COMASCENT

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 27, 2025-26

THE GRANDMASTER'S GAMBIT

INDIA IN THE WORLD ORDER

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
GARGI COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

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From the Principal's Desk

Dear Team Comascent,

Congratulations on your upcoming new Issue, which I am sure as always would be an insightful and informative read.

The topic for this issue- Global Chessboard: India's Moves in Diplomacy & Economy, is not only extremely relevant but also needs reflection and discussion to enhance our understanding.

In the evolving dynamics of the global chessboard, India has emerged as a strategic player, balancing its diplomatic and economic moves with precision and foresight. Diplomatically, India has adopted a multi-aligned approach—maintaining strong ties with major powers like the United States, Russia, and the European Union, while deepening partnerships within the Global South and regional forums such as BRICS, G20, and ASEAN.

Its active role in peacekeeping, climate negotiations, and digital governance reflects a vision of inclusive global leadership.

Economically, India is positioning itself as a resilient and innovation-driven economy. Through initiatives like Make in India, Digital India, and the Atmanirbhar Bharat mission, it aims to strengthen domestic capacities while attracting global investments. Together, these strategic moves highlight India's evolving identity—not merely as a participant, but as a shaping force in the global order, navigating with a blend of pragmatism, principle, and purpose.

I wish everyone a successful endeavor in contributing to India's economic growth and also in positioning us as the biggest economy of the world!

With Best wishes,

Prof. (Dr.) Sangeeta Bhatia
Principal (Offg.)
Professor, Department of Psychology
Gargi College
(University of Delhi)

From the Teacher In-Charge

India always remained at the epicentre of the world, geographically, economically and politically, since eons. We lost our glory for long time after losing our warriors and intellectuals in the great war of Mahabharata. Thereafter, we lost our cultural pride and forgot our heroic past, consequently accepted slavery for centuries. After immense struggle and sacrifices, we regained our independence in 1947, but further took around seven decades to begin regaining our lost glory. Now, the lion is roaring to mark its awakening to the world.

Our diplomacy has moved 360 degrees since independence. Now, we are trend-setters rather than followers. Our foreign policies are based only on national interest rather than on pleasing and following the Western powers. The recent visit of British Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer with jumbo team of 125 CEOs, entrepreneurs, University Vice Chancellors and cultural leaders shows the strategic importance and might of India in the eyes of the erstwhile ruler. Both the countries have signed CETA (Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement) and settled Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO) to support the execution of CETA and committed to provide cooperation in the field of construction, clean energy, advanced manufacturing , defence, education, renewal of India-UK Air Services Agreement, developing AI native network for 6G, Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTNS) and cyber security for telecoms with at least 24 million pounds of joint funding in the first phase.

India has been struggling since independence to secure a permanent seat in the UN Security Council to exert greater influence over global security matters and address international crises. India got the opportunity to have seat in UN Security Council in 1950 but due to lack of political vigour and foresightedness, the then prime minister favoured China over India for permanent membership in the UN Security Council. Since then, India is trying hard to be in the Security Council. In this visit the UK Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer assured UK's support and said that India should get its 'rightful place' on the UN Security Council.

India launched Operation 'Sindoor' against Pakistan and the whole world supported India except Pakistan, Turky and China. This shows the Diplomatic Power of India. The purpose of Operation 'Sindoor' was to punish the perpetrators and planners of terror, and to destroy terror infrastructure across the border. India deflated the nuclear threat balloon of Pakistan, showed the gigantic power of Brahmos missiles, air defence systems and exposed the countries who camouflaged as our friend but support Pakistan to indulge India always in warlike situation.

The U.S. imposed high tariffs which raised duties on certain Indian exports to 50% mainly the textiles, gems and leather goods. In response, India employed multifaceted strategy to counter the impact which include diplomacy and market diversification. India is now tapping other countries for textile exports e.g. UK, Japan and Australia. India has been able to mitigate the impact on industry by restructuring the GST system to a simpler two-tier system of 5% and 18%, and new 40% rate introduced for luxury and 'sin' goods like premium cars and tobacco products. This move has increased the purchasing power of the people of India and reduced the impact of tariff hike to a great extent. The threat of tariff hike has become a sort of boon which has accelerated India's push towards 'Aatmnirbhar Bharat'.

Now, India is the fourth largest economy of the world and if we continue at the same pace and rapidity, very soon we would be the third largest economy of the world. All these changes we are witnessing are due to our visionary leadership which drafted all its polices with Nation First, zero tolerance to corruption and following the concept of 'Serve Bhavantu Sukhinah'.

Dr. Romita Popli
Teacher In-Charge
Department Of Commerce
Gargi College
(University of Delhi)

Editor's Note

Dear Readers,
It gives me great pleasure, on behalf of Team Comascent, to present the first issue of Comascent for the year 2025–26, themed “The Grandmaster’s Gambit: India in the World Order.” The magazine offers readers an in-depth look into India’s evolving relations with the major global power blocs and the directions they may shape for the future.

The world as we see today is a chessboard with complex political and policy moves coming in from every direction. Here at Comascent we aim to unravel global complexities for our readers, driven by the belief that clarity makes even the toughest ideas simple. Keeping this in mind the magazine includes insightful articles which push you to think beyond borders and enable you to look at the bigger picture. It encourages readers to explore the intersections of diplomacy, economy and society with an open and curious mind.

The magazine also presents an exclusive survey that sheds light on how the youth view these global matters and their expectations with the future. There are featured sections on The Commerce Association including reports on events conducted by the association and Aikyam - The Alumnae Association. Furthermore, we at Comascent believe that life thrives on challenge — and competition keeps that spirit alive, stimulating innovation and creativity. Inspired by this belief, we organised two competitions that celebrated creativity and originality. Starting in a new place is never easy — it takes time to find your footing. Hence, to help freshers’ find their footing faster we have answered some of the most asked questions towards the end. A fun column, ‘Profit and Popcorn’, concludes the magazine — a sprinkle of fun to close the pages with a smile.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our faculty advisors for their unwavering support and guidance; this issue would not have been possible without their invaluable encouragement and mentorship. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the editorial team for their dedication and hard work in crafting insightful, engaging and well-researched articles throughout the magazine. Every piece reflects their passion, creativity and commitment to delivering content that informs and inspires our readers. I am equally grateful to the art team for their exceptional effort in designing the magazine, thoughtfully bringing the theme to life and transforming ideas into visuals that captivate the eye. Together, both teams have poured their energy, talent and care into this issue, making it not just a magazine, but a true reflection of our collective vision.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue and invite your questions, feedback and suggestions. Please feel free to write to us at: *gargi.comascent@gmail.com*

Jasreen Kaur Multani

Art Editor's Note

Dear Readers,
Every edition of COMASCENT begins as a blank canvas — one that gradually transforms into a vibrant tapestry of ideas, creativity, and collaboration. As the Art Editor, I've always believed that visuals don't just decorate a story; they complete it. They give form to thought and colour to expression — and that belief shaped the creative journey behind this issue.

This edition's theme, "The Grandmaster's Gambit: India in the World Order," draws inspiration from the strategic brilliance of a chessboard — where every move counts, and every decision shapes the future. India today stands at a defining moment in history — balancing tradition with innovation, and regional influence with global ambition. Through the articles, artwork, and design of this issue, we've tried to capture that very essence — India's thoughtful play on the global stage, her calculated risks, her growing voice, and her vision to not just participate, but to lead.

Just like every move in a Grandmaster's game, creating this edition of COMASCENT has been a journey of thought, strategy, and creativity. The theme inspired us to look beyond the surface — to see how every calculated step, every innovative idea, and every creative expression contributes to India's growing role in shaping the global narrative.

Designing this issue was like orchestrating a symphony of visuals and ideas — each layout, illustration, and colour chosen to echo the balance between intellect and imagination. We aimed to create a magazine that doesn't just inform, but also engages and reflects — a space where creativity and commerce meet in harmony.

The process was a collaborative effort, fuelled by passion, teamwork, and countless hours of discussion, experimentation, and design. My heartfelt gratitude goes to our faculty mentors for their constant guidance, to both the editorial and art team for their vision and dedication, and to every contributor who lent their talent and ideas to bring this issue to life.

And most importantly, thank you, dear readers — for your time, your curiosity, and your continued support. You are the reason this magazine comes alive, issue after issue.

COMASCENT has always been more than a magazine — it's a canvas of perspectives, voices, and creativity. With this edition, we hope to capture not only the essence of India's grand moves on the world stage but also the artistry that lies behind every choice, every vision, and every dream that shapes our future.

Warm Regards,
Saloni Saini

Art Editor's Note

Art is more than just visuals; it is a language that speaks where words fall short. As the Art Editor of Comascent, my goal has been to weave creativity into every corner of this publication to ensure that every article, poem, and feature finds its perfect visual companion.

Working on this magazine has been a journey of imagination and collaboration. Behind every design lies a story of brainstorming sessions filled with enthusiasm, of late-night edits to get the colors and layouts just right, and of the collective effort of a team united by passion. This edition reflects not just the academic spirit of our department but also the creativity that thrives within each of us.

Commerce, as a discipline, may be rooted in logic and analysis, but art brings balance to it, transforming facts into experiences and statistics into stories. Through thoughtful layouts, color palettes, and illustrations, I've aimed to make this magazine an engaging blend of intellect and creativity, where learning meets aesthetics.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the editorial team, faculty mentors, and contributors whose constant support and innovative ideas made this vision come to life. Every design and detail you see here is a result of teamwork, dedication, and the belief that creativity belongs in every field even in commerce.

As you turn each page, I hope you not only read but also feel the energy, effort, and imagination that have gone into shaping this magazine. May it inspire you to see beauty in knowledge, creativity in commerce, and art in everyday life.

Warm regards,
Harshita Lohiya

THINKER'S CORNER

INDIA HITS 4th GEAR

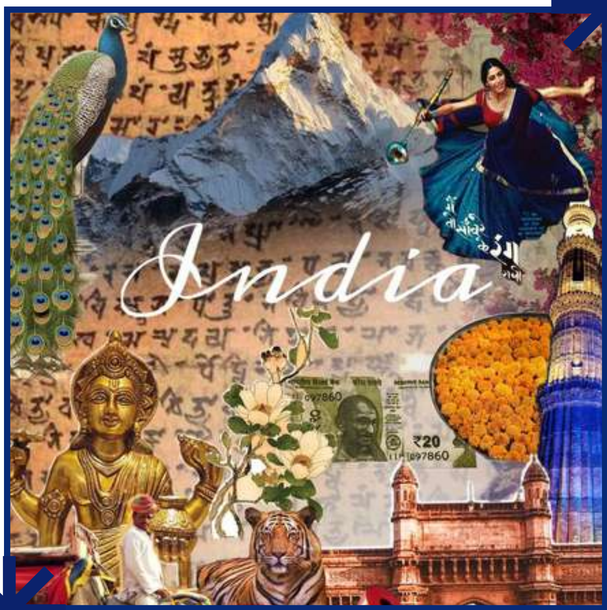
The recent GDP estimates of countries by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in May 2025 declared India as the 4th largest economy in the world with a GDP of $4.187 trillion surpassing Japan just marginally. In this article we'll explore how this achievement is going to be in favour of India, both domestically as well as internationally.

THE RACE TO GLOBAL TOP

The growth in GDP is surely a matter of confidence for Indian industries, as well as common people. This will not only encourage domestic investment in the economy, but also foreign investment and hence future prospects for growth will increase manifold as expected. This growing GDP is also aligning with the current focus of India on the Viksit Bharat Campaign, wherein India has set a huge target of becoming a Developed Nation by 2047, by skilling its demographic dividend of the young population. The reputation of India internationally will also be at an advantage and the developed as well as developing world are looking closely at India's growth trajectory as a global leader. Now, having seen the rosy pictures of the positive implications of this impressive GDP growth, there is also a need to understand that GDP alone fails to capture every detail of a country's economy. The GDP figures are merely the sum total of economic transitions wherever money is involved. In other words, it looks only into the monetized economy, and ignores the unpaid work or the care economy, hence making it an incomplete measure of growth.

