

Current Affairs Revision

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Polity and Governance

Education

Awards & Honours

Science & Technology

India Wins Five Gold Medals at International Physics Olympiad 2026

NEWS ITEM

Five Indian students won **gold medals** at the **56th International Physics Olympiad (IPhO) 2026**, held in **Bucaramanga, Colombia**, from **4 to 12 July 2026**. With this performance, India secured **joint first position** along with Russia, China, Kazakhstan, South Korea and Taiwan.

PRELIMS FACTS

- India won **five gold medals** at the **56th International Physics Olympiad 2026**.
- The Olympiad was held in **Bucaramanga, Colombia**.
- It was held from **4 to 12 July 2026**.
- Indian gold medallists were **Kanishk Jain, Riddhesh Anant Bendale, Rishit Garg, Shresth Suraiya and Svarit Joshi**.
- The students came from **Pune, Indore, New Delhi, Mumbai and Ahmedabad**.
- India secured **joint first position** with **Russia, China, Kazakhstan, South Korea and Taiwan**.
- The competition saw participation of **381 students from 87 countries**.
- India's Olympiad programme is led by **HBCSE**, a National Centre of **TIFR**.
- Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy, **Dr Ajit Kumar Mohanty**, congratulated the winners.

July 9, 2026

Education

Education

Places in News

Government Initiative

Uttarakhand Becomes India's Sixth Fully Literate State

NEWS ITEM

Uttarakhand has become India's **sixth fully literate State** after meeting the prescribed adult literacy benchmarks under **National Education Policy 2020** and the **ULLAS - New India Literacy Programme**. The declaration was approved by the Governor on **8 July 2026**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **Uttarakhand** has become India's **sixth fully literate State**.
- The declaration was approved by the Governor on **8 July 2026**.
- The achievement is linked to **NEP 2020** and **ULLAS - New India Literacy Programme**.
- ULLAS stands for **Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society**.
- The literacy standards were laid down by the **Department of School Education and Literacy**, Ministry of Education.
- Uttarakhand joins **Mizoram, Goa, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim** on the list of fully literate States.
- Chief Minister **Pushkar Singh Dhami** called the achievement historic.
- The State government said it will continue promoting **digital literacy, financial literacy, continuing education and life skills**.

July 9, 2026

Education

Education

Indexes & Reports

Female Enrolment in Higher Education Rises Over 42% Since 2014

NEWS ITEM

The latest **All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE)** reports for **2022-23** and **2023-24** show steady growth in India's higher education sector. Total student enrolment rose to **4.50 crore in 2023-24**, marking a **31.5% increase** from **3.42 crore in 2014-15**, while female enrolment rose by **42.2%** during the same period.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The report is based on **AISHE 2022-23 and 2023-24** data.
- Total higher education enrolment reached **4.50 crore in 2023-24**.
- Total enrolment increased by **31.5%** from **3.42 crore in 2014-15**.
- Female enrolment rose from **1.57 crore in 2014-15** to **2.24 crore in 2023-24**.
- Female enrolment increased by **42.2%** since 2014-15.
- Overall GER reached **30.0** in 2023-24.
- Female GER rose to **31.2**, higher than the national GER.
- Gender Parity Index stood at **1.08** in 2023-24.
- GPI has remained above **1.0** for seven consecutive years.
- SC enrolment rose by **51.4%**, reaching **69.72 lakh**.
- GER for SC students increased from **18.9 to 27.8**.
- ST enrolment rose by **75.7%**, reaching **28.83 lakh**.
- GER for ST students increased from **13.5 to 22.8**.
- OBC student numbers grew by **60.2%**, from **1.13 crore to 1.80 crore**.
- STEM enrolment increased from **91.5 lakh to 1.02 crore**.
- Female share in STEM programmes increased from **38.4% to 44%**.
- The data were self-reported by institutions through a web-based portal.

July 8, 2026

Education

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Indexes & Reports

Government Initiative

UDISE+ 2025-26 Report Shows Fall in School Dropout Rates

NEWS ITEM

The Union Education Ministry released the **UDISE+ 2025-26 report**, showing a decline in school dropout rates across key stages. The preparatory level dropout rate fell from **2.3% to 1.8%**, while the secondary level dropout rate declined from **8.2% to 7.0%**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The **UDISE+ 2025-26 report** was released by the **Union Education Ministry**.
- Preparatory level dropout rate fell from **2.3% in 2024-25 to 1.8% in 2025-26**.
- Secondary level dropout rate declined from **8.2% to 7.0%**.
- Girls' enrolment marginally increased to **48.4%** from **48.3%**.
- Women teachers formed **54.9%** of total teachers, up from **54.2%**.
- Student retention at middle level rose to **83.7%** from **82.8%**.
- Secondary level retention increased to **51.9%** from **47.2%**.
- Secondary level **GER** increased to **71.7%** from **68.5%**.
- Transition from middle to secondary increased from **86.6% to 88.3%**.
- Teacher strength rose by **8.3%** compared with **2022-23**.
- Single-teacher schools reduced by **3%** and zero-enrolment schools fell by **29%**.
- Schools with computer access increased to **69.9%**.
- Schools with Internet connectivity increased to **67.4%**.
- **95%** schools have electricity, **98.5%** have girls' toilets and **97.2%** have boys' toilets.