

JULY 16-31, 2026
ISSUE 44

INDIA TO MAKE FIVE SMALL NUCLEAR POWER REACTORS OPERATIONAL BY 2033

VIKRAM-1, SATISH DHAWAN, SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED

www.indembassyankara.gov.in | www.cgiistanbul.gov.in

Palestine Welcomes India's Decision to Establish Three Development Projects

The Embassy of Palestine in New Delhi welcomed India's commitment to establish three major development projects for the Palestinian people, a Specialty Hospital, an Artificial Limb Fitment Centre and a Vocational Training Institute, announced by External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar during the launch of India's UNSC candidature campaign.

The embassy said the Specialty Hospital and Artificial Limb Fitment Centre would make a meaningful contribution to healthcare and rehabilitation in Gaza, while the Vocational Training Institute would help equip young Palestinians with skills to rebuild their communities.

Palestine also welcomed India's continued support for a negotiated two-state solution and its backing for Palestine's full UN membership. [READ MORE](#)



India Delivers Flood Relief Assistance to Afghanistan

India delivered flood relief materials, including food items and family tents, to Afghanistan's National Disaster Management Authority on 21 July in response to devastating flash floods in Parun, the provincial capital of Nuristan province.

MEA Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said India "stands with the Afghan people at this difficult time" and remains committed to extending humanitarian support in response to the country's needs.

The assistance reflects India's continued policy of providing humanitarian relief to Afghanistan irrespective of the prevailing political situation in the country. [READ MORE](#)



INDIA'S TOTAL EXPORTS REACH RECORD US\$ 863.1 BILLION IN 2025-26

India's total exports of goods and services reached an all-time high of US\$ 863.1 billion in FY 2025-26, growing 4.59% from the previous year, the government informed Parliament.

Services exports led the growth, rising 8.71% to a record US\$ 421.32 billion, driven by global demand for IT and business solutions, while merchandise exports grew 0.93% to US\$ 441.78 billion. It was highlighted that each of the four quarters of FY 2025-26 individually recorded their highest-ever export performance, and noted growing utilisation of India's recently operationalised trade agreements as reflected in increasing Certificates of Origin usage and expanding product coverage among FTA partners. [READ MORE](#)

India Reaffirms Commitment to Rule-Based, Transparent & Non-Discriminatory Multilateral Trading System at WTO

