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TIPS News Bulletin- January to March 2026 Issue

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TIPS Bulletin- January to March 2026

Editorial

- A major investment announcement has highlighted growing energy cooperation between India and the United States. US President Donald Trump said that Reliance Industries, led by Mukesh Ambani, will back the construction of the **first new oil refinery in the United States** in nearly 50 years. The refinery is planned at the Port of Brownsville in Texas and is part of a project described as a **"historic $300 billion deal."** The initiative aims to **boost US energy production, create jobs, and strengthen energy security** while also reflecting the expanding global presence of Reliance Industries in the international energy sector.

- India's **total exports** of goods and services have shown **strong growth**, reflecting the country's rising integration with the global economy. Between April 2025 and January 2026, India's cumulative exports reached around **$720 billion**, with services exports playing a dominant role. Sectors such as **software, business process management (BPM), consulting, and digital services** have driven this growth, supported by the expansion of **Global Capability Centres (GCCs)** established by multinational companies in India. These centres leverage India's skilled workforce to deliver technology and business services worldwide, strengthening India's position as a global hub for knowledge-based services.

- India and the European Union concluded a **landmark Free Trade Agreement in January 2026**, marking a major step in strengthening economic relations between the two regions. The agreement reduces or eliminates tariffs on more than **90% of goods traded**, including key sectors such as **machinery, textiles, chemicals, and engineering products.** This is expected to significantly boost Indian exports to Europe and expand market access for businesses on both sides. The pact also aims to deepen cooperation in services, investment, and technology while strengthening trade ties between two of the world's largest economic blocs.
- India is increasingly focusing on securing **critical minerals such as lithium and cobalt**, which are essential for electric vehicle batteries, semiconductors, and advanced technologies. To support domestic manufacturing under the **Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes**, the government and Indian companies are exploring partnerships and mining opportunities in **Africa and Latin America**, regions rich in these resources. This strategy aims to diversify supply chains and reduce heavy dependence on China, which currently dominates the global processing and supply of many critical minerals. Strengthening mineral security is considered crucial for India's long-term ambitions in clean energy, electronics manufacturing, and technological self-reliance.
- According to Larry Fink, the next 20–25 years could be the **"era of India."** Speaking at an investment discussion with Mukesh Ambani, he highlighted India's strong **domestic economy, technological progress, and growing investor participation** as key drivers of long-term growth. Fink noted that India could achieve **around 8–10% economic growth** in the coming decade and encouraged both domestic and global investors to participate in India's long-term development through capital markets and investments.

WTC Navi Mumbai Service Highlights

Financing Strategies for MSMEs and Start-ups

World Trade Center (WTC) Navi Mumbai in cooperation with Bombay Industries Association (BIA) organised a Special Seminar on the theme “Financing Strategies for MSMEs and Start-ups” on February 12, 2026.

The Seminar began with Mr. Jayant Ghate, Advisor WTC Navi Mumbai welcoming the participants and giving insights about the theme and the role of WTC Navi Mumbai. This was followed by a short video showcasing WTCA and WTCs across the globe. Thereafter, Mr. R.K. Jain of BIA welcomed the participants and shared insights about BIA and its role in supporting industry and business development.

The Seminar featured three distinguished speakers who are experts and practitioners in the sphere of Finance and International Business and made detailed presentations giving the participants their valuable experiences.

CA Mr. Parimal Sheth highlighted on the strategies that SMEs should adopt while seeking finance. He explained the importance of proper financial planning, maintaining accurate financial records, and understanding the various funding option s available to businesses. He also highlighted the common mistakes made by SMEs when approaching lenders and emphasized the need for preparedness, transparency, and a clear business vision to improve their chances of securing finance. He also highlighted the benefits of SME IPO listing as a means to raise capital, enhance credibility, and support long-term expansion.

CA Mrs. Ankita Shethia of SK Patodia, shed light upon the contribution of MSME and startup ecosystem to India’s economy, employment, and exports. She also outlined the MSME classification framework, key challenges faced by startups, and the importance of choosing appropriate funding sources at different stages of business growth. The presentation also explained various government initiatives, institutional support systems, and regulatory provisions designed to improve access to finance and strengthen the MSME sector.

