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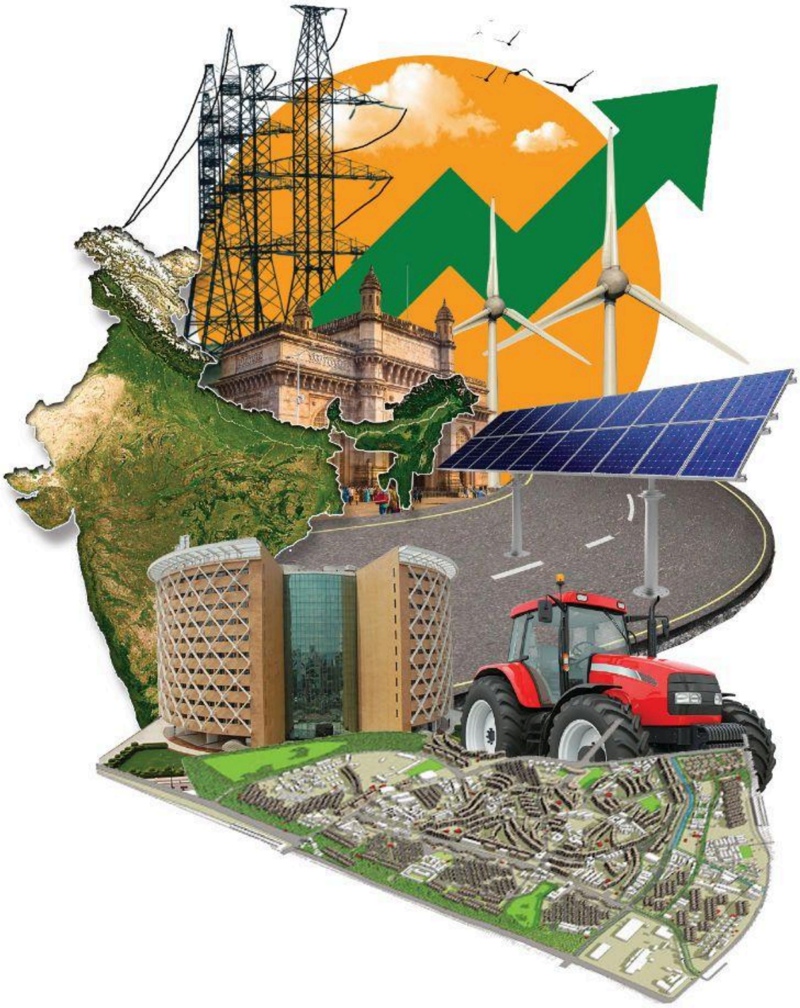

1st August - 15th August

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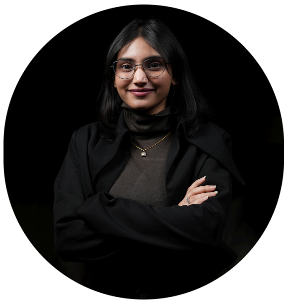

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Key Announcements

This document tracks the various key policy and reform decisions taken by State Governments and UTs between **1st August, 2026 to 15th August, 2026.**

Reform Decisions

I. **Rajasthan**

A. **Rajasthan Industrial Relation Rules, 2026:** Rajasthan notified the Industrial Relation Rules, 2026 to operationalise the Industrial Relations Code, 2020 through a unified framework for trade union recognition, collective bargaining, grievance redressal, dispute resolution, retrenchment and closure. The Rules also introduce electronic compliance, a Worker Re-skilling Fund and defined procedures for negotiating unions and industrial disputes.

B. **Code On Wages (Rajasthan) Rules, 2026:** Rajasthan notified the Code on Wages Rules, 2026 to operationalise the central wage framework through minimum-wage fixation, skill-based classification, twice-yearly VDA revision, working-hour norms and standardised wage records. The Rules also cap wage deductions, mandate wage slips and create a more uniform compliance framework for wage administration across organised and unorganised workers.

C. **The Draft Rajasthan Uniform Civil Code Bill, 2026:** The Rajasthan Cabinet approved the Uniform Civil Code Bill, 2026 to create a common legal framework for marriage, divorce, succession and inheritance. The Bill mandates marriage registration, prohibits polygamy, regulates live-in relationships and seeks equal inheritance rights, while preserving protected tribal customs and practices.

D. **The Draft Rajasthan Trees (Protection) Bill, 2026:** The Rajasthan Cabinet approved the Tree Protection Bill, 2026 to regulate tree felling on private and non-forest land and strengthen protection for 29 identified species, including Khejri and Peepal. The Bill introduces prior-permission requirements and penalties of up to one year's imprisonment and ₹ 1 lakh fine for unauthorised felling, while supporting broader conservation and afforestation efforts.

II. **Andhra Pradesh**

A. **Draft Andhra Pradesh Omnibus (Ease Of Doing Business) Act, 2026:** The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet has approved the draft Andhra Pradesh Omnibus (Ease of Doing Business) Act, 2026 to create a statutory framework for faster and more predictable business approvals. The draft provides for time-bound and deemed approvals, single-window clearances, digital processing and risk-based inspections, while also reducing compliance burdens.

III. **Uttar Pradesh**

Key Announcements

A. **The Uttar Pradesh Board Of Madarsa Education (Amendment) Act, 2026**: The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved the Uttar Pradesh Board of Madarsa Education (Amendment) Act, 2026, aligning the madrasa education framework with the Supreme Court's ruling by limiting the Board's jurisdiction to school-level education up to Alim and transferring Kamil and Fazil courses to the recognised university system, with Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti Language University, Lucknow proposed to conduct examinations and award degrees.

Policy Level Announcements

I. Assam

A. **Compressed Biogas Policy, 2026:** The Assam Cabinet has approved the Assam Compressed Biogas Policy, 2026 to accelerate investment in CBG projects through capital subsidies, power tariff support, concessional land access and fee exemptions. The policy also establishes the Commissioner of Industries and Commerce as the nodal agency for a single-window clearance mechanism, with the broader objective of scaling clean-energy production from organic waste and biomass feedstock.

II. Tamil Nadu

A. **Chief Minister's Integrated Urban Transformation Mission (CMIUTM), 2026:** Tamil Nadu announced the Chief Minister's Integrated Urban Transformation Mission (CMIUTM) as part of its 2026 Budget to integrate urban infrastructure development through a common five-year framework. The Mission aims to mobilise ₹ 1.5 lakh crore through convergence of schemes, municipal bonds and institutional finance.

III. Andhra Pradesh

A. **Draft Public Private Partnership (PPP) Policy, 2026:** The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet has approved the draft PPP Policy, 2026 to create a common framework for mobilising private investment in infrastructure and public services. The policy provides ₹ 1,500 crore in State Viability Gap Funding for FY 2026–27, covers sectors including transport, ports, urban infrastructure, healthcare, education, renewable energy and tourism, and seeks to support a PPP project pipeline of around ₹ 1.23 lakh crore under the Swarna Andhra Vision 2047.

B. **Integrated Pedestrian Safety And Universal Accessibility Policy, 2026:** The Andhra Pradesh Government has notified the Integrated Pedestrian Safety and Universal Accessibility Policy, 2026 to establish a state-wide framework for safer and accessible pedestrian infrastructure. The policy mandates high-risk location audits, minimum footpath and crossing standards, universal-accessibility features, technology-based monitoring through GIS and dashboards, and accountability for non-compliant road design and maintenance.

IV. Chhattisgarh

Key Announcements

A. **Chhattisgarh Artificial Intelligence (AI) Mission:** The Chhattisgarh Cabinet has approved a ₹ 500 crore, five-year AI Mission to build a state-wide ecosystem for AI infrastructure, skilling, research, startups and digital governance. The Mission proposes 100 AI Data Labs, 5 Centres of Excellence, training for 7.5 lakh students and Government employees, support for over 300 AI startups, and more than 50 AI-enabled public services, with the broader objective of diversifying the state towards a more technology- and knowledge-driven economy.

V. Odisha

A. **Odisha Semiconductor Manufacturing And Fabless Policy (Amendment), 2026:** Odisha approved the third amendment to its semiconductor policy, offering 25% additional capex support for ISM-backed projects and extending incentives to equipment, materials, gases, chemicals, ATMP/OSAT and fabless design to build an integrated semiconductor ecosystem.

VI. Haryana

A. **Haryana Progressive MSME And Export Promotion Policy, 2026:** Haryana unveiled the MSME Export Promotion Policy, 2026 to strengthen export-oriented MSMEs through capital subsidies, technology upgradation, freight and insurance support, and faster approvals. The policy targets ₹ 55,000 crore in investment and over 5 lakh jobs, while promoting integration of MSMEs into higher-value domestic and global supply chains.

Social Sector Schemes

I. Tamil Nadu

A. **Enhanced Education Initiative Through Free Bicycles And Laptops Schemes:** Tamil Nadu announced continued student-support measures under the 2026–27 Budget through the Free Bicycle Scheme and Vetri Free Laptop Scheme, with allocations of ₹ 277 crore and ₹ 2,000 crore respectively. The initiatives seek to reduce transportation and digital-access barriers, improve attendance and retention, and strengthen digital learning among students.

B. **Vetri Skill Training Scheme, 2026:** Tamil Nadu announced the ₹ 150 crore Vetri Skill Training Scheme to provide industry-oriented training to 13 lakh youth, including 12 lakh college students and 1 lakh unemployed youth. The scheme also introduces internships with monthly stipends and prioritises youth from families without permanent employment, with the aim of improving employability and aligning skills with emerging industry demand.

II. Odisha

A. **Mukhya Mantri Janajati Jeevika Mission (MMJJM) 2.0:** Odisha approved MMJJM 2.0 with a ₹ 2,995 crore outlay over five years to expand livelihood support to around 8

Key Announcements

lakh tribal households across 19 districts, including PVTG families. The mission combines ₹ 30,000 household-level DBT assistance with support for agriculture, livestock, forest-based enterprises, processing, storage and market linkages to strengthen tribal incomes and economic resilience.

III. Gujarat

A. **Namo Laxmi–Namo Saraswati Scholarship Disbursement Initiative:** Gujarat transferred over ₹ 646 crore to 4.72 lakh students under the Namo Laxmi and Namo Saraswati schemes. The initiative supports girls in Classes 9–12 and science-stream students in Classes 11–12 through DBT-based financial assistance, with the aim of improving retention, reducing dropout and encouraging greater participation in STEM education.

Investment Announcements

I. Madhya Pradesh

A. **₹ 1,550 Crore Investment Proposals For Gwalior Telecom Manufacturing Zone (TMZ):** Madhya Pradesh received ₹ 1,550 crore in investment proposals from five companies for the proposed Gwalior Telecom Manufacturing Zone, with potential to create around 3,600 direct jobs. The zone is being developed as a dedicated telecom manufacturing, testing and R&D cluster, supported by plug-and-play infrastructure, concessional land and power, capital assistance, and employment-linked incentives.

II. Odisha

A. **Odisha Food Processing Investment Promotion Initiative, 2026:** Odisha secured ₹ 43,437 crore in food-processing investment commitments at FoodPro 2026, with around 43,316 jobs expected. The initiative focuses on specialised processing clusters, cold-chain and warehousing infrastructure, quality and certification systems, and stronger integration of FPOs, MSMEs and women's SHGs into organised food value chains.

Other Decisions

I. Goa

A. **Formation Of The Goa State Poultry Development Corporation:** Goa constituted the Board of the Goa State Poultry Development Corporation to expand domestic poultry production and reduce interstate dependence. The Corporation will support poultry farms, breeder units and hatcheries, regulate production and trade, and strengthen processing and market linkages to improve local poultry supply.

मुख्य घोषणाएँ

इस दस्तावेज़ में **1 अगस्त, 2026 से 15 अगस्त, 2026** के बीच राज्य सरकारों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों (UTs) द्वारा लिए गए विभिन्न प्रमुख नीतिगत एवं सुधार संबंधी निर्णयों का विवरण दिया गया है।

सुधार संबंधी निर्णय

I. राजस्थान

A. **राजस्थान औद्योगिक संबंध नियम, 2026:** राजस्थान ने औद्योगिक संबंध संहिता, 2020 को लागू करने के लिए औद्योगिक संबंध नियम, 2026 अधिसूचित किए हैं। इन नियमों के तहत ट्रेड यूनियन की मान्यता, सामूहिक समझौता, शिकायतों का निपटारा, विवाद समाधान, कर्मचारियों की छंटनी और उद्योग बंद करने के लिए एक समान व्यवस्था बनाई गई है। नियमों में ऑनलाइन अनुपालन की व्यवस्था, श्रमिकों के पुनः कौशल विकास के लिए फंड और बातचीत करने वाली यूनियनों तथा औद्योगिक विवादों के निपटारे की स्पष्ट प्रक्रिया भी तय की गई है।

B. **मजदूरी संहिता (राजस्थान) नियम, 2026:** राजस्थान ने मजदूरी से जुड़े केंद्रीय कानून को लागू करने के लिए मजदूरी संहिता नियम, 2026 अधिसूचित किए हैं। इन नियमों में न्यूनतम मजदूरी तय करने, कौशल के आधार पर श्रमिकों का वर्गीकरण करने, साल में दो बार महंगाई भत्ता (VDA) में बदलाव, काम के घंटों के नियम और मजदूरी से जुड़े रिकॉर्ड का एक समान प्रारूप तय किया गया है। नियमों में मजदूरी से होने वाली कटौती की अधिकतम सीमा भी तय की गई है और वेतन पर्ची देना अनिवार्य किया गया है। यह नियम संगठित और असंगठित दोनों क्षेत्रों के श्रमिकों के लिए मजदूरी से जुड़े नियमों के एकसमान अनुपालन ढांचा तैयार करते हैं।

C. **राजस्थान समान नागरिक संहिता विधेयक, 2026 का मसौदा:** राजस्थान मंत्रिमंडल ने विवाह, तलाक, उत्तराधिकार और विरासत के लिए एक समान कानूनी व्यवस्था बनाने के उद्देश्य से समान नागरिक संहिता विधेयक, 2026 को मंजूरी दी है। विधेयक में विवाह का पंजीकरण अनिवार्य करने, बहुविवाह पर रोक लगाने और लिव-इन संबंधों को विनियमित करने का प्रावधान है। इसमें सभी को समान विरासत का अधिकार देने की बात कही गई है, जबकि संरक्षित जनजातीय रीति-रिवाजों और परंपराओं को बनाए रखने का प्रावधान भी है।

D. **राजस्थान वृक्ष (संरक्षण) विधेयक, 2026 का मसौदा:** राजस्थान मंत्रिमंडल ने निजी और गैर-वन भूमि पर पेड़ों की कटाई को नियंत्रित करने और 29 चिन्हित प्रजातियों, जिनमें खेजड़ी और पीपल शामिल हैं, की सुरक्षा मजबूत करने के लिए वृक्ष संरक्षण विधेयक, 2026 को मंजूरी दी है। विधेयक में पेड़ काटने से पहले अनुमति लेना अनिवार्य किया गया है। बिना अनुमति पेड़ काटने पर एक साल तक की जेल और 1 लाख रुपये तक के जुर्माने का प्रावधान है। इसका उद्देश्य वन संरक्षण और वनीकरण के प्रयासों को भी बढ़ावा देना है।

II. आंध्र प्रदेश

मुख्य घोषणाएँ

A. **आंध्र प्रदेश समग्र (ईज ऑफ डूइंग बिजनेस) अधिनियम, 2026 का मसौदा:** आंध्र प्रदेश मंत्रिमंडल ने कारोबार से जुड़ी मंजूरियों को तेज और आसान बनाने के लिए आंध्र प्रदेश समग्र (ईज ऑफ डूइंग बिजनेस) अधिनियम, 2026 के मसौदे को मंजूरी दी है। इसमें तय समय के भीतर मंजूरी देने, समय पर निर्णय न होने पर मंजूरी मानी जाने, सिंगल-विंडो व्यवस्था, ऑनलाइन प्रक्रिया और जोखिम के आधार पर निरीक्षण का प्रावधान है। साथ ही, कारोबारियों पर अनुपालन का बोझ कम करने की व्यवस्था भी की गई है।

III. उत्तर प्रदेश

A. **उत्तर प्रदेश बोर्ड ऑफ मदरसा एजुकेशन (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2026:** उत्तर प्रदेश मंत्रिमंडल ने उत्तर प्रदेश बोर्ड ऑफ मदरसा एजुकेशन (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2026 को मंजूरी दी है। इसके तहत मदरसा शिक्षा व्यवस्था को सुप्रीम कोर्ट के फैसले के अनुरूप किया जाएगा। बोर्ड का अधिकार क्षेत्र केवल स्कूली स्तर की शिक्षा और आलिम तक सीमित रहेगा। वहीं, कामिल और फाजिल पाठ्यक्रमों को मान्यता प्राप्त विश्वविद्यालय व्यवस्था के तहत लाया जाएगा। लखनऊ की ख्वाजा मोइनुद्दीन चिश्ती भाषा विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा इन पाठ्यक्रमों की परीक्षाएं आयोजित करने और डिग्री देने का प्रस्ताव है।

नीतिगत घोषणाएँ

I. असम

A. **संपीड़ित (Compressed) बायोगैस नीति, 2026:** असम मंत्रिमंडल ने संपीड़ित बायोगैस (सी.बी.जी) नीति, 2026 को मंजूरी दी है। इसका उद्देश्य पूंजीगत सब्सिडी, बिजली दर में सहायता, रियायती दर पर जमीन उपलब्ध कराने और विभिन्न शुल्कों में छूट के माध्यम से सी.बी.जी परियोजनाओं में निवेश को बढ़ावा देना है। नीति के तहत उद्योग एवं वाणिज्य आयुक्त को सिंगल-विंडो मंजूरी व्यवस्था के लिए नोडल एजेंसी बनाया गया है। इसका मुख्य उद्देश्य जैविक कचरे और बायोमास से स्वच्छ ऊर्जा का उत्पादन बढ़ाना है।

II. तमिलनाडु

A. **मुख्यमंत्री एकीकृत शहरी परिवर्तन मिशन (CMIUTM), 2026:** तमिलनाडु ने 2026 के बजट में मुख्यमंत्री एकीकृत शहरी परिवर्तन मिशन (CMIUTM) की घोषणा की है। इसका उद्देश्य पांच साल की एक साझा योजना के तहत शहरी बुनियादी ढांचे के विकास को एक साथ आगे बढ़ाना है। इस मिशन के तहत विभिन्न योजनाओं को जोड़कर, नगर निकायों के बॉन्ड और संस्थागत वित्त के माध्यम से ₹1.5 लाख करोड़ जुटाने का लक्ष्य रखा गया है।

III. आंध्र प्रदेश

मुख्य घोषणाएँ

A. **सार्वजनिक-निजी भागीदारी (पी.पी.पी) नीति, 2026 का मसौदा:** आंध्र प्रदेश मंत्रिमंडल ने बुनियादी ढांचे और सार्वजनिक सेवाओं में निजी निवेश को बढ़ावा देने के लिए PPP नीति, 2026 के मसौदे को मंजूरी दी है। इस नीति के तहत वित्त वर्ष 2026-27 के लिए राज्य की ओर से ₹1,500 करोड़ की वायबिलिटी गैप फंडिंग (VGF) का प्रावधान किया गया है। इसमें परिवहन, बंदरगाह, शहरी बुनियादी ढांचा, स्वास्थ्य, शिक्षा, नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा और पर्यटन जैसे क्षेत्र शामिल हैं। इसका उद्देश्य स्वर्ण आंध्र विजन 2047 के तहत लगभग ₹1.23 लाख करोड़ की PPP परियोजनाओं को आगे बढ़ाना है।

B. **एकीकृत पैदल यात्री सुरक्षा और सार्वभौमिक पहुंच नीति, 2026:** आंध्र प्रदेश सरकार ने पैदल यात्रियों के लिए सुरक्षित और सुविधाजनक बुनियादी ढांचा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए एकीकृत पैदल यात्री सुरक्षा और सार्वभौमिक (universal) पहुंच नीति, 2026 अधिसूचित की है। इस नीति के तहत अधिक जोखिम वाले स्थानों की जांच, फुटपाथ और सड़क पार करने की न्यूनतम मानक व्यवस्था तथा सभी लोगों के लिए आसानी से उपयोग की जा सकने वाली सुविधाएं अनिवार्य की गई हैं। GIS और डैशबोर्ड के माध्यम से तकनीक आधारित निगरानी की व्यवस्था भी की गई है। सड़क निर्माण और रखरखाव में तय मानकों का पालन नहीं करने पर जवाबदेही भी तय की जाएगी।

IV. छत्तीसगढ़

A. **छत्तीसगढ़ आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (AI) मिशन:** छत्तीसगढ़ मंत्रिमंडल ने आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (AI) के क्षेत्र में बुनियादी ढांचे, कौशल विकास, शोध, स्टार्टअप और डिजिटल शासन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए पांच साल के ₹500 करोड़ के आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (AI) मिशन को मंजूरी दी है। इस मिशन के तहत राज्य में 100 AI डेटा लैब, 5 सेंटर ऑफ एक्सीलेंस स्थापित करने और 7.5 लाख छात्रों तथा सरकारी कर्मचारियों को प्रशिक्षण देने का प्रस्ताव है। इसके अलावा 300 से अधिक AI स्टार्टअप को सहायता देने और 50 से अधिक सरकारी सेवाओं में AI का उपयोग करने की योजना है। इसका व्यापक उद्देश्य राज्य की अर्थव्यवस्था को तकनीक और ज्ञान आधारित क्षेत्रों की ओर बढ़ाना है।

V. ओडिशा

A. **ओडिशा सेमीकंडक्टर मैन्युफैक्चरिंग और फैबलेस नीति (संशोधन), 2026:** ओडिशा ने अपनी सेमीकंडक्टर नीति में तीसरे संशोधन को मंजूरी दी है। इसके तहत इंडिया सेमीकंडक्टर मिशन (ISM) से सहायता प्राप्त परियोजनाओं को पूंजीगत खर्च पर 25% अतिरिक्त सहायता दी जाएगी। इसके अलावा उपकरण, सामग्री, गैस, रसायन, ATMP/OSAT और फैबलेस डिजाइन के क्षेत्र को भी प्रोत्साहन दिया जाएगा। इसका उद्देश्य राज्य में सेमीकंडक्टर से जुड़ा एक मजबूत और एकीकृत औद्योगिक इकोसिस्टम तैयार करना है।

VI. हरियाणा

मुख्य घोषणाएँ

A. **हरियाणा प्रगतिशील एम.एस.एम.ई और निर्यात प्रोत्साहन नीति, 2026:** हरियाणा ने निर्यात करने वाले एम.एस.एम.ई को मजबूत करने के लिए एम.एस.एम.ई निर्यात प्रोत्साहन नीति, 2026 पेश की है। इसके तहत पूंजीगत सब्सिडी, तकनीक को बेहतर बनाने के लिए सहायता, माल ढुलाई और बीमा में सहायता तथा तेजी से मंजूरी देने की व्यवस्था की गई है। नीति के तहत ₹55,000 करोड़ के निवेश और 5 लाख से अधिक रोजगार पैदा करने का लक्ष्य रखा गया है। साथ ही, एम.एस.एम.ई को देश और विदेश की अधिक मूल्य वाली सप्लाई चेन से जोड़ने पर जोर दिया गया है।

सामाजिक क्षेत्र की योजनाएँ

I. तमिलनाडु

A. **मुफ्त साइकिल और लैपटॉप योजनाओं के जरिए शिक्षा को बढ़ावा:** तमिलनाडु ने 2026-27 के बजट में छात्रों की मदद के लिए मुफ्त साइकिल योजना और वेत्री मुफ्त लैपटॉप योजना को जारी रखने की घोषणा की है। इसके लिए क्रमशः ₹277 करोड़ और ₹2,000 करोड़ का प्रावधान किया गया है। इन योजनाओं का उद्देश्य आने-जाने और डिजिटल सुविधाओं की कमी से जुड़ी समस्याओं को कम करना, छात्रों की स्कूल-कॉलेज में उपस्थिति और पढ़ाई जारी रखने को बढ़ावा देना तथा डिजिटल शिक्षा को मजबूत करना है।

