

AI Impact Summit 2026

- ◆ The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) successfully held the AI Impact Summit 2026 from 16-20 February 2026, at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.



- ◆ This was the first major AI summit ever held in the Global South.
- ◆ The theme of the summit was “सर्वजन हिताय, सर्वजन सुखाय” — Welfare and happiness for all.
- ◆ The event aimed to promote the responsible and inclusive use of AI through global cooperation.
- ◆ It followed other major global AI meetings like the UK AI Safety Summit, AI Seoul Summit, France AI Action Summit and the Global AI Summit on Africa.
- ◆ The goal was to make AI inclusive, responsible, and globally cooperative while using it to solve real-world problems and promote development for all.
- ◆ The summit focused on making sure AI helps with inclusive growth, social progress and people-centred in-

novation, while also protecting the environment.

- ◆ It also aimed to give developing countries a greater voice so that the benefits of AI are shared fairly around the world.

Three Sutras

- ◆ The India-AI Impact Summit is built on three main ideas called “Sutras”. These Sutras explain how AI should be used to help everyone through global teamwork.



1. People

- The “People” Sutra focuses on human well-being.
- It says AI should respect different cultures, protect human dignity and involve everyone in its design and use. Technology should be centred on people, promote safety, trust and equal benefits for society.

2. Planet

- The “Planet” Sutra highlights environmental responsibility.

- It encourages the responsible use of AI so that it uses fewer resources and helps with climate action and environmental protection. AI development should support global sustainability and not hurt the planet.

3. Progress

- The “Progress” Sutra focuses on inclusive development.
- It sees AI as a tool for economic growth and social progress.

Seven Chakras

- ◆ Based on the three main Sutras—People, Planet and Progress—the summit discussions covered seven important areas called “Chakras.”
- ◆ These Chakras represent key areas of international cooperation to ensure that AI brings real and practical benefits to the society.
 - 1) Human Capital
 - 2) Science
 - 3) Resilience, Innovation and Efficiency
 - 4) Inclusion for Social Empowerment
 - 5) Democratizing AI Resources
 - 6) Economic Growth and Social Good
 - 7) Safe and Trusted AI



Significance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for India

- ◆ Artificial Intelligence (AI) is emerging as a key driver of India’s socio-economic transformation. Recognising its potential, NITI Aayog launched the National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence (2018) – “AI for All”, which aims to leverage AI for inclusive growth, sustainable development and improved governance.

1. Economic Growth and Development

- ◆ AI has the potential to significantly boost India’s economy. According to NASSCOM estimates, AI could contribute around \$450–500 billion to India’s GDP by 2025. It enhances productivity across sectors such as manufacturing, services and agriculture, supporting India’s long-term economic growth.

2. AI in Healthcare

- ◆ AI improves healthcare accessibility and efficiency, particularly in rural areas.
- ◆ Telemedicine platforms such as eSanjeevani have enabled 200+ million teleconsultations.
- ◆ AI tools assist in early detection of diseases such as tuberculosis and cancer through image-based diagnostics.

- ◆ Startups like Qure.ai and Niramai use AI for medical imaging and cancer detection.
- ◆ AI models also help predict disease outbreaks and accelerate drug discovery, reducing treatment costs.

3. AI in Agriculture and Rural Economy

- ◆ Agriculture, which employs a large share of India's population, benefits greatly from AI applications.
- ◆ AI helps farmers through weather prediction, pest detection and crop monitoring using satellite data and drones.
- ◆ Platforms like Microsoft AI Sowing App and Kisan Suvidha provide advisory services to farmers.
- ◆ Under the Digital Agriculture Mission and Kisan Drone initiative, AI is used for precision farming, crop assessment and yield estimation.
- ◆ Mobile-based advisories in regional languages help farmers access real-time agricultural information.

4. AI in Education

- ◆ AI is transforming education through personalised learning and digital accessibility.
- ◆ Platforms like DIKSHA provide AI-enabled digital learning resources in multiple Indian languages.
- ◆ AI-based analytics track student performance and recommend customised learning paths.
- ◆ Speech recognition and translation technologies help bridge linguistic and accessibility gaps in education.

5. AI in Finance

- ◆ AI strengthens India's rapidly growing digital financial ecosystem.
- ◆ AI-based algorithms help detect fraudulent transactions in digital payment systems such as UPI.
- ◆ Fintech companies use AI-driven credit scoring models to provide loans to individuals without formal credit history.
- ◆ Banks like HDFC, ICICI and SBI deploy AI chatbots (e.g., EVA, iPal) for 24/7 customer service.

6. AI in Governance

- ◆ AI improves public administration and service delivery.
- ◆ Under the Smart Cities Mission, AI helps in traffic management, surveillance and waste management.
- ◆ In the judiciary, tools like SUPACE assist judges in legal research and case analysis.
- ◆ SUVAS (Supreme Court Vidhik Anuvaad Software) translates court judgements into regional languages, improving access to justice.

Conclusion

- ◆ Artificial Intelligence holds immense potential to accelerate India's development by improving governance, boosting economic productivity and enhancing citizens' quality of life. With responsible adoption, strong data governance and inclusive policies, AI can play a crucial role in achieving sustainable and equitable development in India.