Mr. Jitendra Sakpal of Rise Capital explained funding opportunities for Start-ups. He also presented the government finance schemes available for start-ups and encouraged the start-ups to take advantages thereof.

This was followed by a Q & A session and lively discussion. To sum up, the Seminar was quite insightful and left room for further discussions.

India UK Global Business Forum @ Goa

Indian Economic Development Association and Global Chamber along with the WTC Navi Mumbai organized India UK Global Business Forum at Goa on February 18, 2026. About 60 MSMEs, Start-ups and leading industrialists actively participated in this interesting and well-designed event.

Ms. Aarati Neemkar of IEDA and Global Chamber welcomed the participants and explained the theme and the need to organize this India UK GBF.She also mentioned that the theme has become relevant to major cities in India and she has received invitations from cities like Hyderabad, Bangalore etc to organize such Forum.

WTC Navi Mumbai was the Knowledge Partner for this Forum. During the inaugural session Mr. Jayant Ghate Advisor WTC Navi Mumbai presented the theme paper highlighting importance of India UK FTA and growth potential thereof. He explained the takeaways from FTA and how WTC Navi Mumbai and other WTCs can help the industry & business in trade development. Prior to the event, Mr. Ghate had requested the WTC Dublin to prepare a paper on how WTC Dublin can help Indian businesses in promotion of India's trade and investment not only with UK but also with EU and with the world. Mr. Grant Ferris of the WTC Dublin duly submitted this paper in time. And Mr. Ghate was happy to share its key findings with the participants.

Dr. Rajanya Ravasia of Adventum UK was the Chief Guest during the inaugural session. He explained the requirements of UK market and discussed the strategic approach towards reaching out and realizing its potential. He also explained importance of wealth management in this context.

Mr. Virendra Gupte WTC Navi Mumbai Faculty Expert gave the keynote address. He presented the key provisions of the FTA, current level of Indo UK trade and investment as well as growth opportunities both in goods and services sectors. He also gave some interesting examples of how FTA develops trade and investment.

Well-known Entrepreneur Padmashri Ms. Shashi Soni from Karnataka shared her Entrepreneurial Journey with the participants. She encouraged and inspired the participants by her experiences and determination to succeed in adverse environments.

The Forum also had two more interesting related panel discussions on Women Empowerment in Business and Crossborder Expansion & Market Entry in which experts and practitioners shared their thoughts and insights with participants. Further, Mr. Leenesh Singh and Mr. Jitendra Sakpal for StartupXChange presented the opportunities for Indo-UK Business Development.

WTC Navi Mumbai Strengthens Trade Partnerships

The WTC Navi Mumbai recently signed two important Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) aimed at strengthening international trade cooperation and promoting industry development related to the textile and capital goods sectors as well as trade and investment with Germany and EU.

WTC Navi Mumbai signed MoU with India ITME Society which plays a significant role in promoting the textile machinery and capital goods industries in India. The Society regularly organizes major exhibitions and industry events both domestically and internationally, providing a platform for manufacturers, technology providers, and industry stakeholders to showcase innovations and explore business opportunities.

WTC Navi Mumbai signed another MoU with German-India Trade Advisory (GITA) to collaborate in the area of International Trade and Investment. GITA is a business consulting firm dedicated to building strong partnerships between Indian businesses and German industrial partners. Through this collaboration, both organizations aim to facilitate bilateral trade, encourage cross-border investments, and create new opportunities for businesses from India and Germany. The partnership will also focus on knowledge exchange, advisory services, and promoting global market access for enterprises.

These collaborations reflect WTC Navi Mumbai's continued efforts to promote international trade, strengthen industry networks, and support sectoral growth through strategic partnerships with leading organizations.

MahaindX – Engineering and Industrial Expo 2026

Thane based associations namely, COSIA and TSSIA have planned this expo 2026 after successfully organising its first edition during 2023 which was duly supported by the WTC Navi Mumbai.

