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Growth in industrial activity slips to 14-month low of 0.4%

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

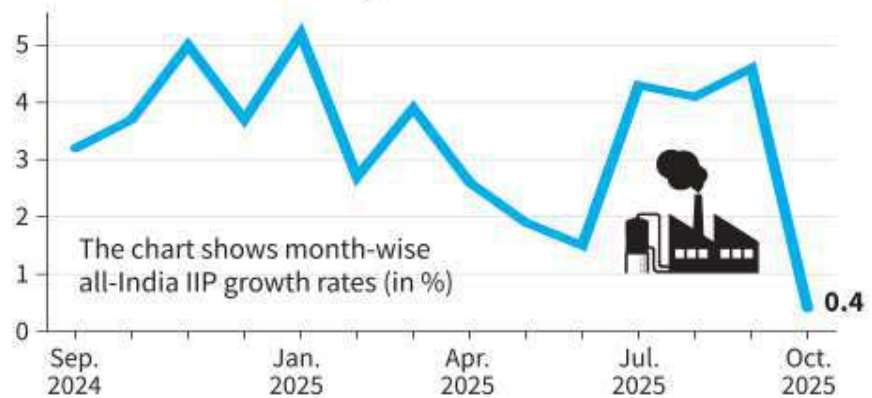
Growth in industrial activity slowed to a 14-month low of 0.4% in October 2025, pulled down by contractions in the electricity and consumer non-durables sector, as well as relatively slow growth in the manufacturing sector.

Data on the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation showed that growth in the index was last lower than the latest figures in August 2024, when it had come in at 0%.

The electricity sector contracted 6.9% in October 2025, compared with a growth of 2% in October last year. The consumer

A steep fall

Growth in industrial activity slowed to 0.4% in October 2025. This is the lowest in 14 months. Industrial activity was pulled down by contractions in the electricity and consumer non-durables sectors



non-durables sector contracted 4.4% compared with a growth of 2.8% over the same period.

“Consumer goods registered negative growth, and the inventory factor would have played out,” Madan Sabnavis, chief economist

at the Bank of Baroda said.

“It was -0.5% for durables and -4.4% for non-durables. This would need to be monitored for the next two months where traction in a positive direction should be seen.” Mr. Sabnavis added.

English Summary

India's industrial activity slowed sharply to a **14-month low of 0.4%** in **October 2025**, according to the **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)** data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI). This is the weakest performance since August 2024 (0%).

The slowdown was mainly due to:

- **6.9% contraction in the electricity sector**
- **4.4% contraction in consumer non-durables**
- **Weak growth in the manufacturing sector**

Consumer goods, both durables and non-durables, showed negative trends:

- **Durables: -0.5%**
- **Non-durables: -4.4%**

Economists indicate that **inventory correction** and weak demand led to the fall. Recovery will need close monitoring in the coming months.

The chart shows a steep fall after moderate recovery during July–September 2025, indicating uneven industrial momentum.

Hindi Summary (हिंदी सार)

अक्टूबर 2025 में भारत की औद्योगिक गतिविधियों की वृद्धि घटकर **केवल 0.4%** रह गई, जो **पिछले 14 महीनों का सबसे निचला स्तर** है। यह आंकड़ा **MoSPI** द्वारा जारी **IIP (Index of Industrial Production)** डेटा पर आधारित है।

गिरावट के मुख्य कारण:

- **विद्युत क्षेत्र में 6.9% की तेज संकुचन**
- **उपभोक्ता नॉन-ड्यूरेबल्स में 4.4% की गिरावट**
- **मैन्युफैक्चरिंग क्षेत्र में धीमी वृद्धि**

उपभोक्ता वस्तुओं में भी कमजोरी दिखी:

- **ड्यूरेबल्स: -0.5%**
- **नॉन-ड्यूरेबल्स: -4.4%**

अर्थशास्त्रियों के अनुसार, **कमजोर मांग** और **इन्वेंटरी में कमी (inventory adjustment)** ने इस गिरावट में योगदान दिया। आने वाले महीनों में स्थिति में सुधार के संकेतों की निगरानी आवश्यक होगी।

