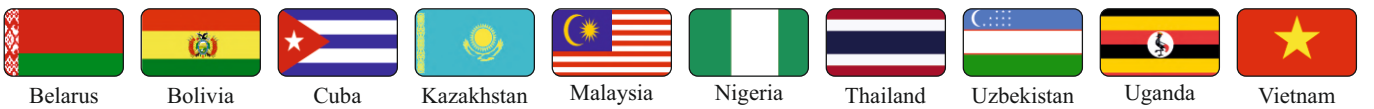


BRICS Member Countries



BRICS Partner Countries



Special Invitees



The GIBF organized BRICS+ Business Conclave 2026 on March 5 and 6, 2026 at The Pride Hotel Pune. The 15 participating countries were BRICS+ member countries, BRICS+ partner countries and special invitee countries. These included - Brazil, Russia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Bolivia, Belarus, Cuba, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Kenya, Chad, Kazakhstan, and Uganda. Ambassadors/High Commissioners and other Diplomats represented their respective countries and 300+ MSME business leaders from different sectors marked their presence. Mr. Abhay Firodia, Founder of Force Motors Pune graced the Conclave as Chief Guest while Mr. Vinod Gaikwad, IFS, Regional Passport Officer, Pune was the Guest of Honour.



BRICS+ : Towards Inclusive Growth and Deeper South–South cooperation

The term “BRIC” was coined in 2001 by economist Jim O’Neill to describe four fast-growing economies—Brazil, Russia, India, and China—that were expected to dominate global growth in the 21st century.

The grouping moved from theory to diplomacy in 2006 when the foreign ministers of these countries met on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly.

The first formal BRIC Summit was held in 2009 in Russia. In 2010, South Africa joined the grouping, expanding BRIC into BRICS and giving the bloc a truly global footprint across continents. In 2024, BRICS expanded to BRICS+ with countries like Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE joining the league.

Representing a substantial share of the world's population, natural resources, and economic growth, BRICS today plays an increasingly influential role in shaping the global order, particularly from the perspective of the Global South. India helped transform BRICS expansion from a numbers-driven exercise into a strategically calibrated evolution.

As India takes over the presidency of BRICS+ from Brazil, it brings a clear, inclusive, and future-oriented vision for the expanded BRICS+ framework. India envisions BRICS+ as a strong platform for deeper South–South cooperation, focused on inclusive growth, development financing, technology sharing, and capacity building for newly inducted member countries.



March 5, 2026: Educational Seminar & Dinner with Diplomats

An educational seminar was arranged for the ambassadors/high commissioners and other diplomats of 15 countries at the Pune Institute of Business Management (PIBM) on March 5, 2026.

The educational seminar was on Higher education, Global Skills and Future-ready Workforce for BRICS + Nations. The topic was - Employment and Education opportunities for Indian students in BRICS and other partner countries as well as opportunities in India for education and employment for students from these countries.

The diplomatic community included:

H.E. Dato' Muzafar Shah Mustafa - High Commissioner of Malaysia to India, H.E. Prof. Joyce Kakuramatsi Kikafunda - High Commissioner of Uganda to India and Mr. Arthur Agaba, IT & Research Assistant at the Uganda High Commission in India, H. E. Ubong Akpan Johnny - Acting High Commissioner of Nigeria to India and Mr. Abbas Abdullahi - Minister Counsellor (Economic, Trade, and Consular) at the High Commission of Nigeria in India, H.E. Mr. Juan Carlos Marsán Aguilera - Ambassador of Cuba to India & Prof. Maiky Diaz Perez (PhD) - First Secretary, Embassy of Cuba in India, H.E. Dr. Desire Boniface Some - Ambassador of Burkina Faso to India and Miss Delwend Aimee Michele Ouedraogo, H.E. Mr. Nguyen Thanh Hai - Ambassador of Vietnam to India and Mr. Cao Son Tran - Counsellor for Economic, Science and