Why MahaindX 2026 is different:

- Direct access to big companies actively looking for vendors
- Pre scheduled buyer seller meetings
- Vendor registration and development programs
- Corporate procurement pavilions
- Live RFQs and structured sourcing
- Technology and process upgrade showcase
- Government and PSU participation

For Further Details Visit- http://www.mahaindx.com/

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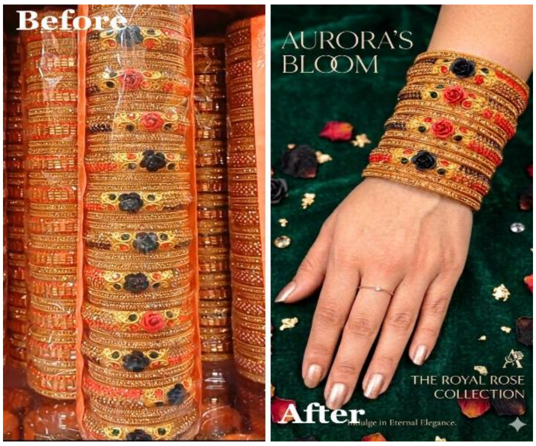

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Bridging Global Innovation and Capital

An UK India Cross Border Meet & Greet was organised at the WTC Navi Mumbai office, bringing together investors, cross-border CXOs, and key ecosystem players for high-value networking and collaboration.

Leenesh Singh, Co-Founder and CEO of StartupsXchange and Neo Executive Royal Club (NERC) leads a platform revolutionizing startup-investor connection worldwide. An IIM Ahmedabad alumnus with degrees in Computer Science and Mechanical Engineering, he transitioned from Government of India service and senior corporate roles like Chief Business Officer, Chief People Officer to ecosystem building.

Leenesh Singh excels in community curation, events, PR, and deal discovery, evaluating ventures from idea to IPO while prioritizing investor returns. His philosophy "find the signal in the noise" and connect right capital to vision drives inclusive, high-velocity partnerships. Recognized as a top global ecosystem builder, he champions diverse founders and public-private initiatives, forging ties like NREC Dubai-India, Adventum UK-India, etc.
StartupsXchange alongwith NERC India organises elite invite only events for Investor's, Cross border CXO and Family Offices in India, Dubai, Hongkong, Singapore, UK, USA, Africa, etc.

Core Offerings

- Investor-Startup Matchmaking
- Global Deal Rooms
- Mentorship & Advisory Network
- Startup Acceleration Programs
- Corporate Innovation Partnerships
- Market Access & Expansion

Jitendra Sakpal, Founder and CEO, Rise ApeX Capital is a Partner to StartupXchange and NERC.

Akshit Singh, Director of Global Partnerships & Alliances — StartupsXchange and NERC.
They have organised elite events in India, Gulf, Hongkong, Singapore, UK at the Elite venues. Recently also participated in India UK Global Business Forum event, Goa. Also conducted UK India Cross Border Meet & Greet at World Trade Center Navi Mumbai.
Future plans include Proprietary VC fund, AI due diligence, tokenized equity, and expansions to Brazil, Nigeria, Japan, Germany, US, Saudi Arabia, etc.

Trimit Rachana helping Women Empowerment

"India's growth story will be defined by disciplined MSMEs, strategic design, and financially empowered women."

Pradnya Ponkshe is a Mumbai-based MSME leader building strategic infrastructure ecosystems while advancing women-led economic ownership in India. As the Founder & Director of Trimit Rachana, she leads a full-service architectural and commercial interior design firm delivering high-performance environments for multinational corporations, healthcare institutions, industrial facilities, and institutional infrastructure.

Under her leadership, Trimit Rachana has successfully executed projects for globally recognized and Fortune 500 clients including First Rand, Straumann Group, VFS Global India, Global Hospitals, Bridgestone India, Xerox India, Mastek, Godfrey Phillips India, and Reliance.

Strengthening its global outlook, Trimit Rachana maintains an international association with a Greece-based architectural firm for collaborative India infrastructure and institutional development projects — integrating global design standards with localized execution excellence.

