

3 years of National Logistics Policy (NLP) 2022

The NLP envisions a **technologically enabled, integrated, cost-efficient, resilient, sustainable, and trusted logistics ecosystem** for accelerated and inclusive growth.

- The Policy is implemented through a **Comprehensive Logistics Action Plan (CLAP)**.
- India's **logistics sector contributes 13-14% to the GDP and employs over 22 million people**, with projections to add 1 crore jobs by 2027.

Key Targets under the Policy

- **Reducing logistics costs** to global benchmarks by 2030.
- **Improving India's Logistics Performance Index (LPI) ranking** to the top 25 by 2030.

Achievements in Logistics

- The **Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP)** has facilitated over **160 crore digital transactions**, enhancing real-time visibility across **101 Inland Container Depots (ICDs)**.
- The **Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) index** contributed to India's rise to the **38th position** in the World Bank's LPI.
- Over **65,000 professionals** have been trained, and more than **100 universities** now offer logistics-related courses.

Key Initiatives by the Government

The government is leveraging the **PM GatiShakti National Master Plan** to integrate infrastructure development.

Key initiatives include

- Developing **Multi-Modal Logistics Parks (MMLPs)** at 35 strategic sites to enhance multimodal transport.
- Introducing the **Sectoral Policy for Efficient Logistics (SPEL)** for tailored industry-specific frameworks.
- Promoting **green logistics** through tools like the **Transportation Emissions Measurement Tool (TEMT)**.

Ministry of Home Affairs Released Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) Annual Report 2024

NCB is the **National Nodal Agency** established in 1986 under the **Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985**, to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking of NDPS.

- It is **headquartered in New Delhi** and is under the administrative control of **Ministry of Home Affairs**.

Drug Trafficking Scenario in India

- **India's Vulnerable Location:** Between **Death Crescent** (Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran) and **Death Triangle** (Myanmar, Thailand, Laos)-two major global drug-producing regions.

- ⊕ While **Punjab, Rajasthan and Jammu & Kashmir** are vulnerable to **heroin smuggling from Pakistan**, the north-eastern states are affected by proximity to Myanmar.

- **Coastal Routes:** Mumbai, Gujarat, Kerala, Tamil Nadu are now increasingly being exploited for smuggling of synthetic drugs and precursors.

Emerging Trends:

- ⊕ **Shift towards synthetic drugs** like Methamphetamine, LSD, Mephedrone, etc.
- ⊕ **Secrete laboratories** in hotspots of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab, North-Eastern States, etc.
- ⊕ **Emergence of darknet markets and cryptocurrency-based transactions** providing anonymity and global accessibility,
- ⊕ **Maritime Drug Trafficking** through ports like Chabahar, Gwadar, Karachi, etc.
- ⊕ **Use of drones** for narcotics smuggling through India Pakistan Border.

- **India's Initiatives:** Prevention of Illicit Traffic in NDPS Act, 1988, National Narcotics Coordination Portal (NCORD), National Integrated Database on Arrested Narco Offenders (NIDAAN), MANAS National Narcotics Helpline, Drug-Free India Campaign, etc.

Suggested Steps for Dismantling Drug Trafficking Networks

- Every state should develop a **high-level strategy targeting all three types of cartels:** Those operating at entry points, those distributing to states, and those selling narcotics in smaller areas.
- **Need for a joint mechanism** involving NCB, CBI, and state police to bring back foreign criminals and fugitives involved in drug trafficking.
- Every state should form a **special squad** for the following: Financial trail, tracking hawala links, monitoring crypto transactions, and conducting cyber checks **through emerging technologies**.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) reported a conviction rate of over 94% in PMLA in 53 cases heard

The ED has also helped return over ₹34,000 crore to victims.

Significance of High Conviction and Recovery Rates

- Shows the **effectiveness** of the PMLA and the ED's investigative processes.
- Highlights the ED's **crucial role** in not just punishing criminals but also in compensating victims.