चार्ट से स्पष्ट है कि जुलाई–सितंबर 2025 की मध्यम रिकवरी के बाद औद्योगिक वृद्धि में तीखी गिरावट आई।

Bioterrorism a serious threat, world not ready: Jaishankar

Union Minister warns that 'non-state actors' can use biological agents; he says such threats cannot be handled in isolation, pitches for keeping Global South at the centre of strategies to tackle them

Kallol Bhattacharjee

NEW DELHI

The world is not yet “adequately prepared” to deal with the threat of bioterrorism, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said here on Monday.

Speaking at a conference on 50 years of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), Mr. Jaishankar said “non-state actors” can resort to use of biological agents and that the Global South should be at the centre of preparations to deal with bioweapons.

“Bioterrorism is a serious concern that the international community has to be adequately prepared for. Yet the BWC still lacks basic institutional structures,” said Mr. Jaishankar.

‘No compliance system’

“It has no compliance system, it has no permanent technical body and no mechanism to track new



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar addressing a conference on the Biological Weapons Convention in New Delhi on Monday. PTI

India ‘committed to non-proliferation of sensitive and dual-use goods and technologies’

scientific developments. These gaps must be bridged in order to strengthen confidence,” said the

Minister, calling for BWC’s modernisation.

He said India has proposed a National Implementation Framework that will cover “high-risk agents, oversight of dual-use research, domestic reporting and incident management”.

Mr. Jaishankar said India is “committed to ensuring

the non-proliferation of sensitive and dual-use goods and technologies”, and this has been supported by India’s strong legal and regulatory system.

Role of Global South

The Minister said biological threats cannot be handled by countries in isolation from international stakeholders and called for making the Global South central to BWC.

He described “unequal access to vaccines and medicines” as not just development issues but as “global risks”.

“The Global South is the most vulnerable and has the most to gain from stronger biosecurity. It also has the most to contribute. Its voice must therefore shape the next 50 years of the BWC,” said Mr. Jaishankar, who highlighted India’s ‘vaccine diplomacy’ that took shape against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic.

English Summary

External Affairs Minister **S. Jaishankar** warned that the **world is not adequately prepared** to face the growing threat of **bioterrorism**, particularly the possibility of “**non-state actors**” using **biological agents**. Speaking at an international conference marking **50 years of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)**, he noted that despite its importance, the BWC suffers from **institutional weaknesses**, including:

- **No compliance system,**
- No permanent technical body,
- No mechanism to monitor scientific developments.

He stressed that the **Global South** must be placed at the centre of global strategies to combat bio-threats, as these countries are **most vulnerable**, face **inequitable access to vaccines and medicines**, and stand to gain the most from stronger biosecurity.

Jaishankar stated that India is **committed to non-proliferation of sensitive and dual-use goods and technologies**, backed by India’s strong legal and regulatory systems. India has also proposed a **National**

Implementation Framework covering:

- High-risk agents,
- Oversight of dual-use research,
- Domestic reporting, and
- Incident management.

Calling for **BWC modernisation**, he emphasised that biological threats cannot be handled in isolation but require **international cooperation**, with the Global South shaping the future of the convention over the next 50 years.

Hindi Summary (हिंदी सार)

विदेश मंत्री **एस. जयशंकर** ने चेतावनी दी कि दुनिया **जैव-आतंकवाद (Bioterrorism)** के बढ़ते खतरे से निपटने के लिए अभी भी “पर्याप्त रूप से तैयार नहीं” है। उन्होंने कहा कि ‘**नॉन-स्टेट एक्टर्स**’ भी **जैविक एजेंट्स** का उपयोग कर सकते हैं, और इन खतरों से अकेले कोई देश नहीं निपट सकता।

Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) के 50 वर्ष पूरे होने पर आयोजित सम्मेलन में उन्होंने कहा कि BWC में कई कमजोरियाँ हैं, जैसे—

