



20.09.2026 NEWS

INDIA'S FIRST DISTRICT-LEVEL EMPLOYMENT DATA

- The National Statistical Office (NSO) has released the country's first district-level labour market (employment) data.
- For the first time, employment-related indicators such as the Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR), Unemployment Rate, and the proportion of young people who are not in employment, education or training have been released at the district level.
- Accordingly, Surat in Gujarat recorded the highest Labour Force Participation Rate and Worker Population Ratio, at 68.6% and 67.8% respectively.
- It was followed by Araria in Bihar and Salem in Tamil Nadu.

» Women's Participation in Employment

- The data show considerable differences among districts in the participation of women in employment.
- Hamirpur in Himachal Pradesh recorded the highest female labour force participation rate of 80.9%.
- This was followed by : Mayurbhanj, Odisha – 71.8%, Budgam, Jammu and Kashmir – 71.4%, Surguja, Chhattisgarh – 69%.
- Overall, 57.8% of districts recorded a female labour force participation rate of 40% or above.

» Unemployment Rate

- Around 43.1% of districts recorded an unemployment rate between 0.5% and 3%.
- Another 34.7% of districts recorded unemployment between 3% and 5.5%.
- Only 14.9% of districts recorded an unemployment rate of more than 5.5%.
- South 24 Parganas in West Bengal and Araria in Bihar recorded one of the lowest unemployment rates, at 0.9%.
- Similarly, the proportion of young people aged 15–29 years who are not in employment, education or training was below 30% in about 76.2% of districts.
- Ernakulam in Kerala recorded the lowest rate at 9.6%
- It was followed by: Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu – 14.5%, Bengaluru Urban – 15%

INDIA PROVIDING SOLUTIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

- In 2015, an international environmental conference was held in Paris, the capital of France.
- At the conference, commitments were made to implement 21 measures to protect the environment.

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- Among the G20 countries, India is stated to be the only country to have successfully implemented all these 21 measures.
- Around 12 years ago, India's solar power generation capacity was about 2 GW. It has now increased to around 160 GW.
- The International Solar Alliance was launched at India's initiative.
- To encourage the generation of solar electricity in households across the country, the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana is being implemented.
- India's first hydrogen-powered train service has also recently been launched.
- Forest cover across the country is gradually being increased.
- Around 70,000 new ponds and lakes have been created in various states.
- Drip irrigation schemes are also being implemented in agriculture.
- Through the campaign "Plant a Tree in Mother's Name", crores of saplings have been planted across the country.
- Plastic waste is being recycled. Biogas is being produced using cattle dung and vegetable waste.
- India has made significant progress in the field of environmental protection.

STRENGTHENING OF U.S. MILITARY INFRASTRUCTURE IN GREENLAND

- U.S. President Donald Trump announced that an important agreement had been reached with the Danish government to further strengthen the United States' military infrastructure in Greenland, which is located in the Arctic region.
- The agreement is said to fully recognise the autonomy and territorial sovereignty of Denmark and Greenland.
- The Prime Minister stated that the interests of all parties concerned had been protected under the agreement.
- However, for the agreement to come into legal effect, it requires the approval of the parliaments of Denmark and Greenland.
- Greenland lies off the north-eastern coast of Canada, and a large part of it is located within the Arctic Circle.
- Therefore, since the Second World War, Greenland has been considered strategically important for the defence of North America.
- Since assuming office as President for a second term, Donald Trump had repeatedly urged Denmark to allow Greenland to be sold to the United States.
- Although Denmark is an allied country, Trump's statements that the United States would not hesitate to use military force if necessary created considerable concern internationally, particularly among European countries.
- Both Denmark and Greenland had repeatedly and firmly stated that Greenland was not for sale.
- Against this background, the newly announced agreement is viewed as bringing to an end the diplomatic tensions among Western countries over the issue.
- Under the agreement, countries that are not members of NATO are also prohibited from establishing military bases in Greenland and from making certain investments there.