Looking into today's fast paced world, there is an urgent need to take into account such factors and move to an embedded economy model as suggested in the book called "Doughnut Economics" by Kate Raworth, wherein the aspects of society and the whole environment are also accounted for. In India, nearly 50% talent remains untapped because of low women participation in the workforce and even in the Labour force. Hence, to truly exploit the growth potential of India, we need to empower another half of the population, our women, who will then complement the GDP growth, alongside leading to an improvement in general quality of overall human resources of the country. We need to learn, adapt and evolve continuously to stay relevant and achieve our dream of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

It is generally said that with prosperity comes social empowerment. Hence, with the economic growth we are expecting, the social conditions of our population are also expected to improve a lot in terms of standard of living, women empowerment, caste and religious harmony.



In this world of technology driven growth, the position of India in technological advancements will also be of crucial importance. We need to harness our capabilities and make ourselves capable to survive in this fast changing world, along with maintaining the relevance of our younger population by equipping them with required skills.

Though a great GDP figure truly indicates economic prosperity of a nation but not the qualitative aspects of it. As per the various estimates, if India continues to grow steadily, it may soon surpass Germany and become the 3rd largest economy. But the question is, what does it take to really become the world's 3rd largest economy? Can GDP alone be a deciding factor? India, after becoming the 4th largest economy of the world, now needs to answer on the inclusivity and fair distribution of income and resources, so that its poor can also feel proud about this milestone.

No less than a wonderful achievement, this $4.187 trillion economy shows continuous hard work, dedication and commitment on the part of its citizens and the government. In just 75 years of being independent, when so many countries are struggling to build a resilient economy, we are on a track of becoming bigger and bigger. The question that arises here is whether just the numbers are going to be our focus or the qualitative aspects too? Are we considering the quality of human resources while focusing on becoming a two digit economy in the near future?

The GDP tells us very little about the lives of people, including health, education, income distribution etc. Hence, the need arises that we ourselves focus on these qualitative aspects, making our growth trajectory not just fast, but also resilient, which will stay relevant in decades to come.

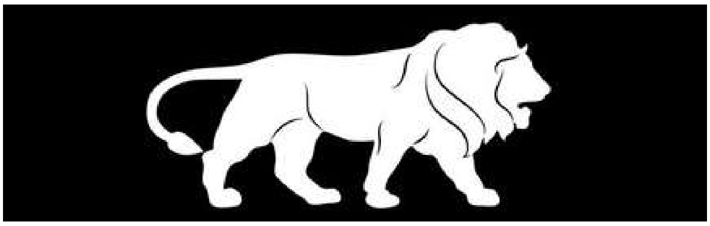
The aspirations are too high and we need a plan that is comprehensive enough to cater to the needs of this evolving society. For our target to be achieved, we need not just great leaders, but also active participation of citizens and united action of politicians, bureaucrats and civil societies. The perfect growth trajectory is actually a mix of different components in one basket, hence complementing each other to lead the world. We as Indians, should not just focus on becoming today's US, but also derive our learnings from the great ancient kingdoms of the Mauryas and the Guptas, where our economy prospered to such an extent that even travellers wrote the best about us.

Harshita Mehndiratta
B. Com. (Prog.) - 3rd year

India–US Relations: Strategic Friends, Trade Foes

A Tale of Cooperation and Confrontation

When Washington slapped a 50% tariff on Indian exports this year, it didn't just dent trade figures — it dented the very narrative of a "natural partnership" between the world's largest and oldest democracies. Few bilateral relationships have been celebrated as both a success and a challenge like the one between India and the United States. On one hand, the two common democracies share common values and security goals. From defense exercises under the Quad to collaborative space research, the partnership is often described as essential in the 21st century. However, beneath this strategic friendship lies a fragile economic relationship. Recently, steep tariffs imposed by Washington have shaken the partnership, turning what once looked like a success story into a battleground for trade disputes. This situation has forced India to reconsider how much it can depend on American goodwill.



The strategic dimension has remained equally strong. Both countries aim to balance China's growing influence in Asia. The Quad symbolizes this cooperation, highlighting India's significance in Washington's Indo-Pacific strategy. Diplomatic warmth was also evident. During Prime Minister Modi's first term, his personal rapport with President Trump was evident from high-profile visits and joint events. Despite occasional complaints about tariffs or visas, the goodwill from the top often prevented disputes from escalating.

Washington frequently criticized India's high tariffs, market barriers for agricultural and dairy products, and strict e-commerce regulations. The H-1B visa issue, crucial for India's IT workforce, remained unresolved. However, these disagreements were usually addressed through dialogue rather than confrontation.

> "There are no permanent friends or permanent enemies, only permanent interests."
> – Lord Palmerston

This fragile balance shifted when Washington imposed broad tariffs on Indian goods. The trigger was New Delhi's ongoing imports of discounted Russian oil during the Ukraine war. The US viewed these purchases as indirectly supporting Moscow's military efforts. The tariffs were severe. A 25% "reciprocal" duty was first imposed on Indian exports, followed by an additional 25% penalty linked to Russian oil imports. In some cases, total tariffs reached 50%. Soon after, the US expanded the list of affected goods: branded pharmaceuticals, heavy trucks and kitchen cabinets also faced punitive measures. India's response was quick. New Delhi condemned the tariffs as "unfair and unjustified" and defended its energy security policy, emphasizing that affordable oil was essential for its people and noting that some Western countries hadn't entirely cut trade ties with Russia. Prime Minister Modi drew a clear line, refusing to compromise on market access in sensitive sectors such as agriculture and dairy.

The economic impact was immediate. India's exports to the US plummeted, with some months witnessing declines exceeding 20%. Labor-intensive sectors—textiles, leather goods, gems, jewelry and seafood—were particularly affected. Shrimp farmers, who had benefited from high US demand, suddenly faced higher duties. Economists warned of potential repercussions, including job losses, capital flight and a possible 0.3% decline in GDP growth. Despite the turmoil, the strategic foundation of the relationship has not collapsed. High-level meetings, Quad dialogues and defense cooperation continue, highlighting that geopolitics often has more weight than economics in this partnership. American officials acknowledge the "turbulence" but maintain that the long-term outlook remains bright. Trade negotiations are still stalled. Discussions on a Bilateral Trade Agreement are at a standstill, mainly because India is unwilling to open its agriculture and dairy sectors—areas with significant political sensitivity—to US competition. To mitigate the impact, New Delhi has begun diversifying its trade. Efforts are ongoing to expand exports to the EU, Middle East, and Southeast Asia. Domestically, the government has introduced measures to support exporters in affected sectors, indicating an awareness that too much dependence on the US market is risky.

The tariff conflict is more than just an economic fight; it tests the resilience of India-US ties. While strategic alignment, particularly in countering China, remains strong, the economic aspect has faced significant challenges. What was once viewed as a growing commercial partnership now confronts structural issues. For India, the lesson is clear. The US will remain a vital partner, but New Delhi must prepare for shocks that arise when geopolitics impacts economics. Strengthening *Atmanirbhar Bharat*, diversifying trade partners and building domestic resilience are now not just policy goals; they are essential strategies. The India-US relationship now enters a new phase defined by paradox. They are strategic allies yet trade competitors. They are close partners yet fierce negotiators. This duality will shape the next chapter of one of the world's most significant partnerships.

Disha Sajit
B. Com. (Hons.) - 2nd year

The INDO-PACIFIC Compass

Balancing Strategic Autonomy & Alliances

Standing on the shores of Chennai or Kochi, you can see the Indo-Pacific come alive — ships carrying the phones in our hands, the fuel in our cars and the grain on our plates. Beneath those same waters run data cables, while fishing boats and naval fleets cross paths every day. The Indo-Pacific isn't just a map of strategies; it's the lifeline of daily life. For India, with its long coastlines and trading heritage, this ocean is more than geography — it is home, marketplace and the chessboard of its future.

> "Whoever controls the Indian Ocean will dominate Asia. This ocean is the key to the seven seas."
>
> — Alfred Thayer Mahan

The Indo-Pacific: Why it Matters?

The Indo-Pacific spans the Indian Ocean through Southeast Asia and into the Pacific. **46%** of global maritime trade by volume, including **one-third** of the world's bulk cargo, **42%** of crude oil and product shipments, and a significant portion of containerized cargo cross it. It is where shipping lanes meet fishing grounds and where climate change collides with geopolitics. **India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI, 2019)** highlights its ambition: to champion cooperation on maritime security, disaster response and sustainable use of oceans. Unlike older great powers driven by domination or bloc politics, India seeks to be a bridge-builder — pragmatic, inclusive and people-oriented. This vision is reflected in initiatives like **SAGAR** (Security and Growth for All in the Region), which promotes maritime cooperation and shared prosperity in the Indian Ocean; the **Neighbourhood First Policy**, which prioritizes regional stability and partnership; and the global ethos of "**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**" (the world is one family), which guides India's diplomacy towards inclusivity and mutual respect rather than confrontation.

India & ASEAN: Neighbors by Sea, Partners by Choice

Past

Centuries ago, Indian merchants and monks sailed to Southeast Asia, leaving behind temples, scripts and spices. These cultural connections were revived in the modern era with India's **Look East Policy** (1990s), later upgraded to "Act East." Since 1992, when India became a dialogue partner of ASEAN, the relationship has steadily grown.

Present

Today, ASEAN countries are among India's closest maritime neighbors. But trade has been a sticking point. Under the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement **(AITIGA, 2010)**, flows expanded, but India ran persistent deficits; going as high as **$45.2 billion** by 2024-25. Recognizing this, both sides began an AITIGA Review in 2022 to rebalance terms, focusing on digital trade, services and emerging industries.

On the ground, projects like the India-Myanmar-Thailand Highway symbolize India's vision of a connected neighborhood.

Future

The road ahead lies in making this partnership more tangible: better ports, easier business rules and more student exchanges. ASEAN remains the anchor of India's Indo-Pacific outreach, both for geography and for shared visions of a multipolar region.

The Quad: From Naval Maneuvers to Vaccine Diplomacy

Past

When four democracies — India, the U.S., Japan and Australia — first came together in the wake of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami for coordinated relief operations, it laid the groundwork for the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), which was formally initiated in 2007 as a platform for strategic cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.

Present

The Malabar naval exercises, now involving all four members, have become the Quad's signature military activity. Yet, the Quad has consciously gone beyond defence. It coordinated vaccine production during the pandemic, pooled funds for infrastructure and launched working groups on critical technologies.

For India, the Quad is useful precisely because it isn't a rigid alliance — it offers cooperation without demanding alignment.

Future

Expect the Quad to grow as a strategic coordination platform that addresses regional challenges collaboratively. For the average Indian, this could mean more resilient supply chains, safer sea routes for goods and access to cutting-edge technologies.

Japan and India:
The Bullet Train of Friendship

Past

Japan's ties with India have been both economic and symbolic. Tokyo supported New Delhi after the 2008 nuclear deal and in 2014, the two signed a **Special Strategic and Global Partnership**.

Present

Today, Japan is financing one of India's most ambitious infrastructure dreams — the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train project. In 2022, the two nations launched a **Joint Economic Security Dialogue**, focusing on semiconductors, critical minerals and supply-chain resilience. For India, Japan is not just an investor; it's a trusted partner in modernizing its economy.

Future

As global supply chains shift, India and Japan could together shape the future of clean energy chip manufacturing and battery storage. Their relationship is not just about trade — it's about building resilience in a world of uncertainty.

Australia and India: From Cricket Fields to Critical Minerals

Past

For decades, India and Australia bonded more over cricket than commerce. In the past 15 years, their relationship has been reborn, driven by shared maritime concerns and economic synergies.

Present

In 2020, India and Australia signed a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership **(CSP)**, which included a Mutual Logistics Support Agreement **(MLSA)** — granting reciprocal access to ports and bases for their navies. Economically, the India–Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement **(ECTA, 2022)** slashed tariffs on billions worth of goods, boosting trade in sectors like textiles, pharmaceuticals and education. Another landmark was the launch of the **India–Australia Critical Minerals Investment Partnership (2022)**, under which Canberra committed **USD 5.8 million** to help India develop its supply chains for lithium and cobalt, essential for electric vehicles and renewable energy technologies.

