

**Strive Edge IAS Academy Present**

# REPORTS AND INDICES

- ◆ Henley Passport Index 2026
- ◆ REER Index
- ◆ India Skills Report, 2026
- ◆ Asia Power Index 2025
- ◆ World Cooperative Monitor, 2025



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## Henley Passport Index 2026

India's rank rose five places as Asian countries continued to dominate the top positions.

### □ Top ranks :

- Singapore (1st)
- Japan and South Korea (2nd)
- Denmark, Luxembourg, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland (3rd)
- Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Netherlands, and Norway (4th)

**India's position :** Ranked 80th in 2026 with access to 55 visa-free destinations, improving from 85th rank in 2025 (about 54 destinations).

## REER Index : Real Effective Exchange Rate

- *Recently, REER Index has fallen from 108.1 (Nov 2024) to 97.5 (Oct 2025), marking a move toward undervaluation.*
- **About:** REER is a weighted average of the Rupee's exchange rate against the currencies of India's major trading partners
- It is adjusted for inflation differences between India and those partner countries
- RBI uses REER to guide its "managed float" policy
- **Published by :** Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- **Aim :** To measure the real purchasing power of the Rupee internationally

## Financial Fraud Risk Indicator (FRI)

- *FRI is a risk-based tool that flags mobile numbers as Medium, High, or Very High risk for financial fraud*
- **Launched by :** Department of Telecommunications (DoT's) Digital Intelligence Unit (DIU) as a part of the Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP)
- It pulls inputs from the National Cybercrime Reporting Portal(NCRP),DoT's Chakshu Platform and banking institutions
- Phonepay was one of the first adopters of the FRI system

## India Skills Report, 2026

- *National employability improved from 46.2% (2022) to 54.81% (2025)*
- **Jointly released by :** Educational Testing Service in collaboration with CII+AICTE+AIU
- It assesses India's employability landscape and identify sectoral skill gaps
- The 2026 edition is based on assessments conducted through the Global Employability Test (G.E.T.)
- Theme for 2026: "Gig work, freelancing, AI-supported roles, remote work, and entrepreneurship"
- India accounts for 16% of the global AI talent pool
- Over 90% of employees now use generative AI tools
- Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Karnataka emerged as the most employable states in 2026.

## India's Employment Prospects: Pathways to Jobs Report

**Released by:** National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)

- It highlights skilling and small enterprises as key drivers of job creation to sustain the 8% GDP growth
- Enterprises using digital technologies hire 78% more workers
- Despite economic growth, India's per capita GDP is relatively low, ranking 128th globally

## Asia Power Index 2025

**Published by:** Lowy Institute (Australia-based think tank), annually

- India secured third ranking in the Index 2025
- U.S. and China occupy the first and second spots
- India's weakest measure is defence networks, where it sits at 11th
- India's economic and military capabilities have both increased in the 2025 edition

## Henley Passport Index 2026

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- Index has evaluated the power of 27 countries and territories across Asia
- Index measures resources and influence to assess the relative power of states in Asia
- Indicators: Military Capability, Economic Capability, Diplomatic and Cultural Influence.

### India's Solar Energy Profile (2025)

- *India ranks 3rd globally in solar energy (as per IRENA Renewable Energy Statistics 2025), after China and the United States*
- Present solar energy capacity is around 135 GW (Jan 2026): 103.24 GW ground-mounted, 23.62 GW rooftop, 3.36 GW hybrid, and 5.59 GW off-grid
- India targets 292 GW capacity by 2030
- India's non-fossil electricity capacity accounts for over 50 % of total installed power capacity (Oct 2025) and crossed 259 GW mark
- **Top performing States:** Rajasthan (ranks first), Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh
- Bhadla Solar Park (2,245 MW) of Rajasthan is India's largest solar power plant
- India's Floating Solar Park (600 MW) is situated in Omkareshwar, Madhya Pradesh
- Gujarat Hybrid Renewable Energy Park, being built near Khavda in the Rann of Kutch (Gujarat) –generating power from both solar panels and wind turbines – will become the world's largest hybrid renewable energy park.

### UHC Global Monitoring Report 2025

**Released by :** WHO and the World Bank

- It reviews global progress toward Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
- Health service coverage has improved as the Service Coverage Index (SCI) increased from 54 to 71 between 2000 and 2023.

### National Legislative Index

- *India's first state-wise annual benchmarking system to assess the performance, transparency*

*and innovation of State Assemblies and Legislative Councils*

- **Its key indicators include:** Number of sitting days and duration of sessions, Bills referred to committees, Hours devoted to question hour and floor debate, Levels of digitisation, real-time accessibility of records, etc.

### Global Environment Outlook (2025)

- *As per report, Greenhouse gas emissions increased by 1.5% annually since 1990*
- **Released by:** UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
- *GEO evaluates the state of the global environment and identifies emerging risks and sustainability pathways*
- Globally, Nine million deaths attributed annually to some form of pollution
- **Publications of UNEP:** Emission Gap Report, Adaptation Gap Report, Global Environment Outlook, Frontiers, Invest into Healthy Planet
- **Important Initiatives of UNEP:** Beat Pollution, UN75, World Environment Day, Wild for Life.

### Asian Waterbird Census

*It is a citizen science programme that supports the conservation and management of wetlands and waterbirds worldwide*

- Initiated in 1987 in the Indian subcontinent and has expanded across Asia from Afghanistan to Japan, Southeast Asia, and Australasia
- Conducted annually as part of the global International Waterbird Census (IWC)
- In India, it is conducted in early January under the aegis of the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) and the Wildlife Institute of India (WII)

### State of the World's Land and Water Resources for Food and Agriculture (SOLAW) 2025

**Published by:** UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) every two years

- SOLAW 2025 highlights the hidden and untapped potential of land, soil, and water resources
- Report warns that by 2050, global population growth will require agriculture to produce 50% more food, feed, and fibre than in 2012, while also needing 25% more freshwater
- Report notes that more than 60% of human-induced land degradation occurs on agricultural lands, and agriculture alone accounts for over 70% of global freshwater withdrawals.

### **Dynamic Groundwater Resource Assessment Report, 2025**

*The level of annual groundwater extraction for all uses over annual extractable groundwater resources stands at 60.63%.*

**Released by:** Ministry of Jal Shakti

- Assessment was jointly carried out by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and the States and UTs

### **Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP) Report, 2025**

**Published by:** World Bank

- FSAP is a joint World Bank-IMF program started in 1999
- In advanced economies, FSAPs are conducted by the IMF, whereas in developing and emerging market economies, FSAPs are conducted jointly with the World Bank
- FSAP 2025 report has urged India to accelerate financial sector reforms to achieve its long-term goal of becoming a USD 30 trillion economy by 2047.

### **National Accounts Statistics (NAS)**

- **Published by :** MoSPI that provides key aggregates such as GDP, GVA, consumption, savings and investment at both current and constant prices

- It follows internationally accepted UN System of National Accounts (SNA-2008) standards for compiling national accounts
- Recently, the IMF's latest Article IV review has given 'C' grade to India's NAS.

### **World Inequality Report, 2026**

**Recently released by :** World Inequality Lab, a research center based at the Paris School of Economics

- Report suggests progressive taxation, gender-equal policies, and global financial reform to promote equitable societies.
- **Global Findings**
  - Richest 0.001% own three times more wealth than the bottom 50%
  - Top 10% hold 75% of global wealth, while the bottom half holds only 2%
  - Top 10% of global earners now earn more income than the remaining 90%, while the poorest half receive less than 10%
  - Poorest 50% contribute only 3% of carbon emissions linked to private capital ownership, while the wealthiest 10% are responsible for 77%
  - About 1% of global GDP annually shifts from poorer to richer countries through net income transfers.
- **India-Specific Findings**
  - Significant portion of India's population shifted from the global middle 40% to the bottom 50%
  - Top 10% hold about 65% of wealth; the top 1% alone hold roughly 40%
  - Top 10% earn 58% of national income, leaving just 15% for the bottom half
  - Female labour force participation is very low at 15.7%
  - India's average annual per capita income is about €6,200 (PPP), while average wealth is around €28,000 (PPP).

