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Defence Forces must maintain highest level of operational readiness

CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 Defence Forces must maintain highest level of operational readiness, with focus on domain awareness, cyber resilience & information integrity to counter emerging threats: Raksha Mantri at Air Force Station, Bagdogra.

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh has called upon the Defence Forces to maintain the highest level of operational readiness, with special focus on strengthening domain awareness, cyber resilience and information integrity to effectively counter emerging security threats. Interacting with the personnel of the Indian Air Force (IAF) on the eve of Diwali at Air Force Station, Bagdogra, West Bengal, on November 7, 2026, he emphasised that the security landscape has become increasingly complex, with warfare extending beyond conventional engagements along the borders to encompass asymmetric warfare, proxy wars, cyber-attacks, drone swarms, information operations and narrative management.



"Often, the adversary avoids direct confrontation and instead seeks to exploit our vulnerabilities. Through social media, the adversary may attempt to sow doubt in the minds of the local population and our soldiers by spreading misleading information. In such a scenario, your role extends beyond that of an ordinary soldier," said Raksha Mantri.

Legislative Department Initiates Interaction Series; First Session Focuses on Improving Values



CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 Legislative Department Initiates Interaction Series; First Session Focuses on Improving Values and Personal Effectiveness in Leadership.

The Legislative Department, Ministry of Law and Justice, has initiated an Interaction Series with the objective of providing a platform for senior officers to share their experiences, professional insights and perspectives on various aspects of leadership, administration and personal effectiveness with the officers and officials of the Department.

The first session of the series was held on 5 November 2026 at the विधायी प्रशिक्षण सभागार, Kartavya Bhavan 2, New Delhi. The session was chaired by Dr. Manoj Kumar, Additional Secretary, Legislative Department. Akali V. Konghay, Additional Secretary, Legislative Department, delivered an insightful talk on the theme "Improving Values and Personal Effectiveness in Leadership", sharing her personal experiences and perspectives on the principles of effective leadership.

LOK SABHA SPEAKER EXTENDS GREETINGS FOR DEEPAVALI, GOVARDHAN PUJA, AND BHAI DOOJ

CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has extended greetings for Deepavali, Govardhan Puja, and Bhai Dooj.

In his message Birla said: "Heartfelt greetings to all of you on Diwali, the grand festival of joy. I also extend my warmest wishes to you for Govardhan Puja, and Bhai Dooj.

Deepavali is not merely a festival of lighting lamps and celebrating; it is also an opportunity to fill the lives of others with the light of hope, faith, and happiness.

Just as a lamp burns itself to spread light all around, let us also make an effort in our lives to ensure that our joy brings happiness to the lives of others. Let us pledge to bring a smile not only to our own families but also to the faces of those who remain deprived of the festival's joys due to hardships. Help the needy, share happiness with them, and promote love, harmony, and mutual cooperation in society.

Ministry of Steel Successfully Concludes Special Campaign for Disposal of Pending Matters (SCDPM) 6

CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 The Ministry of Steel has successfully conducted the Special Campaign for Disposal of Pending Matters (SCDPM) 6 from 2nd October to 31st October, 2026. The Ministry of Steel and its Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) actively participated in the campaign, which focused on streamlining governance through effective disposal of pending matters and promoting cleanliness and efficiency in official functioning.

The campaign aimed at institutionalizing Swachhta and address pending matters across various categories, including references from Members of Parliament (MPs), the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), VIPs and Cabinet, State Governments and CPGRAMS cases among others.

Significant Progress Achieved

100% of public grievances and Appeals redressal targets achieved.

21,164 physical files reviewed, achieving 101% of the set target.

17,107 physical files successfully weeded out.

301 cleanliness drives conducted against a target of 301.

Approximately 17,501 sq. ft. of office space freed through the disposal of scrap, e-waste, and redundant files.

Several CPSEs under the Ministry implemented innovative best practices in record management and grievance resolution, setting benchmarks for other departments.

