

CANADA INDIA FOUNDATION



CIF E-Newsletter



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Chair's Message



Inclusive. What Growth and Prosperity Demand of Us Right Now

Dear Friends,

In two weeks, CIF convenes our Global Inclusive Prosperity Forum (GIPF) in Toronto - a day built around one question - how do we build prosperity that actually benefits everyone in society and not just a few? I have been thinking about that question a great deal this month because Canada is being tested on exactly this front, on multiple fronts at once, right now.

A Trading Relationship Under Strain

Our largest trading partner, the US, remains a difficult one. Difficult is not something new among countries as they negotiate deals and agreements. A certain level of difficulty is expected and with the right understanding, overcome by right thinking people. What do you do when one party is not just being difficult, but unpredictable. Today the world looks at a map of North America, and they see a glistening expanse of water called Lake Ontario. And what happens the day after

the Canada US trade talks collapse? There is a Presidential order renaming it as Lake America! It is not going to happen. But is this the action of a mature administration?

On the tariff front, it has moved from bad to worse, there is a hardening of stances, on both sides. Punitive tariffs on Canadian goods have not gone away, and Canada is believed to be in the process of finalizing a few counter tariffs on American goods. The continuing uncertainty has touched every industry segment from auto to steel to agriculture. The cost of everyday items including food is likely to go up, as we import a considerable amount of our daily needs from the US. It is true in the other direction too. In this scenario, the most impacted will be the average Canadian, whose jobs are at risk, and whose cost of living shows no sign of easing. I wish that both sides will keep this huge segment in mind when negotiating. Because why are we building these bilateral and multilateral relationship? I must assume, for the common good of the largest number of people. And that goal, I am afraid, has been missed in all the headlines.

That is precisely why Canada India Foundation is thrilled to host a forum on “inclusive prosperity” on 11 September 2026, in Toronto. The timing could not be any better. We need to seriously think about the rising inequality, in the era of AI specially and elicit solutions from those who have spent decades thinking about the questions. At the Global Inclusive Prosperity Forum, you will be able to listen to many of these brilliant and thoughtful voices who will share with us key aspects and challenges of building a more inclusive society.

Building a Self-Reliant Canada

Prosperity cannot mean growth at any cost - it must mean inclusive growth that touches the lives of maximum number of citizens, and resilient growth, spread across more partners and more markets than we have relied on for the past forty years. Our economies must be not only resilient but self reliant to shield the people from geopolitical shocks. Self-reliance does not mean retreat. It means Canada finally treating its own natural advantages - critical minerals, energy, agri-food - as strategic assets rather than commodities we ship out and buy back at a markup. CIF has said this consistently - the countries that will do best over the next decade are the ones that control more of their own supply chains, not fewer. ([READ MORE](#))

Registration Open for Global Inclusive Prosperity Forum 2026



GLOBAL INCLUSIVE PROSPERITY FORUM (GIPF)

International conference for building a more inclusive, sustainable and prosperous society



📍 **TORONTO, CANADA**

📅 **SEPT 11, 2026**

Holiday Inn Toronto International Airport by IHG

Leaders from government, business, academia, civil society and the innovation ecosystem to attend the international thought leadership summit



🌐 www.CanadaIndiaFoundation.com

[Register Here](#)

[Events](#)

11th CIF Charity Golf Tournament Garner's Record Support from Community



Milton: (20 August 2026) In yet another spectacularly successful outing at the grand Granite Ridge Golf Club in Milton, the 11th CIF Charity Golf tournament, held on August 20, 2026, drew a record number of players from the community. They opened their hearts and wallets to support the event that has undoubtedly become THE golf tournament of the Indo Canadian

community from coast to coast. And the man who has helmed this unique charity effort and continues to invest his boundless energy each year, Anil Shah, a founding member of CIF, reacted to the overwhelming support, “On behalf of CIF, thank you, thank you, thank you sponsors, players, volunteers and well-wishers. Over the years this event has become super special because everyone of you believes deeply in the cause, and you believe in giving back to society.”