### **World Cooperative Monitor, 2025**

*WCM is an annual research report that analyses the economic and social impact of the world's largest cooperatives and mutuals*

**Published by:** the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA)

**Headquarter:** Brussels

- Recently, Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), which markets dairy products under the Amul brand, has been ranked No. 1 cooperative in the world in WCM, 2025
- Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd (IFFCO) secured the second rank.

### QS Sustainability Rankings (2026)

**Released by :** London-based QS Quacquarelli Symonds

- Started in 2023 to evaluate universities on environmental and social sustainability
- It covers indicators such as environmental research, sustainability practices, education, equality, employability, knowledge exchange, and health and wellbeing
- In 2026 rankings, India featured 103 universities, the fourth-highest after the US, China, and the UK
- *Lund University in Sweden ranked first in the world, followed by the University of Toronto*
- *Among Indian institutions, IIT Delhi was the top performer at rank 205*
- India has 12 universities in the top 500, equal to countries like China and the Netherlands.

### QS Asia University Rankings, 2026

- Compiled by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), a UK-based higher education analytics firm, known globally for its QS World University Rankings

#### 2026 Rankings

- University of Hong Kong took the top spot, followed by Peking University (China) in second
- In 2026, total 7 Indian institutes are among top 100.
- Moreover, India's representation reached an all-time high of 294 institutions, the second-highest in Asia after China
- Five Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru and

Delhi University figured in Asia's top 100 institutes

- *IIT-Delhi (ranked 59 this year) declared as the best Indian institute for the fifth consecutive year.*

### State of the World's Children (SoWC) 2025 Report

**Released by :** UNICEF

**Title of Report:** "SoWC 2025: Ending Child Poverty – Our Shared Imperative"

- As per report, more than 19% of children globally live in extreme monetary poverty, surviving on less than US\$3 per day
- Highest rates of multidimensional poverty among children are concentrated in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

### International Migration Outlook 2025

**Released by :** Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

- It highlighted that permanent migration to OECD countries declined by 4% in 2024 after post-pandemic peaks
- China and India continued to account for a third of all international students in OECD countries.

### World Urbanisation Prospects Report, 2025

**Released by :** United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)

- The report states that 45% of the global population (around 8.2 billion) now lives in cities
- Jakarta is now the world's most populous city, followed by Dhaka, Tokyo, and New Delhi
- India-specific findings show that 44% of India's population lives in towns.

### Global Carbon Budget, 2025

**Published by:** Global Carbon Project

- Global Carbon Budget quantifies CO<sub>2</sub> sources and sinks globally, and tracks emission trends, carbon sequestration, and atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels
- It covers CO<sub>2</sub>, methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) using global datasets

- It uses the Global Carbon Atlas to visualise national and sector-wise emissions
- India is the third-largest carbon emitter annually after the U.S. and China
- Per capita emissions are the second lowest among the world's 20 largest economies
- Coal remains the largest contributor to India's total emissions
- India's emissions grew at 1.4% in 2025 due to strong monsoon cooling and rising renewable energy use

### State of the Cryosphere 2025 Report

**Released by:** International Cryosphere Climate Initiative

- Report highlights the status and impact of changes in five key components of the cryosphere – Ice Sheets, Mountain Glaciers and Snow, Polar Oceans, Sea Ice, and Permafrost
- As per report, losses from the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets have quadrupled since the 1990s
- Sea ice extent and thickness have declined 40-60% at both poles since 1979.

### Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions, 2024

- In 2024, India recorded the highest increase in GHG emissions among all countries compared to 2023
- In total emissions, India became the third-largest emitter of GHGs, after China and the United States
- India's per capita emissions (3tCO<sub>2</sub>e) remained less than half of the global average (6.4 tCO<sub>2</sub>e)
- Fossil fuels (coal, oil, gas) accounted for 69% of total emissions
- Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) from agriculture and waste made up 16%
- India's per capita GHG emissions grew by 3.7% from 2023 to 2024, faster than the global average.

### Pan-India Assessment and Monitoring of Endangered Species (Vultures)

Recently, the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) released its First Pan-India Assessment and Monitoring of Endangered Species (Vultures)

- The assessment focused on four critically endangered species: the White-rumped Vulture, Indian Vulture, Slender-billed Vulture, and Red-headed Vulture
- Study found a substantial decline in vulture populations, with a nearly 70% drop in historical nesting sites
- Vulture play a vital ecological role by scavenging on animal carcasses

**Major threats:** ingestion of toxic NSAIDs like diclofenac (replaced by Meloxicam) used in livestock, habitat loss, electrocution, food scarcity, and human disturbances

**Conservation initiatives:** Vulture Conservation Breeding Centres at Rani (Assam) and Pinjore (Haryana), and the Action Plan for Vulture Conservation in India, 2020–2025

Recently, Assam-based We Foundation India foundation launched India's first vulture conservation portal.

### Emission Gap Report, 2025

**Released by :** UNEP

It is an annual assessment that measures the "gap" between projected emissions and the levels needed to limit global warming

- As per report, even the updated Nationally Determined Contribution pledges under the Paris Agreement, could lead to global temperature rise by 2.3-2.5°C by this century
- GHGs emissions rose 2.3% in 2024, reaching 57.7 gigatonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent
- To align with 1.5 °C target, emissions would need to fall by 55% by 2035
- India's per capita GHG emissions remain below the world average
- India and China had the highest absolute GHG emission increases

### Climate Change Performance Index(2026)

- **Published by:** German watch, New Climate Institute, and Climate Action Network International

- **About:** it tracks the progress of the world's largest emitters in terms of emissions, renewables, and climate policy
- None of the countries is in the top 3
- Denmark is ranked 4th, followed by UK & Morocco
- India ranks 23rd (slipped 13 ranks; previously at 10th), shifting from a high performer to a medium one in this year's CCPI
- China (54th), Russia (64th), the US (65th) and Saudi Arabia (67th) are the G20's worst-performing countries.

### **Climate Risk Index 2026**

**Released by:** Germanwatch, annually

*Index ranks countries based on the human and economic toll of extreme weather events, highlighting the urgency for stronger climate resilience*

**Uses:** EM-DAT disaster database along with World Bank and IMF datasets

**Hazards covered under CRI:** Includes hydrological, meteorological, and climatological events

**Index has 6 indicators under 3 metrics:** Fatalities (absolute and per 100,000 population), number of people affected (absolute and relative), economic losses in US\$ (absolute and relative)

**India ranked:** 15th in CRI Rank 2024 and 9th in CRI Rank 1995-2024.

### **State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) 2025 Report**

**Released by :** United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (UN-FAO)

- SOFA 2025 has provided the most comprehensive analysis of how human-driven land degradation impacts agricultural productivity, food security and ecosystem resilience
- Asian countries are the most affected, both because of their accumulated degradation debt and their high population densities.

### **Animal Husbandry Statistics 2025**

**Released on :** National Milk Day on November 26, 2025.

**Milk :**

- Global rank: 1st

- **Top 5 milk-producing states:** Uttar Pradesh (15.66%), Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Maharashtra.
- Together, they account for 54.09% of India's total milk production.

### **EGG**

- Global rank: 2nd
- Commercial poultry accounted for 84.49% of the national output.
- **Top Producing States:** Andhra Pradesh (18.37%), Tamil Nadu, Telangana, West

### **MEAT**

- Global rank : 4th
- Meat production from poultry constituted about half of the total.
- **Top Producing States:** West Bengal (12.46%), Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana.

### **Wool**

- **Producing States:** Rajasthan (47.85%), Jammu & Kashmir, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Himachal Pradesh.