In 2024, she was selected for the prestigious 29th Cohort of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women Program at the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIMB) — a globally respected initiative designed to scale high-potential women-led enterprises and strengthen economic ecosystems.
Her institutional leadership includes:

- Chairperson – Women Entrepreneurship Wing, MACCIA (2018–2021)
- Chairperson – Inter-State Business Coordination Committee, MACCIA (2025–2027)

In these capacities, she actively facilitates interstate trade collaboration, MSME integration, and women-led enterprise participation within broader national economic frameworks. Her contributions have been recognized nationally with distinctions including:

Trusted & Creative Interior Design Firm of the Year – Maharashtra (2023)

Trusted & Trendsetter Women Interior Designer

BBNG Udyam Kaustubh Award – Eminent Entrepreneur

Through disciplined enterprise, international collaboration, and women-led asset empowerment, Pradnya Ponkshe continues to build institutions that contribute meaningfully to India's economic transformation.

WTCA and WTCs around the World

Introducing Women@WTCA: a new WTCA Community

Across the WTCA network, women are leading businesses, driving trade, shaping policy and building the relationships that power our global community. In a network as diverse as ours, intentionally creating opportunities for members to connect around shared experiences and perspectives helps foster the relationships that make this community so dynamic. That spirit inspired the launch of Women@WTCA.

Women@WTCA is a new community within the WTCA network - created to bring women (and allies) together in a more intentional way - providing a platform for increased visibility, access, education, and support across our global Membership.

Women@WTCA is not about creating something separate from the broader network, but rather another way to engage more deeply with it. By highlighting and connecting the contributions women are already making across WTCA, this community creates space for even greater visibility, collaboration, and growth. Like the network itself, Women@WTCA is grounded in the values of inclusion and diverse perspectives that strengthen our global community.

To coincide with Women's History Month, WTCA Members from across the network gathered on March 9 for the inaugural Women@WTCA community meeting, where the foundation for this new community began to take shape. From the outset, the conversation focused on building a space grounded in inclusion, support , and diverse perspectives, reflecting the values that define the WTCA network itself.

Over the coming year and beyond, we will continue building Women@WTCA through programming, conversations and opportunities that showcase the remarkable work happening across our network. From leadership discussions and peer exchange to sector-focused conversations and collaborative initiatives, this space will evolve through the participation and ideas of the Members who help shape it.

Like many of the most meaningful initiatives within WTCA, this community will grow organically. Its strength will come from the relationships formed, the ideas shared and the willingness of Members across the network to contribute their perspectives and experiences.

The women of WTCA are already shaping the future of our network - Women@WTCA is where that collective momentum continues to grow.

Engaging the Next Generation

The Business Club Member Advisory Council of WTCA, organized a virtual session on how WTC Business Clubs are evolving to attract young leaders and entrepreneurs.

Panellists

- Pedro Sampaio, Director of Executive Content, Business Club, World Trade Center Lisboa and World Trade Center Ribeirão Preto
- Lila Cailles, Vice President - Marketing & Business Development, World Trade Center Metro Manila
- Ted Jansen, Founder & MD, Embora Group
- Claire Viaggi, Manager, World Trade Center Brest
- Anaïs Jan, WTCA Membership Development Lead (Moderator)

The discussion emphasized the importance of in-person engagement, with the panellists observing stronger participation in face-to-face events. Networking formats, such as startup–corporate connects, trade mission interactions, and business meetups, remain highly impactful for emerging entrepreneurs. The next generation prefers interactive, experiential activities, including tours, volunteering roles, and hands-on exposure across industries, which help them build meaningful connections. The panel also highlighted the need for modern outreach approaches, including influencer-driven communication, to better reach younger audiences.

Vivek George, Chair of Business Club MAC delivered the opening remarks.

The session was attended by WTC members from across the globe.

WTCKL Receives Asean Tourism Standards Award

World Trade Centre Kuala Lumpur (WTCKL) achieved a historic international milestone by receiving the ASEAN Tourism Standards Award (2026-2028) for the 3rd ASEAN MICE Venue (Exhibition Venue Category).

This prestigious recognition, which marks a grand opening to 2026 for WTCKL was presented by Dato' Shaharuddin bin Abu Sohot, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC) Malaysia at the ASEAN Tourism Standards Awards 2026–2028 Ceremony held in Cebu, Philippines, on 30 January 2026.