B. **वेट्री कौशल प्रशिक्षण योजना, 2026:** तमिलनाडु ने ₹150 करोड़ की वेट्री कौशल प्रशिक्षण योजना की घोषणा की है। इसके तहत 13 लाख युवाओं को उद्योग की जरूरत के अनुसार प्रशिक्षण दिया जाएगा, जिसमें 12 लाख कॉलेज छात्र और 1 लाख बेरोजगार युवा शामिल हैं। योजना में मासिक स्टाइपेंड के साथ इंटर्नशिप की सुविधा भी दी जाएगी। ऐसे परिवारों के युवाओं को प्राथमिकता दी जाएगी, जिनके पास स्थायी रोजगार नहीं है। इसका उद्देश्य युवाओं की रोजगार क्षमता बढ़ाना और उनके कौशल को उद्योग की बदलती जरूरतों के अनुरूप तैयार करना है।

II. ओडिशा

A. **मुख्यमंत्री जनजातीय जीविका मिशन (एम.एम.जे.जे.एम) 2.0:** ओडिशा ने एम.एम.जे.जे.एम 2.0 को मंजूरी दी है। इसके तहत पांच वर्षों में ₹2,995 करोड़ खर्च किए जाएंगे और 19 जिलों के करीब 8 लाख आदिवासी परिवारों को आजीविका के लिए सहायता दी जाएगी। इसमें विशेष रूप से कमजोर जनजातीय समूह (PVTG) के परिवार भी शामिल हैं। मिशन के तहत प्रत्येक परिवार को ₹30,000 की सहायता डी.बी.टी के माध्यम से सीधे बैंक खातों मे भेजी जाएगी। इसके साथ ही कृषि, पशुपालन, वन आधारित व्यवसाय, प्रसंस्करण, भंडारण और बाजार से जोड़ने के लिए भी सहायता दी जाएगी। इसका उद्देश्य आदिवासी परिवारों की आय बढ़ाना और उनकी आर्थिक स्थिति को मजबूत करना है।

मुख्य घोषणाएँ

III. गुजरात

A. **नमो लक्ष्मी–नमो सरस्वती छात्रवृत्ति वितरण पहल:** गुजरात ने नमो लक्ष्मी और नमो सरस्वती योजनाओं के तहत 4.72 लाख छात्रों को ₹646 करोड़ से अधिक की राशि हस्तांतरित की है। इन योजनाओं के माध्यम से कक्षा 9 से 12 तक की छात्राओं और कक्षा 11-12 के विज्ञान वर्ग के छात्रों को DBT के जरिए आर्थिक सहायता दी जाती है। इसका उद्देश्य छात्रों को पढ़ाई जारी रखने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करना, स्कूल छोड़ने की दर कम करना और STEM (विज्ञान, प्रौद्योगिकी, अभियांत्रिकी एवं गणित) शिक्षा में अधिक भागीदारी बढ़ाना है।

निवेश घोषणाएँ

I. मध्य प्रदेश

A. **ग्वालियर टेलीकॉम मैन्युफैक्चरिंग जोन (TMZ) के लिए ₹1,550 करोड़ के निवेश प्रस्ताव:** मध्य प्रदेश को प्रस्तावित ग्वालियर टेलीकॉम मैन्युफैक्चरिंग जोन के लिए पांच कंपनियों से ₹1,550 करोड़ के निवेश प्रस्ताव मिले हैं। इनसे लगभग 3,600 प्रत्यक्ष रोजगार पैदा होने की संभावना है। इस जोन को टेलीकॉम उपकरणों के निर्माण, परीक्षण और शोध एवं विकास (R&D) के लिए एक विशेष औद्योगिक क्लस्टर के रूप में विकसित किया जा रहा है। यहां प्लग-एंड-प्ले बुनियादी ढांचा, रियायती दर पर जमीन और बिजली, पूंजीगत सहायता तथा रोजगार से जुड़े प्रोत्साहन उपलब्ध कराने की व्यवस्था होगी।

II. ओडिशा

A. **ओडिशा खाद्य प्रसंस्करण निवेश प्रोत्साहन पहल, 2026:** ओडिशा ने फूडप्रो 2026 के दौरान खाद्य प्रसंस्करण क्षेत्र में ₹43,437 करोड़ के निवेश प्रस्ताव हासिल किए हैं, जिससे लगभग 43,316 रोजगार मिलने की उम्मीद है। इस पहल के तहत विशेष खाद्य प्रसंस्करण क्लस्टर, कोल्ड-चेन और वेयरहाउसिंग सुविधाओं, गुणवत्ता और प्रमाणन व्यवस्था को मजबूत करने पर जोर दिया गया है। साथ ही, एफ.पी.ओ, एम.एस.एम.ई और महिला स्वयं सहायता समूहों (SHGs) को संगठित खाद्य मूल्य श्रृंखला से जोड़ने पर भी ध्यान दिया जाएगा।

अन्य निर्णय

I. गोवा

A. **गोवा राज्य पोल्ट्री विकास निगम का गठन:** गोवा ने राज्य में पोल्ट्री उत्पादन बढ़ाने और दूसरे राज्यों पर निर्भरता कम करने के लिए गोवा राज्य पोल्ट्री विकास निगम के बोर्ड का गठन किया है। निगम पोल्ट्री फार्म, ब्रीडर यूनिट और हैचरी को सहायता देगा, पोल्ट्री उत्पादन और व्यापार को नियंत्रित करेगा तथा प्रसंस्करण और बाजार से जुड़ी व्यवस्था को मजबूत करेगा। इससे राज्य में पोल्ट्री उत्पादों की स्थानीय आपूर्ति बेहतर होने की उम्मीद है।

Reform Decisions

I. Rajasthan

A. Code on Wages (Rajasthan) Rules, 2026
Source: The Government Of Rajasthan | **Impact**: High

1. On 12th August, 2026, the Rajasthan Labour Department notified the Code on Wages (Rajasthan) Rules, 2026.
2. The rules aim to operationalise the Code on Wages, 2019 in Rajasthan by establishing **procedures for minimum wage fixation**, skill-based wage classification, variable dearness allowance revision, working hours, wage deductions, wage records and claims, and institutional oversight.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The rules propose minimum wages based on a standard working-class family of three adult consumption units, with 2,700 calories per consumption unit per day, 66 metres of clothing annually, housing costs at 10% of food and clothing expenditure, fuel and miscellaneous expenses at 20%, and education, medical, recreation and contingencies at 25% of minimum wages.
   b. They classify occupations into four categories that are unskilled, semi-skilled, skilled and highly skilled, with a technical committee empowered to advise on occupational classification.
   c. They mandate revision of Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA) twice a year, effective from 1st April and 1st October linked to the Consumer Price Index published by the Labour Bureau.
   d. Further, the rules provide for a maximum 48-hour working week, a 10.5-hour daily spread-over for six-day working weeks, a minimum 30-minute rest interval after five hours of continuous work, and one weekly rest day.
   e. Additionally, they cap total wage deductions at 50% of wages in a wage period and require employers to maintain wage records, issue wage slips and preserve prescribed registers for five years.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment** - The rules align with the Code on Wages, 2019,[1] one of the four central labour codes, which consolidates and simplifies central laws relating to wages, minimum wages and bonus payments.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States** - Gujarat[2] has already notified final rules under all four labour codes, while Uttar Pradesh[3] and Karnataka[4] have issued draft rules under the Code on Wages, 2019, as part of their respective state-level rollout of the central labour code framework.

[1] The Code On Wages, 2019.
[2] Commissionerate Of Labour.
[3] NDTV, June, 2026.
[4] Karnataka Labour Commissioner Office.

A. Code on Wages (Rajasthan) Rules, 2026
Source: The Government Of Rajasthan | **Impact**: High

6. **Relevance -**
    a. The rules are significant because the Code on Wages, 2019 became operational nationally on 21st November, 2025, creating a statutory right to minimum wages and timely payment of wages across organised and unorganised sectors.[5] The Rajasthan Rules prescribe the methodology and state-level procedures for fixing and revising minimum wages, including skill classification, Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA)[6] revision and wage records, but do not themselves announce a new minimum-wage rate for the state.
    b. Rajasthan has around 1.55 crore unorganised workers registered on the e-Shram portal as of 14th July, 2026, indicating the scale of the workforce covered by wage-protection mechanisms.[7] The rules address this gap through standardised minimum-wage fixation, periodic VDA revision and mandatory wage slips, strengthening wage transparency and compliance across a large and fragmented workforce.
    c. Further, the rules also simplify a previously fragmented compliance framework. The four central labour codes collectively rationalised 29 central labour laws, with the Union Government emphasising reduced multiplicity of definitions and authorities and greater use of technology in enforcement.[8] Rajasthan's consolidated registers, electronic records and common claims procedures translate this simplification into state-level wage administration.
    d. The framework is also relevant to Rajasthan's broader effort to balance Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) with worker protection. The state has separately eased regulatory requirements for MSMEs through initiatives such as Raj Udyog Mitra, which provides exemptions from specified approvals and inspections for eligible enterprises.[9]
    e. The rules complement this approach by providing employers with standardised compliance procedures while retaining minimum-wage, overtime, wage-slip and grievance safeguards for employees.

[5] PIB, February, 2026.
[6] VDA is periodically revised based on changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to offset inflation and rising living costs, thereby protecting workers' real wages.
[7] PIB, July, 2026.
[8] PIB, December, 2026.
[9] Rising Rajasthan.

B. The Draft Rajasthan Uniform Civil Code Bill, 2026
Source: The Hindu | **Impact**: High

1. On 13th August, 2026, the Rajasthan Cabinet approved the draft Rajasthan Uniform Civil Code Bill, 2026 for introduction in the state Legislative Assembly.
2. The Bill seeks to establish a uniform legal framework for **personal civil matters** including marriage, divorce, succession and inheritance, while retaining religious and customary forms of marriage.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The Bill requires registration of marriages within 60 days of solemnisation, while continuing to recognise ceremonies such as Saptapadi, Nikah, Anand Karaj and Christian matrimonial rites.
   b. It proposes uniform provisions relating to marriage, divorce, inheritance and succession across communities.
   c. It also prohibits polygamy by requiring that neither party have a living spouse at the time of marriage.
   d. The Bill provides for registration of live-in relationships and seeks to introduce a formal legal framework governing such relationships.
   e. The proposed framework seeks to provide equal inheritance rights for men and women, while preserving constitutional protections and customary practices of tribal communities.
4. **Legal Alignment -** The Bill aligns with Article 44 of the Directive Principles of State Policy,[10] and also builds upon the constitutional principles of gender equality reinforced through judicial interventions, including the Supreme Court's landmark judgment in *Shayara Bano* v. *Union of India* (2017), which declared the practice of instant triple talaq (talaq-e-biddat) unconstitutional.[11]
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Uttarakhand,[12] Assam,[13] and Gujarat[14] have implemented their respective Uniform Civil Codes, while Madhya Pradesh[15] has passed its Uniform Civil Code legislation and is in the process of bringing it into force.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. Rajasthan currently regulates personal matters through multiple community-specific and secular laws, including the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955,[16] the Hindu Succession Act, 1956,[17] the Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act,

[10] Directive Principles Of State Policy, Article 44.
[11] Supreme Court Observer, July, 2022.
[12] Uniform Civil Code, Uttarakhand, 2024.
[13] Uniform Civil Code, Assam, 2026.
[14] Gujarat Uniform Civil Code Act, 2026.
[15] The Hindu, July, 2026.
[16] Hindu Marriage Act, 1955.
[17] Hindu Succession Act, 1956.

B. The Draft Rajasthan Uniform Civil Code Bill, 2026
Source: The Hindu | **Impact**: High

1937,[18] the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872,[19] the Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act, 1936[20] and the secular Special Marriage Act, 1954.[21] The Bill seeks to establish common rules across specified personal civil matters, reducing differences arising from separate legal regimes.

b. Moreover, the latest national family health survey records that 24.6% of women aged 20–24 in Rajasthan were married before 18, compared with 25.4% in the previous round, indicating limited progress.[22] This highlights gaps in enforcement and registration, which the Bill seeks to address through mandatory registration and a uniform framework governing marriage-related civil rights.

c. The Bill particularly emphasises gender equality, with the proposed framework including prohibition of polygamy and equal rights for men and women in ancestral property. These provisions seek to establish more uniform safeguards in family and succession matters.

d. Further, mandatory marriage registration within 60 days will strengthen documentary proof of marital status while continuing to recognise ceremonies such as Saptapadi, Nikah, Anand Karaj and Christian marriage rites. This can improve legal certainty in disputes involving maintenance, inheritance and marital status.

e. Additionally, it is pertinent to note that the Rajasthan Government has kept the tribal community outside this legislative framework, in order to conserve their constitutionally protected customs and practices. This seeks to balance legal uniformity with protection of tribal customary systems.

f. Furthermore, Rajasthan can also draw on Uttarakhand's implementation experience. Uttarakhand's official UCC portal[23] already provides digital services for marriage and divorce registration, live-in relationships, declaration of legal heirs and testamentary succession, offering an operational model for digital administration of a state-level UCC.

[18] The Muslim Personal (Shariat) Application Act, 1937.
[19] The Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872.
[20] The Parsi Marriage And Divorce Act, 1936.
[21] Special Marriage Act, 1956.
[22] NFHS-6 State-Wise Analysis, SBI Research, June, 2026.
[23] Uttarakhand UCC Portal.

C. Rajasthan Industrial Relation Rules, 2026
Source: The Government Of Rajasthan | **Impact**: High

1. On 12th August, 2026, the Rajasthan Labour Department notified the Rajasthan Industrial Relations Rules, 2026.
2. The rules prescribe the **state-level procedures** required to implement the Industrial Relations Code, 2020,[24] which came into force nationally in November, 2025, covering trade union recognition, collective bargaining, grievance redressal, dispute resolution, strikes, lay-offs, retrenchment and closure.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The rules establish Works Committees with a maximum of 20 members, worker representation not lower than employer representation, proportional representation of women, and a minimum one meeting every three months.
   b. The rules create a clearer collective bargaining framework by defining how worker representation is determined. This can reduce competing union claims and provide employers with a recognised counterpart for negotiations.
   c. Further, provision recognises a sole negotiating union where a single registered union has at least 30% worker membership. Where multiple unions operate, the Industrial Relations Code, 2020 applies a 51% threshold for sole recognition and provides for a negotiating council where no union meets that threshold.
   d. Moreover, the rules mandate trade unions to maintain statutory records, file annual returns by 31st July, undergo prescribed audits, and maintain minimum annual subscriptions of ₹ 20 for rural workers, ₹ 30 for unorganised-sector workers and ₹ 50 for other workers.
   e. They also provide prescribed procedures and forms for settlements, voluntary arbitration, strikes, lock-outs, lay-offs, retrenchment and closure, including electronic submission of specified labour compliances and re-employment preference for retrenched workers for one year.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The rules complete Rajasthan's state-level procedural framework under the Industrial Relations Code, 2020,[25] which came into force nationally on 21st November, 2025. The Centre subsequently notified the Industrial Relations (Central) Rules, 2026 on 8th May, 2026, prescribing corresponding procedures for establishments under Central Government jurisdiction.[26]
5. **Similar initiatives In Other States -** Gujarat[27] and Arunachal Pradesh[28] have notified

[24] PIB, November, 2025.
[25] The Industrial Relations Code, 2020.
[26] Industrial Relations (Central) Rules, 2026.
[27] Commissionerate Of Labour.
[28] The Code On Wages (Arunachal Pradesh) Rules, 2022.

C. Rajasthan Industrial Relation Rules, 2026
Source: The Government Of Rajasthan | **Impact**: High

final rules under all four labour codes including the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, while Karnataka[29] and Mizoram[30] have notified rules under select codes.

6. **Relevance -**
    a. Rajasthan's industry sector contributed 26.55% of the state's GSVA in 2025–26, with manufacturing growing by 7.84%.[31] The rules **standardise collective bargaining**, grievance redressal and procedures for retrenchment, lay-offs and closure, enabling firms to manage workforce-related disputes and restructuring through defined processes.
    b. The rules formalise collective bargaining by recognising a single union with at least 30% worker membership, while multiple-union establishments follow the Industrial Relations Code, 2020's 51% threshold for sole recognition or a negotiating council where no union meets that threshold. Secret-ballot verification and a three-year recognition period provide greater clarity in determining worker representation.
    c. Earlier, industrial relations in Rajasthan were governed by separate rules for industrial disputes, standing orders and trade unions. The rules repeal the Rajasthan Industrial Disputes Rules, 1958,[32] Rajasthan Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Rules, 1963[33] and Rajasthan Trade Union Regulation Rules, 1959,[34] consolidating these requirements under a single framework aligned with the Industrial Relations Code, 2020. This reduces regulatory fragmentation and simplifies compliance across industrial relations processes.
    d. At the same time, the rules seek to balance worker protection with greater procedural certainty for businesses through electronic filings, defined timelines for dispute proceedings and a mechanism for compounding eligible offences. This aligns with the Rajasthan Labour Department's stated objective of maintaining harmonious industrial relations while improving productivity, competitiveness and labour welfare.[35]

[29] Karnataka Labour Commissioner Office.
[30] The Draft Mizoram Code On Wages Rules, 2026.
[31] Rajasthan Economic Review, 2025-26.
[32] The Rajasthan Industrial Disputes Rules, 1958.
[33] Rajasthan Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Rules, 1963.
[34] Rajasthan Trade Union Regulation Rules, 1959.
[35] Rajasthan Labour Department.

D. The Draft Rajasthan Trees (Protection) Bill, 2026
Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 13th August, 2026, the Rajasthan Cabinet approved the draft Rajasthan Trees (Protection) Bill, 2026 for introduction in the state Legislative Assembly.
2. The Bill seeks to prevent indiscriminate tree cutting, protect ecologically important native species and establish a **permission-based framework** for felling trees outside notified forest areas.
3. **Key Features -**
    a. The draft proposes protection for 29 identified tree species, including Rajasthan's state tree, Khejri, and Peepal.
    b. It requires prior permission for felling protected trees even where they stand on private or non-forest land.
    c. It also classifies unauthorised felling of protected trees as an offence punishable with imprisonment of up to one year and a fine of up to ₹ 1 lakh.
    d. It seeks to regulate tree removal associated with development and infrastructure projects while strengthening conservation outside traditional forest areas.
    e. It mandates compensatory plantation to offset trees permitted to be felled under the proposed framework.
    f. Further, the draft follows recommendations of a state committee constituted in March, 2026 to examine tree-protection laws, judicial decisions and stakeholder concerns.
4. **Legal Alignment -** The draft reinforces the constitutional environmental principles under Articles 48A and 51A(g)[36] and responds to the Rajasthan High Court's May, 2026 direction that trees, particularly Khejri, should not be felled without prior approval under applicable law.[37]
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Delhi released the Draft Delhi Preservation of Trees (Agro-forestry and Exempted Plantation Species) Rules, 2026[38] to update the regulatory framework for tree felling and agroforestry species. Maharashtra has also streamlined tree-felling permissions by reducing approval timelines for industrial and Government projects from 30 to 15 days while retaining compensatory plantation requirements.[39] Moreover, Karnataka continues to regulate tree felling through the Karnataka Preservation of Trees Act, 1976.[40]

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[36] Environmental Laws In India.
[37] *Shri Jambeshwar Paryavaran Evam Jeev Raksha Pradesh Sansthan* v. *State Of Rajasthan*, Civil Writ Petition (No. 18852/2025).
[38] Delhi Forest Department.
[39] The Times Of India, May, 2026.
[40] Karnataka's Preservation Of Trees Act, 1976.

D. The Draft Rajasthan Trees (Protection) Bill, 2026
Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: Medium

6. **Relevance -**
   a. The draft addresses a regulatory gap on private and non-forest land, where the existing legal framework does not apply in the same manner as in notified forest areas. In an NGT matter (2025) which involved solar development in Bikaner, the Tribunal recorded that the affected land was Khatedari and non-forest land, placing the felled trees outside the framework of the Rajasthan Forest Act, 1953. The same proceedings involved damage to about 290 Khejri trees.[41]
   b. The draft also responds to growing conflict between renewable-energy expansion and Khejri conservation in western Rajasthan. The Rajasthan High Court in May, 2026 considered allegations that Khejri trees were being indiscriminately cleared for solar projects and directed that no trees be felled without prior approval under law.[42] This is significant because around 45,000 acres had reportedly been allocated for solar parks in western Rajasthan over the previous five years, increasing pressure on native vegetation.[43]
   c. Further, existing penalties have also provided weak deterrence. In 2022, a case involving the cutting of 250 Khejri trees was brought before the NGT. The authorities reported a penalty of only ₹ 100 per tree under the Rajasthan Tenancy Act, 1955,[44] which the Tribunal itself described as inadequate and supplemented with compensatory plantation and environmental compensation.[45]
   d. Khejri is particularly important to Rajasthan's desert ecology. The Rajasthan High Court described it as a rare desert tree of ecological significance capable of surviving the region's harsh climate and also noted its cultural association with the Bishnoi community and the 1730 Khejarli sacrifice.[46] Extending statutory protection to Khejri and other native species can therefore protect biodiversity while managing the ecological impact of infrastructure expansion.
   e. Under Hariyalo Rajasthan, the state has set a target of planting and nurturing 10 crore saplings in FY 2026–27. The official portal also reported around 1.90 crore plantations across 41 districts by 27th July, 2026.[47] The draft, therefore, also reinforces Rajasthan's wider afforestation strategy.

[41] *Ram Ratan Jakhar* v. *Union Of India Ministry Of Environment*, Original Application No. 121/2025(CZ).
[42] *Shri Jambeshwar Paryavaran Evam Jeev Raksha Pradesh Sansthan* v. *State Of Rajasthan*, Civil Writ Petition (No. 18852/2025).
[43] The Times Of India, February, 2026.
[44] Rajasthan Tenancy (Government) Rules, 1955.
[45] NGT.
[46] The Times Of India, May, 2026.
[47] Hariyalo Rajasthan.

II. Odisha

A. Odisha Development Authorities (Amendment) Bill, 2026
Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: High

1. On 1st August, 2026, the Odisha Cabinet approved the Odisha Development Authorities (Amendment) Bill, 2026.
2. The Bill seeks to provide a statutory framework for **integrated planning and development** across multi-city economic regions, enabling coordinated infrastructure, mobility, investment and service delivery beyond individual municipal and development-authority boundaries.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The Bill amends the Odisha Development Authorities Act, 1982[48] by introducing statutory definitions for an "Economic Region" and an "Economic Region Development Authority (ERDA)."
   b. It inserts a new Chapter IIA providing for the constitution, powers and functioning of ERDAs for coordinated development of designated economic regions.
   c. It enables the state Government to notify additional ERDAs in future without requiring a separate legislative enactment for each economic region.
   d. The Bhubaneswar–Cuttack–Puri–Paradip Economic Region (BCPPER) is proposed as the first economic region, integrating major urban centres, industrial hubs, ports, logistics networks and tourism destinations. Its economic plan has already been prepared in collaboration with NITI Aayog.
   e. Further, Odisha also proposes similar regional development frameworks for the Bargarh–Jharsuguda–Sambalpur, Berhampur–Chhatrapur–Gopalpurand, and Jeypore–Koraput–Sunabeda urban agglomerations in subsequent phases.
   f. ERDAs are intended to function as overarching regional bodies coordinating multiple existing development authorities, district administrations and line departments within a notified economic region.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The Bill aligns with the City Economic Regions (CER) initiative announced in the Union Budget 2026–27,[49] which seeks to develop urban agglomerations around their specific economic growth drivers and provides ₹ 5,000 crore per CER over five years through a challenge-mode, reform- and results-linked financing framework.[50]
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Maharashtra follows a comparable regional planning model through the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA), which undertakes regional planning, growth-centre development and

[48] Orissa Development Authorities Act, 1982.
[49] Budget 2026-27.
[50] PIB, March, 2026.

A. Odisha Development Authorities (Amendment) Bill, 2026
Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: High

infrastructure coordination across the Mumbai Metropolitan Region.[51] Gujarat similarly uses Special Investment Regions under the Gujarat SIR Act, 2009, including Dholera, to develop large integrated economic and infrastructure regions.[52]

6. **Relevance -**
   a. Odisha is targeting 60% urbanisation by 2047, with major agglomerations expected to contribute over 60% of state GSDP and BCPPER alone approximately 33% of state GSDP.[53] As economic activity becomes increasingly concentrated across connected urban centres, the Bill creates a common planning framework to coordinate infrastructure, investment and urban growth across the region.
   b. Odisha currently has separate development authorities for Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Puri-Konark and Paradip, each operating within its own planning jurisdiction.[54] The ERDA framework can therefore address coordination gaps where infrastructure, investment and commuting patterns extend across these individual jurisdictions.
   c. Additionally, the BCPPER combines four complementary growth centres across Khurda, Cuttack, Puri and Jagatsinghpur districts. Bhubaneswar serves as an administrative and knowledge hub, Cuttack as a commercial centre, Puri as a tourism hub and Paradip as a port-led industrial centre. A common regional authority can coordinate infrastructure and investment planning across these interconnected centres.
   d. At the same time, the Bill positions Odisha to benefit from the Centre's CER initiative, which proposes ₹ 5,000 crore per CER over five years through a challenge-mode and reform-cum-results-based financing mechanism.[55] Establishing statutory regional authorities can strengthen institutional responsibility for preparing and implementing projects under this framework.
   e. Moreover, Odisha's BCPPER strategy spans innovation, tourism, logistics, high-tech manufacturing, education, medical tourism, multimodal connectivity and port-led development.[56] A dedicated ERDA can align land use, infrastructure and economic development across these sectors and coordinate their implementation across the region.

