

# **BRICS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**

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**JUNE 2025**

# **NEWSLETTER**

## NEW MEMBER

## PATRON MEMBER

BRICS CCI is honored to welcome Mrs. Nutan Jain as our esteemed Patron member and a respected social leader and advocate of corporate social responsibility. Born in Delhi, she holds a postgraduate degree in Hospitality Administration from Shreemati Nathibai Damodar Thackeray Women's University, Mumbai. She is married to Mr. Pradeep Kumar Jain, Chairman of Parsavnath Group of Companies, and plays a key role in the family's philanthropic initiatives. As a driving force behind Parsavnath Foundation, Mrs. Jain has led numerous impactful projects in education, healthcare, and poverty alleviation. Her work includes the development of schools, clinics, and libraries, and offering scholarships to underprivileged youth.

Recognized by institutions like Sur Aradhana Cultural Society, Lions Club, and Samaj Sewa Sanstha, she continues to inspire through her dedication to social welfare and community empowerment.

A passionate traveler and cultural ambassador, Mrs. Nutan Jain embodies the values of service, leadership, and inclusive growth that BRICS CCI deeply cherishes.



**MS. NUTAN JAIN**

***PARSVNATH GROUP OF  
COMPANIES***

## CORPORATE MEMBER



Founded in 2011, Womeki Group has emerged as a dynamic, multi-sector enterprise driven by innovation, resilience, and a deep commitment to excellence. With a strong presence in healthcare, food, and apparel, the Group has consistently pushed boundaries to deliver solutions that go beyond utility—offering investments in people’s futures. At the heart of Womeki’s mission is the belief in empowering individuals and communities by creating opportunities for growth, well-being, and progress. Built on a foundation of trust and integrity, the Group’s journey reflects a dedication to transforming lives and setting new industry standards. Looking ahead, Womeki envisions a future where technology becomes a powerful tool for empowerment, and its offerings inspire lasting, positive change. Through a customer-centric approach and a vision rooted in innovation and impact, Womeki aims to lead not just in market presence, but in creating a legacy of value and progress for generations to come.

## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

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Mr. Vipul Gupta has driven widespread innovation across the pharmaceutical sector. By strategically implementing a suite of foundational technologies—ranging from AI-driven market analytics and digital inventory platforms to blockchain-enabled traceability frameworks—he has fundamentally reshaped the industry. His work has systematically enhanced operational efficiency, fortified supply chain integrity against counterfeits, and ultimately broadened patient access to critical therapies. This comprehensive approach has been instrumental in building a more transparent, resilient, and patient-focused healthcare ecosystem nationwide.



**MR. VIPUL GUPTA**

***DIRECTOR,  
D. R. DISTRIBUTORS PRIVATE LIMITED***

## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

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Mohd. Aslam Khan is a distinguished and seasoned trial lawyer with a robust legal career spanning over three decades. He holds a Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree from Aligarh Muslim University (1993), one of India's most prestigious academic institutions known for producing exemplary leaders in law, politics, and public life.

During his time at AMU, he was elected General Secretary of the AMU Students' Union. His deep association with his alma mater continued post-graduation, as evidenced by his two-term presidency of the AMU Lawyers' Forum, where he worked tirelessly to build professional solidarity and mentorship opportunities among legal professionals of AMU heritage.

Currently practicing at the Patiala House Courts in New Delhi.



**MOHD. ASLAM KHAN**

***ADVOCATE,  
UNITED LAW FIRM***

## NEW MEMBER

# INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

Mrs. Manisha Bhatia is a unique blend of grassroots empathy, institutional foresight, and strategic diplomacy. An educator, social entrepreneur, and cultural ambassador, she is widely recognized for her bold, human-centric approach to multilateral collaboration. She has over 2 decades of experience empowering women, strengthening public institutions, and building people-led platforms through her organisations, SSS Creations & Abhinandan Educational & Welfare Society. Mrs. Bhatia embodies a new vision for BRICS: one that transcends geopolitical alliances to prioritize shared prosperity, digital equity, and cultural solidarity.

As the world navigates unprecedented technological, climatic, and geopolitical disruptions, Mrs. Bhatia is leading BRICS into a new era reimagining the bloc not just as a voice for the Global South, but as a bridge between emerging economies and inclusive futures.



**MS. MANISHA BHATIA**

**EDUCATIONIST**



## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

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Ms. Swinky Aggarwal is an educator with a Master's degree in English, combining a strong academic background with practical business experience. Coming from a well-established business family engaged in the manufacturing and export of bicycle parts, she has been actively involved in the day-to-day functioning and strategic planning of the unit. Her hands-on involvement in the business has given her a deep understanding of the manufacturing sector and international trade.

With a strong sense of social responsibility, Swinky is deeply passionate about fostering entrepreneurship and economic empowerment, particularly among women and youth in Punjab. She believes in creating sustainable business opportunities that can drive regional development and uplift communities. Her vision is to bridge the gap between education and enterprise by encouraging skill development, innovation, and self-reliance among aspiring entrepreneurs.



**MS. SWINKY AGGARWAL**

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**EDUCATOR**

## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

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Mr. Amanveer Singh, born on January 15, 1972, in Delhi, is the Founder and Managing Partner of India Photonics–Bharat Photonics, representing global companies in photometry, remote sensing, and solar simulators. A commerce graduate from Delhi University with a diploma in Polymer Technology, he is also a certified Lead Assessor for ISO. His company has worked with leading government agencies like ISRO, CPRI, DRDO, and MSME. He has managed automotive component manufacturing units and held a senior management role (2008–2015) in a Delhi-based group with verticals in healthcare, hospitality, aviation, and NBFCs. He has represented Hamamatsu Photonics, Japan, in India for applications across industries. He lives in Delhi with his wife, an entrepreneur in home furnishing and e-commerce, and their two sons in a joint family setup.



**MR. AMANVEER SINGH**

**FOUNDER,  
INDIA PHOTONICS**



## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

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Mr. Mayank Tyagi is a prominent leader in India's real estate, infrastructure, and policy space, known for uniting vision, execution, and ideology. He represents India globally, fostering cross-border cooperation and sustainable development among BRICS nations. He also serves as General Secretary of Bhartiya Nirman Sangh (BNS), where he champions builder rights and policy reforms, particularly in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities. As Managing Director of Sun N Moon Group, Jaipur, Mayank leads sustainable real estate initiatives focused on affordable housing and ethical development.

He holds key leadership roles in organizations like FORTI, CREDAI, BAI, Brahmin Corporate Connect, and Vipra Foundation, actively working across industry, cultural, and grassroots platforms. Known for engaging with policymakers and forming builder collectives post-RERA and COVID, Mayank is a frequent speaker at industry and community forums. His vision—"Rashtra Pratham" (Nation First)—drives his mission to empower builders, promote cultural unity, and shape people-centric policy.



**MR. MAYANK TYAGI**

**CHAIRMAN & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR,  
SUN N MOON GROUP**

## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

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CA Sahil Mehta is a seasoned Chartered Accountant and Partner at Chandiok & Guliani, with over 12 years of experience in audit, taxation, and transaction advisory services. Based in New Delhi, he specializes in both direct and indirect taxation, advising clients across sectors including manufacturing, real estate, banking, EPC, food & beverage, and startups. His clientele includes major Public Sector Undertakings such as National Fertilizers Limited and NTPC-SAIL Power Company. A Fellow Member of ICAI, Sahil actively engages in knowledge sharing and capacity building. Through his association with the BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BRICS CCI), he contributes to cross-border collaboration, policy advocacy, and economic development. He brings thought leadership in international tax planning, digital transformation, and startup ecosystems, while also mentoring professionals and supporting BRICS CCI's mission of inclusive global growth.



**CA SAHIL MEHTA**

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***PARTNER,  
CHANDIOK GULIANI***

## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

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Ms. Neelu Meena is a dedicated microfinance professional with a Bachelor's degree in Arts and a deep commitment to grassroots empowerment. Her passion lays in transforming lives through financial literacy, health awareness, and community upliftment. With years of hands-on experience, she currently manages and advises a network of over 5,000 self-help groups (SHGs), each consisting of six women from diverse family backgrounds. Through this work, she plays a vital role in fostering financial independence, resilience, and solidarity among rural and semi-urban women.