The ceremony was officiated by the Honourable Christina Garcia Frasco, Secretary of Tourism of the Republic of the Philippines. She also announced the conferment of the ASEAN Tourism Standards Award (2026–2028) for the 3rd ASEAN MICE Venue (Exhibition Venue Category) to WTCKL. The Philippines is the host of the ASEAN Tourism Forum 2026, in conjunction with the country's chairmanship of ASEAN in 2026.

This accolade solidifies WTCKL's position as a premier hub for Business Events, high-impact exhibitions, conferences, and large-scale gatherings, in line with Malaysia's national aspirations. This achievement places WTCKL among the elite exhibition venues that meet rigorous ASEAN regional standards encompassing physical infrastructure, technology, and services while highlighting its excellence in facility quality, central management, and team expertise.

This strengthened WTCKL's role as a leading international Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The ASEAN Tourism Standards Awards recognizes tourism organisations and facilities that meet standards set by ASEAN member countries, in line with efforts to enhance quality and consistency within the tourism and MICE industries across the region.

Special Information Update

➢ World Trends

Global Dependence on Chinese Imports

In today's interconnected global economy, China has emerged as one of the world's most important manufacturing hubs, supplying a wide range of goods—from electronics and machinery to textiles and consumer products. The infographic highlights how different countries depend on Chinese imports based on the share of their total goods imports sourced from China.

Many countries across Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas rely significantly on Chinese goods due to China's large-scale manufacturing capacity, competitive pricing, and integrated supply chains. According to the data, Cambodia is the most dependent, with approximately 46.8% of its imports coming from China, followed by countries such as Myanmar (33.5%) and Australia (25.5%). In Asia, India imports about 18.2% of its goods from China, while Japan's dependency stands at around 22.5%.

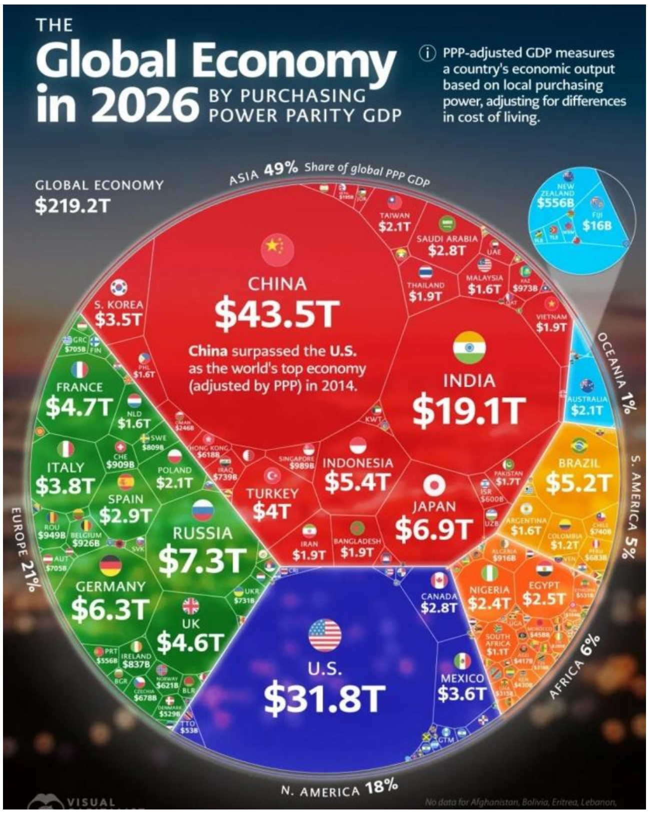
In contrast, some developed economies show relatively lower dependence. The United States imports about 13.8% of its goods from China, while Canada imports around 11.6%. Several European countries also fall within a moderate range of dependency, typically between 8% and 15%. Interestingly, some territories such as the Cayman Islands show very low dependence (around 0.8%), indicating diversified trade sources or limited industrial import requirements.

The map also suggests that countries with higher dependence often lack strong domestic manufacturing capabilities or access to certain raw materials, making them rely on China's extensive production ecosystem. China's dominance in sectors such as electronics, machinery, chemicals, and intermediate goods means that disruptions in Chinese supply chains can significantly affect global industries.