Significance of AI for India

Economic Growth
(\$450-500B GDP)

Better Governance
AI-driven services

Improved Quality of Life
inclusive development

Key Sectors of AI use

Healthcare

Telemedicine
eSanjeevani

Disease
detection TB,
cancer

Agriculture

Weather
prediction

Pest alerts
drones
monitoring

Education

Personalised
learning

DIKSHA
Regional
Language

Finance

Fraud
detection

Credit scoring
chatbots
24/7 banking

Governance

Smart cities
Traffic
management

AI in judiciary
SUPACE, SUVAS

National News

- ◆ On 14 February 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Kumar Bhaskar Varma Setu in Assam.
- ◆ On 18 February 2026, the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) formed the high-level advisory group on ease of doing business, and signed an MoU for the 'Viksit Bharat 2047' reform study.
- ◆ The National Highway Authority of India has planned 100% digital toll collection from 1 April 2026.
- ◆ On 20 February 2026, India joined U.S. led Pax Silica Coalition to strengthen electronics and critical minerals supply chains.
- ◆ On 19 February 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the India AI Impact Summit 2026.
- ◆ On 18 February 2026, India and the UK launched the Offshore Wind Task Force under Vision 2035 at the 4th Energy Dialogue.
- ◆ On 18 February 2026, MeitY launched 'VoicERA' Open-Source Voice AI Stack at India AI Impact Summit 2026.
- ◆ On 21 February 2026, India and Brazil signed Key Agreements and set \$30 billion trade target by 2030.
- ◆ On 19 February 2026, Ministry of Power formed the high-level committee to oversee the proposed merger of Power Finance Corporation and REC Limited.
- ◆ Bela Gram has become India's first net-zero panchayat.
- ◆ On 21 February 2026, Bihar approved new international airport at Sonapur with 4,200-metre runway.
- ◆ India has set a Guinness World Record for Most AI responsibility pledges in 24 hours.

- ◆ On 19 February 2026, Union Minister J.P. Nadda and Emmanuel Macron inaugurated the Indo-French Centre for AI in Health at AIIMS, New Delhi.
- ◆ On 24 February 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the renaming of Kerala to 'Keralam'.
- ◆ On 23 February 2026, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched the National Monetisation Pipeline 2.0 with ₹16.72 lakh crore potential in New Delhi.
- ◆ On 23 February 2026, the Ministry of Home Affairs unveiled 'PRAHAR' – India's New National Counter-Terrorism Strategy.
- ◆ Waaree Energies is going to set up India's largest 16 GWh lithium-ion battery gigafactory in Andhra Pradesh.
- ◆ On 22 February 2026, Palamu Tiger Reserve launched the 'Vanjeevi Didi' initiative to empower women in Forest Conservation.
- ◆ Maharashtra's Soundala village has declared itself 'Caste-Free' with a unanimous gram sabha resolution.
- ◆ The Punjab government has recently launched the 'Meri Rasoi' scheme.

Objective: To ensure food and nutritional security for economically weaker families.

Beneficiaries: Each eligible family (Blue Ration Card holders) receives a free food kit every quarterly in addition to wheat already supplied through the PDS.
- ◆ On 24 February 2026, the ECI hosted the National Round Table Conference after 27 Years to strengthen electoral synergy and technology.
- ◆ On 23 February 2026, President Draupadi Murmu unveiled the Rajagopalachari Bust at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- ◆ On 21 February 2026, the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with a private pharmaceutical company to advance pharmaceutical education.
- ◆ On 21 February 2026, Union Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda launched the indigenous Td Vaccine at CRI Kasauli.
- ◆ On 23 February 2026, Digital Bharat Nidhi and Andhra Pradesh have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) for fast-track implementation of the Amended BharatNet Programme.
- ◆ MoEFCC is going to host 'Him-CONNECT' in New Delhi to Promote Sustainable Innovations in the Indian Himalayan Region.
- ◆ On 24 February 2026, Jean Todt launched the UN Global Road Safety Campaign 'Make A Safety Statement' in India.
- ◆ Indian mountaineers summit took place in Mount Aconcagua in Argentina.

- ◆ On 24 February 2026, Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan inaugurated Tourism Leadership Summit-2026.
- ◆ On 24 February 2026, Union Cabinet approved MSP for raw jute at ₹5,925 per quintal for the 2026-27 season.
- ◆ On 24 February 2026, the Union Cabinet approved the ₹1,677 Crore Expansion of Civil Enclave at Srinagar International Airport.
- ◆ On 22 February 2026, Jayant Chaudhary launched the 'Badhna Hai Toh Yahan Judna Hai' campaign to boost digital skilling via Skill India Digital Hub.
- ◆ On 23 February 2026, the Union Government launched Mobile Labs to monitor the quality of the National Highway Projects.
- ◆ On 18 February 2026, West Bengal launched the 'Banglar Yuva Sathi' Scheme to provide ₹1,500 monthly aid to unemployed youth.
- ◆ Ministry of Ayush is going to organise National Arogya Fair 2026 in Maharashtra.
- ◆ Goa has hosted the 4th World Ocean Science Congress 2026 on 'Ocean Health and Sustainable Future.'
- ◆ India is going to establish the first National Cow Culture Museum in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh.
- ◆ Amazon India has partnered with IIT Roorkee to develop sustainable non-wood paper packaging from agricultural waste.
- ◆ On 11 February 2026, the Chief Minister of Kerala launched the 'Sthree Suraksha' Scheme providing ₹1,000 monthly pension.
- ◆ On 10 February 2026, INSA and CSIR-NIScPR have signed an MoU to advance science policy research.
- ◆ On 13 February 2026, Kerala launched the Nawodhan Scheme to revive fallow land and boost self-reliance in horticulture.
- ◆ On 16 February 2026, IIT Madras partnered with the Finnish Meteorological Institute to establish the 'VAYYU' Climate Research Centre.
- ◆ On 12 February 2026, IIT Bombay and Columbia University have signed an MoU to establish Centre of AI for Manufacturing.
- ◆ On 14 February 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated North-east India's first emergency landing facility in Assam.
- ◆ On 15 February 2026, Union Minister Amit Shah inaugurated India's first CBDC-based public distribution system in Gujarat.
- ◆ On 14 February 2026, the Union Cabinet approved ₹10,000 crore Startup India Fund of Funds to boost innovation and Non-Metro Startups.
- ◆ On 14 February 2026, the Union Cabinet approved ₹1 Lakh Crore Urban Challenge Fund to boost market-linked, reform-driven urban development.

