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INDIA ELECTRIC MOBILITY INDEX



- It is a composite Index, which assesses the policy framework and implementation outcomes for e-mobility at the state-level.
- It is developed by the NITI Aayog in collaboration with WRI India.
- It evaluates and scores all Indian States and UTs out of **100 across 16 indicators** under **three-core themes**:
 - **Transport Electrification Progress** to capture demand-side adoption
 - **Charging Infrastructure Readiness** to track allied charging infrastructure development
 - **EV Research and Innovation Status**: Covers supply-side ecosystem R&D efforts.
- **Based on the score**, each State or UT was classified into one of the following classes:
 - **Top Performers**: score ≥ 65
 - **Frontrunners**: score of 50–64
 - **Emerging Performers**: score of 35–49
 - **Aspirants**: score < 35

Highlights of the India Electric Mobility Index 2025:

- According to the index, the composite scores on performance across all 36 States and Union Territories (UTs) ranges from 10 to 84, and a median score of 40.
- **Delhi** bagged the highest score of 84, followed by **Maharashtra (78)**, **Karnataka (73)**, **Chandigarh (71)**, and **Goa (65)**.
- The index shows that **eight large states** — Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh — **have qualified as frontrunners**.

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- The other seven large states such as Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Bihar, Kerala, Jharkhand, Punjab, and Gujarat were emerging performers with a score of 35-49.
- **Delhi, Chandigarh, and Maharashtra** were the only UTs and states to qualify as top performers in **transport electrification progress**.
- In the **Charging Infrastructure Readiness** (30% weightage), **Karnataka** recorded the highest score nationwide at 97, Goa (92) and Maharashtra (91).
- **Delhi** also achieved the top score of 94 in the **EV Research and Innovation Status** (20% weightage) category.

INDIAN COUNCIL OF WORLD AFFAIRS



Recently, the Vice-President of India addressed the 25th Anniversary celebrations of Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) at New Delhi.

- **Origin:** It was **established in 1943** by a group of Indian intellectuals as a think tank.
 - It was registered as a **non-official, non-political and non-profit organisation** under the **Registration of Societies Act 1860**.
 - By an **Act of Parliament in 2001**, the Indian Council of World Affairs has been declared an **institution of national importance**.
 - It was established by a group of eminent intellectuals led by **Sir T.B. Sapru and Dr. H.N. Kunzru** to create an Indian perspective on international relations and foreign policy issues.
- The **Vice President of India** is the **ex-officio President of ICWA**.
- It is **funded by the Ministry of External Affairs** and enjoys full autonomy.

Functions: It is devoted exclusively for the **study of international relations and foreign affairs**.

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DADASAHEB PHALKE AWARD



Dadasaheb Phalke Award for 2026.

Legendary actor Anant Nag, known for his impressive work in Hindi and Kannada cinema will be honoured with the Dadasaheb

- It is given by the Indian government for **lifetime contribution to Indian cinema**.
- It was **instituted in 1969** the birth centenary year of Dadasaheb Phalke.
- It is the **highest award in the field of cinema** in India.
- It was introduced by the Government of India **to commemorate Dadasaheb Phalke's contribution to Indian cinema**.
- The award's **inaugural recipient was Devika Rani**, aptly titled "the first lady of Indian cinema".
- The recipients are recognized for their 'outstanding contribution to the growth and development of Indian cinema'.
- **Award includes:** The award comprises a **Swarna Kamal** (Golden Lotus) medallion, a shawl, and a **cash prize of ₹10 lakh**.
- It is **presented by the President of India**.

Mohanlal (Malayalam) received the award for 2025, Mithun Chakraborty (Hindi) for 2024, Rekha (Hindi) for 2023, Asha Parekh (Hindi) for 2022, and Rajinikanth (Tamil) for 2021.

These recipients were honored at the National Film Awards ceremonies for their lifetime contributions to Indian cinema. The awards are presented by the Directorate of Film Festivals under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Key Facts about Dhundiraj Govind Phalke

- He was born on **April 30, 1870**, in Trimbak, Maharashtra.
- He was a film director who is considered the **father of Indian cinema**.
- He directed **India's first full-length feature film, Raja Harishchandra in 1913**.