The Ministry of Steel remains steadfast in its commitment to enhancing administrative efficiency, promoting cleanliness, and ensuring timely resolution of pending matters in alignment with the Government of India's broader goals of administrative reforms, transparency and good governance.

India-EU conclude negotiations to join Horizon Europe programme

CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 India and the European Union (EU) have successfully completed negotiations for India's association with Horizon Europe, the EU's flagship research and innovation programme. The association of India with the programme marks a strategic move into a long-term institutional framework of research cooperation between both sides, building on existing R&D projects and cooperation under the India–EU Agreement on Science and Technology Cooperation and the India-EU Trade and Technology Council.

The association will facilitate Indian researchers, institutions and industry to participate in the calls for funding under the Programme through collaborative research projects, and have access to European consortia and cutting-edge research infrastructure. It will also deepen talent mobility and lead to co-development of critical technologies, standards and solutions at scale. The thematic clusters of Pillar II of Horizon Europe, which include health, digital technologies, industry and space, climate, energy and mobility, food and the bioeconomy, align closely with India's research priorities and can build on its scientific strengths. The association adds a significant value to the innovation ecosystem of the country as it marches towards Viksit Bharat 2047. An exploration of the possible association was launched after the historic India-EU Summit on January 27, 2026, and formal negotiations were initiated as an outcome of the ministerial meeting of the Trade and Technology Council held in Brussels on July 15, 2026.

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Nissan Motor India Celebrates World Quality Month 2026, Reinforcing Its Commitment to Customer Satisfaction and Service Excellence



GURUGRAM – 8 Nov, 2026 Nissan Motor India Private Limited (NMIPL) is celebrating World Quality Month throughout November 2026, reaffirming its commitment to delivering exceptional service quality and customer satisfaction across 315 sales and service touchpoints. Centred around the theme 'Unmistakable Quality. Every Customer. Every Vehicle. Every Time.', the month-long initiative underscores Nissan's customer-first philosophy and its continued focus on building trust through consistent service excellence and reliable aftersales support.

Building on years of Quality Month celebrations, Nissan is bringing together its dealership and service teams through a series of customer-focused activities aimed at fostering a stronger quality mindset across its operations. With a key emphasis on 'Fix It Right the First Time', the initiative seeks to enhance repair quality, improve service efficiency and deliver a seamless ownership experience at every customer touchpoint.

The celebrations will be organised around four weekly themes – Unmistakable Environment, Unmistakable People, Unmistakable Customer Experience and Unmistakable Repair Quality. These will focus on strengthening workshop standards, enhancing technical capabilities, improving customer communication and reinforcing quality checks throughout the service journey. Dedicated training programmes, customer education workshops, vehicle health check-up activities and customer feedback initiatives will further encourage engagement between Nissan's service teams and customers.

Through World Quality Month 2026, Nissan Motor India continues to reinforce its commitment to delivering an unmistakable ownership experience. The initiative reflects Nissan's belief that quality goes beyond the vehicle, extending to every interaction and experience throughout the customer's ownership journey.



5 killed, several injured after gunman opens fire in Poland's Krakow; suspect arrested

CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 The gunman reportedly opened indiscriminate fire at people as he drove by the Main Square. Police officials were also injured in the attack.

Five people were killed and several injured after shots were fired in a market square in Krakow, Poland, on Saturday. The assailant was nabbed after being wounded in a gunfight with policeThe gunman reportedly opened indiscriminate fire at people as he drove by the Main Square. Police officials were also injured in the attack. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk said the police were investigating the incident and that he was being apprised of the situation by the interior ministry.



Ayodhya lights up with over 30 lakh diyas on Diwali eve, CM Yogi attends 10th edition of Deepotsav

CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 The grand celebration showcased the city's rich spiritual and cultural heritage, with the illuminated ghats presenting a spectacular display of devotion and tradition, adding to the spiritual splendour of Ayodhya Dham.

The celebrations featured a series of cultural performances, including a spectacular light-and-sound show. Thousands of people gathered at the ghats to witness the grand festivities.

Artists also presented a series of performances depicting significant episodes from the Ramayana, bringing the epic's key moments to life through elaborate stage enactments.