- ◆ On 15 February 2026, NLC India Ltd. signed MoU with NALCO (National Aluminium Company) to boost thermal and renewable energy collaboration.
- ◆ Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy is to inaugurate BioAsia 2026 Summit highlighting TechBio Innovations.
- ◆ On 16 February 2026, President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the centenary celebrations of OI Chiki Script, honouring Santhal achievements.
- ◆ On 14 February 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the PM RAHAT Scheme for cashless road accident treatment.
- ◆ Madras High Court has launched an AI-assisted 'Superlaw Courts' System to boost judicial efficiency.
- ◆ India and France elevate ties to 'Special Global Strategic Partnership'.
- ◆ On 13 February 2026, the Union Government has launched the first National Call for BIRAC-RDI Fund to boost high-impact biotechnology innovation.
- ◆ On 17 February 2026, Union Minister J.P. Nadda launched SAHI and BODH to strengthen AI use in India's healthcare system.
- ◆ National Consumer Helpline has facilitated ₹52 crore refunds across 31 sectors in nine months.
- ◆ NHAH is going to create India's First 'BeeCorridor' to boost pollinator conservation.
- ◆ Department of Posts has unveiled 8 commemorative stamps celebrating 'Puppets of India' at the India Habitat Centre.
- ◆ On 18 February 2026, FCI has signed an MoU with WFP to supply 2 lakh metric tonnes of rice for global hunger relief.
- ◆ India and Nepal have signed the Mutual Legal Assistance Pact to strengthen cooperation in criminal matters.
- ◆ On 18 February 2026, the European Union has launched the first European Legal Gateway Office in India to boost study and work opportunities.
- ◆ On 19 February 2026, Google unveiled a \$15 billion 'America-India Connect' Subsea Cable Project to boost AI connectivity.
- ◆ India's first Private-Sector Helicopter Assembly Line has been inaugurated by TASL for Airbus H125.
- ◆ Kerala is going to launch India's first graphene policy to become a global tech hub.
- ◆ India sets Guinness World Record with Over 2.5 Lakh AI Responsibility Pledges in 24 Hours.
- ◆ On 18 February 2026, the UP Government launched a District-Level Manuscript Digitisation Drive under 'Gyan Bharatam Mission'.
- ◆ Rekha Gupta has launched India's First AI-Driven CM Shri School in Delhi.

- ◆ FAO has awarded international certificate to West Bengal for the 'Matir Srishti' Programme.
- ◆ On 19 February 2026, Union Minister Kiren Rijju launched the NIGRANI App at Nalanda University to boost PMJVK monitoring.
- ◆ On 20 February 2026, Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched the Vibrant Villages Programme-II in Assam's Cachar District.
- ◆ WWF-India developed Goa's first child-friendly biodiversity and cultural features map, highlighting 48 commonly found species along with elements of the state's cultural heritage such as Kaavi art, folk traditions and local crafts. The map was created as an educational resource for school students to promote environmental awareness and understanding of Goa's biodiversity. It was designed in collaboration with artist and conservationist Sudarshan Shaw and combines scientific information with visual storytelling. The map was scheduled to be released on **14 February 2026** at the Goa Art and Literature Festival (GALF) at the International Centre Goa (ICG) and will be distributed to schools in both print and digital formats. The initiative aims to encourage children to observe local flora and fauna, appreciate Goa's cultural heritage, and develop grassroots awareness for biodiversity conservation.
- ◆ India and the United Kingdom have signed a social security agreement for temporary employees.
- ◆ On 13 February 2026, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Seva Teerth and Kartavya Bhavan Complexes.
- ◆ C-DOT and Rashtriya Raksha University have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to boost telecom and cybersecurity innovation.
- ◆ Black Swan Summit India has concluded in Bhubaneswar to Boost AI and digital finance ecosystem.
- ◆ Alwar has become India's First District to Achieve 100% insurance coverage under 'Insurance for All by 2047'.
- ◆ On 5 February 2026, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh flagged off joint Indian expedition to Mount Aconcagua.
- ◆ On 6 February 2026, IIT Madras Research Park has launched ₹600 Crore Unicorn Frontier Fund for Deep-Tech Startups.
- ◆ India-US Trade Deal has opened \$118 billion global textile market as the Government of India.
- ◆ On 7 February 2026, Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has launched the Nationwide Pulse Self-Reliance Mission.
- ◆ PLASTINDIA 2026, a global plastic exhibition, kicked off in New Delhi on 5 February 2026.

