

BRICS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

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AJAY KUMAR BANGER

DIRECTOR, PINNACLE GROUP

Mr. Banger primarily deals in NRI property management services worldwide, providing comprehensive solutions for property acquisition, management, and investment guidance. Alongside this, he offers business consultation services to a diverse range of enterprises, supporting strategic growth and operational efficiency. His expertise also extends to the import and export of various goods, leveraging global trade networks and market knowledge to drive business success.

Pinnacle Group is a multifaceted organization specializing in NRI property management, business consultancy, and international trade. With a strong commitment to excellence and innovation, Pinnacle Group supports clients globally by delivering tailored solutions that enhance business growth, streamline property investments, and facilitate cross-border trade.



ALMAS SONI

DIRECTOR, STUDIO 19 FILMS

Almas Soni is a dynamic and multitalented entrepreneur who wears many hats. As the Director of Studio 19 Films, she brings her creative vision to life in the world of cinema and entertainment. Additionally, she runs a renowned beauty pageant school, The International Celebrity Makeup Academy, where aspiring makeup artists receive world-class training. She is also the visionary behind Alroz Aviation Institute, a leading institute in aviation education.

Her diverse portfolio of businesses showcases her passion for grooming and education, making her a true force in the world of entertainment, beauty, and aviation. With her expertise in event management, digital marketing, and talent development, she continues to elevate Studio 19 Films to new heights.



INSIGHTS ON BUDGET 2026 BY BRICS CCI

BRICS CCI organized a session on discussing valuable insights of the union budget 2026-27 which was primarily aimed towards :

- Discussion on key highlights and economic priorities of Union Budget 2026
- Sector-wise impact and policy insights.
- Expert perspectives on growth, reforms, and investment outlook.
- Interactive session with opportunity for audience engagement.

*The panel featured **CA SARTHAK GARG** (Partner, Garg Manoj & Associates and Convener, BRICS CCI, Indirect Tax Vertical) , **Adv. Soumya panda** (Founding Partner, S.K. Panda & Associates), **Adv. (CA) Prakash Sinha** (Partner - FINJURIS LLP (A Legal wing of - Prakash Sachin & Co), **CA Anjali Gupta** (Partner, SPNG & Co) and **CA Pranshu Goel** (Partner, Ashok Pranshu & Co. Convener, BRICS CCI, Direct Tax Vertical)*

INDIA AI IMPACT SUMMIT 2026



The India AI Impact Summit 2026 convened policymakers, industry leaders, startups, researchers, and innovators to explore the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence across sectors. The summit witnessed participation from delegates representing countries including South Africa, France, Ireland, the United Kingdom, and India, fostering cross-border dialogue and global collaboration.

Key discussions focused on responsible AI development, emerging technologies, startup innovation, regulatory frameworks, and real-world applications across healthcare, finance, manufacturing, and governance. With international engagement and strong participation from Indian MSMEs, the summit served as a strategic platform for knowledge exchange, networking, and partnership-building, reinforcing India's expanding role in the global AI ecosystem.



BRICS CCI AT THE INDIA AI IMPACT SUMMIT' 26

BRICS Chamber of Commerce & Industry recently participated in the India AI Impact Summit 2026 and organized a session on "Shifting the Narrative Towards Women Entrepreneurship in AI." The discussion spotlighted women's growing leadership and entrepreneurial role in the evolving AI ecosystem.

FROM IMPLEMENTERS TO INNOVATORS: SHIFTING THE NARRATIVE TOWARDS WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN AI



Organised by the **BRICS Chamber of Commerce & Industry We vertical**, under the AI Impact Summit 2026, this panel explored how women are moving beyond traditional supporting roles to become innovators, leaders, and entrepreneurs shaping the future of Artificial Intelligence.

The discussion examined the opportunities and challenges women encounter as they transition from being consumers of AI technologies to becoming primary architects of innovative AI solutions. Speakers highlighted the importance of inclusive innovation, ethical AI development, and global collaboration in creating stronger pathways for women-led enterprises in the AI ecosystem.