[51] Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority..
[52] Dholera Special Investment Region Development Authority.
[53] Odisha Vision 2036-47.
[54] Department Of Housing And Urban Development.
[55] PIB, February, 2026.
[56] Odisha Vision 2036-47.

III. Andhra Pradesh

A. Draft Andhra Pradesh Omnibus (Ease Of Doing Business) Act, 2026
Source: The Hindu Businessline | **Impact**: High

1. On 6th August, 2026, the Andhra Pradesh Cabinet approved the draft Andhra Pradesh Omnibus (Ease of Doing Business) Act, 2026.
2. The draft aims to institutionalise time-bound approvals, reduce compliance burdens and streamline business and Government interactions through a predictable digital regulatory framework.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The draft proposes time-bound approvals and deemed approvals for specified business-related services where competent authorities fail to act within prescribed timelines.
   b. It provides for a single-window mechanism integrating approvals and clearances across multiple Government departments.
   c. It introduces risk-based inspections to reduce unnecessary physical inspections and regulatory discretion.
   d. It enables digital processing of approvals, reducing documentation and physical interface requirements.
   e. It also establishes defined timelines and accountability for delays in statutory clearances.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The draft aligns with DPIIT's District Business Reform Action Plan (D-BRAP), 2025[57] which identifies 154 reforms to simplify regulatory approvals, improve service delivery and compliance systems and strengthen investment facilitation at the district level.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Arunachal Pradesh enacted the Ease of Doing Business Act, 2021[58] establishing a statutory single-window framework for business approvals, clearances, registrations and renewals through an online portal. Chhattisgarh provides for time-bound clearances and deemed approvals under the Chhattisgarh Industrial Investment Promotion Act, 2002[59] while Telangana's Telangana State Industrial Project Approval and Self Certification System (TS-iPASS) Rules, 2015[60] provides for deemed approvals where specified clearances are not issued within prescribed timelines.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. The earlier framework exposed businesses to criminal proceedings for routine compliance lapses, increasing regulatory uncertainty and litigation without

[57] PIB, December, 2025.
[58] The Arunachal Pradesh Ease Of Doing Business Act, 2021.
[59] Chhattisgarh Industrial Investment Promotion Act, 2002.
[60] Telangana State Industrial Project Approval and Self Certification System (TS-iPASS) Rules, 2015

A. Draft Andhra Pradesh Omnibus (Ease Of Doing Business) Act, 2026
Source: The Hindu Businessline | **Impact**: High
proportionate public harm.[61] The draft addresses this by replacing criminal prosecution for minor violations with civil penalties, reducing litigation and enforcement burden while promoting voluntary compliance and a more predictable investment environment. b. Andhra Pradesh has secured 756 projects worth ₹ 21.64 lakh crore with potential for 21.2 lakh jobs, but the Government has set September, 2026 as the deadline for grounding approved projects,[62] indicating an execution gap between investment approval and implementation. The draft can help close this gap by reducing inter-departmental clearance delays and making regulatory approvals more time-bound and predictable. c. Andhra Pradesh is already among the three "Top Performers" under BRAP, 2024, alongside Gujarat and Kerala.[63] The draft can build on this position by moving beyond individual compliance reforms to an omnibus legislative framework, enabling the state to implement the 154 reforms identified under D-BRAP, 2025 through a more coordinated and standardised process. d. MSMEs often lack the administrative capacity to navigate complex multi-departmental approvals. Replacing physical paperwork with automated digital processing and risk-based inspections lowers compliance overhead for small business owners.

[61] Biz Andhra, August, 2026.
[62] Deccan Chronicle, May, 2026.
[63] The Indian Express, September, 2024.

B. Draft AYUSH Private Medical Care Establishments (Registration And Regulation) Rules, 2026

Source: The Hindu, The New Indian Express | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 5th August, 2026, the Andhra Pradesh Government released the draft Andhra Pradesh AYUSH Private Medical Care Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Rules, 2026.
2. The draft rules seek to operationalise the February 2026 amendment to the Andhra Pradesh Allopathic Private Medical Care Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2002,[64] which brought AYUSH establishments within its regulatory ambit, by prescribing procedures and requirements for regulating private AYUSH facilities.
3. **Key Features -**
    a. The draft rules classify private AYUSH clinics, polyclinics, nursing homes, hospitals, and diagnostic centres into seven categories based on bed capacity and scope of services.
    b. They enable applications through a dedicated Clinical Establishment Online Portal, with immediate provisional registration valid for 90 days and permanent registration valid for five years after inspection.
    c. They also mandate a two-member medical expert inspection within 10 days covering infrastructure, diagnostic equipment, staffing, sanitation, and biomedical waste disposal.
    d. The draft rules propose auto-renewal where renewal applications remain undecided for three months and establish a State Appellate Board under the Health Secretary for registration appeals.
    e. They mandate display of treatment tariffs in Telugu and English and prescribe registration fees from ₹ 3,000 for single-doctor clinics to ₹ 50,000 for hospitals with over 200 beds, with penalties including a 50% fine on registration fees, suspension, or cancellation.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The draft rules align with the Minimum Standards for AYUSH Clinical Establishment,[65] which provide standards for the registration and regulation of AYUSH healthcare establishments.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** The Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010 has been adopted by 19 states and UTs,[66] while Gujarat,[67] Karnataka[68] and Telangana[69] have established or amended regulatory frameworks for

[64] The Times Of India, February, 2026.
[65] Minimum Standards For Clinic Or Polyclinic (Only Consultation) Of Ayush.
[66] Ministry Of Health And Family Welfare.
[67] Gujarat Clinical Establishments (Registration And Regulation) (Amendment) Act, 2026.
[68] Karnataka Private Medical Establishments Act, 2007.
[69] Telangana Clinical Establishments (Registration And Regulation) Rules, 2022.

B. Draft AYUSH Private Medical Care Establishments (Registration And Regulation) Rules, 2026
Source: The Hindu, The New Indian Express | **Impact**: Medium

the registration and regulation of clinical and healthcare establishments.

6. **Relevance -**
   a. Private allopathic establishments in Andhra Pradesh have long been subject to mandatory registration, inspections and minimum standards under the Private Medical Care Establishments framework, while private AYUSH facilities were outside this regulatory framework. The draft Rules close this regulatory asymmetry by introducing mandatory registration, inspections and minimum standards for private AYUSH establishments, bringing them under a comparable regulatory framework.
   b. Andhra Pradesh has 8,324 registered AYUSH practitioners,[70] supported by 737 dispensaries and 365 hospital beds across the state.[71] However, the growing private AYUSH sector requires a common regulatory framework to ensure that establishments meet minimum standards for infrastructure, staffing, and service delivery. The draft rules address this gap through mandatory registration, category-wise standards, and inspections for private AYUSH establishments.
   c. Andhra Pradesh is expanding its AYUSH infrastructure through 150 health centres at an estimated cost of ₹ 44 crore, including 90 modernised and 60 new facilities across Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and district hospitals.[72] With this expansion spanning multiple AYUSH systems, the proposed seven-category classification, mandatory inspection and five-year registration provide a common regulatory framework for private establishments based on their size and scope of services.
   d. Further, Andhra Pradesh added 565 healthcare facilities to the Health Facility Registry during 2021–26,[73] indicating an expanding digital health-facility ecosystem. Requiring private AYUSH establishments to register through the Clinical Establishment Online Portal can bring them into a structured registry, strengthening monitoring of providers, services and regulatory compliance.

[70] The New Indian Express, May, 2026.
[71] Ayush In India Report, 2024.
[72] The Economic Times, March, 2026.
[73] PIB, December, 2025.

IV. Uttar Pradesh

A. The Uttar Pradesh Board Of Madarsa Education (Amendment) Bill, 2026
Source: The Government Of Uttar Pradesh | **Impact:** High

1. On 4th August, 2026, the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved the Uttar Pradesh Board of Madarsa Education (Amendment) Bill, 2026.
2. The amendment aims to align the madrasa education framework with the Supreme Court's ruling that the Madarsa Board cannot confer higher education degrees, while restricting the Board's jurisdiction to school-level education and providing a pathway for Kamil and Fazil courses through recognised higher education institutions.
3. **Key Features -**
    a. The amendment limits the Board's jurisdiction to Munshi, Maulvi and Alim levels, corresponding to school-level education up to the Class 12-equivalent stage.
    b. The amendment relinquishes the Board's authority over Kamil and Fazil courses, including their curriculum, examinations and degree awards.
    c. The amendment retains the Board's regulatory role over recognised madrasa institutions offering school-level education.
    d. Kamil and Fazil courses are proposed to be brought under the recognised university system, with Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti Language University, Lucknow, proposed as the institutional route.
    e. Further, recognised universities assume responsibility for conducting examinations and awarding Kamil and Fazil degrees under the applicable higher education framework.
4. **Legal Alignment -** The amendment fulfills the Supreme Court's judgment in *Anjum Kadari* v. *Union of India*, which held that the Uttar Pradesh Board of Madarsa Education could not confer Kamil and Fazil degrees as higher education qualifications under the existing statutory framework.[74]
5. **Relevance -**
    a. As of December, 2025, approximately 32,000 students remained enrolled in Kamil and Fazil programmes across Uttar Pradesh, indicating the scale of students affected by the Supreme Court's ruling on the Madarsa Board's degree-awarding powers.[75] The amendment formally limits the Board's jurisdiction to the Class 12-equivalent Alim level and removes its authority to award Kamil and Fazil qualifications, addressing the institutional gap created for these students.
    b. At the same time, the amendment is narrowly targeted at the higher-education segment of a much larger madrasa system. The Uttar Pradesh Madrasa Shiksha Board identifies 16,513 recognised madrasas serving around 20 lakh students,

[74] *Anjuman Kadari And Anr.* v. *Union of India And Ors.*, 2024 SCC OnLine SC 3129.
[75] Madhyamam Online, December, 2025.

A. The Uttar Pradesh Board Of Madarsa Education (Amendment) Bill, 2026
Source: The Government Of Uttar Pradesh | **Impact:** High
while the state Government's survey, conducted in 2022, identified another 8,596 unrecognised madrasas with 6.65 lakh students.[76] With only around 32,000 students enrolled in Kamil and Fazil programmes, the amendment preserves the school-level madrasa system up to the Alim level while bringing higher education under the appropriate university framework. c. Further, placing Kamil and Fazil within the university system can improve the formal recognition and portability of these qualifications for higher studies, competitive examinations and employment, as university-awarded degrees are governed through established higher education accreditation and equivalence mechanisms. This can reduce uncertainty for graduates over the validity and acceptance of qualifications across institutions and employers. d. Lastly, the lack of formal equivalence for Kamil and Fazil created a mismatch between their designation as higher education degrees and their actual employment recognition. The Uttar Pradesh Government told the Supreme Court that these qualifications were not recognised as alternatives to university graduation or post-graduation degrees.[77] The amendment addresses the abovementioned by shifting Kamil and Fazil into the recognised university system, providing a clearer framework for their academic and employment recognition.

[76] Hindustan Times, October, 2022.
[77] *Anjuman Kadari And Anr.* v. *Union of India And Ors.*, 2024 SCC OnLine SC 3129.

V. Karnataka

A. Guidelines Revising Karnataka's Police Transfer Policy
Source: The Times Of India, The Indian Express | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 1st August, 2026, the Karnataka Home Department issued the order with revised guidelines governing the posting and transfer of Deputy Superintendents of police (DySPs) and Police Inspectors (PIs), with mandated 5 year cooling periods.
2. The order seeks to curb lobbying and influence in transfers, ensure fixed tenures for officers and improve administrative stability and operational efficiency within the police department.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The order limits Deputy Superintendents of Police (DSPs) and Inspectors to a maximum cumulative of five years in executive posts covering Law and Order, Traffic, Central Crime Branch (CCB), Railway, Cyber and Women units across six city commissionerates.
   b. The provision mandates a minimum five-year non-urban posting after completion of five years in city executive posts before an officer becomes eligible for another city executive posting.
   c. It requires DSPs to complete two years in non-executive roles after promotion before becoming eligible for executive postings.
   d. The guidelines require officers completing their stipulated city executive tenure to undergo refresher training during the mandatory non-executive posting period, enabling them to update their professional and operational skills before becoming eligible for another executive posting.
   e. The order requires Inspectors to complete a minimum one-year non-executive posting before becoming eligible for executive roles, with such executive postings limited to two years.
   f. The order excludes officers facing corruption or disciplinary proceedings from appointment to executive posts in city commissionerates.
4. **Legal Alignment -** The revised policy fulfills the core mandate of the Supreme Court in *Prakash Singh* v. *Union of India* judgment, which required state Governments to establish fixed tenures for operational field officers and isolate personnel management from political interference.[78]
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States –** Maharashtra's Maharashtra Police (Amendment and Continuance) Act, 2014[79] provides fixed tenures for police personnel, while

[78] *Prakash Singh And Ors.* v. *Union Of India And Ors.*, (2006) 8 SCC 1.
[79] The Maharashtra Police (Amendment And Continuance) Act, 2014.

A. Guidelines Revising Karnataka's Police Transfer Policy
Source: The Times Of India, The Indian Express | **Impact**: Medium

Punjab's Punjab Police Act, 2007[80] provides institutional oversight of police transfers and postings.

6. **Relevance -**
   a. Karnataka's police force is operating with 18,581 vacancies against a sanctioned strength of 1.1 lakh as of March, 2025,[81] a shortfall the state's Home Department has itself confirmed. Since fixed tenures reduce the frequency with which officers are moved and re-trained in new jurisdictions, the revised policy raises the effective policing hours drawn from this already-constrained workforce without requiring fresh recruitment.
   b. Frequent, discretionary transfers can weaken operational continuity, as seen when Karnataka's proposed transfer of 200+ Police Inspectors in 2023 was put on hold following objections.[82] The new framework limits city postings to five years, followed by a five-year cooling-off period, reducing prolonged concentration in sensitive posts and strengthening institutional independence.
   c. The Karnataka Police (Amendment) Act, 2024[83] raised minimum tenure to two years only for Superintendents of Police (SPs), Circle Inspectors, and Station-in-charge Sub-Inspectors, while leaving out Deputy Superintendents of Police (DySPs) and Police Inspectors (PIs) postings in city commissionerates outside its scope, the same ranks exposed to urban-posting pressure, as seen when 127 PSIs, 130 ASIs, 999 head constables and 561 constables were transferred out of Bengaluru stations in 2021[84] after over-staying five years.
   d. The revised policy closes this gap by mandating non-executive posting after promotion and capping executive tenure at five years across the six city commissionerates.
   e. Continuity also has a direct bearing on policing quality as Karnataka's police-public ratio stood at 165.04 per lakh against a national average of 196.88 in 2025,[85] indicating the state is already short of the personnel needed to build local familiarity through numbers alone.

[80] The Punjab Police Act, 2007
[81] The New Indian Express, March, 2025.
[82] Deccan Herald, August, 2023.
[83] The Karnataka Police (Amendment) Act, 2024.
[84] Deccan Herald, August, 2021.
[85] The New Indian Express, March, 2025.

VI. Delhi

A. Delhi Fire Service (Amendment) Bill, 2026
Source: The Tribune | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 11th August, 2026, the Delhi Legislative Assembly passed the Delhi Fire Service (Amendment) Bill, 2026.
2. The amendment seeks to simplify Delhi's fire-safety regulatory framework, eliminate overlap between statutory provisions and technical building standards, and enable fire-prevention norms to be updated more flexibly through applicable building bye-laws.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. It replaces the reference to the National Building Code of India with building bylaws under Section 2(i) of the Delhi Fire Service Act, 2007.[86]
   b. It enables fire prevention and fire safety requirements to be prescribed, modified and updated through applicable building bylaws.
   c. It brings fire-safety requirements under the same building regulatory framework used for building planning, construction and approval.
   d. It enables technical fire-safety standards to be revised without requiring amendments to the principal Act for every regulatory change.
   e. It maintains consistency between the Delhi Fire Service Act, 2007 and the proposed amendments to the Delhi Fire Service Rules, 2010[87] by removing the corresponding National Building Code reference.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The Bill aligns with the National Building Code of India, 2016,[88] Part IV on Fire and Life Safety, by enabling fire safety provisions to be updated through applicable building bylaws instead of a fixed statutory reference to the Code.
5. **Similar Initiatives in Other States -** Maharashtra[89] and Karnataka[90] have undertaken building regulation reforms by aligning fire safety norms with state building bylaws and simplifying approval processes through single-window and digital compliance systems.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. The amendment comes amid significant fire-safety compliance gaps in Delhi. As of June 2025, only 101 of 898 functional cooperative group housing societies had a valid fire NOC, leaving nearly 89% without confirmed fire clearance and potentially affecting around 18 lakh residents.[91] By enabling fire-safety requirements to be updated through applicable building bylaws without amending the parent Act, the

[86] Delhi Fire Service Act, 2007.
[87] Delhi Fire Service Rules, 2010.
[88] National Building Code Of India, 2016.
[89] Maha Fireservice.
[90] The Hindu, August, 2025.
[91] NDTV, June, 2025.

A. Delhi Fire Service (Amendment) Bill, 2026
Source: The Tribune | **Impact**: Medium
amendment provides a more responsive regulatory framework to strengthen and standardise fire-safety compliance. b. Further, Fire-safety compliance remains weak across Delhi's hospitality sector, with only 52 hotels and 38 clubs out of more than 3,000 establishments holding valid Fire Safety Certificates in late 2025.[92] The amendment is therefore relevant because shifting technical requirements to building bylaws allows fire-safety standards to be updated more quickly and applied more consistently across high-occupancy establishments. c. In the longer term, the amendment can improve the responsiveness of Delhi's fire-safety framework by allowing technical standards on evacuation, fire access, suppression systems and building safety to be updated through building bylaws. This can reduce regulatory delays, improve consistency in compliance requirements and strengthen the system's ability to respond to evolving urban risks without repeated amendments to the parent Act.

[92] The Tribune, June, 2025.

VII. Ladakh

A. Decentralisation Of Change In Land-Use Approval
Source: The Administration Of Union Territory Of Ladakh | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 2nd August, 2026, the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh approved the decentralisation of Change of Land Use (CLU)[93] for development proposals in areas outside Municipal Committees.
2. The reform seeks to **accelerate land-use clearances**, reduce administrative delays and facilitate residential, commercial and industrial development.
3. **Key Features –**
   a. The reform authorises the Divisional Commissioner to approve Change of Land Use applications involving land measuring above 2 kanals and up to 4 kanals.
   b. It empowers the Chief Secretary to approve Change of Land Use proposals involving land measuring above 4 kanals and up to 2 acres.
   c. It retains the Lieutenant Governor's approval for proposals involving land measuring above 2 acres.
   d. The reform exempts residential, commercial, industrial and mixed-use development on land up to 2 kanals from prior approval, following the interim land-use framework approved on 7th July, 2026.[94]
   e. It requires prior approval for Red and Orange industries and specified high-impact activities across commercial, residential and mixed-use areas.
   f. The Revenue Department will issue operational guidelines for land use and construction outside Municipal Committee limits, with the mechanism operating until statutory Master Plans and Zonal Development Plans are notified.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** It aligns with the Government's Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) reforms, which prioritise Land Use for reducing regulatory burden and procedural delays.[95]
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States** - States such as Uttar Pradesh have also amended Section 80 of the Uttar Pradesh Revenue Code, 2006 in 2026 to remove duplicate land-conversion approvals in areas under development authorities, industrial development authorities, regulated areas and the Housing Board.[96] Karnataka[97] have simplified land-conversion approvals, while Uttarakhand has simplified and digitised its CLU process.
6. **Relevance –**

[93] Change of Land Use (CLU) is the statutory approval required to convert land from its existing permitted use (typically agricultural) to another use, such as residential, commercial, industrial, or institutional, under applicable planning laws.
[94] The New Indian Express, July, 2026.
[95] PIB, February, 2026.
[96] Indian Express, March, 2026.
[97] *Yeshwanth* v. *The Deputy Commissioner*, SLP(C) No. 17197/2025.

A. Decentralisation Of Change In Land-Use Approval
Source: The Administration Of Union Territory Of Ladakh | **Impact**: Medium
a. Ladakh's rapid tourism growth underscores the need for faster land-use approvals, with tourist arrivals rising 43.6%, from 81,827 to 1.17 lakh between January–May 2025 and January–May 2026.[98] The reform can reduce project gestation periods and regulatory uncertainty for hotels, homestays, restaurants, retail establishments, parking facilities and supporting tourism infrastructure. b. Ladakh currently has no notified Master Plans or Zonal Development Plans, creating uncertainty and delays in land-use approvals for residential, commercial and industrial projects. The decentralised framework acts as an interim mechanism to keep legitimate development moving until statutory spatial plans are notified.[99] c. The decision forms part of Ladakh's broader Compliance Reduction and Deregulation programme, under which the administration has sought to rationalise No Objection Certificates, simplify pre-establishment approvals, facilitate MSMEs through self-declaration mechanisms and reduce unnecessary inspections.[100] In May, 2026, Ladakh also launched an integrated Ease of Doing Business Portal to provide businesses and citizens a single digital interface for Government services and regulatory approvals.[101] d. Lastly, Ladakh's expanding administrative footprint provides a parallel rationale for the reform, with five new districts and 17 new tehsils operationalised in 2026, increasing the total number of tehsils from 15 to 32.[102] The delegation of land-use approvals to senior administrative officers complements this decentralisation by bringing decision-making closer to citizens and improving administrative efficiency.

[98] Ladakh UT.
[99] Ladakh UT.
[100] Ladakh UT.
[101] Ladakh UT.
[102] NDTV, July, 2026.

VIII. Maharashtra

A. Government Process Re-engineering (GPR) Initiative
Source: The Government Of Maharashtra | **Impact:** High

1. On 3rd August, 2026, the Maharashtra Government mandated five Government Process Re-engineering (GPR) initiatives across all administrative departments.
2. The initiative aims to make Government welfare schemes and routine administrative services more transparent, accessible and digital-first.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The initiative mandates online verification and digital validation, with citizen data auto-fetched from existing databases including Aadhaar and Maha Samanvay.
   b. It provides for phasing out physical document submissions where digital records are available, using DigiLocker, API-based interoperability and self-declarations.
   c. It limits decision-making to a maximum of three administrative tiers, with defined roles and responsibilities at each level.
   d. Reduces application approval/service-delivery time using technology and prescribes revised timelines under the Right to Public Services Act.
   e. The GPR Approval Committee provides state-level oversight under the Chief Secretary to evaluate departmental proposals, validate digital workflows and approve revised application forms and approval structures.
   f. MahaIT is tasked with upgrading Government portals and digital infrastructure, while departmental secretaries may directly issue orders for procedural changes not requiring legislative or major policy amendments.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The reforms align under e-kranti of Government of India's Digital India Programme, 2015[103] launched with the objective of providing Government services digitally through integrated and interoperable platforms and reducing dependence on physical documentation.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** States such as Karnataka,[104] Delhi,[105] Kerala[106,107] and Jammu and Kashmir[108] have introduced reforms for time-bound services, doorstep delivery, digital file processing and unified access to Government services.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. Maharashtra's Aaple Sarkar portal has received over 22.52 crore applications since October 2015, with over 21.15 crore disposed, but as of August, 2026, only 1,083 of 1,212 notified services are available online.[109] The initiative's auto-filling, digital

[103] Digital India, July, 2015.
[104] The Karnataka Sakala Services Act, 2011 And (Amendment) Act, 2014.
[105] Delhi Doorstep Delivery of Public Services Scheme, September, 2018.
[106] e-Office, Kerala State IT Mission, Department Of Electronics And Information Technology, March, 2014.
[107] e-Office Portal, Department Of Electronics And Information Technology, March, 2014.
[108] e-UNNAT Portal, Jammu And Kashmir, July, 2022.
[109] Aaple Sarkar Portal.

