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सत्यमेव जयते

World wholeheartedly praised India's potential: PM Narendra Modi

- Global response at the AI Impact Summit 2026 highlighted strong international recognition of India's technological potential and the global value of its young tech talent.
- Concluded with the adoption of the New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact.
- The declaration was endorsed by 88 countries and international organisations

Honorable PM Shri Narendra Modi said the global response at the AI Impact Summit 2026 strongly affirmed India's technological potential, highlighting how the outlook of India's young tech talent can benefit humanity at large. Held in New Delhi, the summit concluded with the adoption of the New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact, The event drew world leaders, including Antonio Guterres (UN Secretary General), heads of state, and top global technology executives, and brought together over 500 AI leaders, policymakers, researchers, and industry figures under the theme Sarvajan Hitay, Sarvajan Sukhay (welfare of all, happiness of all), reinforcing India's ambition to lead inclusive, human-centric AI development.

TRADE

INVESTMENT

TECHNOLOGY

TOURISM

AI Impact Summit 2026 Concludes with Adoption of New Delhi Declaration

The New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact establishes a shared global framework for guiding the development and use of artificial intelligence, reflecting consensus among 89 countries and international organisations on aligning AI with economic growth, social good, and equitable access. Grounded in the principle of Sarvajan Hitaya, Sarvajan Sukhaya, the agreement emphasizes international cooperation, respect for national sovereignty, and the advancement of secure, trustworthy, and accessible AI systems. Structured around seven core pillars spanning democratic access to AI resources, science, human capital, resilience, and social empowerment, the Declaration is supported by a set of voluntary global initiatives aimed at scaling practical AI solutions, strengthening workforce readiness, promoting energy-efficient infrastructure, and translating shared governance principles into sustained global impact, as advanced at the AI Impact Summit 2026.

Key Points

- Focus on strengthening international cooperation and multistakeholder engagement
- Respecting national sovereignty
- Advancing AI through accessible, and trustworthy frameworks
- Seven Pillars (Chakras) of Action

India signs critical minerals deal with Brazil

India and Brazil have agreed to boost cooperation on critical minerals and rare earths, aiming to diversify India's supply chains and strengthen trade and renewable energy collaboration. Discussed during talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, the deal leverages Brazil's vast mineral resources and is part of broader agreements, supporting a goal to expand bilateral trade beyond $20bn in the coming five years.

Budget 2026 : Subtle Reforms, long-term impact - Growth, Discipline & Digital Delivery

- 1. Growth & Fiscal Discipline: Focus on tech-driven, investment-friendly growth while keeping the fiscal deficit under 4.5% of GDP
- 2. Infrastructure & Trade Support: Investments in railways, semiconductors, and strategic manufacturing, with tax and customs reforms to ease trade & compliance

India's Union Budget 2026-27 underscores a focused strategy to accelerate economic growth, enhance human capability, and expand access to amenities and resources, driven by investment-friendly, technology-led, and compliance-simplified policies. The government's fiscal discipline, keeping the deficit below 4.5% of GDP despite pressures from widened income tax slabs, GST 2.0 rollout, and multiple free-trade agreements, reinforces investor confidence and sovereign credibility. The Budget prioritizes long-term infrastructure and industrial capacity through record capital outlays for railways, high-speed corridors, the India Semiconductor Mission 2.0, and strengthened electronics manufacturing initiatives. Targeted measures for domestic manufacturing - such as tax clarity for data centres, incentives for rare earth mineral extraction, and relaxed SEZ export rules - seek to enhance strategic sector growth. Customs and indirect tax reforms, including simplified warehousing, extended advance ruling validity, and streamlined duty planning, aim to reduce compliance burdens and facilitate smoother trade. Overall, the Budget charts a gradual, technology-driven, investment-aligned path that balances fiscal stability with operational efficiency, supply chain facilitation, and long-term competitiveness.

PhonePe launches AI-powered natural language search built on Microsoft Foundry

PhonePe has launched an AI-powered natural language search feature using Microsoft Foundry, allowing users to navigate, pay, and track transactions via simple voice or text commands. The tool replaces traditional menus with intent-based routing, interpreting user requests-like sending payments, recharging FASTag, or checking gold prices-while keeping all data secure on-device and in the cloud. This marks a shift toward a more intelligent, user-centric platform that anticipates user needs and enhances convenience and personalization.

"We aim to simplify digital payments further by understanding intent, not just inputs."