The panel featured distinguished speakers including **Mr. Bibin Babu** (Founder, GrowQr AI; Co-Founder, Paycio), **Ms. Amrita Chowdhury** (Co-Founder & CEO, Gaia), **Ms. Natalya Popova** (Innopraktika), **Ms. Ruby Sinha** (President, BRICS CCI WE; Founder, Sheatwork), **Ms. Shivani Singh Kapoor** (Co-Founder, ThinkStartup), and **Nigela Guimaraes** (Director of Global Strategic Partnerships, Instituto +Mulheres; Founder & Co-curator, AIR Rio 2026), who shared insights on enabling women-led innovation and strengthening global cooperation to build a more inclusive AI-driven future.

UNION BUDGET 2026-27 ANALYSIS

Expenditure: ₹53.47 lakh crore, up 7.7%; interest payments form 26% of total spending.

Receipts: ₹36.51 lakh crore (excluding borrowings), up 7.2%; tax revenue to grow 8%.

GDP Growth: Nominal growth estimated at 10%.

Deficits: Revenue deficit at 1.5% of GDP; fiscal deficit at 4.3%.

Debt: Liabilities at 55.6% of GDP, with a target of ~50% by 2031.

Source: PRSIndia, February 1, 2026



India Hosts First BRICS Sherpa/Sous-Sherpa Meeting Under Its Chairship from Feb 09-Feb 11, 2026 at New Delhi.

A Sherpa meeting is a preparatory meeting held before major international summits, where each country's appointed Sherpa the personal representative of its head of government negotiates agenda items, drafts joint declarations, and builds consensus on key issues such as development, climate, health, and education.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- The first BRICS Sherpa and Sous-Sherpa Meeting under India's chairmanship was held in New Delhi, where member countries discussed priorities and coordination plans ahead of the upcoming BRICS Summit.
- The theme for BRICS 2026, "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation, and Sustainability," reflects India's focus on inclusive growth, development cooperation, and global stability.
- On the sidelines of the BRICS Sherpa meeting, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri held the India-China Strategic Dialogue with China's Executive Vice Foreign Minister Ma Zhaoxu, visiting India for BRICS consultations. Both sides reviewed progress in stabilising bilateral relations and discussed regional and global developments.
- This is the fourth time India has assumed BRICS Chairship (previously in 2012, 2016, and 2021)

INDIA - BRAZIL TRADE DEAL



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Partnership on Rare Earth & Critical Minerals exploration, processing, and supply chain security
- Target set : \$20 Billion+ trade growth
- Boost to tech, clean energy & strategic cooperation
- Support for battery manufacturing and renewable energy ecosystems
- Strengthened strategic and South-South cooperation under the BRICS framework

UAE AND INDONESIA TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION IN ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY



President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and President of Indonesia Prabowo Subianto held talks in Abu Dhabi. The meeting focused on the implementation of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between the two countries.

The parties discussed the development of partnership in the fields of economy and trade. Particular attention was paid to renewable energy, technology, artificial intelligence, sustainable development and food security.

BRAZIL AND INDIA SIGN STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP TO BOOST CANCER DRUG PRODUCTION



Brazil and India have signed three strategic “Partnerships for Productive Development” to guarantee the supply of key cancer medicines for patients treated under Brazil’s Unified Health System. The partnerships will ensure access to pertuzumab, dasatinib and nivolumab, medicines used in the treatment of breast cancer, skin cancer and certain types of leukaemia.



MS. PRITI GOEL

Founder & CEO of Prisha Wealth Management Private Limited, a SEBI Registered Investment Adviser (INA000019202); and Partner & CEO of Avinav Consulting; and Author – Dhanaisha, Cherished Wealth

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND FINANCIAL ADVISORY: A STRATEGIC PERSPECTIVE FOR THE FUTURE OF WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping the global financial ecosystem. From investment analysis to client engagement, AI is enabling financial advisory firms to move from reactive decision-making to predictive intelligence. For wealth managers and financial advisors, AI is not merely a technological upgrade, it represents a strategic shift in how investment advice is generated, delivered, and experienced by clients.

