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State Development Monitor

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The Government of India has embarked on a multifaceted approach to drive economic growth and development, as evidenced by recent initiatives and agreements across various sectors. Internationally, the signing of trade pacts like the India-European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Agreement and establishment of bilateral mechanisms with countries such as the Dominican Republic signal India's commitment to expanding global trade relations. Domestically, strategic investments in infrastructure, exemplified by projects like the collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to enhance urban services in Ahmedabad and the expansion of National Highways in Jammu and Kashmir, underscore the government's emphasis on connectivity and sustainable development. These efforts are complemented by initiatives in agriculture, such as facilitating exports through the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and promoting technology adoption through collaborations with institutions like the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Together, these endeavors reflect a holistic approach towards building a robust and inclusive economy for India's future growth and prosperity.

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1. Economic Development

- 1.1 Government of India, ADB sign \$181 million loan to improve liability and mobility in Ahmedabad:** The project will benefit urban poor, women, and migrant workers through improved urban services and urban governance. It will construct 166 km of water distribution network, 126 km of climate-resilient stormwater drainage, 300 km of sewerage systems, and four sewage treatment plants. The project is also supporting 10 junction improvements along the existing Sardar Patel Ring Road to improve connectivity of peri-urban areas to Ahmedabad city.
- 1.2 ₹1,68,337 crore gross GST revenue collected during February 2024; records Year-on-Year (Y-o-Y) growth of 12.5%:** Gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue collected for February 2024 is ₹1,68,337 crore, marking a robust 12.5% increase compared to that in the same month in 2023. This growth was driven by a 13.9% rise in GST from domestic transactions and 8.5% increase in GST from import of goods. GST revenue net of refunds for February 2024 is ₹1.51 lakh crore which is a growth of 13.6% over that for the same period last year.
- 1.3 APEDA facilitates exposure visit of Farmer Producer Organizations to UAE; aim to unlock region's vast agricultural and food product export opportunities:** Through targeted capacity-building programs and international buyer-seller meets, APEDA has empowered FPOs and exporters, enabling them to tap into global markets and showcase the region's diverse agricultural products. The success stories of agricultural exports, ranging from fresh fruits and vegetables to rice, demonstrate the region's ability to meet global demand and establish itself as a key player in the agricultural export market.
- 1.4 India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement:** India-European Free Trade Association signed a Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) today i.e. on 10th March 2024. India has been working on a Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) with EFTA countries comprising Switzerland, Iceland, Norway & Liechtenstein. For the first time in history of FTAs, binding commitment of \$100 bn investment and 1 million direct jobs in the next 15 years has been given. The agreement will give a boost to Make in India and provide opportunities to young & talented workforce. The FTA will provide a window to Indian exporters to access large European and global markets.
- 1.5 India signs protocol for establishment of its first bilateral institutional mechanism with Dominican Republic on trade and commerce:** The agreement, signed in the 25 years of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, is an important step to elevate the existing economic and commercial relations further. The protocol envisages to strengthen and develop cooperation on trade, services, industrial technologies and various other sectors by means of technical assistance, training programmes and capacity building. It will be pivotal in

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mitigating challenges faced by the trade and industry and provide a platform for sharing of knowledge and best practices between the two countries. India primarily imports gold from the Dominican Republic and exports pharmaceuticals, marine products, motor vehicles, two and three wheelers etc. to them.

1.6 Index Numbers of Wholesale Price in India for the Month of February, 2024 (Base Year: 2011-12):

The annual rate of inflation based on all India Wholesale Price Index (WPI) number is 0.20% (Provisional) for the month of February, 2024 (over February, 2023). Positive rate of inflation in February, 2024 is primarily due to increase in prices of food articles, crude petroleum & natural gas, electricity, machinery & equipment and motor vehicles, trailers & semi-trailers etc.

1.7 Government approves E- Vehicle policy to promote India as a manufacturing destination for EVs:

The policy is designed to attract investments in the e-vehicle space by reputed global EV manufacturers. This will provide Indian consumers with access to latest technology, boost the Make in India initiative, strengthen the EV ecosystem by promoting healthy competition among EV players leading to high volume of production, economies of scale, lower cost of production, reduce imports of crude Oil, lower trade deficit, reduce air pollution, particularly in cities, and will have a positive impact on health and environment.

1.8 Monetary policy must remain in risk-minimisation mode: RBI Bulletin:

India's Consumer Price Index inflation was at 5.09% in February, largely unchanged from 5.10% a month ago. The RBI's target for the price gauge is 4%, with a latitude of 2 percentage points in either direction. A recent reduction in cooking gas prices is likely to exert a softening effect on inflation that's also being aided by declining non-food prices, but monetary policy must remain in "risk-minimisation" mode to firmly bring consumer prices back to the legally mandated target.

1.9 Highest monthly merchandise exports, in the current FY so far, recorded in February 2024.

India's merchandise exports in February 2024 stands at USD 41.40 Billion; an increase of 11.86% over USD 37.01 Billion in February 2023: India's overall exports (Merchandise and Services combined) in February 2024 is estimated to be USD 73.55 Billion, exhibiting a positive growth of 14.20 per cent over February 2023. Overall imports in February 2024 is estimated to be USD 75.50 Billion, exhibiting a positive growth of 10.13 per cent over February 2023.