### **Prisons in India Report 2025**

*As per report, prisons have an occupancy rate of 131.4% and 3 out of 4 prisoners are undertrials*

**Published by:** Centre for Research and planning, Supreme Court of India

**About:** examines prison manuals, stereotypes, mental health support, wages and technological reforms

- Prison is a State subject under List II (SCHEDULE 7)
- India follows the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, known as 'The Nelson Mandela Rules', which advocates the humanisation of prison institutions
- In Sukanya Shantha Case, assigning prison work based on caste identity was declared as unconstitutional.

### **World Economic Outlook (WEO) 2025**

**Published by:** International Monetary Fund (IMF)

- It is usually published twice a year in the months of April and October

- It presents analyses and projections of the world economy in the near and medium term
- Recent report projected India's GDP growth rate for 2025-26 to 6.6% (6.4% earlier) and 6.2% for 2026-27

**Reports Published by IMF:** World Economic Outlook, Global Financial Stability Report, Fiscal Monitor, Global Policy Agenda, Artificial Intelligence Preparedness Index (AIPI) Dashboard

### **Global Financial Stability Report (GFSR) 2025**

**Published by :** IMF, semi-annually

- It provides an assessment of global financial markets, identifying key vulnerabilities and policy challenges
- GFSR 2025 states that tightened global financial conditions have caused a significant increase in the global financial stability risks

### **Global Hunger Index (2025)**

**Released by :** Irish humanitarian organisation Concern Worldwide and the German aid agency Welthungerhilfe; annually

- *It track and compare hunger levels across countries using a composite score based on nutrition and mortality indicators*

**GHI score of each country is calculated using four indicators:**

- (1) Undernourishment (Insufficient caloric intake)
- (2) Child stunting (Children with low height under age 5)
- (3) Child wasting: (Children with low weight for their height under age 5)
- (4) Child mortality: (Children who die before their fifth birthday).

#### **Findings of the Report**

- **India is ranked 102nd** among the 123 countries assessed with a GHI score of 25.8, which is classified as "Serious" category
- 1 in 3 Indian children is stunted
- As per report, at current pace, SDG-2 (Zero Hunger by 2030) is out of reach
- At least 56 countries are not on track to achieve even low hunger by 2030.

### **Global Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (2025)**

**Published by :** United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)

**Title of 2025 Index:** "Overlapping Hardships: Poverty and Climate Hazards"

*It must be noted that, for the first time, it covers climate hazard data with multidimensional poverty to assess poor people's exposure to climate shocks*

#### **Indicators of G-MPI (along with sub-indicators):**

- (1) Health (Nutrition + Child Mortality)
- (2) Education (Years of Schooling + School Attendance)
- (3) Standard of Living (Cooking fuel + Sanitation + Drinking Water + Electricity + Housing + Assets)
  - All indicators are equally weighted within each dimension
  - MPI value is the product of the Incidence (or the proportion of people who live in multidimensional poverty) and Intensity of poverty (or the average deprivation score among multidimensionally poor people)
  - Value of MPI ranges from 0 to 1, and higher values means higher poverty
  - A person is multi-dimensionally poor if he deprived in one third (33.3%) or more of the weighted indicators
  - Deprivation in one half or more of the weighted indicators is considered living in extreme multidimensional poverty

#### **G-MPI Findings (2025):**

- Almost half of all multidimensionally poor people globally live in just six middle-income countries: Bangladesh, China, India, Nigeria, Pakistan and Tanzania
- Around 27.8 % of all children live in multidimensional poverty
- Benin recorded the fastest absolute reduction, followed by Cambodia, and Tanzania
- Poverty and climate shocks create a double burden

- Most widespread hazards affecting poor people globally are high heat and air pollution
- **Poverty in India fell from 55.1% (2005–2006) to 16.4% (2019–2021).**

### **National Multidimensional Poverty Index (N-MPI)**

**Released by:** NITI Aayog

*It uses the internationally acclaimed Alkire Foster methodology (also used in Global MPI), retaining all 10 indicators from Global MPI and incorporating two additional indicators – Maternal Health and Bank Accounts*

- **Like the Global MPI, India's National MPI has three equally weighted dimensions, represented by 12 indicators:**

(1) Health (Nutrition + Child Mortality + Maternal Health)

(2) Education (Years of schooling + School Attendance)

(3) Standard of Living (Cooking fuel + Sanitation + Drinking Water + Electricity + Housing + Assets + Electricity + Bank Account)

**Important:** On 1st November, 2025, Kerala will become the first state in India to be officially declared free from extreme poverty.

- According to the World Bank, extreme poverty is defined as living on less than USD 3.00 per person per day at 2021 purchasing power parity.

### **State Mining Readiness Index (SMRI) 2025**

**Released by:** Ministry of Mines to assess and promote growth in India's mining sector

**Objective :** to evaluate each State's role in developing the mining industry, encouraging reforms, and improving overall performance

**Measures States based on :** auction success, early operationalization of mines, exploration initiatives, and adoption of sustainable mining practices for non-coal minerals

States are divided into three categories depending on their mineral endowment

**Top performers of 2025:**

- (1) Category A: Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Gujarat;

- (2) Category B: Goa, Uttar Pradesh, and Assam; and
- (3) Category C: Punjab, Uttarakhand, and Tripura.

### **Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2026**

**Published by:** Times Higher Education (THE) magazine

- It evaluate global universities based on teaching, research, knowledge transfer, and international outlook, using 18 performance indicators
- University of Oxford has secured the top global rank for the 10th consecutive year
- Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, continues to be India's highest-ranked institution, retaining its position in the 201-250 band

### **Environmental Accounting on Forest 2025 Report**

**Released by :** Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)

*Present is the 8th consecutive issue on environmental accounts and the first dedicated publication on forest accounting based on the UN System of Environmental Economic Accounts (SEEA) framework*

**Physical Asset Account:** forest cover increased by 22.50% (2010–11 and 2021–22), reaching to 21.76% of India's geographical area, with Kerala, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu recording the highest gains

**Extent Account:** shows a net increase in forest extent during 2013–2023, with Uttarakhand, Odisha, and Jharkhand leading in Recorded Forest Area

**Condition Account:** highlights improvement in ecosystem quality, with Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Telangana as top contributors

**Service Accounts:** indicate that provisioning services from forests contributed about 0.16% of GDP in 2021–22, led by Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Kerala

- Regulating services rose to around 2.63% of GDP, with Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Assam as major contributors.

### **Greenhouse Gas Emission Intensity (GEI) Target Rules 2025**

Recently, government notified first legally binding GEI Target Rules, 2025 under the compliance mechanism of Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS), 2023

- GEI is the amount of GHGs that are emitted per unit of product output
- Rules target four high-emission sectors i.e. aluminium, cement, pulp & paper, and chlor-alkali
- Rules will be enforced by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)
- Compliant entities reducing emissions below target will earn tradable carbon credit certificates, issued by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)
- Non-compliant entities must buy additional certificates or pay an environmental compensation, which equals twice the average carbon credit price for that compliance year.

### **Greenhouse Gas Bulletin (2025)**

**Published by:** the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), a specialised agency of the United Nations, annually

- Report compares current global (averaged surface mole fractions) Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), and Nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) levels with last year's and pre-industrial levels (before the year 1750)
- It provides insights into the change in radiative forcing by long-lived GHGs (LLGHGs) and the contribution of individual gases to this increase

#### **• 21st Greenhouse Gas Bulletin (2025):**

- 2024 was the warmest year on record, with global temperatures 1.55°C above pre-industrial levels, breaching the 1.5°C Paris Agreement threshold for the first time
- Largest annual increase in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> since records began in 1957
- Long-lived greenhouse gases increased by 54%
- Methane and nitrous oxide also increased above pre-industrial levels.

### **International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO) Publication**

**Released by:** UN Environment Programme's (UNEP)

- Atmospheric methane continues to be the 2nd biggest driver of climate change after carbon dioxide, responsible for about one-third of the planet's warming
- Methane is over 80 times more potent than CO<sub>2</sub> over 20 years but persists for a shorter period (7-12 years)
- About 60% of today's methane emissions result from human activities with agriculture, fossil fuels, and landfill waste being the largest contributors
- However, natural processes contribute about 40% of emissions, with wetlands as the largest source.

