



Post Show Report of BHARAT GLOBAL CONNECT *Africa Edition*

Theme: “Forging Manufacturing Alliances”

B2B Expo & Reverse Buyer-Seller Meet

Venue: Taj Vivanta Dwarka, New Delhi, India

Dates: 23–24 June 2026

Organized by

Indo-African Chamber of Commerce & Industry (IACCI)

Partner Organization

Alliance Expo





1. Executive Summary

Bharat Global Connect 2026 – Africa Edition, held on 23–24 June 2026 at Taj Vivanta Dwarka, New Delhi, brought together government representatives, diplomats, business leaders, and entrepreneurs from across India and Africa for two days of high-level dialogue, institutional engagement, and business-to-business collaboration. Organized by the Indo-African Chamber of Commerce & Industry (IACCI) in partnership with Alliance Expo, the event was conceived as an expo-cum-B2B networking platform to deepen economic ties between the two regions.

The Chamber had originally invited approximately 500 delegates from across the African continent. Travel disruptions linked to an Ebola-related public health advisory, which particularly affected prospective delegations from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, and South Sudan, reduced attendance from these markets. Despite this setback, the Chamber successfully welcomed approximately 150 delegates representing nearly 20 African nations, including Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Chad, Congo Brazzaville, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Malawi, Niger, Senegal, Sudan, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, alongside a delegation from Yemen. The Ethiopian Ambassador to India was among the senior diplomats in attendance.

Delegates and exhibitors represented a diverse cross-section of industry, including textiles, engineering, agro-processing, renewable energy, oil and gas, pharmaceuticals and healthcare, cosmetics, skill development, hospitality, gold jewellery, and industrial valves.





1. Executive Summary cont'd..

A key institutional milestone of the event was the appointment of Ambassador Amrit Lugun (IFS, 1989 batch) as Chairman of the Chamber's Advisory Board, alongside the felicitation of the Ambassadors of Angola, Benin, and Ethiopia, and other members of the diplomatic community. The event also featured a technology presentation by CyanConnode on smart water metering solutions for Africa, and the signing of an MoU between IACCI and the Ghana India Chamber of Commerce. The two-day programme concluded with a Gala Networking Dinner, cultural programme, and the presentation of certificates and mementos to all participating delegates.

Bharat Global Connect 2026 – Africa Edition reaffirmed the Chamber's position as a leading platform for India–Africa economic cooperation and set a clear roadmap for 2026–2030, built on manufacturing partnerships, technology transfer, and deeper institutional collaboration between the two regions.

2. About Bharat Global Connect 2026

Bharat Global Connect is India's flagship international business platform, designed and delivered by the Indo-African Chamber of Commerce & Industry to strengthen economic cooperation between India and Africa. The 2026 edition, focused specifically on Africa, was conceived as a joint initiative of IACCI and its partner, Alliance Expo, bringing together policymakers, diplomats, and business leaders under a shared vision of trade, investment, and industrial partnership.

The platform draws directly on the legacy of I FOR AFRIKA, which has completed 20 editions and established itself as one of the most recognized India–Africa business engagement platforms. Building on this two-decade legacy, Bharat Global Connect was designed to move beyond conventional trading relationships and toward high-value manufacturing, digital integration, and long-term institutional partnerships between Indian and African enterprises.





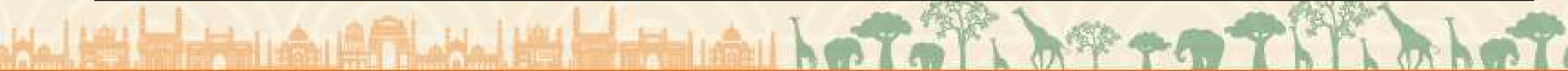
3. Event Objectives

Bharat Global Connect 2026 – Africa Edition was designed around the following core objectives:

- Strengthen India–Africa trade and investment linkages
- Promote industrial growth and competitiveness across both regions
- Generate sustainable employment opportunities
- Encourage technology transfer between Indian and African enterprises
- Support startups and young entrepreneurs
- Facilitate strategic, long-term business partnerships