1.10 4th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Startup Forum organized in New Delhi:

The fourth edition of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Startup Forum was organized in March 2024 in New Delhi. The initiative focused on broadening startup interactions among the SCO Member States, fostering an environment conducive to innovation, promoting job creation, and inspiring young talent to develop innovative solutions.

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1.11 Government of India and ADB sign \$23 million loan agreement to strengthen fintech ecosystem

in India: The project's emphasis on market-driven fintech skills programmes, creating enabling environment for private sector investment and enhancing collaboration between industry, skills development institutes and development partners will promote holistic growth of fintech ecosystem in India.

1.12 Gross Direct Tax collections for Financial Year (FY) 2023-24 register a growth of 18.74%:

The provisional figures of Gross collection of Direct Taxes (before adjusting for refunds) for the Financial Year 2023-24 stand at Rs. 22,27,067 crore compared to Rs. 18,75,535 crore in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, showing a growth of 18.74% over the collections of FY 2022-23.

1.13 Government says 5,000 Farmer Producer Organizations onboarded on ONDC:

Around 5,000 FPOs have joined the ONDC portal, accessing market, digital marketing, online payment, business transactions. The central scheme aims to register 10,000 FPOs, improving production, rural economy, and providing job opportunities, financial assistance, credit guarantee facility.

1.14 India's rice output to drop for the first time in 8 years:

Rice production is expected to fall to 123.8 million metric tons in the crop year to June, while wheat production could rise to 112 million tons from 110.6 million tons a year ago. Prolonged export curbs could further inflate food prices given low inventories in other key exporting countries including Thailand, Vietnam, Pakistan and Myanmar.

Annexure

Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2023-24

Sl. No.	State	Amount Approved
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1255
2.	Bihar	9640
3.	Chhattisgarh	3195
4.	Goa	386
5.	Gujarat	3478

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6.	Haryana	1093
7.	Himachal Pradesh	826
8.	Karnataka	3647
9.	Madhya Pradesh	7850
10.	Mizoram	399
11.	Odisha	4528
12.	Rajasthan	6026
13.	Sikkim	388
14.	Tamil Nadu	4079
15.	Telangana	2102
16.	West Bengal	7523

Financial Incentive to States to accelerate Power Sector Reforms

S.No	State	Cumulative Amount of additional borrowing permission for 2021-22 and 2022-23 (Rs in crore)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9,574
2.	Assam	4,359
3.	Himachal Pradesh	251
4.	Kerala	8,323
5.	Manipur	180
6.	Meghalaya	192
7.	Odisha	2,725

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8.	Rajasthan	11,308
9.	Sikkim	361
10.	Tamil Nadu	7,054
11.	Uttar Pradesh	6,823
12.	West Bengal	15,263
Total		66,413

Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2022 Overall Rankings

Rank	State	Category	Score
1	Tamil Nadu	Coastal	80.8
2	Maharashtra	Coastal	78.2
3	Karnataka	Coastal	76.3
4	Gujarat	Coastal	73.2
5	Haryana	Landlocked	63.6
6	Telangana	Landlocked	61.3
7	Uttar Pradesh	Landlocked	61.2
8	Andhra Pradesh	Coastal	59.2
9	Uttarakhand	Himalayan	59.1
10	Punjab	Landlocked	58.9
11	Odisha	Coastal	58.8
12	Madhya Pradesh	Landlocked	55.6
13	Rajasthan	Landlocked	54.8
14	West Bengal	Coastal	53.5
15	Himachal Pradesh	Himalayan	52.2
16	Goa	UT/Small States	51.5
17	Jammu and Kashmir	UT/Small States	47.7
18	Delhi	UT/Small States	47.6
19	Kerala	Coastal	44.0

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20	Jharkhand	Landlocked	43.9
21	Assam	Landlocked	43.1
22	Bihar	Landlocked	41.0
23	Manipur	Himalayan	40.7
24	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	UT/Small States	40.6
25	Chhattisgarh	Landlocked	39.1
26	Tripura	Himalayan	38.3
27	Sikkim	Himalayan	36.8
28	Nagaland	Himalayan	34.6
29	Ladakh	UT/Small States	31.5
30	Chandigarh	UT/Small States	31.2
31	Puducherry	UT/Small States	24.3
32	Meghalaya	Himalayan	24.2
33	Arunachal Pradesh	Himalayan	19.9
34	Dadra Nagar and Haveli & Daman and Diu	UT/Small States	18.7
35	Mizoram	Himalayan	16.9
36	Lakshadweep	UT/Small States	11.3

2. Rural Economy & Agri-Business Developments

2.1 Enrolment under PMFBY increase by 27 % in current year so far: In past 8 Years of implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) – 56.80 crore farmer applications have been enrolled and over 23.22 crore farmer applicants received claims. During this period, nearly Rs. 31,139 crore were paid by farmers as their share of premium against which claims of over Rs. 1,55,977 crore have been paid to them. Thus, for every 100 rupees of premium paid by farmers, they have received about Rs. 500 as claims.