CIF Charity Golf tournament proceeds are donated to benefit the families of fallen heroes and frontline workers. “We owe a debt of gratitude to those who made the

ultimate sacrifice and their families. Today golf has brought us together. But golf alone is not the reason why we are here. We are here to honour our fellow Canadians and those in India who put on a uniform each day and go to work knowing tragedy can strike any moment. Once that happens their families are impacted and changed forever. It is our responsibility as a society to stand behind those families who made the sacrifices for us,” noted Shah. “The measure of success is not in what we accumulate, but in what we leave behind,” he added.

Echoing similar sentiments about the charity event in its eleventh year now, CIF Chair, Ritesh Malik, noted, “This is probably the greatest celebration for our community because there is a deep sense of purpose behind this event. CIF as an organization is dedicated to Canada India relationship as well as the people. The participation levels from the community here show that everyone associated with the CIF golf tournament is very special in his or her own way and is totally on board with the CIF mission. Thank you.”



India's Consul General in Toronto, Mahaveer Singhvi, who played a few holes in the charity golf, applauded the efforts of CIF in creating such a philanthropic opportunities for the community as well as the work being carried out in the Canada India relationship. Singhvi noted that he is optimistic about the future of the relationship and urged CIF to continue the bridge - building

between India and Canada.





The family welfare arm of the Indian armed forces and the RCASC, a representative body of Canadian Armed Forces welfare program are the two designated beneficiaries of the CIF Charity Golf tournament. This year, Hari Panday, Honorary Col., representing the RCASC and Rear Admiral (retd.) Rajinder Singh of Indian Navy received cheques for \$20,000 each. In his reply, Panday encouraged the audience to spread the news about the fast-changing composition of Canadian armed forces, offering professional opportunities for the young willing to serve. Among the representatives of Indian armed forces present on the occasion were, Commander (retd.) Ajay Bhumri, Col. (retd.) S.P. Singh and Commander (retd.) Anil Walia. Bhumri created a brilliant artwork that depicted patriotic feelings and the Canada India bilateral. The painting and the business class tickets, won in a helicopter ball drop raffle, offered by Turkish Airlines, were auctioned and bought by generous patrons.

Coincidentally, the day of the tournament, August 20, was Anil Shah's birthday. Besides the cake cutting and the fireworks that added colour and taste to the celebrations, Shah also announced a first-time recognition, to be called the CIF Legacy Cup, and awarded it to the late Ajit Someshwar, one of the chief architects of Canada India Foundation. Speaking of his long association with Someshwar, Shah said, "He was never afraid to challenge conventions. He brought energy, passion and class to the organization. He believed in CIF's ability to make a difference. Ajit, we remember what you stood for, and we are committed to carry on your legacy."



Congratulations to all the winners.

Winners of Legacy CUP 2026

Cobalt Course

Aman Sodhi, Harry Ngo, Greg Prekupec, Adam Patrick Dolley

Winners

Ruby Course

Garry Saggu, Shivendra Singh, Ron Sidhu, Harjeet Ghatora



Thank You Golf Sponsors



[Click here for more photos](#)

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CIF Meets with Changemaker from Maharashtra, Anuradha Bhonsle



Toronto: Monday 17 August 2026, CIF hosted Ms. Anuradha Bhonsle of Avani, an organization that is working in women empowerment and child welfare in Kolhapur, Maharashtra and surrounding areas. During the meeting with the Executive Team of CIF, including Ritesh Malik, Chair, Pankaj Dave, National Convener, and Sanjay Makkar, National Co-convener, Ms. Bhonsle explained the stellar work she has been doing in the area of social welfare in the state of Maharashtra for decades and how it has impacted the daily lives of women, children and their families.

Ritesh Malik assured her of the good wishes and support of CIF members and promised to take her message to like-minded individuals and organizations.

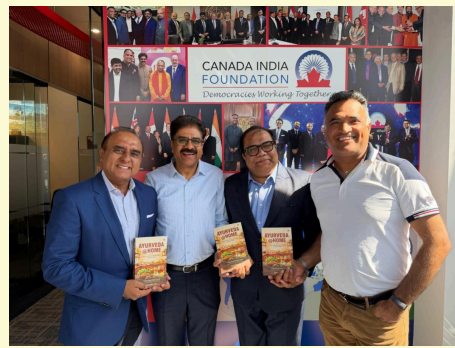
Avani's work covers an amazing range of priorities like hundreds of thousands of migrant children who arrive in the cities from poverty-stricken rural areas; young women, often underage, trafficked from other states; the inhuman conditions that thousands of women waste pickers work in the city's dumping grounds. Over the years, Avani under Anuradha Bhonsle has transformed the lives of thousands of these women and children by designing novel and often breakthrough ideas. "We wanted to rescue them from the vicious cycle of poverty," Bhonsle told the CIF. [\(Read more\)](#)