- ◆ Spain has become the first European Nation to ban Social Media for children under 16.
- ◆ VOC Port has become the first Indian port to deploy Anti-Drone System.
- ◆ On 4 February 2026, MCA approved the merger of 17 POWERGRID Subsidiaries under Corporate Restructuring Plan.
- ◆ On 6 February 2026, Delhi Police has launched 'Operation Shastra' to curb online threats and fear-mongering.
- ◆ On 5 February 2026, the Centre, the Nagaland Government and ENPO signed an agreement to form the Frontier Nagaland Territorial Authority (FNTA).
- ◆ Goa has become the second state to publish a Bird Atlas.
- ◆ The Agriculture Ministry has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Posts for fully traceable agri input sample logistics.
- ◆ The 39th Surajkund International Crafts Mela 2026 has begun in Haryana with the theme "Vocal to Global".
- ◆ Kerala has launched NeophyteID for Invasive Plant Detection.
- ◆ On 2 February 2026, the Andhra Pradesh Government has announced an exclusive 30-acre women's industrial park.
- ◆ India and Canada have finalised a Shared Work Plan to strengthen security and Law Enforcement Cooperation.
- ◆ On 12 February 2026, IIT Madras and Unicorn India Ventures launched a ₹600 Crore Deep Tech Fund to Boost IP-Led Startups.
- ◆ Airport Authority of India has signed an MoU with Bharat Taxi to boost passenger-friendly Last-Mile Connectivity at select airports.
- ◆ On 9 February 2026, India launched iLive Connect, the world's first Doctor-Led AI Healthcare Ecosystem for Real-Time Home Monitoring.
- ◆ India has achieved 45th Rank in the Network Readiness Index 2025.
- ◆ Yotta and Bhashini have deployed Sovereign AI Cloud, showcasing India's readiness for Population-Scale AI.
- ◆ India was named 'Country of the Year' at BIOFACH 2026 in Germany.
- ◆ Telangana has launched 'Aikam' to boost AI ecosystem and global innovation.
- ◆ Assam has launched the 'Atal Vichal Agrabami Assam' scheme to boost research and innovation.
- ◆ The Gujarat Govt has signed a Letter of Intent with Starlink to achieve the 'Digital India' vision.
- ◆ SBI has crossed ₹10 lakh crore market capitalisation, and has joined the elite club of India's top firms.
- ◆ Mumbai's coastal road has become India's first 'Musical Path' playing 'Jai Ho'.

- ◆ The Delhi government launched Lakhpati Bitiya Yojana for girls from economically weaker families.
- ◆ Delhi has become the first Indian state to partner with Bharat Taxi's cooperative platform for structured urban taxi services.
- ◆ Uttar Pradesh has become the first Indian state to present its own economic survey highlighting rapid growth.
- ◆ Rajasthan has emerged as India's largest wool producer, contributing 5% of the national output.
- ◆ The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission has signed MoUs to strengthen drug safety and quality standards.
- ◆ Aditya Pandya has become India's youngest male analogue astronaut.
- ◆ V.O. Chidambaranar Port has become India's first IGBC Platinum & net zero certified major port.
- ◆ On 11 February 2026, the Indian National Science Academy and CSIR-NIScPR signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen science communication and evidence-based policy research.
- ◆ Gujarat's Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary has recorded over 42 Lakh birds of 270 species in the Bird Census 2026.
- ◆ A new plant species, 'Hoya nagensis' has been discovered in Nagaland's community forests.
- ◆ Patna Bird Sanctuary and Chhari-Dhand in Kutch are designated as new Ramsar Wetlands.
- ◆ On 11 February 2026, MoSPI launched the PAIMANA Portal for enhanced monitoring of infrastructure projects.
- ◆ Andhra Pradesh is going to launch Exclusive Industrial Park for Women Entrepreneurs.
- ◆ The Fifth Rusoma Orange Festival has been concluded in Nagaland.
- ◆ On 4 February 2026, Gujarat has launched the Mukhyamantri Gramothan Yojana to provide urban-level facilities in villages.
- ◆ Indian Railways has launched the first-ever LNG-diesel dual-fuel DEMU train in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- ◆ Madhya Pradesh is going to introduce 'Garbh Sanskar' in all universities; special rooms planned in government hospitals.
- ◆ PM Modi has renamed Adampur Airport as Sri Guru Ravidas Ji Airport.
- ◆ The government has raised the duty-free baggage limit to ₹75,000 under the New Baggage Rules, 2026.
- ◆ The Union Government has accepted the 16th Finance Commission Recommendation, allocating ₹1.4 lakh crore to states in FY 2026-27.
- ◆ Kochi Airport is going to become India's first with hydrogen-powered buses.
- ◆ On 2 February 2026, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has launched 'Pilloo AI' Voice-Based Accounting App.

- ◆ On 3 February 2026, Adani Defence and Leonardo have signed a Memorandum of understanding to build integrated helicopter manufacturing ecosystem in India.
- ◆ Indian mountaineer Kabak Yano from Arunachal Pradesh successfully summited Mount Aconcagua (6,961 m / 22,831 ft) in Argentina, the highest peak in South America, on 1 February 2026.