A. Government Process Re-engineering (GPR) Initiative
Source: The Government Of Maharashtra | **Impact**: High
verification and inter-departmental data integration can address these gaps by reducing manual documentation and enabling more services to be delivered through integrated digital workflows. b. Further, GPR could strengthen enforcement of Maharashtra's Right to Public Services Act, 2015,[110] which provides three levels of appeal and penalties of up to ₹ 5,000 for delayed or deficient service delivery.[111] By introducing automated verification, simpler workflows and fewer approval layers, the initiative could address process-level delays before they result in appeals or penalties. c. In addition, the Government has identified accumulated bureaucratic procedures as a source of administrative bottlenecks.[112] The initiative could address these constraints by capping decision-making at three tiers and placing revised processes under a Chief Secretary-led Approval Committee, potentially reducing unnecessary approval layers and accelerating administrative decisions.

110 Maharashtra Right To Public Services Act, 2015.
111 Maharashtra Labour Department Website.
112 The Hans India, May, 2026.

IX. Assam

A. Assam Unified School Management Committee (SMC) Framework
Source: North East Today | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 4th August, 2026, the Assam Government issued a notification revising the **constitution, roles and responsibilities** of School Management Committees (SMCs) across all Government and provincialised Lower Primary, Upper Primary, Secondary and Senior Secondary schools in the state.
2. The revised framework aims to establish a uniform SMC framework across all levels of Government and provincialised schools and strengthen community participation in school-level governance.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The Government mandates every Government and provincialised school to constitute an SMC within one month of commencement of the academic session.
   b. The framework replaces existing School Management Development Committees in Secondary and Senior Secondary schools with SMCs.
   c. The committees must have 75% representation of parents or guardians, at least 50% women members, and representation of SCs, STs, OBCs, Children with Special Needs (CWSN), and other Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) in School Management Committees (SMCs).
   d. The committee size varies by enrollment, with:
      i. 12–15 members for schools with up to 100 students;
      ii. 15–20 members for schools with 100–500 students; and
      iii. 20–25 members for schools with more than 500 students.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The revised norms align directly with the Ministry of Education's SMC Guidelines, 2026[113] which strengthen SMCs as school-level governance institutions with greater emphasis on community participation, student welfare, inclusivity, academic quality and transparency.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** States such as Andhra Pradesh,[114] Odisha,[115] Delhi,[116] Kerala[117] and Tamil Nadu[118] have provided for School Management Committees (SMCs) under their respective Right to Education rules and orders.
6. **Relevance -**

[113] Guidelines For School Management Committees (SMCs), Ministry Of Education, May, 2026.
[114] The Andhra Pradesh Right Of Children To Free And Compulsory Education Rules, September, 2010.
[115] The Orissa Right Of Children To Free And Compulsory Education Rule, 2010.
[116] Delhi School Education (Free Seats For Students Belonging To Economically Weaker Sections And Disadvantage Group) Order, 2011.
[117] The Right Of Children To Free And Compulsory Education Kerala Rules, 2010.
[118] Tamil Nadu Right Of Children To Free And Compulsory Education Rules, 2011.

A. Assam Unified School Management Committee (SMC) Framework
Source: North East Today | **Impact**: Medium
a. Under the Right to Education Act, 2009,[119] SMCs were mandated for elementary education, while Secondary and Higher Secondary schools followed separate School Management Development Committee (SMDC) arrangements.[120] Assam's shift to a unified SMC framework across all four school levels addresses this institutional fragmentation and extends community-based school governance through the secondary and higher secondary stages. b. At the same time, Assam's secondary-level dropout rate stood at 17.5% in 2024–25, more than twice the national average of 8.2%,[121] despite declining from 25.1% in 2023–24. The inclusion of secondary and higher secondary schools within the SMC framework, with membership of up to 25 in schools enrolling over 500 students, provides a broader institutional mechanism for community oversight at the stages where retention remains a significant challenge.[122] c. Beyond this, earlier SMDCs in Assam focused primarily on administrative and financial oversight, including fund utilisation, audits and discipline. The new SMC framework broadens representation to parents, alumni, subject experts, academicians and disadvantaged-group representatives, creating a more participatory governance structure and aligning the state's framework with the Ministry of Education's SMC Guidelines, 2026.[123] d. Further, Assam has 10.3 lakh students enrolled in Classes IX–XII, comprising 6.88 lakh students in Classes IX–X and 3.42 lakh in Classes XI–XII.[124] The new SMC framework brings parents, alumni, subject experts and disadvantaged-group representatives into school governance, creating a broader mechanism for identifying local barriers, improving school-level accountability and strengthening the delivery of education services. e. Lastly, mandating that at least 50% of SMC members be women and requiring proportionate representation for Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) and parents of Children with Special Needs (CwSN) ensures that school development plans prioritise safety, separate functional toilets, and inclusive learning environments.

[119] The Right Of Children To Free And Compulsory Education (Amendment) Act, 2019.
[120] The Sentinel Assam, August, 2026.
[121] PIB, July, 2026.
[122] The Times Of India, August, 2025.
[123] Samagra Shiksha Assam, Draft School Rule Book, 2023.
[124] UDISE+ 2024–25, Page 86.

Policy Level Announcements

I. Andhra Pradesh

A. Draft Public Private Partnership (PPP) Policy, 2026
Source: Telangana Today, Deccan Chronicle | **Impact**: High

1. On 6th August, 2026, the Andhra Pradesh Cabinet approved the draft Andhra Pradesh Public Private Partnership (PPP) Policy, 2026.
2. The policy aims to **mobilise private investment** for infrastructure and public services through a common PPP framework, supported by state Viability Gap Funding (VGF) for projects that are not initially commercially viable.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The policy allocates ₹ 1,500 crore as state VGF for FY 2026–27 to support PPP projects requiring viability assistance.
   b. It covers PPP projects across transport, logistics, ports, airports, urban infrastructure, healthcare, education, industry, renewable energy and tourism.
   c. The policy also strengthens the existing unified framework of Andhra Pradesh Infrastructure Development Enabling (APIDE) Act, 2001 for project identification, appraisal, procurement, implementation and monitoring across departments and Government organisations.
   d. It provides a viability bridge mechanism for projects with long-term public or economic benefits but limited initial commercial viability.
   e. It has a PPP project pipeline of approximately ₹ 1.23 lakh crore under the Swarn Andhra Vision @ 2047[125] framework.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The policy aligns with the Government of India's Revamped Viability Gap Funding Scheme, 2020,[126] which provides financial support to economically or socially desirable PPP projects that are not commercially viable on their own.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Tamil Nadu[127] and Maharashtra[128] have introduced state-level PPP frameworks to facilitate private participation in infrastructure development. Gujarat provides a statutory PPP framework under the Gujarat Infrastructure Development Act, 1999[129] for private participation in infrastructure projects.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. Andhra Pradesh's committed expenditure on interest payments and pensions is

[125] Swarna Andhra@2047.
[126] PIB, November, 2020.
[127] Tamil Nadu Public Private Partnership Policy, 2024.
[128] Maharashtra Public-Private Partnership Policy, February, 2026.
[129] Gujarat Infrastructure Development Act, Gujarat State Road Development Corporation Limited, 1999.

A. Draft Public Private Partnership (PPP) Policy, 2026
Source: Telangana Today, Deccan Chronicle | **Impact**: High

estimated at 26.26% of revenue receipts in 2026-27, while the fiscal deficit is targeted at 3.84% of GSDP.[130] The PPP framework can help crowd in private capital for infrastructure and share project financing requirements, reducing the financing burden on the state.

b. Andhra Pradesh's capital spending on social services fell 84% between 2018-19 and 2022-23,[131] even as fiscal pressures increased. Extending VGF support to healthcare and education can help mobilise private investment in sectors where public capital expenditure has faced the sharpest constraints.

c. In 2019, Andhra Pradesh's proposed renegotiation of renewable-energy PPAs placed 5.2 GW of projects and over ₹ 21,000 crore in associated debt exposure under stress, raising concerns among investors and the Union Government.[132] The subsequent exit and return of LuLu Group's ₹ 2,200 crore Visakhapatnam project following a change in Government also highlighted the risks of policy discontinuity.[133] By codifying PPP financing and viability-support mechanisms, the policy can provide greater predictability for long-term private investment.

d. Andhra Pradesh has a PPP project pipeline of around ₹1.23 lakh crore under Swarna Andhra Vision@2047, creating financing needs beyond what conventional public funding can support alone. The policy's ₹1,500 crore VGF and Bridge Fund can de-risk projects across transport, ports, airports and renewable energy, helping crowd in private capital, technology and operating expertise at scale.

e. Further, Andhra Pradesh's extensive 974 km coastline[134] and expanding port networks (including Ramayapatnam, Machilipatnam, and Bhavanapadu) require substantial capital for hinterland connectivity and industrial logistics parks. Utilising structured PPP concessions helps accelerate port-led industrialisation.

[130] Andhra Pradesh Budget Analysis 2026-27, NFPRC Foundation, June, 2026.
[131] The South First, April, 2025.
[132] The Federal, November, 2019.
[133] The South First, June, 2025.
[134] PIB, December, 2025.

B. Andhra Pradesh Pedestrian Safety And Universal Accessibility Policy, 2026
Source: The Government Of Andhra Pradesh | **Impact**: High

1. On 7th August, 2026, the Andhra Pradesh Government notified the Integrated Pedestrian Safety and Universal Accessibility Policy, 2026.
2. The policy aims to institutionalise pedestrian safety and universal accessibility across Andhra Pradesh by integrating safer walking infrastructure, crossings, accessibility standards, and pedestrian requirements into road and urban development.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The policy covers urban, peri-urban and rural areas, and applies not merely to future projects but also to upgrading existing roads and pedestrian infrastructure.
   b. The policy mandates safety audits at 15–20 high-risk locations and surveys 20% of roads within one year to identify pedestrian-crossing requirements.
   c. It prescribes a 2-metre clear walking zone, 150-mm maximum footpath height, kerb ramps, tactile indicators, Braille signage and audible pedestrian signals.
   d. It provides at-grade crossings wherever feasible, with lifts, lighting, CCTV and panic buttons for required foot overbridges and subways.
   e. It introduces fines of up to ₹ 1 lakh under Section 198-A of the Motor Vehicles Act for non-compliance resulting in death or disability.
   f. It enables GIS mapping, geo-tagging, drone surveys and dashboard monitoring of pedestrian-safety infrastructure and interventions.
4. **Legal Alignment -** The policy operationalises the Supreme Court's directions in *S. Rajaseekaran* v. *Union of India*[135] of 7th October, 2025 on pedestrian safety and aligns with Section 198-A of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, which provides for accountability for failure to comply with prescribed road design, construction and maintenance standards.
5. **Relevance -**
   a. Pedestrian deaths in Andhra Pradesh rose 44% from 579 in 2020 to 838 in 2024, while total road fatalities increased 18.5%, despite a slight decline in accidents.[136] The policy's focus on auditing the 15–20 highest pedestrian-fatality locations and setting minimum footpath and crossing standards directly targets these infrastructure-related safety gaps.
   b. Andhra Pradesh's old-age dependency ratio is projected to rise from 18.5% in 2021 to 24.7% by 2031.[137] The policy's kerb ramps, audible signals and accessible crossings can support safer and more independent mobility as the state's ageing population

[135] S.*Rajaseekaran* v. *Union Of India And Ors*, Writ Petition (C) No. 295 of 2012.
[136] The New Indian Express, August, 2026.
[137] Elderly In India, Ministry Of Statistics And Programme Implementation, 2021.

B. Andhra Pradesh Pedestrian Safety And Universal Accessibility Policy, 2026
Source: The Government Of Andhra Pradesh | **Impact**: High
places greater demand on pedestrian infrastructure. c. Additionally, around 70% of roads in Andhra Pradesh's major cities lack footpaths,[138] while only slightly over one-third of existing footpaths meet Indian Roads Congress (IRC) width and height norms. The policy's 2-metre walking zone, accessibility standards and safety audits can standardise pedestrian infrastructure, improve last-mile connectivity and reduce pedestrian exposure to road traffic.

[138] The Times Of India, June, 2025.

II. Assam

A. Compressed Biogas Policy, 2026
Source: The Government Of Assam, The Economic Times | **Impact**: High
1. On 31st July, 2026, the Assam Cabinet approved the Assam Compressed Biogas (CBG) Policy, 2026. 2. The policy provides fiscal and non-fiscal incentives for CBG projects, designates the Commissioner of Industries and Commerce as the nodal agency for a single-window clearance mechanism and seeks to accelerate investment in clean energy infrastructure. 3. **Key Features -** a. The Policy provides a capital subsidy of ₹ 0.50 crore per tonne per day (TPD) of installed capacity, subject to a maximum ceiling of ₹ 20 crore per project. b. It provides power tariff support of ₹ 2 per unit for a period of five years for eligible CBG projects. c. The Policy enables land allotment through a dedicated land bank, concessional lease of Government land and facilitation of Panchayat land leases for project development. d. It provides exemptions from stamp duty, registration fees and land conversion charges for eligible CBG projects. e. The Policy designates the Commissioner of Industries and Commerce as the nodal agency to facilitate a single-window clearance mechanism for time-bound project approvals. 4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The policy aligns with the National Bioenergy Programme, 2022[139] and the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) Initiative, 2018[140] which promote the production and utilisation of compressed biogas to strengthen India's clean energy transition and support the development of a sustainable biofuel ecosystem. 5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Maharashtra approved the Maharashtra State Compressed Biogas Policy, 2026,[141,142] while Chhattisgarh approved the Chhattisgarh Compressed Biogas Policy, 2026[143] to promote CBG production from agricultural residue, cattle dung and other organic waste. Gujarat implements the Gujarat Waste to Energy Policy, 2022[144] to promote energy generation from waste, while Uttar Pradesh, under the Uttar Pradesh Bio-Energy Policy, 2022[145] provides incentives for

[139] PIB, December, 2022.
[140] PIB, December, 2022.
[141] The Economic Times, April, 2026.
[142] EQ July, 2023.
[143] Chhattisgarh Compressed Biogas Policy, 2026..
[144] Gujarat Waste To Energy Policy, November, 2022.
[145] Uttar Pradesh State Bio-Energy Policy, November, 2022.

A. Compressed Biogas Policy, 2026
Source: The Government Of Assam, The Economic Times | **Impact**: High

CBG and other bioenergy projects. Punjab also promotes CBG production from agricultural residue and other biomass resources through its state bioenergy framework.

6. **Relevance -**
   a. Guwahati alone generates about 575 TPD of Assams 1284 TPD of solid waste per day, with the state still working through 3.61 lakh MT of legacy waste bio-mined at the Boragaon dumpsite at a cost of ₹ 10 crore in the first phase, and a further ₹ 172.5 crore[146] committed for the second phase, indicating waste is still largely landfilled rather than converted to value through bio-fuel.
   b. The policy's land bank, concessional Government, Panchayat land leases, and exemption from stamp duty and registration fees are designed to route this waste stream toward feedstock usage for Bio-Gas instead.
   c. Assam's own Integrated Clean Energy Policy, 2025[147] set a target of scaling bio-CNG production to 10,000 tonnes per day by 2030, yet the state's flagship facility, the Sonapur plant inaugurated in March, 2023 processes only around five tonnes per day,[148] showing a gap between installed capacity and stated ambition. The new ₹ 0.50 crore per TPD capital subsidy (capped at ₹ 20 crore) and five-year power tariff support of ₹ 2 per unit as part of this policy are aimed at improving the bankability of larger-scale plants needed to close this gap.
   d. Nationally as well, CBG rollout has lagged sharply behind intent, with only about 108 plants commissioned against over 1,200 Letters of Intent issued as of mid-2025,[149] indicating that fiscal incentives alone have not resolved approval-stage delays. Assam's designation of the Commissioner of Industries and Commerce as a single nodal agency as introduced in this policy for time-bound clearance is targeted directly at this bottleneck, which has stalled projects elsewhere despite similar subsidy support.

[146] Status Report, SWM Rules 2016, Assam Government, 2023.
[147] The Sentinel Assam, August, 2026.
[148] EverythingAboutWater, February, 2023.
[149] IMARC Engineering, June, 2026.

III. Tamil Nadu

A. Chief Minister's Integrated Urban Development Mission (CMIUTM), 2026
Source: The Hindu | **Impact**: High

1. On 8th August, 2026, the Tamil Nadu Government announced the Chief Minister's Integrated Urban Development Mission (CMIUTM). The Mission was announced as part of the Tamil Nadu Budget for FY 2026-27.
2. The mission aims to integrate urban infrastructure across Tamil Nadu through a common five-year framework, targeting ₹ 1.5 lakh crore in investment through scheme convergence, municipal bonds and institutional finance.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The CMIUTM proposes to mobilise at least ₹ 1.5 lakh crore over 2026–2031 through Central and state schemes, municipal bonds, Finance Commission grants and international financial institutions.
   b. It provides for 24×7 drinking water supply across all 25 municipal corporations and at least three hours of daily supply in 146 municipalities and 479 town panchayats within five years.
   c. It mandates 100% drinking-water and sewerage connections in municipal corporations, with sewage treatment and treated wastewater reuse for non-potable purposes.
   d. It seeks to plant 5 crore saplings over five years and develop sponge parks in Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai and Tiruchirappalli.
   e. It provides for restoration of the Cooum, Adyar and Buckingham Canal, biodiversity parks in ULBs with populations above one lakh, and animal birth-control centres across all corporations and municipalities by 2031.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The Mission aligns with Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation 2.0, 2021 (AMRUT 2.0)[150] and Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0, 2021 (SBM-U 2.0)[151] particularly through measures relating to urban water supply, sewerage, waterbody management and integrated solid waste management. It also aligns with the Urban Challenge Fund, 2026 (UCF)[152] through its emphasis on mobilising urban infrastructure investment through municipal bonds, institutional finance and other market-based financing mechanisms.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Gujarat's Urban Development Mission[153] integrates Central and State urban schemes covering water, sewerage, drainage, transport and green infrastructure, while Karnataka's Integrated Urban Water

[150] AMRUT 2.0, Ministry Of Housing And Urban Affairs, October, 2021.
[151] SBM-U 2.0, October, 2021.
[152] Urban Challenge Fund, 2026.
[153] Gujarat Urban Development Mission.

A. Chief Minister's Integrated Urban Development Mission (CMIUTM), 2026
Source: The Hindu | **Impact**: High

Management Programme[154] combines water, sanitation and institutional reforms.

6. **Relevance -**
   a. The CMIUTM has been positioned as a "preventive governance" initiative, shifting spending from post-disaster relief towards reducing future risks.[155] Its ₹ 2,117 crore allocation and 2031 target mark a significant scale-up from the ₹ 750 crore allocated to the earlier Integrated Urban Development Mission in 2020–21.[156]
   b. Tamil Nadu's urban population is projected to reach 67% by 2031, while Chennai's green cover stands at just 5.28%,[157] increasing exposure to heat and flooding. The CMIUTM directly addresses this gap through 5 crore saplings, expanded green spaces and sponge parks in Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai and Tiruchirappalli.
   c. Further, Chennai's existing water bodies could reduce flood damages by 17% and the population at risk by 25.3%, while further loss could increase damages by 44%.[158] Building on the Tamil Nadu Protection of Tanks and Eviction of Encroachment Act, 2007,[159] the CMIUTM strengthens urban flood resilience through water-body restoration, blue-green infrastructure and improved drainage capacity.
   d. Tamil Nadu recorded 67,526 road accidents and 18,449 fatalities in 2024, among the highest nationally.[160] The CMIUTM addresses this road-safety burden through pedestrian pathways, cycling lanes, redesigned junctions and safer school-access networks, prioritising high-accident areas such as Ambattur and Guindy.
   e. Lastly, in Chennai, the CMIUTM supports the ₹ 3,108 crore Ring Main Pipeline project[161] to connect major water sources with distribution stations by 2031. Ensuring treated wastewater reuse for non-potable industrial uses essentially helps preserve drinking water reserves.

[154] Karnataka Integrated Urban Water Management Investment Program.
[155] ASAR, August, 2026.
[156] Apollo Study Centre, 2022-23.
[157] Live Chennai, May, 2025.
[158] Elsevier, June, 2025.
[159] Chapter IV: Encroachments, Report Of The Comptroller And Auditor General Of India, 2017.
[160] Road Accidents In India 2024, Ministry Of Road Transport And Highways, Pages 2 And 6.
[161] Water Today, August, 2026.

B. Tamil Nadu Soil Fertility Mission, 2026
Source: The Hindu | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 6th August, 2026, the Tamil Nadu Government in the Agriculture Budget announced the Tamil Nadu Soil Fertility Mission.
2. The mission aims to **restore and maintain soil fertility** across agricultural land by promoting balanced nutrient management, organic inputs, soil testing and sustainable farming practices, while reducing excessive dependence on chemical fertilisers and improving long-term crop productivity.
3. **Key Features -**
    a. It provides for an estimated outlay of ₹ 600 crore over five years, including ₹ 122.51 crore for 10 components during 2026–27.
    b. It provides Soil Health Cards to one lakh farmers at a cost of ₹ 4 crore from state resources and to about three lakh farmers with a Farmer Identification Number at a total outlay of ₹ 6.16 crore shared by the Union and state Governments.
    c. The mission enables distribution of liquid biofertilisers across one lakh acres at a cost of ₹ 4.50 crore to increase beneficial soil micro-organisms.
    d. It promotes organic and natural farming practices through the establishment of permanent vermicompost production units, distribution of liquid biofertilisers across one lakh acres.
    e. It also allocates ₹ 10 crore for establishing permanent vermicompost production units to support organic farming.
    f. Lastly, the mission provides soil amendment demonstrations across 2,000 acres at an outlay of ₹ 2 crore to reclaim alkaline and saline soils.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The Mission aligns with the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) and Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), which promote chemical-free and sustainable farming through natural inputs, organic cultivation, soil-health improvement and farmer capacity building and it also aligns with the Government of India's Soil Health Card Scheme, 2015[162] to provide farmers with information on soil nutrient status and recommendations for appropriate nutrient management, with the mission itself providing for Soil Health Cards to around four lakh farmers.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Kerala implements the Soil Health Management and Productivity Improvement Scheme, 2023[163] to promote soil testing, integrated nutrient management and soil-health improvement, while Odisha implements the

[162] PIB, January, 2022.
[163] Kerala Soil Health Management And Productivity Improvement Scheme, Directorate Of Agriculture Development And Farmers' Welfare, 2023.

B. Tamil Nadu Soil Fertility Mission, 2026
Source: The Hindu | **Impact**: Medium

Management of Soil Health Scheme, 2023[164] covering soil testing, management of problem soils, organic farming and soil-health interventions.

6. **Relevance -**
   a. Tamil Nadu consumes around 21-22 lakh tonnes of chemical fertilisers annually, while imbalanced fertiliser use and micronutrient deficiencies continue to constrain soil health and agricultural productivity.[165] The mission addresses these gaps through Soil Health Cards, liquid biofertilisers, vermicompost production and soil amendments, supporting more balanced nutrient management and restoration of degraded soils.
   b. The proposed coverage of around four lakh Soil Health Cards can improve nutrient targeting by moving fertiliser application towards field-specific recommendations based on macro- and micronutrient status, pH, salinity and soil organic carbon. Its effectiveness, however, will depend on whether testing results are translated into actual changes in farmer input use rather than merely issuing cards.
   c. Furthermore, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) identifies increasing soil salinity and alkalinity, alongside imbalanced fertiliser use and micronutrient deficiencies, as major constraints to rice production in Tamil Nadu.[166] The mission directly addresses these degraded soils through ₹ 2 crore of soil-amendment demonstrations across 2,000 acres, supporting their reclamation and continued agricultural use.
   d. Introducing carbon trading protocol demonstrations across 2,000 acres additionally positions Tamil Nadu as a leader in climate-smart agriculture. Quantifying methane and nitrous oxide reductions from Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD) and Direct Seeded Rice (DSR) techniques allows smallholders to access voluntary carbon markets.

[164] Odisha Management Of Soil Health Scheme, 2023.
[165] Indian Council Of Agricultural Research.
[166] Indian Council Of Agricultural Research.

