

### India- Africa Trade

Commerce and Industry Minister Mr. Piyush Goyal attended India-Africa business conclave and has outlined a clear and ambitious vision for the future of India-Africa economic relations.

#### More on News

- ❖ At the conclave an ambitious target of **doubling two-way trade between India and Africa** to US\$ 200 billion within the next seven years has been set.

#### Key Points

- ❖ Agriculture, pharmaceuticals, mining, tourism, automotive, critical minerals, and renewable energy are identified as the pivotal areas where India and Africa could significantly deepen their collaboration.
- ❖ **IT sector:** The Information Technology (IT) sector is a key area where India can play a crucial role in Africa's development. With India's extensive expertise in infrastructure development, health services, and financial inclusion, there is ample opportunity for collaboration that could significantly benefit African nations.
- ❖ **Critical Minerals:** In the realm of critical minerals there is a vast potential for collaboration, particularly in sourcing cobalt, copper, and lithium—minerals that are essential for the production of clean energy technologies and electric vehicles.
- ❖ **Renewable energy:** The collaboration in this renewable energy could help both regions reduce their carbon footprints while also ensuring energy security.
- ❖ **Food Security:** India can play a vital role in supporting Africa's food security by supplying essential agricultural products such as oil seeds, pulses, and lentils.

33 African nations are yet to participate in India's **Duty-Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) scheme**, a program designed to boost exports from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to India by offering them tariff-free access to the Indian market.

### BHISHM Cubes

Prime Minister Narendra Modi presented four BHISHM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita & Maitri) Cubes to the Ukrainian government during his historic visit to Kyiv.

#### What are BHISHM Cubes?

- ❖ The BHISHM Cubes are **compact, portable medical units** designed to provide first-line care in emergency situations.
- ❖ The name BHISHM stands for **Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita & Maitri**, symbolising India's spirit of cooperation and friendship.
- ❖ These Cubes are equipped to handle a wide range of injuries and medical emergencies, making them a critical asset in conflict zones or disaster-stricken areas.
- ❖ Each BHISHM Cube is a **self-contained medical facility**. The Cubes are stocked with essential medicines and equipment needed for immediate care. This includes supplies to treat injuries such as trauma, bleeding, burns, and fractures, ensuring that the most common and urgent medical situations can be addressed promptly.
- ❖ The Cube comes equipped with surgical tools necessary for a **basic Operation Room (OR)**. It is capable of performing 10-15 surgeries per day, covering a range of procedures from minor operations to more complex surgeries that can be vital in an emergency.
- ❖ The BHISHM Cube is designed to operate independently, even in challenging environments. It has the ability to generate its own power and produce limited amounts of oxygen, which is essential in sustaining life and supporting medical operations in remote or war-torn areas.

### High-risk Glacial Lakes


The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has identified 189 high-risk glacial lakes in the Himalayas for targeted mitigation efforts.

#### Key Points

- ❖ Measures include investigating these lakes and implementing “lake-lowering measures” to prevent overflows and mitigate potential downstream damage.

- ❖ The initiative follows disasters like the South Lhonak Lake overflow in Sikkim, which resulted in significant loss of life and infrastructure damage.
- ❖ India has approximately 7,500 glacial lakes, some monitored via remote sensing, though full assessments require difficult site visits during limited accessible months (July-September).
- ❖ The Central Water Commission (CWC) is monitoring 902 glacial lakes and water bodies via satellite.

#### Person In News- Appointment

<b>Laurent Freixe</b>	He has been appointed as the <b>CEO</b> of <b>Nestlé</b> . He will Mark Schneider as CEO	
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#### Person In News- Sports

<b>Shikhar Dhawan</b>	He has announced his <b>retirement</b> from <b>International and Domestic Cricket</b> .	
<b>Diana Pundole</b>	She is a mother of two, who has secured the national championship title in the saloon category at the <b>MRF Indian National Car Racing Championship 2024</b> in Chennai.	

#### Schemes/ Initiatives

<b>SPARSH Yojana</b>	❖ <b>Deen Dayal SPARSH (Scholarship for Promotion of Aptitude &amp; Research in Stamps as a Hobby) Yojana</b> is a scheme of the Department of Posts to promote <b>Philately</b> among school students from 2017-18.
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- ❖ Under this scheme, 40 scholarships will be offered this year to meritorious students who have an interest in Philately.
- ❖ The scholarship amounts to Rs.6000/- per annum for each student.

## Sports


### Lausanne Diamond League

- ❖ Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra put up a gutsy performance that resulted in a season's best effort of 89.49 meters, finishing second in the Lausanne Diamond League.

### Women's Test Match 2026

- ❖ The most iconic stadium in the world, also known as Home of Cricket, Lord's Stadium, is set to host its first-ever women's Test match in 2026.

## Books In News

<p>The Scientist Entrepreneur: Empowering Millions of Women</p>	<p>Activist Kalpana Sankar</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Soumya Swaminathan, Chairperson of MS Swaminathan Research Foundation and former WHO chief scientist, released 'The Scientist Entrepreneur: Empowering Millions of Women', an autobiography written by activist Kalpana Sankar.</li> <li>❖ A short film was screened, showcasing the impactful work of Hand in Hand India, an international non-profit organization co-founded by Dr. Kalpana Sankar.</li> </ul>
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### Important News- Worldwide

<b>Botswana</b>	A 2,492-carat diamond, the second-largest ever found in the world, has been discovered in Botswana. The largest diamond ever found is the Cullinan Diamond, which was discovered in South Africa in 1905 and weighed around 3,106 carats.
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	Sri Lanka has decided to grant free visa access to 35 countries, including India, effective from October 1, 2024.

### Miscellaneous

- ❖ The 19th CII India-Africa Business Conclave, themed "Creating One Future," was inaugurated by Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar.
- ❖ Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting (I&B) launched 25 Challenges as part of the 'Create in India Challenge – Season 1' for World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES).

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