Challenges facing the ED

- The conviction rate is based on a **small number of completed cases**, raising questions about the efficiency of addressing the larger backlog.
- The agency faces **legal and procedural conflicts** with the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code.
- Challenge of tackling **technologically advanced crimes like cyber-fraud and online betting**.

About ED (HQ: Delhi)

- Genesis: 1956.**
- Parent Body:** Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.
- Key Laws Enforced:**
 - The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA):** A criminal law to prevent money laundering and confiscate property derived from crime.
 - The Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA):** A civil law dealing with violations of foreign exchange regulations.
 - The Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 (FEOA):** This law was enacted to deter economic offenders from evading the process of Indian law by remaining outside the jurisdiction of Indian courts.
- Powers:** Searches and seizures, summon any person, arrest and prosecute, etc.

World Intellectual Property Organisation Released the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2025

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

- Launched in 2007**, GII is recognized by the **UN General Assembly** as an authoritative reference for **Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)** policies.

Key Highlights of GII 2025

- India's Rise:** India's rank rises to 38th position, a big leap from 81st in 2015.
 - India along with Vietnam is the longest-standing overperformer**, performing above expectation for their level of development for 15th year.
- Most Innovative Economies:** 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).

India's Initiatives for Improving Innovation

- Startup India Program:** Provides handholding support for startups, funding through Fund of Funds, credit guarantee, tax exemptions, etc.
- Atal Innovation Mission:** Develop new programmes and policies for fostering innovation in different economic sectors.
- National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI):** Umbrella programme for nurturing ideas into successful startups.
- Other:** Accelerating Growth of New India's Innovations (AGNI) Mission, NITI Frontier Tech Repository, Prime Minister's Research Fellowship Scheme, etc.

India's Innovation Landscape



Knowledge and Technology Outputs

- International patent filings: ↑22.2% (2023–2024)
- Scientific publications: ↑7.7% short-term, 7.3% long-term



Creative Outputs

- Improved from 49th (2023) → 43rd (2024) → 42nd (2025)
- Strong cultural & creative services exports (13th globally)



India's Innovation Edge

- ICT Services Exports: 1st globally
- Domestic Market Scale: 3rd globally
- Venture Capital Ecosystem: 4th in late-stage VC deals
- Unicorn Valuation: 11th globally
- Intangible Asset Intensity: 8th globally
- Innovation Efficiency: High output-to-input ratio

World Health Organization (WHO) releases updated 24th Model List of Essential Medicines (EML)

The WHO Model Lists of Essential Medicines are updated every two years by the Expert Committee on Selection and Use of Essential Medicines.

New Additions to EML

- **Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonists** for Type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease or chronic kidney disease and obesity.
- **Rapid-acting insulin analogues:** Type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

Significance: Reduce high cost of these drug and out of pocket expenditure ultimately increasing access to such drugs.

About Diabetes and Obesity

- **Diabetes** occurs either **when the pancreas does not produce enough insulin** or when the body **cannot effectively use** the insulin it produces.
 - ⊕ **Global:** Over 800 million people (2022), projected to exceed 1.3 billion (2050).
 - ⊕ **India:** 77 million people above the age of 18 years- **Diabetes (type 2)** and nearly 25 million are **prediabetics**.
- **Obesity** is defined by **excessive fat deposits** leading to increased risk of **type 2 diabetes, heart disease, etc.**
 - ⊕ **Global:** More than doubling since 1990, it now affects more than 1 billion.
 - ⊕ **India:** 24% of Indian women and 23% of Indian men are **obese**. (National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5 (2019-21)).



India's Initiatives

- **National Programme for Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NP-NCD).**
- **National List of Essential Medicines:** Ensure accessibility of affordable quality medicines at all levels of healthcare.
- **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP):** Provision of Generic Medicines.
- **Fit India Movement:** Promoting active lifestyles and encourages individuals for fitness.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Ozone Bulletin shows recovery of ozone layer

WMO Bulletin was issued for **World Ozone Day**, celebrated on 16th September every year, and the **40th anniversary of the Vienna Convention**.