US tariff cut to 10% boosts outlook for India's labour-intensive exports; pharma, textiles among key gainers

The US has cut reciprocal tariffs on Indian goods from 25% to 10%, a move expected to significantly enhance the competitiveness of India's labour-intensive sectors, including pharmaceuticals, electronics, engineering goods, textiles, and gems and jewellery, in the American market. This development follows a US Supreme Court ruling that struck down the broad tariffs imposed under former President Donald Trump, declaring them illegal and beyond presidential authority. In response, the US announced a temporary 10% ad valorem import surcharge on affected goods for 150 days starting February 24. Industry representatives, including the Federation of Indian Export Organisations, expect the tariff reduction to boost outbound shipments and strengthen India's position in one of its key export markets. Exporters, particularly in leather and textiles, have noted that the move will make Indian products more competitive, helping to increase market share and support growth in labour-intensive manufacturing sectors.

US Tariff Cut: Reciprocal tariffs on Indian goods reduced from 25% to 10%, boosting competitiveness in key sectors.

2. Export Impact: Expected to increase Indian exports, especially in labour-intensive industries like textiles, pharmaceuticals, and gems.

PM Modi flags off India's first Namo Bharat RRTS

The 82 km Delhi-Meerut Namo Bharat Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) and the Meerut Metro were inaugurated at Shatabdi Nagar Station in Uttar Pradesh, with rides taken along the corridor and interactions with passengers and students. India's first RRTS, designed for speeds up to 180 km/h, connects major urban centres including Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Modinagar, and Meerut to Delhi, cutting travel time significantly. The Meerut Metro, operating on the same corridor, is the country's fastest metro system, reaching speeds of 120 km/h and covering the route in just 30 minutes.

India and E.U. conclude landmark Free Trade Agreement

India and the EU have concluded a historic free trade agreement (FTA), marking the most ambitious trade opening India has ever granted and significantly strengthening economic and political ties between the world's two largest democracies. The deal provides EU businesses privileged access to India's $3.4 trillion economy and 1.45 billion consumers, with major tariff reductions on cars, machinery, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and agri-food products, while sensitive sectors remain protected. It also expands access to India's services market, including financial services and maritime transport, and strengthens intellectual property protections, facilitating smoother trade and investment. The agreement includes a dedicated chapter on trade and sustainable development, promoting environmental protection, climate action, workers' rights, and women's empowerment, with EU support of €500 million to help India accelerate its sustainable industrial transformation. By creating predictable, rules-based market access and opportunities for SMEs and large businesses alike, the FTA positions India as a key partner in global trade and underscores its role in shaping inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

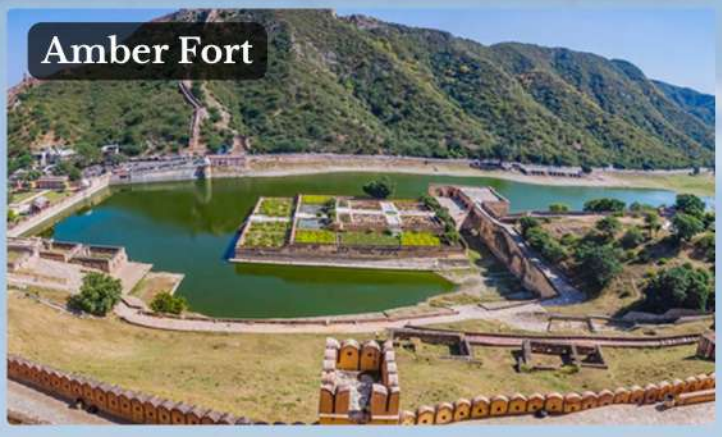
- Tariff Reductions: Major cuts on cars, machinery, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and agri-food products, with sensitive sectors protected.
- Sustainability & Climate: Dedicated chapter on trade and sustainable development, with €500 million EU support for India's green transition.
- 5. Business Opportunities: Enhanced market access and predictability for SMEs and large businesses, boosting trade and investment.

Brazil's Embraer and Mahindra deepen ties to boost C-390 aircraft capabilities in India

Embraer and the Mahindra Group are set to deepen cooperation on India's C-390 Millennium military transport aircraft program, focusing on developing domestic Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) capabilities. Aligned with the 'Make in India' initiative, the partnership will support indigenous defence manufacturing, create employment, and enhance India's aerospace sector, potentially positioning the country as a regional hub for aircraft support and maintenance. The C-390 Millennium, capable of transport, medical evacuation, refueling, and carrying large payloads, will integrate Indian companies into the global value chain, strengthen manufacturing capabilities, and support both Indian and global fleets.