Preparations for the 10th edition of Deepotsav had been underway for several days, with the event witnessing the participation of several dignitaries. Vice President CP Radhakrishnan, Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath attended the celebrations, along with saints and other prominent guests.

Addressing the gathering, CP Radhakrishnan said, "After a long time, a saint became the chief minister of the state. PM Narendra Modi is from a humble background; he became the prime minister of this country, and he has been leading this nation for the last 12 years in the best way... When the Chief Minister mentioned that Ayodhya is not only a smart city or a solar city, Ayodhya is the spiritual city... Today, after the darshan at the temple, I feel proud that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and CM Yogi Adityanath, the Ram temple is now a monument of our entire Hindu self-respect."

Addressing a massive gathering at Ram Katha Park after performing aarti and worshipping Lord Ram and Goddess Janaki, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath reflected on the city's transformation from centuries of struggle to its present cultural renaissance.

Recalling the decades of struggle during the Ram Janmabhoomi movement, CM Adityanath emphasised the historic sacrifices of kar sevaks and saints, issuing a stern message to political critics who previously suppressed the movement.

"An airport could never be built in Ayodhya in the past. Today, Ayodhya boasts an international airport named after Maharishi Valmiki... I have come here today to assure you of this: those who once neglected and insulted us, who opened fire on the devotees of Lord Ram, and who humiliated and lathi-charged the saints—if they ever visit Ayodhya, they must come only after offering an apology. Let them apologise to the devotees of Lord Ram; let them apologise to the saints. Let them repent for their past actions..."



The five-day Diwali celebrations began with Dhanteras on November 6, followed by Choti Diwali on November 7. The main festival and Lakshmi Puja will take place on November 8, followed by Govardhan Puja on November 9 and Bhai Dooj on November 10.

Revised Prices of Anti-Cancer Medicines to Come into Effect from 9th November;

CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, capped trade margins on MRP of 137 anti-cancer drugs, based on the recommendations of Expert Committee constituted by the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare on 17 th October, 2026. The revised prices of these drugs will come into effect from 9 th November, 2026.

As on date, 76 pharmaceutical companies have reported revised MRP for 1225 anti-cancer formulations, covering 121 drugs. Reduction in the MRP have been reported in 1031 formulations of anti-cancer medicines, with 600 brands reporting above 50% reduction and the highest reduction being 96.45%.

Further, out of the 137 identified anti-cancer drugs, there are 10-15 drugs which are yet to be launched in India. However, Trade Margin Rationalization (TMR) will be applicable on these drugs also as and when they are launched.

Prime Minister extends Diwali greetings to citizens, says festival symbolises resolve against darkness

CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, extended heartfelt greetings to all citizens on the occasion of Diwali.

The Prime Minister said that the festival of lights illuminates the entire country and reflects the resolve to overcome darkness. He wished that the festival and the times ahead bring happiness, peace and prosperity to everyone.

Modi said that he celebrates Diwali with great enthusiasm and that, as in previous years, he would continue the tradition of celebrating the festival with the brave soldiers of the country.

Sharing a video message of Diwali Greetings, the Prime Minister wrote on X;

"Have a great Diwali!"

Have a great Diwali!

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Stephen Miller hails Trump, says GOP is 'stronger and more popular than ever' despite midterm defeat

CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 New White House Chief of Staff Stephen Miller has pledged 'absolute loyalty' to Trump as Republicans witnessed major losses in the House and Senate.

Stephen Miller, Donald Trump's incoming White House Chief of Staff, has strongly defended the president's leadership, describing him as the man who saved both the United States and the Republican Party, despite the GOP's disappointing performance in the midterm elections. Speaking at Mar-a-Lago on Friday night, Miller praised Trump just days after the president announced that he would replace Susie Wiles as White House Chief of Staff, with the transition scheduled to take effect on Monday. Miller claimed that Trump had transformed the Republican Party into a stronger political force, insisting that the GOP was now "more popular than ever." His remarks came against the backdrop of significant Republican losses in the midterm elections. By Saturday morning, the party had lost at least 44 seats in the House of Representatives and seven seats in the Senate, handing Democrats control of both chambers. During his first public speech following his appointment, Miller expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve alongside Trump, describing the role as a major milestone in his political career.