Thus, the data reflects China's central role in global trade networks and highlights how deeply integrated the world economy has become with Chinese manufacturing. At the same time, many countries are increasingly seeking to diversify supply chains and reduce overdependence by developing domestic industries or sourcing goods from alternative markets.

Source: Visual Capitalist (based on UN Comtrade and World Bank data).

The Global Economy in 2026: A PPP Perspective



The global economy in 2026 presents a dynamic picture when measured using Purchasing Power Parity (PPP), a method that compares countries' economic output by adjusting for differences in cost of living and purchasing power. According to the visualization, the global economy is valued at approximately $219.2 trillion (PPP terms), highlighting the immense scale of economic activity across the world.

Asia dominates the global economic landscape, accounting for about 49% of global PPP GDP. Within this region, China stands as the largest economy at $43.5 trillion, having surpassed the United States as the world's top economy in PPP terms back in 2014. India follows as the third-largest economy globally with $19.1 trillion, reflecting its rapid growth and increasing influence in global trade and industry. Other significant Asian economies include Japan ($6.9 trillion) and Indonesia ($5.4 trillion), both contributing strongly to the region's economic strength.

In North America, the United States remains a major economic powerhouse with $31.8 trillion, making it the second-largest economy globally by PPP. The region collectively accounts for around 18% of global economic output, with Canada and Mexico also playing important roles in regional economic activity.

Europe contributes roughly 21% of global PPP GDP, with Germany ($6.3 trillion) leading the continent's economies, followed by France ($4.7 trillion), the United Kingdom ($4.6 trillion), and Italy ($3.8 trillion). Meanwhile, Russia ($7.3 trillion) represents a major economic presence in the Eurasian region.

Other regions also show significant contributions. In South America, Brazil leads with $5.2 trillion, while Africa, accounting for around 6% of global PPP GDP, is led by countries such as Egypt ($2.5 trillion) and Nigeria ($2.4 trillion). Oceania, though smaller in scale at around 1% of global output, includes economies such as Australia ($2.1 trillion) and New Zealand ($556 billion).

Thus, the visualization illustrates the shifting balance of global economic power, with Asia emerging as the dominant economic region while traditional economic powers like the United States and Europe continue to maintain strong influence. As emerging economies grow and integrate further into global markets, the structure of the global economy is expected to evolve even more in the coming decades.

Source: Visual Capitalist (based on IMF data).

Global Economy: Power & Growth

The global economy is undergoing a significant transformation, where economic power and economic growth are no longer concentrated in the same set of countries. While the world's wealthiest nations in 2026 led by the United States, China, and India dominate in terms of total GDP, a different group of countries is emerging as the fastest-growing in terms of GDP per capita by 2030. This contrast highlights a key shift: today's economic giants represent size and influence, whereas tomorrow's growth leaders represent rising prosperity and opportunity. Together, these two perspectives provide a comprehensive understanding of how the global economic landscape is evolving.

Rank	Country	GDP (Approx.)	Key Insight
1	United States	$31.8 trillion	Largest global economic power
2	China	$20.6 trillion	Strong manufacturing & exports
3	Germany	$5.3 trillion	Europe's economic leader
4	India	$4.5 trillion	Fastest-growing large economy
5	Japan	$4.4 trillion	Advanced technology economy
6	United Kingdom	~$3.9 trillion	Financial hub
7	France	~$3.7 trillion	Strong industrial base
8	Italy	~$2.8 trillion	Manufacturing strength
9	Russia	~$2.2 trillion	Resource-rich economy
10	Canada	~$2.1 trillion	Stable developed economy
Rank	**Country**	**Growth (Approx.)**	**Key Driver**
1	Suriname	100%+	Oil & resource boom
2	Guyana	Very high	Energy sector expansion
3	Libya	High	Oil recovery
4	Bangladesh	Strong	Manufacturing & exports
5	Vietnam	Strong	Industrial growth & FDI
6	India	High	Digital + service economy
7	Philippines	High	Young workforce
8	Indonesia	Strong	Domestic demand
9	Egypt	Rising	Infrastructure growth
10	Nigeria	Rising	Population + resources

The comparison between the largest economies in 2026 and the fastest-growing economies by 2030 reveals a crucial insight: economic size and economic progress are no longer the same thing. While countries like the United States, China, and India will continue to dominate global output and drive overall economic growth, smaller and emerging economies are rapidly catching up in terms of income growth and development. This indicates a shift toward a multi-polar global economy, where large nations provide stability and global influence, while emerging nations drive future growth and rising prosperity.

