



Backgrounder

*As on 1 May 2026

Public Affairs Forum of India (PAFI)'s [Annual Forum](#) serves as a flagship event for forward-looking dialogue on policy and economic transformation. Since its inception in 2014, the Forum has established itself as a premier convening space, bringing together leaders from government, industry, academia, civil society, and global institutions to discuss and shape India's development narrative.

What sets PAFI's Annual Forum apart is the diversity of participation, the depth and candour of the dialogues, and the sustained engagement it fosters.

The **12th Annual Forum in 2025** reaffirmed PAFI's position as a leading platform for policy dialogue. It brought together a wide spectrum of ministers, senior government officials, industry leaders, global experts, and thought leaders.

The richness of perspectives and the quality of discussions underscored the Forum's growing relevance in shaping contemporary policy conversations. The proceedings of the 12th Annual Forum may be viewed here – [Proceedings 12th Annual Forum](#).

The **13th Annual Forum** is being convened amidst profound global disruption. Geopolitical tensions are increasingly translating into geoeconomic shifts, reshaping trade, reconfiguring supply chains, and redefining global alignments.

Simultaneously, rapid advances in artificial intelligence are transforming industries, jobs, and competitiveness. In this environment, nations are vying for capital, talent, and technological leadership. Policy agility and institutional strength are becoming decisive factors.

Amidst this global churn, India emerges as a stable and credible **global growth partner**. A decade of structural reforms has laid a robust foundation for



sustained growth. With projected GDP growth of 7.6% in 2026 and an ambitious target of \$2 trillion in exports by 2030, India is transitioning toward a more competitive and globally integrated economy.

This transition marks the emergence of India 3.0 –

- *India 1.0*: Nation-building
- *India 2.0*: Economic expansion
- *India 3.0*: Global leadership

India today is more confident, more outward-looking, and increasingly central to global conversations.

To fully seize this opportunity, India must push towards the next generation of reforms—enhancing regulatory certainty and simplifying compliance, attracting sustained global investment, rationalising outdated laws and frameworks, and building agile, transparent, and future-ready institutions.

Institutional evolution must align with technological advancements, ensuring both agility and accountability in governance. The rapid growth of sectors such as space, with over 300 startups following deregulation, demonstrates the effectiveness of forward-looking policy frameworks.

At the same time, inclusive growth remains critical. Stronger collaboration between government, industry, and civil society will be essential, with youth engagement and cross-sector dialogue unlocking new opportunities across key sectors.

The theme for **PAFI's 13th Annual Forum** is:

India 3.0: Engaging for Growth in a Disrupted World

• Ideas • Insights • Impact

This reflects India's evolving role in a rapidly changing global landscape shaped by geopolitical realignments, technological disruption, and



intensifying competition. Discussions will focus on technology, manufacturing, trade, energy, talent, and the pivotal role of states in driving growth.

Three Pillars of Engagement:

- **Ideas:** Advancing actionable, future-ready policy frameworks
- **Insights:** Identifying reform priorities through real-world experience
- **Impact:** Shaping policy thinking and strengthening public-private collaboration

Empowering states will remain central to sustaining high growth. The 13th Annual Forum will feature a **Partner State**, highlighting its role as a driver of investment, innovation, and inclusive growth. The Partner State will showcase its development journey, its investment climate, and contribute to the broader dialogue on strengthening cooperative and competitive federalism.

Through thought leadership, capacity building, and cross-sector collaboration, PAFI continues to redefine public affairs as a platform for nation-building and sustainable change. It brings together stakeholders, fosters trust, and enables solution-oriented dialogue.

India 3.0 is not just an aspiration—it is an inflection point. The 13th Annual Forum aims to help shape this journey.

Call to Action: Please block your calendar for **Thursday–Friday, 24–25 September 2026** for PAFI’s 13th Annual Forum in New Delhi.

Sponsorship opportunities are available.

For details, please contact: lakshmi.kanchaan@pafi.in