"It is the privilege of a lifetime to join President Trump," Miller said.

He went on to make an extraordinary claim about the president's importance to the country, stating: "If it wasn't for President Trump, the United States of America would not exist right now."

Miller further praised Trump's handling of national security, the economy and border protection, arguing that his leadership had prevented the country from facing a series of serious threats. "This man saved America," he declared. "He saved our military from collapse, he saved our economy from destruction, he saved our border from annihilation and he saved our country from threats at home and abroad which would have been the end of the American dream forever."

GOP election losses contrast with Stephen Miller's optimism

Miller's positive assessment of the Republican Party comes at a difficult moment for the administration, following substantial Democratic gains in the midterm elections.

Trump has acknowledged that economic concerns and the war in Iran played a role in the Republican defeat. However, he has also suggested that his absence from the ballot was a major factor behind the party's poor performance.



"I JUST WASN'T ON THE BALLOT. IF I WERE, WE WOULD HAVE WON IN A LANDSLIDE!" Trump said.

Despite the election setback, Miller maintained that Trump's influence had made the Republican Party more competitive, resilient and popular than at any previous point.

"And he has made it stronger and more popular and more resilient than ever before," Miller said.

Miller also referred to the July 2024 assassination attempt against Trump in Butler, Pennsylvania, and the criminal prosecutions the president has faced.

He used these experiences to portray Trump as a leader who had made significant personal sacrifices for his supporters and the country.

"This man took a bullet for us, he faced down life in prison for us, he saved the Republican Party," Miller said.

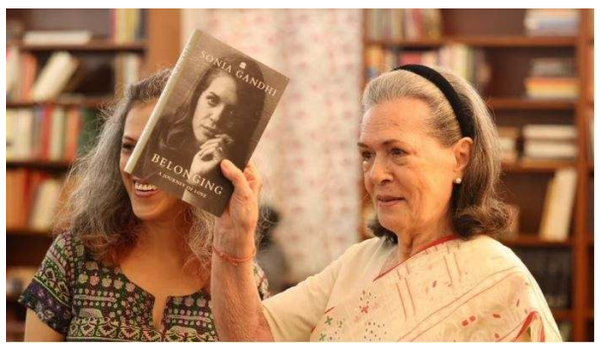
Concluding his speech, the incoming chief of staff called on Republicans to remain firmly behind Trump, praising his commitment to the nation.

"We need to stand with the man who has stood with us and this country with every fibre of his being," he said.

Miller then made a direct pledge to the president, promising complete dedication to his leadership and political agenda.

"I pledge to you, President, my absolute loyalty, my unwavering commitment and my total devotion to your success and the success of this country," he declared.

Sonia Gandhi recalls pleading with Rajiv not to become PM after Indira's assassination: 'They will kill you'



CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 Sonia said she was overwhelmed by anger and anguish at the prospect of Rajiv taking over as prime minister, fearing that he too could become a target.

Former Congress president Sonia Gandhi pleaded with her husband, Rajiv Gandhi, not to become India's prime minister following the assassination of his mother, Indira Gandhi, on October 31, 1984. In an edited extract from her memoir published by The Guardian, Sonia recounts the emotional moments after Indira Gandhi was shot dead by her bodyguards at her 1, Safdarjung Road residence in New Delhi. Rajiv Gandhi was in West Bengal, attending a political rally, when he was informed that a serious incident had taken place in Delhi. He rushed back to the national capital and landed at around 3.30 pm before being driven straight to the hospital. Recalling their meeting at the hospital, Sonia said she longed to be alone with her husband for a moment. However, she soon realised that Rajiv was about to tell her something she did not want to hear.

"We held each other, and as he spoke to me, it sunk in that he was saying something I didn't want to hear. 'I have been asked; They want me to be sworn in as prime minister,'" she wrote.