4. Event Overview

Particular	Details
Venue	Taj Vivanta Dwarka, New Delhi, India
Dates	23–24 June 2026
Format	Expo-cum-B2B Networking Platform / Reverse Buyer-Seller Meet
Organized by	Indo-African Chamber of Commerce & Industry (IACCI)
Partner Organization	Alliance Expo
Delegates Invited	Approximately 500 delegates from across Africa
African Delegates Attended	Approximately 150 delegates from nearly 20 African nations
Countries Represented	Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Chad, Congo Brazzaville, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Malawi, Niger, Senegal, Sudan, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Yemen
Industries Represented	Textiles, Engineering, Agro-processing, Renewable Energy, Oil & Gas, Pharmaceuticals & Healthcare, Cosmetics, Skill Development, Hospitality, Gold Jewellery, Industrial Valves
MoUs Signed	22





Brought to You By


**INDO-AFRICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

www.indoafrican.org


ALLIANCE EXPO

www.allianceexpo.in

4. Event Overview cont'd



**H.E. Ambassador
of Angola**
Clemente Camenha



**H.E. Ambassador
of Benin**
Erick Jean-Marie
Zinsou



**H.E. Ambassador
of Ethiopia**
Molalign Asfaw

5. Inaugural Ceremony

The event opened with the formal arrival of dignitaries, including H.E. the Ambassador of Angola, H.E. the Ambassador of Benin, and other members of the diplomatic corps. Representing the Chamber were President Mr. Sumit Govind Sharma, Secretary General Dr. Sunanda Rajendran, Mr. Vijaykumar Sonkar (National Head, MSME Committee), and Mr. Pranay Pareekh (Board Member, Gujarat).

The programme began with the traditional lighting of the lamp by the assembled dignitaries, symbolizing the formal inauguration of the event.





5. Inaugural Ceremony cont'd



6. Welcome Address by President, Mr. Sumit Govind Sharma

In his welcome address, Chamber President Mr. Sumit Govind Sharma set the tone for the two-day event, describing Bharat Global Connect as more than a business meeting. He emphasized that the Chamber's core mandate has always been to build bridges of trade, investment, technology, and, most importantly, trust between India and Africa. He characterized the platform as a deliberate initiative to move beyond conventional trading patterns and toward high-value manufacturing, digital integration, and deep institutional partnerships.





6. Welcome Address by President, Mr. Sumit Govind Sharma

Mr. Sharma noted that India's dynamic economic growth and technological maturity are closely aligned with Africa's demographic dividend and the historic operationalization of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), positioning both regions to capture significant mutual value in the years ahead.

He shared key trade indicators underscoring the momentum behind this partnership: India's total exports of goods and services rose 13.17% year-on-year to US\$ 43.90 billion in January 2026, while imports rose 18.76% to US\$ 90.83 billion over the same period. India's export sector, he noted, demonstrated notable resilience through fiscal year 2025–2026, posting record quarterly performances despite global tariff pressures and trade uncertainty.

On the specific subject of India–Africa trade, Mr. Sharma noted that bilateral trade between India and Africa reached US\$ 93.69 billion in FY 2025–26, with India's exports to African nations at approximately US\$ 42.7 billion and imports at approximately US\$ 40 billion — a relationship he described as fairly balanced and mutually strategic. He further cited a broader estimate placing India–Africa trade at approximately US\$ 103 billion in FY 2025, underlining the scale of the opportunity ahead. He identified trade and economic cooperation as the top shared priority for both regions, stressing that business leaders and governments alike require a practical roadmap, and that the Chamber's role is to ensure that business ideas find the right local partners, regulatory clarity, and institutional support.

Addressing the delegates directly, Mr. Sharma urged them to think long-term and structurally: “Do not just look for buyers and sellers here; look for joint-venture partners. Look for opportunities to establish manufacturing hubs, to transfer technology, and to co-create products tailored specifically for the Indian and African markets.” He reaffirmed the Chamber's full commitment to supporting every MoU, every investment pipeline, and every partnership forged at the event, with the Chamber's secretariat available to handhold businesses through compliance, market entry, and joint operations long after the event concluded.