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2.2 Final Estimates of 2022-23 and First Advance Estimates of 2023-24 of Area and Production of Horticultural Crops:

The horticulture production in the country in 2022-23 (Final Estimates) is estimated to be about 355.48 Million Tonnes, an increase of about 8.30 Million Tonnes (2.39%) over 2021-22. An increase in area of 1.41% or 0.40 Million Ha is observed in 2022-23 (Final Estimates) over 2021-22. The horticulture production in the country in 2023-24 (First Advance Estimates) is estimated to be about 355.25 Million Tonnes. An increase in area of 1.15% or 3.27 Lakh Ha is observed in 2023-24 (First Advance Estimates) over 2022-23 (Final Estimates).

2.3 Cabinet approves Minimum Support Price for Raw Jute for 2024-25 Season:

The MSP of Raw Jute (TDN-3 equivalent to earlier TD-5 grade) has been fixed at Rs.5,335/- per quintal for 2024-25 season. This would ensure a return of 64.8 percent over the all India weighted average cost of production.

2.4 Hon'ble Prime Minister Spearheads National Mission to Attain Edible Oil Self-Sufficiency:

India is presently a net importer of edible oil, with 57% of the total edible oil being imported from various countries. The insufficiency in edible oil is negatively impacting our FOREX by 20.56 billion USD, making it more important for the nation to become self-sufficient (Atmanirbhar) in the production of edible oil through the promotion of oilseeds and palm oil.

2.5 ICAR and Krishi Jagran signs a MoU for the dissemination & promotion of ICAR's initiatives for the growth of Indian Agriculture and farmers' welfare:

The MoU will help in the Video production of ICAR Success Stories on social media platforms and promote the success stories of ICAR-developed technologies across India. It will also help in generating Video Bytes of senior officials and Writeups in relevant Krishi Jagran magazine editions on ICAR initiatives.

2.6 MoU signed between Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Dhanuka Agritech Limited:

The whole world is facing the challenges of climate change and India is no stranger to it, in such a time there is a need for both the institutions to work together on a new method of agricultural production which is climate-friendly. The aim of this MoU is to promote natural farming in the changing environment, he added.

2.7 Ministry of Rural Development, GoI signs MoU with the Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited to synergize the livelihood intervention in livestock sector:

As part of the MoU, in initial phase a centralized Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) will be established to support DAY-NRLM at national level and State PMU in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Bihar will be developed. The PMU will comprise specialists from livestock (as per the need in respective state), Market Linkage etc. BFIL will also strengthen the Pashu Sakhis (last mile extension workers at village) developed under DAY-NRLM to provide basic healthcare support to animals.

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2.8 Ministry of Rural Development signs a MoU with J-PAL South Asia to provide technical assistance in the implementation of inclusive development under DAY NRLM: The Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India signed a MoU with Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), South Asia at IFMR. J-PAL, SA@ IFMR will act as a knowledge partner on inclusive development to put rural poor women on the path to self-sufficiency.

2.9 Ministry of Rural Development signs a MoU with IIT Delhi to formalize their partnership in applications of geospatial technology and artificial intelligence: The MoU centers around the project "BhuPRAHARI," an ambitious initiative aimed at leveraging ground and space-based geospatial technologies along with Artificial Intelligence to monitor and manage assets under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). The project is to be executed by the HydroSense lab led by Prof. Manabendra Saharia. This collaboration is a commitment to harnessing the power of technology for the betterment of rural development processes.

2.10 MoRD and Ease My Trip signed MoU to enable Lakhpati Didis in the Travel and Tourism sector: The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) and Easytrip Planners Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding to support Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)'s SHG Didis for livelihoods opportunities in the travel and tourism sector. The MoU will facilitate the SHG Didis, who would be called 'Ticket Wali Didis', to earn their livelihoods in the ever growing travel and tourism sectors and help enable them become Lakhpati Didis.

2.11 APEDA facilitates agriculture exports to new markets, focus on fresh fruits, vegetables, Shree Anna: Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is undertaking various initiatives to promote agricultural exports from India. APEDA's forward-looking strategy involves a paradigm shift towards expanding the export basket with focused initiative on priority products like fresh fruits, vegetables, processed foods and animal products to reduce the reliance on a few products and to move up the value chain. With a focus on expanding into key markets such as Europe, Latin America, and Asia, APEDA aims to forge small partnerships with global supermarkets to showcase its products on an international arena.

3. Tourism Developments

3.1 Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi dedicates and launches 52 tourism sector projects worth more than Rs 1400 crores under Swadesh Darshan and PRASHAD Scheme: With an objective of fostering growth and development of tourism destinations in a responsible and sustainable manner as Jan Bhagidari Initiatives Prime Minister has also launched 3 visionary campaigns and schemes for tourism sector: 'Dekho Apna Desh People's Choice 2024', Chalo India Global Diaspora Campaign, Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD).

4. Business Reform Action plan (BRAP) Implementation

Improving India's regulatory framework for business is a key prerequisite for increasing investment in India and thereby creating jobs. The Government of India has already embarked on an ambitious agenda to improve India's Doing Business rank to fewer than 50 in the forthcoming World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Ranking; however, this effort will only address a small subse of the regulatory burden on investors. It is with this objective that, in December 2014, States agreed to a 98-point action plan to suggest potential reforms that should be undertaken to improve the regulatory framework for business nationwide. More importantly, this assessment allows us to generate a wide base of knowledge on how States have been addressing the task of reducing the regulatory burden on business, and identifying a series of good practices already underway in each State.