Rajasthan - History painted by the sands

Rajasthan, known as the "Land of Kings" and India's largest desert state, is a captivating destination in northern India that mesmerise travellers from around the world. The state presents a harmonious blend of lively cities, hospitable locals, exquisite cuisine, majestic palaces, and grand forts. Rajasthan offers a perfect travel experience, seamlessly fusing timeless allure with contemporary charm. This enchanting state beckons you with a symphony of vibrant cultures, a canvas painted with tales of valour, and landscapes that will steal your heart. Rajasthan's major attractions are like precious gems, each with its unique brilliance



Rajasthan wears its regal history proudly, and its heritage sites are living testaments to the grandeur of its past. Perched on a hill in Jaipur, the Amber Fort is a magnificent example of Rajput architecture. The intricate designs, ornate gateways, and sweeping views of Maota Lake below make it a must-visit destination. The City Palace of Udaipur is a splendid complex of palaces, courtyards, and gardens overlooking Lake Pichola. Its exquisite architecture and museums showcase the artistic and cultural heritage of Rajasthan's royalty. Jaipur's iconic Hawa Mahal, also known as the "Palace of Winds," is a unique five-story structure with a honeycomb façade. It was built to allow royal ladies to watch street processions while remaining hidden from view.

Beyond its royal heritage, Rajasthan boasts a diverse and captivating natural landscape. The Thar Desert, also known as the Great Indian Desert, stretches across Rajasthan and offers a surreal landscape of golden sands and undulating dunes. A camel safari through the desert is an unforgettable experience. Rajasthan's only hill station, Mount Abu, is a lush oasis amid the arid terrain. The cool climate, serene lakes, and verdant forests make it a perfect retreat for nature lovers. Keoladeo National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is a haven for birdwatchers. It is home to over 370 species of birds, including migratory ones, making it a paradise for ornithologists.

Udaipur, with its romantic lakes and palaces, is often called the "Venice of the East." Jaisalmer, situated in the heart of the Thar Desert, is renowned for its golden sandstone architecture. The Jaisalmer Fort, Patwon Ki Haveli, and the desert safaris are major draws. Jodhpur, with its blue-painted houses, is dominated by the majestic Mehrangarh Fort. The Umaid Bhawan Palace and Jaswant Thada are other highlights of this vibrant city. Pushkar is famous for its annual camel fair and the only Brahma Temple in the world. The town's spiritual aura and the bustling bazaars make it a unique destination. Rajasthan is a living, breathing testament to India's rich history, vibrant culture, and diverse landscapes.

"Step into the pages of a fairy tale, where palaces and forts whisper stories of valour"

Upcoming Business Expos in India

Bharat Electricity Summit

19 - 22 March, 2026 |Yashobhoomi, New Delhi |
Website: https://www.bharatelectricitysummit.com/

The Bharat Electricity Summit 2026 will be held as a high-level platform bringing together policymakers, power sector regulators, utilities, grid operators, equipment manufacturers, technology providers, and investors to address key issues facing India's electricity sector. The summit will focus on power generation, transmission and distribution reforms, grid modernization, renewable energy integration, energy storage, electric mobility, and the digital transformation of power infrastructure. Discussions will also cover regulatory frameworks, financing requirements, and investment opportunities needed to support India's rising power demand and long-term energy security objectives

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INDIASOFT 2026

23 – 25 March, 2026 | New Delhi |
Website: https://indiasoft.org/delegates-registration/

INDIASOFT 2026 will bring together Indian and international technology companies, buyers, startups, and public sector stakeholders as a key business platform for the software and IT services industry. The event will cover a wide range of segments including software products, IT services, SaaS, fintech, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and enterprise digital transformation. It will focus on strengthening B2B engagement, supporting technology partnerships, and expanding export and market access opportunities for Indian firms

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Bharat International Rice Conference (BIRC) 2026

23 – 25 October, 2026 | Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi |
Website: https://iref.net/

The Bharat International Rice Conference (BIRC) 2026 will assemble industry leaders, government representatives, exporters, millers, and technology providers to address developments across the rice sector. Key topics will include production techniques, processing, storage solutions, supply chain optimization, trade policies, sustainability, and quality enhancement through technology. The conference will also examine market dynamics, export opportunities, and regulatory considerations, fostering collaboration between public and private stakeholders to reinforce India's competitiveness in the global rice industry.

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