She achieved this feat as part of her Seven Summits expedition, which aims to climb the highest mountains on all seven continents, marking a significant milestone in her mountaineering journey.

- ◆ National Test House (NTH) has partnered with STQC-ERTL to enable EMI-EMC testing of drones in India.
- ◆ India and Tanzania hold 4th Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting in Zanzibar.
- ◆ On 5 February 2026, the government has launched a digital portal for online issuance of certificates of origin for cultivated medicinal plants.
- ◆ Walmart has become the world's first retailer to cross \$1 trillion market valuation.
- ◆ On 4 February 2026, India joined the BRICS centre for industrial competencies to boost manufacturing and MSMEs.
- ◆ Delhi has been ranked the World's Most Affordable City for International Students as per the report.
- ◆ President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated the grand tribal cultural festival 'Bastar Pandum-2026' in Jagdalpur.
- ◆ Government has sanctioned over 3 crore 87 lakh houses to States & Union Territories under PMAY-G.
- ◆ RBI has approved Blackstone's ₹6,196 crore investment to acquire 9.99% stake in Federal Bank.

International News

- ◆ On 12 February 2026, Russia fully blocked WhatsApp due to non-compliance with laws.
- ◆ India and Germany have launched a €20 million climate resilience initiative under the International Climate Initiative to strengthen adaptation in the Himalayas, Western Ghats, North-East, island regions and Lower Gangetic floodplains, supporting ecosystem-based approaches and India's National Adaptation Plan.
- ◆ Donald Trump is going to host the 21st G20 Leaders' Summit in Miami on December 14-15.
- ◆ The 3rd International AYUSH Conference has concluded at the Dubai World Trade Centre.
- ◆ Bangladesh has become 89th Signatory at the New Delhi Declaration on AI gains Global Backing at India AI Impact Summit 2026.
- ◆ Switzerland has announced Geneva as Host City for 2027 AI Impact Summit.

- ◆ India and Israel have elevated their ties to a Special Strategic Partnership in 2026 by signing key agreements in defence, AI, cybersecurity, trade, agriculture, space and connectivity.
- ◆ On 27 February 2026, Pakistan launched Operation Ghazab lil-Haq, declaring 'Open War' after strikes on Afghanistan.
- ◆ On 26 February 2026, Saudi Arabia banned poultry and egg imports from 40 countries, including Bangladesh and India, citing public health and avian influenza risks.
- ◆ On 25 February 2026, India and Nepal have signed a new Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen cooperation in forests, wildlife, biodiversity conservation and climate change.
- ◆ Jose Maria Balcasar has been elected as the interim President of Peru after Jose Jeri's impeachment, marking the country's eighth leader since 2016.
- ◆ India has remained as the second largest buyer of Russian Fossil Fuels in January 2026.
- ◆ India has removed the Most Favoured Nation (MFN) clause from its tax treaty with France.
- ◆ Rob Jetten has become the youngest and the first openly gay Prime Minister of the Netherlands at the age of 38.
- ◆ Geneva will host the AI Impact Summit in 2027, and the UAE will host it in 2028.
- ◆ US President Donald Trump has imposed a 10% global tariff on all imports after a Supreme Court setback.
- ◆ India has formally joined Pax Silica, a US-led coalition focused on AI and semiconductor supply chains.
- ◆ Sanae Takaichi has been formally reappointed as the Prime Minister of Japan after winning a two-thirds majority in the February 8 election.
- ◆ India has gifted Maldives its first high-speed ferry to strengthen maritime ties.
- ◆ India and France have upgraded their ties to a Special Global Strategic Partnership as Prime Minister Modi and President Macron launch the H125 helicopter assembly line in Karnataka.
- ◆ Cyclone Gezani has struck Madagascar, 20 dead and thousands displaced.
- ◆ Russia has launched its newest nuclear-powered submarine, Khabarovsk, which is designed to carry the underwater nuclear drone Poseidon, often referred to in global media as a "doomsday drone".
- ◆ New York City has joined the WHO-Coordinated Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN).
- ◆ The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2025, released by Transparency International, ranked India 91st out of 182 countries and territories, with a score of 39 out of 100. This marks a

- ◆ five-place improvement from India's 96th rank in the previous year. The CPI measures perceived levels of public sector corruption on a scale from 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean). Denmark ranked 1st with the highest score, indicating the lowest perceived level of public sector corruption globally.
- ◆ Venezuela has passed the major oil law reform, opening doors for Foreign companies.
- ◆ India-US has announced a major trade deal, slashed tariffs and deepened economic ties.
- ◆ India and the Gulf Cooperation Council have signed Terms of Reference for the India-GCC Free Trade Agreement.
- ◆ India's GDP growth to ease to 7.2% in Q3FY26, as per the credit rating agency ICRA.
- ◆ RBI has launched the March 2026 Urban Consumer Confidence Survey across 19 cities.
- ◆ RBI has imposed fines on Bank of Maharashtra, DCB Bank, CSB Bank, IIFL Finance and Navi Finserv for non-compliance with norms.
- ◆ NPCI has extended the 'UPI One World' wallet to international delegates at India AI Impact Summit 2026.
- ◆ DBS Bank has become the first in Asia-Pacific to pilot visa intelligent commerce for AI-driven payments.
- ◆ India's wholesale inflation has risen to 81% in January 2026.

