

International Business Conclave



The International Business Conclave at the Advantage Vidarbha 2026, arranged by AID and supported by GIBF as global partner at Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University (RTMNU) Campus from February 6-8, 2026, saw a resounding success.

Graced by Hon'ble Shri Nitin Gadkari Ji - Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Shri Devendra Fadnavis ji – Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje - Hon'ble Minister of State for MSME, diplomats from 22+ countries, and key industry stakeholders, the event emphasized that business dialogue, cross-border collaboration, and shared innovation are the pillars of sustainable global prosperity.



February 6, 2026

Expo, Visits and Gala Dinner

The Advantage Vidarbha 2026 Mega Multi-sectoral Expo held on February 6, 2026, at Nagpur's RTMNU Campus was inaugurated by Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari and Maharashtra Chief Minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis, along with Jeet Adani, Director (Airports) of the Adani Group. Abhi Group of Companies and the Global India Business Forum garnered huge response for their stall at the expo.

The day also saw important visits by the diplomatic and business community to educational institutes and healthcare centres. Notable were the visits to Symbiosis International (Deemed University) and visit to the National Cancer Institute (NCI) – the biggest in Nagpur. Mr. Abhishek Joshi, GIBF Global Director - Investment and Business Council, accompanied the international delegation and business leaders to NCI. It also had the august presence of Shri Devendra Fadnavis ji – Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra.

The day concluded with a Gala dinner that was organised for the ambassadors/high commissioners, consul generals, other diplomats and awardees. Mr. Abhishek Joshi and the GIBF team, Mr. Ashish Kale, President - AID, Mr. Vijay Sharma, Secretary – AID and the AID team were present during the gala dinner.



February 7, 2026

Conclave, Panel Discussions, Country-wise and Sector-wise group meetings, B2B and B2G

Inauguration of International Business Conclave - Advantage Vidarbha 2026

The 'International Business Conclave' organised under 'Advantage Vidarbha 2026', was inaugurated by Hon'ble Shri Nitin Gadkari Ji - Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Shri Devendra Fadnavis ji – Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra, and other dignitaries. Founder and Global President of GIBF, Dr. Jitendra Joshi, Secretary General Deepali Gadkari, Mr. Abhishek Joshi, GIBF Global Director - Investment and Business Council, Mr. Ashish Kale, President - AID, Mr. Vijay Sharma, Secretary – AID and others were present with the esteemed guests on the dais.

The welcome address regarding Advantage Vidarbha was delivered by Mr. Ashish Kale.

Dr. Jitendra Joshi, while delivering the keynote address, informed the dignitaries on the dais and the audience about GIBF's objectives, work done until now and further plans. He gave a brief about the tie-ups with 150+ countries, setting up Councils with 100 countries and about international business conclaves and business



delegations. He praised the respected ministers for being instrumental in the development of Maharashtra and their support to the MSME sector.

“Looking ahead, with the cooperation and support of both of you, we are confident that we can make a significant and positive contribution to SME entrepreneurs in the Vidarbha region. This year marks the first time that we are organizing such an international business conclave where Diplomats and High Commissioners are present in large numbers. We firmly believe that next year, not only Diplomats and High Commissioners, but also leading industrialists from various countries will visit Nagpur, and through GIBF and AID. We assure you that we will create exceptional business opportunities for entrepreneurs in the Vidarbha region,” Dr. Joshi said.

A special edition of GIBF's mouthpiece, The Business Tycoons magazine was inaugurated by the dignitaries on the dais.

This was followed by the felicitation of the ambassadors/high commissioners and other diplomats by the respected ministers. The diplomats included:





His Excellency Mr. Clemente Camenha - Ambassador Embassy of the Republic of Angola, His Excellency Dr. Desire Boniface SOME - Ambassador of the Embassy of Burkina Faso, His Excellency Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj - High Commissioner of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, His Excellency Mr. Abdoulaye BARRO - Ambassador of the Republic of Senegal, His Excellency Mr. CONTE Alassane - Ambassador of the Embassy of the Republic of Guinea, His Excellency Mr. Alberto A. Guani - Ambassador of Oriental Republic of Uruguay, His Excellency Ubong Akpan Johnny - Acting High Commissioner of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency Mr. Guy Rodrigue DIKAYI - High Commissioner of the Gabonese Republic, Her Excellency Mrs. Ildjima Badda Mallot - Ambassador of the Republic of Chad, Ms. Arlette Gabriela Bustamante - Charges d' Affaires of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, His Excellency Mr. Qin Jie - Consul General, People's Republic of China, His Excellency Mr. José Mauro da Fonseca Costa Couto - Consul General, the Federative Republic of Brazil, H.E. Mr. Ivan Fetisov - Consul General of the Russian Federation, Mr Tanimoun Sahidou - Counsellor, the Republic of Niger, Mr. Steven Ramirez Cuellar - Economic Counsellor, the Republic of El Salvador, Ms. Sandiyakoemari Mangre - Commercial Attache, the Republic of Suriname, Mr. Freud Ulrich Klissa - Economic Counsellor, the Republic of Benin, Mr. Jared Bironga Mayieka - Trade Counsellor, the Republic of Kenya, Mr. Ricardo Daniel Delgado Muñoz - Head of Commercial and Tourism Affairs, the United Mexican States to India, Mr. Roy Postigo Medina - Trade Specialist of Peru in India, Mr. Maza Wiyau MENDELEI - Attaché of the Embassy of the Republic of Togo. (Earlier in the day the diplomats visited stalls).