Future

The two countries are expected to expand cooperation in green hydrogen, higher education exchanges and joint defence production. If Japan is India's tech ally, Australia is its minerals partner.

Conclusion

The Indo-Pacific is no longer just a space on maps. It is the sea that carries the rice we eat, the fuel that powers our cars, the apps we use and even the storms that batter our coasts. For India, engaging with ASEAN, the Quad, Japan and Australia is not abstract diplomacy — it is about building jobs, securing trade routes and ensuring stability for its people.

Through agreements covered above, India is not just signing papers; it is laying anchors for its future. However, as the challenges show, this journey requires more than grand speeches. It calls for persistence, balance and above all, delivery.

India's Indo-Pacific story is not about being a follower or a rival. It is about being a steady sailor in rough waters — cautious yet bold, cooperative yet independent. As the tides shift, the question is not whether India will shape the Indo-Pacific, but whether it will have the vision and stamina to steer its course with purpose.

Jasreen Kaur Multani
B. Com. (Hons.) - 3rd year

History is shaped by Geographers. But the future is shaped by choice

Diplomacy and Dynamics

India's role in Israel- Palestine Conflict

-A Diplomatic Balancing Act

The Middle East is not just distant geography beyond India's borders - it is an immediate neighborhood that shapes our economy, security and global aspirations. From oil tankers docking at Indian ports to remittance flows sustaining millions of households, the region's imprint on India is both visible and profound. Yet, it is also a theatre of conflict and rivalry where India must walk a diplomatic tightrope.

The OPEC Lifeline

Let us be clear: India's growth story runs on Middle Eastern oil. As the world's third-largest importer of crude oil, more than 60% of India's supply comes from OPEC states like Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the UAE. Every production cut or price hike reverberates instantly through our economy-raising inflation, inflating import bills and testing the government's fiscal stability.

Recognizing this dependence, India has wisely sought to broaden its playbook. Beyond crude oil, Gulf monarchies are now partners in infrastructure, technology and renewable energy. Investments from sovereign wealth funds are flowing into Indian roads, ports and digital ventures. Add to this the 9 million Indians in the Gulf, whose annual remittances of over $40 billion stabilize our reserves, and the stakes become even clearer. For India, Middle East diplomacy is not abstract-it is survival economics.

The Palestine-Israel Divide

No aspect of India's West Asia policy has been as closely watched or as finely balanced as its stance on the Palestine-Israel conflict. Our history is clear: from recognizing the Palestinian Liberal organisation (PLO) in 1974 to supporting Palestine's statehood in 1988, India has stood firmly on the side of justice and self-determination. India voted against the 1947 UN Partition Plan for Palestine, which proposed creating a Jewish state, due to its commitment to self-determination for the Arab population and its anti-colonial stance.

Yet the world has changed, and so has India's foreign policy. Since establishing full diplomatic ties with Israel in 1992, India has cultivated a relationship with Tel Aviv built on defense, counter-terrorism and high-tech cooperation. Israel today is among our top defense partners, while also providing agricultural and water-management solutions vital to India's food security.

And yet, the balancing act continues. When violence flared in Gaza in 2023, India condemned civilian casualties while reaffirming counter-terrorism cooperation with Israel. The message was deliberate: India will not abandon Palestine's cause, but neither will it sacrifice hard-won strategic partnerships with Israel. It is diplomacy by careful calibration.

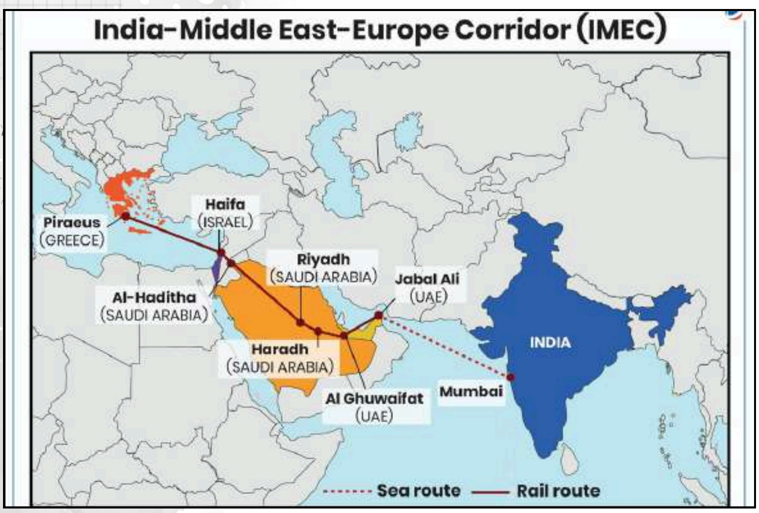
New Corridors of Influence

India's ambitions in the Middle East are no longer limited to oil and conflict management. Today, we are actively shaping new regional architectures. For instance, I2U2 (India, Israel, UAE, USA) brings together food security, technology and infrastructure in a forward-looking alliance. Similarly, the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC), announced in 2023, envisions a trade route connecting India to Europe through Gulf ports and Levantine hubs. If realized, it could rival China's Belt and Road, positioning India at the heart of a new connectivity map. These initiatives are bold, but they rest on fragile foundations. Every flare-up in the Middle East reminds us how easily grand strategies can unravel in the shadow of war.

THE ROAD AHEAD

INDIA'S MIDDLE EAST POLICY FACES THREE TESTS:

1. The Energy Transition:- How to pivot with OPEC towards renewables while still securing oil in the interim.
2. Geopolitical Volatility:- Managing tensions in the Gulf and repeated flare-ups in Israel-Palestine without compromising national interests.
3. China's Expanding Footprint:- Countering Beijing's deep pockets, and Belt and Road projects with India's own trusted partnerships.



CONCLUSION

One thing is clear: India's Middle East strategy is not just foreign policy - it is domestic, economic and security policy rolled into one. It is about balancing oil dependence with renewable ambitions, championing Palestine while partnering with Israel, and safeguarding interests while shaping new global corridors.

This is not a game of easy choices. It is a high-wire act demanding agility, foresight and above all, balance. In that balance lies not only India's Middle East strategy, but the very rhythm of its rise as a global power.

Kashish
B. Com. (Hons.) - 2nd year

India And The BRICS Nations

The idea of BRIC originated in 2001, created by Goldman Sachs economist Jim O'Neil, who saw Brazil, Russia, India and China as key emerging economies set to experience rapid growth. Since then, BRICS has grown into a significant international alliance that includes major emerging economies from around the globe. BRICS now represents about 40% of the global economy and nearly half the world's people, making it more powerful than the G7 in both wealth and population.

India 's Role in BRICS

India's journey in BRICS is more than just diplomatic participation; it's a story of ambition, partnership and rising influence. Since BRICS was formed in 2009, India has used this platform to amplify the voices of emerging economies, pushing for a fairer global order where developing nations have a greater say.

India has championed reforms in global institutions like the UN and IMF, advocating for representation that reflects today's economic realities. India's participation in BRICS is varied and planned, showing its desire for a world with multiple centers of power and supporting the interests of developing countries.

As one of the original members, India utilizes BRICS to enhance its influence in shaping global rules, fostering economic collaboration and developing new financial systems.

It also pushes for changes in international groups like the UN Security Council, IMF and World Bank to make sure developing countries have a better say. India also strongly supports expanding BRICS (BRICS+) by adding new members from the Global South. India also works on innovation and sustainable growth within the group by focusing on areas like digital health, clean energy and sharing technology.

BRICS 2025 EXPANSION

In 2025, the BRICS group made big changes by adding more members and new partner countries, showing they want to grow their influence around the world. Indonesia joined as the 11th full member in January 2025, becoming the first country from Southeast Asia to be part of BRICS. BRICS also started a new group called "partner countries" to work with nations that want to join but aren't full members.

As of 2025, eleven countries are in this partner group: Belarus, Bolivia, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand, Vietnam, Uganda, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam. These partner countries can take part in meetings and work on projects, but they don't get to make decisions.

ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE OF BRICS

When looking at economic size using a standard that accounts for living costs, the BRICS countries together make up about 37.3% of the world's total economic output, which shows they are a major force driving global economic growth and changing how the world economy works. These countries have large markets where people buy things and big workforces, which makes them important for pushing forward the world economy. BRICS also helps spread out trade and business connections around the world, which means fewer people depend on Western countries and the US dollar.

The group encourages trading in their own currencies, using digital payment systems, and working together on projects that build up their countries. They also support new ideas and businesses through things like the BRICS Startup Forum, helping countries work together to reach important goals like reducing poverty, improving the environment and creating jobs.

Challenges and Internal Dynamics

The BRICS alliance encounters critical challenges and intricate internal relationships that impact its effectiveness and unity. A major concern is the variation in political structures and ideologies among its members, spanning from democratic nations like India, Brazil and South Africa to authoritarian states such as China, Russia and Iran. This diversity often results in differing perspectives on governance, human rights and international standards, complicating the process of reaching collective decisions China's substantial economic influence within the BRICS group leads to imbalances, with other members expressing concerns over Beijing's extensive sway and practices like debt diplomacy.

Additionally, internal trade within BRICS remains low at only 2.2%, despite the bloc representing over 18% of global trade, highlighting missed chances for more comprehensive economic cooperation. Geopolitical conflicts, particularly the long-standing border dispute and strategic rivalry between India and China, further strain the group's unity.

In terms of institutional structure, BRICS lacks a permanent secretariat or a robust central framework, which slows down decision-making and leads to inconsistent actions.
While the New Development Bank represents an important initiative, it still lacks the scale to compete with established global financial institutions. Moreover, efforts to reduce reliance on the U.S. dollar and introduce a common BRICS currency have made minimal progress due to the continued dominance of the global dollar system.

The group also faces external pressures such as U.S. tariffs and geopolitical tensions related to Russia's actions in Ukraine, which hinder the formation of a consensus.

Soft Power and Cultural Cooperation

BRICS nations have set up strong ways to work together on culture. They do this through meetings like the annual BRICS Culture Ministers' Meeting and cultural festivals. The group also holds events like the BRICS Film Festival, folk dance festivals and the Alliance of Theatre for Children and Young People.
To support student exchanges and academic work, the BRICS Network University, technical and vocational training groups, and research forums are in place.

India has taken an active role in promoting its rich culture within BRICS.
It has started the Global Engagement Scheme, held international exhibitions, shared traditional knowledge through projects like Mission LiFE, and worked to protect heritage and get cultural items back.

India's Strategic Priorities

India is working closely with other BRICS countries to push forward projects that focus on digital public systems and financial technology. Key examples include Aadhaar and UPI. India is also leading efforts in digital safety, supporting startups and managing data in a way that helps build a modern, ready-for-the-future digital economy. In the area of renewable energy, India is taking big steps with projects like solar power plants, updating the electricity grid and creating financial tools for green energy.

India is also expanding the production of green hydrogen and is now the third-largest producer of solar and wind energy globally. The country is working together with BRICS members on smart grids, transmission systems and a national market for carbon credits as part of the BRICS Energy Cooperation Roadmap.

Education and training are also major focuses. India is pushing for joint research, technical and vocational learning, and exchanges in science, technology, engineering, and math-especially in areas like artificial intelligence, space and health. By doing all of this, India wants to use BRICS teamwork to help grow economies fairly, close technology gaps, and take the lead in making the green and digital shifts work for countries in the Global South.

CONCLUSION

The 2025 BRICS Summit and the group's expanded framework mark a major shift in how the world is governed. This isn't just about size—it shows the growing strength of the Global South, pushing for a fairer, more balanced world order away from Western control.

BRICS' story goes beyond numbers. The group has built a wide range of programs in culture, education, energy and tech. Cultural events and student exchanges build understanding, while India's digital and heritage efforts show how soft power can help unite nations. Successes like India's work on digital infrastructure, green finance and skills development show that BRICS can work together on major challenges, even with differences.

The mix of democracies and more centralized systems sometimes slows decision-making, but also helps the group handle global crises and find new trade paths.