- Ozone layer is expected to recover to 1980 values (before the appearance of the ozone hole) by **around 2066 over the Antarctic**, by **2045 over the Arctic** and by **2040 for the rest of the world**.

About Ozone Layer

- Ozone layer sits in the **stratosphere** between **15 km and 30 km above the earth** and shields us from the Sun's harmful ultraviolet radiations.
- **Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS):** ODS release chlorine or bromine which destroy ozone molecules.
 - ⊕ **ODS that release chlorine** include Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), Carbon Tetrachloride (CTC), and Methyl Chloroform while that **release bromine** include halons and methyl bromide.
- **Depletion of Stratospheric Ozone** is more pronounced in the Southern Hemisphere (Antarctica) than in Northern Hemisphere (Arctic).

Vienna Convention 1985

- It was the first global treaty **recognizing stratospheric ozone depletion as a problem** and established the framework for **International Cooperation on Ozone**.
- It paved the way for **Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer**, adopted in 1987.
 - ⊕ Montreal Protocol has led to the **phase-out of over 99% of the production and consumption of controlled ODS**.
- **Kigali Amendment to Montreal Protocol** was adopted in 2016 for phase-down of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), a greenhouse gas used as a substitute for ODS.

India's Achievements under Montreal Protocol

- **Early ODS Phase-Out:** Phased out CFCs, CTC, and halons for controlled use by 2010.
- **Policy Framework:** Enacted Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) (Regulation and Control) Rules in 2000, banning CFCs and halons in new equipment by 2003.
- **HCFC Phase-out:** Achieved **67.5% reduction in HCFC production & consumption** and complete phase out of **HCFC-141b (2020)**.

Also In News



IEA Report on Oil and Gas

The **Implications of Oil and Gas Field Decline Rates Report** was released by The International Energy Agency (IEA).

Key Findings of Report

- **Faster Decline Rates:** Global oil and gas fields are depleting faster, especially shale and deep offshore resources, increasing supply and price risks.
- **India's Vulnerability:** Relies on **85% of crude and 45% of natural gas imports**, making it highly exposed to global supply disruptions.
- **Policy Implications for India:** Diversify import sources, expand strategic reserves, accelerate domestic exploration and promote cleaner alternatives like **green hydrogen and biofuels**.



Moran Community

Morans have begun an **economic blockade** in **Assam's Tinsukia** as community demands for **ST status**.

About Moran community

- **Origins and History:** An indigenous tribe of Assam, believed to be one of the region's aboriginal groups. They are **also known for leading the Moamoria Rebellion** in the 18th century **against the Ahom monarchy**.
- **Cultural Identity:** Spoke their own language, closely related to the **Dimasa language**, but today predominantly speak Assamese.
- **Location:** Upper Assam, particularly in Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, and Sivasagar.



Rabi Crops

Union Government set the national target for food grain production at 362.50 million tonnes for the 2025-26 Rabi season.

About Rabi Crops

- **Sown in winter** (October–December) after the monsoon ends and **harvested** in spring (March–April).
- **Requirement:** Cooler temperatures for germination and warm, dry conditions for harvesting.
- **Mandated rabi crops** covered under the **Minimum Support Price (MSP)** in India include **Wheat, Barley, Gram (Chana), Lentil (Masur), Rapeseed & Mustard, and Safflower**.
 - ⊕ Other Rabi crops include maize, chickpea, commercial crops like cumin, coriander, fenugreek, etc.



Kuno National Park

A cheetah has died after 'clash with leopard' at KNP, first since cheetahs were brought from Namibia in 2022.