For the financial advisory industry across BRICS economies, where rising wealth, digital adoption, and expanding investor participation are converging, AI is becoming a powerful enabler of scalable and intelligent advisory models.

Below are key dimensions through which AI is transforming financial advisory.

DATA-DRIVEN INVESTMENT INTELLIGENCE

Financial markets generate vast and complex datasets. From macroeconomic indicators and corporate earnings to global capital flows and geopolitical developments. AI enables advisors to:

- Process large datasets within seconds
- Detect patterns and correlations across asset classes
- Identify emerging investment opportunities earlier
- Generate predictive insights based on historical and real-time data

For investors, this means more informed and evidence-based investment strategies rather than purely intuition-driven decisions.

SMARTER PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION

AI-powered algorithms can analyse thousands of securities simultaneously and simulate multiple market scenarios. Key benefits include:

- More efficient asset allocation models
- Better diversification across geographies and sectors
- Continuous portfolio monitoring and rebalancing
- Stress testing portfolios under various macroeconomic scenarios

This capability is particularly relevant in a world where global markets are increasingly interconnected and volatile.

HYPER-PERSONALIZED FINANCIAL ADVISORY

One of the most significant advantages of AI lies in personalization. Modern AI systems can analyse:

- Client income patterns
- Spending behaviour
- Risk tolerance
- Investment horizon
- Life goals such as retirement, education, or legacy planning

Using these insights, advisors can design customized wealth strategies at scale, enabling financial advisory firms to serve a larger and more diverse client base without compromising quality.

ENHANCED RISK MANAGEMENT

Global markets today are influenced by multiple complex variables including:

- Interest rate cycles
- Inflation dynamics
- Currency fluctuations
- Geopolitical tensions
- Commodity price movements

AI tools continuously monitor these variables and provide early warning signals about emerging risks. Advisors can therefore proactively adjust portfolio strategies rather than reacting after, market disruptions occur.

OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTIVITY

AI is also transforming the operational side of advisory firms. Routine processes such as:

- Data aggregation
- Portfolio reporting
- Compliance monitoring
- Client onboarding
- Document analysis

can now be automated through AI-driven platforms. This allows financial advisors to spend more time on strategic advisory, relationship building, and long-term wealth planning.

STRENGTHENING CLIENT ENGAGEMENT

AI-enabled tools such as intelligent dashboards, predictive analytics, and conversational interfaces are improving the client experience. Clients today expect:

- Real-time portfolio insights
- Transparent performance reporting
- Faster responses to queries
- Digital engagement alongside human advice

AI helps advisory firms deliver this seamless combination of technology and trust.

THE HUMAN-AI PARTNERSHIP

Despite its capabilities, AI cannot replace the human element of financial advisory. Wealth management ultimately involves:

- Understanding client emotions and behavioural biases
- Navigating family and succession dynamics
- Providing reassurance during market volatility
- Aligning investments with life goals and values

The most effective model therefore is a Human-AI partnership, where technology strengthens analytical capabilities while advisors provide wisdom, judgment, and trust.

CONCLUSION

Artificial Intelligence is poised to redefine the financial advisory landscape across BRICS economies and the wider global financial system.

Advisory firms that successfully integrate AI into their investment processes, risk management frameworks, and client engagement models will be better positioned to deliver:

- Smarter investment decisions
- Scalable advisory services
- Enhanced client experiences
- Sustainable long-term wealth creation

In the future of wealth management, AI will not replace financial advisors, it will empower them to become more insightful, efficient, and impactful than ever before.

DISCLOSURES

- Investment in securities market is subject to market risks. Read all the related documents carefully before investing.
- The securities quoted are for illustration only and are not recommendatory.
- Registration granted by SEBI, membership of BASL (in case of IAs) and certification from NISM in no way guarantee performance of the intermediary or provide any assurance of returns to investors.