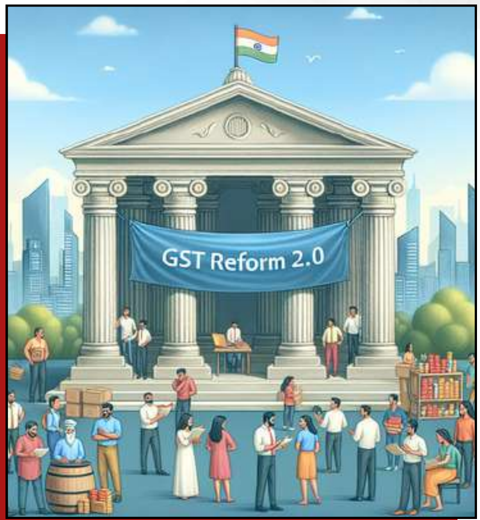
BRICS is now a place where new ideas are tested - like reducing reliance on dollars, creating fairer growth and sharing knowledge. BRICS has emerged as a vital force challenging Western dominance and redefining international cooperation. As the group continues to grow, it faces both opportunities and obstacles, requiring strong leadership, unified strategies and a commitment to inclusive development.

In a rapidly changing globe, policy recommendations include strengthening institutional coordination, enhancing digital and energy cooperation and fostering a culture of shared learning and mutual benefit. However, data limitations and geopolitical uncertainties must be acknowledged, as they shape the group's future trajectory. BRICS is reshaping global power dynamics. It's not just a bloc-it's a movement toward a more balanced and dignified world.

Gauri Gill
B. Com. (Prog.) - 2nd year

GST 2.0 How India's Tax Reforms Are Reshaping Global Trade Dynamics

When India first rolled out the Goods and Services Tax (GST) back in 2017, it was hailed as a "one nation, one tax" revolution. But like all big reforms, the system had its share of complications — multiple slabs, delayed refunds and compliance headaches for businesses. Fast forward to 2025, and we now have GST 2.0, a significant upgrade that promises not just to ease life for consumers and businesses, but also to reshape India's place in the global trade ecosystem.



So, what's changed and why does it matter for global trade? Let's break it down.

What's new in GST 2.0?

The government's big focus has been on simplification and competitiveness. The earlier five-slab system was trimmed, with many goods shifted into lower brackets. Everyday products like packaged food and personal care items now attract less tax and service sectors like hotels and wellness got some relief too.

Equally important is the tech-driven overhaul: faster automated refunds, tighter e-invoicing and fixes to long-standing issues like inverted duty structures. For businesses, especially exporters, these aren't just accounting tweaks — they directly affect costs, cash flow and international competitiveness.

Why does this matter beyond India's borders?

For exporters and multinational buyers, three things make GST 2.0 globally relevant:

1. Price competitiveness

Lower GST rates reduce input costs and final product prices, making Indian goods more affordable in world markets.

2. Cash flow certainty

Faster refunds mean exporters don't have their money stuck in the system, which allows them to operate leaner and pass on cost savings.

3. Supply chain appeal

Rationalised taxes on inputs and packaging make India more attractive as a sourcing and manufacturing hub, especially for companies pursuing a "China+1" strategy.

Everyday goods and FMCG

Companies like Hindustan Unilever, Nestlé and Britannia were among the first to cheer. With lower GST on packaged food and personal care products, they can keep prices competitive in India while also expanding exports to neighbouring markets. For global retailers sourcing Indian brands, that means lower landed costs and potentially larger volumes from Indian plants.

Textiles and leather

India's textile and leather exporters often compete with producers in Bangladesh and Vietnam, who already enjoy low costs and export rebates. GST 2.0 has made a difference here by lowering tax on key inputs, which — when combined with the government's RoDTEP scheme that refunds embedded duties — helps Indian exporters remain price-competitive in Europe and the US. In a sector where even a 2–3% cost edge can decide contracts, this is crucial.

Electronics and contract manufacturing

India has big ambitions to become an electronics assembly hub and tax reform is a piece of that puzzle. With GST refunds now being processed faster and more automatically, electronics manufacturers no longer need to block large sums of working capital. This reduces financing costs and lets them promise shorter lead times to global brands. For companies looking to diversify away from China, India is starting to look like a stronger bet.

Tourism and services

It's not just goods. Lower GST rates on hotels and services also make India more affordable for tourists and business travellers. This can boost inbound tourism and MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions), a small but growing contributor to India's services exports.

Cushioning global headwinds

Of course, trade doesn't happen in a vacuum. Over the past year, India has faced tariff challenges in some markets. Here's where GST 2.0 plays a subtle but important role: by lowering domestic costs, exporters can absorb part of the tariff impact and still stay competitive. In other words, smarter tax policy at home helps Indian suppliers weather geopolitical storms abroad.

The transition pains

Reforms rarely land without hiccups. Some businesses had to rework pricing overnight, update contracts and tweak IT systems. There was even confusion on social media about whether companies could game the transition to claim extra refunds — prompting official clarifications. But despite these teething issues, the broad sentiment among industry leaders is that the changes are worth it. The automation push, in particular, promises to reduce long-term compliance fatigue.

What global businesses should watch

For multinational buyers and investors, three points stand out:

1. Refund timelines – If Indian suppliers are genuinely getting refunds faster, that improves their working capital position and makes them more reliable partners.
2. Product reclassification – With many items shifting slabs, landed costs can change suddenly. Buyers should keep an eye on how their suppliers' cost structures evolve.
3. Export incentives – Programs like RoDTEP have been extended to 2026, but their continuity will matter for long-term sourcing decisions.

The big picture

At its heart, GST 2.0 is about making India simpler, cheaper and more efficient — both for domestic consumers and for global trade partners. By cutting rates, fixing refund bottlenecks and leaning on technology, India has signaled that tax policy is not just about revenue collection, but also about competitiveness.

For exporters, the changes mean fewer working capital headaches and sharper pricing power. For multinational buyers, it's another reason to look at India as a sourcing base. And for India as a whole, GST 2.0 marks an important step toward using domestic reform to secure a stronger position in global trade.

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- Preetika
B. Com. (Prog.) - 1st Year

इंसानियत की धुन
The Tune of Humanity

जब अलग रंगो का होता है संगम
बनते हैं नए बंधन
अगर करेंगे मानवता का सम्मान
तभी बनेंगे हम इंसान
A world with different language & culture
A world of people with different nature
Different voices, yet one song we sing
Peace & harmony we shall bring

करते हैं हम स्वयं से वादा
रखें हम सब एक इरादा
गिराकर यह नफरत की दीवार
चलो करें एक दूसरे से प्यार
We failed to find kindness & hope
We live in a world where people lose their home
Now let's being all the nations together
To promise to keep peace & harmony forever

ईश्वर ने नहीं करा हम में कोई फर्क
फिर किस बात पर हम करते हैं तर्क
For once let's be friends together
Promise to keep this world at peace forever

सही गलत का ज्ञात करते हैं
ना रंग रूप जाति धर्म
को लेकर अब हम विवाद करते हैं
मानवता की पहचान करते हैं
The moon & sun shines brightly in the sky
Keeping the flowers fresh & birds fly
The rivers meet the seas without the fight
In every person's heart light of hope shines so bright

क्यों भाषा से बटे हैं हम
क्यों आपस में कर रहे हैं भेद हम
क्यों स्वतंत्र नहीं विचार हमारे
क्यों बंधिश में हैं सिद्धांत हमारे
A world with no equity & justice
A world with thousands of crimes & violence
In a world where war snatches people's heart & lives
Leaving them with no souls & rights

मानव की विडंबना देखो
अस्त्र - शस्त्र का लेकर ज्ञान
युद्धो का कर रहा विकास है
विश्व नाश की प्रगति कर
कर रहा यह स्वाभिमान है
बेकसूर की लाश पर
कहता, मेरा देश महान है
दुनिया में अंधेरा बड़ा
कर रहा रोशनी की मांग है
A world with no peace & harmony
A world with no symphony
A World where division arises
A world where conflicts rises
A world with no mutual understanding between nations
We live in a world where we can't speak without hesitation
We live in a world where victims are caged and rapists are free

इंसान ने इंसानियत का मोल खो दिया है
नेकी और ईमान की राह को छोड़ दिया है
Dreams of kindness softly twirled
A handshake replaces the fences we built
Removing the sorrow of the guilt

चलो एक काम करते हैं
रंगों को कुछ इस कदर मिलाते हैं
ऊँच- नीच की रेखा मिटाते हैं
आंखो से यह पर्दा हटाते हैं
एकता और प्रेम की एक यात्रा पर जाते हैं
परिवार मान ने की भावना जगाते हैं
विश्व में मित्रता और सहयोग बढ़ाते हैं
When the golden rain of sun pours on the ground
The green & fresh grass grows all around
The future shines so bright
In dignity & respect of light
Every nation shares the same sky
With their heads up so high

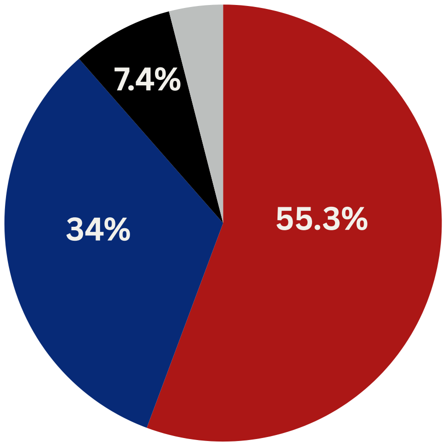
मानव जाति का एक नियम बनाते हैं
विश्व में शांति का वातावरण लाते हैं
विश्व सद्भावना की पुकार लगाते हैं
विश्व शांति एक आदर्श की ज्योति जलाते हैं
Let's connect our hearts, minds & souls
And bring mutual understanding as a whole
Let's bring peace in this busy world for all
And help every nation to stand so tall.

SURVEY

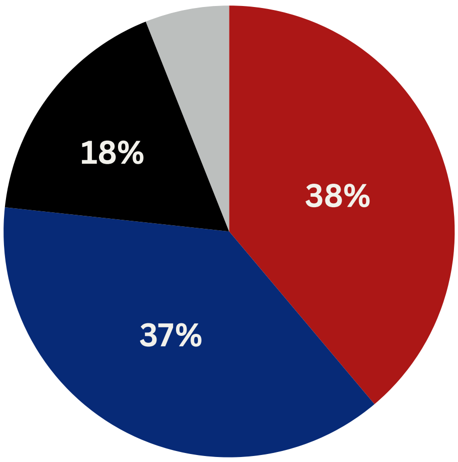
Comascent conducted a survey among the students of Gargi college to gather insights on their views of various geopolitical issues. The students responded in large numbers. The survey reflects the perspectives of India's youth on global affairs concerning India.

1. Do you believe India can become the world's third-largest economy in the next decade?

The vast majority of respondents express strong confidence in India's economic ascent, with a combined 89.3% believing it will happen, either definitely on track (55.3%) or requiring continued reforms (34%). This indicates a high degree of optimism regarding India's economic potential, yet a significant portion acknowledges that the country must maintain or accelerate its current reform pace to secure this goal. The small percentage of respondents who are unsure or do not see it happening suggests that skepticism about this specific decade-long goal is marginal within the surveyed group.



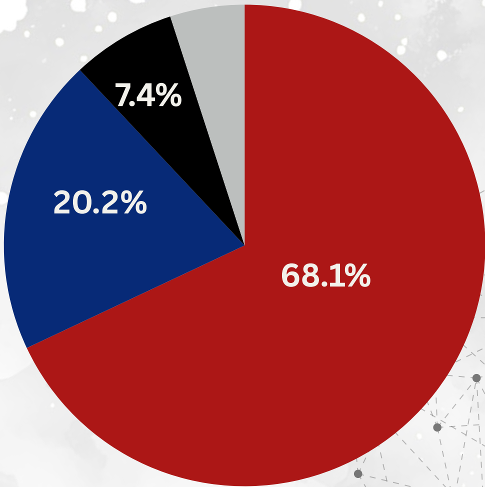
2. GST was meant to simplify taxes. Your take?



