

Newsletter

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND ADB SIGN US\$ 125 MILLION LOAN TO UPGRADE URBAN SERVICES IN ASSAM

Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a US\$ 125 million loan agreement with to enhance urban livability and bolster climate resilience in the State of Assam. The project will benefit 360,000 residents of Assam by delivering continuous metered water supply and upgrading stormwater management systems. It also seeks to strengthen urban governance through institutional reforms and capacity building.



READ MORE: [INDIA-ADB MOU](#)

NITI AAYOG RELEASES LANDMARK REPORT “PATHWAYS TO PROGRESS: ANALYSIS AND INSIGHTS INTO INDIA’S INNOVATION STORY”

India’s NITI Aayog released a report “Pathways to Progress: Analysis and Insights into India’s Innovation Story”, outlining India’s achievements, challenges, and future opportunities in science, technology, and innovation. The report offers a comprehensive view of India’s innovation ecosystem, from startups and grassroots initiatives to policy frameworks, and presents a roadmap to scale successful models, foster deep-tech innovation, boost global integration, and build nationwide innovation capacity.

READ MORE: [NITI AAYOG REPORT](#)

HUMANITARIAN AID FROM INDIA REACHES AFGHANISTAN FOLLOWING RECENT EARTHQUAKE



Supplies of relief materials from India reached Afghanistan’s Kabul via Chabahar and were handed over to Afghan authorities. This assistance is in continuation of India’s humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan in the wake of the recent earthquake. The consignment consisted of food items, water purifiers, protein powder, tin sheets, sleeping bags, hygiene kits, water storage tanks, gen sets, family tents, blankets, essential medicines and other medical supplies.

READ MORE: [HUMANITARIAN AID TO AFGHANISTAN](#)

2ND WHO GLOBAL SUMMIT ON TRADITIONAL MEDICINE

India signed an agreement with the World Health Organization (WHO) to co-host the 2nd WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine on the theme “Restoring balance for people and planet: The science and practice of well-being”. The Summit will be held in New Delhi from 17th to 19th December 2025. The Global Summit will serve as an important international platform bringing together experts, policymakers, and stakeholders to advance the role of traditional medicine in global health and sustainable development.

READ MORE: [WHO GLOBAL SUMMIT ON TRADITIONAL MEDICINE](#)

ECONOMY & DEVELOPMENT**INDEX OF EIGHT CORE INDUSTRIES (BASE YEAR: 2011-12=100) FOR AUGUST, 2025**

As per official data, the Index of Eight Core Industries in India rose by 6.3% in August 2025 compared to the same month last year, driven by strong growth in steel, coal, cement, fertilizers, electricity, and petroleum refinery products. While crude oil and natural gas production declined, steel showed the highest growth at 14.2%. The eight core industries, which make up 40.27% of the India's Index of Industrial Production, recorded a cumulative growth of 2.8% during April-August 2025-26, with July's growth revised to 3.7%.



READ MORE: [INDEX OF EIGHT CORE INDUSTRIES](#)

INDUSTRY & SECTORAL INSIGHTS**INDIA'S DEFENCE PRODUCTION CROSSES US\$ 18 BILLION**

India's Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, during his visit to Rabat announced that India's defence production has crossed US\$ 18 billion, with exports exceeding US\$ 2.67 billion to over 100 countries. He also highlighted India's rapid rise to become the 4th largest economy and its resilience amid global challenges. With sustained policy support, increased private participation, and expanding export capabilities, India's defence production sector is poised for continued acceleration in the years ahead.

READ MORE: [INDIA'S DEFENCE PRODUCTION](#)

COMPREHENSIVE 4-PILLAR APPROACH TO STRENGTHEN SHIPBUILDING, MARITIME FINANCING, AND DOMESTIC CAPACITY

India's Union Cabinet approved a US\$ 8.11 billion package to transform India's shipbuilding and maritime ecosystem through a four-pillar strategy focused on boosting domestic capacity, financing, infrastructure, and technical capabilities. Key initiatives include extending the Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Scheme till 2036, creating a Maritime Development Fund, and launching Shipbuilding Development Scheme to expand capacity to 4.5 million Gross Tonnage annually.



READ MORE: [INDIA'S SHIPBUILDING AND MARITIME ECOSYSTEM](#)



ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

INDIA ADDS TWO NEW RAMSAR SITES

India has added Gokul Jalashay and Udaipur Jheel to the list of Wetlands of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention. Gokul Jalashay, an oxbow lake, supports over 50 bird species and sustains local livelihoods through fishing, farming, and irrigation. Udaipur Jheel, bordered by the Udaipur Wildlife Sanctuary, hosts over 280 plant species and serves as a key wintering site for migratory birds, including the vulnerable common pochard.

READ MORE: [INDIA-RAMSAR SITES](#)



INDIA'S COLD DESERT BIOSPHERE RESERVE IN HIMACHAL PRADESH INCLUDED IN UNESCO'S WORLD NETWORK OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES



During the 37th Session of UNESCO's International Coordinating Council - Man and the Biosphere - held on 27 September 2025, India's Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve, Himachal Pradesh, has been included in the World Network of Biosphere Reserves. India now has 13 Biospheres listed in UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves, which reflects the commitment towards biodiversity conservation and community-led sustainable development

READ MORE: [INDIA-UNESCO'S WORLD NETWORK OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES](#)

DID YOU KNOW?



Formal diplomatic relations between India and Türkiye were established in 1948, shortly after India's independence, with ambassadors exchanged between the two countries. High-level political contacts soon followed: Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's visit to Türkiye in 1960 was the first ever by an Indian head of government, while Vice President Dr. Zakir Hussain further strengthened the relationship with his visit in 1965.

A crucial turning point, however, came in April 1986, when Prime Minister Turgut Özal became the first Turkish Prime Minister to visit independent India. Often cited the "Architect of Türkiye's Economic Transformation," Özal's landmark visit, described by then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi as a "new chapter" in bilateral relations, signaled a renewed commitment to deepening ties across political, economic, and cultural spheres. At a banquet held in Özal's honour on 9 April 1986, Rajiv Gandhi highlighted the shared values that unite the two nations: secular governance, democratic traditions, and the struggle against imperialism. He praised Türkiye's rapid modernization under Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, whose vision of separating religion from politics resonated strongly in India's own nation-building journey. Both leaders pledged closer cooperation in trade, industry, and technology.

More than a diplomatic engagement, Özal's visit symbolized a "reunion" of two ancient civilizations, both rising from their historical legacies to embrace modernity with shared aspirations. As Rajiv Gandhi remarked, the visit "augured an intensification of our bilateral relationship."

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