Technology Affairs at the Embassy of Vietnam in India, H.E Ms. Arlette Gabriela Bustamante - Charge d' Affaires of Bolivia to India, Mr. Hissein Oumar Seidou - Deputy Head of Mission of Chad in India, Mrs. Kariuki Jane Wanjiku - Trade Counsellor at the Kenya High Commission in India, Mr. Gopal Singh Rajput - Trade Counsellor, Embassy of Brazil in India, Mr. Sergei Trotsyuk - Senior Counsellor of Embassy of Belarus in India, Mr. Maksim Vysotskiiv from the Consulate of Russia in Mumbai (India), Mr. El Hadji Ababacar Gueye - First Counsellor, Embassy Senegal in India, Mr. Gebru Teklay - Second Secretary of the Embassy of Ethiopia in India, Mr. Aitmagambetov Epmek Yermek - Second Secretary of the Embassy of Kazakhstan in India.

It was an interactive educational seminar, where academic and industry knowledge exchange took place. In the evening an exclusive diplomatic dinner and high-level networking with business leaders and delegates was organized at The Pride Hotel.



March 6, 2026: Business Conclave, Felicitations, Panel Discussion, B2B & B2G, and networking

The BRICS+ Business Conclave

The BRICS+ Business Conclave witnessed a grand opening at The Pride Hotel. Mr. Abhay Firodia, Founder of Force Motors Pune was the Chief Guest. The event began with the Indian National Anthem after which Founder and Global President of GIBF Dr. Jitendra Joshi, Secretary General Ms. Deepali Gadkari and GIBF Global Director - Investment and Business Council, Mr. Abhishek Joshi felicitated Mr. Firodia. Mr. Vinod Gaikwad, Regional Passport Officer Pune, the Guest of Honour, was felicitated by Dr. Joshi and Ms. Gadkari.

In his inaugural address, Dr. Joshi spoke about GIBF's endeavours in enhancing bilateral trade between India and other countries through business conclaves, international business delegations, seminars, webinars and encouraging outstanding business leaders by felicitating them. He shared about the recent success of GIBF's International Business Conclave at Advantage Vidarbha 2026.

“India's BRICS+ Presidency this year, places strong emphasis on inclusive growth, resilient supply chains, digital public infrastructure, sustainable development, and deeper people-to-people and business-to-business engagement across BRICS+ nations. Our vision resonates with this. Through this conclave, we aim to foster meaningful discussions that convert intent into action and conversations into concrete collaborations,” Dr. Joshi said.



Mr. Firodia in his keynote address spoke about India's glorious past and the false perceptions that the world, particularly the West, had. He said that many powers were and are trying to destroy India's economic strength. "India is going to be very successful on the strength of its small and micro industry because they are now allowed to grow. You can grow and you must grow. It is fortunate that Dr. Joshi and his team are bringing you together for your own consultation and with eminent international personalities," said Mr. Firodia, encouraging the business leaders.

The ambassadors/high commissioners and other diplomats of 15 countries were felicitated at the hands of the dignitaries on the dais.

Special edition of the GIBF's mouthpiece, The Business Tycoons magazine, was released by the guests and the diplomatic community. MSME entrepreneurs and women business leaders were felicitated by the guests and the diplomats.



