



FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT

My Dear Members,

As we bid farewell to a transformative 2025, I am filled with immense pride at what we have achieved together. But as we stand on the threshold of 2026, the horizon looks even more promising.

For the Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SGCCI), 2026 will not just be another calendar year; it will be a year of execution and elevation. Our focus for the coming months is clear: to integrate Surat's industrial might with global value chains. With upcoming marquee events like Sparkle International 2026 and SITEX 2026, we are not just showcasing products; we are showcasing the "Brand Surat" to the world.

This year, we will aggressively pursue the operationalization of the PM MITRA Park and further strengthen our diamond and gem sectors. However, our vision extends beyond our traditional strongholds. We must embrace the "China Plus One" opportunity and position South Gujarat as the manufacturing hub of choice for the world.

I urge every member to adopt a mindset of innovation. Whether you are an MSME or a large conglomerate, 2026 demands that we digitize, sustainability-proof our businesses, and think global. Let us walk into this new year with renewed vigor, aligned with the national vision of a self-reliant, developed India.

Here's to a prosperous and groundbreaking 2026!



NIKHIL MADRASI
PRESIDENT, SGCCI

FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR

For decades, India's economic narrative was monopolized by its metros. But as we welcome 2026, the script has flipped. The road to Viksit Bharat (Developed India) by 2047 will not be paved solely by Delhi or Mumbai, but by the dynamic, hungry, and resilient Tier II cities.

Surat stands as the undisputed champion of this shift. We are no longer just a "Diamond City" or "Silk City"; we are a microcosm of the new India. Tier II cities offer what metros no longer can: the perfect arbitrage of cost-efficiency, rapidly improving infrastructure, and a young, aspirational workforce.

The government's push for connectivity—through high-speed rail and dedicated freight corridors—has dismantled the geographical disadvantages we once faced. Now, a startup in Vesu or a textile unit in Pandesara has the same digital and logistical reach as a firm in Bangalore.

We must transition from "family-run" to "professionally managed." We must prioritize urban planning and sustainable industrial practices.

As we step into 2026, let us recognize that we are the pilots of India's economic takeoff. The metros have reached saturation; the growth engine is now us.

Welcome to the era of the Tier II Titan.

- SANJAY PUNJABI, EDITOR, INFOZINE

TEXTILE

India's textile exports grow 9.4% in November: India's textile and apparel exports saw a significant rise in November 2025, reaching USD 2,855.8 million. This marks a 9.4 percent year-on-year growth. Key segments like ready-made garments and handicrafts showed strong performance. Overall sector size is estimated at USD 179 billion for 2024-25. Cumulative exports for January-November 2025 also registered a slight increase.



GLOBAL TRADE

Surat signed MoU with Botswana of Rs. 36,000/- crore

સુરતનું કેપી ગુપ બોટસવાનામાં સોલાર એનજી
પ્રોજેક્ટમાં 36 હજાર કરોડનું રોકાણ કરશે



सिटी अॅन्कर

સિટી એન્કર 5 વર્ષમાં તબક્કાવાર કામગીરી કરી 1 લાખ ધરેમાં સોલાર વીજળી પહોંચાતી કરાશે બોટ્સવાનામાં વીજયુનિટનો ભાવ ભારત કરતાં બમણો, કેપી ગ્રૂપ 36 હજાર કરોડનં રોકાણ કરીને સોલાર પ્લાન્ટ સ્થાપશે

333

DIAMOND

Botswana Strengthens Diamond Ties with Surat: In a move to bolster direct trade relations, a high-level delegation from Botswana, led by their Minerals Minister, visited Surat this month. The discussions focused on increasing direct supply chains of rough diamonds to Surat's polishing units, potentially bypassing intermediaries and securing raw material availability for the city's famed industry.

World Gold Council India sees gold consumption down 12% this year: India's gold consumption is projected to decrease this year due to a significant price increase. Despite this, consumers are still preferring lightweight gold jewellery. Investment demand remains robust, contrasting with a weaker jewellery segment. Higher prices are impacting affordability for many buyers. This trend is affecting smaller jewellers more than larger ones.



ENERGY / RENEWABLE ENERGY

Sumul Dairy Signs MoU for Biogas Plant:

In a significant push towards sustainable energy, Sumul Dairy has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NDB and Suzuki to set up a Compressed Biogas (CBG) plant in Surat. This project aims to generate clean energy from cattle waste, promoting a circular economy.

India achieved 50% of its installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel sources: India has reached half of its installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel sources, meeting this Nationally Determined Contribution target five years early. As of October 31, 2025, non-fossil capacity stands at about 259 GW, with 31.2 GW added in the current financial year, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) said.



ENGINEERING

Asia's Largest Galvanizing Kettle Inaugurated: A major milestone for South Gujarat's engineering sector was marked on December 23rd with the inauguration of KP Green Engineering's new facility in Matar, Bharuch. The plant boasts Asia's largest galvanizing kettle, significantly enhancing the region's infrastructure and manufacturing capabilities.



INFRASTRUCTURE

SYSTRA Wins Surat Metro Contract: Global engineering and consulting firm SYSTRA has been awarded a key contract for the ongoing Surat Metro Rail Project, further accelerating the development of the city's mass transit infrastructure.



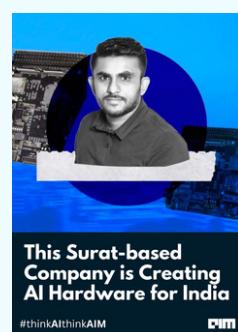
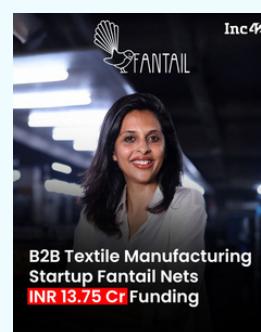
STARTUP

Rocket (AI): Raised \$15M in seed funding (Sept 2025) for its AI platform that turns English ideas into apps, signaling India's "vibe-coding" era.

India Accelerator (IA): Opened a large Startup Centre in Surat (Oct 2025) to nurture 50-60 startups annually, offering space, mentors, and investor access.

Fantail (B2B): Tapping into Surat's textile ecosystem with B2B solutions (July 2025).

Vicharak (Hardware): Launched innovative mini-edge computers, focusing on advanced, efficient hardware.



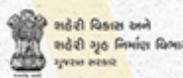
HAZIRA

THINK Gas & Shell Ink LNG Supply Pact: City gas distribution company THINK Gas has signed a long-term agreement with Shell Energy India for natural gas supply from the Hazira LNG terminal. This deal, finalized earlier this month, is set to secure gas availability for city gas distribution networks.





સુરક્ષા કાર્યક્રમ કાર્યક્રમ - સુરત



સાંદરી વિકાસ અને
સાંદરી ગુરુ નિમંત્રણ વિભાગ
ગુજરાત સરકાર

SWACHH SURVEKSHAN 2023



નિર્મલ
ગુજરાત 2.0
સ્વચ્છ ગુજરાત, સુરક્ષા ગુજરાત 2.0

#No1 BanGayaSurat

સ્વચ્છતા સર્વેક્ષણમાં શ્રેષ્ઠ સુરત

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ઓલ ઇન્ડિયા કલીન સિટીમાં
સુરત સૌથી સ્વચ્છ શહેર,
સમગ્ર દેશમાં પ્રથમ ક્રમાંકે





Rank 1



All India Clean City

Rank 1 Surat

**નિર્મલ ગુજરાતનાં નિર્માણ તરફ
કરણાણ ભરતું આપણું સુરત**



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