Brought to You By



7. Address by Secretary General, Dr. Sunanda Rajendran

Secretary General Dr. Sunanda Rajendran, affectionately known as “Mama Africa” among African delegates in recognition of her nearly four decades of association with the Chamber, presented a comprehensive account of the Chamber's history, achievements, and forward roadmap.



Dr. Rajendran detailed the Chamber's track record, citing approximately 2,896 joint ventures facilitated within the MSME sector and 346 ventures with multinational companies across India and Africa, supported by 918 business delegations represented in Africa to date.

She placed the event within the context of a challenging global environment, highlighting geopolitical instability, supply chain disruptions, inflationary pressure, energy security concerns, food security challenges, additional pressure stemming from the Iran-Israel conflict, and Ebola-related travel disruption and business uncertainty. She noted that while the Chamber had invited approximately 500 delegates, roughly 150 delegates from Ebola-affected areas had to be dropped from the final list; nevertheless, approximately 150 African delegates were able to attend the event.



Dr. Rajendran spoke in detail on Indian MSMEs as the engine of inclusive growth, framing the Chamber's strategy around technology transfer, manufacturing partnerships, skill development, agricultural modernization, digital transformation, renewable energy, supply chain integration, healthcare expansion, women's empowerment, and chamber-to-chamber cooperation. She noted that India-backed manufacturing in Africa stands to benefit local production, reduce reliance on imports, increase exports through AfCFTA, and generate meaningful employment opportunities.

Looking ahead, she outlined the Chamber's roadmap for 2026–2030, which includes sector-specific forums, structured B2B matchmaking, MSME collaboration programmes, trade missions, market intelligence services, AfCFTA facilitation services, and capacity-building initiatives.

8. Felicitation Ceremony

A significant institutional milestone of the event was the felicitation of Ambassador Amrit Lugun (IFS, 1989 batch), who was appointed Chairman of the Chamber's Advisory Board. The felicitation was conducted jointly by President Mr. Sumit Govind Sharma and Secretary General Dr. Sunanda Rajendran.





In his remarks, Ambassador Lugun commended the Chamber's contribution to India–Africa relations and assured the secretariat of his continued guidance as the organization expands its reach. He spoke to the strategic importance of Africa in the global economy, noting that the continent holds approximately 40% of the world's gold reserves and up to 90% of its chromium and platinum, along with the world's largest reserves of cobalt, diamonds, platinum, and uranium. He further noted that Africa holds 65% of the world's remaining arable land and 10% of the planet's internal renewable freshwater resources.



Ambassador Lugun also outlined the principal challenges facing the continent today, including the adverse impact of climate change, increasing water scarcity, biodiversity and ecosystem loss, desertification, low resilience to natural disasters, the potential non-achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the ongoing energy crisis, food security challenges, limited benefits realized from globalization, and pressing public health concerns.







BHARAT GLOBAL CONNECT 2026
Africa Edition
Forging Manufacturing Alliances
B2B EXPO & REVERSE BUYER SELLER MEET
23rd & 24th JUNE 2026 **TAJ Vivanta Dwarka** **New Delhi**



Brought to You By



**INDO-AFRICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**
www.indoafrican.org



ALLIANCE EXPO
www.allianceexpo.in

The ceremony also recognized the Ambassadors of Angola, Benin, and Ethiopia, along with other members of the diplomatic community present, underscoring the importance of sustained diplomatic engagement in advancing the Chamber's institutional and trade objectives.





Brought to You By


**INDO-AFRICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

 www.indoafrican.org


ALLIANCE EXPO

 www.allianceexpo.in

9. Sponsor Presentation – CyanConnode



The event featured a technology presentation by CyanConnode, a UK-based company with offices in India, the UAE, and Africa, and a longstanding member of the Chamber. CyanConnode specializes in technology transfer and project services for the utility industry, with a particular focus on establishing manufacturing facilities for smart water meters in Africa.



Mr. Rahul Das, CEO of CyanConnode, delivered a detailed presentation outlining the company's technology transfer model, manufacturing capabilities, and investment opportunities for African markets, drawing strong engagement from delegates interested in utility infrastructure and smart metering solutions.



11. Exhibition & B2B Meetings

Following the formal proceedings, the dignitaries and African delegates proceeded to the exhibition hall for the official opening of the exhibition, marking the commencement of business activity for the two-day event.