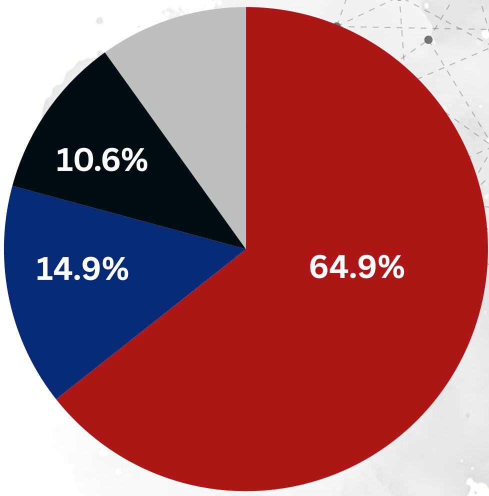
The survey results show a deep divide in perception regarding the effectiveness of the Goods and Services Tax (GST). Exactly 38% feel it is "Much, much easier," confirming the intent of the reform, but an almost equal 37.2% state it is "Slightly easier, but still confusing," highlighting persistent complexity issues. This suggests that while a large segment has experienced simplification, a similarly large segment finds the current system cumbersome, indicating that the intended seamless simplification has not been universally realized, and further streamlining or clarity may be required.

3. Do you think India's GST & tax reforms will boost our global trade power?

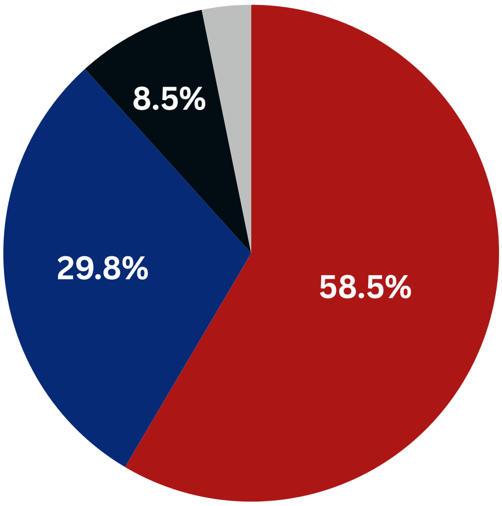
There is overwhelming support for the idea that India's tax reforms, including GST, will positively impact the nation's global trade standing. A substantial 68.1% believe the reforms' impact depends on execution," while an additional 20% feel they will help "Slightly, but more is needed," together representing over 88% of the opinion that the reforms are a step in the right direction for global trade. This consensus suggests a strong belief that a unified tax structure is a key factor in improving India's competitiveness on the world stage.



4. When big economies (like the US) impose heavy tariffs, what should India do?



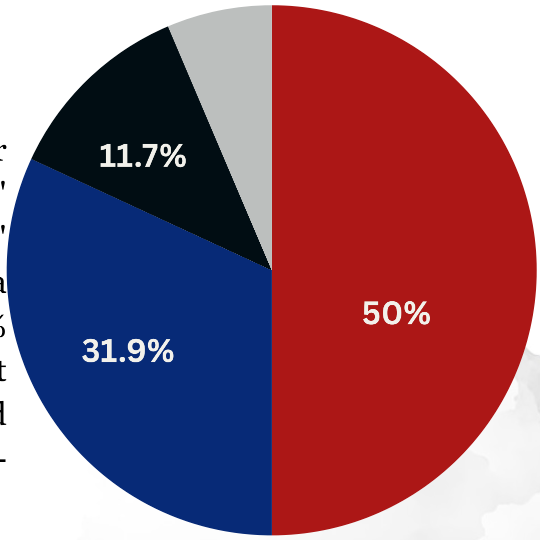
The most favored strategy (64.9%) is "Build 'Atmanirbhar' strength," suggesting a desire to achieve self-reliance to mitigate the impact of external pressure. The second most popular choice (14.9%) is to "Negotiate calmly," indicating a preference for diplomacy and dialogue over confrontation in trade disputes. This collective response shows a strong leaning toward pragmatic and non-confrontational approaches, with only a small minority (10.6%) supporting an aggressive "Counter with tariffs" strategy.



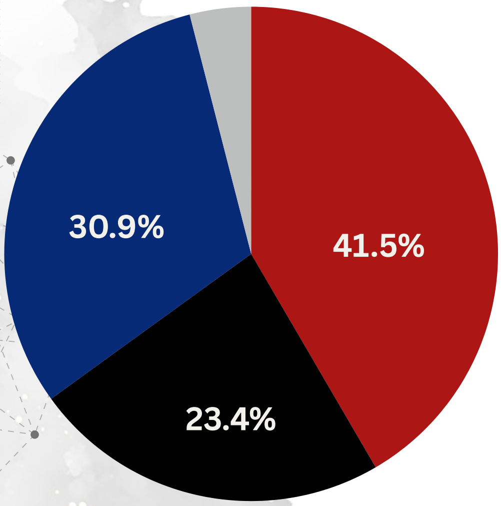
5. How useful is India's role in groups like BRICS, SCO, and G20?

An overwhelming 88% of respondents view India's participation in major multilateral groups like BRICS, SCO, and G20 as useful or very useful. Specifically, 57.6% believe it is "Very useful, boosts global influence," and 30.4% consider it "Useful, but needs more focus." This strong endorsement reflects a recognition of these forums as essential platforms for enhancing India's international stature and shaping global policy, with the only caveat being a call for more strategic engagement within these existing structures.

6. In the Indo-Pacific (Quad, Japan, ASEAN), India should focus on...



The responses show a secondary focus on hard and soft power projection in the Indo-Pacific region. "Security & defense ties" leads with 31.9%, bagged primarily by "Trade & digital economy" at 50%, emphasizing a dual-track approach. Interestingly, a significant 6.4% favor the option to "Stay neutral," while only 12% prioritize a "Smart balance with China & US." This suggests that while a large segment wants India to actively build security and economic partnerships, a sizable minority prefers a policy of non-alignment or strategic autonomy in the region.

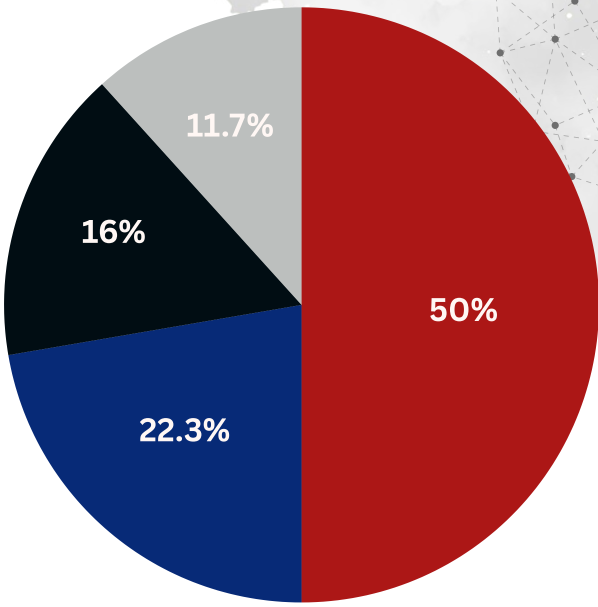


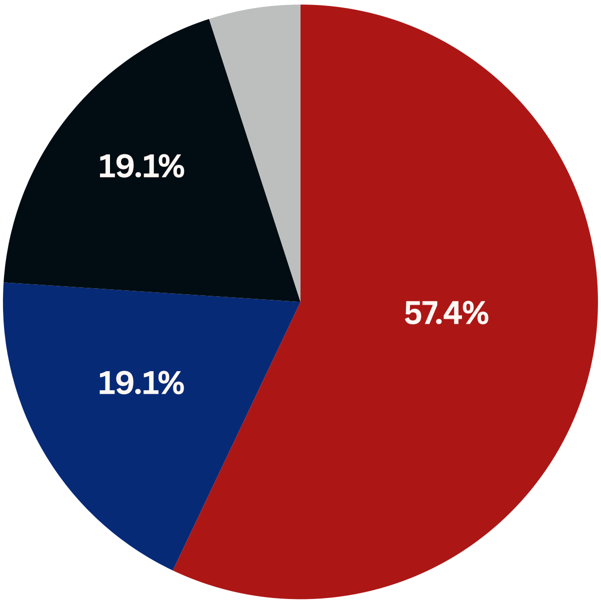
7. With the Middle East (OPEC, Israel-Palestine), India should prioritize...

The survey clearly identifies "Energy security (oil/gas)" as India's top priority in the Middle East, capturing 41.5% of the response, underscoring the critical nature of fuel imports. This is closely followed by "Protecting its diaspora" at 30.9%, reflecting the importance of the large Indian community in the region. The preference for "Peace diplomacy" at 23.4% suggests a secondary but significant role in conflict resolution. Overall, the responses prioritize tangible national interests—securing energy and protecting citizens—over a purely diplomatic agenda.

8. India's biggest advantage on the world stage is...

A clear majority of 50% identifies India's "Young population" as its single biggest advantage, reflecting the widespread belief in the demographic dividend as a unique economic and strategic asset. The next most significant advantage is considered to be "IT & digital power" at 16%, acknowledging the country's technological prowess. This prioritization indicates that the respondents view human capital and its associated technological capabilities as more crucial than "Cultural influence" (22.3%) or the nation's political identity as a "Democracy + diplomacy" (11.7%).



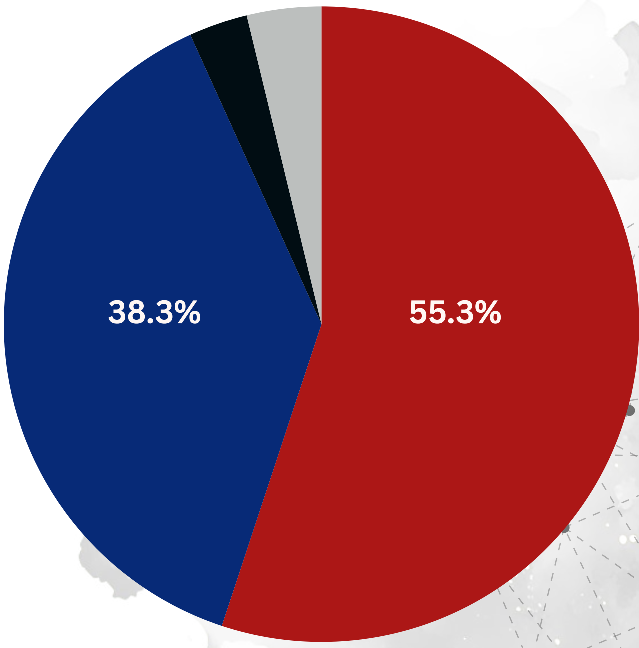


9. India's biggest challenge in becoming an economic superpower is...

The overwhelming majority of respondents, 57.4%, single out "Lack of jobs" as the biggest obstacle to India's economic superpower ambition. This indicates that unemployment and underemployment are perceived as the most critical structural flaw preventing the realization of full economic potential. While "Poverty & inequality" (19.6%) and "Global competition" (19.1%) are also recognized as challenges, the concentration of the response on job creation highlights it as the most urgent domestic policy issue requiring resolution.

10. Do you think students/young people like us will be game-changers in India's global rise?

There is a profound sense of self-belief and agency among the respondents, with a cumulative 93% agreeing that young people will be drivers of change. The leading response, 55.3%, emphatically states, "Yes, we are the drivers of change," while another 38.3% see themselves as "workers, consumers, and innovators." This data reflects a strong youth optimism and conviction that their generation holds the key to India's future, with only a small minority (3.8%) believing that change is "Mainly pol'tics & pol'cy decides."



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SURVEY

Confidence in India's Economic Future

Most people surveyed feel very optimistic about India's economy. An overwhelming majority believe India is definitely on track to become the world's third-largest economy within the next decade. However, a significant number also stressed that the government must keep pushing forward with reforms to make it happen.

Key Strengths and Biggest Hurdles

The survey highlighted that India's greatest advantage globally is its Young Population (demographic dividend), followed by its strength in IT and digital power.

On the flip side, the single biggest problem preventing India from becoming an economic superpower is the Lack of Jobs, which respondents cited far more often than poverty or global competition.