### **State of Global Air Report 2025**

**Released by:** Health Effects Institute (HEI) and the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), United States

- India has third highest exposure to ozone pollution
- About 75% population is exposed to PM<sub>2.5</sub> above WHO limits.

### **NDCs Synthesis Report (2025)**

**Published by:** UNFCCC

- Report synthesises the progress countries are making toward achieving the Paris Agreement goals
- Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) is a non-binding climate action plan which represent each country's commitment under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement 2015 to reduce national emissions and adapt to climate change
- It finds that current NDCs are insufficient to limit global warming to 1.5°C, as the required emissions reduction by 2035 is 60%, but current pledges achieve only a 17% decline
- India is among the countries that is yet to submit updated NDCs, after its last submission in August 2022.

### **Climate Inequality Report 2025**

**Released by:** World Inequality Lab

- Report revealed that, top 1% contributes 15% of global consumption-based emissions but 41% of emissions arising from private capital ownership

- Around 100 companies are responsible for 71% of the industrial GHG emissions
- Per capita emissions of the top 1% are 75 times higher than those of the bottom 50% by consumption.

### **Global Forest Resources Assessment (GFRA) 2025**

**Published by :** UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) during Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI) Planary in Bali, Indonesia

- *GFOI is a flagship programme of the Group on Earth Observations (India is a member), a network of governments, academia, organizations, civil society and private sector aiming to harness the power of Earth Intelligence*
- GFRA is a comprehensive global evaluation of forest resources, assessing their extent, management, and uses across 236 countries
- It provides periodic updates on global forest conditions and trends every 5 years
- In GFRA 2025, India has climbed to the 9th position globally in total forest area (2% of global forest area) and continues to rank 3rd in annual forest gain
- India ranks 5th in terms of rubber plantation.

#### **• Highlights of GFRA 2025**

- Forests cover is about 32% of the global land area
- Nearly half of the world's forests are located in the tropics, followed by boreal, temperate and subtropical domains
- Europe has the largest forest area, accounting for 25% of world's total
- More than 90% of world's forests are regenerating naturally
- Forest carbon stocks have increased, with soil holding majority forest carbon stock, followed by living biomass, and litter and deadwood.

### **State of Finance for Forests (SFF) 2025**

**Recently, the first SFF report was released by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**

- Report finds an annual forest finance gap of US\$ 216 billion between current financial flows and the investment required to achieve global forest goals by 2030
- Annual investment in forests will need to triple to \$300 billion by 2030
- As per SFF 2025, Governments were the primary source of forest funding, accounting for 91% of total flows in 2023.

### **All-India Synchronous Elephant Estimation (SAIEE) 2025**

*It is India's first DNA-based count of elephants conducted by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), under the aegis of Project Elephant, MoEF&CC*

- SAIEE is usually conducted once every 4 years, and the last was conducted in 2017
- It estimates the total Asian Elephant (IUCN: Endangered; WPA, 1972: Schedule I) population at 22,446 (decline of 18% since 2017)
- India harbours the largest wild population – approximately 60% of the global total
- Western Ghats hosts the largest population of wild elephants followed by North Eastern Hills and Brahmaputra Flood Plains
- State-wise distribution: Karnataka (highest; 6,013 elephants) > Assam > Tamil Nadu > Kerala > Uttarakhand > Odisha.

### **First Green Status Assessment for Tigers (2025)**

**Released by :** IUCN

*Assessment classified the Tiger as 'Critically Depleted'*

- IUCN Green Status of Species was launched in 2012
- It is a tool for assessing the recovery of species' populations and conservation impact alongside extinction risk
- It covers all species except microorganisms
- Each species receives a Green Score (0–100%) showing its progress toward complete population recovery

**It uses 8 categories:** Extinct in the Wild, Critically Depleted, Largely Depleted, Moderately Depleted, Slightly Depleted, Fully Recovered, Non-Depleted, and Indeterminate

**Green Status defines “Species Recovery” as:**

- (i) It is present in all parts of its historical range (including areas lost due to human impact);
- (ii) It is viable (not at risk of extinction) across its range;
- (iii) It performs its ecological functions in all parts of its range

*Unlike the IUCN Red List, which focuses on extinction risk, the Green Status highlights recovery potential and necessary conservation actions*

*In May 2025, Lions have been placed in the “Largely Depleted” category.*

**Sustainable Food Systems Report (2025)**

**Released by :** Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)

- With the help of Soil Health Card scheme data, the report highlighted severe nutrient deficiencies in Indian soils
- 64% of soil samples tested ‘low’ for Nitrogen (N), indicating widespread deficiency in primary nutrients
- Urea forms nearly 68% of total fertilizer consumption in 2023–24, highlighting the fertilizer imbalance.

**Adaptation Gap Report (2025)**

**Released by :** United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

**Title of 2025 Report:** “Running on Empty” Report tracks global progress on climate adaptation planning, implementation, and finance and assesses how far the world is from achieving climate resilience goals

- Recent report calls for a major scale-up in finance, innovative tools, and stronger resilience planning

**World Heritage Outlook-4 Report**

*Recently launched at the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025 in Abu Dhabi*

**Released by:** International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) through its World Heritage Programme and the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

- *It is a global assessment system that evaluates the state of conservation of all UNESCO natural and mixed World Heritage Sites*

- It is released every 3–5 years and previous editions were published in 2014, 2017, and 2020
- As per Report, only the Khangchendzonga National Park remained ‘Good’ in Conservation Outlook Rating
- Manas National Park and Western Ghats are in ‘Significant Concern’ category.

**Global Antibiotic Resistance Surveillance Report 2025**

**Released by :** World Health Organization (WHO) to assess global trends and patterns of antimicrobial resistance

- Report highlights that in 2023 nearly one in six bacterial infections worldwide was caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria
- Antibiotic resistance increased in more than 40% of the bacteria–drug combinations monitored between 2018 and 2023
- Gram-negative bacteria emerged as a major concern
- Around 41% of bloodstream infection reports came from China, India, and Pakistan combined
- AMR was most frequently reported in Southeast Asia and the Eastern Mediterranean

**Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) Results for 2023-24**

**Released by :** Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)

Results are prepared at the State and major industry level

**Top 5 States in respect of employment:** Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka

- Gross value added grew by 11.89% in current prices in the year 2023-24 over previous year
- Industrial output grew by more than 5.80% in 2023-24 over the previous year

**Top 5 industries in respect of GVA:** Basic metal, Motor vehicles, Chemical and Chemical products, Food Products and Pharmaceutical products.

**Industrial Park Rating System (IPRS)**

**3.0**

**Launched by :** Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry

- **Developed by :** Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) with support from the Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- IPRS helps to assess and benchmark facilities, infrastructure, and competitiveness of industrial parks across the country
- Under IPRS 3.0, industrial parks will be benchmarked and categorized as Leaders, Challengers, and Aspirers based on their performance across key indicators
- IPRS is an integral part of the India Industrial Land Bank (erstwhile Industrial Information System).

### **LEADS 2025**

**Prepared by :** Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry

- It is a national index benchmarking logistics performance across States and UTs of India
- It was conceived in 2018 on the lines of World Bank's Logistics Performance Index (LPI)
- LPI relies entirely on perception-based surveys, LEADS incorporates both perception as well as objectivity
- It evaluates logistics performance across 4 pillars— Logistics Infrastructure, Logistics Services, Operating and Regulatory Environment, and Sustainable Logistics
- **Under LEADS, State/UTs are categorised into four groups:** Coastal, Landlocked, Northeast and Union Territories
- On the basis of their performance, tags of Achievers, Fast movers, and Aspirers are given

**Top States (LEADS 2025):** Gujarat (1st), Karnataka (2nd), Maharashtra (3rd), Tamil Nadu (4th), Rajasthan (5th)

**In 2025, LEADS introduces two major features:** performance assessment of 5–7 key corridors based on journey time, truck speed, and waiting periods, and API-enabled evaluation of section-wise speeds on major road corridors.