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WHAT INDIA'S GROWTH REALLY MEANS?

- India's real GDP grew 7.8 per cent in April–June 2026, exceeding the RBI's forecast of 7 per cent despite the West Asian conflict, high energy prices and uncertain global trade.

A Sustained Growth Trajectory

- The latest quarter continues a strong run:
 - 2023-24: 7.2 per cent
 - 2024-25: 7.1 per cent
 - 2025-26: 7.7 per cent
 - April–June 2026: 7.8 per cent
- Real GDP**, the value of goods and services after adjusting for inflation, rose to **Rs 81.36 lakh crore**.
- Real Gross Value Added (GVA)**, the value added by farms, factories and services before product taxes and subsidies, grew 8.2 per cent to **Rs 73.82 lakh crore**.

Broad-Based Production Growth

- Growth is spread across sectors, with a few identifiable weak spots:

Manufacturing: 9.2 per cent;

Utilities: 8.9 per cent;

Construction: 7.7 per cent;

Secondary sector overall: 8.6 per cent;

Services: 10 per cent, led by finance, real estate, IT and professional services at 12.1 per cent;

Agriculture: 3.6 per cent;

Mining: contracted 2.4 per cent.

Strong Demand Indicators

- Demand-side data reinforces the picture:
 - Gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) grew 11.9 per cent
 - Private consumption grew 7.1 per cent
 - Real exports grew 12 per cent

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India Among the Fastest-Growing Major Economies

- **Malaysia:** 6 per cent
- **Singapore:** 5.9 per cent
- **Indonesia:** 5.29 per cent
- **China:** 4.3 per cent

Employment: The Decisive Test

- India added **17.19 crore jobs** between 2014-15 and 2023-24, according to RBI KLEMS-based data.
- The next employment revolution must focus on job quality through productivity, wages, formalisation, social security and skilling.
- **Women's labour force participation** reached **41.7 per cent** in 2023-24.
- Bringing more women into productive employment requires safe transport, affordable childcare, flexible work, and access to credit and markets.

The Agenda for the Next Phase

- **Manufacturing** must move from assembly to design, components, machinery, electronics and clean technology.
- **Services** must spread beyond metros into tourism, health, education, logistics, finance and Indian-language digital businesses.
- **AI preparedness** must move from adoption to original capability through domestic compute, Indian-language data, research talent and trusted applications.
- **Free Trade Agreements** must be properly used. An FTA utilisation mission should guide firms on tariff rules and markets.
- **MSMEs** need hand-holding on non-tariff barriers through shared testing, affordable certification, standards, customs support and buyer discovery.

Conclusion

- The 7.8 per cent quarter warrants confidence, not complacency.
- India must convert public capital expenditure into private investment, job numbers into quality employment, and FTAs into opportunities for MSMEs.

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BLUE REVOLUTION - UNLOCKING INDIA'S MARITIME POTENTIAL FOR INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

- India's development experience has witnessed major transformations -
 - Green revolution:** Addressed food shortages and strengthened India's contribution to global food security. India is now among the leading producers of rice, wheat, pulses and millets.
 - White revolution:** Eliminated chronic milk shortages and dependence on dairy imports, making India the world's largest milk producer.
 - Blue revolution:** The fisheries and aquaculture sector represents the next major opportunity for food security, nutrition, employment and exports.

The **blue economy** broadly refers to the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and employment while preserving marine ecosystem health.

India's Untapped Maritime Potential:

- India has **over 11,000 km of coastline**; an EEZ of nearly 24 lakh sq km; and a rich maritime heritage and substantial marine biodiversity.
- Despite this potential, fishing historically remained concentrated close to the coastline.
- The deep waters of the EEZ and high seas offer opportunities for **sustainable harvesting** of high-value species such as tuna. The creation of the **Ministry** of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying in **2019** gave dedicated institutional attention to fisheries.
- The sector has subsequently emerged as a **sunrise sector**. India is now the 2nd-largest fish-producing country, contributing around 8% of global fish production.
- Fisheries and aquaculture **support the livelihoods** of nearly 3 crore fishers and fish farmers, while fish production exceeded 195 lakh tonnes in 2024-25.