Views on Tax Reform (GST)

There's a divided opinion on the GST. While a large number of people found the new tax system to be much easier, an equal percentage still finds it confusing, suggesting that while the intention was good, the practical execution still needs to be simplified. Despite the confusion, most people agree that the reforms will boost India's global trade power.

Foreign Policy Priorities

When dealing with international issues, the respondents' priorities are very practical:

- Trade Wars: If big countries impose tariffs, India should first try to negotiate calmly, and second, focus on building its own self-reliance ("Atmanirbhar" strength).
- Middle East: The top priority is simple—securing Energy Security (oil/gas), followed by protecting the large Indian community (diaspora) living there.
- Indo-Pacific: India should focus on building both Security & Defense ties and Trade & Digital partnerships.

Role on the Global Stage

The usefulness of India's role in major groups like the G20 and BRICS is highly rated. Most people think these forums are very useful for boosting India's global influence, showing strong support for India's multilateral diplomacy.

The Role of Youth

There is a powerful belief among the young respondents that they are the game-changers. Over 90% agreed that students and young people will be the primary drivers of India's continued global rise.

Shikha Kumari
B. Com. (Hons) - 3rd Year

Devanshi Malhotra
B. Com. (Hons.) - 3rd year

ADD-ON COURSE

Analysing Financial Markets using Financial Modelling

The course aims to develop students' analytical and practical understanding of financial markets. It integrates theoretical knowledge with real-world applications, enabling learners to interpret market trends, make informed investment decisions, and move towards financial independence.

To mark the commencement of the course, an online orientation programme was held on 6th September 2025, graced by the Advisory Board Members, Prof. Amit Kumar Singh and Prof. Narain, who highlighted the importance of skill-based learning in today's evolving financial landscape. The distinguished resource persons, Prof. H. N. Tiwari, Dr. Varun Bhandari, Mr. Amit Kumar, and Mr. Mohit Agrawal, discussed the relevance of financial modelling as a crucial tool for market analysis and decision-making.

Under the able guidance and continuous support of the Course Directors, Dr. Manju Sahai, Prof. Sonali Ahuja Dua, Ms. Chitra Kheria, Ms. Iti Verma, and Ms. Anam Khan, the course has been progressing successfully and is expected to conclude on a positive note, equipping students with essential analytical and financial skills.

SHADES OF EQUALITY

Article Writing Competition

Comascent organised an article writing competition on the theme of diversity, equity and inclusivity. The participants were required to submit their articles online. The competition sparked awareness of how DEI has moved from being optional ideals to essential pillars in commerce.

Winners

MORE THAN JUST A TREND: WHY DEI MATTERS IN COMMERCE TODAY?

Priyanshi Jha
1st Prize

Rs. 1200

SHADES OF EQUALITY

Ayushi Singhal
2nd Prize

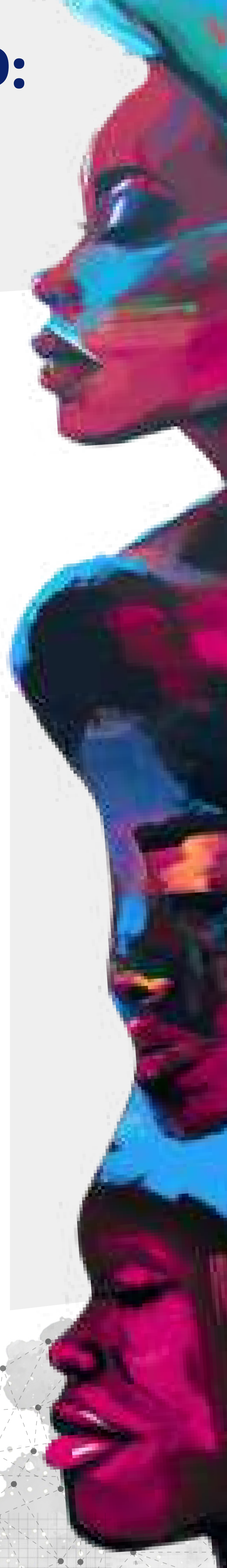
Rs. 1000

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION: WHY THEY MATTER

Harshita
3rd Prize

Rs. 800

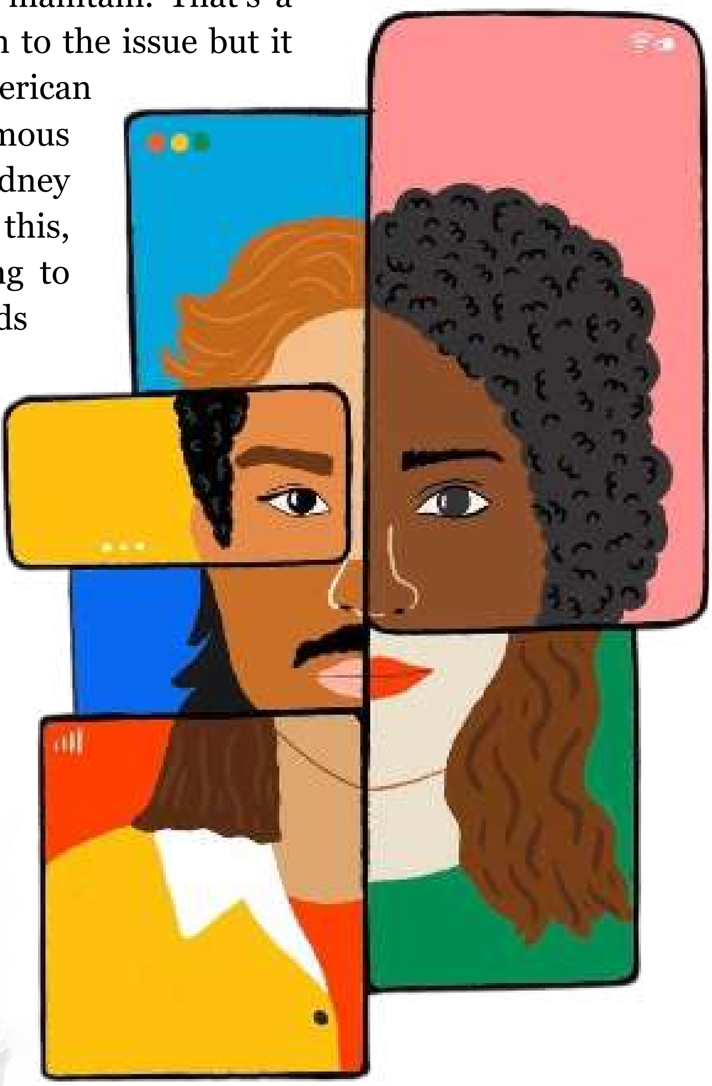
MORE THAN JUST A TREND: WHY DEI MATTERS IN COMMERCE TODAY?



I believe that we are living in a time when it shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone anymore how necessary diversity and inclusion are and for some reason, how far we still lag behind in realising its potential. Bell Hooks, an American author, once said, "Dominator culture has tried to keep us all afraid, to make us choose safety instead of risk, sameness instead of diversity. Moving through that fear, finding out what connects us, revelling our differences; this is the process that brings us closer, that gives us a world of shared values, of meaningful community." We, as a society, are so accustomed to certain opinions, perspectives and actions that anything out of our definition of ' ordinary & normal' scares us and we find ourselves incapable of its acceptance. This is why it has taken the Indian law so many years to mandate female directors in companies (2013); why RMG factories in Bangladesh still see a 30% gender pay gap and why huge companies like Godrej have only recently begun to take concrete steps towards LGBTQIA+ inclusion. Believe it or not, our culture is narrow and our people inflexible. The newer generations, though, have started popularising and adopting diversity, equity and inclusivity in all kinds of fields. With that, lets dive into what DEI actually means. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) is a systematic framework of interconnected concepts that aim to create welcoming environments for all types of people, overcome biases & prejudices and ensure fairness of treatment. In a workplace, particularly, DEI transforms into a set of strategic practices which focus on - increasing representation of different age groups, genders, ethnicities, sexual orientations, etc. (Diversity); providing access to equitable opportunities and resources to allemployees (Equity); and ensuring that individuals feel valued and respected (Inclusion) because diversity without inclusion does not establish well-being. Sometimes, inclusivity extends to Belongingness (DEIB). This concentrates on the feeling of connection, security and community- building in the workplace. DEI is no more an option or a marketing strategy for firms to emotionally appeal to the customers. For example, hiring diversity merely to fulfil your social responsibility goals as a business, without any regard to whether they feel seen, heard and included, doesn't work anymore. At this point, genuine concerns towards DEI are needed to be productive, relevant and
influential in the market.

For one, holding onto orthodox stereotypes means you're missing out on so much untapped potential in the business environment due to your personal agendas and beliefs. Imagine you do not recruit a perfect candidate for the job just because they do not have the sexual orientation you believe would be 'right' or lose that candidate due to absence of healthy inclusivity in your organization. Promoting egalitarianism is a responsibility that needs to be taken up by all employees of a firm. Not only would this help attract top talent but also in understanding your customer base a lot better which would further influence the quality of your marketing strategies and decision-making. Thirdly, any inappropriate comment or action in relation to minority groups of different kinds, which ends up getting attention on social media, and there goes down the PR you've worked so hard to maintain. That's a very materialistic approach to the issue but it is the truth. The recent American campaign with famous Hollywood actress Sydney Sweeney is an example of this, a marketing blunder owing to their utter disregard towards inclusivity of body types and skin tones. The opposite actions would assist in cultivating and preserving the brand's reputation and avoid legal complications too for smooth running of the business.

Wecan say that the significance of DEI in the field of business and commerce boils down to how incorporation of DEI initiatives would strengthen businesses.

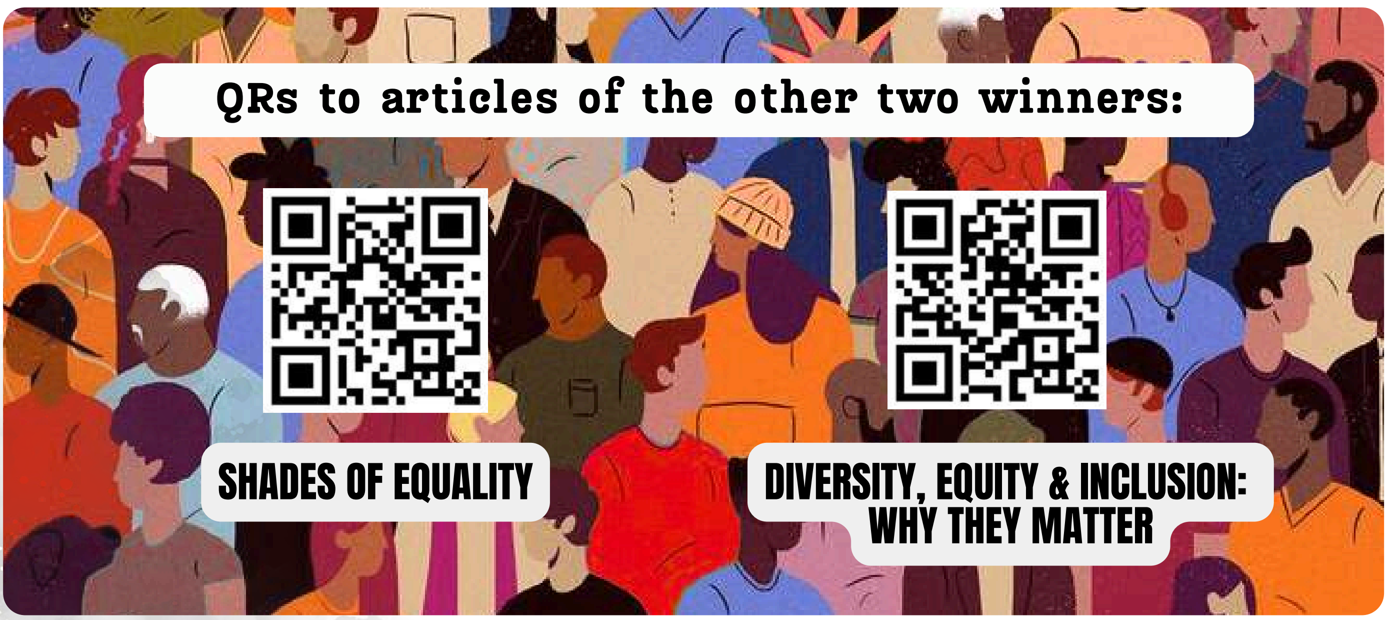


In the short un, increased inclusivit would increase team productivity as a result of well-maintained informed organisation leading to higher profits and lower employee turnover/absenteeism. This would also meet the job-seeker demand. To involve some statistics, one study found that gender-diverse companies are 25% more likely to have above-average profitability, while ethnically diverse companies have a 36% higherlikelihood. Inclusive teams too are significantly more productive, often by over 35%. Not only that,diverse teams are known to make better business decisions up to 87% of the time because in the longrun, the right marketing moves made with the help of these diverse groups, would ensure wider market reach and positive PR that can take a company to wondrous heights. Dove's recent campaign "Reclaim your Curls" with Taapsee Pannu depicts exactly this. It has identified a less acknowledgedissue of inconsiderate comments towards curly-haired girls and has entered the news again. A brand can only remain a brand with constant efforts and in today's day and age, diversity and inclusivity arewhere the efforts should be directed. But how exactly can a brand improve its DEI without making it look like a superficial effort foroptics?