### **World Trade Report 2025**

**Released by :** World Trade Organisation (WTO), annually

**2025 Theme:** “Making Trade and AI Work Together to the Benefit of All” – explores AI's impact on global trade and inclusive growth

*It focuses on how to make trade and Artificial Intelligence (AI) mutually beneficial*

- As per the Report, AI could increase global trade by 34–37% and GDP by 12–13% by 2040 by improving logistics, compliance and language barriers

### **Economic Outlook Report 2025**

**Published by:** OECD, biannual

*It covers GDP, inflation, employment, trade, and investment*

**India specific :** upgrades India's 2025 GDP forecast to 6.7 while moderating inflation projection to 2.9%

**Reports / initiatives by OECD:** PISA, Govt at a glance Report, OECD Better Life Index, Global Drought Outlook, Tax Inspectors without Borders Programme (joint initiative of the OECD & UNDP), International Migration Outlook, Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Initiative (joint initiative of the OECD & G20 countries)

*India is not member of OECD.*

### **State Finances 2022-23 Report**

**Release by :** Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)

*It gives 10 years ((2013-14 to 2022-23)) of detailed data and trends for all 28 States*

- States' total debt in 2022-23 stood at 22.17% of India's GDP, which is higher than the FRBM Act target of keeping State debt at 20% of GDP by 2024-25

**Debt-to-GSDP Ratio:** Punjab (40.35%) > Nagaland (37.15%) > West Bengal (33.70%)

- All 28 states reported a fiscal deficit, ranging from 0.76% of GSDP in Gujarat to 6.46% in Himachal Pradesh, against the FRBM benchmark of 3.5% of GSDP for 2022-23
- Report also highlighted is a large difference in states' revenue strength, with Haryana generating 70% of its revenue through its own taxes, while Arunachal Pradesh generates only 9%.

## Global Innovation Index (GII) 2025

**Published by:** World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), annually

- GII measures innovation performance of 139 economies through investment patterns, technological progress, adoption rates, and socioeconomic impacts

**Highlights of GII 2025 :** India's rank rises to 38th position (39th rank in 2024 & 40th rank in 2023)

- Switzerland has been ranked first, followed by Sweden, USA, South Korea and Singapore
- Top Innovation Clusters: Shenzhen–Hong Kong–Guangzhou (China and Hong Kong), followed by Tokyo–Yokohama (Japan), and San Jose–San Francisco (USA)
- India has four clusters in top 100: Bengaluru (21st), Delhi (26th), Mumbai (46th) and Chennai (84th).

## NIRF Rankings (2025)

For the first time, 10th edition added a new SDG- based sustainability category

- NIRF was established in 2015 (first edition in 2016) under the MoE to rank higher education institutions annually

**Based on 5 parameters:** Teaching, Learning and Resources (30%); Research and Professional Practices (30%); Graduation Outcomes (20%); Outreach and Inclusivity (10%); and Perception (10%)

- NIRF is implemented by the National Board of Accreditation (NBA) in collaboration with INFLIBNET Centre, Gandhinagar (Gujarat)
- National Board of Accreditation (NBA) assesses qualitative competence of programs from diploma to postgraduate levels in engineering, technology, management, pharmacy, architecture, and related disciplines.

**Trends in Report (2025):** Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras claimed the top overall position in the higher education rankings for the 7th straight year

- IISc, Bengaluru topped the universities category for the 10th consecutive year and also stood first in the research institutions category for the 5th consecutive year

- IIM Ahmedabad was the best institution for management studies for the 6th consecutive year
- All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi occupied the top slot in medical institutions

## Gender Snapshot 2025

**Released by:** UN Women and the United Nations Department of Economic & Social Affairs (UN DESA)

- As per the report, 351 million women and girls are projected to remain in extreme poverty by 2030
- Female poverty has remained around 10% since 2020
- Women spend 2.5 times more hours on unpaid care and domestic work than men.

## Road Accidents in India 2023 Report

**Released by:** Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

- In 2023, road accidents increased by 4.2% compared to 2022
- Young adults in the age group of 18–45 years accounted for 66.4% of victims during 2023
- Tamil Nadu recorded the highest number of road accidents in 2023 followed by Madhya Pradesh
- Uttar Pradesh had the most fatalities followed by Tamil Nadu
- Two-wheeler riders constituted the highest percentage of accident deaths (45%) followed by pedestrians
- Highways accounted for more than 53% of total accidents and 59% of fatalities.

## World Food India (WFI) 2025

Recently, 4th edition of WFI 2025 (First edition: 2017) was hosted by Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI)

**Aims :** To strengthen India's positioning as the "Food Basket of the World"

- WFI 2025 will include New Zealand and Saudi Arabia as partner countries, while Japan, Russia, the United Arab Emirates, and Vietnam are the focus countries.

## Disaster Risk Index (DRI)

**Developed by:** 15th Finance Commission (chaired by N.K. Singh)

**Aims** :To bring objectivity in resource allocation (fiscal federalism) and take note of disaster risk faced by the states

- DRI covers 14 hazards, 14 vulnerabilities and 2 exposures (Population and

### **State of Global Water Resources 2024**

**Released by** : World Meteorological Organization

- Report stated that the global water cycle is becoming highly irregular, shifting sharply between floods and droughts
- Glaciers across the world recorded melt losses for the third consecutive year
- Many small-glacier regions are reaching “Peak Water Point,” where meltwater flow is at its highest
- About two-thirds of the world’s river catchment areas now face either excess water or severe shortages.

### **Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI)**

*PMI data for India is released monthly by S&P Global*

- PMI is an economic indicator derived from monthly business surveys
- It measures activity at the purchasing/input stage (Note: IIP tracks actual output)
- It is calculated separately for the manufacturing and services sectors and then a composite index is also constructed
- PMI is a number from 0 to 100. PMI above 50 indicates economic expansion, while below 50 signals contraction
- PMI does not capture informal sector activity.

### **Annual Survey of Industries (ASI)**

**Released by** : Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)

*Conducted annually under the Collection of Statistics Act, 2008 except in Jammu & Kashmir*

**Industries covered**: Factories registered under Sections 2m(i&ii) of Factories Act, 1948; Beedi and cigar manufacturing establishments under the Bidi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966; Electricity undertakings not registered with Central Electricity Authority (CEA); Units with 100 or more employees registered in the Business Register of Establishments (BRE) maintained by the States

- Defence establishments, oil storage and distribution depots, departmental units such as railway workshops, gas storage, etc., are not covered under ASI
- The results of ASI are prepared at the state and major industry level

### **ASI Results for 2023-24:**

- Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka are the top 5 States in respect of employment
- Gross Value Added grew by 11.89% in current prices in the year 2023-24 over previous year
- Industrial output grew by more than 5.80% in 2023-24 over the previous year

**Top 5 industries in respect of GVA**: Basic metal, Motor vehicles, Chemical and Chemical products, Food Products and Pharmaceutical products.

### **State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2024**

**Released by**: Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) in collaboration with the Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE)

- Index assesses the energy efficiency performance of 36 States and UTs for FY 2023–24
- SEEI 2024 has a new implementation-focused framework comprising 66 indicators across sectors — Buildings, Industry, Municipal Services, Transport, Agriculture, DISCOMs, and Cross-Sector initiatives

**SEEI categorizes States into 4 groups based on performance**: Front Runners (>60%), Achievers (50–60%), Contenders (30–50%), and Aspirants (<30%)

**Top Performers 2024**: Maharashtra (Group 1), Andhra Pradesh (Group 2), Assam (Group 3), and Tripura (Group 4)

### **Electric Mobility Index (IEMI)**

**Launched by**: NITI Aayog

*India’s first-of-its-kind tool to assess subnational EV readiness*

- IEMI is a composite index measuring the electric mobility ecosystem maturity across states & UTs
- It assesses 16 indicators across 3 core themes, each with a specific weight, scored out of 100: Transport Electrification Progress (50% weight)

> Charging Infrastructure Readiness (30% weight) > EV Research and Innovation Status (20% weight)

**Top Performers:** Delhi ranked highest overall, followed by Maharashtra and Chandigarh.

### **State Health Regulatory Excellence Index (SHRESTH)**

*It is a first-of-its-kind national initiative to benchmark and strengthen state drug regulatory systems through a transparent, data-driven framework*

**Aims:** to drive improvements in the performance of state drug regulatory authorities across India, ensuring drug safety and quality standards are met

**Nodal ministry:** Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

**Implemented by :** Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO)

- It has 27 indices for drug manufacturing States across 5 key themes: Human Resources, Infrastructure, Licensing Activities, Surveillance Activities and Responsiveness and 23 indices for Primarily Distribution States
- States will submit the data on predefined metrics to CDSCO which will be collected by 25th of every month and these metrics will be scored on the 1st of next month and shared with all states and UTs.