MR. RAHUL BAGGA

*Founder - Aumirah
Member, BRICS CCI*

5G AND 6G STANDARD ESSENTIAL PATENTS: INDIA'S BRIDGE TO BRICS TECHNOLOGICAL SOVEREIGNTY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

India confronts a defining moment in the 5G-to-6G transition where Standard Essential Patents (SEPs) delineate technological sovereignty. China commands ~26% of global declarations through Huawei/ZTE; India holds 2-3% but accelerates via Bharat 6G Mission and PLI schemes.

This paper positions India as BRICS critical standards bridge translating China's technical dominance into collective bargaining power, evolving from implementer to co-architect of global connectivity norms.

STANDARD ESSENTIAL PATENTS: TECHNICAL FOUNDATIONS

SEPs safeguard inventions indispensable to standards promulgated by 3GPP/ETSI. 5G spans radio access, encoding, protocols, semiconductors; 6G envisions AI-native networks, terahertz spectra, satellite-terrestrial fusion, quantum channels. FRAND licensing balances innovation incentives against interoperability mandates.

GLOBAL SEP LANDSCAPE: INDIA'S STRATEGIC POSITIONING:

China dominates (26%+ 5G families), US/Europe entrenched, India emergent. Bharat 6G Mission and PLI schemes fuel 2-3% share growth. Within expanded BRICS (10+members post-2024), India uniquely bridges China's SSO dominance with other nations' implementation capacity positioned neither as hegemon nor dependent

INNOVATION SOVEREIGNTY IMPERATIVE: STANDARDS AUTHORSHIP

The original thesis endures: India must transcend its vast market scale, becoming a standards-creating power. Three strategic pivots execute this metamorphosis:

1. Pre-Standardization R&D Leadership: Target AI-native networks, O-RAN, semiconductors, satcom integration
2. Institutional Architecture: Specialized IP tribunals, FRAND valuation benches, expedited SEP prosecution
3. Ecosystem Mobilization: Jio/Airtel operators, OEMs, deep-tech startups driving SSO contributions

INDIA AS BRICS STANDARDS BRIDGE: THE NEW PERSPECTIVE

India occupies BRICS' strategic center: China provides technical firepower, India translates into normative influence, newer members (Egypt/Iran/UAE) amplify market scale. This architecture yields:

- Pooled BRICS patent portfolios counterbalancing Western licensing regimes
- Unified SSO advocacy preventing 6G fragmentation
- Royalty recirculation within BRICS economies versus Western extraction
- Normative leadership shaping FRAND evolution globally

India's ascent multiplies BRICS's collective weight from 15% to standards dominance.

OPERATIONAL ROADMAP FOR INDIA:

1. Legislative: Codify SEP fast-track examination, technical IP benches
2. Financial: \$10B+ 6G R&D corpus by 2030, SME patent grants
3. Diplomatic: BRICS patent analytics hubs, coordinated SSO contributions
4. Industrial: Mandate operator/OEM standards participation

FIVE CHALLENGES, FIVE SOLUTIONS

1. Geopolitical: US-China schism → BRICS-neutral standards consortia
2. Border frictions: India-China tensions → Technical firewalls, parallel tracks
3. Capital: THz infrastructure costs → Pooled BRICS investment vehicles
4. Regulatory: SEP/antitrust confusion → BRICS-aligned FRAND principles
5. Capability: R&D gaps → University-industry-Brics research corridors

6G Horizon: India's Multiplier Effect

6G fuses agentic AI, holographic sensing, quantum security. India's standards leadership creates order-of-magnitude BRICS leverage: from royalty payers to protocol authors, from technology consumers to normative lodestars.

Policy Imperatives

1. Legislate SEP fast-tracking, technical IP benches
2. \$10B+ 6G R&D corpus by 2030
3. Mandate SSO participation across telecom stack
4. Engineer BRICS patent pools
5. Harmonize competition law with standards strategy

Inference:

5G/6G SEPs constitute digital hegemony's currency. India—bridging China's technical primacy with BRICS' collective scale—transforms from standards bystander to Global South lodestar. This ascent redefines connectivity's geopolitical economy.



