



# Gateway

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## President's Message



Dear Readers,  
As we step into the New Year 2026, I extend my warm greetings to you from India. This year unfolds with immense promise, surprises, and laurels for all of us. India and Japan have made remarkable strides in enhancing our mutual

cooperation across various domains, including culture, economy, technology and people-to-people relationships. Let us rededicate ourselves to the cause of fortifying these ties in every possible manner. I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all economic and cultural organizations in Japan - both government and private - as well as the dignitaries from Japan who have visited our Chamber, exploring avenues for cooperation with the Indo-Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IJCCI). We remain committed to fostering strong relations in 2026. IJCCI is planning to send an industrial delegation to Japan in mid 2026, and I look forward to reconnecting ourselves with esteemed friends and counterparts in Japan, while also forging new relationships that will contribute to our collective goals. I also wish to extend my sincere thanks to all my Indian counterparts, government and private, for their unwavering support to IJCCI over the past year. I seek your continued goodwill and cooperation in our endeavours.  
**Wishing you and your team a wonderful 2026.**

読者の皆さまへ

2026年の新年を迎えるにあたり、インドより心よりご挨拶申し上げます。本年が、私たちすべてにとって大きな希望と驚き、そして多くの成果に満ちた一年となりますよう願っております。インドと日本は、文化、経済、技術、そして人と人との交流など、さまざまな分野で相互協力を大きく発展させてきました。これらの関係をあらゆる形でさらに強固にしていくため、共に努力を続けてまいりましょう。また、日本の政府・民間を問わず多くの経済・文化団体の皆さま、そして当商工会議所を訪問し、協力の可能性を共に探ってくださった日本の要人の皆さまに、この場をお借りして深く感謝申し上げます。私たちインド日本商工会議所 (IJCCI) は、2026年も揺るぎない関係構築に努めてまいります。IJCCIは2026年半ばに、日本へ産業代表団を派遣する予定です。日本の友人や関係機関の皆さまと再び交流を深めるとともに、私たちの共通の目標に寄与する新たな関係を築けることを楽しみにしています。さらに、インド国内の政府・民間の皆さまにも、昨年一年間にわたりIJCCIを力強く支えていただいたことに深く感謝申し上げます。今後も変わらぬご支援とご協力をお願い申し上げます。皆さま、そして皆さまのチームにとって、素晴らしい2026年となりますよう心よりお祈り申し上げます。

Regards,  
**S. Padmanabhan**

## Russian President Mr. Vladimir Putin's visit to India

Russian President Vladimir Putin on a two-day visit to India held talks with the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025.



## Okinawa - Commercialising World's 1st Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion

Japan's Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) project is a significant initiative aimed at harnessing the potential of ocean energy for sustainable energy solutions. The Project is currently operational in Kumejima Island in Okinawa Prefecture where a 100 KW demonstration facility is already established. The project is developed in collaboration with the local government, aims to achieve 100% energy self-sufficiency on the island by 2040. OTEC uses the temperature difference between warm water in the surface layer and cold water in the deep sea to generate electricity. Deep ocean water is pumped up from a depth of 600m or more and the energy is extracted from the temperature difference between the deep ocean water and the surface ocean water. Since OTEC is not greatly affected by weather conditions, it is capable of stable power generation 24 hours a day, ensuring stable and predictable power output. Even after deep ocean water is used for power generation, the water quality is unchanged, and the temperature is still low enough to be used for secondary purposes such as fisheries, agriculture and air conditioning.



## Kudos to Indian Navy's Maritime Safety & Security's swift actions

"In response to shipping attacks and piracy in the western Arabian Sea, the Indian Navy deployed over 35 ships in the region, carried out more than 1000 boarding operations, escorted safely over 367 merchant vessels, carrying over 15 million metric tonnes of cargo valued at over 6.3 billion dollars and responded to 35 incidents", according to India's Permanent Representative at the UN Security Council. The Indian Navy is playing a pivotal role in keeping global sea routes secure as piracy and attacks escalate across the Western Arabian Sea. "The credible and swift actions of the Indian Navy have saved more than 520 lives irrespective of nationality" was shared by Mr. P. Harish, India's Permanent Representative at the UN Security Council, at a meeting co-hosted by Greece, the Philippines, Denmark, Japan, Panama and Romania in May 2025.

