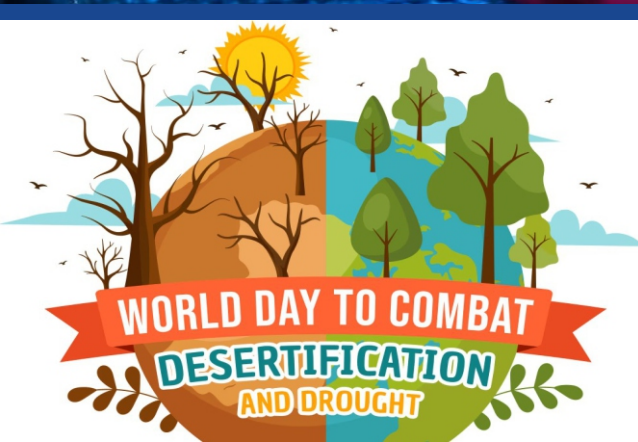




GOVERNMENT POLICY REPORT

AUGUST 2025 EDITION



01 SUSTAINABILITY

Global Leadership of India in Wetlands Conservation at Ramsar COP15 in Zimbabwe

At the **15th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP15) to the Ramsar Convention—held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe**—India reaffirmed its global leadership in wetlands conservation through innovative policies, inclusive governance, and impactful international engagement. Based on “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam,” **India highlighted its impressive growth, with 91 Ramsar Sites spanning over 1.36 million hectares - the third largest globally and the largest in Asia, marking a 250% increase in the past decade.**

A significant highlight was **India's successful introduction of the resolution “Promoting Sustainable Lifestyles for the Wise Use of Wetlands.”** Adopted unanimously by 172 contracting parties, along with several international organisations and observers, the resolution called for integrating sustainable practices into wetland management, planning, and investment. Rooted in **India's Mission LiFE philosophy**, it was widely praised for aligning local actions with global sustainability goals and fostering a culture of ecological responsibility.



Source: <https://ddnews.gov.in/en/india-showcases-global-leadership-in-wetlands-conservation-at-ramsar-cop15-in-zimbabwe/>

PROPOSED NEW RAMSAR SITES

Siliserh Lake (Rajasthan)	Glow Lake (Arunachal Pradesh)	Gogabil Lake (Bihar)	Chhari Dhand (Gujarat)	Gosabara Wetland (Gujarat)
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India also presented its achievement in **restoring over 68,800 small wetlands within a year**—through GIS-based mapping, community-driven efforts, and decentralized governance. This large-scale revival exemplified a replicable model of grassroots ecological restoration. **The initiative highlighted India's focus on nature-based solutions, climate resilience, and enhancing**

biodiversity across rural and urban landscapes, which resonates with the core objectives of the Ramsar Convention. India also emphasized the importance of intersectional coordination and inclusive policy frameworks that empower local stakeholders and promote sustainable livelihoods linked to wetlands.



Source: <https://sdg.iisd.org/events/15th-meeting-of-the-conference-of-the-contracting-parties-to-the-ramsar-convention-on-wetlands-cop15/>

India's dynamic wetland management framework—integrating technological tools, local community participation, and national missions like **Mission Sahbhagita**—earned global recognition. The international community also appreciated India's urban wetland stewardship, particularly through the **Wetland City Accreditation of Udaipur and Indore**, showcasing successful integration of wetlands into urban planning.

Through policy leadership, ecological commitment, and citizen engagement, India positioned itself as a transformative force in global wetland conservation at Ramsar COP15. Its multi-dimensional approach was lauded as a model that other nations could adapt in pursuit of inclusive and sustainable environmental governance.



Source: <https://www.insightsonindia.com/2025/07/31/india-wetlands-resolution-was-formally-adopted-at-ramsar-cop15/>

02 CLIMATE CHANGE

India Intensifies Focus on Combatting Desertification at National Workshop in Jodhpur

On June 17, 2025, India observed the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought by organizing a national workshop at the Arid Forest Research Institute (AFRI) in Jodhpur, Rajasthan. The workshop, themed **“Strategies for Combatting Desertification and Drought,”** brought together key stakeholders, policymakers, researchers, scientists, NGOs, and grassroots practitioners to deliberate on sustainable land management and the urgent need to halt land degradation.

The event highlighted that nearly 30% of India's total geographical area faces degradation due to unsustainable agricultural practices, including excessive use of urea, chemical pesticides, deforestation, and overexploitation of water resources. Discussions emphasized the links between land degradation, food insecurity, biodiversity loss, and rural livelihoods. The workshop reaffirmed **India's commitment to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)**, focussing on restoring degraded land to ensure food security, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience.