Ayurveda@Home - A Book for Families as Well As Professionals



Vaidya Harish Verma, a renowned Ayurveda practitioner, entrepreneur and a tireless global campaigner on behalf of integrating the ancient medicine system of India into the modern practice of medicine in Canada, has just released his latest book on Ayurveda, titled *Ayurveda@Home – Secrets of Wellness and Home Remedies from Your Kitchen*.

Verma presented an autographed copy of the book to the Executive Team of CIF recently.



Verma, a long-time member of Canada India Foundation, has been involved closely in the CIF initiative to promote Ayurveda in Canada through an important partnership with the University Health Network that runs some of the finest hospitals in Toronto. Speaking about the book, Verma noted, “I wrote this book for a range of audience types. First, I hope the remedies that I have suggested for many of the common ailments are adopted by the readers as they are easily accessible to them in their own homes. Secondly, I realized that there is a need for a different approach to present the case of Ayurveda to a modern generation that are also spread across the world, not just in India. They want simple explanations using modern language. I have attempted to do that.” [\(Read more\)](#)

HEADLINES

Seetharaman's Visit to Canada Sends a Clear Signal



The Canada India relationship is moving faster than anyone expected just a year ago. The recent visit of India's Minister of Finance, Ms. Nirmala Seetharaman to Canada, accompanied by two high-powered delegations, representing the government and business leadership, is the latest in a series of initiatives that bode well for the conclusion of a comprehensive partnership agreement by the year end. A Bilateral Investment Treaty, \$70 billion in trade by 2030 were items on the agenda being shaped by both sides. Champagne wrote on X: "Together we launched our first Canada-India Finance Ministers' Dialogue, spoke at the Canadian Club, and sat down with leaders from Canada's financial sector. The message was clear on both sides. Diversifying trade is how we grow. And this is just the beginning for Canada and India. ([Read more](#))



Fairfax in Talks to Buy Major Indian Bank



Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited, a Canadian diversified financial holding company headquartered in Toronto founded in 1985 by V. Prem Watsa, reportedly is in talks with government of India to buy a majority stake in IDBI, a major Indian bank in a deal worth \$5 billion. Though not yet verified, the report mentions that Fairfax has been one of the early investors in India's growth story and continues to expand its footprint, especially in the finance and insurance sectors. ([Read more.](#))

Seven-fold Increase in India's Engineering Goods Exports

Once considered a laggard in the sector, India has made huge strides in indigenously manufactured engineering goods in just the past decade that today they are accepted for quality and price in international markets. The latest export figures of engineering goods stand at over \$13 billion and that is a dramatic increase from a mere \$1.77 billion back in 2014/15. Engineering sector



remains one of the most critical in employment generation, absorbing 63% of all technical graduates in India. ([Read more.](#))

Total Net Worth of India's Top Family Businesses Exceed GDP of Many Countries



Family-run businesses have always been the mainstay of India's industrial history. According to recent data, it continues to be the case as families own bulk of the large business conglomerates today. According to wealth tracker, Hurun India, India's top business families had a combined net worth of \$1.46 trillion, surpassing the GDP numbers of many countries in Europe and Middle East. Ambanis and Adanis led the group with total net worth of ₹25.8 lakh crore (\$272 billion) and ₹19.6 lakh crore (\$197 billion) each. All the featured family-run businesses generated ₹56 lakh crore in revenue and contributed ₹1.9 lakh crore in taxes, equivalent to around 17% of India's corporate tax collections. ([Read more.](#))

India Mandates V2V Communication in Vehicles to Improve Road Safety

Concerned at the dramatic increase in road fatalities, the government of India is thinking of solutions that are only being talked about so far in most markets. In a move aimed at improving road safety and reducing accidents on highways, India's ministry of road transport and highways has proposed making vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) communication systems mandatory in all new vehicles in a phased manner from October 2027 before full implementation a year later. ([Read more.](#))