- **कोई अनुपालन प्रणाली नहीं,**
- स्थायी तकनीकी निकाय का अभाव,
- वैज्ञानिक प्रगति की निगरानी का अभाव।

उन्होंने जोर दिया कि **Global South** को वैश्विक बायो-सुरक्षा रणनीतियों के केंद्र में रखा जाना चाहिए, क्योंकि ये देश **सबसे अधिक संवेदनशील, वैक्सीन और दवाओं तक कम पहुंच वाले, और सबसे अधिक जोखिम वाले** हैं।

भारत **संवेदनशील और द्वि-उपयोग (dual-use) तकनीकों के अप्रसार (non-proliferation)** के प्रति प्रतिबद्ध है, जिसे भारत की **मजबूत कानूनी व नियामक प्रणाली** समर्थन देती है। भारत ने एक **National Implementation Framework** प्रस्तावित किया है, जिसमें शामिल हैं—

- उच्च जोखिम वाले जैविक एजेंट्स की निगरानी,
- द्वि-उपयोग अनुसंधान का नियंत्रण,
- घरेलू रिपोर्टिंग
- और घटना प्रबंधन।

जयशंकर ने BWC के **आधुनिकीकरण** की जरूरत पर बल दिया और कहा कि जैविक खतरे अंतरराष्ट्रीय सहयोग से ही नियंत्रित हो सकते हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि आने वाले 50 वर्षों में BWC का भविष्य **Global South की आवाज़** तय करेगी।

Why does India need bioremediation?

What are the two different types of bioremediation? How is traditional microbiology combined with cutting-edge biotechnology? Has the government initiated schemes to further bioremediation programmes? What are some of the challenges the country faces with respect to adoption of such technologies?

EXPLAINER

Shambhavi Nalk

The story so far:

Human waste is leading to a world where access to clean air, water and soil is becoming increasingly difficult. The solution is two-pronged – reduce waste and clean up the waste already made.

What is bioremediation?

Bioremediation literally means “restoring life through biology.” It harnesses microorganisms such as bacteria, fungi, algae and plants to sequester or transform toxic substances such as oil, pesticides, plastics, or heavy metals. These organisms metabolise these pollutants as food, breaking them down into harmless by-products such as water, carbon dioxide, or organic acids. In some cases, they can convert toxic metals into less dangerous forms that no longer leach into the soil or groundwater.

There are two broad types of bioremediation – in situ bioremediation, where treatment happens directly at the contaminated site such as when oil-eating bacteria is sprayed on an ocean spill; or ex situ bioremediation, where contaminated soil or water is removed, treated in a controlled facility, and returned once cleaned.

Modern bioremediation combines traditional microbiology with cutting-edge biotechnology. New biotechnologies are enabling humans to gain unprecedented insight into biology, allowing them to identify biomolecules with useful characteristics. These technologies also allow humans to replicate biomolecules under desired conditions of use, such as in sewage plants or agricultural lands. For example, genetically modified (GM) microbes are designed to degrade tough chemicals like plastics or oil residues that natural species struggle with.

Why does India need it?

India's rapid industrialisation has come at



New methods: Garbage being dumped in the Hitaroganahalli landfill in Bengaluru in 2024. *NIT, Iyer/epo*

a heavy environmental cost. Although pollution has been reducing, rivers such as the Ganga and Yamuna receive untreated sewage and industrial effluents daily. Oil leaks, pesticide residues, and heavy-metal contamination threaten both ecosystems and public health.

Traditional clean-up technologies are expensive, energy-intensive, and often create secondary pollution. Bioremediation offers a cheaper, scalable, and sustainable alternative, especially in a country where vast stretches of land and water are affected but resources for remediation are limited. Moreover, India's diverse biodiversity is a huge advantage. Indigenous microbes adapted to local conditions, such as high temperatures or salinity, can outperform imported strains.

Where does India stand today?