➢ Indian Trends

Union Budget 2026: Strengthening India's Growth and Fiscal Stability

The Union Budget 2026–27, presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, outlines India's roadmap for economic growth, fiscal discipline, and long-term development. The budget focuses on strengthening manufacturing, infrastructure, innovation, and employment while maintaining macroeconomic stability. With a total expenditure of about ₹53.5 lakh crore, the government aims to accelerate economic growth while continuing reforms that support the vision of "Viksit Bharat 2047."

One of the major highlights of the budget is the strong emphasis on infrastructure and capital investment**.** The government has allocated around ₹12.2 lakh crore for capital expenditure, reflecting its strategy of using infrastructure development as a key driver of economic growth. Investments in highways, railways, logistics networks, and urban development are expected to reduce transportation costs, improve connectivity, and increase productivity across sectors.

The budget also places significant emphasis on manufacturing and industrial growth. Several initiatives aim to scale up manufacturing in strategic sectors such **as** biopharma, semiconductors, electronics, capital goods, and advanced technologies. For example, the government announced the Biopharma SHAKTI initiative with an outlay of ₹10,000 crore to strengthen India's capabilities in pharmaceutical manufacturing and healthcare innovation. These measures are intended to boost domestic production and strengthen India's role in global supply chains.

Another key priority in the budget is support for MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises**)**, which are considered the backbone of the Indian economy. The government introduced initiatives such as creating "Champion MSMEs," faster invoice payments through digital platforms, and improved access to financing and compliance support**.** These measures aim to enhance productivity, promote entrepreneurship, and generate employment opportunities across the country.

In terms of fiscal management, the government has continued its path toward fiscal consolidation**.** The fiscal deficit for FY 2026–27 is projected at around 4.3% of GDP**,** slightly lower than the previous year. The government also aims to gradually reduce its overall debt levels to ensure long-term financial sustainability while continuing to invest in development projects. The budget also focuses **on** inclusive development and social welfare, with investments in agriculture, rural development, healthcare, skill development, and digital infrastructure. These initiatives aim to improve household incomes, strengthen human capital, and ensure that economic growth benefits all sections of society.

The Union Budget 2026 reflects a balanced approach that combines fiscal discipline with growth-oriented investments. By prioritizing infrastructure, manufacturing, innovation, and inclusive development, the government aims to strengthen India's economic resilience and position the country as a major global economic power in the coming decades.

Rise of Global Capability Centres (GCCs) in India

India has rapidly become a global hub for Global Capability Centres (GCCs) specialized units created by multinational companies to manage key business functions such as technology development, analytics, finance, and research & development. These centres are usually wholly owned subsidiaries that enable global firms to handle complex operations while benefiting from India's large pool of skilled professionals and cost advantages.

Over the past decade, India's GCC ecosystem has grown significantly. The country now hosts more than 1,700 GCCs employing around 1.9–2.4 million professionals, making it one of the largest hubs in the world for multinational operational centres. These centres generate billions of dollars in value and contribute greatly to India's technology exports and innovation ecosystem.

Major Indian cities such as Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Pune, Chennai, Mumbai, and the National Capital Region (NCR**)** have emerged as leading destinations for GCC investments. Bengaluru is widely regarded as the epicentre because of its strong software and engineering ecosystem, while Hyderabad and Pune have built strong reputations in R&D, enterprise technology, and automotive engineering. The availability of skilled engineers, advanced infrastructure, and supportive government policies has made these cities highly attractive to global companies.

Many multinational corporations have established major innovation centres in India. Technology giants such as Google and Microsoft operate large development hubs in Bengaluru and Hyderabad where engineers work on global products like cloud computing platforms, AI systems, and enterprise software. These centres have evolved from simple outsourcing units into strategic innovation hubs that drive digital transformation for global companies**.**

The sector is expected to expand rapidly in the coming years. Reports suggest that India could host over 2,400–2,500 GCCs by 2030, employing nearly 2.8–2.9 million professionals and generating around $100–105 billion in revenue. This growth will be driven by emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, data analytics, and semiconductor design.