Mrs. Meena's core expertise includes financial counseling, health education, and holistic approaches to community development. Her work not only addresses economic challenges but also promotes well-being and self-confidence among women at the grassroots level.

Balancing her impactful professional journey, she is also a devoted homemaker and a proud mother of two young children, embodying the spirit of dedication both at home and in the community.



**MS. NEELU MEENA**

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***SOCIAL ACTIVIST***

## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

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Mr. Vaneet Garg is a seasoned entrepreneur, real estate visionary, and strategic business leader with over 15 years of experience in real estate development, infrastructure planning, and community-building across North India. As the Managing Director of Vaneet Infrastructures & Developers Pvt. Ltd., he has led the development of landmark real estate projects such as The Mall of Chandigarh, FashionTV Pvt., AeroTown, and more, reshaping urban experiences across the region. Vaneet also serves as General Secretary of Entrepreneur of Interest (EOI), Punjab, and is a senior member of the Corporate Connects of India, playing a pivotal role in fostering high-level business advocacy and strategic policy dialogues. A member of CREDAI, he actively contributes to regional economic transformation and policy engagement for Tier 2 and 3 cities. Under his leadership, Vaneet Infra has delivered 22 projects, with several ongoing and upcoming developments, serving over 5,000 satisfied customers. Known for his strategic foresight, Vaneet has forged key alliances with top national and international brands, generating large-scale employment and promoting Punjab as a hub for global business. His visionary approach combines integrity, innovation, and a deep commitment to building lives and transforming cities, brick by brick.



**MR. VANEET GARG**

***MANAGING DIRECTOR,  
VANEET INFRASTRUCTURES  
& DEVELOPERS PVT. LTD.***



## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

Ms. Charu Pragya is a lawyer-politician currently heading the National Legal Cell of the BJP's Youth Wing and serving as a National TV Panelist. She is known for her advocacy on governance, education, policy, and social issues. A dedicated reformer, she operates free legal aid centers for women across India, building a pro bono legal network to promote justice. She frequently conducts legal awareness workshops for women and youth, working to bridge rural-urban gaps in access and opportunity.

A graduate of Government Law College, University of Mumbai, she has completed the Oxford Innovation Leadership in Public Policy course and is an alumna of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung School for Young Politicians and Australia-India Youth Dialogue. She has represented India at the Madrid Forum on Democracy and delivered lectures at global platforms like the Election Bridge Conference in Myanmar.

She also serves on the CBFC panel and Governing Body of Ramanujan College, University of Delhi.



**MS. CHARU PRAGYA**

**NATIONAL MEDIA PANELIST, BJP  
BJP YOUTH WING - NATIONAL  
INCHARGE LEGAL CELL & CO-  
INCHARGE - STATE OF UTTAR  
PRADESH**

## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

Mr. Panchul Madaan is a seasoned Legal Advisor and Banking & Corporate Law Expert with over a decade of experience in strategic legal counsel, specializing in NPA recovery, loan restructuring, corporate compliance, and commercial contract management. Based in Amritsar, he has advised a diverse clientele across sectors including textiles, travel, agriculture, media, hospitality, and international trade, offering tailored legal solutions that have resolved over ₹50 crore in distressed assets.

He has successfully led over 90 dispute resolutions, structured over 25 critical contracts, and supported 15+ international transactions exceeding ₹100 crore. His expertise spans compliance under PMLA and FEMA, intellectual property protection, business expansion advisory, and mergers and acquisitions.

Mr. Madaan is also committed to social responsibility, having organized blood donation drives, free medical camps, and education initiatives for underprivileged communities. He holds a BA LLB from Amritsar and continues to serve as a trusted legal strategist for businesses navigating complex regulatory landscapes.



**MR. PANCHUL MADAN**

***BANKING AND CORPORATE  
LAW EXPERT***



## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

Mr. Utpal Brara is a seasoned entrepreneur with over 35 years of experience in the industrial minerals and chemicals sector. Born and brought up in Delhi, he completed his schooling at St. Xavier's and earned his B.Com degree from Kirori Mal College, Delhi University. He joined his father's legacy business—established in 1975—and has since been managing it independently, steering the company's growth both in India and globally.

Under his leadership, the group has expanded operations with factories and offices in Delhi, Udaipur, Alwar, and Chennai. He is actively engaged in international trade, including exports and imports, and frequently travels abroad for trade fairs and factory visits.

Mr. Brara is affiliated with several prestigious institutions such as the Chelmsford Club, Indian Paint Association (IPA), Indian Paint and Coating Association (IPCA), and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), where he participates as an exhibitor in various industry events. His legacy represents five decades of business excellence.



**MR. UTPAL BRARA**

***DIRECTOR,  
BRITEX ENTERPRISES***

## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

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Mr. Aneesh Bansal is a dynamic entrepreneur who owns the Raymond agency across Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and Chandigarh. With years of experience in retail and distribution, he has built a strong presence in the fashion industry. Beyond fashion, Aneesh is a diversified investor with a keen eye for opportunity. His ventures span hardware distribution, real estate holdings, technology startups, and cryptocurrency.



**MR. ANEESH BANSAL**

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**FOUNDER,  
PYARE LAL BANSAL & CO,  
PEE JAY FABRICS PVT LTD,  
SANJEEV KUMAR GUPTA &  
CO AND NITIKA  
ENTERPRISES PVT LTD**

## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

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Ms. Priyanka Kakkar is a distinguished leader of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), serving as its National Chief Spokesperson since April 2023. She has been affiliated with AAP since 2013 and has taken on key roles such as Telangana Observer (2017–2019), Legal Head for South Delhi, and Advisor to Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh (2021–2023). A qualified lawyer with a Master's in Law from the University of Pennsylvania, she brings 17 years of legal practice to her political and advocacy work. Priyanka is known for her effective communication and advocacy skills, frequently appearing in high-profile media discussions on public policy, governance, and social justice. She has been noted for her strong stance against caste- and religion-based politics .



**MS. PRIYANKA KAKKAR**

**ADVOCATE**

## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

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Mr. Chander Prakash Sharma is a seasoned industry leader with over 40 years of experience across the Petroleum, Power, Energy, and Automobile sectors, backed by a strong legal background. A commerce and law graduate from the University of Delhi, he combines strategic foresight, operational excellence, and deep regulatory insight to drive innovation and sustainable growth. Throughout his career, Mr. Sharma has led transformative initiatives in energy operations, petroleum supply chains, renewable integration, and public-private partnerships. Known for his integrity and visionary leadership, he excels at guiding cross-functional teams toward impactful outcomes. Beyond his corporate achievements, he is a passionate music influencer and advocate for the arts, often integrating creativity into his leadership approach. His goal is to continue contributing to the energy sector's growth while championing culture as a force for inspiration and balance.



**MR. CHANDER PRAKASH  
SHARMA**

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**ADVOCATE**

## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

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Ms. Sukhmani Cheema is a strategic and results-driven business leader with extensive experience in operations management, healthcare administration, and business development across global markets. Currently serving as Senior Business Manager at BSA Diagnostics Imaging Inc. in Canada, she leads organizational planning, policy development, and cross-functional coordination to drive operational efficiency and sustainable growth. With a successful entrepreneurial background as the former proprietor of Suchee Feng Shui in India, she has demonstrated excellence in marketing, resource optimization, and team leadership. Sukhmani holds a Master's degree in English and has completed multiple certifications in healthcare management, IPAC, WHMIS, and cultural competence, showcasing her commitment to professional development. Her strengths lie in aligning strategic goals with regulatory compliance, enhancing employee engagement, and delivering measurable business results. With a proven track record of innovation, leadership, and cross-cultural insight, she continues to bring value to healthcare and administrative sectors alike.



**MS. SUKHMANI CHEEMA**

***SENIOR BUSINESS MANAGER,  
BSA DIAGNOSTICS IMAGING INC.***



## NEW MEMBER

# INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

Ms. Rosy Ahluwalia is a renowned fashion designer and TEDx speaker celebrated for her distinctive style and global influence. Her work has been showcased at prestigious platforms like the Hollywood Tribute to Oscars, Cannes Fashion Show, New York and Paris Fashion Weeks. A favorite in the entertainment and luxury sectors, Rosy has designed for celebrities such as Honey Singh, Nushrat Bharucha, and Nargis Fakhri, and collaborated with brands like BMW, Mercedes, and Range Rover.