### **Air Quality Life Index (AQLI) 2025**

*AQLI is a scientific tool that measures the impact of particulate air pollution (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) on human life expectancy*

**Developed by:** Michael Greenstone, Professor at the Energy Policy Institute, University of Chicago (EPIC)

- According to the 2025 findings, if India reduced air pollution to WHO guidelines, the average Indian could live 3.5 years longer, while residents of Delhi could gain 8.2 additional years
- At the global level, meeting WHO standards would increase life expectancy by 1.9 years
- South Asia remains the most polluted region with Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Pakistan suffering the steepest life expectancy losses due to PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure.

### **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)**

*IIP is computed and published on a monthly basis by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)*

**Base year:** 2011-12

**Sectoral composition of IIP (Weight-wise):**

Manufacturing (77.63%) > Mining: (14.37%) > Electricity (7.99%)

**IIP excludes:** Construction, gas, and water supply due to data availability constraints

**8 Core Sectors comprise 40.27% of weight of items included in the Index :**

Petroleum Refinery Products (28.04%) > Electricity (19.85%) > Steel (17.92%) > Coal (10.33%) > Crude Oil (8.98%) > Natural Gas (6.88%) > Cement (5.37%) > Fertiliser (2.63%)

### **Intellectual Property (IP) Filings**

*As per recent data (2025), India's IP filings rose by 44% in the last 5 years, led by a 380% surge in Geographical Indications*

- India granted the highest number of patents in FY24 (1,03,057 patents)
- India ranked 4th globally in trademark filings in 2023
- India rose from 9th (2020) to 6th (2023) position in global patent filings (WIPO)

**Intellectual Property (IP) :** refers to any original work of the human mind, including those in the arts, sciences, literature, technology, or other fields

- IPRs are also outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 27)

**IPR Policy Management (IPRPM) framework**

**covers eight types of IPR:** Patents, Trademarks, Industrial Designs, Copyrights, Geographical Indications, Semiconductor Integrated Circuit Layout Designs, Trade Secrets, and Plant Varieties

- World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) oversees the global protection of IPRs
- IPR in India is administered by the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks under the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry

**Act on Layout-**

- Design of Integrated Circuits is administered by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)
- Act on Plant Variety Protection is administered by the Ministry of Agriculture

**Paris Convention** : for the Protection of Industrial Property (1883) (India is a member)

**Berne Convention** : for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works (1886) (India is a member)

**Hague Agreement** : On the International Registration of Industrial Designs (1925) (India is not a member).

### **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) Report**

**Launched by** : National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) in 2017

**Conducted by** : National Statistics Office (NSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)

**Key objective of PLFS** : to estimate the key employment and unemployment indicators (viz. LFPR, WPR, UR) annually

- PLFS, in the short time interval of 3 months give estimated for the urban areas only in 'Current Weekly Status' (CWS) and in both 'Usual Status' and CWS in both rural and urban areas annually

### **Digital Payment Index (DPI)**

Semi-annually published by the Reserve Bank of India

- DPI tracks the extent of digitization of payments in India
- The base year is March 2018 with a score set at 100

**DPI comprises these broad parameters:**

Payment Enablers; Payment Infrastructure – Demand-side factors & Supply- side-factors; Payment Performance; Consumer Centricity

- Latest RBI-DPI indicates over fourfold growth in digital payment penetration since 2018.

### **Financial Stability Report (FSR)**

Biannual report released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

- As per FSR, India's real GDP is projected to grow at 6.5% in 2025–26

**Other Publications of RBI:** Financial Stability Report (Half-Yearly), Monetary Policy Report (Half- Yearly),

Consumer Confidence Survey (Quarterly), Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (Quarterly), Report on Foreign Exchange Reserves (Half-Yearly), and Digital Payments Index (DPI)

**Global Financial Stability Report is published by International Monetary Fund (IMF).**

### **Financial Inclusion (Fi) Index (2025)**

**Developed by** : Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

**Aims** : to measure the extent of financial inclusion across the country

- Index covers sectors such as banking, investments, insurance, postal, and pensions

**Based on 3 parameters:** Access (35%), Usage (45%), and Quality (20%)

- It ranges from 0 (complete exclusion) to 100 (full inclusion) with NO base year assigned
- For FY 2025, the index improved to 67, up from 64.2 in FY 2024.

### **Global Findex 2025**

**Published by** : World Bank

Report showcases progress in global digital and financial inclusion

- India has achieved near-universal account ownership with around 90% of adults having bank accounts
- However, 16% of Indian account holders have inactive accounts, significantly higher than the 4% average.

### **Financial Conditions Index (FCI)**

Recently, a study of the RBI has proposed the construction of a FCI

**Aims** : to track India's market trends with daily frequency

- FCI assesses the degree of relatively tight or easy financial market conditions with reference to its historical average since 2012
- Chosen indicators represents 5 market segments: Money market, G-sec market, Corporate bond market, Forex market, and Equity market
- Higher positive value of the FCI indicates tighter financial conditions

### **Global Peace Index, 2025**

**Released by** : Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)

Report noted a deterioration in the average global level of peacefulness compared to previous years

**Based on 3 key domains:** (i) Societal safety and security, (ii) Ongoing domestic and international conflict, and (iii) Degree of militarisation

- Iceland retained its top position
- India was ranked 115th
- Russia was placed at the bottom of the index at 163rd
- South Asia experienced the largest regional decline in peacefulness and is ranked as 2nd least peaceful region in the world.

### **Henley Passport Index (2025)**

**Published by :** Henley & Partners using data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA)

**Based on:** number of destinations accessible without a prior visa

- India's ranking Index jumps (biggest-ever rise i.e. 8 place) from 85 (2024) to 77 (2025)
- Singapore holds the top spot, followed by Japan and South Korea
- Indian passport holders have visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to 59 countries.

### **PARAKH (RS)**

Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development Rashtriya Sarvekshan (PARAKH-RS) was formerly known as the National Achievement Survey (NAS)

- National Assessment Centre set up in NCERT as an independent constituent unit in 2023

**Objective:** Setting norms, standards, guidelines and implementing activities related to student assessment Along with other tasks as mandated by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020

- As per recent survey, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu and Chandigarh are the best performing States and Union Territories in school education.

### **Status of Mangroves in India**

- Mangroves in Lakshadweep archipelago and on the coast of Tamil Nadu are Critically Endangered
- India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2023 by the Forest Survey of India (FSI) states that the

Mangrove cover in India has increased by 17sq km (0.34%) compared to the previous assessment

- Major mangrove locations in India are Andaman and Nicobar Islands; Sunderbans of West Bengal; Mahanadi, Godavari and Krishna deltas etc.

### **Global Wetland Outlook 2025**

**Released by :** Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention

- As per report, 22% of the world's wetlands have been lost since 1970
- Africa's wetlands are among the most degraded globally.

### **Nutritional Intake in India Report**

**Released by:** National Statistics Office (NSO)

- Report is based on the Household Consumption Expenditure Surveys of 2022-23 & 2023-24
- Average per capita per day calorie intake (in 2022-23 and 2023-24): Rural- 2233 Kcal and 2212 Kcal respectively, and Urban: 2250 Kcal and 2240 Kcal respectively
- As per Report, cereals continue to be the most important source of protein.

