Production Facility

India's Department of Atomic Energy commissioned the world's first hydrogen production facility based on nuclear process heat on 26 June 2026, at the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) in Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu. The facility uses heat from the Fast Breeder Test Reactor to produce hydrogen through the indigenously developed Copper-Chlorine thermochemical cycle, bypassing conventional electricity-based electrolysis to enable carbon-free hydrogen production.

Developed jointly by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and IGCAR, the technology demonstrator is expected to pave the way for future commercial-scale deployment, extending the role of India's nuclear programme beyond electricity generation into clean hydrogen production. [READ MORE](#)

INDIA AND FRANCE TO LAUNCH TRISHNA SATELLITE IN 2027: PM MODI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced in Paris on 18 June 2026 that India and France will jointly launch the TRISHNA satellite in 2027, a mission designed to support global water and food security through high-resolution thermal infrared imaging.

A joint mission between ISRO and France's CNES, TRISHNA will generate data for surface energy balance, water cycle studies, agricultural monitoring and drought assessment. The announcement came alongside PM Modi's address at VivaTech 2026 and reference to the "Bharat Innovates" programme in Nice, where 120 Indian deep-tech startups facilitated around 1,400 B2B meetings. [READ MORE](#)