She is a strong voice for sustainable fashion and has been instrumental in promoting Khadi on international runways, including a special showcase with the UP Khadi Board and BRICS CCI. Rosy has twice opened the show for BHARAT Tex and has been featured in Outlook, Savvy, and Hollywood Magazine.

Committed to reviving Indian craftsmanship, she mentors aspiring designers at NIFD Mumbai and Vidya Institute, Meerut. Rosy continues to blend tradition with innovation, defining the future of eco-conscious luxury fashion.



**MS. ROSY AHLUWALIA**

***FASHION DESIGNER***



## NEW MEMBER

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

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Ms. Yashna Dham is a dynamic entrepreneur and seasoned operations and marketing professional with over a decade of experience across risk consulting, manufacturing, and brand development. A graduate of the London School of Economics with an MSc in Operational Research, and a BSc in Statistics (Hons) from Sri Venkateswara College, Delhi University, she began her career as a Risk Consultant at KPMG India, contributing to SOP creation and audits across major organizations like Hyundai and ONGC.

She later transitioned into brand and operations leadership at Soigné, overseeing manufacturing and marketing, launching successful in-house kidswear lines, and expanding distribution networks across India. In 2021, she founded Baby Doe, a premium Indian brand for baby and toddler footwear and accessories, now retailing via leading platforms like Nykaa Fashion and Les Petit.

Fluent in English and Hindi, she combines strategic thinking with creative execution, and is committed to building thoughtful, high-quality brands rooted in Indian craftsmanship.



**MS. YASHNA DHAM**

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**FOUNDER,  
BABY DOE**

## BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

# UNDERSTANDING DIGITAL PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION ( DPDP ACT), WEBINAR

On June 12th, 2025, BRICS CCI organised an engaging session on the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act bringing together legal and tech minds for an insightful discussion on compliance, accountability, and secure data practices. With expert guidance from Gaurav Mahajan, Partner at The Percept - Law Offices, and Naveen Kumar, VP, IT Operations at Cybersigma, the session covered crucial topics like appointing Consent Managers and Grievance Officers, handling data of children and persons with disabilities, breach notifications to the board, and employee data exemptions. Attendees walked away with clarity, practical tips, and a renewed sense of responsibility toward data privacy in the digital age!



## BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

### BRICS CCI'S ALOK KUMAR SPEAKS AT SPIEF 2025 IN RUSSIA

Honorary Director of BRICS CCI, Russia, Mr. Alok Kumar, represented India as a key speaker at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF) 2025 during the session titled “Technologies: Striving for Leadership”, focused on the future of Artificial Intelligence (AI). In this high-impact session, global leaders discussed how AI is reshaping governance, business, and sustainable development. Mr. Kumar emphasized the strategic role of BRICS in driving AI-led global governance, fostering economic sovereignty, and promoting open-source collaboration for the inclusive growth of the Global South.





## BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

### BRICS CCI'S ALOK KUMAR SPEAKS AT SPIEF 2025 IN RUSSIA

Speaking at SPIEF 2025, Mr. Alok Kumar, highlighted the need for a common AI platform among BRICS nations—focused on open-source access, technological sovereignty, and collaborative innovation. He stressed its potential to drive AI-led growth in smart cities, healthcare, and agriculture, while calling for uniform standards, better data governance, and solutions to the language barrier in AI tools. "You can't go out on the road without knowing the traffic rules," he said, urging a regulatory framework for inclusive access. His message: Joint efforts in open AI will boost sustainable development and BRICS's global tech leadership.



## BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

### **BRICS CCI WE ( BRICS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, WOMEN EMPOWERMENT VERTICAL ) Signs MoU with NAREDCO Mahi**

BRICS CCI – Women Empowerment Vertical ( BRICS CCI WE ) and NAREDCO Mahi have come together to sign a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at promoting women-led economic development in the real estate ecosystem. The MoU was signed by Ms. Preeti Singh, Additional Director General of NAREDCO; Ms. Ruby Sinha, President of BRICS CCI WE; and Mr. Sameep Shastri, Vice Chairman of BRICS CCI. This strategic partnership will focus on empowering women entrepreneurs through policy advocacy, innovation, entrepreneurship programs, and business collaborations across BRICS+ countries.





## BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

### BRICS CCI DELEGATION MEETS PUNJAB CHIEF SECRETARY SHRI K.A.P. SINHA TO BOOST ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

In a significant move towards fostering regional cooperation and international collaboration, BRICS CCI's Regional Director – Chandigarh Chapter, Mr. Deepak Shukla, along with Deputy Director Mr. Durgesh Kumar Jha and member Mr. Manish Mehra, met with Chief Secretary of Punjab, IAS K.A.P. Sinha. The meeting focused on exploring potential avenues for BRICS investments in Punjab, promoting active state participation in various BRICS CCI initiatives, and addressing the concerns of regional members to ensure inclusive and impactful engagement. This dialogue marks a positive and progressive step toward enhancing Punjab's global economic presence and strengthening its ties within the BRICS+ community. The collaboration aims to unlock new opportunities for trade, investment, and innovation, paving the way for sustainable development and mutual growth.





## BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

### BRICS CCI ADVANCES ECONOMIC DIALOGUE WITH MR. MOHAMED MANSOOR L. (IAS), CHANDIGARH EXCISE & TAXATION SECRETARY

In a significant step toward strengthening economic ties, Mr. Deepak Shukla, Regional Director – Chandigarh Chapter, BRICS CCI, along with Mr. Durgesh Kumar Jha, Deputy Director, and Mr. Manish Mehra, BRICS CCI Member, met with **Mr. Mohamed Mansoor L. (IAS), Secretary, Excise and Taxation, Chandigarh**. The meeting focused on enhancing state-level engagement and addressing key concerns of BRICS CCI members—marking an important move toward fostering global collaboration and regional economic growth.



## BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

# SEARCH & SEIZURE UNDER TAX LAWS & ISD



In a landmark initiative to enhance tax transparency and regulatory awareness, the BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BRICS CCI) organized a seminar titled “**Search & Seizure under Tax Law & ISD under GST**” in Chandigarh. Hosted by the BRICS CCI Tax Vertical and the Chandigarh Chapter, the event brought together senior civil servants, tax experts, entrepreneurs, and policy influencers to discuss challenges and solutions in India’s evolving tax framework.

Key highlights included insightful addresses by **Shri L. Mohamed Mansoor, IAS**, and **Mr. Kumar Gaurav Dhawan**, who emphasized trust-based enforcement, data-led compliance, and responsible use of penalties and arrest provisions.





## BUSINESS MEETS AND EVENTS

# SEARCH & SEIZURE UNDER TAX LAWS & ISD

The seminar featured two engaging panel discussions—on tax investigations and ISD under GST—led by experts like **CA Sarthak Garg, CA Pranshu Goel, Mr. Mohit Bansal**, and others. These sessions sparked valuable dialogues around real-time audits, documentation, and cross-state compliance. With active participation and Q&A segments, the seminar underscored BRICS CCI's role as a facilitator of impactful economic dialogue. Under the leadership of Regional Director Mr. Deepak Shukla, the Chandigarh Chapter continues to anchor such knowledge-driven engagements in Northern India.



# BRICS AND BEYOND NEWS

## BRICS Nations Unite to Boost Vocational Education Collaboration

At a recent BRICS meeting, member countries—Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa—agreed to strengthen cooperation in vocational education by sharing best practices, enhancing teacher training, and developing joint programs. The initiative aims to improve skill development, promote innovation, and expand access to quality technical education across all five nations.



## BRICS Champions Global South Leadership in New Technologies and Innovation

On June 25, 2025, in Brasilia, BRICS ministers signed a key declaration to boost cooperation in science, technology, and innovation. Marking a decade of collaboration, the bloc pledged to develop AI infrastructure, support culturally-relevant language models, and share digital tools across the Global South through the new Innovation Action Plan 2025–2030.



# BRICS AND BEYOND NEWS

## **BRICS United by Global Standards: harmonization of trade and environmental governance is the theme of the meeting in Brasilia**

At a recent meeting in Brasilia, BRICS nations emphasized the harmonization of global standards across trade and environmental governance. Member countries committed to aligning regulations and carbon accounting practices, aiming to streamline international trade while strengthening environmental protections.