C. Safe Roads Mission And The Expansion Of Namma Salai Road Maintenance Platform
Source: The Times Of India, Traffic Infra Tech | **Impact**: High

1. On 5th August, 2026, the Tamil Nadu Government announced the Safe Roads Mission and expansion of Namma Salai mobile application under Budget 2026-27 to improve road safety and enable **faster identification and maintenance of road defects** across the state.
2. The Safe Roads Mission aims to improve road safety through safer road design, construction and maintenance, technology-enabled traffic enforcement and strengthened emergency response, while the Namma Salai application enables citizens to report potholes and other road defects for repair.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The Safe Roads Mission provides for safer road design, construction and maintenance, alongside AI-based systems for speed and traffic enforcement.
   b. It provides for dedicated road patrols and strengthened trauma care centres to support road-safety enforcement and post-accident emergency response.
   c. The Namma Salai application (initially launched in 2023 and being strengthened subsequently) essentially enables citizens to photograph and report potholes and other road defects, allowing authorities to identify locations requiring repairs.
   d. The Budget earmarks ₹ 9,300 crore under the Comprehensive Road Infrastructure Development Programme for widening state highways, constructing bypasses and pedestrian overbridges, undertaking road-safety works, upgrading roads and constructing bridges.
   e. It provides ₹ 250 crore for repair of poorly maintained road stretches through performance-based maintenance contracts, linking payments to prescribed maintenance outcomes.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment** - The Safe Roads Mission aligns with the National Road Safety Policy, 2010[167] on safer road infrastructure, enforcement and trauma care, while the maintenance component aligns with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways Performance Based Maintenance Contract Contracts (PBMC)[168] for National Highways.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States** - Kerala launched the PWD4U[169] mobile application in 2021, enabling citizens to submit geotagged photographs of road defects directly to the PWD and track complaints until resolution. Haryana launched the Mhari Sadak[170] application in 2025, allowing citizens to report potholes across roads managed by multiple state agencies and track their resolution. Maharashtra introduced an

[167] National Road Safety Policy, March, 2010.
[168] PIB, June, 2026.
[169] Kerala PWD4U, Mobile Application.
[170] Haryana Mhari Sadak, Mobile Application, October, 2025.

C. Safe Roads Mission And The Expansion Of Namma Salai Road Maintenance Platform
Source: The Times Of India, Traffic Infra Tech | **Impact**: High

AI-powered road maintenance application[171] in 2025 under its ₹ 1,296.05 crore annual road maintenance programme to identify road damage and monitor repairs in real time.

6. **Relevance -**
   a. Tamil Nadu recorded 71,387 road accidents in 2025,[172] the highest in India for the fourth consecutive year, with speeding accounting for nearly 70% of crashes.[173] The Safe Roads Mission's AI-based speed and traffic enforcement directly targets this key cause, making road-safety interventions more focused and evidence-based. This could potentially strengthen enforcement where speeding is the dominant contributor to accidents.
   b. Tamil Nadu recorded 612 pothole-related deaths (third highest of any state) between 2020 and 2024,[174] highlighting gaps in road maintenance and monitoring. The ₹ 250 crore performance-based maintenance contracts and the Namma Salai app itself directly address this by linking payments to maintenance outcomes and enabling citizens to report road defects for faster action. This can shift maintenance towards quicker identification, clearer accountability and outcome-based road upkeep.
   c. Lastly, road safety challenges are also concentrated on specific high-risk stretches. Tamil Nadu recorded 21,122 accidents on National Highways in 2025,[175] the highest among states. The Safe Roads Mission's focus on safer road design, dedicated patrols and AI-enabled enforcement can enable more targeted interventions across accident-prone locations, improving the efficiency of road-safety management.

[171] Public Works Department, September, 2025.
[172] NewKerala, August, 2026.
[173] The South Post, December, 2025.
[174] Times Of India, February, 2026.
[175] Times Of India, February, 2026.

IV. Chattisgarh

A. Chhattisgarh Artificial Intelligence (AI) Mission
Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: High

1. On 5th August, 2026, the Chhattisgarh Cabinet approved the Chhattisgarh Artificial Intelligence (AI) Mission.
2. The mission aims to build a **state-level AI ecosystem** by expanding AI infrastructure, skilling, startups, research and AI-enabled Government services over five years.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The mission allocates ₹ 500 crore over five years to establish the state's AI infrastructure, skilling, innovation and governance ecosystem.
   b. It establishes 100 AI Data Labs and 5 Centres of Excellence to support AI training, research, experimentation and technology development.
   c. It also provides AI training to 6 lakh students and 1.5 lakh Government employees, creating a state-wide pool of AI-skilled human resources.
   d. The mission supports over 300 AI startups through an enabling ecosystem for innovation, entrepreneurship and commercialisation of AI applications.
   e. It also develops more than 50 AI-powered government services to integrate AI into public administration and service delivery.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment –** The mission aligns with the National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence (NSAI)[176] released by NITI Aayog in 2018 and the Union Government's IndiaAI Mission.[177] The NSAI identified research, skilling and reskilling, adoption of AI solutions and responsible AI as key priorities for developing India's AI ecosystem.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States –** Uttar Pradesh has launched an AI Mission with budgetary allocation for AI labs and centres of excellence,[178] while Rajasthan has introduced the Rajasthan AI/ML Policy, 2026[179] to promote AI adoption in governance, skilling, research, startups and industry, supported by a state-level Centre of Excellence for Artificial Intelligence. Telangana has developed a dedicated AI Framework and Telangana AI Mission (T-AIM)[180] to establish the state as a global AI hub, with emphasis on skilling, research and innovation, data infrastructure, responsible AI and Government adoption.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. Chhattisgarh's economy has historically been anchored in mining, steel and power-intensive industries, with the industrial sector accounting for about 48% of

[176] OpenGov
[177] IndiaAI Mission.
[178] The Times Of India, February, 2026.
[179] DITC Rajasthan.
[180] Nasscom.

A. Chhattisgarh Artificial Intelligence (AI) Mission
Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: High
GSDP in 2024–25,[181] while mining remains a major source of state revenue.[182] The mission can help diversify this economic structure by building capabilities in software development, data analytics, digital services and AI-enabled enterprises, thereby expanding the state's non-resource and knowledge-based economy. b. Chhattisgarh is seeking to diversify beyond its traditional resource and manufacturing base by expanding its IT, AI and services economy. Under the Viksit Chhattisgarh@2047 roadmap,[183] the state aims to raise the services sector's contribution to GSDP from around 35% to 50%, with IT and AI identified among the key growth areas.[184] The mission therefore provides a dedicated institutional push for this economic diversification. c. The mission addresses the AI skills gap at scale by targeting training for 6 lakh students and 1.5 lakh Government employees, alongside establishing 100 AI Data Labs and 5 Centres of Excellence. This can create a state-level pipeline of AI-ready talent while improving the capacity of Government departments to adopt emerging technologies. d. Chhattisgarh has already been expanding digital governance across land administration, finance, agriculture, healthcare and citizen services.[185] The mission can build on this digital base by enabling data-driven decision-making, automation and AI-enabled service delivery across Government departments. e. The mission also aligns with Chhattisgarh's broader push to develop an innovation and startup ecosystem. The state's startup framework already provides instruments such as a ₹ 50 crore Credit Risk Fund for collateral-free startup financing,[186] while the mission proposes support for over 300 AI startups. Together, these initiatives can strengthen access to infrastructure, skills and finance for emerging technology enterprises in the state.

[181] Chhattisgarh Budget 2025-26.
[182] Times Of India, July, 2025.
[183] Times Of India, July, 2025.
[184] The Times Of India, July, 2025.
[185] NIC Chhattisgarh State Centre.
[186] Chhattisgarh Startup Policy, 2024-2030.

V. Odisha

A. Odisha Semiconductor Manufacturing And Fabless Policy (Amendment), 2026
Source: Business Standard | **Impact**: High

1. On 12th August, 2026, the Odisha Cabinet approved the third amendment to the Odisha Semiconductor Manufacturing and Fabless Policy, 2023.[187]
2. The amendment aims to strengthen Odisha's position as a **semiconductor manufacturing hub** by expanding fiscal incentives and extending policy coverage to upstream supply-chain segments, including equipment, materials and specialised inputs, thereby enabling the development of an integrated semiconductor ecosystem.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The amendment provides an additional 25% capital expenditure support for projects approved under the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), disbursed on a 'pari-passu' basis with central assistance.
   b. It extends policy coverage beyond fabrication to semiconductor equipment, specialised gases, chemicals, advanced materials and other supply-chain components.
   c. The amendment expands eligibility for state incentives to upstream semiconductor supply-chain segments, including equipment, specialised gases, chemicals and advanced materials, bringing ancillary suppliers within the policy framework.
   d. It also provides phased fiscal support linked to project milestones and corresponding central disbursements.
   e. It seeks to develop an integrated semiconductor ecosystem by including ATMP/OSAT, display manufacturing and fabless design alongside core manufacturing.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment –** The amendment aligns with the India Semiconductor Mission 2.0,[188] under which the Union Government supports semiconductor manufacturing, design and advanced packaging while expanding the national framework to semiconductor equipment, materials, specialty chemicals, industrial gases, R&D and talent development.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States –** States such as Gujarat[189] have introduced semiconductor and electronics manufacturing policies offering capital subsidies and ecosystem incentives, while Uttar Pradesh's Semiconductor Policy, 2024[190] provides fiscal support and infrastructure incentives to attract chip manufacturing investments.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. Odisha has already emerged as an important destination under ISM, with the

[187] Odisha Semiconductor Manufacturing And Fabless Policy, 2023.
[188] PIB, February, 2026.
[189] Gujarat Semiconductor Policy.
[190] Invest UP.

A. Odisha Semiconductor Manufacturing And Fabless Policy (Amendment), 2026
Source: Business Standard | **Impact**: High
Centre approving SiCSem's ₹ 2,066 crore silicon-carbide semiconductor project and 3D Glass Solutions' ₹ 1,943 crore advanced packaging project in the state in 2025.[191] The additional 25% state capex support therefore strengthens the financial viability and execution prospects of an existing pipeline of ISM-backed projects. b. The amendment comes as Odisha is attracting increasingly large global semiconductor investments. In May, 2026, Intel and 3D Glass Solutions announced an approximately $3.3 billion (₹ 31,500 crore) proposed investment for an advanced semiconductor substrate manufacturing facility in Odisha, significantly expanding the state's role in advanced chip packaging.[192] Extending incentives to equipment, materials, gases and chemicals can help build domestic suppliers around such anchor investments. c. Odisha's semiconductor investment pipeline is expanding beyond the projects approved under ISM. In February 2026, the state's High-Level Clearance Authority approved ASP Semicon's ₹ 4,620 crore semiconductor memory-chip module project in Khurda, expected to generate around 2,500 jobs.[193] This indicates growing state-level investment interest alongside Odisha's existing ISM-backed projects and can help broaden the emerging semiconductor manufacturing cluster. d. The amendment also positions Odisha to benefit from the next phase of India's semiconductor push. The Union Government approved ISM 2.0 with an outlay of ₹ 1.28 lakh crore in July, 2026, expanding support beyond fabs to areas such as semiconductor materials, equipment, design, research and talent development.[194] e. Odisha's corresponding expansion of state incentives across the upstream supply chain therefore closely aligns the state's investment framework with the emerging national semiconductor ecosystem.

[191] PIB, August, 2025.
[192] Reuters, May, 2026.
[193] The New Indian Express, February, 2026.
[194] Business Standard, July, 2026.

VI. Haryana

A. Haryana Progressive MSME And Export Promotion Policy, 2026
Source: The Times Of India | **Impact**: High

1. On 10th August, 2026, the Haryana Government unveiled the Haryana MSME Export Promotion Policy, 2026.
2. The policy aims to strengthen the MSME ecosystem by promoting export-oriented manufacturing, enhancing global competitiveness, and attracting large-scale investments while generating employment.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The policy targets investment inflows of over ₹ 55,000 crore and creation of more than 5 lakh jobs across MSME sectors.
   b. The policy provides location and eligibility-linked capital subsidies ranging from from 15 to 30%, with reported ceilings of about ₹ 2 crore to ₹ 4 crore across different area categories, alongside interest support and targeted assistance for exporters and first-time exporters.
   c. It also introduces technology upgradation incentives, including financial support for adoption of robotics, IoT, AI and establishment of R&D centres.
   d. The policy enables development of industrial infrastructure through plug-and-play clusters and district-level single-window systems for faster approvals.
   e. It provides export facilitation measures such as freight assistance, export booster grants, insurance support and incentives for green manufacturing.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment –** The policy aligns with the Union Government's Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) Programme[195] and broader initiatives like Make in India, which aim to enhance MSME competitiveness, improve access to finance and boost exports.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States –** Gujarat[196] has implemented export-oriented MSME policies focusing on cluster development and global market integration, while Karnataka has introduced technology-led industrial policies promoting innovation and export competitiveness.[197] Tamil Nadu's MSME Policy, 2021[198] and Export Promotion Strategy, 2021[199] also support MSME technology upgradation, cluster development, export promotion and access to international markets through state incentives and facilitation mechanisms.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. Haryana's merchandise exports increased 10.62% to ₹ 1.61 lakh crore in FY 2024–25,

[195] Ministry Of Micro, Small And Medium Enterprises.
[196] Gujarat Export Policy, 2025.
[197] The Hindu, February, 2025.
[198] Tamil Nadu MSME Policy, 2021.
[199] Tamil Nadu Export Promotion Strategy, 2021.

A. Haryana Progressive MSME And Export Promotion Policy, 2026
Source: The Times Of India | **Impact**: High
making it India's seventh largest merchandise-exporting state.[200] The policy therefore focuses on scaling an established export ecosystem by increasing MSME participation, improving export facilitation and enabling firms to access higher-value global markets, rather than building export capacity from the ground up. b. Haryana's industrial base is concentrated in established clusters such as Gurugram-Manesar, Faridabad and Panipat, spanning automotive, engineering, textiles, machinery and related sectors.[201] The policy's support for robotics, Internet of Things, artificial intelligence and process automation can help MSMEs upgrade production capabilities, improve productivity and meet the quality and technology requirements of higher-value global supply chains. c. Haryana's RAMP programme has identified market intelligence and export readiness as key constraints for MSMEs.[202] The policy's freight assistance, export grants, insurance support and first-time exporter incentives therefore target the cost, risk and information barriers that often prevent smaller firms from entering and scaling in international markets. d. Consequently, the policy also reinforces Haryana's broader industrial expansion strategy. The state's Make in Haryana framework seeks to attract large and mega investments that can serve as anchor enterprises for local MSMEs, while the policy targets over ₹ 55,000 crore in investment and more than 5 lakh jobs.[203] This creates an opportunity to deepen supplier linkages between anchor manufacturers and local MSMEs, enabling smaller firms to integrate into domestic and export-oriented value chains.

[200] Haryana Economic Survey, 2025–26..
[201] PIB, September, 2025.
[202] Ministry Of Micro, Small And Medium Enterprises..
[203] The Times Of India, August, 2026.

VII. Rajasthan

A. Rajasthan Food Park Development Policy, 2026

Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 7th August, 2026, the Rajasthan Cabinet approved the Rajasthan Food Park Development Policy, 2026.
2. The policy aims to establish **district-level food parks** through a cluster-based model, integrating storage, processing, preservation and transport infrastructure to connect farmers and producer groups with processors and markets.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. It proposes developing food parks in every district, in phases on a cluster basis, with integrated facilities for preservation, storage, processing and transportation of food products.
   b. The policy provides for a framework for the establishment, operation and management of food parks, with land already allotted at several locations across the state.
   c. It connects farmers and producer groups with processing units and markets through strengthened supply chains to support processing, trade and export of agricultural commodities.
   d. It also classifies food parks into four categories based on land ownership and development criteria.
   e. The policy gives preference to developers with Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit-2024 MoUs or those willing to establish an anchor food-processing unit with a minimum investment of ₹ 10 crore in the proposed food park.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment –** The policy aligns with the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY-Agro-Processing Clusters Component).[204]
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States –** States such as Odisha,[205] Andhra Pradesh[206] and Telangana[207] have implemented food-processing frameworks integrating food parks, processing infrastructure, cold chains, logistics and market linkages to strengthen agricultural value chains.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. Rajasthan has a large and diversified agricultural base, with 10 agro-climatic zones supporting production of food grains, oilseeds, spices, horticulture crops and other commodities. Agriculture and allied activities contributed 26.92% of the state's

[204] Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana.
[205] Odisha Food Processing Policy, 2022.
[206] New Andhra Pradesh Food Processing Policy (4.0) 2024-29.
[207] Telangana Food Processing And Preservation Policy.

A. Rajasthan Food Park Development Policy, 2026
Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: Medium

GSVA in 2024–25, making stronger food-processing linkages important for increasing value addition beyond primary agriculture.[208]

b. However, Rajasthan's organised food-processing infrastructure remains relatively limited compared with the scale of its agricultural output. As of 31st December, 2025, the Centre had approved only two Mega Food Parks, two Agro-Processing Clusters, 14 Integrated Cold Chains and 24 food-processing units in Rajasthan under PMKSY.[209] The new policy can therefore help expand common processing, storage and logistics infrastructure at the state level.

c. The policy is also relevant for reducing post-harvest and supply-chain losses, particularly for perishable agricultural produce. The Union Government's assessment of PMKSY-supported cold-chain projects found that integrated cold-chain interventions reduced wastage, with particularly significant reductions in fruits and vegetables, dairy and fisheries.[210]

d. Food parks combining cold storage, warehousing, processing and logistics can provide similar farm-to-market efficiencies in Rajasthan.

e. The cluster-based model can also support rural industrialisation and private investment by allowing multiple food-processing enterprises to use common infrastructure instead of developing storage, testing, processing and logistics facilities independently. The Central Government uses the Agro-Processing Cluster component of PMKSY to develop common infrastructure and encourage entrepreneurs to establish processing units around production areas.[211]

f. Further, the Food Park Policy aligns with Rajasthan's broader Agriculture and Food Processing Policy, 2026, allowing incentives for individual processing enterprises to be supported by dedicated cluster infrastructure. This combination can strengthen backward linkages with farmers and FPOs, improve access to storage and processing facilities, and retain a larger share of agricultural value addition within rural districts.[212]

[208] Rajasthan Economic Review 2024-25.
[209] PIB, February, 2026
[210] PIB, February, 2026
[211] PIB, December, 2026.
[212] ET Government, August, 2026.

B. Rajasthan Agriculture And Food Processing Policy, 2026
Source: The Economic Times, Udaipur Times | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 7th August, 2026, the Rajasthan Cabinet approved the Rajasthan Agriculture and Food Processing Policy, 2026.
2. The policy aims to attract investment in agriculture and horticulture, promote rural enterprises, **increase farm-level value addition**, strengthen supply chains and expand food processing.
3. **Key Features -**
    a. It covers food processing units for fruits and vegetables, spices, cereals, oilseeds, pulses, medicinal products, minor forest produce, honey, dairy and animal feed, along with silos and cold storage infrastructure.
    b. It provides capital subsidy of 60% for loans up to ₹ 50 lakh, 50% for loans between ₹ 50 lakh and ₹ 1 crore, and 40% for loans above ₹ 1 crore, subject to a maximum subsidy of ₹ 1.50 crore.
    c. It also provides an additional 5% capital subsidy for Farmer Producer Organisations, entrepreneurs in TSP areas, SCs, STs and women entrepreneurs.
    d. It establishes a Shri Anna Promotion Agency to promote millet-based agriculture and processing.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The policy aligns with the PM Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme,[213] and the National Food Security and Nutrition Mission (NFSNM) – Nutri-Cereals (Shri Anna),[214] under which the Centre promotes millet production through improved seeds, technology demonstrations, training and awareness programmes. The policy's focus on processing, storage, value addition and food-processing infrastructure also aligns with the Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY).[215]
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States –** Odisha[216] and Uttar Pradesh[217] have implemented agro-processing and value-chain development policies, while Gujarat promotes farm-linked processing clusters and food-processing investments[218] to enhance farmer incomes.
6. **Relevance -**
    a. Rajasthan has a substantial agricultural base, with around 25.5 million hectares of cultivable land, accounting for 14.14% of India's cultivable area.[219] Agriculture and allied activities contributed 26.92% of the state's GSVA in 2024–25, while major

[213] Pradhan Mantri Formalisation Of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme.
[214] PIB, August, 2023.
[215] PMKSY.
[216] Odisha Food Processing Policy, 2022.
[217] Uttar Pradesh Food Processing Industry Policy, 2023.
[218] iNDEXT-a, Agriculture, Farmers Welfare And Co-operation Department, Gujarat.
[219] GRAM.

B. Rajasthan Agriculture And Food Processing Policy, 2026
Source: [The Economic Times](), [Udaipur Times]() | **Impact**: Medium
crop output includes around 54.2 lakh tonnes of bajra, 54.9 lakh tonnes of rapeseed and mustard and 93.9 lakh tonnes of oilseeds.[220] This production base creates significant scope for expanding processing capacity, increasing value addition, improving farmer realisation and diversifying rural incomes. b. The state's formal food-processing ecosystem remains relatively limited. As of 31st December, 2025, only 1,444 micro food-processing enterprises in Rajasthan had been approved for subsidy under the PMFME, involving ₹ 85.11 crore of approved assistance.[221] The policy can therefore broaden processing activity by supporting farmers, FPOs, MSMEs and entrepreneurs beyond the existing beneficiary base. c. Also, Rajasthan only had two Mega Food Parks, two Agro-Processing Clusters, 14 Integrated Cold Chains and 24 food-processing units approved under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY).[222] Promoting processing closer to production centres can help address this infrastructure gap and reduce dependence on distant markets for storage, processing and value addition. d. Further, the policy complements the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) framework, under which Rajasthan had formalised 417 micro food-processing enterprises,[223] while the scheme nationally mobilised over ₹ 17,015 crore of investment and generated more than 5 lakh jobs.[224] By combining state incentives with central support for micro enterprises, FPOs and SHGs, Rajasthan can strengthen rural entrepreneurship and employment generation across agricultural value chains.

[220] Rajasthan Agriculture Statistics.
[221] PIB, February, 2026.
[222] PIB, February, 2026.
[223] PIB, March, 2026.
[224] PIB, March, 2026.

VIII. Tripura

A. Operation And Maintenance Policy For Rural Drinking Water Supply
Source: Tripura Times, The Government Of Tripura | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 7th August, 2026, the Tripura Government rolled out the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Policy for Rural Drinking Water Supply under the Jal Jeevan Mission.
2. The policy aims to ensure the **long-term O&M** of rural drinking water systems by assigning routine maintenance responsibilities to village-level institutions, while retaining State-level responsibility for major water infrastructure.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. It provides for routine operation and maintenance of rural drinking water supply systems, including minor pipeline leaks, tap and valve repairs, motor operation and cleanliness around water points.
   b. The Policy introduces service-level standards, monitoring and accountability mechanisms.
   c. The policy introduces household user fees to meet recurring costs such as electricity and routine maintenance, with exemptions for specified vulnerable groups.
   d. It applies to rural drinking water supply systems in Gram Panchayat and Autonomous District Council (ADC) village areas, excluding urban municipalities.
   e. The village Water and Sanitation Committees are Assigned responsibility for routine local-level maintenance and service management of rural water supply assets.
   f. The Public Health Engineering (Drinking Water and Sanitation) Department is assigned responsibility for major infrastructure and technical failures, including water treatment plants, iron removal units and large-scale supply systems.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The policy aligns directly with the Jal Jeevan Mission 2.0[225] which provides for Gram Panchayats and VWSCs to manage village water supply systems and calls for states to establish O&M policies to meet recurring expenditure and ensure long-term rural water supply.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** States such as Haryana,[226] Odisha[227] and Assam[228] have introduced rural water O&M frameworks providing for village-level, Gram Panchayat or Water Users' Committee-led maintenance.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. Tripura expanded rural tap-water coverage from 3.3% of households in 2019 to

[225] PIB, July, 2026.
[226] PIB, May, 2026.
[227] Operation And Maintenance Policy Of Rural Water Supply, Odisha.
[228] Public Health Engineering Department, Assam.

A. Operation And Maintenance Policy For Rural Drinking Water Supply
Source: Tripura Times, The Government Of Tripura | **Impact**: Medium
85.52% as on August 2026,[229] but still faced a 1.1 lakh-household shortfall against its 2024–25 target,[230] alongside delays in scheme commissioning and power connections. The policy addresses this next-stage service gap by assigning routine repairs and maintenance to village-level VWSCs, enabling faster local resolution of breakdowns and improving the long-term reliability of rural water infrastructure. b. Only around 1% of surveyed villages in Tripura had a VWSC or Pani Samiti responsible for O&M, while only 6% had identified skilled manpower for maintaining piped-water schemes.[231] The policy institutionalises this missing local capacity by assigning defined maintenance functions to VWSCs and enabling user charges to finance routine O&M, strengthening the sustainability of existing rural water infrastructure.[232] c. Finally, groundwater iron levels in various parts of Tripura with households in a Reang village in Dhalai reportedly avoiding JJM tap water due to iron content and travelling long distances for spring water.[233] The policy therefore retains iron-removal units under State PHE supervision, ensuring specialised treatment remains under technical oversight beyond routine VWSC-level maintenance.