BRAP 2020 Rankings

S.No. Categories
Top Achievers
Andhra Pradesh
Gujarat
Haryana
Karnataka
Punjab
Tamil Nadu
Telangana
Achievers
Himachal Pradesh
Madhya Pradesh
Maharashtra
Odisha
Uttarakhand
Uttar Pradesh
Aspirers
Assam
Chhattisgarh
Goa
Jharkhand
Kerala
Rajasthan
West Bengal
Emerging Business Ecosystems
Andaman & Nicobar
Bihar
Chandigarh
Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli

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Delhi
Jammu & Kashmir
Manipur
Meghalaya
Nagaland
Puducherry
Tripura
Haryana
Karnataka
Punjab
Tamil Nadu
Telangana

Source: The rankings have been obtained from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal trade website as of March 2023.

5. Logistics Ease Across Different State (LEADS) 2023

Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) is a unique initiative of Government of India, focused on assessing performance of logistics eco-system across States and Union Territories (UTs). It provides valuable insights to States and UTs about key drivers of logistics performance, which States / UTs can leverage for effective policy and decision making. LEADS initiative focuses on enhancing domestic logistics performance. Combined with various trade facilitation and EXIM logistics related initiatives being implemented, it helps to enhance overall competitiveness of Indian logistics eco-system and global positioning. Improvement in India's LPI rank by six places to 38th position in 2023 is a reflection of the same.

States and UTs based on their Geography were placed into four Groups namely **Coastal Group**, **Landlocked Group**, **North East Group** and **Union Territories Group** to analyse their logistics performance. Performance of States / UTs, in each of these Groups, was measured using combination of objective data and user perception scores (respondents' ratings) for individual indicators under the three pillars of logistics performance i.e., **Quality of Logistics Infrastructure**, **Quality of Logistics Services**, and **Operating & Regulatory Environment**. States / UTs were classified into three performance levels – **Achievers**, **Fast Movers** and **Aspirers**, based on their logistics performance as measured through the LEADS framework.

Logistics Ease Across Different State (LEADS) Performance Snapshot 2023

Groups/ Categories	Achievers	Fast Movers	Aspirers
Coastal	Andhra Pradesh	Kerala,	Goa,

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	Gujarat	Maharashtra	Odisha,
	Karnataka		West Bengal
	Tamil Nadu		
Landlocked	Haryana,	Madhya Pradesh,	Bihar,
	Punjab,	Rajasthan,	Chhattisgarh,
	Telangana,	Uttarakhand	Himachal Pradesh,
	Uttar Pradesh		Jharkhand
North-East	Assam,	Arunachal Pradesh,	Manipur,
	Sikkim,	Nagaland	Meghalaya,
	Tripura		Mizoram
Union Territories	Chandigarh,	Andaman & Nicobar,	Daman & Diu/ Dadra & Nagar Haveli,
	Delhi	Lakshadweep,	Jammu & Kashmir,
		Puducherry	Ladakh

LEADS 2023 Results

Within Coastal Group, Maharashtra has moved from Achievers to Fast Movers while Odisha has moved from Achievers to Aspirers. In Landlocked Group, Uttarakhand has moved from Achievers to Fast Movers and Himachal Pradesh has moved from Achievers to Aspirers. Within North-East Group, Sikkim and Tripura have moved from Fast Movers to Achievers while Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland have moved from Aspirers to Fast Movers. Within Union Territories Group, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep have moved from Aspirers to Fast Movers.

6. Developments in Infrastructure Sector

6.1 Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman virtually launches 7 infra projects worth Rs 1,000 cr: Emphasized on timely construction completion and avoiding delays. Projects included unveiling the plaque for the construction of residential quarters of Income Tax Department officers at Faridabad and Gurugram.

6.2 Road Min sanctions Rs 2,094 cr for widening, strengthening of various NH projects in J&K: The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has approved Rs 2,093.92 crore for various

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National Highway projects in Jammu and Kashmir. This includes funds for widening and strengthening the Rafiabab-Kupwara-Chowkibal-Tangdhar-Chamkot section of National Highway-701 and developing a ropeway from SDA Parking to Shankaracharya Temple. Additionally, Rs 562.40 crore has been sanctioned for upgrading the Nashri-Chennai section of National Highway-244. In Gujarat, Rs 1,532.97 crore has been approved for National Highway upgrades, and Rs 936.26 crore for a four-lane elevated corridor in Jamshedpur, Jharkhand.

6.3 Odisha approves seven key projects with Rs 80,125 cr investment: The Odisha government has approved seven projects with a total investment of Rs 80,125 crore across various sectors, including steel, green energy, pharmaceuticals, and chemicals. These projects, located in districts such as Khurda, Jagatsinghpur, Jharsuguda, Ganjam, and Bhadrak, are expected to create job opportunities for 24,552 people.

6.4 Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launches development projects worth over Rs 19,500 crore in Odisha: Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched development projects worth over Rs 19,600 crore in Odisha's Jajpur district. The projects span various sectors, including Oil & Gas, Railways, Road, Transport & Highways, and Atomic Energy. He highlighted the government's commitment to the development of eastern India and emphasized working for the present and future to achieve a "Viksit Bharat" (developed India).

6.5 Road ministry to undertake real-time monitoring of bridges on national highways via sensors to avoid any mishap: The ministry of road transport and highways will undertake real-time health monitoring of different categories of bridges on national highways using sensors, a move aimed at preventing traffic disruptions and untoward incidents due to failure of bridges.

