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October Edition 2026

Consulate General of India
Presents
SEATTLE SUTRA

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INDIA @ SEATTLE: PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION

Private Circulation

THE 1ST STATUE OF MAHATMA GANDHI UNVEILED IN NORTH DAKOTA AT PEACE PARK !



In a historic first, a life-size statue of Mahatma Gandhi was unveiled at Peace Park in downtown Bismarck, North Dakota, on 29 October 2026, with the support of the Consulate General of India, Seattle, the Indian-American community and the North Dakota Trade Office. The ceremony was attended by First Lady Kjersti Armstrong, Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring, Consul General of India in Seattle and members of the Indian-American community. The occasion featured the national anthems of India and the United States, along with renditions of Gandhi ji's favourite hymns by local school students.

Symbolizing Mahatma Gandhi's timeless ideals of peace, non-violence and harmony, the monument marks a significant milestone in strengthening India–North Dakota cultural and people-to-people ties. It is the fifth Mahatma Gandhi monument within the jurisdiction of the Consulate General of India, Seattle, reflecting the growing friendship and shared values between India and the United States.

The unveiling further highlights the Consulate's continued efforts to promote India's cultural heritage and strengthen engagement with communities across the Pacific Northwest and Midwest. The monument will serve as a lasting tribute to Mahatma Gandhi's universal message, inspiring future generations to embrace the values of peace, unity and mutual respect. **(29 October 2026, Bismarck, North Dakota)**

FIRST INDIA CULTURE WEEK IN NEBRASKA INAUGURATED AT CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY, OMAHA



The first India Culture Week in Nebraska was inaugurated at Creighton University, Omaha, on 21 October 2026, jointly organized by the Consulate General of India, Seattle, and Creighton University. The celebrations featured the unveiling of Nebraska's first India Corner at the Reinert-Alumni Memorial Library, housing a curated collection of books on India's history, culture, literature and heritage. The event also showcased an Incredible India Photo Exhibition highlighting India's diverse landscapes and traditions, an Indian Food Festival offering authentic Indian cuisine, and captivating cultural performances featuring classical dance forms such as Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi and Mohiniyattam, alongside Punjabi and contemporary dances. The inaugural day concluded with a screening of the acclaimed Indian film Dangal. The initiative provided a vibrant platform for cultural exchange, introducing American students and faculty to India's rich traditions and artistic diversity, while strengthening educational cooperation, cultural understanding and enduring people-to-people ties between India and the United States. **(21 October 2026, Nebraska)**

IDAHO: DIWALI ILLUMINATES THE STATE CAPITOL!



16 October 2026
Boise, Idaho

Consulate General of India, Seattle, celebrated Diwali at the historic Idaho State Capitol Rotunda in Boise on 16 October 2026, in the presence of Governor Brad Little, distinguished guests, Indian-American community members and friends of India. The vibrant celebration showcased India's rich cultural heritage and the spirit of unity, harmony and togetherness, further strengthening cultural connections and the enduring friendship between India and Idaho. The festivities also highlighted the significant contributions of the Indian-American diaspora to Idaho's cultural diversity and reinforced the strong people-to-people ties between India and the United States.

BEYOND BORDERS: WASHINGTON MAYORS EXPERIENCE INCREDIBLE INDIA



The Washington State Mayors' Delegation undertook a successful visit to India, strengthening bilateral ties through diplomatic, cultural and educational engagements. In New Delhi, the delegation met senior officials of the Ministry of External Affairs, including Additional Secretary (Americas) and Additional Secretary (External Publicity), and interacted with leading Indian think tanks. The Mayors also visited the iconic Taj Mahal in Agra and Prem Mandir in Vrindavan, experiencing India's rich cultural heritage. In Bhubaneswar, they engaged with students at KISS/KIIT, exploring opportunities for academic collaboration and people-to-people exchanges. **(13 - 16 October 2026, India)**

CONSUL GENERAL MEETS HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF NEBRASKA JIM PILLEN



(20 October 2026, Lincoln-Nebraska)

MUSIC FOR PEACE: A TRIBUTE TO MAHATMA GANDHI !