A Small Beginning to Resuming Overland Trade Between India and China



Given the serious rupture in the geopolitical arena and its subsequent disruptions in trade, India and China may be willing to gradually forget the recent past and move towards a cordial relationship as far as mutual trade is concerned. For the first time in six years when overland trade was suspended between the two countries, 18 Indian traders crossed into Tibet from Himachal Pradesh recently. Strictly limited to barter exchanges for now, it is considered a symbolic act that may lead to major changes in the future. ([Read more.](#))

Most Successful Indian Women Leaders Are Self-made

In a clear sign of the status of women in India, a recent report indicated that most of the most successful women leaders were self-made and not the products of patronage from big families. According to the 2026 Candere Hurun India Women Leaders List, 98 of the 117 (84% of the list) women featured this year made it on their own merit. Only 19 women inherited their businesses or leadership positions, meaning self-made leaders now outnumber inheritors by more than five to one. [\(Read more.\)](#)



Tycoons Flock to Invest in IPL Franchises



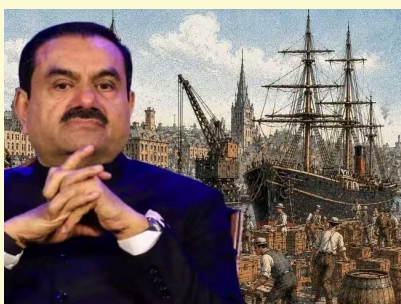
One of the youngest sports leagues anywhere in the world, India's IPL has grown into a major force in world cricket in the shortest time. Started in 2008, the eight teams spread across India's urban areas have now a combined business valuation of over \$20 billion. Team valuations are soaring on the back of a string of blockbuster deals. In May, a consortium led by steel billionaire Lakshmi Mittal and vaccine tycoon Adar Poonawalla said they will buy the Rajasthan Royals franchise in a deal valued at \$1.65 billion. [\(Read more.\)](#)

Visitors Hail Kolkata's Museum of Words

Kolkata in the Indian state of West Bengal is now home to the Museum of Word, India's first immersive language museum, located inside the National Library at Belvedere Estate in Alipore. Spread across 12 rooms and nine galleries, it traces the evolution of language from oral traditions and ancient manuscripts to printed books and modern digital communication. In the coming days, it is expected to become a major draw for visitors to the city. [\(Read more.\)](#)



Adani to Take Over UK's Biggest Ports Operator?



In what a British newspaper described as 'reverse colonialism' one of India's major business groups, Adani, is reportedly planning to make a bid for Britain's biggest ports operator, Associated British Ports (ABP). Yet to be confirmed by Adani, if the transaction goes through, it likely be worth nearly \$10 billion and rank among the biggest UK acquisitions by an Indian company. The Tata Group, under late Ratan Tata had paid \$2.8 billion for the Jaguar Land Rover company in 2008. [\(Read more.\)](#)

Chemicals Industry Targets \$80 Billion in Exports by 2030

India's chemicals industry is becoming one of the country's exports champions with recent reports projecting the figure at \$80 billion by 2030. India's speciality chemical exports have already gained traction across major markets, with the US accounting for 17 per cent and Brazil 16 per cent of exports in 2024. However, India's presence in major global import markets was only around 8 per cent, indicating scope for further export expansion. ([Read more.](#))



India-Canada trade could get a boost as Ottawa looks beyond US suppliers



Amid simmering trade tensions between the United States and Canada, India could gain greater access to the Canadian market as bilateral economic engagement gathers pace and Canada looks to diversify its sources of imports, according to an analysis by Rubix Data Sciences. The two countries have set a target of taking their combined trade in goods and services to \$50 billion by 2030. Negotiations for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) began in March 2026 and have now entered their third round. The next stage of talks is expected to place greater emphasis on areas including energy, critical minerals, technology, innovation and resilient supply chains, potentially widening the scope for Indian businesses. ([Read more](#))



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CIF Urges Community Members to Donate Blood

Canada India Foundation continued its efforts to help create awareness in the community to donate to the Canadian Blood Services. Blood is always a critical element in healthcare with the power to save lives. CIF is encouraging members of the Indo Canadian community to be proactive and help in this crucial program.

[Click here to join today.](#)



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