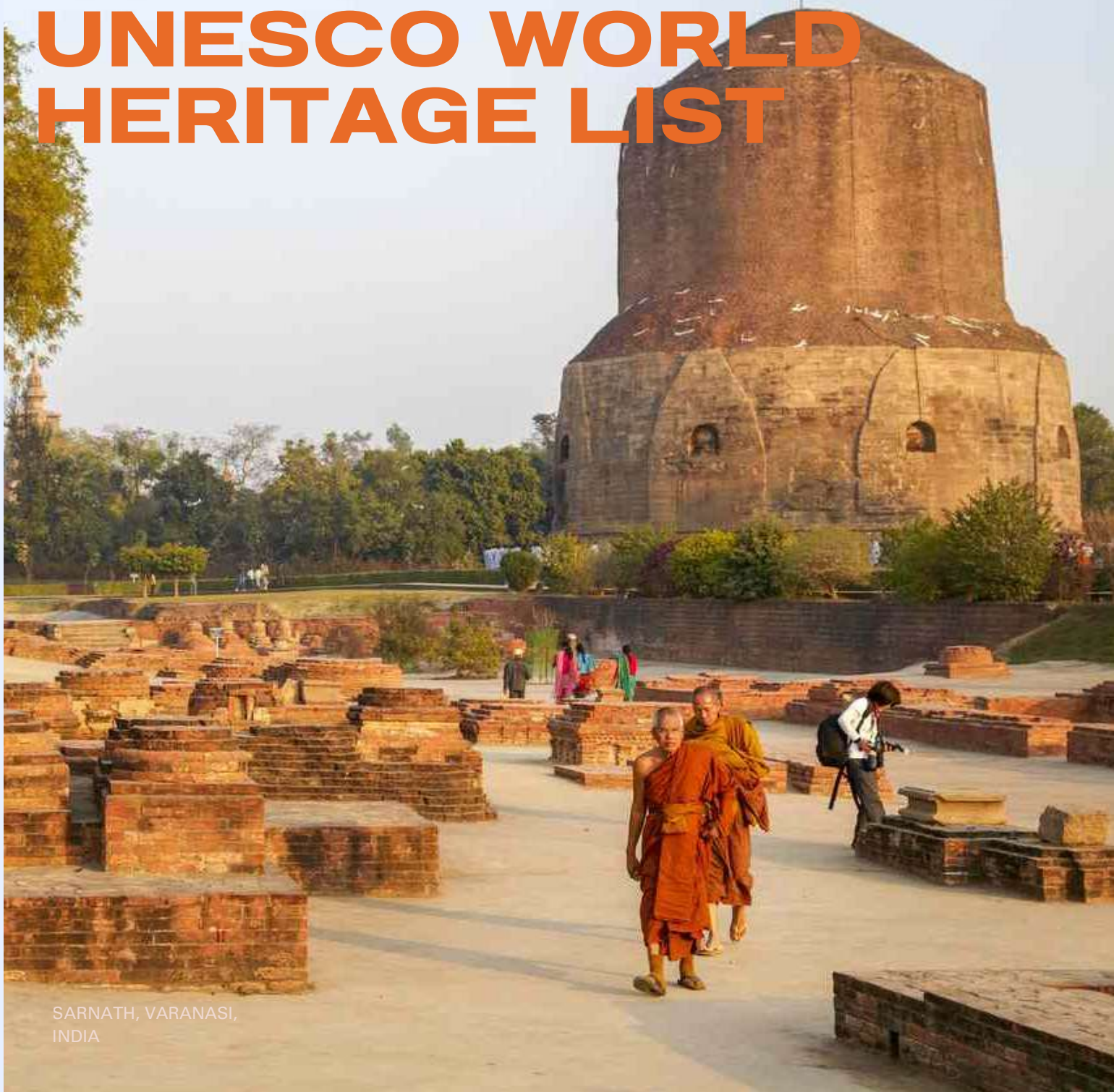
India presented its eighth Trade Policy Review at the World Trade Organization in Geneva on 21-23 July 2026, reaffirming commitment to an open, transparent, rules-based and development-oriented multilateral trading system with the WTO at its core.

The review drew active engagement from 68 WTO members and 1,094 written questions from 44 members, reflecting growing global interest in India's economic transformation.

Brazil's discussant noted that many members expect India to continue acting as a "bridge-builder" within the WTO given its influential position as a leading voice of the Global South, promoting dialogue and fostering consensus amid heightened global economic uncertainty. [READ MORE](#)



SARNATH INSCRIBED ON UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST



SARNATH, VARANASI,
INDIA

Sarnath is the deer grove where Gautama Buddha first began teaching Dharma and where the Buddhist Sangha originated.

The Ancient Buddhist Site of Sarnath in Uttar Pradesh was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List on 25 July 2026, during the 48th session of the World Heritage Committee in Busan, Republic of Korea, making it India's 45th UNESCO World Heritage property. Located near Varanasi, Sarnath is the site where the Buddha delivered his first sermon over 2,500 years ago. The inscription places India sixth globally and second in the Asia-Pacific for the highest number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

GOODS WORTH US\$ 140 MILLION EXPORTED TO UK ON THE FIRST DAY OF CETA

Over 50 export consignments valued at more than US\$ 140 million were dispatched from over 20 ports, airports, Inland Container Depots, Special Economic Zones and manufacturing facilities across India on the first day of the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement coming into force on 15 July 2026.



Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal expressed confidence that sustained utilisation of the agreement would help achieve the bilateral trade target of US\$ 100 billion by 2030.

British High Commissioner Lindy Cameron described the entry into force as a "historic milestone" and said the agreement was expected to increase bilateral trade by more than £25 billion annually over the long term. [READ MORE](#)

CCEA Approves Three Dedicated Chemical Parks with Centre-State Contributions

India's Union Cabinet approved a new Scheme on 25 July to establish three dedicated large Chemical Parks across the country, with a total financial outlay of about US\$ 320 million over five years from FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-31.