Bioremediation is gaining traction in India, though still largely in pilot phases. The Department of Biotechnology (DBT)

has supported several projects through its Clean Technology Programme, encouraging partnerships between universities, public research institutions, and industries.

The CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute has a mandate to propose and implement programmes related to bioremediation. Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology have experimented with a nanocomposite material synthesised from cotton that can be used to mop up oil spills and others have identified bacteria that can consume toxic pollutants in soils.

Startups are also entering the space. Firms like Biotech Consortium India Limited (BCIL) and Econimral Biotech offer microbial formulations for soil and wastewater treatment.

However, widespread adoption faces challenges such as a lack of site-specific knowledge and the complex nature of pollutants, and a lack of unified

bioremediation standards.

What are other countries doing?

Japan integrates microbial and plant-based cleanup systems into its urban waste strategy. The European Union funds cross-country projects that use microbes to tackle oil spills and restore mining sites. China has made bioremediation a priority under its soil pollution control framework, using genetically improved bacteria to restore industrial wastelands.

The opportunities for India are immense. Bioremediation can help restore rivers, reclaim land, and clean industrial sites, while creating jobs in biotechnology, environmental consulting, and waste management. It can also integrate with the government's Swachh Bharat Mission, Namami Gange, and other green technology initiatives.

What are the risks?

The introduction of genetically modified organisms into open environments need to be strictly monitored to prevent unintended ecological effects. Inadequate testing or poor containment can create fresh problems while solving old ones. Public engagement will be necessary to allow the smooth adoption of new technologies. India will need new biosafety guidelines, certification systems, and trained personnel to scale this technology responsibly.

What next?

First, there is a need to develop national standards for bioremediation protocols and microbial applications. Second, building regional bioremediation hubs linking universities, industries, and local governments would enable better understanding of local issues and identifying appropriate technologies for their resolution. Finally, public engagement would raise awareness that microbes can be allies, not threats, in environmental restoration.

Shambhavi Nalk is chairperson, Tata Institute of Health & Life Sciences Policy.

THE GIST

India's rapid industrialisation has come at a heavy environmental cost. Although pollution has been reducing, rivers such as the Ganga and Yamuna receive untreated sewage and industrial effluents daily.

Bioremediation can help restore rivers, reclaim land, and clean industrial sites, while creating jobs in biotechnology, environmental consulting, and waste management.

The introduction of genetically modified organisms into open environments need to be strictly monitored to prevent unintended ecological effects.

English Summary

India is facing a growing environmental crisis as **air, water, and soil pollution** intensify despite cleanup efforts. Bioremediation – literally “restoring life through biology” – offers a sustainable way to clean pollutants using **microorganisms like bacteria, fungi, algae, and plants**. These organisms break down toxic compounds (pesticides, plastics, heavy metals, oil spills) into harmless by-products.

There are **two main types**:

1. **In-situ bioremediation** – treatment at the polluted site itself (e.g., groundwater, soil).
2. **Ex-situ bioremediation** – contaminated material is removed and treated elsewhere.

Modern bioremediation uses **traditional microbiology** combined with **cutting-edge biotechnology** (e.g., engineered bacteria, gene-edited microbes) to make the process faster, safer, and more efficient.

India faces heavy environmental costs due to rapid industrialisation:

- Ganga, Yamuna, and other rivers receive industrial effluents daily.
- Oil leaks, pesticides, sewage, and heavy metals degrade ecosystems.

Bioremediation can restore rivers, clean landfills, rehabilitate industrial sites, and help meet the goals of programmes such as **Swachh Bharat Mission, Namami Gange**, and green technology initiatives.

Global examples:

- **Japan** integrates microbes and plants for urban waste.
- **EU** uses microbes to clean oil spills.
- **China** employs genetically improved bacteria in urban pollution control.

Challenges/Risks:

- Introducing genetically modified organisms needs strict monitoring.
- Poor containment/testing can create new ecological issues.

- India lacks biosafety guidelines, certification systems, trained personnel, and national bioremediation standards.