### **Good Health & Well-Being Index (2025)**

**Published by:** NITI Aayog as part of the 2023-24 SDG India Index

- Gujarat ranked first, followed by Maharashtra and Uttarakhand [Note:
- It is a composite index measuring health outcomes on mortality, disease burden, and service access
- Index covers 11 indicators, including mortality rates, immunisation, disease incidence, suicides, and life expectancy
- States are scored on a 0-100 scale using national surveys and administrative data.

### **Agricultural Outlook 2025-2034**

**Released by :** Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

- It analyses production, consumption, trade, and price trends for major food and non-food crops

- As per report, global consumption in the cotton sector has increased, with India projected to surpass China as the world's largest cotton producer.

### **North Eastern Region District SDG Index Report (2023-24)**

**Developed by:** NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MoDoNER), with technical support from UNDP

- It measures the performance of districts across 8 North Eastern States on the SDGs

**Under Index, districts are categorised into four categories:** Achiever, Front Runner, Performer, and Aspirant

- Hnahthial (Mizoram) is the highest-scoring district and Arunachal Pradesh has the lowest-scoring district.

### **SDG Progress Report 2025**

*Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released SDG Progress Report 2025 and National Indicator Framework – Handbook*

- NIF is India's official statistical tool to monitor performance on the 17 UN SDGs
- MoSPI formulates it with inputs from line Ministries, UN agencies, and expert groups
- The framework enables national-level evidence-based tracking and policy planning for SDGs
- NIF 2025 tracks 284 national indicators, down from 290 in the previous cycle

### **World Wealth Report 2025**

**Released by :** Capgemini Research Institute

- Global high-net-worth individuals (HNWIs) population rose by 2.6% in 2024
- India saw an 8.8% rise in HNWI wealth in 2024
- USA added the largest number of millionaires in 2024.

### **World Investment Report 2025**

**Published by :** UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

- It focuses on trends in foreign direct investment (FDI) worldwide, at the regional and country levels

- United States retained its position as the top FDI destination globally
- India rose a position to rank 15 among top global destinations for FDI in 2024
- Within the South Asian region, India was the top FDI recipient.

### **World Tourism Barometer**

**Published by :** United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) or UN Tourism on a Quarterly basis

- It provides information on global tourism statistics, including international tourist arrivals, export revenues, and tourism direct GDP
- UNWTO is a specialized agency of the United Nations.

### **Critical and Emerging Technologies Index**

**Published by :** Harvard Kennedy School

**It assess the performance of 25 countries across 5 critical technology sectors (based on weightage):** Semiconductors (35%), AI (25%),

Biotechnology (20%), Space (15%), Quantum (5%)

**It identifies 6 criteria that define each technology sector:** geopolitical significance, systemic leverage, GDP contribution, dual-use potential, supply chain risk, and time to maturity

- Ranks: US (1st) > China (2nd) > Europe (3rd) > Japan (4th) and India (10th)
- India is below France but ahead of Russia, Canada, and Australia
- India trails in critical tech, particularly semiconductor tech.

### **SIPRI Report (2025)**

- Nine nuclear-armed states: the US, Russia, the United Kingdom (UK), France, China, India, Pakistan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea), and Israel
- India has 180 stored nuclear warheads (as of January 2025)
- Countries with nuclear warheads (Descending order): Russia > US > China > France > UK > India > Pakistan > Israel > North Korea

- Russia and the USA together possess around 90% of all nuclear weapons.

### **State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2025 Report**

**Released by :** World Bank Group to track global adoption and performance of Carbon Pricing (CP) mechanisms

- Operational CP instruments have increased from 5 in 2005 to 80 in 2025, with India, Brazil, and Türkiye developing new systems
- CP covers ~28% of global GHG emissions through 43 carbon taxes and 37 Emission Trading Systems (ETSs)
- ETSs and carbon taxes generated over USD 100 billion in 2024 for public budgets
- Power and industry sectors have the highest coverage, while agriculture and waste remain largely uncovered.

### **Global Drought Outlook, 2025**

**Released by :** Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

- It is a global assessment of evolving drought trends, impacts, and adaptation policies
- As per report, 40% of the world's land area faces increasingly frequent and severe droughts.

### **State of the Climate in Asia 2024**

**Released by :** World Meteorological Organization (WMO), a specialized agency of the United Nations

- The 2024 marked Asia's 2nd warmest year on record
- Asia is warming twice as fast as the global average
- Highest sea-surface temperatures is also recorded.

### **10th Sustainable Development Report 2025**

**Released by :** UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN-SDSN), led by Jeffrey Sachs

- It ranks 167 countries using an SDG Index score out of 100 based on performance across all 17 goals
- Score of 100 means full achievement of all SDGs

- Rankings are based on a mix of social, economic, environmental, and governance indicators
- India ranks 99th (out of 167) with a score of 67, for the first time in the top 100
- Top Performers: Finland, Sweden, and Denmark
- Only 17% of SDG targets are on track to be achieved by 2030.

### **Energy Transition Index (ETI), 2025**

**Released by :** World Economic Forum (WEF)

- It ranks countries on their progress towards energy transition from fossil fuels to clean energy
- Sweden ranked first followed by Finland, Denmark and Norway
- India's rank dropped from rank 63 in 2024 to rank 71 in 2025

**Two main aspects of the Index:** System Performance (energy security, equity & sustainability), and Transition Readiness (regulation, infrastructure, investment etc.)

### **Global Gender Gap Index 2025**

**Published by :** World Economic Forum (WEF)

**Four dimensions of Index:** (1) Economic Participation and Opportunity; (2) Educational Attainment; (3) Health and Survival; and (4) Political Empowerment

**Score:** Zero (complete inequality) to 1 (complete equality)

- India ranks at 131st position out of 148 countries (ranked 129th in 2024)
- India is among the lowest-ranked in South Asia: Bhutan (119), Nepal (125), Sri Lanka (130)
- Bangladesh emerged as the best performer in South Asian countries (jumped 75 ranks to reach the 24th position globally)
- **Top 5 Countries:** Iceland (1st for 16th consecutive year) > Finland > Norway > United Kingdom > New Zealand
- At the current pace, full global parity is 123 years away

### **State of World Population (SWP) Report 2025**

**Released by :** United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

**Titled ‘The real fertility crisis:** The pursuit of reproductive agency in a changing world’

- Report argues that the actual global fertility crisis is not one of overpopulation or underpopulation, but rather a crisis in reproductive agency
- Report calls for a policy shift regarding population to prioritize individual rights and choices.

### **Global Trends Report**

**Released by:** United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Related to Forced Displacement

- Estimated 123.2 million people worldwide were forcibly displaced at the end of 2024 (Children account for 40% of all forcibly displaced people).

### **Global Liveability Index 2025**

**Published by :** Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)

- It measures the quality of life in 173 cities globally to assess how comfortable or challenging it is to live in them

**Qualitative & quantitative indicators across 5 categories:** Culture & Environment (25%), Stability (25%), Healthcare (20%), Infrastructure (20%), Education (10%)

- Ratings are weighted to provide a score from 1 (intolerable) to 100 (ideal)
- Copenhagen ranked 1st globally
- Delhi & Mumbai ranked 141st reflecting poor air quality, public healthcare, traffic congestion and safety issues
- No Indian city featured in the top 100
- Damascus being the least liveable city in the world.

### **Global Tobacco Epidemic 2025 Report**

**Released by:** World Health Organization (WHO)

As per report, Tobacco tax is the least-adopted MPOWER measure

- **MPOWER** :It is a framework to measure tobacco control strategies developed by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2008

- MPOWER are a set of 6 cost-effective and high-impact measures that help countries reduce demand for tobacco
- It is inline with the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC).

### **3 by 35 Initiative**

**Launched by:** World Health Organization (WHO)

- It urges to increase the real prices of 3 targeted products (tobacco, alcohol, and sugary drinks) by at least 50% by 2035 through higher taxes or health taxes.