6.6 Road ministry sanctions Rs 2,675 cr for four-laning of NH 748A in Karnataka: The road ministry has sanctioned Rs 2,675.31 crore for the four-laning of the Belgaum-Hungund-Raichur section of National Highway-748A in Bagalkot and Belgavi districts of Karnataka on the hybrid annuity basis. This initiative spans a total length of 92.40 km.

6.7 Network Planning Group evaluates key infrastructure projects including Multi Modal Logistics Park in Maharashtra: The 67th NPG meeting assessed projects from MoRTH and MoR, including a Multi Modal Logistics Park in Maharashtra and a Broad Gauge line connecting Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. The meeting aimed to promote comprehensive regional socio-economic advancement in alignment with PM GatiShakti principles.

6.8 Road ministry sanctions Rs 1,385.60 cr for 295 road development projects: The road ministry has sanctioned Rs 1,385.60 crore for the enhancement and reinforcement of 295 road development projects, spanning a total length of 2,055.62 km across various districts in Karnataka. This endeavour not only aims to upgrade infrastructure, but also promises to ameliorate connectivity, thereby fostering socio-economic development.

6.9 Indian Railways achieve 1434.03 MT freight loading till February, 2024: On cumulative basis from

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April 2023 - February 2024, freight loading of 1434.01 MT was achieved by Indian railways against last year's loading of 1367.5 MT, an improvement of approximate 66.51 MT over last year's loading for the same period. Railways has earned Rs 155557.1 Crore against Rs 149088.1 Crore over the last year which is an improvement of approx. Rs 6468.17 Crore, as compared to the same period of the last year.

6.10 Railway Protection Force reunited over 521 children under operation "Nanhe faristey" in February 2024:

The Railway Protection Force (RPF) is unwavering in its commitment to safeguard railway property, passenger areas, and the well-being of travelers. In the month of February 2024, RPF continued to ensure the safety, security and comfort of passengers, while also assisting Indian Railways in delivering reliable freight transport services to its customers. 228 "Meri Saheli" teams attended 10,659 trains and provided security assurance to lady passengers. RPF arrested 86 individuals and seized narcotics valued at Rs. 3.41 crores. Under "Amanat" operation, RPF helped in retrieving luggage approximately valued over Rs. 5.69 Crore in February 2024.

6.11 Railway Protection Force has the highest proportion of female personnel -9% compared to other Central Paramilitary Forces in India:

The Railway Protection Force (RPF) is a prime security and Law Enforcement Agency in the field of Railway Security in India. Established in 1957 for better protection and security of Railway property, the Force has evolved to include roles in passenger security and facilitation. Recognizing women as symbols of love, care, strength, and eternity, the RPF currently boasts the largest share of women personnel (9%) among Central Paramilitary Forces in India. Specially trained to ensure safety and provide assistance to female passengers in distress, they create a secure environment for travelers.

6.12 Indian Railways on its track to record best ever performance in Freight Business, Total Revenue, Track laying in FY 2023-24:

Indian Railways crossed the mark of 1500 Million Tonnes in Freight Loading. Total Revenue of Indian Railways so far is Rs 2.40 Lakh Crores. Indian Railways achieve Track laying of 5100 Kms during current FY 2023-24. Total passengers traveled during FY 2023-24 stands at 648 Crores, an increment of 52 Crores when compared to the figures of the same period of last year. Last year, the total number of passengers traveled was 596 Crores.

6.13 Railway Protection Force and National Commission for Women Unite Against Human Trafficking:

The National Commission for Women and the Railway Protection Force came together to announce a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at strengthening efforts to combat human trafficking across India. The MOU was signed by NCW Joint Secretary A Asholi Chalai and RPF Inspector General Sarvapriya Mayank. It underscores the commitment of both organizations to tackle the grave issue of human trafficking, especially within the extensive network of Indian Railways. The initiative comes as a response to the alarming statistics revealing that 70% of trafficked victims are women, highlighting the urgent need for concerted action to protect the most vulnerable in society.

7. Developments in Health and Education Sector

- 7.1 Union Health Ministry launches National Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Snakebite Envenoming in India – An Initiative to halve the Snakebite deaths by 2030 through ‘One Health’ Approach**
Modernization of Food Streets: With a vision to reduce snakebite deaths by half by 2030, NAPSE provides a broad framework for states to develop their own action plan for management, prevention and control of snakebites through the ‘One Health’ approach. The activities envisaged under human, wildlife, tribal and Animal health component will be undertaken by concerned stakeholders at all levels.
- 7.2 India receives ‘Measles and Rubella Champion’ Award for Exemplary Efforts in Measles and Rubella Disease Prevention:** This accolade celebrates India's unwavering commitment to public health and its outstanding leadership in curbing the spread of these infectious diseases among children. It further recognizes India for providing regional leadership to the measles & rubella elimination programme by using ‘measles as a tracer’ to strengthen routine immunization under country's Universal Immunization Programme (UIP).
- 7.3 Dr. V.K Paul, Member NITI Aayog launches National Birth Defect Awareness Month 2024:** This campaign is an effort for observing Birth defect day, which is observed on 3rd of March every year and the National Birth Defect Awareness Month is an initiative in raising awareness for all birth defects and improve the care and treatment for children. The month-long activities are planned under Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram of Child Health division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) for creating nationwide awareness at community level.
- 7.4 Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT) to be Conducted Nationwide Under ULLAS - Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram:** The Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education, Government of India, is set to conduct the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT) as part of the ULLAS - Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram on 17th March 2024, across 23 states. Approximately 37 lakh learners will appear for this important nationwide assessment.
- 7.5 Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Dedicates 5 AIIMS at Rajkot, Bathinda, Raebareli, Kalyani and Mangalagiri to the nation:** In a landmark development towards strengthening India's tertiary health care infrastructure and services, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation five All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Rajkot (Gujarat), Bathinda (Punjab), Raebareli (Uttar Pradesh), Kalyani (West Bengal) and Mangalagiri (Andhra Pradesh). He also inaugurated, laid foundation stone of, and dedicated to the nation a total of 202 Health Care Infrastructure Projects worth more than Rs. 11,700 crores across 23 States and UTs.