Hindi Summary (हिंदी सार)

भारत में वायु, जल और मिट्टी प्रदूषण तेजी से बढ़ रहा है और इसे नियंत्रित करना कठिन होता जा रहा है। **बायोरिमेडिएशन** यानी “जीव विज्ञान के माध्यम से जीवन की पुनर्स्थापना” एक टिकाऊ समाधान है, जिसमें **बैक्टीरिया, फंगी, शैवाल और पौधों** जैसे सूक्ष्मजीवों का उपयोग कर प्रदूषकों को हानिरहित पदार्थों में बदल दिया जाता है।

बायोरिमेडिएशन के दो प्रमुख प्रकार हैं:

1. **इन-सीटू (In-situ)** – प्रदूषित स्थल पर ही उपचार।
2. **एक्स-सीटू (Ex-situ)** – प्रदूषित मिट्टी/पानी को हटाकर अन्य स्थान पर उपचार।

आधुनिक बायोरिमेडिएशन पारंपरिक माइक्रोबायोलॉजी को **बायोटेक्नोलॉजी** से जोड़कर इसे अधिक तेज़, सुरक्षित और प्रभावी बनाता है। जीन-संपादित (GM) सूक्ष्मजीवों का भी इस्तेमाल किया जा सकता है।

भारत की तेज़ औद्योगिकीकरण की कीमत भारी पर्यावरणीय प्रदूषण के रूप में सामने आई है:

- गंगा और यमुना जैसी नदियाँ प्रतिदिन औद्योगिक अपशिष्ट ग्रहण करती हैं।
- तेल रिसाव, कीटनाशक, भारी धातुएँ और सीवेज पारिस्थितिक तंत्र को नुकसान पहुँचाते हैं।

बायोरिमेडिएशन नदियों को पुनर्जीवित करने, लैंडफिल साफ करने, औद्योगिक स्थलों को पुनर्स्थापित करने और **स्वच्छ भारत, नमामि गंगे** जैसी सरकारी योजनाओं को मजबूत करने में मदद कर सकता है।

अन्य देशों के उदाहरण:

- **जापान** ने शहरी प्रदूषण में माइक्रोब्स+पौधों का उपयोग किया।
- **यूरोपीय संघ** तेल रिसाव साफ करने में सूक्ष्मजीवों का उपयोग करता है।
- **चीन** जीन-संशोधित बैक्टीरिया को औद्योगिक अपशिष्ट नियंत्रण में उपयोग करता है।

चुनौतियाँ/जोखिम:

- जीन-संशोधित सूक्ष्मजीवों को खुले पर्यावरण में अत्यंत सावधानी से लाना चाहिए।
- अपर्याप्त परीक्षण नए पारिस्थितिक संकट पैदा कर सकता है।
- भारत में राष्ट्रीय मानक, बायोसेफ्टी दिशानिर्देश, प्रमाणन प्रणाली और प्रशिक्षित विशेषज्ञों की कमी है।

Can India become self-reliant in REE production?

How is China using its dominance over rare earth elements as a geopolitical strategy?

Y. Nivedita

The story so far:

The Union Cabinet has approved a ₹7,280-crore scheme to manufacture rare earth permanent magnets domestically. The scheme would facilitate the creation of integrated Rare Earth Permanent Magnet (REPM) manufacturing facilities, involving the conversion of rare earth oxides to metals, metals to alloys, and alloys to finished REPMs. This announcement comes at a time when China's export controls are squeezing global supply chains.

What is extent of China's dominance? Rare earth elements (REEs), a group of 17 minerals, are crucial for their high density, melting point and conductivity. They are moderately abundant, but hard to extract economically and sustainably. China built global supremacy in this

sector by controlling 90% of global REE processing and 70% of production, despite holding only 30% of global reserves. In April, China imposed export restrictions on seven rare earth elements and finished magnets, in a bid to counter the trade war. This hit many sectors, especially the automobile sector. “EV makers are the worst hit,” said Pranay Kotasthane, deputy director of Takshashila Institution.