Sonia said she was overwhelmed by anger and anguish at the prospect of Rajiv taking over as prime minister, fearing that he too could become a target.

"I felt as if a knife had been plunged right into my heart. I felt a pounding in my chest, a rage welling up deep inside me. I was about to explode. I attempted to hold it in," she recalled.

She said she questioned why Rajiv had been asked to take up the responsibility and pleaded with him to refuse.

Sonia recalled bursting into tears and begging Rajiv with folded hands not to accept the position, warning that his life could also be in danger.

No, no, you can't think of it. You have to stop them, you must refuse, you must say no, for the children's sake, for yourself. You can't do this to us. They will kill you; they will kill you, too!" she recalled telling him. According to Sonia, Rajiv responded: "They will kill me anyway."

She said the exchange left her overwhelmed by pain and fear as she tried to persuade her husband against taking over as prime minister.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah reviews Gujarat's law

AHMEDABAD – 8 Nov, 2026 Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah reviews Gujarat's law and order and internal security situation at a high-level meeting in Ahmedabad.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah today reviewed the law and order and internal security situation in Gujarat at a high-level meeting in Ahmedabad.

Chief Minister of Gujarat Bhupendra Patel, Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi, Union Home Secretary, senior officials of the Ministry of Home Affairs and its subordinate offices, and officials of the State Home Department and other concerned departments attended the meeting.

Several important issues, including border and coastal security, implementation of the new criminal laws, drug trafficking, cybercrime, terrorism, illegal migration and disaster management, were discussed during the meeting.

Keeping in view



Gujarat's nearly 2,340-kilometre-long coastline and its international border with Pakistan, Union Home Minister Amit Shah emphasised the need to strengthen border and coastal surveillance and ensure better coordination among the Border Security Force (BSF), State Police, Coast Guard and central agencies.

PRESIDENT OF INDIA'S GREETINGS ON THE EVE OF DIWALI

CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 The President of India, Droupadi Murmu sends greetings to her fellow citizens on the eve of Diwali.

In a message, the President has said, "On the auspicious occasion of Diwali, I extend my heartfelt greetings and best wishes to all Indians living in India and abroad.

The joyous celebrations followed Bhagwan Ram's return to Ayodhya after his victory over Ravana. Bhagwan Ram beheld the beautiful rows of illuminated lamps. This forms the cultural and devotional significance of Diwali. The festival also symbolises the auspicious beginning of Ram Rajya.

The festival of Diwali marks the victory of virtues over negative tendencies. It also signifies the end of suffering and the beginning of a joyful and prosperous life. On this occasion, people worship Bhagwan Ganesh for auspicious beginnings and well-being, and Mahalakshmi Mata for prosperity. Prayers are offered for the happiness of all.

I wish good health, happiness and prosperity to every citizen of our country. May we preserve the environment, live with harmony and may our patriotic youth, guided by Indian values, contribute enthusiastically to building a Viksit Bharat".

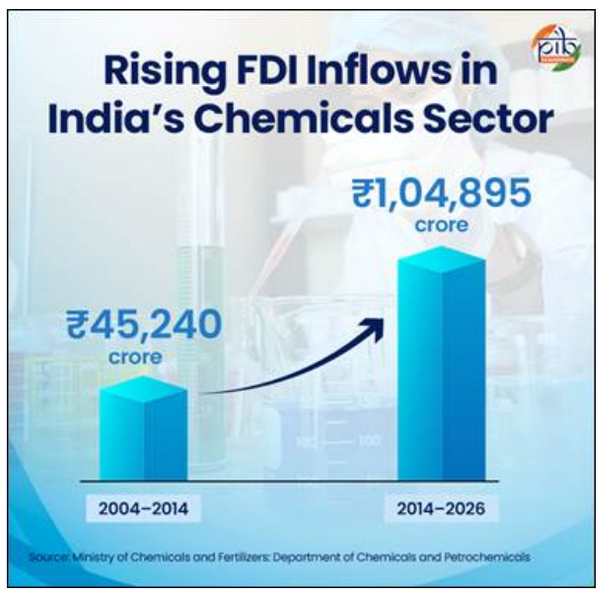
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India's Chemicals and Petrochemicals Sector: A Foundation for Industrial Growth



CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 India's chemicals and petrochemicals industry is expanding its manufacturing base, investment potential and international engagement. Dedicated industrial parks and integrated infrastructure aim to improve production capacity and attract investment. Research funding, specialised institutions and skill development are building expertise for advanced applications. Quality standards and workplace safety measures reinforce responsible industrial practices.