There are two sides to this. One is changing internal business practices of the organisation andthe other is redefining external, customer-facing behaviour of the brand as a whole. ImplementingDEI internally involves efforts directed towards unbiased screening of resumes; skill-based hiring which is not influenced by any personal judgements; fair compensation irrespective of diversities; fostering an inclusive culture through DEI trainings and visible, practical application in the workspace, and more. Similarly, integrating DEI into the external face of the organisation would involve inclusive marketing with the help of diverse models, ideas and concepts; collaborating withother firms to promote a related social cause; develop a supply chain that helps small businesses andlocal suppliers and design accessible online as well as offline experiences for people with cognitive orphysical impairments. Launching a social campaign once in a blue moon won't do the deed. The efforts must be constant and visible in all spheres of the organisation's work.There are many challenges, too, in implementing DEI. Cultural resistance might be the biggest of all,in my opinion.

The older generations are still not open to accept changes and much of the newer generation is ignorant of the gravity of the situation. They do not care enough to want to do somethingand change cannot be driven by only a small part of the population raising their voices, be it insupport of or against the cause. Resource constraints and problems related to measurement of results are other such issues which hold back firms from making legitimate structural and implementationalchanges. The fear of backlash is also constant and in fact, unavoidable because anything politicallysubstantial will be subject to criticismby one group or the other. Thus, identifying and targeting your market and your audience is very important while executing such initiatives. To conclude, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) is a set of notions which together represent new age trade and commerce, and have become a need-of-the-hour marketing strategy. There are risks and challenges of its implementation but its growing importance in society would definitely compensate firms for the risks undertaken. To think together, independently should be the aim of each one of us.

Priyanshi Jha
B.Com (H) - 1st year



POSTER MAKING *Competition*

Comascent organised a poster making competition in which the participants had to reimagine their favorite scene from a movie/ book/ season and pour it in a poster. The competition pushed participants to reimagine their favourite works, stimulating their creativity. The posters included vibrant colours, thoughtful symbolism and innovative interpretations turning familiar stories into fresh visual experiences.

Krishna Kumari
1'ST PRIZE RS. 1500

Mitali
2'D PRIZE RS. 1000

TEAM TCA

FACULTY ADVISORS

Ms Chitra Kheria, Dr Payal Jain, Prof Geeta Sidharth, Dr Amit Rohilla, Ms Anam khan, Ms Sunita kumari, Ms Iti Verma, Dr Karishma Gulati and Dr Sushil Kumar

STUDENT BODY

President	**: Shivangi Mahajan**
Vice President	**: Hiya**
General Secretary	**: Shriyanshi Aggarwal**
Joint Secretary	**: Bhumi Agrawal**
Treasurer	**: Anushka Dalpat**
Operations Covenor	**: Riddhima Jindal**
Operations Co - Convenor	**: Swati Choudhary**
Corporate Convenor	**: Drishti Pal**
Corporate Co- Convenor	**: Ira Garg**
Design and Tech Convenor	**: Sanya Yadav**
Design and Tech Co-Convenor	**: Srividya**
Proctor BCP	**: Khushi Singh**
Proctor BCP	**: Kritisha Batra**
Proctor BCH	**: Anchal**
Proctor BCH	**: Yukti**
Operations Senior Members	**: Aditi Sharma, Anshika, Yogita and Kishori Arora**
Corporate Senior Members	**: Disha Mishra, Esha Khattar, Sara Goel and Tanishka Sachdeva**
D&T Senior Members	**: Navya Tandon, Urvashi Yadav, Ishita Verma, Muskan Malik and Rashi Behl**
Operations Junior Members	**: Ananya Singh, Kritika Madan, Siddhika Garg, Vidhi Tyagi and Yashasvi Srivastava**
Corporate Junior Members	**: Krishnima Srivastava, Priya Aggarwal, Sanchi Mahendru and Tanvi Rajvanshi**
D&T Junior Members	**: Garvita Verma, Palak Bhateja, Prakriti, Priyanshi Jha, Sanjana Kumari and Ujjaini Choudhary**

TCA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

As I continue my journey as President of The Commerce Association, I find myself constantly inspired by the energy, creativity, and curiosity that define our community. Every day brings new challenges, new learnings, and countless opportunities to grow together — and that, to me, is the true essence of leadership.

This year, we are focused on nurturing spaces that encourage young minds to think boldly, act decisively, and embrace innovation. The Commerce Association continues to thrive as a platform where ideas meet impact, and where every initiative sparks meaningful conversations about the ever-evolving world of business.

And now, as we gear up for our flagship event — Cascade, we dive into a new wave of exploration and expression. This year's Cascade revolves around the theme, "Trend Waves: Young Minds, Big Market Moves." It perfectly reflects the spirit of our generation — one that is observant, adaptive, and unafraid to redefine the marketplace.

Through this theme, we aim to capture the essence of emerging trends, explore how youth-driven perspectives influence modern business landscapes, and celebrate the creative power shaping the markets of tomorrow. Cascade is not just an event; it is a celebration of ideas in motion. It brings together students, entrepreneurs, and thought leaders in an atmosphere of dialogue, competition, and discovery. Every discussion, every round, and every collaboration is a step toward understanding how innovation and youth can transform the way we view commerce.

I am deeply grateful to our Principal ma'am, our teacher convenors, and our faculty advisors for their constant encouragement and guidance. A heartfelt appreciation also goes to my TCA team — your passion, teamwork, and relentless efforts continue to make every idea come alive. And, of course, kudos to the Comascent team for curating yet another wonderful issue. Your work provides a platform for students to express, explore, and engage with the world of commerce in fresh and meaningful ways.

As we move forward, I'm excited for the months ahead — filled with learning, laughter, and the drive to make a lasting impact. Together, let's continue to ride the trend waves, spark change, and make this year truly unforgettable!

Shivangi Mahajan

ORIENTATION SESSION

Of the

Commerce Department Societies

GARGI COLLEGE

FRIDAY, 22ND AUGUST 2025

REPORT

The Commerce Association (TCA) of Gargi College, University of Delhi, organized its Orientation Session for the freshers on Friday, 22nd August 2025. The event was conducted in an online mode and aimed at acquainting the new batch with the activities, opportunities, and vision of TCA.

The session began with a warm welcome by Shivangi Mahajan, President of TCA, who introduced the freshers to the society, highlighting its objectives and the various events organized throughout the year. She also spoke about E-Conclave, one of TCA's flagship events, and announced the start of the Junior Member Recruitment process, encouraging first-year students to apply. Shivangi further engaged with the participants by addressing their queries.

Following this, Jasreen, Editor of Comascent (the biannual magazine of the Department of Commerce), introduced the magazine and spoke about its significance. She also informed the students about the new member recruitment at Comascent and opened the space for questions related to the magazine and its recruitment process, making the session interactive and informative.

The session also introduced the range of Add-On Courses offered by the Department, which are designed to upskill students and bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. The courses were described as an opportunity to enhance competitiveness in the job market, broaden horizons, and gain hands-on experience. The highlight of this year's offerings is the IBM workshop series, featuring interactive sessions with industry experts, case studies, and practical activities. With a duration of 16 weeks (65 hours), the courses are set to commence on 31st August.

The next segment introduced Pathfinder, a society established in 2008 with the objective of encouraging students to identify real-world socio-economic problems and work towards viable solutions. The presenters emphasized the society's role in transforming ideas into initiatives and actions, cultivating critical thinking, and driving meaningful impact. They explained its three-phase process—Synopsis, Thesis, and Presentation—and shared how it enables members to translate concepts into practical solutions. Freshers were warmly invited to join and contribute to Pathfinder's legacy of problem-solving.

The event then proceeded with the introduction of Aikyam, the Alumnae Association of the Department of Commerce. The society was presented as a bridge between alumni and students, designed to build meaningful connections and foster a global network. The speakers highlighted how Aikyam allows students to relate to shared experiences, explore opportunities, and learn leadership skills directly from alumnae. Among its initiatives, ComConnect Insights—a speaker series—and Know Your Alumnae, a new platform celebrating alumnae achievements, were mentioned as flagship events. Recruitment opportunities in the Communications, Operations, and Tech teams were also announced.

The orientation concluded with a Vote of Thanks delivered by the President, who expressed gratitude to the faculty, student coordinators, and participants for their enthusiasm and engagement. The session not only familiarized freshers with the activities of the Commerce Association but also inspired them to actively participate in the various societies and initiatives of the Department.

REPORT ON TCA's SKILL ENHANCEMENT SESSION: "FUTURE READY SKILLS: HARNESSING AI FOR ACADEMIC EDGE"

The Commerce Association (TCA), Gargi College on 27th August 2025, organized an insightful Skill Enhancement Session on "Future-Ready Skills: Harnessing AI for Your Academic Edge" with Mr. Afros Rehman, which provided a deeper insight into the artificial intelligence (AI) and how it can be used responsibly in professional and academic life. The introduction of the speaker by Ira, the Corporate Convenor of TCA and felicitation by Shivangi Mahajan, President of TCA opened the event. The speaker began the session by pursuing the audience and emphasizing that all AI tools today operate with a context: how it should react to user inputs.

It was noted, however, that AI generated content is not always truthful and that consumers have to use personal judgement and critical thinking when using such devices. The speaker organized the discussion according to three major concepts: Context, which is how AI processes the input; Constraint, which can be defined as the limitation of AI systems; and Judgement, which highlights the issue of human judgement in terms of approving the AI responses.

Moreover, the speaker detailed three key checks to be applied to any AI output: Fact Check, to ensure the accuracy; Bias Check, to detect and address any prejudice in the output; and Privacy Check, to ensure that data remain secure and ethical. The practical part of the session was based on three key AI purposes - Resume Building, Presentation Design, and Research Workflow. During the resume section, the participants were directed to narrow down their resumes through the STAR method (Situation, Task, Action, Result) and to quantify and summarize their accomplishments. Another activity the speaker performed was a short role-play game and a reflective question, "How do you beat AI?," asking the participants to consider critically the human advantage in creativity and emotional intelligence.

In the section about presentations, the participants were taught how to use AI to create a specific content and structured skeletons without making slides too long with 30-40 words on a slide as speaker notes. The last topic about research and workflow concerned the application of AI to collect data, automate tedious jobs, and improve productivity without losing sight of ethics. At the end of the session, the audience was left with very useful information about responsible and efficient use of AI in their personal and professional lives. On balance, the TCA Speaker Session was an informative and exciting event that neither overemphasized the technical potential of AI nor undervalued human judgement, ethics and creativity.