Banking and Financial

- ◆ RBI has imposed ₹38.60 lakh penalty on UCO Bank for regulatory non-compliance.
- ◆ RBI has removed New India Co-operative Bank Ltd. from second schedule following the merger with Saraswat Co-operative Bank.
- ◆ RBI has established a high-security data centre in Bhubaneswar to strengthen financial infrastructure.
- ◆ ICICI Pension Funds has unveiled 'NPS Swasthya Equity Plus' in the PFRDA Regulatory Sandbox.
- ◆ PhonePe has launched an AI-powered search built using Microsoft Foundry.
- ◆ Indian Overseas Bank has launched the Online Death Claim Settlement Portal for faster, transparent processing.
- ◆ NPCI has collaborated with NVIDIA to advance India's sovereign AI infrastructure for digital payments.
- ◆ Bharti Airtel arm has received RBI nod to operate as Type II NBFC-ND.
- ◆ IDFC FIRST Bank has launched the Hello Cashback Credit Card with tiered rewards and credit-building benefits.
- ◆ NPCI International has partnered with Malaysia's PayNet to enable UPI-DuitNow QR Cross-Border Payments.

- ◆ India Post has partnered with NSE to distribute mutual funds nationwide, boosting financial inclusion.
- ◆ RBI has doubled the collateral-free loan limit for micro and small enterprises to ₹20 lakh.
- ◆ RBI has proposed exempting small Type-1 NBFCs from registration to ease compliance burden.
- ◆ The Ministry of Statistics has revised the Consumer Price Index base year to 2024.
- ◆ Kotak Mahindra Bank has issued India's first fully digital FPI licence.
- ◆ Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has launched the qualcomm 2 nm semiconductor chip in Bengaluru.
- ◆ Moody's has projected India's GDP growth at 4% for FY 2026-27, the fastest in the G20 group.
- ◆ SEBI has approved IIFL capital subsidiary at GIFT IFSC.
- ◆ Asian Development Bank has approved \$182 million to boost flood and erosion management along Brahmaputra in Assam.
- ◆ The Competition Commission of India has approved Innomatics India's acquisition of low voltage motor business of Siemens Limited.
- ◆ The Competition Commission of India has approved Fidelity Funds' 6.63% minority stake acquisition in Valuedrive Technologies Private Limited.
- ◆ The Competition Commission of India has imposed a ₹27.38 crore penalty on Intel Corporation for anti-competitive practices.
- ◆ The Reserve Bank of India has proposed strict rules to curb harsh and coercive debt recovery practices.
- ◆ Reserve Bank of India Digital Payments Index has risen to 76 in September 2025.
- ◆ BOBCARD has launched a Braille-Enabled Premier Credit Card.
- ◆ India's Retail Inflation has risen to 75% in January under revised CPI Series.
- ◆ Centre's capital expenditure is likely to cross ₹12 lakh crore in FY27 as per SBI report.
- ◆ Slice has launched UPI-First Banking Solutions for its customers.
- ◆ Punjab & Sind Bank has received RBI approval to open a branch in GIFT City IFSC.
- ◆ SBI has launched CHAKRA to invest ₹100 trillion in sunrise sectors over 5 years.
- ◆ PaySharp has secured the RBI's payment aggregator-physical licence for offline payments.
- ◆ UPI Transactions have reached a record ₹28.33 Lakh Crore in January 2026.
- ◆ Gross GST Collections have reached ₹1.93 lakh crore in January 2026.

- ◆ SBI has launched the Global Trade Finance Centre in Kolkata to boost trade and global banking.
- ◆ India and the World Bank have launched the Country Partnership Framework to boost jobs and economic growth.
- ◆ The World Bank has approved \$830 million loan to revamp India's skill training institutes.
- ◆ The New Insurance Act is about to take effect from 5 February, which allows 100% FDI with stronger policyholder protection.
- ◆ RBI Monetary Policy Committee has kept repo rate unchanged at 5.25%, raises growth outlook.
- ◆ Axis Bank has launched Rooftop Solar Finance for MSMEs.
- ◆ Equitas Small Finance Bank has partnered with Bharti AXA Life for Bancassurance services.
- ◆ RBI has imposed ₹18.76 lakh compounding fee on Paytm for FEMA violations.
- ◆ The Reserve Bank of India has approved Rajan Bajaj as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Slice Small Finance Bank.
- ◆ Tarique Rahman was sworn in as the new Prime Minister of Bangladesh.
- ◆ Sanae Takaichi has resigned as the Prime Minister of Japan.
- ◆ Darjeeling Himalayan Railway has appointed Sarita Yolmo as the first woman TTE in 145 Years.
- ◆ RBI has approved the third-term re-appointment of Sanjay Agarwal as the Managing Director of AU Small Finance Bank.
- ◆ Uday Kotak has been appointed the Chairman of the GIFT City Developer Company.
- ◆ Barbados Prime Minister Mia Motley has secured a third consecutive election victory.
- ◆ RBI has approved Vijay Anandh as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the City Union Bank.