8. Other Economic Developments

8.1 Cabinet approves additional instalment of Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief to Central

Government employees and pensioners: The Union Cabinet chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved to release an additional instalment of Dearness Allowance (DA) to Central Government employees and Dearness Relief (DR) to pensioners w.e.f. 1.1.2024 representing an increase of 4% over the existing rate of 46% of the Basic Pay/Pension, to compensate against price rise. The combined impact on the exchequer on account of both Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief would be Rs.12,868.72 crore per annum. This will benefit about 49.18 lakh Central Government employees and 67.95 lakh pensioners.

8.2 Cabinet approves signing of an Agreement between India and Bhutan in the area of Food Safety:

The signing of Agreement between Bhutan Food and Drug Authority (BFDA), Ministry of Health, Royal Government of Bhutan and Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India will facilitate the trade between two neighboring countries. BFDA will issue a Health Certificate as a proof of compliance with the requirements prescribed by FSSAI, while exporting the products to India. This will promote Ease of Doing Business and will reduce compliance cost on both sides.

8.3 Cabinet approves signing of an MoU between India and Bhutan on co-operation in the field of

Energy Efficiency and Energy Conservation Measures: India aims to assist Bhutan to enhance energy efficiency in the household sector by promoting star labeling programmes developed by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency as a part of this MoU. The formulation of building codes, to suit the climate condition of Bhutan, will be facilitated based on India's experience. Creation of a pool of energy professionals at Bhutan is envisaged by institutionalizing training of energy auditors. The training of retailers would help in dissemination of energy efficient products with consumer audiences regarding savings from star rated appliances. India aims to support Bhutan in its endeavor to develop and implement the Standards and Labelling scheme.

8.4 Cabinet approves Inter-Governmental Framework Agreement India and United Arab Emirates on cooperation for the empowerment and operation of the India-Middle East Europe Economic

Corridor: The aim of the IGFA is to enhance the bilateral relations and to further strengthen the relations between the two countries in the Ports, Maritime and Logistics sectors. The IGFA includes areas of cooperation between the two countries with the objective of exploring further potential of future joint investment and collaboration in respect of development of the IMEC. The Agreement contains a detailed framework for cooperation between the two countries. The cooperation will be based on a set of mutually agreed upon principles, guidelines and agreements consistent with the relevant rules and regulations of the countries' jurisdiction.

8.5 Cabinet approves two corridors of Delhi Metro Phase-IV projects namely (i) Lajpat Nagar to

Saket G-Block and (ii) Inderlok to Indraprastha: The Delhi Metro is now one of the fastest

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growing Metro networks in the world. Total project cost of these two corridors of Delhi Metro's Phase - IV project is Rs.8,399 crore, which will be sourced from Government of India, Government of Delhi, and international funding agencies. These two lines will comprise 20.762 kms. The Delhi Metro is already constructing a network of 65 kilometres as part of its fourth phase of expansion. These new corridors are expected to be completed by March 2026 in stages. Presently, the DMRC operates a network of 391 kilometres consisting of 286 stations.

- 8.6 Financial assistance under 'Tea Development & Promotion Scheme' increases by 82% from Rs. 290.81 crores to Rs.528.97 crore for 2024-25 and 2025-26:** A range of incentives are planned to be provided to small tea growers by mobilizing them into SHGs and FPOs. Setting up of 800 SHGs and 330 FPOs has been envisaged in the next 2 financial years with an increased assistance of Rs 105.5 Cr compared to 40 SHGs & 8 FPOs previously planned with an assistance of Rs 2.7 Cr. This will increase coverage of small tea growers from 1000 to more than 30,000 in the next two years. The assistance is aimed to increase their productivity and quality, greater value addition and thereby greater price realization.
- 8.7 Cabinet approves Uttar Poorva Transformative Industrialization Scheme, 2024:** The scheme will be effective from the date of Notification and up to 31.03.2034 along with 8 years of committed liabilities. Industrial unit will be allowed to apply for registration from the date of notification up to 31.03.2026. DPIIT will implement the scheme in cooperation with the states.
- 8.8 Cabinet approves signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Bhutan on General Supply of Petroleum, Oil, Lubricants (POL) and related products from India to Bhutan:** The Memorandum of Understanding will promote bilateral trade in the hydrocarbon sector and will ensure secured and long term supply of petroleum products to Bhutan. Since, exports play a crucial role in realizing Aatmanirbhar Bharat. The MoU will give thrust towards self-reliant India. The MoU will be a strategic fit as Energy Bridge in India's Neighborhood First Policy. It aims to benefit India and its citizens with improved economic and commercial linkages with Bhutan irrespective of any gender, class or income bias, particularly in the area of hydrocarbon sector.
- 8.9 Government allows urea imports by state-owned fertiliser companies till March' 25:** The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) in a notification, said that import of urea (for agriculture purpose) on government account shall be allowed either by designated state trading enterprises (STE) itself, or other entities authorised by the fertilizers department.
- 8.10 India's oilmeals export up 9 pc to nearly 5.16 lakh tonne in February 2024 on higher soyameal shipments:** Oilmeals export in February rose 9% to 5.16 lakh tonnes, led by soyabean meal. Indian competitiveness faces threat from Argentina's pricing, affecting export outlook. South Korea and Vietnam imports declined, showing shifting market dynamics.