MR. GAURAV MAHAJAN

*Partner- The Percept Laws
Member, BRICS CCI*

KARNATAKA'S SOCIAL MEDIA BAN FOR MINORS: THE POLICY SIGNAL AND ITS FAULT LINES

On March 6, 2026, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced, in the course of presenting the state's budget for 2026–27, that social media access would be banned for children under the age of 16 (“**Ban**”), making Karnataka the first Indian state to formally adopt such a measure. The stated objective is to counter the "adverse effects of increasing mobile usage on children." The announcement follows Australia's landmark nationwide ban, and sits alongside a growing wave of similar proposals across France, Spain, Indonesia, and several other jurisdictions. Goa and Andhra Pradesh are reportedly considering comparable restrictions.

The concern animating the Ban is not without basis. Indian adolescents reportedly spend between three to seven hours daily on social media. Research has consistently linked heavy platform use to anxiety, depression, cyberbullying, and disordered eating among teenagers. The recent Grok scandal, where an AI system generated sexual deepfakes of minors, has sharply accelerated legislative urgency on this front globally, and India's own Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Amendment Rules, 2026, notified as recently as February 20, 2026, already introduce a dedicated regulatory framework for AI-generated harmful content, including deepfakes. That these two policy conversations are running in parallel is not coincidental, both are expressions of the same underlying concern that digital platforms, as currently designed and governed, offer inadequate protection to younger users.

The symbolic weight of Karnataka's announcement is also real. Bengaluru is India's technology capital, home to the regional offices of tech giants such as Meta, Google, Microsoft, Amazon etc. A digital restriction originating from this geography carries a signal that travels beyond state boundaries. The Union IT Minister of India has confirmed active discussions with platforms on age-based restrictions, and India's Chief Economic Adviser had already publicly backed such measures. The direction of travel, at least rhetorically, is clear. The difficulty is that the Ban, as presently announced, is constitutionally precarious.

The difficulty is that the Ban as presently announced is operationally hollow. No draft legislation, no subordinate regulation, no age verification mechanism, and no implementation date have followed the announcement. A measure introduced through a budget speech, without any accompanying framework for how it will actually function, raises an obvious question: what, precisely, has been banned? The announcement tells platforms and users what the government intends, but nothing about how that intention translates into enforceable obligation. Until these questions are answered, the Ban exists as a political statement rather than a regulatory instrument. Moreover, the choice of 16 years of age follows Australia's lead rather than any independent reasoning. Australia picked it as a workable middle ground between the existing platform minimum of 13 and the legally fraught territory of 18. Karnataka has simply borrowed the number, without pausing to ask whether it sits comfortably alongside India's own data protection regulation, which already treats anyone under 18 as a child.

Platforms currently rely on self-declared age at sign-up, which teenagers routinely circumvent, for instance, the TikTok ban of 2020 demonstrated as much domestically. Meaningful enforcement would require hard identity verification, likely Aadhaar-linked, for every user accessing a platform. The consequence is a surveillance architecture that centralises sensitive biometric data across a billion-user base, destroying online anonymity in the process and still failing to stop determined minors with access to VPNs or false identification. Australia resolved this by placing the compliance burden on platforms rather than users, with fines of up to A\$49.5 million for violations. Whether India's eventual framework (if one materializes) follows that model or opts for user-side verification is entirely unclear. Then there is the question of scope, and it is one that proponents of the Ban have not satisfactorily answered. The harms attributed to social media, addictive design, exposure to harmful content, predatory behaviour, and unrestricted peer interaction are not exclusive to Instagram or Facebook. Online gaming platforms present an identical, and in some respects more acute, risk profile. Roblox, which is among the most widely used platforms by children globally, operates as an immersive social environment where children interact with strangers in real time, often without meaningful parental oversight. Another example is Discord, technically a communication platform but functionally a gaming-adjacent social network hosts thousands of unmoderated communities where minors are present and where harmful content and predatory contact are documented concerns. A regulatory framework that targets social media while leaving online gaming sphere untouched is not a coherent child protection policy, it is a selective intervention that addresses the most visible part of the problem while ignoring comparable risks that operate in adjacent spaces. If the legislative intent is genuinely to protect children from digital harm, the scope of regulation needs to follow the harm, not the label.

