

Current Affairs Revision

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July 9, 2026

Economy

Indexes & Reports

Science & Technology

WIPO Report Highlights India's Rise in Intangible Investment

NEWS ITEM

The **World Intangible Investment Report 2026**, launched by **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)** and **Luiss Business School**, highlighted India's rise as a global innovation powerhouse. Union Commerce and Industry Minister **Piyush Goyal** said India recorded the fastest growth in intangible investment among the world's 15 largest economies, reaching **USD 78.2 billion in 2023** with **7.9% growth**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The **World Intangible Investment Report 2026** was launched by **WIPO** and **Luiss Business School**.
- The report highlights investment in software, R&D, intellectual property, innovation and organisational capabilities.
- India's intangible investment reached **USD 78.2 billion in 2023**.
- India recorded **7.9% growth** in intangible investment.
- India was reported as having the fastest growth in intangible investment among the world's **15 largest economies**.
- Intangible investment in India grew ahead of tangible investment.
- Union Commerce and Industry Minister **Piyush Goyal** said India is building a knowledge-driven future powered by ideas, innovation and enterprise.
- The report links India's progress with reforms, digital transformation, startups and a strengthening innovation ecosystem.

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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.

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Economy

Indexes & Reports

Infrastructure

India Becomes Fourth Largest LNG Regasification Market

NEWS ITEM

According to the **International Gas Union's World LNG Report**, India's LNG regasification capacity reached **52.5 million tonnes per annum (mtpa)** across **eight terminals** in 2025, making it the **fourth largest regasification market** globally after surpassing Spain.

PRELIMS FACTS

- India's LNG regasification capacity reached **52.5 mtpa** across **eight terminals** in 2025.
- India surpassed **Spain** to become the **fourth largest regasification capacity market** globally.
- The data is from the **IGU World LNG Report**.
- **Dahej LNG Terminal** has **17.5 mtpa** capacity and is India's largest LNG terminal.
- Dahej ranks as the **sixth largest LNG regasification facility globally**.
- India commissioned two LNG regasification projects in 2025.
- New onshore terminal: **Chhara LNG**, with **5 mtpa** capacity.
- Expansion project: **Dabhol LNG**, whose capacity increased from **2.9 mtpa to 5 mtpa**.
- Four LNG projects are under construction in India and are expected to add **11.3 mtpa** capacity by **2028**.
- India's LNG regasification utilisation fell to about **47% in 2025**, down from **58% in 2024**.
- Asia led global LNG regasification capacity additions in 2025.
- China and India contributed **15.1 mtpa** and **7.1 mtpa**, respectively, to global additions.

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Education

Education

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.

July 4, 2026

Environment and Ecology

Indexes & Reports

Government Schemes

Infrastructure

Building Water Security in a Drying India

NEWS ITEM

An editorial highlighted India's worsening **water stress**, with cities such as Bengaluru, Delhi and Mussoorie facing severe water shortages. It argued that India cannot depend only on monsoon rainfall and must invest in climate-proof water systems, wastewater reuse, efficient irrigation, better urban finance and reliable river-basin-level water data.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The editorial was written by **Nitin Bassi**, Fellow at the **Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)**.
- India has about **4% of global water resources** and supports nearly **18% of the world's population**.
- **Water stress** threshold: annual water availability below **1,700 cubic metres per person**.
- **Water scarcity** threshold: annual water availability below **1,000 cubic metres per person**.
- **11 of 15 major river basins** in India are experiencing water stress.
- Basins mentioned below the scarcity threshold include **Krishna, Cauvery, Mahi and Tapi**.
- Delhi's water supply was stated to have fallen to around **70%** of total demand of **1,250 million gallons per day**.
- A **UNU-INWEH** report warned of global water bankruptcy.
- Nearly **three-fourths of the global population** lives in water-insecure countries.
- The editorial suggests climate risk assessment, water reuse, efficient irrigation and basin-level water data as key reforms.
- CEEW analysis estimated that treated wastewater sale could create an economic opportunity of **₹3 lakh crore** and **1,00,000 additional jobs by 2047**.
- **Urban Challenge Fund** has central assistance of **₹1 lakh crore** and supports Cities as Growth Hubs, Creative Redevelopment of Cities, and Water and Sanitation.
- Under UCF, the Centre can finance up to **25%** of the cost of bankable projects, with significant funding expected from market sources such as bonds, bank loans and PPPs.