9. Special Feature- Delhi at a glance

Delhi is the capital of the Republic of India and the seat of all three branches of the Government of India. It is one of the largest metropolises in the country. Delhi shares a border with the states of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana. It is the centre of international politics, trade, culture, and literature in India.

Delhi is one of the fastest-growing states in the country. At current prices, the advance estimates of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of Delhi stood at Rs. 1107746 crore in 2023-24 with a growth of 9.17% over 2022-23.

Delhi is one of the key arrival destinations for both foreign and domestic tourists. The GSVA from trade, hotels and restaurants in Delhi constituted ₹117471 Crore during 2023-24 (AE) at current prices, which is nearly 12.05% of GSVA of Delhi 2023-24 (the base year 2011-12). More clearly, this sector's contribution to GSVA of Delhi during the last 13 years was more than 10%. Delhi Secured 4th rank in Total Foreign Tourist Visits in 2022 with total share of 9.50% as per India Tourism Statistics at a Glance-2022.

According to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Delhi stands among the top 5 states attracting highest FDI inflow, contributing around 13 percent to the total FDI equity inflow in the country. The Cumulative FDI equity inflow in Delhi amounted to US\$ 28.9 billion between October 2019 - December 2023.

Summary of Economic Indicators- Delhi

State/UT Capital	New Delhi
Hon'ble Chief Minister	Shri Arvind Kejriwal
Area (Sq.km)	1483
Population Density (Sq.km)	11320
No. of Districts	11
GSDP at current prices (FY2023-24) (in Rs lakh crore) (AE)	11.07
Growth of GSDP at constant prices(FY2024)	7.39%
Per Capita Income at current prices (FY 2023-24)(Rs)(AE)	461910
Poverty Rate (%) (2011-12)	9.9%
Infant Mortality Rate (Per thousand) (2020)	12
Literacy Rate (%) (2011)	86.2%
Sex Ratio (Census 2011)	868
Implementation of Reforms 2020(ranking)[®]	Emerging Business Ecosystems
Key Industries	Banking, Financial services, Construction and real estate, IT and ITeS, Tourism and Logistics

Macro Economy of Delhi

Overall economic activity in Delhi has recovered. In the years 2021-22 & 2022-23, a recovery of real GSDP of Delhi with growth of 8.76% & 7.85% respectively is based on a low base effect and inherent strengths of the economy. The Per Capita Income of Delhi at current prices during 2023-24 is estimated at ₹461910 as per Advance Estimate registering a growth of 7.39% over 2022-23.

Delhi's economy has a predominant Service Sector with its share of contribution to Gross State Value Added (at current prices) at 85.40% during 2023-24 followed by contribution of Secondary Sector (13.02%) and Primary Sector (1.58%)

Delhi has maintained its consistent Revenue Surplus; it increased to ₹ 14457 crore during 2022-23 (Provisional) as compared to ₹ 3270 crore in 2021-22. Delhi's revenue surplus was 1.42% of GSDP during 2022-23 and 0.52% during 2023-24 (BE).

Tax Collection of Delhi Government registered growth of 18.35% during 2022-23(Prov.) compared to the growth of 36% in 2021-22. The percentage distribution of Gross State Value Added (GSVA) of Delhi at 2011-12 prices showed a declining trend in agriculture and allied sector. The percentage contribution of agriculture sector to GSVA of Delhi at current prices reduced from 0.94% in 2011-12 to 0.32% in 2023-24.

As per State Budget Analysis Report of RBI, the Government of NCT of Delhi has highest budgetary allocation of 21% in the education sector among all states in 2023-24 (BE). As per 75th NSS report, Delhi stands at number two after Kerala with 88.7% literacy rate. Delhi ranked on the top among the UTs in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)-9 i.e. "Inclusive Sustainable Industrialization, Foster Innovation" as per the assessment made by NITI Aayog in its report on SDG India Index 3.0.