On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti and the International Day of Non-Violence, the Consulate General of India, Seattle, in partnership with the Meany Center for the Performing Arts, University of Washington, hosted a Special Musical Concert by Three times Grammy Award-winning and Padma Shri Awardee Ricky Kej, celebrating Mahatma's timeless ideals of peace, non-violence and harmony.

Through an inspiring blend of music and message, the evening brought together a packed audience from diverse communities to reflect on Gandhiji's enduring legacy and the universal relevance of his message of Ahimsa in today's world.

Shri Ricky Kej's group of artists offered a most fitting musical tribute to the Mahatma, reaffirming the power of culture and music to transcend boundaries and bring people together in the spirit of peace and shared humanity. **(2 October 2026, Meany Center Seattle)**

2024/2025 AND 2026: A HAT-TRICK OF CONSULAR CAMPS IN OMAHA-NEBRASKA!



(19 October 2026, Omaha, Nebraska)

HONOURING MAHATMA GANDHI'S LEGACY IN GREATER SEATTLE



Consulate, commemorated the 157th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi at Bellevue Public Library on 2 October 2026, in the presence of Bellevue Mayor Mo Malakoutian, community leaders and members of the Indian-American diaspora. Floral tributes were offered at the life-size statue of Mahatma Gandhi, honouring his enduring legacy of peace and non-violence. Schoolchildren presented a soulful rendition of Gandhiji's favourite hymn, Vaishnav Jan To Tene Kahiye, adding a heartfelt touch to the occasion. The gathering reflected upon Gandhiji's timeless principles of Satya (Truth) and Ahimsa (Non-Violence), reaffirming their continued relevance in fostering peace, harmony and unity across communities. The commemoration also underscored the shared values of democracy, freedom and mutual respect that continue to strengthen the enduring friendship between India and the United States.

(2 October 2026, Bellevue)

MEETING WITH SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JIM RISCH



(16 October 2026, Boise, Idaho)

Consul General met Hon'ble U.S. Senator Jim Risch, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, at the State Capitol in Boise, Idaho, on 16 October 2026. The interaction highlighted the enduring friendship between India and the United States and the importance of strengthening bilateral ties. The Consul General appreciated Senator Risch's insights on the growing India–US partnership and acknowledged the valuable contributions of the Indian-American community in Idaho in fostering closer cultural, economic and people-to-people connections between the two nations.

The meeting reflected the shared commitment to further deepening India–US relations through sustained engagement and mutual understanding. It also underscored the significance of strengthening connections at the state level and recognizing the Indian-American diaspora as an important bridge between the two democracies, contributing to the continued growth of this vital partnership.

NEBRASKA: CELEBRATING DIWALI AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION!



20 October 2026
Lincoln, Nebraska

The spirit of Diwali illuminated the Nebraska Governor's Mansion in Lincoln on 20 October 2026, with Governor Jim Pillen and first lady, joining the Consulate General of India, Seattle, Indian-American community members and friends of India in celebrating the Festival of Lights. The festivities highlighted the growing appreciation of Indian traditions, the invaluable contributions of the Indian diaspora and the strengthening of cultural and people-to-people ties between India and Nebraska.

MONTANA: FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS STRENGTHENS INDIA-US BONDS!



26 October 2026
Helena, Montana

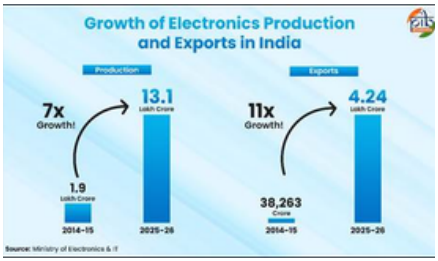
Consulate celebrated Diwali at the Governor's Mansion in Helena, Montana, on 26 October 2026, in the presence of Governor Greg Gianforte and first lady, Indian-American community members and friends of India. The celebration reflected the universal message of Diwali—hope, prosperity and togetherness—while showcasing India's vibrant cultural traditions. The occasion reaffirmed the growing friendship between India and Montana and the important role of the Indian diaspora in fostering stronger cultural connections.

AUBURN SHINES BRIGHT WITH DIWALI CELEBRATIONS!