Shri Gadkari, during his address said that Vidarbha has long been a leading region for mineral resources such as coal and that with the introduction of the advanced technologies like the coal gasification and derivatives project, one of its kind and the first in the country, the entire coal ecosystem of Vidarbha is set for a transformative shift.

He emphasized that Maharashtra's growth-led policies are accelerating economic momentum, positioning the state as increasingly attractive and investor-friendly. This forward-looking, integrated vision will define Maharashtra's next chapter of transformational growth.

“The biggest achievement is that diplomats from 23 countries are present here today,” Gadkari said.

Shri Fadnavis then addressed the audience. He said that Maharashtra is the most urbanized state with more than 50% of the people living in cities.

“I would like to tell all the members of the diplomatic community that today, in India, the best business space is in the state of Maharashtra and right now the most emerging region is the region of Vidarbha. So, if you wish to locate your business, I think this is the right time,” Fadnavis said.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Vijay Sharma, Secretary – AID.



Panel Discussion and Group Meetings

From 12 noon, Panel Discussion and Group Meetings – country-specific and group-specific, took place, as arranged by GIBF.

Groups A, B, C, D were formed and the panel discussions and one-on-one meetings took place simultaneously as per the groups assigned.

Networking lunch in presence of Shri Nitin Gadkari and Shri Devendra Fadnavis for all diplomats and selected business leaders proved to be very fruitful. Post-lunch the Panel Discussion and Group Meetings – country-specific and group-specific, continued.

Round table B2B/B2G Meetings

This was followed by structured round table B2B/B2G meetings that was open to all sectors. All the delegates had the opportunity to meet country diplomats one-on-one for networking and exchanging cards for further communication on potential international partnerships.

February 8, 2026

Felicitation Ceremony

The closing ceremony saw the felicitation of outstanding MSME business leaders with the CROWN OF EXCELLENCE by the hands of Hon'ble Shri Nitin Gadkari Ji - Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje, Minister of State for MSME (GoI), and other dignitaries on the dais. Founder and Global President of GIBF, Dr. Jitendra Joshi, Secretary General Deepali Gadkari, Mr. Abhishek Joshi, GIBF Global Director - Investment and Business Council were also present on the dais.

The MSMEs included - Bellapulsar Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. (Premium Healthcare Partner) for Best Pharma Start-up, Symbiosis International Deemed University (Education Partner) for Excellence in Higher Education, Shree Kamakshi Silver for The Silver Legacy, Skintillatingg and Chromocosmo Institute of Aesthetics, Trichology & Nutrition Leader in Aesthetic Medicine & Skill Development, Urja (Kutwal Foods Pvt. Ltd.) – The Taste of Tradition, Sritech Lipid Process Technologies Pvt. Ltd. for Trusted Global Supplier of Oil Processing Plants, Sudhir Karnataki, Founder of Palmwoods Retreat and La Bali Restaurant – The Pinnacle of Hospitality Excellence, Omkar Rajesh Lande, Managing Director of Rajesh Group of Companies – Outstanding Leader in Construction Services, RKPEB & Infra Pvt. Ltd. – Pinnacle of Distinction, Antara Technologies - Emerging Industry 4.0 Solutions Provider of the Year, Sree Sudheer Ceramics Private Limited -VEVON Tiles – Quality & Design Excellence in Tile Manufacturing, Amit Warehousing Pvt. Ltd. – Outstanding Warehouse Performance, Percare Industries Pvt. Ltd., Advocate Aashuutosh Srivastava - Most Prominent Criminal Lawyer, Xporience Event Technology Experts – Global Event Technology Leadership, Kings Global Educational Services – Excellence in Medical Education Guidance and Career Counseling, Abhi Group of Companies – Outstanding Contribution to the Indian Logistics Industry.