## **BRICS Health Ministers Approve Partnership to Eliminate Socially Determined Diseases and Strengthen Vaccine Cooperation**

At their June 17, 2025 meeting in Brasília, BRICS Health Ministers approved a strategic partnership to eliminate "socially determined diseases"—those linked to poverty, inequality, and limited healthcare access. The declaration focuses on addressing social health determinants, combating diseases like tuberculosis and malaria, improving vaccine production and distribution, and strengthening health systems across member nations.





# BRICS AND BEYOND NEWS

## BRICS Youth Discuss Just Energy Transition, Prepare Contribution to COP30

On June 17, 2025, in Brasília, BRICS Health Ministers approved a partnership to tackle socially determined diseases and boost vaccine cooperation. The move aims to address health inequalities, combat diseases like TB and malaria, and strengthen vaccine production and healthcare systems across member nations.



## Education and Anti-Poverty Programs Are Key to Preventing Terrorism, BRICS Group Concludes

At a BRICS meeting in Brasília, officials emphasized that education and anti-poverty programs are key to preventing terrorism. They called for early intervention, reintegration efforts, and stronger international cooperation to address radicalization, especially in vulnerable communities.





# ARTICLE



## **DR. SUSHI SINGH**

GOVERNING BODY MEMBER, EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR, CHAIRPERSON POSH  
COMMITTEE, PRESIDENT, CENTRE FOR  
CSR | BRICS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE &  
INDUSTRY

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## **UPDATES CSR | ESG 2025**

### **INTRO**

Amidst global concerns surrounding climate change, environmental protection, pollution levels, and waste management, the role of corporations in promoting social causes and ethical business practices is becoming increasingly crucial. It is imperative for businesses to shift their focus from solely seeking profit to also prioritizing responsible products and efficient services. While some countries have already established comprehensive CSR policies, others are still struggling to formalize theirs. Despite criticisms, more companies worldwide are embracing corporate social responsibility in their strategies.

As an educationist with 32 years of experience in education & CSR | ESG Advocacy, I visualise that for a safe and greener future of both developed &

developing countries, they need to encourage businesses to wholeheartedly embrace ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) principles in their core philosophy, policies, practices, and processes. It will also depend largely on creating a platform for addressing global challenges such as climate change, depletion of natural resources, human rights issues, and resilience strategies to leverage ESG for the long-term benefit of the business, its stakeholders, and society.

### **Sec A INTERNATIONAL UPDATES CSR | ESG**

#### **1. Originally published in Covia's 2024 Corporate Responsibility Report**

# ARTICLE

At Covia, we believe that corporate responsibility is an opportunity to create lasting value for our customers, communities, and the environment. This belief has guided us through a transformative year, one that has strengthened our foundation and positioned us to lead with purpose and innovation.

## **Amplifying climate trends through climate events around the world.**

The climate landscape today is characterized by escalating challenges that have significant implications for businesses and society as a whole. As global temperatures rise and natural ecosystems face unprecedented threats, it is crucial for global organizations to remain focused on their sustainability goals. At KPMG, our climate leaders are focused on the client issues that matter most, and we carry these through everything we do, including the events we participate in. With the goal to educate and inspire, and seize opportunities presented by the transition to a more sustainable future, our focus remains on.

## **3. LB Capturi Drives European Carbon Capture Forward as Key Projects Come to Life**

SLB Capturi is driving European carbon capture forward with two major project milestones officially reached this month: the launch of Norway's Longship full carbon capture and storage (CCS) value chain project,

including the official opening of Heidelberg Materials' carbon capture cement facility in Brevik, Norway, and the official opening of the carbon capture and utilization (CCU) project of Twence's waste-to-energy carbon capture plant in the Netherlands.

## **Sec B National Updates CSR | ESG**

### **1.Bolstering the CSR Framework**

26 Mar 2025 — India's Corporate Sector to Face Enhanced CSR and Compliance Standards with New Companies Act Updates · Bolstering the CSR Framework. ([READ MORE](#)).

### **2.Hyundai's CSR wing launches initiative to preserve tribal ...**

9 May 2024 — Hyundai Motor India Foundation said it advocates supporting indigenous communities, conservation of cultural heritage and safeguarding ...[READ MORE](#)

### **3.Infosys Foundation announces Aarohan Awards**

20 May 2025 — The Aarohan Social Innovation Awards 2025 will accept submissions across three categories: education, healthcare and environmental ...[READ MORE](#)

# ARTICLE



**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

## Gold as an Asset Class: A Timeless Hedge for Investors

Gold has long been intertwined with India's cultural fabric, revered not just as a symbol of prosperity and purity, but as a **store of enduring value**. In recent years, it has also asserted its relevance as a **strategic financial asset**, especially amid economic uncertainty, market volatility, and currency depreciation. For Indian investors, gold remains both a **legacy holding** and a **modern portfolio stabilizer**.

### Why Gold Matters in Investment Portfolios

Despite being a non-yielding asset, gold offers **unique benefits**:

- Globally accepted & highly liquid
- Resilient across market cycles
- Low or negative correlation with equities & bonds
- Hedge against inflation, currency depreciation & geopolitical risks

In periods of financial instability, gold **preserves purchasing power** and adds **defensive strength** to diversified portfolios.

**Performance Snapshot: June 2024 – June 2025** Among the best-performing global asset classes

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>12-Month Return</u>
Gold (India)	↑ ~28–40%
Gold (Global)	↑ ~25–38%
Indian Equities (Nifty/Sensex)	~2–4% (Flat)
Global Equities (S&P 500)	↑ ~5–8%

During crises: Gold averages +20.7% vs Equities at -8.1%

### Gold Price Outlook: 2025–2026 Projections

- **Global Target:** \$2,700–\$3,000/oz
- **Indian Target:** ₹72,000–78,000 per 10g

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## • Key Drivers:

- o Central bank accumulation (China, India, Russia)
- o Real interest rate trends
- o Fiscal deficits and geopolitical tension
- o USD weakness boosting gold appeal

## Investment Options for Indian Investors

### 1. Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGBs)

- 2.5% annual interest (taxable)
- Tax-free capital gains on maturity

### 2. Gold ETFs

- SEBI-regulated, liquid, Demat-based

### 3. Digital Gold

- Convenient micro-investing, less regulated

### 4. Gold Mutual Funds

- SIP-enabled via ETFs, suitable for retail investors

### 5. Physical Gold

- Traditional, but involves purity, storage & insurance risks

### 6. Gold Mining Companies / ETFs

- Indirect exposure with potential for leveraged returns
- Higher risk due to operational & market factors
- Suitable for informed investors seeking growth

## Tax Implications Across Gold Investment Types (India, 2025)

Investment Type	Short-Term ( $\leq 3$ yrs)	Long-Term ( $> 3$ yrs)	Notes
Physical Gold	Taxed at slab rate	20% with indexation	Includes jewellery, bars, coins
Digital Gold	Taxed at slab rate	20% with indexation	Not SEBI-regulated; audit/redemption risks
Gold ETFs	Taxed at slab rate	20% with indexation	SEBI-regulated, traded via Demat
Gold Mutual Funds	Taxed at slab rate	20% with indexation	Ideal for SIPs; invests in ETFs
SGBs	Interest: Taxed (2.5%)	Capital Gains: Tax-Free	Only if held to maturity (8 yrs); else LTCG rules apply

# ARTICLE

## Strategic Considerations

- ✓ **Suggested Allocation:** 5–15% of portfolio
- ✓ **Inflation Hedge:** Real value protection during rising prices
- ✓ **Currency Shield:** INR depreciation enhances returns
- ✓ **Tax Efficiency:** SGBs offer the best post-tax outcomes
- ✓ **Liquidity & Safety:** ETFs and SGBs are SEBI-regulated

## Long-Term Wealth Planning with Gold

Gold is **not speculative**; it is a **core strategic allocation**. It aligns with the Indian ethos of **stability, continuity, and legacy-building**. With enduring relevance across generations and growing global demand, gold's role in portfolios will only strengthen.