REPORT

Pathway to Global Success : Cracking Top B-Schools

ORGANIZED BY: THE COMMERCE ASSOCIATION (TCA)
SPEAKERS: MR. RAVI NAGAR AND MR. HEMANT PRAKASH SUMAN
DATE: 8 OCTOBER 2025

The Commerce Association (TCA) recently hosted an enriching session named "Pathway to Global Success - Cracking Top B-Schools with Sterling Scholars." Two notable speakers, Mr. Ravi Nagar and Mr. Hemant Prakash Suman, attended the event and shared their rich experience and practical insights regarding pursuing abroad studies and gaining entry to international top business schools.

The session started with who they are and how they studied. The speakers stressed why they should pursue studying abroad, underlining the numerous possibilities for individual development, international experience, increased capabilities, better equipment for research, and excellent networking opportunities that foreign education has to offer.

They then talked about the competitive scenario of the admission process, pointing out that out of around 1.8 million candidates, only some 3 lakh students get admitted into premier universities, which indicates the necessity for early preparation and pre planning.

A major part of the session was also spent discussing scholarship opportunities, in which both speakers explained how they got scholarships that amounted from $10,000 to $12,000, and went so far as to disclose that students can negotiate scholarships with universities in some situations.

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The speakers went on to detail out the process of studying abroad, right from selecting the proper destination, to sitting for entrance exams like GMAT, GRE, or SAT, preparing excellent applications, and getting them in on time. They also shared the typical pitfalls students fall into in the process- missing deadlines, inappropriate documentation, and application jitters-and how these become huge hurdles in attaining their dreams.

One of the best parts of the event was the key takeaways presented by the speakers. They asked the students to:

- Plan and start early and map out their academic life beforehand.
- Take appropriate guidance from professionals or mentors.
- Have faith in themselves and stay positive during the process.

The session wrapped up with a Q&A interactive session, where students had the chance to clear their queries and receive one-on-one insights.

On the whole, the event was very informative and encouraging, giving students a clear guide to studying abroad and the realities of the application process. It left everyone motivated to plan strategically, work diligently, and pursue their global aspirations with confidence

TEAM AIKYAM

FACULTY ADVISORS:

Professor Sonali Ahuja Dua, Dr. Mandakini Das, Dr. Sumant Meena, Ms. Aakriti Chaudhry and Ms. Nupur Tyagi

STUDENT BODY

Convenor	: Shubhi Chaturvedi
Co-Convenor	: Trisha Gautam
General Secretary	: Snigdha Jain
Technical Head	: Pratishtha Negi
Operations Head	: Saamya Mittal
Communications Head	: Shreya Chaurasia
Senior Communications Member	: Darshika Tyagi
Senior Operations Member	: Princy Vishnoi
Technical team Member	: Sanya Kumari, Peehu Rawat and Arya Tiwari
Communications Team Member	: Priya Aggarwal and Yeshasvi Gupta
Operation Team Member	: Somaya Chaudhary and Anshika

AIKYAM CONVENER'S NOTE

Greetings Everyone,

It is with immense pride and gratitude that I address you today as the Convenor of Aikyam, the Alumnae Association of the Department of Commerce. From serving as an Operations Team Member to leading as a Convenor, my time at Aikyam has been truly empowering, highlighting the strength of community and shared purpose.

True to its name, Aikyam embodies unity. It serves as a bridge between the past and the present, a space where alumnae reconnect with their roots, and their stories of success, resilience, and growth inspire the Gargi Commerce fraternity. Through Aikyam, we celebrate not only the achievements of our alumnae but also the enduring spirit of connection that defines our department.

Carrying forward this vision is our flagship initiative, ComConnect Insights, a speaker series that offers students invaluable perspectives on career pathways, industry trends, and personal growth. By featuring alumnae from varied fields, from Chartered Accountancy and Consulting to Fashion Designing and Sustainability, this series connects academics with the professional world, inspiring students to pursue their aspirations with clarity and confidence.

Complementing this is our LinkedIn-based initiative, Know Your Alumnae. Through engaging interviews, our alumnae share their journeys, insights, and guidance, helping students understand how to prepare for similar paths. Aikyam also continues to evolve, with several new initiatives in the pipeline to strengthen alumnae-student engagement.

Being part of Aikyam has been deeply enriching. Leading as Convenor has not only strengthened my confidence but also revealed the power of meaningful connections. Aikyam, to me, is more than an association- it's a living legacy linking past achievements with future possibilities.

In this spirit of continuity and growth, this year's theme, "The Grandmaster's Gambit: India in the World Order," reflects on India's strategic rise globally. Like grandmasters, our alumnae have met challenges with foresight and resilience, proving that success is built on a series of thoughtful moves.

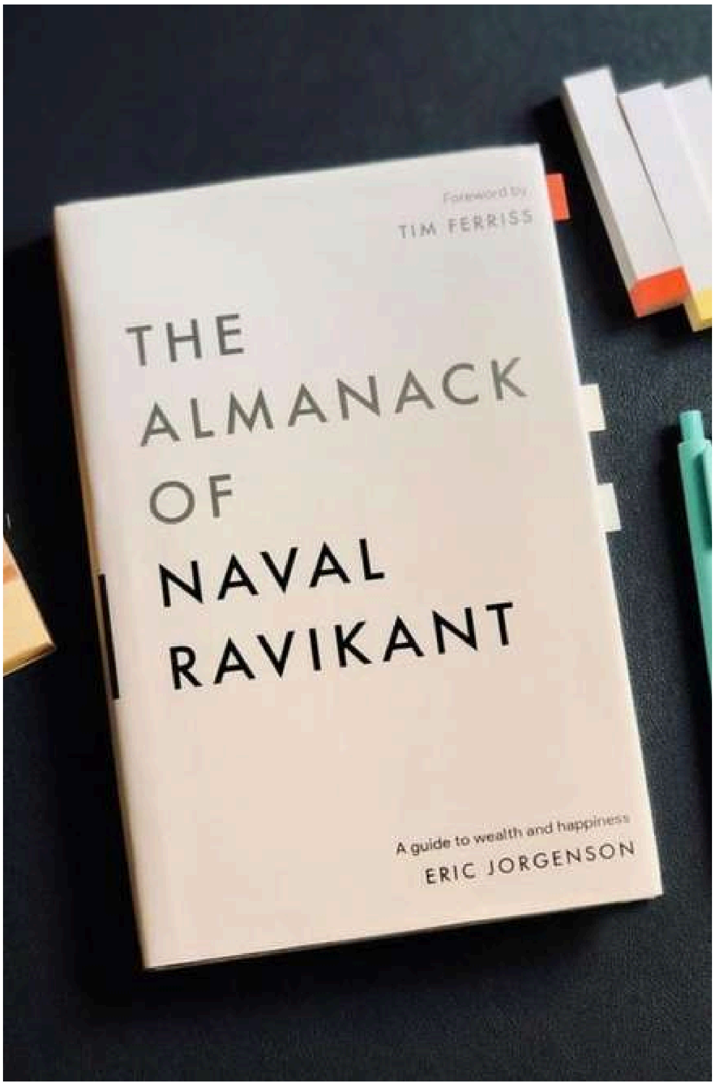
I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to the editorial team for showcasing the journey and initiatives of Aikyam through this magazine.

As we move forward, let us celebrate every conversation, nurture every connection, and continue building Aikyam—a platform of inspiration, unity, and growth for both students and alumnae.

Regards,
Shubhi Chaturvedi

BOOK REVIEW

The Almanack of Naval Ravikant



Author:
Eric Jorgenson

This book is actually a guide of wealth and happiness and a collection of Naval Ravikant's thoughts from various sources such as his tweets, podcasts, etc. where he talks not just about the monetary aspect of life but also about the philosophical one, the one of how to lead a happy life. The author at the very beginning states that he chose Naval Ravikant to pen down this book because of his constant curiosity to question everything, his tendency to test ideas for himself, and his holistic, long-term approach to thinking. In the first part of the book, he describes how to build wealth. He says that it is not just about working hard, but about knowing what to do, when to do and how to do. He provides his learning lessons in an interesting information flow form instead of the long paragraphs that we as Gen Alphas and Gen Zs don't really are inclined towards reading. And the beauty of the book is that whatever is written, one can test in action. The other part of the book covers happiness in life, it is not just a supplement, but a complement to the part devoted to wealth, because both are required to be truly happy. The book is definitely worth a read if you are a someone interested in building wealth accompanied with happiness.

Harshita Mehendiratta
B. Com. (Prog.) - 3rd year

FRESHERS COLUMN

love you!

How Freshers felt being in Gargi!

THEIR FAVOURITE SPOTS IN COLLEGE:

- Behind the NAB
- College Ground
- Google Labs
- Library

THEIR 3 WORDS DESCRIPTION FOR GARGI:

Peaceful, Enthusiastic, Safe
Peace, Beauty, Radiance

HERE IS HOW THEY DESCRIBED GARGI, IF IT WERE A PERSON:

Attendance eager, academically bright.
The hype girlie.....doesn't let anybody feel alone...always there to lift you up
By praising her beauty, her dynamics, her greenery.

What seniors have to pass on to freshers!

AFFORDABLE HANGOUT SPOTS NEAR COLLEGE:

- Avaya Cafe and Bakery, Green Park
- Before British Raj (BBR) Coffee, Siri Fort Road
- Sevpuri outside Kamla Nehru College

BEST COFFEE IN DELHI TILL DATE:

Third Wave Coffee, Khan Market🥤

PLACES FOR BOOK LOVERS:

Brew Boat Cafe (They serve good food with amazing board games as well as a few great books)

SURVIVAL LESSONS FOR THE LONG GAPS BETWEEN LECTURES:

- Photoshoot sessions in the beautiful greenery of Gargi📸
- Sit in the Library and try completing those never ending assignments😭

Hugs and Kisses

Time will pass like a butterfly passes in a fraction of second ...

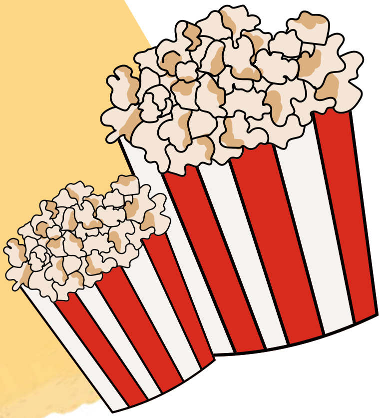
Dear Juniors,

For every day you spend within these red walls, it will feel more like home. It might not be easy always but it will be memorable. The friendships, the late night study sessions and the long hours of classes will all become a piece you would want to carry with you always. Don't let the pile high assignments and tests keep you from getting a little dose of fun, after all "All work and no play makes Jill a dull girl".

Here's to new beginnings, unforgettable memories and a journey you'll cherish forever.

With love
Team Comascent

PROFIT AND POPCORN!!



Bollywood or Hollywood, big ideas are everywhere. Match these business-driven scenes to the movies they belong to!

1. The laddoo-making home business that later becomes a small entrepreneurship success story. (Sridevi)

2. A big ad campaign for "DhanLakshmi Sweets" that turns into a family-business flex. (Ranveer Singh & Alia Bhatt)

3. A struggling father impresses interviewers by solving a Rubik's Cube in a taxi. (Will Smith)

4. A Harvard student codes a website in his dorm room that changes the world. (Jesse Eisenberg)

5. A quirky factory owner gives a golden ticket tour of his candy empire. (Johnny Depp)

6. A man designs low-cost sanitary pads to start a social enterprise. (Akshay Kumar)

7. Engineering students face a high-pressure corporate job interview on campus. (Aamir Khan)

8. A young assistant navigates the ruthless fashion magazine world under a powerful editor. (Anne Hathaway & Meryl Streep)

9. A struggling musician and an actress open a jazz club together. (Ryan Gosling & Emma Stone)

10. A wealthy father-son duo clash over running a family business on a cruise trip. (Anil Kapoor & Ranveer Singh)

Answers

Ans. English-Vinglish
2. Ans. Rocky aur Rani ki Prem Kahani
3. Ans. The Pursuit of Happyness
4. Ans. The Social Network
5. Ans. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
6. Ans. PadMan
7. Ans. 3 Idiots
8. Ans. The Devil Wears Prada
9. Ans. LaLaLand
10. Ans. Dil Dhadakne Do

"True power now lies not in conquest, but in commerce, creativity and conscience — and India stands at that intersection."