The exhibition and B2B programme provided a structured platform for networking, buyer-seller interactions, and investment discussions across the represented sectors. Delegates and exhibitors engaged in extensive business meetings spanning textiles, engineering, agro-processing, renewable energy, oil and gas, pharmaceuticals and healthcare, cosmetics, skill development, hospitality, gold jewellery, and industrial valves, generating a wide range of business opportunities and follow-on discussions.

The event took place against the backdrop of a broader shift underway across Africa's entrepreneurial landscape. Increasingly, African entrepreneurship is no longer defined by early-stage experimentation or fragmented startup activity, but by founders building businesses that scale across sectors and borders — from healthcare and agriculture to fintech, logistics, and energy — formalizing markets, strengthening supply chains, and creating jobs even amid significant structural challenges. This shift underscored the relevance and timeliness of the platform that Bharat Global Connect provided.





12. Key Outcomes

Bharat Global Connect 2026 – Africa Edition delivered measurable outcomes across participation, partnership, and institutional engagement:

Metric	Outcome
African Delegates	Approximately 150, from nearly 20 African nations
Countries Represented	18 African nations plus Yemen
Industry Sectors Represented	11 major sectors, including textiles, engineering, agro-processing, energy, and healthcare
MoUs Signed	22
Institutional Partnerships	Ghana India Chamber of Commerce; new Chairman appointed to Chamber's Advisory Board
Technology Transfer Initiatives	Smart water metering (CyanConnode); agricultural technology; telecom cable supply
Business Delegations to Africa (cumulative, to date)	918
Joint Ventures Facilitated (cumulative, to date)	2,896 MSME-sector ventures; 346 with multinational companies





13. Major MoUs Signed

A total of 22 MoUs were signed during Bharat Global Connect 2026 – Africa Edition, spanning a broad range of sectors and geographies. Representative agreements are summarized below.

Sector	Country	Purpose	Expected Impact
Agriculture	Multiple African nations	Supply of agricultural equipment and farmer-focused technology transfer	Improved farm productivity and modernized agricultural practices
Agriculture	Ethiopia	Cultivation of potatoes	Strengthened food security and crop diversification
Utilities / Smart Metering	Multiple African nations	Supply and manufacture of smart water meters	Improved utility infrastructure and resource management
Skill Development	Botswana	Establishment of a skill development training centre	Enhanced local workforce capacity and employability
Healthcare	Not specified	Setting up of an ORS (Oral Rehydration Solution) manufacturing plant	Improved access to essential healthcare products
Telecommunications	Ethiopia	Participation in cable supply tender with Ethio Telecom	Strengthened telecom infrastructure
Oil & Gas / Refinery	Angola	Refurbishment of an existing refinery	Enhanced refining capacity and energy security
Manufacturing / Industrial	Kenya	Expansion programme	Increased local manufacturing capacity and employment



Brought to You By


**INDO-AFRICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

www.indoafrican.org


ALLIANCE EXPO

www.allianceexpo.in

14. Gala Dinner & Closing Ceremony

The event concluded on its second evening with a Gala Networking Dinner, providing delegates a final opportunity for informal exchange and relationship-building following two days of structured business engagement. The evening featured a cultural programme celebrating the shared spirit of the India–Africa partnership.

The Chamber formally recognized every participating delegate with a certificate of participation and a memento, in appreciation of their engagement and contribution to the event's success.



Bharat Global Connect 2026 – Africa Edition drew to a close with a shared commitment among organizers, delegates, and partners to reconvene the following year on an even larger scale, building on the partnerships and momentum established over the two days.