## Conclusion: Heritage Meets Strategy

Gold remains a bridge between India's **cultural heritage** and its **financial future**. Its outperformance in 2024–25 reaffirms its value in modern wealth strategies.

A thoughtfully chosen gold allocation provides both **protection and long-term promise**.

- Preferred Formats: SGBs for long-term, ETFs for liquidity
- For a bespoke gold allocation strategy, connect with your Prisha Wealth Advisor today.

### Disclosures:

- Investment in securities market are 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

- **Suggested Allocation:** 5–15%
- **12-Month Outlook:** \$2,700–\$3,000/oz (Global), ₹72,000–78,000/10g (India)





**MR. RAHUL BAGGA**  
FOUNDER - AUMIRAH  
INDIVIDUAL MEMBER, BRICS CCI

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## **IP in the Global South: India's Initiatives & Contribution in Developing Policy for BRICS**

### **1. Introduction**

The global framework of intellectual property rights (IPR) has been highly divergent on the lines of geopolitical and developmental asymmetry which means that the laws made for protection of one's intellectual property are very much leaned toward the thinking of the North which only discusses western Upliftment based on their economic priorities. Historically, the standards of IP are based on agreements like TRIPS (Trade related aspect of Intellectual property Rights), which favor already industrialized nations and are very much tilted towards their economic regime which leads to complaints from developing nations of global exploitation in terms of technological and commercial growth. It is in the paradigmatic and dire need of time that the BRICS consortium (Brazil, Russia, India,

China, South Africa) appears not only as an alliance of geopolitical expediency, but as an agency of change in repackaging the ideology of global governance in IP in terms of development hierarchy, epistemic justice and strategic plurality. In this multi-lateral axis, India has established itself as an intellectual center of gravity and institutional North Star and has argued that the established IP framework needs to be reset to fit the requirements of the public health needs of society, preservation of traditional knowledge and local innovation.

The Indian theology of IPR is constitutionally inspiring in nature, where the balance between proprietary ownership and the societal good-will is at the center of careful consideration. Legislative finesse as portrayed by section 3(d) of the Indian

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Patents Act and judicial adversity as reflected in the ruling by Novartis AG v. India has created and implemented TRIPS flexibilities and has also designed a sui generis form of micro governance which is reflective of its socio-economic realities. The present study attempts to carry out a critical exposition of the leading contributions made by India to the developing IP architecture in the context of the BRICS arrangement. Through an insight into role played by India in leading activities like the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL), the AI-based digitalization of IP examination, and the multilateral convergence of IP classification systems by BRICS Heads of Intellectual Property Offices (HIPO), this discussion explains the outlines of this transformative power.

The discourse also questions the manner in which India now, by virtue of BRICS, exerts its rule of normative counterpoint to the Global North paradigms, hence fostering a Southern solidarity in the global intellectual property discourse. It is on this background that the subsequent sections examine the IP jurisprudential angle in India, its catalytic policy efforts in BRICS and the consequent jurisprudential, institutional, and technological permutations in its member states. Discussions of cooperation, resistance, and normative reconstitution points to the need for globally resonant but locally anchored IP regime and such an agenda is one at which

India continues to remain clear sighted in the BRICS setup.

## **2. The IP history of India referring to Global south**

India's Intellectual Property (IP) system is strongly based on its foundational constitutional goal of achieving socio-economic justice. This is reflected in the Directive Principles of State Policy which guides the law to ensure fairness and welfare of all the citizens. The Patent Act, 1970- especially, after amendment of 2005 which was made to ensure alignment with the World Trade Organizations, TRIPS (Trade related aspect of Intellectual Property Rights) agreement- which strikes a very skillful balance between promoting innovation and protecting public interest.

The Honorable Supreme Court of India in the case of Novartis AG V. Union of India observed and laid an emphasis on section 3(d) of the Indian Patent Act, 1970, which said that any new substance should prove its efficacy. The company tried “evergreening”, where the product was not a new substance but just a different version of an existing substance, which denies any advancement in its therapeutic effectiveness. The court said that the company must have proven that the new version worked better for treating disease than the older version. The concept of efficacy is very important; the court

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stated in its observation and denied any new patent to Novartis on the drug “Beta crystalline form of imatinib mesylate”. This judgement is a key step towards protecting public interest and enhancing the innovation strata of the country.

Another tool in shaping India’s Patent regime is Compulsory Licensing, which is dealt under Section 84 of The Patents Act, 1970. It allows the government to permit another company to manufacture and sell a patented product without the patent holder’s consent, if certain conditions are met- this is done mainly to ensure availability of essential drugs and deny monopoly on medicines to make it affordable for welfare of the public. The conditions are laid under section 90 of the Patents Act, 1970, among which the most important part is the affordability of the article to the general public. In the case of Bayer Corporation V. Natco Pharma Ltd., India granted its first compulsory licenses to Natco Pharma to develop lifesaving drugs to treat kidney cancer, which was developed by the Bayer Corporation. After evaluating Natco Pharma’s attempts to obtain voluntary license from Bayer Corporation, which eventually was denied by the patent holder, the Intellectual property appellate board granted the compulsory license keeping its affordability for general public.

India’s approach in IP, especially with the Pharmaceutical sector has been adopted and

applauded widely. Nations like Brazil and South Africa have appreciated and adopted India’s approach and updated their laws accordingly. India’s focus on public health is aligned with the DOHA Declaration on TRIPS and Public Health (2001), which states that WTO member states have the right to protect public health and promote access to medicine.

## **3. BRICS HIPO: A Stage for IP development in Global South**

The BRICS Head of Intellectual Property Offices (HIPO) is a global stage that brings together the Intellectual Property offices of BRICS nation (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa). It allows the interconnectedness among the emerging economies, encouraging cooperation, exchange of technicalities of inventions, and shaping Intellectual Property Legislations and policies that are aligned with developmental needs. Unlike different Global Stages where policies are framed according to the developed countries, reflecting their hegemonic behavior, BRICS HIPO creates a space for the Global South to lead the dialogues on Intellectual Property. An applauded development occurred during the 8th BRICS HIPO meeting which took place in New Delhi in April 2017, under the Indian Chairmanship. This particular meeting was not just a calendar event- it marked a turning

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point in BRICS IP development and Cooperation. It addressed topics such as training patent examiners, protecting traditional knowledge, digitizing IP systems, and helping small businesses (MSME) utilize Intellectual Property more effectively. India carried discussion on patent exceptions, harmonized classification systems, and assessing databases throughout BRICS countries for efficient working among themselves.

Some key outcomes were the proposed unified BRICS IP portal and steps towards standardized patent classification. Such developments are to ensure that the procedures of IP are simplified and are more uniform in the five countries. The declarations are worth praising and were not treated as mere a formal documents, but rather as commitments that each foundation country has reflected in their policies. This includes the formal adoption of 2018 Operation Guidance Framework, which standardizes internal processes and launched BRICS IP website, laying a unified vision across seven crucial domains such as legal alignment, capacity building, public awareness, examiner training, data sharing, international forum collaboration, and mechanism formation. In the 2019 Cape Town conference, the suggestion and adoption of the BRICS IP cooperation in the fields of trademark and design expanded the scope of protection and promotion of Industry.

The 2021 online conference chaired by India in which India laid, an emphasis on the use of AI and digital tools in IP application processing, remote program delivery, etc. This vision was also conducive to the 2024 BRICS HIPO summit, which insisted upon digital integration and cooperation in examiner training and exchange of data.

BRICS HIPO is not just a committee to administer technical progress – it is about making a collective IP identity for the Global south. By working together, BRICS countries are ensuring a bright future for Intellectual Property rules which facilitates both innovation and public interest.

## **4. India's initiatives in framing IP Policies for BRICS Countries**

### **a) Traditional Systems of Medicine and Knowledge (TKMS) Project**

More recently, the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) initiative in India, the very first of its kind that codifies, in digital form, traditional medicinal formulations that are made widely available to patent offices anywhere in the world and has played a major role in curbing bio-piracy.

During the 16th HIPO (Moscow, 2024), India suggested the project, which could be have been called the Traditional Systems of Medicine and Knowledge, to be used in



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Modern Science. This is one of the initiatives describing the integration of the traditional knowledge systems into modern scientific research in a shared database of BRICS countries, with the assistance of defensive patenting advancement and cross-country knowledge validation.