## Microsoft investing \$17.5 billion in India for AI and Cloud Infrastructure

Microsoft has announced a \$17.5 billion investment to accelerate India's AI ecosystem. This is the largest investment ever in Asia by Microsoft to help build the infrastructure, skills, sovereign capabilities needed for India's AI-first future, marking a major milestone in India's artificial intelligence journey. Microsoft has been operating in India for over three decades and has plans to have its largest hyperscale presence in India with a new data centre going live in mid-2026. India has set ambitious targets to become a leading global hub for AI and semiconductor manufacturing. The government has introduced financial incentives to attract global chipmakers and major technology companies. The company's new hyperscale data centre is set to go live by mid-2026, expanding its cloud footprint across Chennai, Hyderabad and Pune. Earlier, Microsoft has invested this year \$3 billion for building cloud and AI infra as well as new data centers and skilling the workforce over the next two years. .

## BYT Capital Launches INR 180 Cr Maiden Deeptech Fund

Bengaluru-based Venture Capital firm BYT Capital has launched its maiden deeptech fund with a corpus of INR 180 Cr (about \$20 Mn). The Category II AIF aims to back 18-20 startups with an average ticket size of INR 3-6 Cr., more than half the fund is allocated for follow-on rounds. The fund will back IP-led innovation emerging from research labs and engineering ecosystems, with sectoral focus areas including space technology, life sciences, robotics, clean energy, materials, quantum, defence and advanced engineering. The firm is particularly interested in ventures that can convert lab-stage research into market-ready products with global demand. According to BYT Capital the fund is backed by "India-aligned" HNIs and family offices, and more than half of its corpus subscribed already. The fund is likely to reach its final close by Q3 2026. The development comes at a time when more and more investors are looking to back deeptech startups. A number of funds have been launched in the recent past to back aerospace, dronetech, AI and more startups working in the deeptech domain. BYT has begun evaluating companies and expects to deploy its first investments by the end of December.

## India-Russia sign polar waters training MoU

India and Russia have signed an MoU to train specialists for ships operating in polar waters, a significant step in maritime collaboration ! The move underscores the growing interest of India in Arctic navigation and the strategic partnership with Russia.



### Russia-India ties – a new milestone

Russian President Vladimir Putin on a two-day visit to India held talks with the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 5th December 2025. Describing India's enduring partnership with Russia as "a guiding star," Modi said: "Based on mutual respect and deep trust, these relations have always stood the test of time."

The two leaders agreed to expand and diversify trade beyond oil and defense. Russia has said it wants to import more Indian goods in an effort to grow trade to \$100 billion by 2030. "We have agreed on an economic cooperation program for the period up to 2030. This will make our trade and investment more diversified, balanced and sustainable", said Mr. Modi. Mr. Putin said "Russia would continue to ensure uninterrupted fuel supplies to India", and also flagged a project underway to build India's largest nuclear power plant at Kudankulam, Tamilnadu.

A large business and government delegation has accompanied Putin. Among the deals signed, the two countries agreed to help Indians move to Russia for work, to set up a joint venture fertilizer plant in Russia, and boost cooperation in agriculture, health care and shipping. They also agreed to reshape their defense ties to take account of New Delhi's push for self-reliance through joint research and development, as well as the production of advanced defense platforms. This would include joint production in India of spare parts, components, assemblies and other products for servicing Russian weapons and military equipment.

### TVS Motor Company vehicles international sales up by 58%

The prestigious two-wheeler and three wheeler manufacturer - TVS Motor Company is the only two-wheeler manufacturer to have received the Deming Award, is operating with 80 countries, with manufacturing plants in India and Indonesia. The Company recorded monthly sales of 519,508 units in November 2025 with a growth of 30% as against 401,250 units in November 2024. Total two-wheelers registered a growth of 27% with sales increasing from 392,473 units in November 2024 to 497,841 units in November 2025. Domestic two-wheelers registered a growth of 20% with sales increasing from 305,323 units in November 2024 to 365,608 units in November 2025. Motorcycles registered a growth of 34% with sales increasing from 180,247 units in November 2024 to 242,222 units in November 2025. Scooters registered a growth of 27% with sales increasing from 165,535 units in November 2024 to 210,222 units in November 2025. Electric Vehicles registered a growth of 46% with sales increasing from 26,292 units in November 2024 to 38,307 units in November 2025. The Company's sales in international business registered a growth of 58% with sales increasing from 93,755 units in November 2024 to 148,315 units in November 2025. Two-wheeler sales grew by 52% increasing from 87,150 units in November 2024 to 132,233 units in November 2025. Three-wheelers registered a growth of 147% with sales increasing from 8,777 units in November 2024 to 21,667 units in November 2025.