15. Event Highlights

- Approximately 150 African delegates from nearly 20 nations, including the Ethiopian Ambassador to India
- 22 MoUs signed across agriculture, technology, skill development, energy, and telecommunications
- Appointment of Ambassador Amrit Lugun as Chairman of the Chamber's Advisory Board
- New institutional partnership established with the Ghana India Chamber of Commerce
- Technology transfer presentation on smart water metering by CyanConnode
- Participation from 11 major industry sectors, spanning textiles to renewable energy
- Roadmap for 2026–2030 unveiled, anchored in manufacturing partnerships and AfCFTA facilitation
- Gala Networking Dinner and cultural programme honouring all participating delegates

16. Conclusion

Bharat Global Connect 2026 – Africa Edition reaffirmed the Indo-African Chamber of Commerce & Industry's role as a trusted institutional bridge between India and Africa. Despite external headwinds, including Ebola-related travel disruption that affected delegations from several nations, the event delivered strong outcomes: nearly 150 African delegates, 22 MoUs, new institutional partnerships, and a clear roadmap for the years ahead.

As India's economic growth and technological capability continue to align with Africa's demographic potential and the ongoing implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area, platforms such as Bharat Global Connect will remain central to translating shared opportunity into concrete trade, investment, and manufacturing outcomes. The Chamber remains fully committed to supporting the partnerships forged at this event, and looks ahead to building on this momentum at the next edition, on an even larger scale.





16. Annexure

Event Statistics at a Glance

Metric	Value
Delegates Invited	~500
African Delegates Attended	~150
Countries Represented	18 African nations + Yemen
Industry Sectors	11
MoUs Signed	22
Cumulative MSME Joint Ventures (to date)	2,896
Cumulative MNC Joint Ventures (to date)	346
Business Delegations to Africa (cumulative)	918

Participating Countries

Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Chad, Congo Brazzaville, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Malawi, Niger, Senegal, Sudan, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Yemen.

Industry Sectors Represented

Textiles, Engineering, Agro-processing, Renewable Energy, Oil & Gas, Pharmaceuticals & Healthcare, Cosmetics, Skill Development, Hospitality, Gold Jewellery, and Industrial Valves.

Partner Organizations

Alliance Expo

18.5 MoU Summary

22 MoUs signed across agriculture, utilities and smart metering, skill development, healthcare, telecommunications, oil and gas, and manufacturing. Full documentation is retained by the Chamber secretariat.





Brought to You By


**INDO-AFRICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

www.indoafrikan.org


ALLIANCE EXPO

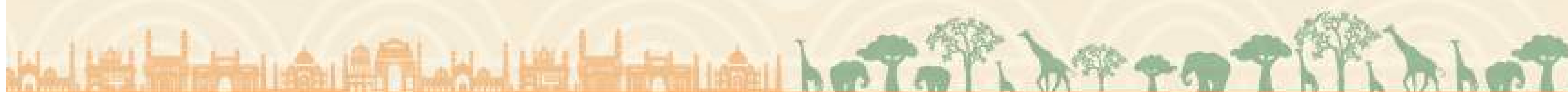
www.allianceexpo.in

16. Vote of Thanks



The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Mr. Pranay Parekh, Board Member from Gujarat, who expressed profound gratitude to the international delegates, dignitaries, and industry partners for their invaluable participation and contribution to making the event a resounding success. With this, the impactful two-day event came to a successful close, leaving behind a strong foundation of strategic alliances, inspiring promises, and a shared commitment to celebrate and expand these global connections on an even grander scale in the future.

The two days event came to an end with many promises and future celebrations in a big way.







BHARAT GLOBAL CONNECT 2026
Africa Edition
Forging Manufacturing Alliances
B2B EXPO & REVERSE BUYER SELLER MEET
23rd & 24th JUNE 2026 | **TAJ Vivanta Dwarka** | **New Delhi**