There is also a quieter problem that the Ban does not address at all: India already has a child data protection framework, and it hasn't been used. The Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023 (“**DPDPA**”) mandates verifiable parental consent before platforms process a child's data, prohibits behavioural tracking and targeted advertising directed at minors, and prescribes penalties of up to ₹200 crore for violations. These provisions have been notified but not enforced. The debate over a social media ban is proceeding as though this framework does not exist.

Beyond the legal infirmities, there is a substantive policy concern worth sitting with. A ban that successfully displaces teenagers off mainstream platforms does not reduce their digital activity, it simply redirects it toward encrypted messaging groups, anonymous forums, and unmonitored spaces where moderation is absent and harmful content operates without any institutional check. The platforms being banned are, whatever their failings, accountable to regulators and maintain reporting mechanisms. Age-gating also risks giving platforms a convenient compliance shield, they can point to access restrictions while leaving untouched the algorithmic architectures, infinite scroll designs, and engagement-maximising notification systems that generate the harms in the first place.

Karnataka's announcement is a legitimate opening to a necessary conversation. The harms motivating it are real, and the global direction of policy is clear. But a questionable state announcement, with no implementation mechanism and no engagement with the existing DPDPA framework, is a considerable distance from the calibrated, enforceable policy that the problem actually demands.

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- *The views expressed in this article do not represent the official position of any organization, institution, employer, or client with which the authors may be associated and expressly disclaims any liability arising from reliance on this article for legal, commercial, or regulatory decision-making purposes.*
- *This article is intended for academic, analytical, and informational purposes only. It does not constitute legal advice, a binding interpretation of law, or a policy directive.*

INDIA OFFERS THE WORLD A NEW AI ROADMAP, ANNOUNCING THE 'NEW DELHI FRONTIER AI IMPACT COMMITMENTS'



India launched the 'New Delhi Frontier AI Impact Commitments' at the India AI Impact Summit-2026, marking its resolve to become a leader in AI policy that will drive development and inclusiveness in the world. Introduced by Union Minister of Railways, Information Broadcasting, Electronics, and Information Technology, Mr. Ashwini Vaishnaw, at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, the initiative focuses on data-driven policymaking, with a strong emphasis on the development of multilingual and culturally aware AI systems.

<https://www.ibef.org/news/india-offers-the-world-a-new-ai-roadmap-announcing-the-new-delhi-frontier-ai-impact-commitments>

INDIA ENGAGING INDUSTRY, SEEKING GLOBAL CONSENSUS ON AI COPYRIGHT FRAMEWORK: ASHWINI VAISHNAW

NEW DELHI: India is engaging with the industry to identify the right technical and legal structures to ensure that artificial intelligence (AI) does not infringe upon the copyrights of content creators, said Minister of Electronics and IT (MeitY) Ashwini Vaishnaw on Monday.

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/business/2026/Feb/16/india-engaging-industry-seeking-global-consensus-on-ai-copyright-framework-ashwini-vaishnaw>



RELIANCE'S \$110 BILLION AI PIVOT



New Delhi: Reliance Industries chairman and managing director Mukesh Ambani on Thursday said his conglomerate has lined up investments of \$110 billion (Rs 10 lakh crore) to build India's sovereign artificial intelligence infrastructure. At a scale befitting India's ambition, the oil-to-telecom conglomerate plans to invest the mega-sum over seven years to build India's sovereign artificial intelligence infrastructure, including data centres and a nationwide edge compute network, Ambani said.

JIO'S TRADEMARK RIGHT REAFFIRMED



On February 19, 2026, legal authorities reaffirmed Jio's status as a "well-known" trademark in a case against cab operators using the name "JioCabs". The ruling prevents third parties from "free-riding" on the brand's reputation, even for unrelated goods or services.