July 1, 2026

Environment and Ecology

Indexes & Reports

Species & Environment

India Adds Over 1,000 New Species to its Flora and Fauna Database in 2025

NEWS ITEM

India has enriched its biodiversity by adding 709 animal species and 353 plant taxa to its national database in 2025. Unveiled by the Union Environment Minister, the latest discoveries confirm India's position as a premier mega-diverse country, with Kerala leading in new animal finds and Arunachal Pradesh topping plant discoveries.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **Fauna Additions (2025):** 709 animal species added, bringing India's total officially recorded faunal biodiversity to 1,05,953 species.
- **Top States (Fauna):** Kerala recorded the highest animal discoveries (98), followed closely by West Bengal (76) and Karnataka (67).
- **Highest Animal Group:** Hymenoptera (sawflies, wasps, bees, and ants) saw the highest number of additions (106) among the fauna.
- **Flora Additions (2025):** 353 plant taxa were added to the database.
- **Top States (Flora):** Arunachal Pradesh led the plant discoveries (49), followed by Uttarakhand (39).
- **Notable Fauna Discoveries:** Include **Myotis himalaicus** (Himalayan bat) and **Lycodon irwini** (Irwin's wolf snake).
- **Notable Flora Discoveries:** Include **Polystichum siangense** (a fern from Siang, Arunachal Pradesh) and **Hericium indicum** (a wild edible tooth-fungus).

June 30, 2026

Defence and Security

Indexes & Reports

Science & Technology

India's 12 'Operationally Deployed' Nuclear Warheads: SIPRI Report

NEWS ITEM

For the first time, the **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)** has reported that 12 of India's estimated 190 nuclear warheads are "operationally deployed" (pre-assembled and ready to launch). This development highlights the maturation of India's **second-strike capability** and submarine-based deterrent, ensuring maximum national security without shifting away from its traditional 'No First Use' policy.

PRELIMS FACTS

- The **Nuclear Command Authority (NCA)** of India consists of a Political Council chaired by the **Prime Minister** and an Executive Council chaired by the **National Security Advisor (NSA)**. The final authority to launch nuclear weapons rests strictly with the Prime Minister.
- **Canisterisation** of missiles (like the Agni-V) involves keeping the missile integrated with its warhead in a sealed, climate-controlled tube. This drastically reduces the time required for launch and improves operational readiness.
- Globally, the nine nuclear-armed states possess an estimated 12,187 nuclear warheads as of January 2026.

June 29, 2026

Economy

Important Days

Indexes & Reports

Government Schemes

MoSPI Releases SDG Progress Reports on 20th National Statistics Day

NEWS ITEM

On the occasion of the 20th National Statistics Day (June 29, 2026), the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released several key publications tracking India's progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including the **National Indicator Framework (NIF) Progress Report, 2026**.

PRELIMS FACTS

- **Total Indicators:** The NIF 2026 consists of 277 national indicators to track all 17 SDGs.
- **Social Protection:** The population covered by social protection systems/safety nets increased from 22.0% in 2016 to 65.3% in 2026.
- **Maternal Health:** The Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) declined from 122 (2015-17) to 87 per 1,00,000 live births (2022-24).
- **Sex Ratio:** Sex ratio at birth improved from 896 to 918 females per 1,000 male births (between 2015-17 and 2022-24).
- **Employment:** The unemployment rate dropped from 6.1% (2017-18) to 3.1% in 2025.
- **Environment:** The proportion of Ramsar sites area in the total wetland area increased from 4.15% (2016) to 8.66% (2026).
- **Energy:** Installed renewable energy capacity tripled from 64.04 Watts per capita (2014-15) to 193.36 Watts per capita (2025-26).