The City of Auburn celebrated Diwali on 5 October 2026 with a special proclamation and ceremonial lighting of the Diwali lamp, in the presence of Mayor Nancy Backus, City Council members and the Indian-American community, celebrating the spirit of light, unity and togetherness.**(5 October 2026, Auburn, Washington)**

INDIA'S ELECTRONICS REVOLUTION: POWERING A SELF-RELIANT, GLOBAL MANUFACTURING HUB



India is rapidly emerging as a global electronics manufacturing powerhouse, with production rising from ₹1.9 lakh crore in 2014–15 to ₹13.11 lakh crore in 2025–26, driven by government initiatives and growing investments.

The Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS) is strengthening domestic manufacturing and reducing import dependence. With an allocation of ₹40,000 crore, the scheme has approved 106 projects across 15 states.

These projects are expected to attract investments worth ₹69,548 crore, generate production worth ₹5.34 lakh crore and create thousands of employment opportunities, boosting India's manufacturing ecosystem.

With expanding semiconductor capabilities and a target of achieving $500 billion in electronics manufacturing by 2030, India is positioning itself as a trusted global technology and manufacturing hub. (17 October 2026)

INDIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE BOOM: CORE SECTOR GROWTH HITS 30-MONTH HIGH OF 7.9%



India's infrastructure sector recorded an impressive 7.9% year-on-year growth in September 2026, its strongest performance in at least two and a half years, reflecting robust industrial activity and economic momentum. The expansion was driven by strong growth in electricity generation, refinery products, coal and iron ore production.

Iron ore output surged by 18.4%, followed by electricity generation at 11.4%, coal production at 10.7% and refinery products at 10.3%. Cement and steel production also registered positive growth, highlighting continued activity across key industrial sectors.

With cumulative infrastructure growth reaching 5.1% during April–September 2026, compared to 2.5% in the corresponding period last year, India's core industries continue to demonstrate resilience and support the country's broader economic development.

India's strong infrastructure growth reflects its expanding industrial capabilities, rising investments and sustained economic momentum. Continued development in energy, manufacturing and connectivity is expected to boost productivity, create new opportunities and further strengthen India's position as a leading global economic powerhouse. (21 October 2026)

INDIA SETS SIGHTS ON 10% OF GLOBAL 6G PATENTS



India has unveiled an ambitious vision to secure 10% of global 6G patents and standards, strengthening its position in next-generation telecommunications. At India Mobile Congress 2026, Union Minister Dr. Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani highlighted India's remarkable digital transformation, with 5G connectivity reaching every district through nearly 5.6 lakh base transceiver stations. The country's 6G roadmap prioritises indigenous technologies, AI-powered networks, quantum communications and enhanced telecom security. (8 October 2026)

INDIA'S HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT SURGES 63% IN 2026



India's highway infrastructure continues to expand, with new National Highway projects awarded increasing by 62.9% year-on-year to 2,236.3 km during April–September 2026. The expansion is expected to improve regional connectivity, strengthen logistics networks and support industrial development. India's infrastructure modernisation continues to create opportunities for faster transportation and greater economic integration across the country.(16 October 2026)



INDIA'S BULLET TRAIN PROJECT CROSSES MAJOR MILESTONE



India's ambitious Mumbai–Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Corridor achieved another milestone with the completion of the bullet train bridge over the Sabarmati River. The development marks important progress in the country's first high-speed rail project, which aims to transform intercity connectivity, reduce travel time and introduce advanced railway technology to India's transportation network.

The project reflects India's commitment to modernising its railway infrastructure through cutting-edge engineering and international collaboration. Once operational, the high-speed corridor is expected to enhance regional connectivity, boost economic activity and set new benchmarks for speed, efficiency and sustainable transportation in the country. (3 October 2026)

INDIA INVESTS ₹4,106 CRORE IN INDIGENOUS DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY



India's Ministry of Defence signed contracts worth ₹4,106 crore for the indigenous GSAT-7C communication satellite and Varunastra heavyweight torpedoes. The ₹2,563 crore satellite project will strengthen secure communications for the Indian Air Force, while the ₹1,543 crore Varunastra contract will enhance the Navy's underwater defence capabilities. The agreements represent continued investment in domestic defence manufacturing and advanced technology. (15 October 2026)



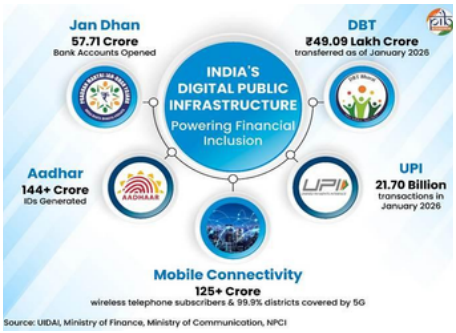
INDIA'S UPI REVOLUTION: LEADING THE WORLD IN DIGITAL PAYMENTS!