<https://ssrana.in/articles/jios-trademark-right-reaffirmed-no-free-ride-on-a-well-known-mark/>

INDIA, UNITED STATES SIGN PAX SILICA DECLARATION AT INDIA AI IMPACT SUMMIT

The Pax Silica Declaration has been signed between India and the United States, marking a major milestone in the efforts to improve cooperation between the two nations in Artificial Intelligence (AI). The Pax Silica Declaration is a commitment to the development of responsible, secure, and inclusive AI, and it also seeks to promote innovation and democratic principles. The document aims to strengthen cooperation in key areas such as research, human resource

development, AI governance structures, and the application of AI solutions in various sectors. The Pax Silica Declaration also emphasizes the need to develop robust and transparent digital ecosystems, ensure data security and privacy, and use AI technologies in an ethical manner.

<https://www.ibef.org/news/india-united-states-sign-pax-silica-declaration-at-india-ai-impact-summit>



BHARAT GI UNIFIED BRAND LAUNCH



Google and Alphabet CEO, Mr. Sundar Pichai visited the Bharat GI Coffee Lounge, organized by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), during the India AI Impact Summit 2026. Savoring Malabar Arabica, Mr. Pichai interacted with baristas and experienced the rich flavors of India's premium GI-tagged coffees.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=2230299®=6&lang=1>

ADANI COMMITS USD 100 BN TO SOVEREIGN AI INFRASTRUCTURE



This direct investment, one of the world's largest integrated energy-compute commitments, will catalyse an additional USD 150 billion intelligence ecosystem over the decade and establish India's energy-compute backbone for the AI age.

Ahmedabad, 17 February 2026: The Adani Group today announced one of the world's largest integrated energy-compute commitments, a direct investment of USD 100 billion to develop renewable-energy-powered, hyperscale AI-ready data centres by 2035. The initiative will establish a long-term sovereign energy and compute platform designed to position India as a global leader in the emerging Intelligence Revolution.

<https://www.adani.com/newsroom/media-releases/adani-commits-usd-100-bn-to-sovereign-ai-infrastructure>

UNION BUDGET 2026

Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman tabled the Union Budget 2026-27 in the parliament today.

The first Budget prepared in Kartavya Bhawan, is inspired by 3 kartavyas:

- First kartavya is to accelerate and sustain economic growth, by enhancing productivity and competitiveness, and building resilience to volatile global dynamics.
- Second kartavya is to fulfil aspirations of people and build their capacity, making them strong partners in India's path to prosperity
- Third kartavya, aligned with vision of Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, is to ensure that every family, community, region and sector has access to resources, amenities and opportunities for meaningful participation.



<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2221455®=3&lang=2>

CCI V. SWAPAN DEY: WHO DECIDES EXCLUSIVITY OR EXCLUSION?



When does the exercise of patent rights become an antitrust violation? The apex court is now poised to answer a question that remains at the intersection of “innovation in a healthy competitive market” and “market regulation.” Recently, in *Competition Commission of India v. Swapan Dey & Another*,^[1] the Supreme Court (SC) has stepped into a core jurisdictional conflict to determine whether the Competition Commission of India (CCI), the chief national antitrust regulator in India, can investigate anti-competitive actions arising from the application of patent rights. The SC has recently stayed some contentious portions of a National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) order,^[2] which shielded patent disputes from CCI scrutiny and reopened one of the consequential debates in Indian antitrust law jurisprudence.

<https://www.livelaw.in/articles/cci-swapandey-nclat-523291>

INVITATION TO IP MANTHAN ON “DESIGNS FILING AND EXAMINATION IN THE EU AND INDIA” ON 26 FEBRUARY 2026

We are pleased to inform that an IP Manthan session is being organised by the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks (O/o CGPDTM), in collaboration with the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), to deliberate on:

- Comparative framework for design protection in India and the European Union
- Filing procedures and formal requirements in both jurisdictions
- Examination practices and substantive considerations
- Exchange of best practices and institutional experiences



IP Manthan 2026
Explores the Future
of Computer-
Related Invention
Patents

<https://ipindia.gov.in/Home/NewsDetail?>

[News=Invitation%20to%20IP%20Manthan%20on%20%E2%80%9CDesigns%20filing%20and%20Examination%20in%20the%20EU%20and%20India%E2%80%9D%20on%2026%20February%202026](https://ipindia.gov.in/Home/NewsDetail?News=Invitation%20to%20IP%20Manthan%20on%20%E2%80%9CDesigns%20filing%20and%20Examination%20in%20the%20EU%20and%20India%E2%80%9D%20on%2026%20February%202026)