Appointment and Resignation

- ◆ Harsharan Kaur Trehan has been appointed the Director (Commercial) of Punjab State Power Corporation Limited.
- ◆ IIT Madras Professor B. Ravindran has joined the UN Independent AI Scientific Panel.
- ◆ GAIL (India) Limited has appointed Deepak Gupta as the new CMD.
- ◆ Former cricketer Shikhar Dhawan has been appointed the brand ambassador for the inaugural Delhi Khel Mahakumbh 2026.
- ◆ Anutin Charnvirakul has secured victory in Thailand's 2026 general election.
- ◆ Rohit Kumar Singh has appointed Chair of the USISPF Global Value Chains Committee.

- ◆ Andrey Gyurov has been appointed the interim PM amid repeated elections in Bulgaria.
- ◆ Kota Ravi has been appointed as the new CMD of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.
- ◆ IRDAI has reconstituted the Reinsurance Advisory Committee and appointed Girija Kumar as its Chairman.
- ◆ Sunetra Pawar has become the first woman Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra.
- ◆ Yumnam Khemchand Singh has become the 13th Chief Minister as Manipur exits President's Rule.
- ◆ RBI has approved Vinay Muralidhar Tonse as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Yes Bank.
- ◆ DAC Developers has appointed Oscar-Grammy winner A. R. Rahman as its brand ambassador.
- ◆ The IOC has been elected Soraya Aghaei as the first female member from Iran.
- ◆ Mangaluru International Airport has 2025 ASQ Award for Best Airport at Arrivals – Globally.
- ◆ Narendra Modi has become the first global leader to receive Speaker of the Knesset Medal in Israel.
- ◆ Indian teacher Rouble Nagi has won the Global Teacher Prize 2026 at the World Government Summit.
- ◆ Ministry of Culture has won Double Honour at the Republic Day Parade 2026 with 'Vande Mataram' Tableau and Cultural Presentation.
- ◆ Indian-origin climate scientist Veerabhadran Ramanathan has won the 2026 Crafoord Prize in Geosciences.
- ◆ Paradip Port Authority has won the Swachhata Pakhwada Award 2025.
- ◆ Bhutan Queen Mother has been conferred the 'Soldier of Humanity' award in Assam.

Defence

Awards

- ◆ Oil India Limited has won the FIPI Award 2025 as 'Oil & Gas Production Company of the Year'.
- ◆ Vasai Cathedral has won the UNESCO Award for Conservation.
- ◆ Manipuri film Boong has won the BAFTA Award for Best Children's & Family Film in London.
- ◆ Indian Army's Konark Corps has conducted live firing test of Strela-10 VSHORADS at Pokhran Range.
- ◆ The 7th India-Japan joint military exercise 'Dharma Guardian' has concluded in Uttarakhand.
- ◆ India-US 16th Joint Special Forces Exercise VAJRA PRAHAR has concluded in Himachal Pradesh.
- ◆ Defence Acquisition Council has won cleared ₹3.60 lakh crore defence procurement, including 114 Rafale Jets.

- ◆ The Ministry of Defence has signed a ₹2,312 crore deal with HAL for 8 Dornier 228 Aircraft for the Indian Coast Guard.
 - ◆ Swan Defence has secured the Oman Navy Training Ship Export Contract.
 - ◆ Agneevasthraa has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Indian Army to supply advanced carbon & composite materials.
 - ◆ The Indian Army and the ITBP have conducted "Agni Pariksha" joint exercise in Arunachal Pradesh to boost combat synergy.
 - ◆ India and Kyrgyzstan's joint military exercise KHANJAR has concluded in Assam.
 - ◆ INS Sudarshini has made first international port call at Salalah during the Lokayan 26 expedition.
 - ◆ India has successfully test-fired Agni-III intermediate-range ballistic missile.
 - ◆ The Indian Navy has launched the mega multilateral naval exercise 'MILAN' at Visakhapatnam.
 - ◆ The first indigenous cadet training ship has launched at L&T Kattupalli in Chennai.
- Science**
- ◆ IN-SPACE has selected Astrome, Azista and Dhruva Space for the satellite bus plan.
 - ◆ Dayananda Sagar University has partnered with NVIDIA to launch India's first AI-first factory with ₹175 crore investment.
 - ◆ Union Minister Jitin Prasada has inaugurated the STQC Lab Automation Portal, SATYA.
 - ◆ GalaxEye has become the first private Indian satellite operator to partner with NewSpace India Limited for a global data reseller agreement.
 - ◆ OpenAI has partnered with leading Indian universities to embed AI across campuses and build future-ready talent.
 - ◆ IIT Madras Global Research Foundation is going to launch the first Applied AI Innovation Centre at Dubai CommerCity.
 - ◆ AI Impact Casebooks on Health & Education has launched at the India AI Impact Summit 2026.
 - ◆ JioHotstar has partnered with OpenAI to Launch ChatGPT-powered conversational streaming in India.
- Sports**
- ◆ Pankaj Advani has won the inaugural Liber Win Champions Cup 2026, and been named brand ambassador also.
 - ◆ India has finished the Asian Shooting Championships 2026 in New Delhi with 33 Medals.
 - ◆ The USA has won the Men's Olympic Ice Hockey Gold after 46 Years with an overtime win over Canada.