India has achieved another remarkable milestone in its digital transformation, with the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) emerging as the world's largest real-time payment system. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman highlighted that UPI now processes over 2,400 crore transactions every month, nearly 80 crore transactions daily, reflecting an extraordinary 13,000-fold increase in annual transaction volumes since 2016–17. This phenomenal growth underscores India's leadership in digital innovation, financial inclusion and accessible payment technologies. As UPI continues to transform everyday transactions and expand its international footprint, it stands as a shining example of India's world-class digital public infrastructure and its growing influence in the global fintech ecosystem.

DIGITAL INDIA: POWERING A CONNECTED, SELF-RELIANT NATION

India's digital revolution is transforming governance, connectivity and economic growth through world-class Digital Public Infrastructure. With over 109 crore internet subscribers, 5G connectivity reaching 99.9% of districts, and UPI accounting for nearly 50% of global real-time payment transactions, India is emerging as a global digital powerhouse. Electronics production has grown nearly sevenfold since 2014–15, while initiatives such as DigiLocker, Aadhaar and BharatNet are making public services more accessible, transparent and efficient. These achievements are accelerating India's journey towards a digitally empowered and Viksit Bharat.



INDIA EMERGES AS GLOBAL AI HUB: COREWEAVE PARTNERS WITH ADANICONNEX



US-based AI cloud leader CoreWeave has announced its entry into India through a strategic collaboration with AdaniConneX to develop 240 MW of advanced AI data centre capacity in Navi Mumbai. Featuring NVIDIA's next-generation Vera Rubin platform, the project aims to accelerate AI innovation, strengthen digital infrastructure and create local employment opportunities. The expansion marks another milestone in India–US technology cooperation and reinforces India's growing position as a global hub for artificial intelligence and digital transformation.

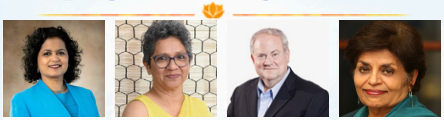
The collaboration is expected to boost India's AI capabilities, attract global investments and support the development of a future-ready digital economy, further strengthening India's position as a leading destination for advanced technology and innovation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

PANEL DISCUSSION

ASIA SOCIETY SEATTLE

Asia's Technology Century: Competing and Collaborating in the Indo-Pacific



PROF. SITAL KALANTRY — Professor of Law & Founding Director, Roundglass India Center — Moderator

INDRANI BAGCHI — Chief Executive Officer, Ananta Centre — Panelist

GARY RIESCHEL — Founding Managing Partner, Qiming Venture Partners; Asia Society Trustee — Panelist

VISHAKHA N. DESAI — Senior Advisor to Columbia Global; Former President, Asia Society — Panelist

2 NOVEMBER 2026
CGI SEATTLE

DIWALI 2026
NOVEMBER EVENTS

Nov 2 (Mon)	6:00 PM	Edmonds	City Hall
Nov 2 (Mon)	6:30 PM	Issaquah	City Hall
Nov 3 (Tue)	11:00 AM	Lynnwood	City Hall
	4:00 PM	Tacoma	City Hall
	6:30 PM	Kent	City Hall
Nov 4 (Wed)	5:00–8:00 PM	Olympia	Capitol Rotunda
Nov 5 (Thu)	6:00 PM	Mukilteo	City Hall
Nov 6 (Fri)	5:00 PM	Snoqualmie	City Hall
Nov 7 (Sat)	6:00 PM	India House	Bellevue
Nov 10 (Tue)	1:00 PM	King County	King County Council Office

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Website: visa.vfsglobal.com/usa/en/ind

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