MOUNJARO-MAKER ELI LILLY TARGETS INDIA AS GLOBAL EXPORT HUB AMID BOOMING SALES, EXECUTIVE SAYS



Hyderabad: Mounjaro-maker Eli Lilly wants to turn India into a hub for its global supply chain, a senior executive at the U.S. drugmaker said, as part of its previously committed \$1 billion investment to contract manufacturing in the country.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/pharmaceuticals/mounjaro-maker-eli-lilly-targets-india-as-global-export-hub-amid-booming-mounjaro-sales-executive-says/articleshow/128458856.cms?from=mdr>

MARUTI SUZUKI LAUNCHES E VITARA AT ₹10.99 LAKH PLUS BATTERY RENTAL

Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. (Maruti Suzuki) said it had commenced deliveries of the e VITARA at an introductory price of ₹10.99 lakh plus battery EMI of ₹3.99/km.

The e Vitara is available in two battery options – 61kWh and 49kWh – with a driving range of up to 543 km. The Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV) is available in two battery packs, and the highest range is 543 km in one charge, the company said. The company has laid an elaborate charging infrastructure across the country to address the range anxiety in the mind of its customers.

<https://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/maruti-suzuki-launches-e-vitara-at-1099-lakh-plus-battery-rental/article70642775.ece>



READY FOR QUANTUM COMPUTING INITIATIVE IN UTTAR PRADESH: YOGI



Chief minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the IBM AI GovTech Innovation Centre in Lucknow on Sunday. It will serve as a collaborative platform to design, validate and scale AI solutions that enhance productivity, transparency and service delivery, with models built for replication and broader adoption.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/lucknow-news/ready-for-quantum-computing-initiative-in-uttar-pradeshyogi-101771787927098.html>

TATA COMMUNICATIONS LAUNCHES THREE ENTERPRISE SOLUTIONS FOR THE AI AGE



Tata Communications on Friday launched three AI-ready suite of platforms and solutions for enterprises. Speaking to businessline, the company said it will significantly bring down traffic costs and latency periods.

The offerings include multi cloud network IZO+, Edge Distribution Platform, and ThreadSpan that remove silos and simplify operations and embed trust across the digital continuum. As AI moves from pilot projects to the core of business decision-making, enterprises must adapt infrastructure in preparation of AI ambitions, said the company officials.

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/tata-communications-launches-three-enterprise-solutions-for-the-ai-age/article70571517.ece>

TATA COMMUNICATIONS LAUNCHES THREE ENTERPRISE SOLUTIONS FOR THE AI AGE

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and ServiceNow, the AI control tower for business reinvention, have signed a multi-year partnership to help enterprises speed up AI adoption across their businesses and functions.

As part of this partnership, TCS will develop solutions on the ServiceNow platform that will use trusted AI and a unified governance model to make enterprise workflows more efficient, proactive, and insight-driven. These solutions will be offered through TCS' AI-led, autonomous global business solutions portfolio.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/company/corporate-trends/tcs-and-servicenow-partner-to-accelerate-large-scale-ai-adoption-for-enterprises/articleshow/128703491.cms?from=mdr>



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NOVARTIS EXITS INDIA ARM, CHRYS CAPITAL-LED GROUP BUYS 70.68% STAKE FOR ₹1,446 CRORE



Swiss drugmaker Novartis AG has agreed to sell its entire 70.68% stake in its Indian unit for Rs 1,446 crore to an investor consortium led by homegrown private equity firm ChrysCapital. Shares of Mumbai-listed Novartis India surged 20% on the news on Friday, hitting the daily upper limit.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/pharmaceuticals/novartis-exits-india-arm-chryscapital-led-group-buys-70-68-stake-for-1446-crore/articleshow/128633932.cms?from=mdr>