Brought to You By


**INDO-AFRICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

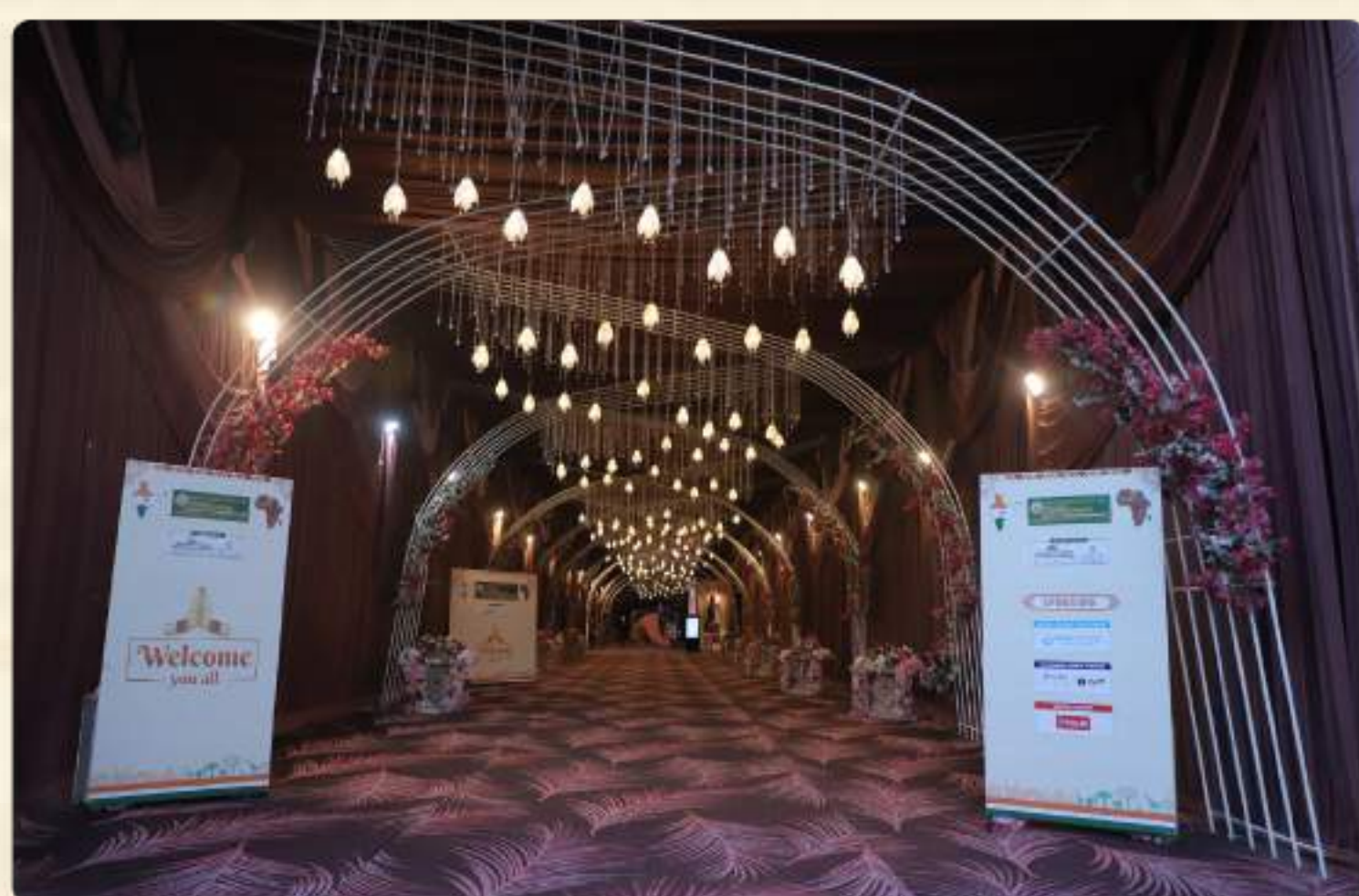
www.indoafrican.org


ALLIANCE EXPO

www.allianceexpo.in

17. Annexure

Photo Gallery





BHARAT GLOBAL CONNECT 2026

Africa Edition

Forging Manufacturing Alliances

B2B EXPO & REVERSE BUYER SELLER MEET

23rd & 24th JUNE 2026

TAJ Vivanta Dwarka

New Delhi



Brought to You By



INDO-AFRICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

www.indoaffrican.org



ALLIANCE EXPO

www.allianceexpo.in

17. Delegates

Photo Gallery







BHARAT GLOBAL CONNECT 2026
Africa Edition
Forging Manufacturing Alliances
B2B EXPO & REVERSE BUYER SELLER MEET
23rd & 24th JUNE 2026 | **TAJ Vivanta Dwarka** | **New Delhi**



Brought to You By


**INDO-AFRICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

www.indoafrican.org


ALLIANCE EXPO

www.allianceexpo.in

17. Delegates

Photo Gallery