[229] JJM Dashboard, Tripura.
[230] Report Of The Comptroller And Auditor General Of India On Social, Economic, Revenue And General Sectors For The Year Ended 31 March 2024, Government Of Tripura, 2025, Page 97.
[231] JJM Report, Tripura, 2022, Page 7.
[232] JJM Official Website.
[233] Down To Earth, January, 2026.

IX. Meghalaya

A. Mission Clouded Leopard, 2026

Source: The Shillong Times, North East Today | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 4th August, 2026, the Meghalaya Government launched a dedicated mission to conserve the Clouded Leopard, the state's official animal, through scientific research, habitat conservation, community participation and awareness initiatives.
2. The mission seeks to strengthen conservation efforts by improving ecological monitoring, supporting research and promoting the long-term protection of the species and its habitat.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The mission provides a dedicated state-level conservation framework for the Clouded Leopard, Meghalaya's State Animal, integrating species protection with conservation of its natural forest habitats.
   b. It proposes scientific research, population assessment and ecological monitoring to improve information on the species' distribution, habitat use and conservation requirements across the state.
   c. The mission enables the participation of local communities in conservation and habitat protection, incorporating community-based approaches into the protection of the species.
   d. It provides for awareness and outreach activities to improve public understanding of the Clouded Leopard and strengthen participation in biodiversity and wildlife conservation.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The mission aligns directly with Clouded Leopard Conservation Action Plan (CAP), 2026,[234] with broader objectives of the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats which promotes the conservation of threatened wildlife species, habitat protection and community participation in biodiversity conservation.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** States such as Arunachal Pradesh[235] and Assam[236] have implemented community-based wildlife conservation, camera-trap monitoring and forest ecosystem restoration initiatives covering clouded leopard habitats.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. The Clouded Leopard is listed as Vulnerable on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List, yet until now no scientific population baseline existed for Meghalaya despite it being the state animal, the mission's preliminary assessment has identified 21 individual leopards in the Balpakram

[234] Clouded Leopard Conservation Action Plan, News On Air, August, 2026.
[235] Forgotten Cats Of Seinthuk, Wildlife Trust Of India, 2024.
[236] Assam Project On Forest And Biodiversity Conservation Society (APFBC), Government Of Assam, 2012.

A. Mission Clouded Leopard, 2026
Source: The Shillong Times, North East Today | **Impact**: Medium
landscape alone.[237] Extending the survey to Nokrek, Baghmara, Narpuh and Nongkhyllem will establish a statewide population baseline, providing the data needed to plan habitat management and conservation measures for the species. b. Meghalaya lost 84.07 sq km of forest cover between 2021 and 2023, the third-highest loss among northeastern states,[238] driven by agricultural expansion, infrastructure development and settlement growth, threatening exactly the connectivity between the leopard's core habitats. c. A structural constraint specific to Meghalaya is land tenure is that only around 8% of the state's forests fall under Government-managed reserve forests and sanctuaries, with the remaining 92%[239] under community ownership. This means that outcomes for a wide-ranging species depend on landholders the Forest Department does not directly control. d. The mission's emphasis on community participation and engagement with Biodiversity Management Committees is the specific mechanism designed to work within this ownership structure, since a state-led protection regime alone cannot cover habitat it does not administer. e. Lastly, the mission includes specialised training modules for frontline forest staff and community eco-guards. Training local personnel in non-invasive camera trapping, GPS mapping, and anti-poaching patrols improves wildlife monitoring and enforcement capabilities across remote districts.

[237] The Shillong Times, August, 2026.
[238] India State Of Forest Report (ISFR), 2023.
[239] MoSPI Environmental Accounting, Meghalaya, Page 10.

Social Sector Schemes

I. Punjab

A. Disbursement Of Second Tranche Of The Mukh Mantri Mawan Dhiyan Satkar Yojana
Source: Hindustan Times | **Impact**: High

1. On 1st August, 2026, the Punjab Government released the second tranche of financial assistance under the Mukh Mantri Mawan Dhiyan Satkar Yojana[240] to an additional 35.5 lakh women, taking the cumulative number of beneficiaries receiving assistance to approximately 68.5 lakh.
2. The disbursement seeks to strengthen women's financial autonomy through unconditional monthly cash assistance delivered directly into beneficiary bank accounts, with differential support for Scheduled Caste women.
3. **Key Features -**
    a. The disbursement provides monthly financial assistance of ₹1,000 to general-category women and ₹ 1,500 to Scheduled Caste women.
    b. Assistance is disbursed in lump-sum Instalments, with three months' payments released together (₹ 3,000 for general-category and ₹ 4,500 for SC women).
    c. The scheme allows convergence with existing social security pensions, enabling beneficiaries of widow, disability and old-age pensions to receive additional assistance.
    d. Eligibility requires beneficiaries to be women aged 18 years or above, registered voters in Punjab, and possess Aadhaar-linked residency details.
    e. It excludes income taxpayers, government employees/pensioners, and elected representatives and their spouses.
    f. The scheme has a budgetary allocation of ₹ 9,300 crore, with over 73.5 lakh registrations and around 68.5 lakh beneficiaries covered after recent disbursements.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The scheme uses the Central Government's Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) architecture for electronic transfer of welfare benefits directly into beneficiary bank accounts. As of August 2026, the DBT platform covered 319 schemes across 56 ministries and had processed around ₹ 1.44 lakh crore through 179 crore transactions in FY 2026–27.[241]
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Tamil Nadu provides ₹ 1,000 per month to approximately 1.15 crore women heads of households under the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam, with an annual allocation of ₹ 13,807 crore.[242] Karnataka's Gruha

[240] The Tribune India, March, 2026.
[241] DBT Bharat.
[242] Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam.

A. Disbursement Of Second Tranche Of The Mukh Mantri Mawan Dhiyan Satkar Yojana
Source: Hindustan Times | **Impact**: High

Lakshmi provides ₹2,000 per month to eligible women heads of households and has covered around 1.24 crore beneficiaries.[243] Madhya Pradesh's Ladli Behna Yojana currently provides ₹1,500 per month to about 1.25 crore eligible women.[244] Maharashtra's Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana similarly provides ₹1,500 per month to eligible women aged 21–65, subject to prescribed income and eligibility conditions.[245]

6. **Relevance -**
   a. The rollout creates one of Punjab's largest direct-benefit programmes by population coverage. After launching the Mukh Mantri Mawan Dhiyan Satkar Yojana and releasing the first tranche of financial assistance on 1st July, 2026, the Punjab Government transferred the second instalment to another 35.5 lakh women, taking total beneficiaries to 68.5 lakh against 73.5 lakh registrations, with the Government estimating potential coverage of nearly 97% of women in the state.[246] Against Punjab's total population of about 2.77 crore, the disbursement therefore represents a social-transfer programme operating at near-universal scale among adult women.
   b. It is pertinent to note that Punjab has relatively weak female labour-market outcomes. Punjab's female labour-force participation rate at 30.2%, compared with the national average of 40%, while the female worker-population ratio stands at 28% against 38.8% nationally.[247] The regular cash transfers can provide an independent source of liquidity to women who remain outside, or only intermittently participate in, paid employment.[248]
   c. The design also provides 50% higher assistance to Scheduled Caste women with ₹ 1,500 per month compared with ₹ 1,000 for other eligible women. This differential benefit is significant in Punjab, where Scheduled Castes constitute a particularly large share of the population, and directs a greater transfer toward households more likely to face income and asset constraints.[249]
   d. It is important to note that the scheme creates a significant recurring fiscal burden for Punjab, with its ₹ 9,300 crore allocation equivalent to about 5.6% of the state's ₹ 1.67 lakh crore net expenditure in FY 2026–27. This comes amid a

[243] Karnataka Health And Family Welfare Services Annual Report 2023-24.
[244] Mukhyamantri Ladli Behen Yojana.
[245] Mukhyamantri Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana.
[246] Hindustan Times, August, 2026.
[247] The Times Of India, June, 2026.
[248] Times Of India, June, 2026.
[249] Hindustan Times, August, 2026.

A. Disbursement Of Second Tranche Of The Mukh Mantri Mawan Dhiyan Satkar Yojana
Source: Hindustan Times | **Impact**: High
projected fiscal deficit of ₹ 39,970.65 crore, or 4.08% of GSDP, and a revenue deficit of ₹ 21,955 crore,[250] raising concerns over the sustainability of a large, near-universal cash-transfer commitment in an already fiscally constrained state.

[250] Punjab Budget Analysis 2026-27, NFPRC Foundation, May, 2026.

II. Tamil Nadu

A. Enhanced Education Initiative Through Free Bicycles And Laptops Schemes
Source: The New Indian Express | **Impact**: High

1. On 5th August, 2026, the Tamil Nadu Government announced support for student welfare under the 2026-27 Budget through the Free Bicycle Scheme and the Vetri Free Laptop Scheme[251] for students studying in Government and Government-aided educational institutions.
2. The initiatives aim to **improve access** to education, reduce financial and transportation barriers, strengthen digital learning and enhance educational outcomes among students.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The Budget allocates ₹277 crore to provide bicycles, helmets and water bottles to 5.32 lakh Class XI students in Government and Government-aided schools, continuing Tamil Nadu's longstanding student-mobility programme.
   b. It allocates ₹2,000 crore for the Vetri Laptop Scheme for college students, aimed at improving digital access and supporting learning, skills and employability.
   c. The Vetri Laptop Scheme is a renamed continuation of the Ulagam Ungal Kaiyil programme launched in January 2026, rather than a completely new device-distribution programme.
   d. The 2026 Budget expands the stated scope of laptop distribution to all college students, compared with the narrower first-year undergraduate coverage under the preceding implementation phase.
   e. The bicycle component adds helmets alongside bicycles, incorporating an explicit safety element into a programme whose core function remains improving independent access to higher-secondary schooling.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The Scheme Complements the Ministry of Education's Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)[252] objectives (promoting equitable access and retention in secondary schools) and aligns with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology's (MeitY) Digital India Programme.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Uttar Pradesh has the Rani Lakshmibai Scooty Scheme,[253] West Bengal has the Sarathi scheme[254] and Bihar has Mukhyamantri Balika Cycle Yojana,[255] all of which seek to improve students' access to education by addressing mobility and transportation barriers.
6. **Relevance -**

[251] Tamil Nadu Budget Highlights, RBE-2026-27.
[252] Samagra Shiksha, Ministry Of Education, May, 2018
[253] Uttar Pradesh Rani Laxmi Bai Scooty Yojana.
[254] Sarathi Scheme.
[255] Mukhyamantri Balika Cycle Yojana.

A. Enhanced Education Initiative Through Free Bicycles And Laptops Schemes
Source: The New Indian Express | **Impact**: High
a. Tamil Nadu's original free bicycle scheme, running since 2001-02, saw the secondary-school dropout rate for girls fall from 23.6% in 2010-11 to 4.4% in 2023-24,[256] evidencing a direct link between commute barriers and dropout. However, the state's overall secondary dropout has increased from about 7.7% in 2023-24 to around 8.5%[257] in 2024-25, so continuing the ₹ 277 crore allocation sustains this access channel for the next Class 11 cohort rather than letting two decades of gains lapse. b. Tamil Nadu recorded around 421[258] bicycle fatalities in 2022, among the higher tolls nationally, reflecting the safety risk of promoting student cycling without matching road infrastructure. The enhanced support under this scheme also equips bicycles with helmets to curb this issue of safety risk for the students. c. Notably, distribution under the earlier free-laptop scheme stopped in 2020 after 51.67 lakh units costing ₹ 7,257.61 crore were given out between 2011-12 and 2019-20,[259] with over 20 lakh students still awaiting laptops when distribution was halted for nearly four years. The ₹ 2,000 crore Vetri Laptop Scheme converts an interrupted, tender-dependent handout into a budgeted line item with the same outlay that funded 10 lakh laptops in the current phase, i.e. roughly ₹ 20,000 per unit. d. Providing around 10 lakh laptops to college students supports digital literacy and skill development. Equipping students with personal devices enables them to participate in online learning, programming courses, and competitive exam preparation.

[256] Citizen Consumer And Civic Action Group September, 2025.
[257] UDISE+ Report 2023-24 And 2024-25.
[258] Citizen Consumer And Civic Action Group, September, 2025.
[259] DT Next, September, 2023.

B. Vetri Skill Training Scheme, 2026
Source: The Hindu | **Impact**: High

1. On 5th August, 2026, the Tamil Nadu Government announced the Vetri Skill Training Scheme.
2. The scheme aims to provide **industry-oriented skill training** to 13 lakh youth, strengthening employability by linking vocational training with emerging-sector requirements and employment opportunities.
3. **Key Features -**
    a. The scheme provides industry-aligned skill training to 12 lakh college students and 1 lakh unemployed youth during 2026–27.
    b. It introduces internship training for 20,000 youth in the first phase in collaboration with Government and private industries.
    c. It provides a monthly stipend to graduates and youth with vocational education qualifications during the internship period.
    d. It gives priority to youth from families without permanent employment for participation under the scheme.
    e. It also allocates ₹ 150 crore for implementation of the Vetri Skill Training Scheme.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The Scheme aligns with the Skill India Mission, particularly National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) and National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) 2.0, by combining industry-linked skill training with practical workplace exposure.[260]
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Kerala launched the Additional Skill Acquisition Programme, 2012[261] to provide industry-relevant skill training alongside formal education. Telangana established the Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge (TASK), 2014[262] to provide industry-aligned skilling and improve youth employability, while Maharashtra introduced the Mukhyamantri Yuva Karya Prashikshan Yojana, 2024[263] to provide workplace training and practical experience to youth.
6. **Relevance -**
    a. Tamil Nadu has India's largest number of factories, yet graduate unemployment remains at 16.3%, above the national average of 13.4%, while youth unemployment stands at 14.1% against 9.9% nationally.[264] The scheme's industry-aligned training addresses this gap by better matching the skills of graduates and young job-seekers with the requirements of the State's industrial base.

[260] PIB, July, 2026.
[261] Additional Skill Acquisition Programme, July, 2012.
[262] Telangana Academy for Skill and Knowledge Portal (TASK), 2014.
[263] Mukhyamantri Yuva Karya Prashikshan Yojana, 2024.
[264] PLFS, Annual Report, 2025.

B. Vetri Skill Training Scheme, 2026
Source: The Hindu | **Impact**: High

b. Further, Tamil Nadu's Higher Education Minister noted in July, 2026 that more than 50% of the state's technical graduates remain unemployed, despite the state hosting nearly half of India's engineering institutions.[265] The scheme addresses this mismatch by shifting the focus from expanding educational capacity to industry-linked training and internships, strengthening the employability of the existing technical graduate pool.
c. Going forward, Tamil Nadu's electronics exports reached $ 20 billion (₹ 1.2 lakh crore) in FY 2025-26,[266] while the state targets 60,000 new jobs under its Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme.[267] The scheme can support this expansion by equipping students with industry-relevant skills and practical experience, helping build the workforce required for emerging manufacturing and technology sectors.
d. The scheme also strengthens industry-academia linkages by connecting college training directly with workplace requirements. Tamil Nadu already has major industrial clusters in Chennai, Coimbatore, Sriperumbudur and Hosur, with Sriperumbudur and Hosur among the state's primary industrial clusters,[268] while Chennai, Coimbatore and Hosur are also key nodes of the Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor.[269]
e. Embedding industry-oriented training and internships within college education can therefore help bridge the gap between academic qualifications and workplace skills, while enabling these industrial hubs to recruit a larger pool of job-ready local graduates.
f. Finally, the scheme prioritises youth from families without permanent employment and provides a monthly stipend during industry internships, reducing the financial barrier to gaining workplace experience. This can create a more accessible pathway into formal employment for youth who may otherwise be unable to undertake unpaid internships.

[265] The Economic Times, July, 2026.
[266] Business Line, July, 2026.
[267] Business Standard, April, 2025.
[268] SIPICOT.
[269] PIB, February, 2023.

C. My Home (Metropolitan Youth And Family Housing) Scheme
Source: The Times Of India | **Impact**: High

1. On 5th August, 2026, the Tamil Nadu Government launched the My Home (Metropolitan Youth and Family Housing) Scheme.
2. The scheme aims to **expand affordable housing** for middle-income families and economically weaker sections (EWS) through public-private partnerships (PPP), leveraging private investment and public support to deliver housing at scale over seven years.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The scheme targets the construction of 1 lakh affordable houses over seven years for middle-income families and economically weaker sections.
   b. It adopts a PPP model to develop affordable housing projects and mobilise private-sector participation.
   c. It envisages ₹ 15,000 crore of investment through the PPP model for affordable housing development.
   d. It provides ₹ 3,500 crore in VGF to improve project viability and attract private investment.
   e. The scheme also introduces a Digital Rental Voucher System designed to bridge the gap between user income capacity and affordable unit costs, delivering targeted rental subsidies directly to eligible beneficiaries (such as young professionals and low-income families).
   f. Further, the state has 24,131 affordable housing units under construction, with work on another 14,194 units scheduled to commence in 2026–27.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The scheme aligns with the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0)[270] particularly its Affordable Housing in Partnership (AHP) vertical, which supports EWS housing through projects developed by public and private agencies.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** States such as Maharashtra,[271] Karnataka[272] and Rajasthan[273] have adopted PPP-based affordable housing models, combining private-sector participation with state-led incentives and housing delivery mechanisms.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. Tamil Nadu has 6.86 lakh houses sanctioned under PMAY-U, of which 6.32 lakh had been completed or delivered by July, 2026, while only 18,000 houses have

[270] Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban 2.0 (PMAY-U 2.0).
[271] Maharashtra Housing And Area Development Authority.
[272] Karnataka Affordable Housing Policy, 2016.
[273] Mukhyamantri Jan Awas Yojana.

C. My Home (Metropolitan Youth And Family Housing) Scheme
Source: The Times Of India | **Impact**: High
been sanctioned under PMAY-U 2.0.[274] This indicates that the next challenge is to expand the supply pipeline beyond the existing scheme, particularly for emerging urban housing demand. The scheme can address this by mobilising private investment, supported by ₹ 3,500 crore in VGF, to deliver 1 lakh additional affordable houses over seven years. b. Tamil Nadu Housing Board (TNHB) already caters to EWS, Low Income Group (LIG) and Middle Income Group (MIG) households through its housing projects, but its delivery model remains primarily state-led.[275] c. The scheme expands the above approach by targeting middle-income families through a ₹ 15,000 crore PPP investment pipeline, backed by ₹ 3,500 crore in VGF to improve project viability and crowd in private developers, thereby increasing affordable housing supply beyond conventional public-sector delivery. d. Tamil Nadu has 6.86 lakh houses sanctioned under PMAY-U, with 6.32 lakh completed or delivered and over 6.74 lakh grounded as of July, 2026.[276] This established delivery capacity provides a base for the scheme to shift towards larger-scale PPP-led housing delivery, using private capital to supplement conventional public financing and expand affordable housing supply.

[274] PIB, July, 2026.
[275] Housing And Urban Development Department Policy Note, 2025-2026.
[276] PIB, July, 2026.

III. Odisha

A. Mukhya Mantri Janajati Jeevika Mission (MMJJM) 2.0
Source: The New Indian Express, Business Standard | **Impact:** High

1. On 1st August, 2026, the Odisha Cabinet approved the Mukhya Mantri Janajati Jeevika Mission (MMJJM) 2.0, expanding the state's flagship tribal livelihood programme for the period 2026–27 to 2030–31.
2. The mission seeks to **improve household incomes** and economic resilience among tribal communities through diversified farm, off-farm and non-farm livelihood opportunities, while expanding the programme to all Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) families.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The programme provides a cumulative state outlay of ₹ 2,995 crore over five years and targets approximately 8 lakh tribal households, compared with around 1.5 lakh households covered under its first phase.
   b. It expands implementation from 13 districts to 19 districts, covering 134 Tribal Sub-Plan and Micro Project Area blocks through 23 Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDAs).
   c. It enables beneficiary-selected livelihoods across agriculture, horticulture, livestock, fisheries, sericulture, forest-based enterprises, Non-Timber Forest Product (NTFP) value chains, handloom, handicrafts and rural entrepreneurship based on local resource and market potential.
   d. Eligible households will receive ₹ 30,000 in direct financial assistance, disbursed in two Instalments through DBT.
   e. The programme also provides for common livelihood infrastructure, including post-harvest facilities, storage, processing and marketing systems, alongside support for entrepreneurship, value addition and market linkages.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment** - The mission complements the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM), which promotes tribal entrepreneurship and value-chain development for Minor Forest Produce[277] and the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan, which follows a convergent approach to socio-economic development in tribal-majority villages.[278]
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** States such as Jharkhand,[279] and Chhattisgarh[280] have implemented community-based, cluster-driven livelihood and enterprise development initiatives for tribal and rural households.
6. **Relevance -**

[277] Ministry Of Tribal Affairs.
[278] Ministry Of Tribal Affairs.
[279] JOHAR.
[280] PIB, May, 2026.

A. Mukhya Mantri Janajati Jeevika Mission (MMJJM) 2.0
Source: The New Indian Express, Business Standard | **Impact:** High
a. Scheduled Tribes constitute 22.85% of Odisha's population, giving the state the third-largest Scheduled Tribe population in India.[281] Consequently, improving livelihood opportunities for tribal households is integral to Odisha's broader poverty reduction and inclusive growth objectives rather than a narrowly targeted welfare intervention. b. The programme expands coverage from approximately 1.5 lakh to 8 lakh households and from 13 to 19 districts, representing a more than fivefold increase in scale.[282] The expansion builds on an implementation framework that had already reached around 1.45 lakh tribal households, enabling broader coverage without creating a new delivery architecture.[283] c. Further, Odisha's tribal economy remains closely linked to forests and natural resource-based livelihoods, with many tribal households relying on Minor Forest Produce (MFP)[284] such as kendu leaf, bamboo, honey and tamarind for income.[285] The mission addresses a key structural gap by strengthening the processing, storage, value addition and marketing of MFP, enabling tribal producers to capture a greater share of value beyond primary collection. d. Finally, the ₹ 30,000 household-level DBT shifts livelihood support from standardised provisioning towards beneficiary choice. By allowing households to choose activities suited to local resources, the ₹ 2,400 crore injection into 8 lakh tribal accounts can also stimulate demand for agricultural tools, livestock and local goods across districts such as Koraput, Rayagada, Mayurbhanj and Malkangiri. e. Combined with common infrastructure and market support, the mission addresses both household-level productive capital constraints and ecosystem-level market access barriers.[286]

281 STSC Odisha.
282 The Times Of India, August, 2026.
283 The Times Of India, June, 2025.
284 Minor Forest Produce (MFP) refers to non-timber forest products such as fruits, seeds, bamboo, honey, medicinal plants and tendu leaves collected from forests.
285 Odisha Economic Survey.
286 The Times Of India, August, 2026.

IV. Gujarat

A. Namo Laxmi–Namo Saraswati Scholarship Disbursement Initiative

Source: ANI News | **Impact**: High

1. On 12th August, 2026, the Government of Gujarat transferred financial assistance to students under the Namo Laxmi Yojana and Namo Saraswati Vigyan Sadhana Yojana.
2. The initiatives aim to improve **secondary and higher secondary retention** through direct financial assistance, with Namo Laxmi supporting girls in Classes 9–12 and Namo Saraswati incentivising science-stream students in Classes 11–12.
3. **Key Features -**
    a. It provides direct benefit transfer of over ₹ 646 crore to 4.72 lakh students across the state under multiple education schemes.
    b. The initiative covers financial assistance of over ₹ 513 crore to more than 4 lakh girl students under the Namo Laxmi Yojana for completing Class 10 and 12.
    c. It provides over ₹ 28 crore to more than 57,000 science stream students under the Namo Saraswati Vigyan Sadhana Yojana to promote STEM enrolment.
    d. It also includes additional disbursement of ₹ 105 crore under scholarship schemes such as Mukhyamantri Yuva Swavalamban Yojana and SHODH, covering 7,260 students and 48 institutions.
    e. The initiative enables DBT-based delivery mechanisms to ensure timely and transparent transfer of financial assistance to beneficiaries' bank accounts.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The initiative aligns with the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020[287] and Beti Bachao Beti Padhao,[288] which focuses on improving access to education, reducing dropout rates, and promoting girls' participation in schooling and STEM fields.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Madhya Pradesh implements the Ladli Behna[289] and scholarship schemes providing DBT-based support to women and students, while Uttar Pradesh runs scholarship and incentive schemes for girl education and STEM promotion through direct transfers to beneficiaries.
6. **Relevance -**
    a. Gujarat continues to face a significant secondary-school retention challenge, with the state recording a 15.7% secondary dropout rate in 2025–26, compared with the national average of 9.5%. The state had also identified around 6.41 lakh students who had dropped out during 2025–26 for re-enrolment efforts.[290] Financial support under Namo Laxmi therefore targets a stage where economic constraints can contribute to students, particularly girls, leaving school.