Lakshadweep - A Strategic Maritime Asset:

- Lakshadweep illustrates India's enormous maritime potential.
- Lakshadweep accounts for nearly **one-sixth** of India's **EEZ**, highlighting the strategic and economic significance of India's island territories.

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- Despite having a land area of only around 32 sq km, it possesses nearly **145 km coastline**; lagoon area of about 4,200 sq km; territorial waters exceeding 20,000 sq km; and EEZ of about 4 lakh sq km.

Way Forward:

- For India's Blue Economy to become genuinely inclusive, the focus should extend from merely increasing fish production to developing a complete marine value chain.
- This requires -
 - **Modern technology:** GPS, satellite monitoring, deep-sea fishing technology and digital traceability.
 - **Access to finance:** Affordable credit and insurance for small fishers and cooperatives.
 - **Cold-chain infrastructure:** Reducing post-harvest losses and improving export quality.
 - **Skill development:** Training youth in modern fisheries, navigation, processing and marine technologies.
 - **Women-led value addition:** Greater participation in processing, packaging and marketing.
 - **Marine conservation:** Science-based catch limits, sustainable fishing practices and stronger action against IUU fishing.
 - **Cooperative approach:** Strengthening fisheries cooperatives and FFPOs so that local communities capture a larger share of value.

Conclusion:

- The Blue Revolution can become an important pillar of Viksit Bharat @ 2047 by combining economic opportunity with ecological responsibility.
- Therefore, fishing must not merely remain an inherited occupation but as a modern, technology-driven and globally connected profession balancing the '**triple bottom line**' of economic viability, social equity and ecological sustainability.

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GALLIUM NITRIDE MONOLITHIC MICROWAVE INTEGRATED CIRCUIT TECHNOLOGY



Recently, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully demonstrated and implemented indigenous Gallium Nitride Monolithic Microwave Integrated Circuit (GaN MMIC) Technology.

- It is a **tiny, super-powerful computer chip** built on a special chemical material that handles extremely high-frequency wireless signals without melting.
- It's an **all-in-one chip that combines tiny parts** like transistors, resistors, and capacitors—onto a single piece of material to manage invisible wireless waves (microwaves).
- It is designed for applications up to the **X-band frequency range**.
- **Origin:** DRDO developed the **GaN MMIC technology in 2024** and helped India quietly entered an elite club of seven countries: US, Russia, France, Germany, South Korea and China.

Why is GaN important?

- It is a material with **exceptional thermal and electrical properties**, making it critical for advanced defence applications such as **sensors, radars, satellites, and missiles**.
- A single indigenous GaN chip, measuring 3.5 x 3 mm can **deliver up to 30 watts of power** and operate at **speeds 300 times faster than silicon**.
- Gallium Nitride (GaN) is considered one of the most important semiconductor technologies for modern defence systems.
- **It offers:** Higher power output, Better energy efficiency, Faster signal processing, Reduced size and weight, Improved thermal performance, Greater reliability in harsh environments.

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CHANGTHANG WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



- It is located in the **Ladakhi Changthang plateau** in the **Leh district of Jammu and Kashmir**.
- It is home to the **highest altitude water lakes**, namely, **Tso Moriri, Pangong Tso, and Tso Kar**.
- The Changthang region is inhabited by **nomadic pastoral communities**, primarily the **Changpa tribe**, who lead a traditional way of life herding yaks, goats, and sheep across the vast grasslands.
- This region is steeped in **Tibetan Buddhist culture and heritage**.
- It includes **one of the world's highest villages, Korzok Village**, which attracts tourists to the **Korzok Monastery**.

Flora: It is home to many species of wild plants that grow in the higher pastures and are food for the animals inside the sanctuary.

Fauna:

- The major attraction of this place is the **Snow Leopard**.
- Along with that, it is one of the few places in India which is the abode of the **Kiang, or Tibetan wild ass**, along with the **dark-necked crane**.
- It also houses a huge variety of animal species, which include the **Tibetan Wolf, Wild Yak, Bharal, Brown Bear, Tibetan Argali, Tibetan Gazelle, and the Marmot**.
- It also serves as the habitat for numerous species of avifauna, including **Brahminy Ducks and Brown Headed Gulls, etc.**