Gross State Domestic Product and its Composition

Components	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 (AE)
GSDP at current prices (Rs Lakh crore)	7.44	10.14	11.07
Per capita NSDP at current prices (Rs)	389529	444768	NA
Economic Growth % (at constant prices)	8.76	7.85	7.39
Sectoral Contribution in GSVA at Current Prices (%)			
Primary Sector	1.67	1.61	1.58
Secondary Sector	13.59	13.20	13.02
Tertiary Sector	84.74	85.19	85.40

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI, Compiled from RBI Handbook of Statistics, Economic Survey of Delhi (2022-23 and 2023-24)

10. Summary of Macro Economic Indicators

Macro-Economic components	Andhra Pradesh	Arunachal Pradesh	Assam	Bihar	Chhattisgarh	Goa	Gujarat
Real GDP 2021-22	74691274	2002783	26252252	42806456	24968320	5395986	109724900
Geographical Area (SqKm)	276754	83743	78438	99200	135133	3702	196024
Number of Districts	26	26	35	38	27	2	27
Population Density(Per Sq. Km)	796	17	398	1,106	189	394	308
Economic Growth (%)	11.43	6.15	14.9	10.98	1.72	1.12	-12.09
Per- Capita Income(Rs)2021-22	192587	178000	102965	54383	134000	527146	276588
Poverty Rate(2011-12)	9.2	34.67	32	33.7	39.9	5	16.6
(Infant MortalityRate) IMR 2016	25	29	40	29	40	8	25
Primary Sector Growth %	12.06	5.10	13.6	9.38	-6.9	10.2	0.3
Secondary Sector Growth %	11.79	7.96	3.5	3.80	0.3	3.9	-5.4
Tertiary Sector Growth %	9.73	4.81	8.1	13.40	0.7	6.0	-0.4
Literacy Rates (2011)(%)	67.4	65.4	72.2	69.8	70.3	88.7	78.0

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHD Chamber, Compiled from various sources

Macro-Economic components	Haryana	Himachal Pradesh	Jammu & Kashmir	Jharkhand	Karnataka	Kerala	Madhya Pradesh	Maharashtra
Real GSDP (2021-22)	58877121	12439962	176000	23681637	125223259	55092006	62165324	211830900
Geographical Area(Sq Km)	44212	55673	120355	79716	19179 1	38863	30824 5	307713
Number of Districts	22	12	20	24	31	14	50	35
Population Density (PerSq. Km)	573	123	56	414	319	860	236	365
Economic Growth (%)	9.8	8.35	6.16^	8.15	9.47	7.10	10.12	12.12
Per- Capita Income(Rs)2021-22	274635	222227	144000	86060	236400	162992	61524	172000
Poverty Rate (2011-12)	11.2	8.06	10.35	36.9	20.9	7.05	31.6	17.35
(Infant MortalityRate) IMR 2016	27	19	20	27	23	6	46	17
Primary Sector Growth%	2.7	8.5	1.36	8.76	2.4	4.2	10.3	15.0
Secondary SectorGrowth%	11.5	11.0	3.94	3.12	7.5	7.9	10.6	-12.2
Tertiary Sector Growth%	10.1	6.3	11.39	7.50	9.2	6.3	9.7	-9.0
Literacy Rates (2011) (%)	75.5	82.8	68.74	66.4	75.6	96.2	70.6	82.3

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHD Chamber, Compiled from various sources

Macro-Economic components	Tamil Nadu	Telangana	Tripura	Uttar Pradesh	Uttarakhand	Delhi	West Bengal
Real GSDP	134510826	67630412	4048048	112308957	18988193	62242975	89431900
Geographical Area(Sq Km)	130060	112,077	10492	240928	53483	1483	88752
Number of Districts	38	33	8	75	13	11	23
Population Density (Per Sq.Km)	555	312	350	829	189	11320	1,028
Economic Growth (%)	7.99	10.88	8.69	4.24	6.13	10.23	1.06^
Per- Capita Income(Rs)2021-22	241131	275443	140803	68810	196282	401982	121267
Poverty Rate (2011-12)	4.89	13.74	16.65	37.08	17	9.9	20
(Infant Mortality Rate) IMR 2016	15	27	27	43	31	13	22
Primary Sector Growth%	4.11	2,54	9.63	2.74	5.62	6.0	5.2
Secondary Sector Growth%	9.24	7.63	5.18	5.63	3.81	1.3	-1.2
Tertiary Sector Growth%	6.83	12.52	8.86	4.25	9.21	-5.5	0.6
Literacy Rates (2011) (%)	80.1	66.5	87.8	67.7	78.8	86.2	77.1

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHD Chamber, Compiled from various sources

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PHD Research Bureau; the research arm of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry was constituted in 2010 with the objective to review the economic situation and policy developments at sub-national, national and international levels and comment on them in order to update the members from time to time, to present suitable memoranda to the government as and when required, to prepare State Profiles and to conduct thematic research studies on various socio-economic and business developments.

The Research Bureau has been instrumental in forecasting various lead economic indicators national and sub-national. Many of its research reports have been widely covered by media and leading newspapers. The Research Bureau has undertaken various policy studies for Government of India and State Governments.

Research Activities	Comments on Economic Developments	Newsletters	Consultancy
• Research Studies	• Global Economic Developments	• Economic Affairs Newsletter (EAC)	• Trade and Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS)
• State Profiles	• India's Economic Developments	• India's Economic Developments	
• Impact Assessments	• States' Economic Developments	• Trade & Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS) Newsletter	
• Thematic Research Reports	• International Developments	• State Development Monitor (SDM)	
• Releases on Economic Developments	• Financial Markets		

	• Foreign exchange market		
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B: State profiles

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