- ◆ Tomas Martin Etcheverry has won his Maiden ATP Title at the Rio Open.
- ◆ Magnus Carlsen has won the inaugural FIDE Freestyle Chess World Championship.
- ◆ Rashid Khan has created History as the first Asian Bowler with 150+ T20I and 200+ ODI Wickets.
- ◆ Norway's Johannes Hoesflot Klaebo has won his ninth gold medal in cross-country skiing.
- ◆ Lucas Pinheiro Braathen has created history, by winning Giant Slalom Gold for Brazil at the Milan Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics.
- ◆ Paras Dogra has become the second batter to cross 10,000 runs in the Ranji Trophy.
- ◆ Indian cricketer Smriti Mandhana has been named BBC Indian Sports-woman of the Year 2025.
- ◆ The 6th National Rafting Championship "The Ultimate River Battle" has concluded in Doda, J&K.
- ◆ Pramod Bhagat has won SL3 Gold at the BWF Para World Championships
- ◆ Harmanpreet Kaur has become the highest capped woman in international cricket.
- ◆ Esha Singh has won Gold for India in the Women's 10m Air Pistol at the Asian Championship.
- ◆ India is going to Host Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship 2027 in New Delhi.
- ◆ India has defeated Bangladesh 4-0 to win SAFF Under-19 Women's Football Championship.
- ◆ Jharkhand women have won Gold at the Para Throwball National Federation Cup 2026.
- ◆ Manu Bhaker has won Silver in Women's 25m Pistol at the Asian Shooting Championship.
- ◆ Nat Sciver-Brunt has created history by becoming the first batter to score a century in WPL.
- ◆ Elena Rybakina has won the Australian Open 2026 for the first time.
- ◆ Alcaraz has defeated Djokovic to win the first Australian Open.
- ◆ Devika Sihag has won her maiden BWF Super 300 Title at Thailand Masters.
- ◆ Anahat Singh has won the Squash on Fire Open.
- ◆ Royal Challengers Bengaluru has won the Second Women's Premier League Title.
- ◆ India has won its record sixth U19 Cricket World Cup Title with a 100-run win over England.

Book and Author

- ◆ Odisha Governor Hari Babu Kam-bhampati has released 2 Books "E Mati Katha Kahe" (Odia) and "Buxi Jagabandhu: The Great Commander" (English), authored by Biswabhusan Harichandan.

- ◆ Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan has launched the book “The Sage who Reimagined Hinduism: The Life, Lessons and Legacy of Sree Narayana Guru”, authored by Shashi Tharoor.
- ◆ 11 February: International Day of Women and Girls in Science (Theme 2026: From Vision to Impact: Redefining STEM by Closing the Gender Gap)

Important day

- ◆ 1 February: Indian Coast Guard Day
- ◆ 2 February: World Wetlands Day (Theme 2026: Wetlands and traditional knowledge: Celebrating cultural heritage)
- ◆ 2 February: Rheumatoid Arthritis Awareness Day
- ◆ 3 February: National Golden Retriever Day
- ◆ 4 February: World Cancer Day (Theme 2026: United by Unique)
- ◆ 6 February: International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation
- ◆ 8 February: National Opera Day
- ◆ 10 February: National Deworming Day
- ◆ 10 February: World Pulses Day (Theme 2026: Pulses of the World: From Modesty to Excellence)
- ◆ 10 February: International Epilepsy Day (Theme 2026: #EpilepsyPledge: Turning Stories into Action)
- ◆ 11 February: World Day of the Sick (Theme 2026: The Compassion of the Samaritan: Loving by Bearing the Pain of Others)
- ◆ 11 February: Safer Internet Day (Theme 2026: AI Aware: Safe, Smart, In Control)
- ◆ 12 February: Darwin Day
- ◆ 12 February: National Productivity Day (Theme 2026: Clusters as Growth Engine: Maximising Productivity in MSMEs)
- ◆ 13 February: World Radio Day (Theme 2026: Radio and Artificial Intelligence: AI is a tool, not a voice)
- ◆ 14 February: World Congenital Heart Defect (CHD) Awareness Day
- ◆ 17 February: Global Tourism Resilience Day (Theme 2026: Tourism Resilience in Action: From Crisis Response to Impactful Transformation.)
- ◆ 19 February 2026 (third Thursday of February) – World Anthropology Day
- ◆ 21 February: International Mother Language Day (Theme 2026 – Youth voices on multilingual education)
- ◆ 20 February: World Day of Social Justice (Theme 2026 – Renewed Commitment to Social Development and Social Justice)
- ◆ 22 February: World Thinking Day (Theme 2026 – Our Friendship)

- ◆ 23 February: World Peace and Understanding Day
- ◆ 24 February: Central Excise Day
- ◆ 27 February: World NGO Day
- ◆ 28 February: National Science Day
- ◆ Former India Men's Hockey Coach and Australian Legend Michael Nobbs have passed away at the age of 72.
- ◆ Brazilian MMA Fighter Pablo Oliveira Costa has died in electrocution accident at the age of 31.

Obituary

- ◆ Renowned Odia Singer Geeta Patnaik has passed away at the age of 73 on 15 February 2026.
- ◆ Internet Pioneer David J. Farber has passed away at the age of 91.
- ◆ Sahitya Akademi Awardee Author Sankar has passed away at the age of 92.
- ◆ Former Union Minister Mukul Roy has passed away at the age of 71.

oswaal

LEARNING MADE SMARTER