About KNP

- Named after **Kuno River**, a tributary of Chambal river, which is tributary of Yamuna river.
- **Location:** Sheopur District, Vindhyan Hills, Madhya Pradesh.
- **Status:** Wildlife Sanctuary, National park.
- **Famous For:** Reintroduction of **Asiatic Lions, Cheetahs**.
- **Flora:** Kardhai, Salai, Khair trees, etc.
- **Fauna:** Indian Leopard, Sambar, Barking Deer, Chousingha, Nilgai, Black Buck, etc.



SPIN90 Protein

Scientists discovered the **key role of SPIN90 protein** in cell's ability to **change their shape**.

- Cells adapt their internal skeletons to **form protrusions** structures that **help combat pathogens** and play a key role in processes such as **wound healing, immune response and cancer progression**.
 - ⊕ A cell's shape is determined by a **dense, branched network of actin** near its membrane and when a cell needs to form a protrusion, it must generate a **fresh meshwork of actin that pushes in desired direction**.
 - ⊕ **Formation of this new actin mesh is regulated** through SPIN90 protein.



International Labour Organisation (ILO)

Indian Government has signed **MoU with ILO** to promote the **International Reference Classification of Occupations (ISCO)**.

- **ISCO** is a **statistical system** that **classifies jobs** into **well-defined groups** based on the tasks and duties performed.
 - ⊕ It is **useful for research** as well as for **specific decision-making**.

About ILO

- **Established:** In **1919** by the **Treaty of Versailles** that ended the First World War.
- **Based On:** The principle that **social justice** is essential for achieving lasting and universal peace.
- **Nobel Peace Prize to ILO:** 1969.
- **Mission:**
 - ⊕ **Strengthen Cooperation:** Among governments, employers, and workers through dialogue.
 - ⊕ Set and promote standards (**Rights at work**), expand **opportunities for both women and men** and **social security** for all.
- **Headquarter:** Geneva, Switzerland.



Chhath Mahaparva

Ministry of Culture held consultations for **multinational nomination of Chhath Mahaparva to UNESCO's representative list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity**.

- India currently has **15 elements on this list** including Yoga, Garba, Durga Puja, Chhau Dance, etc.

About Chhath Mahaparva

- **Dedicated To:** Sun God and Goddess Chhathi Maiya.
- **Celebrated In:** Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and across Indian diaspora communities in Mauritius, Fiji, Suriname, UAE and Netherlands.
- Festival promotes **reverence for nature**, sustainability, inclusivity, and community spirit.



Speed Skating World Championship 2025

Prime Minister congratulates **Anandkumar Velkumar** for winning **Gold** in the Speed Skating World Championships 2025 and becoming **India's first world champion in skating**.

- Speed Skating World Championship 2025 was held in **Beidaihe, China**.
- Another Indian Skater **Krish Sharma** secured a **Gold medal** in the **Junior Men's 1000m sprint**.

Place in News



Denmark (Capital: Copenhagen)

India and Denmark reaffirm Green Strategic Partnership, which expand economic relations and green growth, create jobs, and contribute to the **implementation of the Paris Agreement**.

Political Features

- **Nordic and Scandinavian country of northern Europe**, part of Jutland Peninsula and a **Member of European Union**.
- **Territorial Boundary:** Germany.
- **Surrounding Water Bodies:** North Sea (West), Baltic Sea (East).
- Denmark oversees **two overseas territories** – **Greenland** (world's largest island), and **Faroe Islands**.

Geographical Features

- **Islands:** Denmark is an archipelago of around 400 islands with the biggest island being Zealand.
- **Longest River:** Gudenå.
- **Climate:** Warm Gulf Stream (North Atlantic Current) moderates the climate and rain falls throughout the year.



AHMEDABAD



BENGALURU



BHOPAL



CHANDIGARH



DELHI



GUWAHATI



HYDERABAD



JAIPUR



JODHPUR



LUCKNOW



PRAYAGRAJ



PUNE



RANCHI