Each park will cover at least 2,000 acres of contiguous land and offer plug-and-play infrastructure including common effluent treatment plants, hazardous waste management systems, solvent recovery units and logistics infrastructure.

Information Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said each park could attract investments of US\$ 2 billion to US\$ 5 billion, positioning the scheme as a multiplier for India's chemical manufacturing ecosystem. [READ MORE](#)

GOVT APPROVES SEMICON 2.0 TO STRENGTHEN SEMICONDUCTOR ECOSYSTEM

India's Union Cabinet approved the India Semiconductor Mission 2.0 (Semicon 2.0) on 15 July 2026, with a total budget outlay of about US\$ 13.5 billion, building on the US\$ 8 billion Semicon India Programme launched in 2021.

The new programme expands government support beyond fabrication to develop a comprehensive semiconductor ecosystem across six pillars: chip design, fabrication, advanced packaging, semiconductor equipment and materials, research and development, and talent development.

As of July 2026, 12 semiconductor manufacturing projects have been approved under the mission with cumulative investments exceeding US\$ 17 billion, with three companies - Micron, Kaynes and CG Semi already in commercial production.

[READ MORE](#)

India's Food Processing Sector to Become a US\$ 600 Billion Industry by 2030: Report

India's food processing sector has the potential to become a US\$ 600 billion industry by 2030, driven by higher value addition, innovation, technology adoption and export-led growth, according to a joint report by FICCI and Deloitte.



The report noted that India currently processes only 12-13% of its total food output, indicating substantial scope for expansion, and projected the processed food market could grow to US\$ 560-580 billion by 2030 with the broader sector reaching US\$ 600 billion.

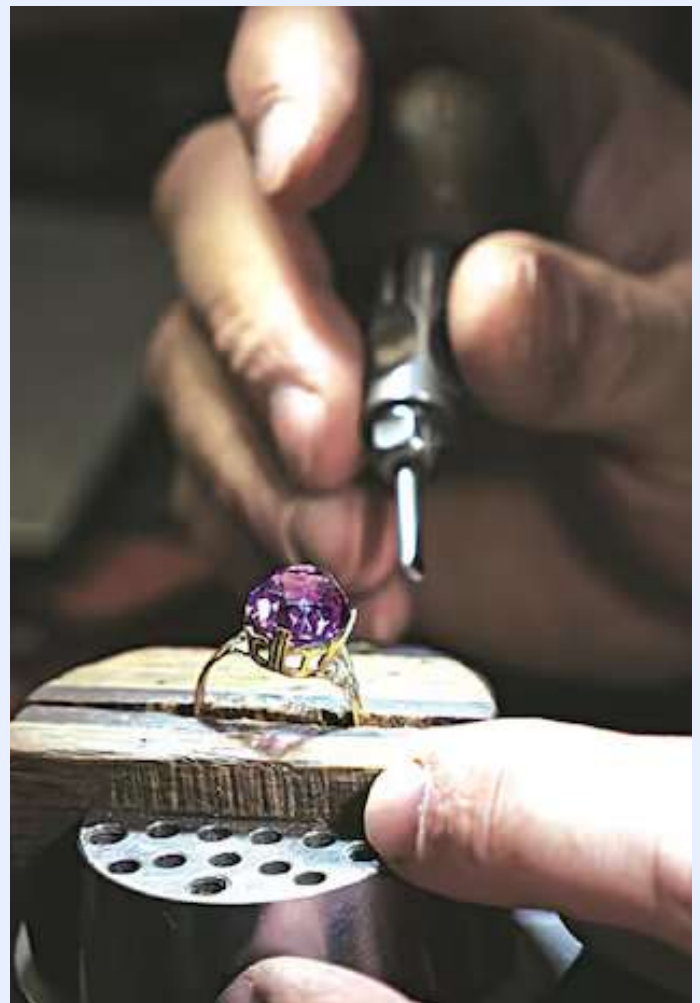
Health and functional food categories are growing at 15-20% annually, nearly twice the pace of the broader food market, while online channels are expected to account for 25-30% of food retail sales across top metros by 2030. [READ MORE](#)

INDIA'S GEM AND JEWELLERY EXPORTS CLIMB 26% IN JUNE; GOLD LEADS GROWTH

India's gross gem and jewellery exports rose 26.51% year-on-year to US\$ 2.21 billion in June 2026, reversing a prolonged period of decline, according to data from the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council.