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[287] National Education Policy, 2020.
[288] PM India.
[289] Mint, August, 2026.
[290] Indian Express, July, 2026.

A. Namo Laxmi–Namo Saraswati Scholarship Disbursement Initiative
Source: ANI News | **Impact**: High
b. The schemes have already coincided with improvement in girls' and science-stream enrolment. Within a year of their launch, the Gujarat Government reported a 16% increase in girls' admissions at the higher-secondary level and an 11% rise in science-stream admissions.[291] The initiative can therefore help sustain these gains by linking financial assistance with continued participation in secondary and higher-secondary education. c. The initiative is also relevant because Gujarat's retention rate up to Class 12 stood at only 54.5% in 2025–26, indicating that a large share of students entering the school system do not remain enrolled through higher-secondary education.[292] Concentrating incentives in Classes 11–12 therefore targets the stage at which student attrition becomes most pronounced. d. The Namo Saraswati Vigyan Sadhana Yojana strengthens Gujarat's STEM pipeline by providing targeted incentives to students opting for the science stream. The state reported an 11% increase in science-stream admissions within the first year of the scheme, while the Class 12 science-stream pass rate subsequently reached an 11-year high of 84.33% in 2026.[293] e. The initiative has also achieved considerable scale through DBT. By March, 2026, Gujarat had disbursed around ₹ 1,871.78 crore to 27.61 lakh students under the Namo Laxmi and Namo Saraswati schemes, with another ₹ 1,500 crore allocated in the 2026–27 Budget for their continuation.[294]

[291] Indian Express, June, 2025.
[292] The Economic Times, July, 2026.
[293] Times Of India, May, 2026.
[294] Times Of India, March, 2026.

V. Karnataka

A. Sandhya Kiran Scheme, 2026
Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: High

1. On 13th August, 2026, the Karnataka Cabinet approved the Sandhya Kiran cashless healthcare scheme for state pensioners.
2. The scheme aims to provide **cashless secondary, tertiary and emergency healthcare** to state pensioners, family pensioners and eligible dependants through empanelled hospitals under a contributory model.
3. **Key Features -**
    a. The scheme provides cashless treatment of up to ₹ 5 lakh annually per family on a floater basis for secondary, tertiary and emergency care at empanelled hospitals.
    b. It covers around 4.93 lakh beneficiaries, including 3.11 lakh state Government pensioners below 70 years, family pensioners and eligible dependents.
    c. The contribution structure requires service pensioners to contribute 1.25% of basic pension and family pensioners 0.75% of basic family pension, generating an estimated ₹ 117 crore in annual contributions.
    d. The financing model covers:
        i. 70% of the estimated ₹ 81.75 crore annual treatment cost through beneficiary contributions, amounting to ₹ 57.22 crore; and
        ii. 30% through the state Government, amounting to ₹ 24.53 crore.
    e. Further, the Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust implements the scheme through the Ayushman Bharat-Arogya Karnataka system, covering registration, contributions, hospital empanelment, cashless treatment and claims management.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The scheme aligns with Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY),[295] the national cashless secondary and tertiary healthcare programme already implemented across India, by using the AB-ArK framework, benefit packages and revised rates for service delivery.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** States such as Uttar Pradesh,[296] Delhi,[297] Tamil Nadu,[298] and Rajasthan[299] have implemented dedicated cashless or contributory health schemes for Government employees and pensioners to ensure empanelled hospital access, financial protection and expanded healthcare coverage.
6. **Relevance -**
    a. Karnataka already provides cashless healthcare to Government employees and their dependents under the Karnataka Arogya Sanjeevini Scheme, with around

[295] Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana.
[296] Cashless Health Scheme Of Uttar Pradesh.
[297] Delhi Government Employees Health Scheme.
[298] Tamil Nadu New Health Insurance Scheme.
[299] Rajasthan Government Health Scheme.

A. Sandhya Kiran Scheme, 2026
Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: High
35,000 employees approved for coverage as of December, 2025.[300] Sandhya Kiran extends this cashless architecture to pensioners through a dedicated contributory model, covering around 4.93 lakh beneficiaries, including 3.11 lakh state Government pensioners and their dependents. This expands coverage to a substantially larger beneficiary base while leveraging the existing Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST) and AB-ArK infrastructure. b. Karnataka has relatively strong financial protection, with out-of-pocket expenditure (OOPE) accounting for 29.2% of total health expenditure in 2022–23, against 43.4% nationally, but per-capita OOPE still stood at ₹ 2,049.[301] The scheme builds on this protection by providing pensioners with ₹ 5 lakh annual cashless coverage for secondary, tertiary and emergency care, reducing their exposure to potentially high treatment costs. c. Further, as healthcare utilisation and treatment costs rise, a fully state-funded model could increase the fiscal burden of covering a large pensioner base. The contributory framework addresses this by requiring beneficiaries to contribute an estimated ₹ 57.22 crore annually, while the state funds the remaining ₹ 24.53 crore of the ₹ 81.75 crore estimated treatment cost. d. Additionally, a 0.05 percentage-point increase in contribution rates is triggered if corpus utilisation exceeds 85%, providing an automatic mechanism to maintain financial sustainability as utilisation rises.

[300] The Times Of India, December, 2025.
[301] The Times Of India, June, 2026.

VI. Madhya Pradesh

A. Cabinet Approval To Kavach Scheme For Cooperative Farmers
Source: MoneyControl | **Impact:** Medium

1. On 4th August, 2026, the Madhya Pradesh Cabinet approved the Kavach Scheme. It aims to restore access to institutional credit and Government schemes for cooperative-society farmers whose loan accounts are under investigation for alleged irregularities, enabling eligible farmers to **access fresh agricultural loans**.
2. **Key Features -**
   a. The scheme provides a ₹ 50 crore jointly created relief fund through the Apex Bank and District Cooperative Banks for affected farmers.
   b. It covers approximately 5,000 cooperative-society farmers whose loan accounts are under investigation for alleged irregularities.
   c. It enables eligible farmers to access fresh agricultural loans and Government schemes despite pending investigations.
   d. It provides ₹ 25 crore in one-time state Government share capital assistance to support the affected farmers.
   e. Further, it seeks to restore farmers' access to institutional credit and Government benefits disrupted due to prolonged loan-account investigations.
3. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The scheme aligns with the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme, which provides timely institutional credit to farmers through banks. The Central Government continues the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS)[302] to support affordable short-term agricultural credit through KCC.
4. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** States such as Maharashtra,[303] Kerala[304] and Tamil Nadu[305] have introduced agricultural loan-relief and cooperative credit-settlement measures. However, Madhya Pradesh differs by specifically addressing farmers excluded from fresh credit and Government schemes due to loan accounts under investigation for irregularities.
5. **Relevance -**
   a. Madhya Pradesh's primary sector accounted for 43.09% of GSDP in 2025-26, with crops alone contributing 30.17% and the sector recording 7.31% growth over the previous year.[306] The scheme supports continuity of agricultural credit by providing a ₹ 50 crore relief fund through the Apex Bank and District Cooperative Banks, alongside ₹ 25 crore in state Government share-capital assistance, enabling affected farmers to access fresh credit without prolonged disruption to

[302] PM India.
[303] The Times Of India, September, 2025.
[304] The Kerala Farmers' Debt Relief Commission Act, 2006.
[305] The Times Of India, June, 2026.
[306] Economic Survey, Madhya Pradesh, 2025-26.

A. Cabinet Approval To Kavach Scheme For Cooperative Farmers
Source: MoneyControl | **Impact:** Medium
agricultural activity. b. Madhya Pradesh's cooperative credit system operates through 38 District Central Cooperative Banks[307] under the state Apex Bank, creating a wide institutional network for agricultural credit delivery. The scheme leverages this existing structure by enabling the Apex Bank and District Cooperative Banks to jointly create a ₹ 50 crore relief fund, allowing account-level resolution and credit restoration through the institutions already serving affected farmers. c. Further, a probe conducted in March, 2025, identified ₹ 6.4 crore in financial irregularities across 143 cooperative societies in Gwalior district,[308] highlighting the need for effective account-level resolution within the cooperative credit system. The scheme addresses this gap by enabling eligible farmer accounts to be resolved and reinstated separately from ongoing institutional investigations, thereby restoring access to fresh credit and Government schemes. d. Lastly, unlike broad-based loan-relief measures, the scheme targets farmers whose cooperative loan accounts are under investigation for irregularities, covering around 5,000 affected farmers. Its eligibility-verification and account-resolution mechanisms separate genuine farmer accounts from institutional irregularities, while the ₹ 50 crore relief fund and ₹ 25 crore state Government share-capital assistance support restoration of fresh credit and Government scheme access.

[307] Apex Bank.
[308] Dainik Jagaran, November, 2025.

VII. Uttar Pradesh

A. The Ghumantu Vikas Board (Uttar Pradesh Nomadic Development Board)
Source: India Today, The Times Of India | **Impact:** Medium

1. On 4th August, 2026, the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved the formation of the Uttar Pradesh Ghumantu Vikas Board (Uttar Pradesh Nomadic Development Board).
2. The Board aims to secure the comprehensive **socio-economic upliftment** of Vimukt (denotified), Ghumantu (nomadic) and Ardh-Ghumantu (semi-nomadic) communities by enumerating their population, building institutional representation for the various nomadic and denotified groups, and connecting every eligible individual to Government welfare schemes.
3. **Key Features -**
    a. The approval provides for the constitution of a dedicated Board under the Social Welfare Department for the socio-economic upliftment of Vimukt, Ghumantu and Ardh-Ghumantu communities of Uttar Pradesh.
    b. It mandates a statewide survey of nomadic and semi-nomadic communities, including groups such as Nats, Banjaras, Bawariyas, Sasis, Kanjads, Kalbeliyas, Saperas and Jogis, to generate data and identify households eligible for welfare linkage.
    c. It also introduces structured representation for distinct nomadic and denotified groups within the Board so that community-specific concerns are routed directly to the Government.
    d. The Board is slated to operate at two levels, i.e., district and state.
    e. The approval enables inter-departmental scheme convergence, with a task force to follow the Board's constitution and draft a comprehensive action plan covering education, healthcare, housing, livelihoods and social security.
    f. It also seeks to extend rehabilitation benefits on the lines of the Shamli and Vantangiya models, including land leases, housing colonies and revenue-village status, to settled and semi-settled nomadic communities.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment** - The Board aligns with the Scheme for Economic Empowerment of DNTs (SEED), 2022[309] implemented through the Development and Welfare Board for De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Communities (DWBDNC),[310] by supporting welfare access and socio-economic development of denotified, nomadic and semi-nomadic communities.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States** - Maharashtra operates the Vasantrao Naik

[309] Scheme For Economic Empowerment Of DNTs (SEED), Development And Welfare Board For De-notified, Nomadic And Semi-Nomadic Communities, 2022.
[310] Development And Welfare Board For De-notified, Nomadic And Semi-Nomadic Communities (DWBDNC).

A. The Ghumantu Vikas Board (Uttar Pradesh Nomadic Development Board)
Source: India Today, The Times Of India | **Impact:** Medium

Vimukta Jatis and Nomadic Tribes Development Corporation,[311] while Rajasthan has a state Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Welfare Board, and Karnataka has the Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Development Corporation,[312] for targeted welfare and development of these communities.

6. **Relevance -**
    a. Denotified communities were classified as "criminal tribes" under the Criminal Tribes Act, 1871, while welfare thereafter was largely delivered through broader schemes without a dedicated institutional mechanism. The Board marks a significant institutional shift by providing structured representation for Vimukt, Ghumantu and Ardh-Ghumantu groups, enabling their concerns to be directly channelled to the Government and supporting more coordinated, targeted welfare delivery.
    b. Access to basic entitlements remains closely linked to settlement and formal recognition. The state has previously used the Vantangiya model,[313] granting revenue-village status along with housing and other public services. Extending similar measures through the Board, including land leases, housing colonies and revenue-village status, can help more settled and semi-settled nomadic communities access formal welfare and public services.
    c. Further, at least eight named communities (i.e., Nats, Banjaras, Bawariyas, Sasis, Kanjads, Kalbelias, Saperas, Jogis)[314] are recognised as falling under the Board's ambit, each with distinct regional/naming variations that historically caused certificate and identification mismatches. The Board's structured representation model is designed to accommodate this multiplicity rather than treat the group as homogeneous.
    d. Some Denotified and Nomadic Tribes are not covered under SC, ST or OBC categories,[315] leaving them outside reservation-linked welfare mechanisms. The Board's statewide survey and household registration can identify these uncovered communities and link them to eligible Government schemes, addressing a key gap in existing welfare coverage.

[311] Maharashtra Vasantrao Naik Tanda Scheme.
[312] Karnataka Nomadic And Semi-Nomadic Development Corporation.
[313] Money Control, August, 2025.
[314] Press Trust Of India, August, 2025.
[315] PIB, February, 2019.

B. Revised Guidelines For Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana (VSSY) 2.0
Source: The Government Of Uttar Pradesh | **Impact:** Medium

1. On 6th August, 2026, the Uttar Pradesh Government issued revised guidelines for the implementation of the Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana 2.0.
2. The guidelines aim to **strengthen livelihoods and improve self-employment** opportunities for traditional and modern artisans through expanded occupational coverage, skill upgradation, toolkits, subsidised credit and market support.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The guidelines expand coverage from 11 traditional trades to 25 trades, adding five traditional trades and nine modern trades including mobile and automobile repair, electronics and electrical repair, plumbing, computer repair, solar installation, digital photography and beauty and wellness.
   b. They provide 10 days of free skill-upgradation training, with the trainee honorarium increased from ₹ 450 to ₹ 500 per day, amounting to ₹ 5,000 through DBT.
   c. The guidelines also provide trained artisans with an advanced toolkit worth up to ₹ 15,000 and expand the certification routes through which artisans can establish eligibility.
   d. They introduce collateral-free and interest-free loans for projects of up to ₹ 10 lakh, with a 15% margin money subsidy, a six-month moratorium and interest subsidy for up to five years.
   e. They also enable marketing support through online platforms and GeM, exposure to new technologies, product development and design, while providing for a state-level PMU and divisional consultants for implementation.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment –** The guidelines align with the PM Vishwakarma Scheme, 2023,[316] which supports traditional artisans and craftspeople through skill upgradation, toolkit incentives, concessional credit and market linkages.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** States such as Gujarat,[317] Karnataka[318] and Rajasthan[319] have implemented artisan-focused initiatives providing skill training, toolkit or technology support, and market or enterprise linkages for traditional trades.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. Only 1.78 lakh residents of Uttar Pradesh are registered and just 66,901 received toolkits under PM Vishwakarma, amounting to roughly 6% of the 30 lakh national

[316] PM Vishwakarma Scheme, 2023.
[317] Gujarat Matikam Kalakari And Rural Technology Institute.
[318] Assistance To Traditional Artisans And Occupational Groups, Karnataka.
[319] Shri Vishwakarma Skill Development Board, Rajasthan.

B. Revised Guidelines For Vishwakarma Shram Samman Yojana (VSSY) 2.0
Source: The Government Of Uttar Pradesh | **Impact:** Medium
beneficiaries despite the state's ~ 17% population share.[320] The guidelines address this by widening trade coverage from 11 to 25 trades and running a state-administered parallel channel to push penetration beyond Central scheme limits. b. The state's ₹ 140.03 crore supplementary budget allocation for 2026-27 covers MSME,[321] khadi, handloom and textile jointly, with no ring-fenced VSSY outlay. The guidelines fix per-beneficiary costs (₹ 5,000 DBT honorarium, ₹ 15,000 toolkit cap, state-funded Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises cover), converting the broad allocation into trackable, artisan-specific expenditure. c. The state has already trained approximately 1.08 lakh craftspeople through 405 PM Vishwakarma centres,[322] while its broader skilling system is moving toward futuristic roles such as EV and solar technicians. The guidelines expand VSSY coverage from 11 to 25 trades, adding mobile/auto/electronics repair, computer repair and solar installation, creating a more Uttar Pradesh-relevant bridge between traditional livelihoods and emerging local markets. d. Lastly, last-mile implementation is critical given the scale and geographic spread of the state's MSME base with ~ 90 lakh formalised MSMEs[323] already recorded in the state. The delivery of the scheme cannot depend solely on individual district-level administrative capacity. The guidelines thus introduce a state-level Project Management Unit (PMU), divisional consultants, online scoring and defined 3-day departmental/15-day bank decision timelines, strengthening monitoring, coordination and turnaround time across districts. e. The state's one-district-one-product (ODOP) framework already identifies product development, marketing, skill development and local employment as core requirements, but artisan support remains spread across different interventions. The guidelines add online/Government e-Market marketing, design and cluster exposure alongside training and credit, creating an integrated artisan-to-market pipeline and improving convergence with the state's ODOP ecosystem.

320 New Kerala February, 2026.
321 Tarun Mitra August, 2026.
322 PIB, March, 2025.
323 Invest UP, MSME.

Investment Announcements

I. Madhya Pradesh

A. ₹ 1,550 Crore Investment Proposals For Gwalior Telecom Manufacturing Zone (TMZ)
Source: Business Standard | **Impact**: High

1. On 4th August, 2026, the Madhya Pradesh Government received investment proposals worth ₹ 1,550 crore for the proposed Telecom Manufacturing Zone (TMZ) in Gwalior during an investor round-table held in Mumbai.
2. The investment proposals seek to operationalise the country's first dedicated telecom manufacturing zone by attracting telecom equipment, networking, electronics and technology manufacturers into a manufacturing, testing and research ecosystem.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. Five companies expressed investment interest totalling ₹ 1,550 crore, expected to create approximately 3,600 direct jobs, comprising the following:
      i. M.V. Electrosystems - ₹ 700 crore;
      ii. Anant Systems - ₹ 400 crore;
      iii. Sterlite Technologies - ₹ 200 crore;
      iv. VNT - ₹ 150 crore; and
      v. Tescom - ₹ 100 crore.
   b. The Gwalior Telecom Manufacturing Zone will initially be developed over 170 acres, with provision to expand the site to around 400 acres in Phase-II.
   c. Investors will receive plug-and-play industrial infrastructure, along with electricity at around ₹ 2 per unit, monthly employment-linked assistance of ₹ 5,000 per employee, and training assistance of ₹ 13,000 per worker.
   d. The state also proposes incentives including capital assistance of up to 50%, industrial land at an annual lease rate of ₹1 per sq. metre, 100% stamp-duty reimbursement, concessions on electricity and water charges, and support for research and development and exports.
   e. The zone is proposed to host a dedicated telecom testing and manufacturing ecosystem, enabling equipment manufacturers to undertake production, certification, R&D and related activities within a common industrial cluster.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The development complements the Central Government's Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Telecom and Networking Products, which carries an outlay of ₹ 12,195 crore to promote domestic telecom manufacturing.[324] It also aligns with the broader Electronics Components

[324] PIB, March, 2025.

A. ₹ 1,550 Crore Investment Proposals For Gwalior Telecom Manufacturing Zone (TMZ)
Source: Business Standard | **Impact**: High
Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS), whose 46 approved projects as of January, 2026 involved ₹ 54,567 crore of investment and around 51,000 projected direct jobs.[325] 5. **Relevance -** a. The ₹ 1,550 crore proposals provide the first significant **private-investment pipeline** for operationalising Gwalior's TMZ. The five proposals alone are expected to generate around 3,600 direct jobs, indicating that the zone is beginning to shift from infrastructure planning towards actual industrial occupancy and production commitments.[326] b. The investment comes as India's telecom manufacturing sector is expanding rapidly. Under the Telecom PLI Scheme, domestic telecom-equipment sales had reached ₹ 78,672 crore by January, 2025, including ₹ 14,963 crore of exports, while telecom-instrument exports subsequently recorded 51.2% year-on-year growth in FY 2024–25. The Gwalior cluster allows Madhya Pradesh to capture a share of this growing national manufacturing and export market rather than remaining primarily a consumer of telecom hardware.[327] c. Domestic telecom manufacturing has reduced India's import dependence. Government data shows that telecom and mobile exports reached approximately ₹ 1.49 lakh crore against imports of ₹ 1.53 lakh crore in FY 2023–24, reducing the sector's trade deficit from around ₹ 68,000 crore to ₹ 4,000 crore within five years and import substitution in telecom equipment was estimated at around 60%. d. A specialised manufacturing and testing ecosystem in Gwalior can support domestic production of networking, radio and other telecom equipment.[328] e. The zone also seeks to build an electronics-manufacturing base outside India's established coastal and southern technology clusters. Madhya Pradesh is combining 170 acres of dedicated industrial land with up to 50% capital assistance, ₹ 1-per-sq.-metre leases and employment incentives. f. This is particularly relevant as India's wider electronics sector reached approximately ₹ 13.1 lakh crore of production and ₹ 4.24 lakh crore of exports, demonstrating a rapidly expanding market in which specialised industrial clusters can attract component suppliers, testing laboratories and R&D operations.[329]

325 PIB, February, 2026.
326 Business Standard, August, 2026.
327 PIB, March, 2025.
328 PIB, July, 2024.
329 Business Standard, August, 2026.

II. Maharashtra

A. ₹ 4,500 Crore Green Energy Project MoU Between Maharashtra Government And Oriana Power
Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 6th August, 2026, Oriana Power Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Maharashtra Government to invest ₹ 4,500 crore in the establishment of an integrated green hydrogen, green ammonia and green methanol production plant in the state.
2. The project will be implemented in phases and will be supported through regulatory facilitation and fiscal incentives.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The project provides for an investment of approximately ₹ 4,500 crore by Oriana Power Limited to establish an integrated green energy and fuel project in Maharashtra.
   b. The project proposes integrated production facilities for green hydrogen, green ammonia and green methanol, expanding the state's manufacturing capacity across multiple green fuel value chains.
   c. It provides for the development of the project in a phased manner under Maharashtra's prevailing industrial policies.
   d. The Maharashtra Government provides regulatory facilitation for the project, including support for statutory approvals, clearances and single-window facilitation to support project implementation.
   e. This MoU enables the project to avail applicable fiscal incentives under the state's prevailing industrial policies, supporting the development and commercial production of low-carbon fuels.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment –** The investment aligns with the National Green Hydrogen Mission,[330] which seeks to establish India as a global hub for the production, utilisation and export of green hydrogen and its derivatives by promoting large-scale investments in green hydrogen infrastructure.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States –** Gujarat, through the Gujarat Green Hydrogen Policy, 2025[331] promotes green hydrogen and green ammonia production through land and renewable energy support. Odisha, under the Odisha Renewable Energy Policy, 2022[332] provides incentives for green hydrogen and green ammonia projects and Rajasthan, under the Rajasthan Green Hydrogen Policy, 2023[333] provides fiscal and regulatory incentives for green hydrogen production.

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[330] National Green Hydrogen Mission.
[331] Gujarat Green Hydrogen Policy, Energy and Petrochemicals Department, 2025.
[332] Odisha Renewable Energy Policy, November, 2022.
[333] Rajasthan Green Hydrogen Policy, September, 2023.

A. ₹ 4,500 Crore Green Energy Project MoU Between Maharashtra Government And Oriana Power
Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: Medium

6. **Relevance -**
    a. Maharashtra's annual hydrogen demand is estimated at 0.52 million tonnes and is projected to reach 1.5 million tonnes by 2030,[334] with most of the current demand met through fossil-fuel-based grey hydrogen. The project will expand **domestic green hydrogen production** and support the transition towards low-carbon industrial feedstocks.
    b. Maharashtra's Green Hydrogen Policy, 2023[335] targets 500 KTPA of green hydrogen production by 2030. However, high production costs and limited supporting infrastructure have constrained private investment.[336] This project complements the policy by leveraging available incentives to improve commercial viability and expand production capacity.
    c. More broadly, achieving the National Green Hydrogen Mission's target of 5 MMTPA of green hydrogen production by 2030 requires an estimated ₹ 8 lakh crore of investment and 60–100 GW of electrolyser capacity.[337] The project contributes to this transition by establishing integrated production of green hydrogen, ammonia and methanol, strengthening the broader green hydrogen value chain.
    d. Additionally, replacing imported LNG-linked ammonia and fossil-fuel-derived hydrogen with domestically produced green alternatives insulates the domestic fertiliser and chemical sectors from global fuel price volatility and geopolitical supply chain disruptions.
    e. Finally, India consumes around 17–19 MMTPA of ammonia for fertiliser production and imports about 2.4 million tonnes[338] annually, while domestic nitrogen fertiliser production emits nearly 45 million tonnes of CO_2 each year. The project's green ammonia component supports the 7.24 lakh TPA of demand aggregated by the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) for 13 fertiliser units,[339] strengthening domestic supply and reducing dependence on liquefied natural gas (LNG)-linked imports and exposure to the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) in export markets.