### Toyota Unveils GR GT Hybrid Sports Car in Shizuoka Prefecture

Toyota Motor Corp. on 5th December unveiled its high-performance sports car, the GR GT. The company is aiming for a market launch around 2027, when it also plans to release a race car, the GR GT3. The GR GT is a hybrid powered by a 4-liter, V8 twin-turbo engine paired with an electric motor. The company says the car is the first in its line-up to adopt an aluminium frame, which is meant to reduce weight. The car is expected to be able to reach speeds of 320 kilometers per hour.



INDO-JAPAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

印日商工会議所



*Wishes Happy New Year*

明けましておめでとうございます

2026

## Over 18 lakh Indians study abroad in 2025

The overseas Indian students population stands at 18.8 lakh this year, out of which 6.3 lakh accounts for school level enrolment. Canada remains the biggest higher education destination, the second, third and the fourth being the United States, UK and Australia. As for school education is concerned, the Gulf region is the largest destination, the first destination being the UAE, the second Saudi Arabia, third comes Qatar, the fourth being Kuwait and Oman takes the fifth position.

## World Bank says “India - the world’s fastest growing economy”

The World Bank projects India to remain the world’s fastest growing major economy, raising the forecast for FY 2025-26 to 6.5% growth from 6.3%, and some of the growth drivers being: Resilient domestic demand and strong private consumption ; Strong recovery in the agricultural sector; Positive effects of goods and services tax reforms ; Significant growth in service exports etc.

## Indian Auto Sales soars in November 2025

India's automobile industry reports strong November 2025 numbers across passenger vehicles, two-wheelers and tractors, with most major manufacturers posting double-digit year-on-year growth on the back of festive season demand, GST 2.0 reforms and improving rural sentiment. Maruti Suzuki India recorded its highest-ever monthly sales at 2,29,021 units in November 2025, which is 26.16% higher than the 1,81,531 units sold in November 2024. Domestic sales stood at 1,74,593 units, with 8,371 units supplied to other OEMs and exports touching a record 46,057 units. Tata Motors PV Posts 25.6% increase in sales, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles delivered one of its strongest performances, posting 25.6 per cent year-on-year growth with total sales of 59,199 units compared with 47,117 units in November 2024. Domestic PV sales, including EVs, rose 22 per cent to 57,436 units. International business volumes surged to 1,763 units from just 54 units last year, while EV sales jumped 52.1 per cent to 7,911 units.

## India’s Private Space Milestone- ISRO’s First Launchpad to Host Vikram-I in 2026

Skyroot prepares for India’s first private orbital rocket launch as Vikram-I aims for a 2026 liftoff. The mission marks a major step for India’s emerging private space industry. Skyroot Aerospace, a prominent space company in India, is all set to launch their Vikram-I launch vehicle into orbit in 2026. With this launch, if successful, Skyroot Aerospace can achieve a record of launching a privately developed launch vehicle into space from the iconic launch pads in Sriharikota. Vikram-I has a payload capacity of 300 kilograms to a 500-kilometer orbit. This maiden launch is said to have a light payload.

*(The Daily Guardian)*



*A Japanese company seeks manufacturers of aluminum ingots with the following specifications :*

### Chemical Composition (JIS H 5202 Standard)

Alloy	Si (%)	Cu (%)	Mg (%)	Fe (%)	Zn (%)	Mn (%)	Others
AC4C	6.5–7.5	≤0.20	0.20–0.40	≤0.50	≤0.30	≤0.60	Ti ≤0.20, Ni ≤0.05
AC4CH	6.5–7.5	≤0.10	0.25–0.45	≤0.20	≤0.10	≤0.10	Ti ≤0.20, Ni ≤0.05
ADC12	9.6–12.0	1.5–3.5	≤0.30	≤1.3	≤1.0	≤0.5	Ni ≤0.5, Ti ≤0.2

### Mechanical Properties (Representative Values)

Alloy	Tensile Strength (MPa)	Yield Strength (MPa)	Elongation (%)	Hardness (HB)
AC4C	250–280	~130	3–8	65–93
AC4CH	260–290	~140	4–10	70–95
ADC12	310–330	150–160	1–3	80–100

**Member companies may please email their interest with details to the Chamber : [Indo-japan@ijcci.com](mailto:Indo-japan@ijcci.com)**