Another important factor behind the growth of GCCs in India is the increasing focus on high-value and strategic work. Many centres are now involved in advanced research, product engineering, digital transformation, and innovation rather than only support functions. This shift reflects growing confidence among multinational companies in India's technical expertise and problem-solving capabilities, further strengthening the country's role in the global technology and business ecosystem.

The rise of Global Capability Centres highlights India's transformation into a global innovation and knowledge hub. By combining a highly skilled workforce, competitive costs, and a rapidly developing digital ecosystem, India has positioned itself as a preferred destination for multinational companies seeking to manage global operations and develop cutting-edge technologies. As the sector continues to grow, GCCs are expected to play a vital role in creating high-skill jobs, boosting exports, and strengthening India's position in the global knowledge economy.

Articles

Navi Mumbai: Unlocking New Opportunities for Global Businesses

Navi Mumbai, a well-planned satellite city developed to ease the burden on Mumbai, is rapidly emerging as one of India's most promising business hubs. Over the past decade, the region has witnessed significant transformation driven by large-scale infrastructure development, strategic location advantages, and increasing economic activity. Situated within the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), Navi Mumbai enjoys close proximity to India's financial capital while offering better planning, reduced congestion, and comparatively lower costs. This unique combination has made it an attractive destination for businesses looking to expand or establish operations in a more efficient and future-ready environment.

One of the key factors contributing to Navi Mumbai's rise is its robust and continuously improving infrastructure. The development of the Navi Mumbai International Airport is expected to be a game-changer, enhancing both domestic and international connectivity and positioning the region as a major aviation and logistics hub. Additionally, projects such as the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link, metro rail connectivity, and improved road networks have significantly reduced travel time between Navi Mumbai and other important parts of Mumbai. The presence of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT), India's largest container port, further strengthens the region's role in trade and logistics, making it a preferred location for export-oriented industries and supply chain operations.

Navi Mumbai is also witnessing rapid growth in its commercial and industrial ecosystem. The expansion of IT parks, business districts, warehousing facilities, and industrial zones has created a diverse economic landscape. The region has particularly gained prominence as a data center hub, attracting major global companies due to its reliable infrastructure, connectivity, and availability of land. Moreover, planned development by authorities like CIDCO ensures organized urban growth, better infrastructure management, and the creation of modern business spaces, which are essential for sustaining long-term economic activity.

For foreign investors, Navi Mumbai presents a highly attractive investment destination. One of its biggest advantages is cost efficiency—real estate and operational costs are significantly lower than in Mumbai, allowing businesses to achieve higher returns on investment. At the same time, the region offers excellent connectivity to global markets through its port and upcoming international airport, facilitating smoother movement of goods and people. The availability of large land parcels, supportive government policies, and the ease of setting up businesses further enhance its appeal. Foreign companies looking to establish manufacturing units, logistics hubs, IT services, or regional headquarters can benefit from Navi Mumbai's strategic advantages and growth potential.

Another important aspect is the quality of life that Navi Mumbai offers. With better urban planning, less congestion, and improved infrastructure, it provides a more sustainable and comfortable environment for businesses and their workforce. This is an important consideration for foreign investors who seek not only economic benefits but also a stable and livable environment for long-term operations.

In conclusion, Navi Mumbai is steadily evolving into a future-ready business hub that combines strategic location, world-class infrastructure, and strong growth potential.

WORLD TRADE CENTER®
NAVI MUMBAI
Bringing the World Together

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- *WTC Navi Mumbai is a Prestigious Project of Raheja Universal Group, which brings Navi Mumbai Region on the Global Map of the WTCA New York, having 330 Member WTC's in 100 Countries.*

- *WTC NM provides Knowledge based Trade Services such as Trade Information, Trade Education, Trade Promotion and so on ... Bringing Competitive Edge to Navi Mumbai Region.*

- *WTC NM plans to provide Real Estate based Infra facilities - such as Office Space, Exhibition & Convention Centers, Mall, Hotel & Business Club and so on... Bringing Together Stakeholders in Trade & Investment.*