Together, these efforts position the sector to pursue greater value addition, technological capability and a stronger role in global chemical markets.

An Industry of Strategic Importance

India's chemicals and petrochemicals industry is an important pillar of manufacturing, agriculture and industrial development. Its products serve diverse sectors, including pharmaceuticals, textiles, construction, automobiles, electronics and consumer goods. India is the sixth-largest producer of chemicals in the world and the fourth-largest in Asia. The sector is currently valued at around USD 220 billion. It is projected to reach USD 300 billion by 2030 and USD 1 trillion by 2040.

E20 Petrol Supplied by PSU Oil Marketing Companies Meets Prescribed Quality Standards

CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 E20 Petrol Supplied by PSU Oil Marketing Companies Meets Prescribed Quality Standards; 893 Samples Across 27 States and UTs Found Compliant.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has taken note of the press release issued by the Department of Food, Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Legal Metrology, Government of Karnataka, claiming that petrol sold at certain retail outlets in the State contains between 26% and 31% ethanol.

In this regard, the three public sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) — Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have clarified that the claims, as reported, are not supported by testing conducted in accordance with the prescribed statutory and technical procedures. E20 petrol supplied by the three OMCs across the country, including Karnataka, conforms to IS 17021, the Bureau of Indian Standards specification for ethanol-blended motor gasoline.

They have also raised concerns regarding the sampling procedure and testing methodology adopted for the October 2026 exercise.

Concerns over Sampling and Testing Methodology

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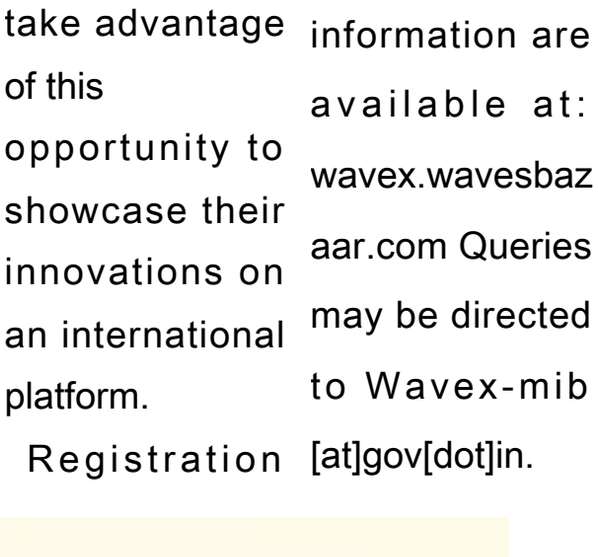
WaveX Invites Startups to Participate in WAVES Bazaar at IFFI Goa 2026

CHENNAI – 8 Nov, 2026 The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, has invited applications from startups working in the field of film and allied technologies for participation in the WaveX Startup Pavilion at WAVES Bazaar during the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Goa 2026.

The initiative aims to provide an exclusive platform for innovative startups to showcase their products, technologies and solutions to the national and international film and media industry. It will also facilitate opportunities for networking, industry engagement and collaboration with filmmakers, production houses, investors in the global creative ecosystem.

Applications are open to DPIIT-registered startups operating in the film and related technology domains. Eligible startups will be considered through a screening and evaluation process conducted by a Selection Committee constituted by WaveX.

Interested and eligible startups are encouraged



to apply and take advantage of this opportunity to showcase their innovations on an international platform.

Registration form and more information are available at: wavex.wavesbazaar.com Queries may be directed to Wavex-mib [at]gov[dot]in.