## **b) AI and Machine Learning in IP Examination**

India proposed the use of AI and machine learning in the examination of trademarks and designs. This is a model of a change in procedural efficacy. It will help the backlog in IP offices, and guarantee consistency in examination practice. It is also positioning itself alongside India's Digital India initiative and may become a possible example to be followed by other developing economies.

## **c) Examiner Training & MSME Support**

In India, frequent training programs on examiners and exams are now institutionalized, i.e., they are part and parcel of the BRICS framework, like the BRICS Examiners Training Seminar that was held in Nagpur (2017). The goal of this initiative is human capital development in the administration of Intellectual Properties and the promotion of an innovation culture. Moreover, India has become a driving force to assist MSMEs in identifying, protecting, and commercializing their IP assets.

## **d) Unified BRICS IP Portal and Data Exchange**

India has put forward a centralized electronic platform to align IP databases and make it easier to file cross-border applications, as well as offer the capability for provide examiner cooperation in real-time across BRICS nations. It is envisaged that the proposed portal will be a single window system in exchanging IP intelligence, which is particularly useful to regional innovators and research institutions.

## **5. India's Role in Global South IP Governance**

This is because BRICS is helping India to impact international IP governance as the spokesperson of the Global South in multilateral processes. In the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the World Health Organization (WHO), India pursues a development-oriented IP agenda.

The role of leadership became most evident in the case of the COVID-19 pandemic, when India co-sponsored the vaccines and therapeutic TRIPS waiver (WTO TRIPS Waiver Proposal 2021). India boosts demands for equity in the transfer of technology, compulsory licensing and capacity-building through BRICS.

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Moreover, India has expressed its opposition towards TRIPS-plus commitments in bilateral trade agreements and has also voiced support for changes to patent laws to suit the national methods of innovation. The unilateralism of the narratives that focus on the Global North in terms of IP governance is challenged by BRICS through coordinated submissions and common declarations.

## **6. Difficulties in Policy Implementation**

Despite India's proactive participation, several structural and cross-border challenges persist. Although India has made bold moves towards influencing intellectual property (IP) policies through BRICS platform, it has become hard to convert ideas into actions. The present challenges are hindrances to smooth implementation. The first one is that BRICS countries do not share one legal system, the second obstacle is lack of technological infrastructure, another obstacle is the coercive use of power by developed nation and lastly, political tension among BRICS countries.

India follows common law regime, whereas China and Russia are the countries of civil or socialist law. Such differences in legal systems create difficulties in harmonizing laws and regulations and in achieving unitary adoption. The second obstacle is lack of technological infrastructure. Nations such as India and China are fast developing in the area of AI, digital IP filing, and automation. Nevertheless, not all the

BRICS partners are doing well due to outdated infrastructure, insufficient digital literacy, or lack of investment in IP tech. Consequently, it becomes hard to use common AI tools or incorporate databases.

Another threat that arises is outside lobbying and the coercive use of power, particularly by developed countries and multinational pharmaceutical industries. Such influential players tend to oppose India's initiatives to advocate higher standards of patentability and protection of the interests of the people, like the one in Section 3(d) of Indian Patents Act. They claim these rules are damaging to the innovation process, but for India and the rest of the Global South, this is a very important means of making health care affordable and encouraging indigenous development.

Lastly, political tensions within BRICS can result in decelerating cooperation. An example on this is that the historic differences and strategic mistrust between India and China, which are obstacles to greater institutional collaboration. Such tensions may postpone the establishment of common platforms or collaborative projects, even in cases where they are mutually profitable.

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## 7. Way Ahead

India has also developed as an active participant among the BRICS on matters relating to the development of intellectual property (IP) policy that favors the cause of the mass and innovation as well as balanced growth. But the only way to become the leader and make its initiatives widely implemented, India should undertake some rather well-thought-out steps that will consolidate its role in BRICS as well as in the Global South.

India must strive to organize a BRICS IP Think Tank. This would be an institute that would assemble legal experts, policy researchers, economists and technologists from each of the BRICS countries. The said think tank would assist in maintaining consistency on the intellectual property arena, monitor the nascent issues, and foster home grown solutions befitting the circumstances of the developing countries.

Second, India could begin by rolling out a multilateral BRICS platform and a bilateral implementation agreement within the BRICS grouping. An example could be an, India-South Africa pilot project on the application of AI in patent examination as a test case. As soon as the model demonstrates encouraging results, one will be able to scale up the results to cover the whole region of BRICS. This gradual process will ease the risk, and countries will be able to connect through small, joint successes.

Third, India has a chance to lead in capacity-building on digital IP infrastructure, particularly in parts of the world, such as Africa and Latin America, where the systems are developing. With technical assistance, training solutions, and online toolkits, India will be able to assist these countries in modernizing their IP systems. This will not only enhance the South-south cooperation but also grants more authority to India and develops a broader base of support for its IP vision. India must not be overshadowed by BRICS and should involve itself in the wider Global South networks such as the Group of 77 (G77) and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). In this way, India will also be able to promote its model of IP that is oriented toward the common good, guided by local needs, inspired by access and affordability and grounded in locally developed IP on the international arena.

These measures will enable India to guarantee that its leadership, in the area of IP, is not only symbolic but is also practical, strategic and effective to developing nations across the globe.

## 8. Conclusion

The intellectual property (IP) of India, especially in the Global South and BRICS, is an advancement of Indian involvement in the field of IP, shifting from reactive involvement to an active frontier leader in the world.

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The pursuit of socio-economic justice using the IP law as an instrument of such justice is now a diplomatic and institutional challenge globally. India has become a thought leader by advocating policy convergence, procedural harmonization, and digital modernization among emerging economies through the BRICS platform, especially, the Heads of Intellectual Property Offices (HIPO) meetings. The idea of India to include the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) and the Traditional Knowledge Systems for Modern Science is indicative of the Indian desire to conserve culture and combine it with scientific advances.

The proposal to make use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) in the examination of trademarks and designs by India is also a visionary. This project not only increases the efficiency of IP procedures but also serves an exemplar that can be adopted by other developing countries who want to introduce the concept of digitizing their IP systems as well. Nonetheless, the introduction of such futuristic concepts has not been smooth sailing. In order to proceed, the BRICS countries should be concentrated on the development of trust, the improvement of technical cooperation, and the possibility to avoid the obstruction of the unified success by geopolitical barriers. The BRICS legal systems differ enormously, in that they are based on common or civil law traditions. It is this

difference which makes harmonization hard. India needs to go beyond suggestions and focus on execution to eliminate these inhibitors and cement its leadership position.

To conclude, India is not only rewriting its IP story, but it is also assisting Global South to develop a common stance in international IP regulation. Its constitutional values, legal instrumentation, technological innovation, and diplomatic intervention have given it a special place as an agent of change in the establishment of a more inclusive, balanced and innovation-oriented global IP regime. With ongoing leadership in BRICS and beyond. India remains in a position to ensure that the benefit of intellectual property works both in progress and in the service of the people.





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## **Data Governance in the Era of AI and Privacy: A focus for Indian Companies**

In the digital age, data governance has become a cornerstone for businesses, particularly in the context of emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the increasing emphasis on privacy and cybersecurity. For Indian companies, navigating this landscape is crucial, given the stringent regulatory environment and the rapid adoption of advanced technologies. This article explores the importance of data governance in the era of AI and privacy, focusing on the unique challenges and opportunities faced by Indian companies.

Data governance refers to the overall management of the availability, usability, integrity, and security of data used in an organization. It involves a set of processes, roles, policies, standards, and metrics that ensure the effective and secure use of data.

In the context of AI and privacy, data governance plays a pivotal role in ensuring that data is used ethically, securely, and in compliance with ever evolving regulatory changes. India has recently enacted regulations that emphasize data protection and cybersecurity for the regulated sectors and businesses. The Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDP) of 2023 is a significant step towards ensuring that personal data is processed in a manner that respects the privacy and autonomy of individuals. Additionally, regulatory bodies such as SEBI, RBI, IRDAI, and CERT-In have specific guidelines and directives aimed at enhancing cybersecurity and cyber threats. There are several challenges which are being faced by a lot of Indian companies in this evolving regulatory landscape, some of which are encapsulated hereinbelow:

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**Evolving Regulations:** The regulatory landscape is constantly evolving, with new laws and amendments being introduced regularly. Companies must stay updated and ensure compliance with multiple sector-specific regulations.