### **Global Education Monitoring Report**

**Released by :** Global Education Meeting, organized by UNESCO

- It is an authoritative and evidence-based assessment of progress, challenges, and trends in education worldwide
- Report is mandated by UNESCO’s ‘Education 2030 Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action’ for monitoring and reporting on SDG 4 (Quality education)
- GEM Report 2024 was hosted at Fortaleza by the Government of Brazil.

### **Performance Grading Index (PGI) 2.0 Report**

**Released by :**Ministry of Education released PGI 2.0’ for 2022-23 & 2023-24

It provide data-driven insights into the performance of school education systems in states and UTs

**Grouped under 2 broad categories:** Outcomes and Governance & Management

**Categories are further divided into 6 domains:** Learning Outcomes (LO), Access (A), Infrastructure & Facilities (IF), Equity (E), Governance Processes (GP), and Teacher Education & Training (TET)

- Grading is done on a 10-point scale based on scores out of 1000
- As per the latest report, no state or UT achieved any of the top 4 grades
- Chandigarh is top performer
- Meghalaya ranked the lowest.

### **Human Development Index, 2025**

**Published by :** United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

*Released first time in 1990, HDI is based on the Human Development Approach, developed by Mahbub ul Haq and anchored in Amartya Sen's work on Human Capabilities*

**HDI's 3 key dimensions:** (1) Health: Life expectancy at birth; (2) Education: Expected years of schooling & Mean of years of schooling; (3) Living standard: Gross National Income per capita (PPP \$)

- The HDI is the geometric mean of normalized indices for each of the 3 indicators
- HDI is denoted by a number between 0 and 1
- The HDI captures only part of what human development entails and does not reflect on inequalities, poverty, human security, empowerment, etc.

### **Findings of the Report 2025:**

**Report titled,** 'A Matter of Choice: People and Possibilities in the Age of AI'

- India ranked at 130th position out of 193 (3 places up from 133 in 2022)
- India is still under Medium Human Development Category (0.685), close to the High Development threshold (0.700)
- India's life expectancy reached 72 years in 2023, highest since the index began (1990)
- Average mean years of schooling in India is 13 years
- All BRICS countries are ranks ahead of India
- Top performer: Iceland (0.972), Norway (0.970), Switzerland (0.970)
- Bottom performers: South Sudan, Somalia, Central African Republic.

## **Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID) 2025**

**Published by :** Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)

*As per report, 99.5% of displacements were due to climate-related disasters*

- South Asia saw 9.2 million displacements, largely due to El Niño droughts

**Internal Displacement (ID) :** refers to the forced movement of people within their country, while

Internally Displaced People (IDP) are people forced to flee their homes due to conflict, violence, or disasters without crossing International borders.

## **Logistics Performance Index (LPI)**

**Published by:** World Bank ,Index is released every 2 years (Biennial)

*LPI is an interactive benchmarking tool to help countries identify trade logistics challenges and opportunities and improve performance*

**Parameters (6) to evaluate LPI:** Customs performance, Infrastructure quality, Ease of arranging shipments, Logistics services quality, Consignment tracking and tracing, and Timeliness of shipments

- Last LPI was published in 2023 which enabled comparisons across 139 countries
- India was ranked 38 (out of 139 countries), climbing 6 places from the previous index.
- Singapore and Finland were the most efficient and highest-ranked LPI countries

## **Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS)**

**Released by :** Ministry of Commerce and Industry was conceived in 2018 on the lines of LPI of World Bank

**Important reports by the World Bank:** World Development Report, Remittance Report, Ease of Living Index, Universal Health Coverage Index, Service Trade Restriction Index, Brief on Poverty and Equity in India, and India Development Update.

## **Repairability Index (RI)**

*Committee formed to design India's RI Framework has submitted its report to the Department of Consumer Affairs*

- The RI is a standardized, self-declared score provided by Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) to indicate how easily a product can be disassembled, repaired, and maintained
- It is a five-point numeric scale
- It will be mandatory to display at physical/e-commerce points of sale and via QR code on packaging
- It promotes sustainable consumption by helping consumers make informed choices
- India's Right to Repair Portal launched in 2022.

## **CAPEX (Capital Expenditure) Survey**

**Released by :** National Statistics Office (NSO) (under MOSPI)

- The Forward-Looking Survey on Private Sector Capex Investment Intentions (Capex Survey) is the first of its kind by the National Statistics Office (NSO) (under MOSPI)
- It was conducted under the Collection of Statistics Act, 2008

**Findings:**

- Private sector CAPEX grew 66% from FY22 to FY25
- Manufacturing enterprises accounted for 48% of total private sector CAPEX in FY 24-25
- Capital expenditure is the money spent by the government on the development of machinery, etc
- Capital expenditure is an expense that creates permanent assets and yields regular income for the government
- It includes money spent on the Acquiring fixed and intangible assets, Upgrading an existing asset, Repairing an existing asset, Repayment of loan, Building, Health facilities, Education, etc.
- Effective Capital Expenditure (ECE) is the sum of Capital Expenditure and Grants for creation of Capital Assets
- Expenditure by the Government on Defence is Capex.

**Financial Fraud Risk Indicator (FRI)**

**Launched by :** Department of Telecommunications (DoT) as a part of the Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP)

- FRI is a risk-based tool that flags mobile numbers as Medium, High, or Very High risk for financial fraud
- It pulls inputs from the National Cybercrime Reporting Portal (NCRP), DoT's Chakshu Platform, and banking institutions
- PhonePe was one of the first adopters of the FRI system.

○ **Digital Intelligence Platform (DIP)**

**Developed by :** Department of Telecommunications (DoT) as a secure, integrated platform for real-time intelligence sharing

- It connects Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), law enforcement agencies (LEAs), banks, financial institutions, social media platforms, and identity document issuers
- DIP is available only to authorized stakeholders via secure connections and is NOT accessible to public.

**Global EV Outlook, 2025**

**Released by :** International Energy Agency (IEA)

- Report states that China leads with nearly 50% of global EV car sales
- China remains the global EV production leader, contributing more than 70% of total output
- India leads global growth in electric three-wheelers, aided by the PM E-DRIVE initiative.

**Panchayat Advancement Index (PAI)**

**Launched by :** Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India

*Released the first PAI report for 2022-23, with Gujarat and Telangana topping the rankings*

- No panchayat in India achieved the 'Achiever' rank in this year's assessment
- PAI is a multi-domain and multi-sectoral index that is intended to be used to assess the overall holistic development, performance & progress of panchayats
- It is based on 435 unique indicators (331 mandatory & 104 optional)
- Index is drawn from 566 unique data points aligned with the National Indicator Framework (NIF)
- Index evaluates panchayats based on 9 key themes related to local development

**State of Finance for Nature 2026 report**

**Released by:** UNEP

**About** *assessing global financial flows affecting nature.*

- In 2023, about \$7.3 trillion went into activities harming nature, while only \$220 billion supported Nature based Solutions (NbS), creating a gap of over 30 :1
- UNEP warned that this imbalance is worsening the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

- Around \$5 trillion of harmful finance came from private investments in sectors like energy, utilities, and industrial materials.
- Nearly \$2.4 trillion came from environmentally damaging subsidies, mainly for fossil fuels, agriculture, water use, transport, and construction. Fossil fuels received the largest share (47%).
- Investment in Nature-based Solutions must increase 2.5 times to about \$571 billion annually by 2030 to meet climate and biodiversity targets.
- Positive trends include a fall in harmful private investment (from \$990 billion in 2020 to \$519 billion in 2023) and a 5% rise in NbS funding in 2023.
- The report **introduces the “Nature Transition X-Curve”** to guide governments and businesses to gradually phase out harmful finance and expand nature-positive investments.
- **Nature-based Solutions (NbS)**: refer to actions that protect, restore, and sustainably manage ecosystems to address climate, environmental, and social challenges while supporting human well-being and biodiversity.