Gold jewellery exports led the recovery, surging 54.5% to US\$ 1.09 billion, while studded gold jewellery exports rose 85.35%, polished lab-grown diamond exports climbed 52.25% and platinum jewellery grew 34.77%.

For the April-June 2026 quarter, overall gross gem and jewellery exports remained broadly stable at US\$ 6.61 billion, registering marginal 0.04% growth in dollar terms and 10.76% growth in rupee terms over the corresponding period last year. [READ MORE](#)



INDIA TO MAKE FIVE SMALL NUCLEAR POWER REACTORS OPERATIONAL BY 2033

India aims to bring at least five indigenous Small Modular Reactors into operation by 2033 as part of the Nuclear Energy Mission, Minister of State for Atomic Energy Dr Jitendra Singh informed Parliament.

The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) is developing three SMR designs, a 220 MWe Bharat Small Modular Reactor (BSMR-200), a 55 MWe reactor and a high-temperature gas-cooled reactor designed to produce hydrogen, with the Atomic Energy Commission approving Tarapur in Maharashtra as the site for both the BSMR-200 and SMR-55 projects.



India's nuclear capacity is targeted to rise from the current 8.78 GW to approximately 22 GW by 2031-32, with a long-term goal of reaching 100 GW by 2047 under the SHANTI Act, 2025, which has opened the nuclear sector to private participation for the first time. [READ MORE](#)

INDIA LEADS GLOBAL TIGER CONSERVATION WITH NEARLY 70% OF WORLD'S TIGERS

On International Tiger Day (29 July), India reaffirmed its position as the world's leading nation in tiger conservation, with the country home to nearly 70% of the global wild tiger population.

The All India Tiger Estimation 2022 placed India's tiger population at 3,682, representing a more than doubling of the scientifically assessed population since 2006, across a network of 58 tiger reserves covering approximately 84,500 square kilometres in 18 tiger-range states.

India's conservation success is rooted in science-based management, community participation and sustainable development, and commitment to reducing human-wildlife conflict and supporting local communities near forests. [READ MORE](#)



India's First Privately Developed Orbital Rocket, Vikram-1, Launched Successfully from Satish Dhawan Space Centre

Skyroot Aerospace's Vikram-1, a four-stage small satellite launch vehicle developed by a private Indian space start-up, lifted off from ISRO's Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on 18 July 2026, successfully placing two satellites - SCOPE and Grahaa - into Low Earth Orbit, with additional payloads retained on the upper stage for in-orbit experiments.

ISRO and IN-SPACe provided facility access, technical support and launch clearances, with ISRO's solid motor casting, static test and liquid engine test facilities used for vehicle development and validation.

India Develops First Indigenous Expendable Turbo Jet Engine in 350 kg Thrust Class

India's Defence Research and Development Organisation's Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE) successfully developed the country's first indigenous Expendable Turbo Jet Engine in the 350 kg thrust class, manufactured and assembled by Hyderabad-based Azad Engineering and formally delivered to GTRE on 22 July 2026.

The engine, designed for single-use applications in cruise missiles, loitering munitions and unmanned aerial vehicles, places India in an exclusive group of nations that have mastered jet engine technology, which demands exceptional precision, advanced metallurgy and uncompromising manufacturing standards.

The mission marks the first time a private Indian company has achieved an orbital launch from Indian soil, and notably succeeded on the first attempt.

The launch follows India's 2020 space sector reforms and a new Indian Space Policy that opened space activities to private industry, and is seen as opening the pathway for commercial orbital launch opportunities by other non-governmental entities.