Among the major initiatives highlighted were the **Amrit Sarovar Mission**, aimed at reviving traditional water bodies and the **“Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam”** campaign, which encourages tree plantation as a tribute to motherhood as well as the environment. The workshop also spotlighted the **Aravalli Green Wall Project**, which aims to develop a 700 km green buffer across 29 districts in Rajasthan, Haryana, Delhi, and Gujarat, covering over 42,000 hectares to act as a natural barrier against desertification.

World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought 17th June



Source: <https://www.newsonair.gov.in/world-day-to-combat-desertification-observed-today-india-hosts-workshop-in-jodhpur/>



Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=2136971>

KEY PUBLICATIONS RELEASED	Information Booklet on Aravalli Districts	Revised Mission Document of the Green India Mission
Book on Sustainable Land Management (SLM)	Launch of the National Afforestation Monitoring System	Distribution of AFRI Shesham Clones to ten farmers by the Hon'ble Environment Minister

Experts presented case studies on Sustainable Land Management (SLM) from both national and international contexts, showcasing successful models such as the AFRI-led restoration project in Lunawas Bhakar. Technical sessions addressed the goal of achieving Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) by 2030, aligning with India's long-term vision of ecological restoration, climate resilience, and inclusive economic development.

India's proactive stance signals a firm commitment to balancing development with sustainability. The workshop emphasized the need for collective action, innovation, and ecological responsibility to combat land degradation. As desertification poses a growing global threat, India's targeted efforts offer a strong example for achieving a land degradation-neutral future, rooted in collaboration and long-term environmental stewardship.



Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=2136971>

HOW AG GROUP CAN HELP YOU

To get sustainable solutions for your climate-related projects
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03 GREEN ENERGY

India-UK Vision 2035: Paving Way for Clean Energy

On 24 July 2025, **India-UK Vision 2035** was launched during the bilateral summit in London, marking a significant milestone in deepening strategic cooperation across climate, trade, and innovation. Anchored within the broader framework of the **India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)**, the Vision places clean energy at the heart of the partnership, reinforcing shared commitments to net-zero commitments and sustainable economic growth.



Source: <https://bharatshakti.in/india-uk-vision-2035-paving-way-for-strategic-ties-in-technology-and-defence/>

Under the **Climate and Clean Energy pillar**, the Vision aims to accelerate collaboration in renewable energy deployment, green hydrogen, offshore wind, energy storage, and carbon markets. **The framework focuses on cooperation between Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) and Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (OFGEM) of India and the UK**, respectively, to facilitate grid upgrades and reforms in energy market structures, thereby enabling smooth integration of clean energy technologies.

To foster innovation-led growth, the initiative proposes joint funding mechanisms, technology transfers, and policy alignment. A proposed **India-UK Offshore Wind Taskforce** and **Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS)** will drive commercial partnerships in maritime renewables and low-carbon industrial development, while both sides commit to enhance accessibility to climate finance via public-private partnerships along with sustainable investments.

JOINT INITIATIVES RELATED TO CLEAN ENERGY

- ✓ Net Zero Innovation Partnership
- ✓ International Solar Alliance
- ✓ Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure
- ✓ One Sun One World One Grid
- ✓ Road Transport Breakthrough
- ✓ Zero Emission Vehicle Transition Council
- ✓ Global Clean Power Alliance



Source: <https://knnindia.co.in/news/newsdetails/economy/modi-starmer-unveil-ambitious-indiauk-vision-2035-to-deepen-strategic-economic-partnership>

The Vision is supported by the **BRISK framework**—Business, Research, Innovation, Science and Technology, and Knowledge. It integrates clean energy goals with industrial decarbonization, sustainable trade, and digital transitions. The framework also emphasizes enhanced climate resilience, low-carbon infrastructure development, localized innovation ecosystems, and inclusive green growth strategies across urban and rural sectors.

To ensure robust implementation, both governments have committed to **annual joint reviews at the level of their foreign and energy departments**, ensuring accountability and adaptability. These reviews will also assess the progress of research partnerships, private sector engagement, and capacity-building programs for a more inclusive and equitable energy transition.



Source: <https://www.millingandmillers.com/2025/07/25/india-uk-trade-deal-to-boost-indian-cleantech-exports-amid-renewable-energy-slump-in-us/>



Source: <https://www.livemint.com/economy/pm-modi-in-london-live-updates-india-united-kingdom-free-trade-agreement-narendra-modi-keir-starmer-24-july-2025-11753351704523.html>

By aligning climate action with economic opportunity, the **India–UK Vision 2035 positions clean energy cooperation as a catalyst for a resilient, inclusive, and low-carbon future** that empowers people, supports innovation, and strengthens long-term global climate leadership.