334 The Indian Express, July, 2023.
335 Maharashtra Green Hydrogen Policy, 2023.
336 RMI, Maharashtra's Pathway To Become A Green Hydrogen Hub.
337 Sustainable Futures, December, 2025.
338 Ammonia Energy Association, April, 2023.
339 Business Standard, June, 2026.

III. Odisha

A. Odisha Food Processing Investment Promotion Initiative (2026)
Source: Business Standard | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 7th August, 2026, the Government of Odisha secured investment commitments worth ₹ 43,437 crore in the food-processing sector during the Odisha FoodPro 2026 summit.
2. The initiative aims to position Odisha as a major **food-processing hub** by promoting value-added processing of agricultural and marine produce, strengthening supply chains, and generating large-scale rural employment through investments in processing, logistics and allied infrastructure.
3. **Key Features –**
   a. It proposes specialised food-processing clusters to concentrate value-added manufacturing around Odisha's agricultural and marine commodities, including rice, pulses, oilseeds, fruits, vegetables, spices, turmeric, tamarind and honey.
   b. It seeks to expand integrated cold-chain and warehousing infrastructure covering processing, storage and logistics, alongside food parks, packaging facilities and export infrastructure.
   c. The initiative proposes strengthening food-quality and certification systems, including testing infrastructure, to support compliance and access to domestic and overseas markets.
   d. It seeks to integrate Farmers Producer Organisations (FPOs), MSMEs and women's self-help groups with organised food-processing industries to connect primary producers with formal value chains.
   e. It targets ₹ 43,437 crore in proposed food-processing investments through 27 MoUs worth ₹ 41,748 crore and 12 additional investment intents worth ₹ 1,689 crore, with 43,316 jobs expected across the commitments.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment –** The initiative aligns with the Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana[340] and the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Food Processing Industry,[341] which promotes value addition, infrastructure development and investment in the food-processing sector.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States –** States such as Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat have promoted large-scale food-processing parks and integrated cold-chain infrastructure,[342] while Uttar Pradesh has implemented One District One Product (ODOP) linked food processing clusters to enhance value addition and exports.[343]
6. **Relevance** –

[340] PIB, August, 2024.
[341] PIB, April, 2026.
[342] Ministry Of Food Processing Industries -Mega Parks.
[343] ODOP, Uttar Pradesh.

A. Odisha Food Processing Investment Promotion Initiative (2026)
Source: Business Standard | **Impact**: Medium
a. Odisha's high agricultural output creates a large base for the value-addition interventions proposed under the initiative. Agriculture and allied activities account for 18.9% of state GVA and nearly 49% of workforce engagement,[344] while foodgrain and horticultural production reached 150.48 lakh MT and 154.77 lakh MT respectively in 2024–25.[345] The initiative's focus on food-processing clusters and value-added processing can convert this primary output into higher-value products and strengthen downstream market linkages. b. Moreover, inadequate cold-storage capacity constrains Odisha's ability to retain and add value to perishable agricultural output.[346] The state identifies expanded cold-storage infrastructure as necessary to reduce post-harvest losses, prevent distress sales, enable value addition and improve farmers' market opportunities, particularly given 111.02 lakh MT of vegetable and 27.18 lakh MT of fruit production in 2024–25.[347] FoodPro 2026 addresses this gap by prioritising cold chains and warehousing infrastructure. c. Building on existing post-harvest infrastructure, Odisha can expand towards a more integrated food-processing ecosystem. Existing programmes already support farm collection units, pack houses, pre-cooling units, cool chambers, cold-storage units and refrigerated vans, providing a base for further value-chain integration. The initiative builds on this foundation by linking processing with cold chains, warehousing, quality and certification systems, logistics and export markets, while integrating FPOs, MSMEs, women entrepreneurs and rural enterprises. d. Finally, the initiative can strengthen the link between primary production and higher-value economic activity. The strategy connects agricultural production with manufacturing, logistics, exports and markets, while expanding processing clusters and supporting infrastructure. By integrating FPOs, MSMEs, women entrepreneurs and rural enterprises into these value chains, the initiative can deepen market integration and expand processing-led economic activity in the state.

[344] Odisha Economic Survey 2024-25.
[345] Odisha Economic Survey 2024-25.
[346] The New Indian Express, August, 2025.
[347] Odisha Economic Survey 2024-25.

IV. Karnataka

A. Approval Of 83 Industrial Projects Worth ₹ 6,252.86 Crore
Source: The Hindu Businessline | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 12th August, 2026, the Karnataka State Level Single Window Clearance Committee approved 83 industrial projects worth ₹ 6,253 crore under the state's industrial investment framework.
2. The approvals aim to accelerate **industrial investment** across Karnataka, diversify projects beyond Bengaluru and generate employment across districts.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The approvals target 30,054 employment opportunities, linking the approved investment pipeline with district-level job creation.
   b. They direct 69 projects outside Bengaluru Urban and Bengaluru Rural, extending industrial investment to other districts under the Beyond Bengaluru approach.
   c. They cover sectors including aerospace and defence, food processing, IT and IT-enabled services, integrated industrial parks, sugar and ethanol, and renewable energy, diversifying the approved investment base.
   d. The approvals also enable projects to be taken up across multiple districts through the State Level Single Window Clearance Committee, reducing approval fragmentation for investments outside Bengaluru and supporting faster project execution.
4. **Relevance -**
   a. Bengaluru Urban contributes roughly 36–39% of Karnataka's GSDP,[348] while its per-capita income exceeds ₹ 6 lakh, compared with around ₹ 1.2 lakh in Yadgir and Kalaburagi.[349] Against this regional disparity, directing 69 of the 83 approved projects, or 83%, outside Bengaluru Urban and Rural can help diversify industrial investment towards districts with lower income and weaker industrial activity.
   b. Karnataka's IT clusters outside Bengaluru currently account for less than 2% of the state's IT exports,[350] against a target of 10% by 2030 from current exports exceeding ₹ 5.5 lakh crore.[351] The approved projects across IT, aerospace, electronics and renewable energy can help close this concentration gap by building sector-specific industrial capacity and supply chains in other districts.
   c. Further, a similar single-window committee round in June, 2026 cleared ₹ 7,506 crore of investment and 28,000 jobs across 55 projects, with 41 projects, or 74.5%, located outside Bengaluru.[352] The current round raises the outside-Bengaluru

[348] Deccan Herald, December, 2025.
[349] Deccan Herald, December, 2025.
[350] Deccan Herald, November, 2021.
[351] Deccan Herald, June, 2026.
[352] News First Prime, June, 2026.

A. Approval Of 83 Industrial Projects Worth ₹ 6,252.86 Crore
Source: The Hindu Businessline | **Impact**: Medium
share to 83%, indicating that decentralised industrial expansion is strengthening across successive approval cycles rather than remaining a one-off intervention. d. However, the 30,054 projected jobs are not entirely spread across distant districts. The ₹ 475 crore Jaswin Ventures project in Doddaballapura alone accounts for 12,000 jobs, while another ₹ 465 crore project in Doddaballapura adds 2,500 jobs. Since Doddaballapura is in a rural stretch of Bengaluru, the employment impact is partly concentrated around Bengaluru's periphery rather than deeper regional industrialisation, limiting the overall impact.

V. Bihar

A. Signing Of MoUs Worth ₹ 51,600 Crore Across Various Sectors

Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: High

1. On 6th August, 2026, the Bihar Government signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) worth approximately ₹ 51,600 crore to establish industrial projects across multiple sectors.
2. The MoUs aim to **accelerate industrialisation** in Bihar by attracting large-scale private investment across sectors such as steel, nuclear energy, textiles and clean energy, while generating employment and strengthening the state's manufacturing ecosystem.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The MoUs propose ₹ 22,500 crore investment by Global Renewable Advanced Clean Energy (GRACE) Pvt Ltd for a nuclear energy project.
   b. They provide for six steel-sector MoUs, including ₹ 6,836 crore by Nakshatra Iron and Steel Pvt Ltd, ₹ 6,000 crore by Ankur Steel Pvt Ltd and ₹ 5,500 crore by Shri Langta Baba Metals and Power Ltd.
   c. They propose investments in the textile and apparel sector to expand manufacturing capacity and employment opportunities.
   d. They also propose investments in food processing and pharmaceutical manufacturing to diversify Bihar's industrial base.
   e. They cover proposed investments totalling ₹ 51,600 crore across nuclear energy, steel, textiles, food processing and pharmaceuticals.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment –** The initiative aligns with the Union Government's Make in India programme, which promotes manufacturing-led growth, investment mobilisation and employment generation.[353]
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States –** Odisha has mobilised large-scale investments through sector-specific summits such as FoodPro 2026,[354] while Gujarat[355] and Uttar Pradesh[356] regularly attract investments through global investor summits and industrial promotion policies.
6. **Relevance** -
   a. The investment push is significant because Bihar's industrial base, while expanding, remains relatively modest. In FY 2024–25, industry accounted for 23.57% of the state's GSVA at current prices, while manufacturing contributed only around 7.2%.[357] The ₹ 51,000 crore investment pipeline can therefore support

[353] PIB, April, 2026.
[354] Business Standard, August, 2026.
[355] CMO Gujarat, July, 2026.
[356] The Economic Times, July, 2025.
[357] Bihar e-Statistics.

A. Signing Of MoUs Worth ₹ 51,600 Crore Across Various Sectors
Source: The Economic Times | **Impact**: High
Bihar's transition towards a more manufacturing-led economy. b. Bihar's industrial structure has already started diversifying, with the secondary sector's share in GSVA increasing from 21.1% in 2020–21 to 26.8% in 2024–25, driven by manufacturing and construction.[358] Investments in steel, clean energy, textiles and other manufacturing activities can reinforce this shift towards higher-value industrial activity. c. The MoUs also build on Bihar's rapidly expanding investment pipeline. Bihar Business Connect 2024 attracted investment proposals worth over ₹ 1.8 lakh crore, compared with more than ₹ 50,000 crore at the inaugural 2023 edition.[359] The MoUs therefore indicate continued investor interest beyond one-off summit announcements. d. Employment generation is particularly relevant for the state, with the 10 investment agreements expected to create around 27,000 jobs.[360] Large manufacturing and energy projects can also generate indirect employment through construction, logistics, maintenance and local supplier networks. e. However, the key challenge will be conversion of investment proposals into operational projects. Bihar received 4,353 industrial investment proposals between 2016–17 and September, 2025, of which 3,539 received Stage-I clearance, indicating a large project pipeline requiring continued facilitation, infrastructure and regulatory support.[361] f. The impact of the MoUs will therefore depend on timely land availability, clearances, infrastructure development and financial closure.

[358] Indian Express, February, 2026.
[359] The Economic Times, December, 2024.
[360] Times Of India, August, 2026.
[361] Times Of India, February, 2026.

VI. Andhra Pradesh

A. Approval Of 25 Industrial Projects Worth ₹ 2.08 Lakh Crore By The State Investment Promotion Board
Source: The Hindu Businessline | **Impact**: High

1. On 12th August, 2026, the Andhra Pradesh State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB) approved 25 investment projects worth ₹ 2.08 lakh crore.
2. The approvals aim to accelerate **large-scale investment** across data centres, renewable energy, manufacturing, food processing and infrastructure, while ensuring time-bound project implementation and employment generation.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The SIPB has approved 25 projects involving ₹ 2.08 lakh crore in proposed investment and 39,067 expected employment opportunities across Andhra Pradesh.
   b. The approvals provide for a ₹ 1.08 lakh crore Reliance Industries data centre project in Visakhapatnam.
   c. The SIPB has also approved a ₹ 51,300 crore Reliance solar power and battery energy storage project in Sri Sathya Sai district.
   d. The approvals encompass a ₹ 12,297 crore Adani Hydro Energy pumped storage project in Kadapa and a ₹ 2,508 crore Royal Enfield motorcycle manufacturing unit in Tirupati.
   e. It mandates time-bound grounding of approved projects and directs officials to ensure zero delays in project clearances.
4. **Relevance -**
   a. Andhra Pradesh's Data Centre Policy 4.0 targets 6 GW of capacity and aims to position Visakhapatnam as a major AI and data-centre hub by 2030,[362] creating significant requirements for reliable power, water and digital connectivity. The approval of three data-centre projects worth ₹ 1.75 lakh crore can accelerate the supporting infrastructure ecosystem and strengthen Visakhapatnam's position as a major data infrastructure hub.
   b. Furthermore, Andhra Pradesh's Integrated Clean Energy Policy targets over 160 GW of additional renewable capacity and around ₹ 10 lakh crore in investment.[363] The approval of ₹ 15,000 crore in Waaree and other renewable energy projects can expand the clean-energy pipeline and support the growing power requirements of the state's industrial and digital sectors.
   c. At the same time, Andhra Pradesh's Electronics Components Manufacturing Policy 4.0 aims to deepen the state's electronics value chain and build a skilled workforce

[362] Deccan Herald, October, 2025.
[363] Andhra Pradesh Integrated Clean Energy Policy 4.0.

A. Approval Of 25 Industrial Projects Worth ₹ 2.08 Lakh Crore By The State Investment Promotion Board
Source: The Hindu Businessline | **Impact**: High
for component and advanced manufacturing.[364] The ₹ 450 crore AIL Dixon project at Kopparthi, expected to create 7,000 jobs, can strengthen the manufacturing base and support the state's shift towards higher-value industrial activity. d. Lastly, Andhra Pradesh's 2026–27 GSDP is estimated at ₹ 19.75 lakh crore,[365] making the ₹ 2.08 lakh crore investment approved by the SIPB equivalent to nearly 11% of annual economic output and over five times the state's ₹ 40,635 crore capital expenditure.[366] With a debt-to-GSDP ratio of 34.1%, mechanisms such as SIPB fast-track clearances, Public-Private-Partnerships and VGF support, and sector-specific policies are critical to mobilising private capital beyond the capacity of public spending alone.

[364] Andhra Pradesh Electronics Manufacturing Policy (4.0) 2024-29.
[365] Andhra Pradesh Budget Analysis 2026-27, NFPRC Foundation, June, 2026.
[366] Deccan Herald, February, 2025.

Other Decisions

I. Haryana

A. Modernisation Of 719 Government Schools With Smart Classrooms And AI Labs
Source: The Government Of Haryana, The Economic Times | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 1st August, 2026 Haryana Government announced a comprehensive modernisation of **719 Government model schools,** including the introduction of smart classrooms, Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based learning facilities and digital infrastructure, aimed at improving the quality of public education.
2. **Key Features -**
   a. The initiative covers 719 model schools, including Sanskriti Model Schools, Chief Minister's Early English and Excellence Schools, and PM-SHRI Schools.
   b. The Government will also develop new buildings for 150 schools as per international standards to strengthen infrastructure capacity.
   c. The initiative expands vocational education to 306 additional Government schools, increasing coverage from 31% to 60% of secondary school students during 2026–27.
   d. Under the physical infrastructure component, the selected schools will be provided with new or additional classrooms, separate toilets, strengthened boundary walls, playgrounds, libraries, modern furniture and improved drinking water and sanitation facilities.
   e. Under the technology and laboratory component, the schools will be equipped with digital and smart classrooms, AI-based learning facilities, digital laboratories, digital libraries, tablets and modern science and computer laboratories.
   f. Vocational education will be integrated into the upgraded schools alongside science, computer and technology-enabled learning.
3. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Kerala's KITE initiatives[367] focus on integrating ICT into school education through technology-enabled classrooms, digital learning infrastructure and teacher capacity-building. Tamil Nadu's TN SPARK initiative similarly promotes technology-enabled learning through Smart Classrooms and Hi-Tech Labs in Government schools,[368] while Delhi's AI-Mediated Classroom Project focuses on integrating AI and digital technologies into classroom teaching and learning.[369]
4. **Relevance -**
   a. Important digital infrastructure gaps remain in the state even though UDISE+ records broad computer access in Haryana's Government schools. 98.7% have a

[367] KITE Kerala.
[368] TN SPARK.
[369] AI Mediated Classroom Project.

[370] UDISE 2025-26.
[371] PIB, May, 2026.

II. Uttar Pradesh

A. Integrated Regional Development And Deep-Tech Innovation Initiative
Source: The Economic Times, The Times Of India | **Impact:** Medium

1. On 4th August, 2026, the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved the Prayagraj–Chitrakoot Regional Development Authority and U-Hubs (Innovation Hubs) in Lucknow and Noida.
2. The initiative aims to coordinate regional development across six districts through a dedicated authority while strengthening Uttar Pradesh's deep-tech ecosystem. It focuses on **integrated infrastructure planning**, startup incubation, advanced research and industry linkages in emerging technologies.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The Prayagraj–Chitrakoot Regional Development Authority (the authority) covers Prayagraj, Chitrakoot, Fatehpur, Banda, Kaushambi and Hamirpur for integrated regional planning and coordinated infrastructure expansion.
   b. The authority will coordinate urbanisation, civic infrastructure and regional development while supporting balanced growth, private investment and employment generation.
   c. U-Hubs will be established in Lucknow and Noida as integrated centres for startups, research and advanced data infrastructure.
   d. U-Hubs will focus on AI, robotics and emerging technologies, providing advanced infrastructure and support for innovation and technology-led startups.
   e. The U-Hub project will be developed in a phased manner and is intended to create thousands of technology jobs while positioning Uttar Pradesh as a national hub for emerging technologies.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The initiative aligns with PM GatiShakti National Master Plan[372] through integrated regional and infrastructure planning, and with the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)[373] through its focus on deep-tech innovation, startup incubation and research.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** States such as Maharashtra,[374] Gujarat[375] and Tamil Nadu[376] use regional planning boards or area development authorities for coordinated regional development, while Telangana and Karnataka operate T-Hub[377] and K-Tech[378] respectively to support startups, innovation and technology-led entrepreneurship.

[372] PM GatiShakti National Master Plan.
[373] Atal Innovation Mission.
[374] Directorate Of Town Planning And Valuation, Maharashtra.
[375] Ahmedabad Urban Development Authority.
[376] The Department Of Housing And Urban Development Of State Of Tamil Nadu.
[377] Startup Telangana.
[378] Department Of Electronics, Information Technology And Biotechnology, Government Of Karnataka.

A. Integrated Regional Development And Deep-Tech Innovation Initiative
Source: The Economic Times, The Times Of India | **Impact:** Medium

6. **Relevance -**
    a. Uttar Pradesh's startup ecosystem has expanded rapidly, but specialised deep-tech infrastructure remains limited. With 20,163 DPIIT-recognised startups as of December, 2025 and 63 incubators across 23 districts, the existing ecosystem is largely geared towards general startup support.[379] The U-Hubs fill this infrastructure gap by providing specialised facilities for AI, quantum computing, semiconductor design and biotechnology, supporting deep-tech research, incubation and commercialisation.
    b. Uttar Pradesh's semiconductor investment pipeline requires a stronger design and testing ecosystem. Approved projects include Tarq Semiconductors at ₹ 28,440 crore, HCL-Foxconn at ₹ 13,599 crore and Kaynes Semicon at ₹ 4,248 crore, alongside a ₹ 3,700 crore HCL-Foxconn display driver chip unit.[380] The Noida U-Hub addresses this gap through its focus on semiconductor design and Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT), linking manufacturing capacity with domestic design, testing and R&D capabilities.
    c. Prayagraj's economic contribution remains modest despite its strong administrative and tourism profile. The district accounts for only 3.3% of Uttar Pradesh's GSDP, compared with 10% for Gautam Buddh Nagar and 4% for Lucknow.[381] The authority can address this gap by coordinating investment, infrastructure and economic development across six districts, enabling Prayagraj's institutional and tourism base to generate wider regional spillovers.
    d. Lastly, Uttar Pradesh's 2026–27 budget explicitly prioritises balanced development of backward regions, including Bundelkhand.[382] The ₹ 9,12,696 crore budget provides a major focus on roads, expressways, power, irrigation and urban development, while ₹ 6,500 crore was allocated for land acquisition for the Vindhya Expressway, which will connect to Sonbhadra through Prayagraj, Mirzapur, Varanasi and Chandauli.[383] The authority can integrate this major connectivity investment with land use, urban expansion and industrial planning across the six-district region.

[379] Invest UP.
[380] The Times Of India, August, 2025.
[381] Invest UP.
[382] News On Air, February, 2026.
[383] Business Standard, August, 2026.

III. Goa

A. Formation Of The Goa State Poultry Development Corporation
Source: The Times Of India, Digital Goa | **Impact**: Medium

1. On 2nd August 2026, the Goa Government constituted the Board of the Goa State Poultry Development Corporation, building on the Corporation's incorporation as a State Government company under the Companies Act, 2013 on 27th July 2026.
2. The Corporation aims to expand domestic poultry production, reduce interstate dependence, regulate trade, and integrate productions, processing, and marketing to ensure a **stable supply of poultry products** across the state.
3. **Key Features -**
   a. The Corporation establishes state-level oversight for poultry production, trade, licensing, registration and enforcement.
   b. It provides for poultry farms, breeder units and hatcheries through purchased or leased land.
   c. The registered producers and traders can market live birds, dressed and processed chicken, eggs and ready-to-eat poultry products through approved outlets.
   d. The framework enables the procurement and manufacture of feed additives, medicines and other poultry inputs through individual, contract and community-based initiatives.
   e. The biosecurity standards are mandated under the Committee for Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA) Guidelines for Poultry/Birds Facility, 2020,[384] alongside trader awareness and market research.
4. **Central Initiative Alignment -** The establishment of the Corporation aligns with National Livestock Mission (NLM – Entrepreneurship Development and Employment Generation)[385] on poultry enterprise development and with the Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Act, 2009[386] on disease control and biosecurity.
5. **Similar Initiatives In Other States -** Kerala[387] and Tamil Nadu[388] have established state-supported poultry development corporations to promote poultry farming, improve domestic production and strengthen market linkages.
6. **Relevance -**
   a. Earlier in 2026, the Goa Government approved the Mukhyamantri Swayampurna Goa Poultry Development Policy, 2025, with a target of increasing local poultry

[384] CPCSEA Guidelines For Poultry/ Birds Facility, 2020.
[385] National Livestock Mission.
[386] Prevention And Control Of Infectious And Contagious Diseases In Animal Act, 2009.
[387] Kerala State Poultry Development Corporation Limited.
[388] Tamil Nadu Livestock Development Corporation.

A. Formation Of The Goa State Poultry Development Corporation
Source: The Times Of India, Digital Goa | **Impact**: Medium
production from 5% to self-sufficient status within 2037.[389] The Corporation provides the institutional mechanism to implement this target by coordinating production, farmer support, regulation and market development across the state. b. Goa currently meets only about 5% of its poultry demand locally,[390] with a single Karnataka supplier group alone sending nearly 10 lakh eggs per day[391] into the state, that is a scale of external dependence that leaves domestic supply almost entirely outside Goa's own control. c. The corporation directly addresses this gap by creating a dedicated institutional mechanism to expand local production, strengthen farmer support and build poultry infrastructure beyond the fragmented private supply chain. d. This dependence translates into price volatility that local producers cannot buffer, with retail egg prices touching ₹ 100 per dozen in December, 2025 against wholesale rates of ₹ 84.[392] This reflects Goa's limited local production capacity, leaving consumers exposed to external price swings. e. The corporation's marketing and market-linkage functions aim to strengthen local supply and create a buffer against such volatility. It also offers contract farming options, chick distribution, and feed subsidies, the corporation encourages local youth, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and agricultural start-ups to take up commercial poultry farming. f. Inter-state dependence also creates disease-related supply risks. In January, 2021, Goa restricted the entry of birds and eggs from Karnataka and Maharashtra following an outbreak of bird flu, triggering shortages and price increases.[393] The Corporation's mandate covering licensing, biosecurity, border quality checks and disease-testing laboratories seeks to strengthen disease surveillance while ensuring safer local production.

[389] Mukhyamantri Swayampurna Goa Poultry Development Policy, 2025.
[390] The Navhind Times, February, 2026.
[391] The Goan, December, 2025.
[392] News Karnataka, December, 2025.
[393] The Times Of India, January, 2021.

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