**b. Rapid Technology Adoption:** The rapid adoption of technologies such as cloud computing, IoT, AI/ML, and blockchain has expanded the attack surfaces and increased the complexity of data management.

**c. Third-Party Ecosystems:** Outsourcing and reliance on third-party vendors have increased exposure to unmanaged cyber risks.

**d. Skill Gaps:** Most Boards and management teams lack the necessary expertise in cybersecurity and data governance to effectively oversee and manage these risks.

**e. Rising Cyber Threats:** The surge in cyber threats such as ransomware, phishing, deepfakes, and insider threats poses significant challenges to data security.

However, there are available good practices which can be adopted for proper and enhanced data governance measures which could be adopted by Indian companies, such as:

- **Elevate Cybersecurity & Governance to a Strategic Priority:** Form a Board-level Data & Cybersecurity & Risk Committee with clear charters. Align cyber strategy with business objectives and regulatory frameworks. Establish a dedicated committee too verse data governance and cybersecurity. This committee should have a clear charter and be responsible for aligning the organization's cyber strategy with business objectives and regulatory requirements.
- **Ensure Implementation, Not Just Policy Approvals:** This requires regular operational updates from the CISO/DPO on threat exposure, incident trends, data breach metrics, and cyber hygiene. Conduct independent cybersecurity maturity assessments, Data Audits, and Data Protection Impact Assessments. Implement a system where the
- **Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) or Data Protection Officer (DPO) provides quarterly updates to the Board on key metrics such as threat exposure, incident trends, and cyber hygiene practices. Additionally, conduct independent assessments to evaluate the organization & cybersecurity maturity.**

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- Enhance Cyber and Regulatory Literacy at Board Level: Appoint cyber-experienced external advisors and conduct annual Board training on regulatory obligations, breach reporting thresholds, AI Ethics and AI governance, and ransomware trends. Invest in continuous education for the Board and senior management. Appoint external advisors with expertise in cybersecurity and regulatory compliance to provide guidance and training. Conduct annual training sessions to keep the Board updated on the latest regulatory changes, AI governance, and emerging cyber threats.
- Demand Continuous Monitoring and Real-Time Risk Visibility: Mandate data flow mapping, especially for sensitive or regulated data. Implement live dashboards for cyber and privacy KPIs. Implement data flow mapping to track the movement and storage of sensitive data. Use live dashboards to monitor key performance indicators (KPIs) related to cybersecurity and data privacy in real-time. This ensures that the organization can quickly respond to any potential threats or breaches.
- Strengthen Third-Party and Supply Chain Cyber Governance: Approve a Third-Party Risk Management Policy with pre-engagement risk screening, Data Protection Agreements (DPAs), and ongoing cyber monitoring.
- Develop a comprehensive Third- Party Risk Management Policy that includes pre-engagement risk assessments, Data Protection Agreements, and ongoing monitoring of third-party vendors. Ensure that all vendors meet baseline cybersecurity and privacy requirements.
- Ensure Resilience Through Preparedness and Testing: Approve and test Incident Response and Ransomware policies. Conduct Board-level cyber breach simulations annually. Develop and regularly test Incident Response and Ransomware policies to ensure the organization is prepared for potential cyber incidents. Conduct annual cyber breach simulations at the Board level to evaluate the effectiveness of these policies and identify areas for improvement.
- Allocate Resources Based on Risk: Ensure cybersecurity spending reflects data sensitivity, threat landscape, and regulatory risk. Link investments to business and sector priorities. Develop a risk-adjusted cybersecurity investment plan that prioritizes spending based on data sensitivity, the threat landscape, and regulatory requirements. Ensure that investments are aligned with the organization's business objectives and sector-specific priorities.

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- Ensure Compliance with India's Evolving Legal Landscape: Mandate an enterprise-wide DPDP Act compliance program. Track regulatory obligations via a compliance heatmap. Appoint a Chief Privacy Officer (CPO) reporting independently to the Board/Audit Committee. Implement an enterprise-wide compliance program for the Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDP). Use a compliance heatmap to track regulatory obligations and ensure that the organization remains compliant with all relevant laws and regulations. Appoint a Chief Privacy Officer (CPO) who reports directly to the Board or Audit Committee to oversee compliance efforts.

Notably, Data governance in the era of AI and privacy is not just a compliance requirement but a strategic necessity for Indian companies. By embedding data protection and cybersecurity into their value systems, companies can reduce regulatory exposure, enhance customer trust, improve investor confidence, and strengthen overall business resilience. The Board must play a proactive role in ensuring robust data governance practices that go beyond mere compliance checklists, fostering a culture of accountability and ethical data use.



# LAW DIGEST



## **Bombay High Court Upholds Order Refusing To Declare “TikTok” As Well Known Trademark Owing To Its Ban In India**

The Bombay High Court recently refused to quash and set aside an order passed by the Registrar of Trade Marks, which refused to recognise “Tik Tok” as a well known Mark under the Trade Marks Act, noting that the social media application is banned in India.

Link: <https://www.livelaw.in/high-court/bombay-high-court/bombay-high-court-rules-tiktok-not-well-known-trademark-294885>

## **Delhi HC permits IndiaMART to use ‘PUMA’ mark as a search option in drop- down menu; directs to take down infringing listings on notice**

In an appeal filed by the appellant, i.e., IndiaMART Intermesh Ltd. assailing the judgment dated 3-1-2024, passed by Single Judge, the Division Judge Bench of Vibhu Bakhru\* and Tara Vitasta Ganju, JJ., set aside the impugned order to the extent that it restrained IndiaMART from providing an option to use the ‘PUMA’ mark for the description of any goods as a search option in the drop-down menu presented to prospective sellers at the time of the registration on the IndiaMART platform. However, we sustain the direction that IndiaMART should forthwith take down all infringing listings containing the PUMA marks on the same being brought to its notice.

Link: <https://www.scconline.com/blog/post/2025/06/05/dhc-permits-indiamart-to-use-puma-mark-as-search-option-in-drop-down-menu/>



# LAW DIGEST



## **Ola Electric sued over Bharat Cell trademark: Delhi High Court sends case to mediation**

The Delhi High Court on Thursday referred to mediation a trademark dispute between lithium-ion battery maker Kushmanda Power Limited (KPL) and Ola Electric over the use of the mark “Bharat Cell” for electric vehicle battery cells.

Link: <https://www.barandbench.com/news/litigation/ola-electric-sued-over-bharat-cell-trademark-delhi-high-court-sends-case-to-mediation>

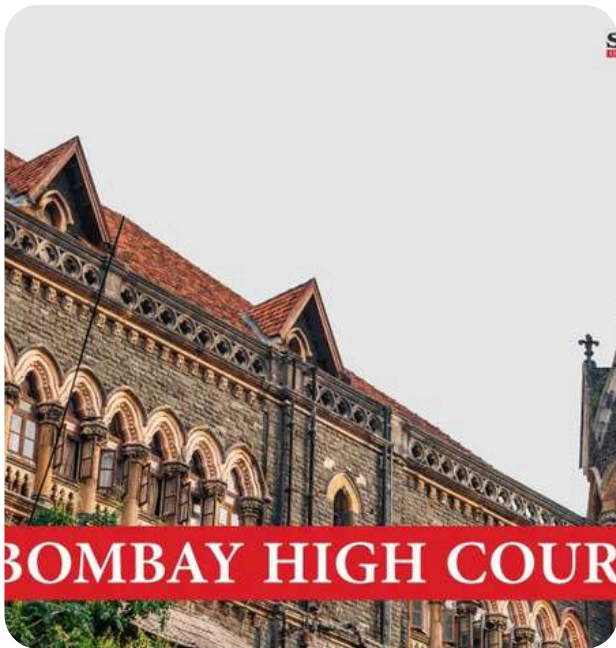
## **No Intention To Infringe : Lenskart Tells Delhi High Court Over “Mistake” In Using Titan’s Trademarks On Website & As Meta Tags**

Indian multinational eyewear company Lenskart recently admitted to its mistake in using Tata owned eyewear brand Titan’s trademarks on its website and in meta tags. Titan Company Limited had sued Peyush Bansal’s Lenskart for infringement of its trademarks Titan, Titan Eye+ and Fastrack. The company claimed that its registered marks are used on Lenskart’s website and also as meta tags to the.