Felicitations of Business Leaders

Outstanding business leaders, MSME entrepreneurs and businesswomen who were felicitated were - The Pride Hotel, Pune - Luxury Hospitality Icon, Pune Institute of Business Management - Excellence in Business Education, Bellapulsar Healthcare Pvt. Ltd - Lifetime Impact in Research-Based Pharmaceutical Innovation, Adv. Aashuutosh Srivastava (Advocate & Member, Supreme Court Bar Association) – Most Prominent Criminal Lawyer, Dr. H.E. M. N. Sardarali, Founder of International Chamber of Agricultural Plantation Industry and Farmer Producer Organization (ICAPIFPO), Sri Lanka - Meritorious Contribution to Agribusiness Development, Adv. Prabhakaran Ramachandran, Chairman & Managing Partner of Lincoln Global Law Chambers Pravda Law Associates - International Jurisprudence & Legal Advocacy Award, Arham Overseas - Excellence in International Trade 2026, Sri Srinivas Kannurkar – Atreya Farms Kannur (Village) Kalaburagi Karnataka - Outstanding Achievement in Sustainable Agriculture, Bodhankar Events LLP – Event Innovation Award, Dr. Sunil Abeyaratne – Attorney at Law President-International Chamber of Agricultural Plantation Industry & Farmer Producer Organization, Chairman -Communication Data Protection & Technology Committee - Law Asia Chairman-ICT Lawyers' Guild of Sri- Lanka - International Jurisdiction & Legal Advocacy Award, Mamta Pawar, CEO and Director of ImpoExpo Lion Roar – Best



Female CEO-Entrepreneur in Import-Export, Abol Pawar, Director Maa Laxmi Financial Solutions - Fastest Loan Disbursement Company in India, Maheshwari Sales Corporation - Leader Of Equitable Healthcare Technology, Mr. Nalaka Silva, Chairman-Agro Harvest Cultivation (Pvt.) Ltd. – Outstanding Contribution to Agribusiness, Ms. Nikita Pandit, Founder and MD–Naturedip Enterprises Private Limited - Best Startup for Plant-based Food Products, Samvid International - Excellence in Environmental Health, Water & Wastewater and Water Conservation Stewardship, Mr. Rahul Ramesh Jadhao, Director-PlanetPro Automation Pvt. Ltd, Planet Robotics – Excellence In Robotic & Mechatronics Automation, Mr. Shamsundar Sudhakar Patil - Director-PlanetPro Automation Pvt. Ltd, Planet Robotics – Excellence In Robotic & Mechatronics Automation, Prince Kumar, Founder & MD of Edex Academy NZ – Excellence in Overseas Education Advisory, RaviCam Manufacturing Pvt. Ltd - Brilliance In Precision Manufacturing of Engine Camshafts, Shiv Multi-skills Company – Best Manufacturer of Precision Machined Components in India, Softcon Systems Pvt. Ltd. – Best in Global Innovation Process & Power Automation, Sun Enterprises – Best Manufacturer of Safe, “Waterless”, Heavy-Duty Hand- Wash Gel & Heavy-Duty Hand-Wash Spray/Liquid, TEZTECCH – Best Digital Marketing Company In India, and Women's Special awards - Shweta Joshi and Sanchita Kulkarni.

Group-wise country presentations, particularly focusing on business opportunities in their respective countries were shared by the diplomats.

Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed between GIBF and International Chamber of Agricultural Plantation Industry and Farmer Producer Organization (Guarantee) Limited ICAPIFPO, and between GIBF and Lincoln Global Law Chambers (LGLC).

Dr. M N Sardarali, Founder – ICAPIFPO, Mr. Nalaka Silva - Co-Founder, Dr. Sunil Abeyaratne - President, Mrs. Fathima Nazrin - General Secretary and others were present on behalf of ICAPIFPO.

On behalf of Lincoln Global Law Chambers (LGLC), Founder and Managing Partner, Advocate R Prabhakaran and Dr. Sunil Abeyaratne, Chairman - ICT Lawyer's Guild Sri Lanka were present.



Panel Discussion, B2B & B2G, and networking

Country-wise panel discussions were conducted with different topics that included –

- Government-Backed Market Access & Technology Partnerships for SME Growth
- Trade Corridors, Infrastructure & SME Expansion: Converting Opportunities into Contracts
- From Policy to Projects: Enabling SME-Led Trade & Industrial Partnerships Across BRICS+
- Strategic Resource & Industrial Cooperation: Policy-Driven Pathways for Long-Term SME Partnerships

This was followed by B2B & B2G meetings. The event concluded with high tea with networking.