04 EDUCATION

Five Years of NEP 2020: Insights from Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Samagam 2025

On **July 29, 2025**, the Ministry of Education convened the **Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Samagam (ABSS) 2025** at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, to commemorate five transformative years since the launch of the **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**. The summit brought together policymakers, educators, researchers, state education ministers, academics, industry leaders, and students to review achievements and shape the next phase of implementation.



Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2149668>

The NEP 2020 was reaffirmed as a “national mission” rooted in Indian ethos and aligned with the vision of **Viksit Bharat 2047**, with a collective call to transform classrooms into spaces for creativity and nation-building. The summit emphasized holistic education, multilingual learning, Indian Knowledge Systems, experiential learning, and integration of emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence and machine learning across education systems. **It also promoted student-centric pedagogies, innovation-based thinking, and community-linked learning experiences.**

Over 4,000 crore worth of new projects were unveiled, covering infrastructure upgrades at IITs, NITs, Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas, tribal hostels, and green schools. Digital learning platforms such as the **TARA App**, **My Career Advisor App**, and **Swachh Evam Harit Vidyalaya Rating (SHVR)** app were launched to enhance foundational literacy and career guidance.

FIVE YEARS OF NEP 2020

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN INDIAN EDUCATION

Early Childhood
Care and Education



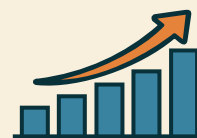
Curricular
Integration of
Vocational Education



Multi disciplinary
Education



Increased Gross
Enrollment Ratio

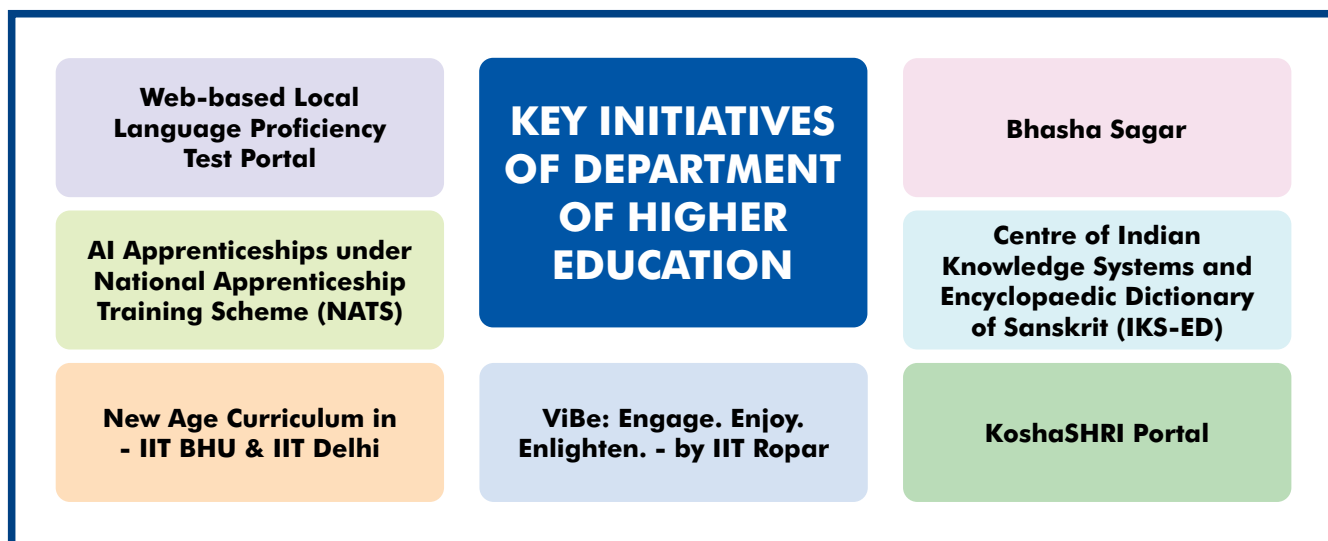


Source: <https://educationforallindia.com/five-years-of-nep-2020-major-achievements-in-indian-education/>

The summit was conducted in four sessions. Key priorities of the sessions included strengthening foundational learning, reimagining secondary education, integrating skill development with mainstream schooling, and boosting digital infrastructure. Discussions also focussed on teacher training, inclusive education, curriculum redesign, and multilingual teaching practices. **Emphasis was placed on achieving 100% Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) by 2030 and aligning education with sustainable development goals.**



Source: <https://timelinedaily.com/education/iit-bombay-launches-tara-mobile-app-for-oral-reading-fluency-measurement>



The summit also highlighted India's push to globalize its higher education. Four global universities—Western Sydney University (Greater Noida), La Trobe University (Bengaluru), Victoria University (Noida), and University of Bristol (Mumbai)—received Letters of Intent to establish campuses in India, expanding transnational academic opportunities for students.



Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2149668>

ABSS 2025 served as a platform to reflect on key milestones and share future goals. It renewed the resolve to create a flexible, inclusive, and future-oriented education system. The focus now has shifted to sustained implementation and global excellence.

HOW AG GROUP CAN BE A HELP

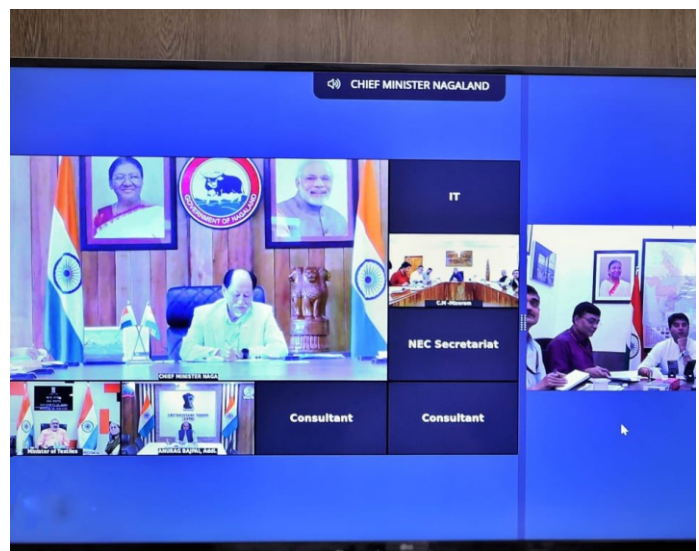
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05 NORTH-EAST REGION

Government Highlights Northeast's Rising Role in India's Textile Industry

In July 2025, the Government of India has spotlighted the **Northeast** as an ascending powerhouse of the country's textile ecosystem—particularly in **handloom and handicrafts**—highlighting its unique alignment with the national vision for sustainable and inclusive development. At a high-level **DoNER and handloom task-force meeting chaired by the Chief Minister of Nagaland**, the Ministry emphasized the region's immense potential to lead India's eco-conscious fashion movement.

The Northeast—with its deep-rooted artisanal heritage, natural fibre usage, and traditional dyeing practices—is seen as a natural leader in shaping green and inclusive fashion. The meeting, attended by senior officials from the Ministry of Textiles and state representatives from Assam, Mizoram, and Manipur, focussed on strategic interventions such as market access enhancement, artisan cluster development, design-tech integration, digital enablement, and capacity building to improve livelihoods through craft-based economies.



Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2146983>



Source: <https://thehillstimes.in/featured/textile-sector-ensuring-inclusive-growth-of-north-east-india>

Mizoram's Chief Minister noted that with nearly **60% of India's handloom workforce in the Northeast**, stronger product standardization, interstate coordination, and branding are vital for enhancing the region's global competitiveness. The Ministry of Textiles highlighted the region's current contribution of over **Rs 45,000 Crores in exports** from handloom, handicrafts, and technical textiles, and outlined ongoing innovation through institutions like **NIFT Shillong**, which are incorporating **design and AI tools**.

By bridging tradition with sustainability and digital modernization, the Government is setting the stage for the **Northeast to become India's defining textile region by 2030**. This aligns closely with the vision of **"Fashion for Environment and Empowerment"**—a model that seeks to reduce environmental impact, empower artisan communities, and position India's textile narrative on a global stage.



Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2068208>

FINAL TAKEAWAYS

"Fashion for Environment and Empowerment" drives sustainable textile vision

Northeast leads in eco-friendly and traditional textiles

60% of India's handloom workforce is based in Northeast

Government focuses on clusters, tech integration, and design innovation

Target: Make Northeast a global textile hub by 2030

Collaborative initiatives by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region and the Ministry of Textiles are driving the **Northeast's rise as a national leader** in the textile sector. With targeted policy support, innovation-driven training, and global branding strategies, the region is set to **redefine India's textile landscape**. This emerging leadership reflects not only economic potential but also a cultural resurgence rooted in sustainability, identity, and empowerment.

RESOURCES

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