Linkdin: <https://www.livelaw.in/high-court/delhi-high-court/no-intention-to-infringe-lenskart-tells-delhi-high-court-over-mistake-in-using-titan-trademarks-on-website-as-meta-tags-295767>



# LAW DIGEST



## **Bombay HC grants interim relief to 'SOCIAL' restaurant against 'SOCIAL TRIBE' in trade mark dispute.**

Bombay High Court: The present interim application was filed by the applicant 'SOCIAL' seeking remedy for trademark infringement and passing off. The defendant 'SOCIAL TRIBE' was using the mark in a deceptively similar manner. A Single Judge Bench of Sharmila U. Deshmukh, J., held that adding the suffix 'TRIBE' to 'SOCIAL' did not change the fact that the defendant attempted to infringe the applicant's registered trademark. The Court granted injunctive relief, restraining the defendant from further infringement.

Link: <https://www.scconline.com/blog/post/2025/06/18/bomhc-grants-interim-relief-to-social-in-trade-mark-dispute/>

## **Even Brief Or Momentary Confusion In Mind Of Consumer Sufficient To Establish Trademark Infringement: Delhi High Court**

The Delhi High Court has held that even a momentary confusion between two competing trademarks in the mind of a consumer is sufficient to constitute trademark infringement. A division bench of Justices Vibhu Bakhru and Sachin Datta thus granted interim relief to US based casual and sports apparel brand Under Armour in its appeal against an Indian company manufacturing clothes and footwear.

Link: <https://www.livelaw.in/high-court/delhi-high-court/even-brief-or-momentary-confusion-in-mind-of-consumer-sufficient-to-establish-trademark-infringement-delhi-high-court-293661>





# LAW DIGEST

## (No) Royalty in the Clouds: Between Copyright and Consumption



In a significant judgement, the Delhi High Court in *Commissioner of Income Tax v. Amazon Web Services* held that payments for cloud computing services to AWS do not constitute “royalty,” citing the absence of any commercial exploitation of IP rights. Rupam and Kartik analyse this judgement, explaining how it marks a pivotal moment in India’s approach to taxing cross-border digital transactions. Rupam is a final-year law student at NLSIU, Bangalore, and a Foundation for International Tax Scholar 2024. Kartik is a final-year student at the National Law School of India University.

Link:- <https://spicyip.com/2025/06/no-royalty-in-the-clouds-between-copyright-and-consumption.html>

## Copyright Strikes? ANI-time! Disappearing Free Speech in the Copyright and Broadcasting World

Of late, private news agency Asian News International (“ANI”) has established its presence in the realm of copyright litigation through its involvement in the OpenAI case (discussed [here](#)). The instant case, however, throws open the Pandora’s box, and takes the discussion beyond proprietary rights to Constitutional freedoms. Earlier highlighted by the Reporters’ Collective, and now by a viral video uploaded by YouTuber Mohak Mangal (with more than 6 million views as of 30 May 2025), an aggressive ANI business strategy that has been targeted towards several creators is in the news.

Link:-<https://spicyip.com/2025/05/copyright-strikes-ani-time-disappearing-free-speech-in-the-copyright-and-broadcasting-world.html>





# LAW DIGEST



## Breakout or Breakdown? could set Nifty's next big move, says Harshubh Shah

Breakout or Breakdown? could set Nifty's next big move, says Harshubh Shah The Indian equity markets wrapped up the week on a strong footing, with the Nifty50 registering a 2% gain for the week ended June 27, 2025. Bullish sentiment dominated four out of the last five trading sessions, backed by a sharp intraday rally, resilient support zones, and strategic time-based inflection points that aligned well with recent market moves.

Link: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/markets/stocks/news/breakout-or-breakdown-june-30-could-set-niftys-next-big-move-says-harshubh-shah/articleshow/122139369.cms?from=mdr>

## India's factory growth hits 14-month high on exports surge in June, PMI shows

India's manufacturing activity accelerated to a 14-month high in June, driven by a substantial rise in international sales that boosted output and sparked record-breaking hiring, a business survey showed on Tuesday.

Link: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/indias-factory-growth-hits-14-month-high-on-exports-surge-pmi-shows/articleshow/122173950.cms?from=mdr>



# LAW DIGEST



## **India would love a big, beautiful trade pact with US: Nirmala Sitharaman**

AS THE July 9 deadline to avoid the United States' punitive reciprocal tariffs is drawing closer, the government has hinted at uninhibited deal-making with the world's largest economy but also made an unequivocal commitment to draw definitive red lines in the best interests of India's farmers and livestock breeders.

Link:-

<https://indianexpress.com/article/business/economy/india-would-love-a-big-beautiful-trade-pact-with-us-nirmala-sitharaman-10096648/>

## **India to be world's 4th largest electric car maker by 2030; must cut costs to compete with China: Rhodium**

India's planned electric four-wheeler manufacturing capacity is set to rise over tenfold to 2.5 million (1 million = 10 lakh) units by 2030 — up from just 0.2 million today — making it the fourth-largest globally after China, Europe, and the US, according to new research by Rhodium Group.

Link:<https://indianexpress.com/article/business/economy/india-4th-largest-electric-car-maker-2030-china-rhodium-group-10077852/>



# LAW DIGEST



## **HDFC Bank CEO moves Bombay HC to quash FIR based on Lilavati Trust's complaint over 'Rs 2 crore bribe'**

HDFC Bank Managing Director and CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan has approached the Bombay High Court challenging the First Information Report (FIR) filed against him on a complaint by Lilavati Kirtilal Mehta Medical Trust (LKMM Trust), which oversees the Lilavati Hospital in Bandra (West), a prominent healthcare institution in Mumbai.

Link:<https://indianexpress.com/article/business/banking-and-finance/hdfc-bank-ceo-moves-bombay-hc-to-quash-fir-based-on-lilavati-trusts-complaint-over-rs-2-crore-bribe-10074916/>

## **Hyderabad doctor gets US patent for innovative heart defect closure device**

A Hyderabad-based doctor has received a United States patent for his innovative medical device designed to close septal defects in both children and adults. Nageswara Rao Koneti, Senior Consultant and Head of the Division of Pediatric Cardiology at Rainbow Children's Heart Institute, Hyderabad, has received the patent for KONAR-MF (Multifunctional) Occluder.

Link:- [Hyderabad doctor gets US patent for innovative heart defect closure device - CNBC TV18](#)



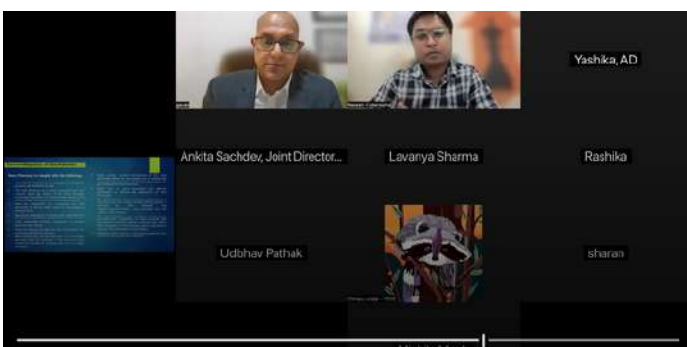
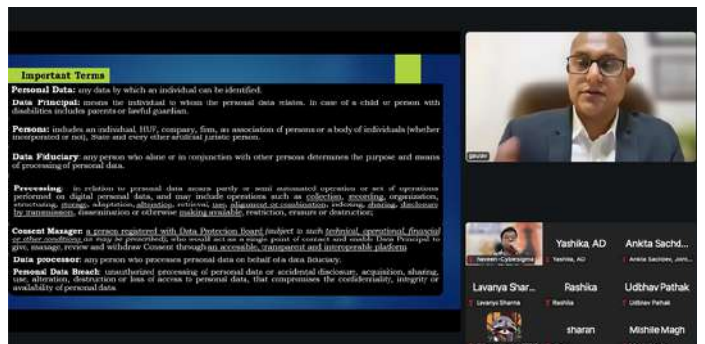


# GALLERY





# GALLERY





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