Though China's controls come amid a broader reshaping of global trade due to U.S. President Donald Trump's tariffs, they are not new. In 2009, Beijing imposed export quotas on REEs which was scrapped after it lost a World Trade Organisation case brought by the U.S. and others in 2015. “China realised that this is something which it can play in order to achieve its geopolitical, geostrategic and geoeconomic objectives. They played the same playbook in 2020 while restricting the export of graphite. In 2021, they

started an export licensing plan in which they started restricting the supplies to certain industries,” Dr. Ram Singh, Professor (IB), Head (CDOE), Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, explained.

Why is India focusing on REEs?

India's focus on REEs is driven by its ambitions in electric mobility, renewable energy, electronics manufacturing and defence. These industries depend heavily on rare earth magnets and components.

The country imported over 53,000 metric tonnes of REE magnets in FY 2024-25, despite having 8% of the world's REE reserves – mainly in monazite sands across Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Yet, India produces less than 1% of global output. To fix this, the government launched the ₹6,300 crore National Critical Mineral Mission in January, with a total outlay of ₹34,300 crore spread over seven years, to achieve self-reliance. The mission focuses on

exploration, processing, and recycling minerals like lithium, cobalt, and rare earths. To boost domestic production, the government has auctioned new mining blocks and is inviting private companies to participate in exploration and processing. “This sector was closed to the private sector until August 2023 and hence this is a new domain. China's restrictions will help generate interest among private players,” Mr. Kotasthane said. However, he points out that only a handful of exploration licences were handed out. “The stumbling block is government regulations and control. Deregulating all segments of this supply chain, fast-tracking environmental regulations, and funding exploration projects to reduce information asymmetry is crucial,” he said.

Dr. Singh cautioned that India still lacks refining infrastructure, skilled labour and innovation capacity. He also pointed out that domestic manufacturing would take years to take off given the long gestation period.

“The good thing is that India isn't in a particularly bad position,” Mr. Kotasthane said, pointing out that India's monazite sands have several light rare earths, including Neodymium, which are used in magnets. “Several companies have plans to substantially increase capacity in the rare earth magnet recycling space from end-of-life electronic devices and appliances,” he added.

THE GIST

Rare earth elements (REEs), a group of 17 minerals, are crucial for their high density, melting point and conductivity.

India's focus on REEs is driven by its ambitions in electric mobility, renewable energy, electronics manufacturing and defence. These industries depend heavily on rare earth magnets and components.

To boost domestic production, the government has auctioned new mining blocks and is inviting private companies to participate in exploration and processing.

English Summary

The Union Cabinet has approved a **₹7,280-crore scheme** to build **domestic Rare Earth Permanent Magnet (REPM)** manufacturing capacity. The scheme aims to develop an integrated value chain—from converting **rare earth oxides → metals → alloys → finished permanent magnets**. This comes at a time

when **China's export controls** on rare earth elements (REEs) are disrupting global supply chains.

China's Dominance

Rare earth elements (17 minerals) are crucial for high-density, high-conductivity applications such as EV motors, renewable energy systems, electronics, and defence.

China dominates REEs by controlling:

- **90% of global REE processing**
- **70% of global REE production**
- Despite holding only **30% of global reserves**

China has used REEs as a **geopolitical and economic weapon**, restricting exports in 2009, 2020, and again in 2025 (7 REEs + finished magnets) to pressure industries—especially **electric vehicle manufacturers**.

Why India is Pursuing REE Self-Reliance

India's ambitions in **electric mobility, renewable energy, electronics manufacturing, and defence** depend on REE magnets.

However:

- India imported **53,000 metric tonnes** of REE magnets in FY 2024–25.
- India produces **<1%** of global REE output.
- India has major reserves in **Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Kerala** (monazite sands).

To fix supply dependence, India launched the **₹16,300-crore National Critical Mineral Mission**, with a **₹34,300-crore spread over seven years**, aiming at exploration, processing, and recycling of rare earths, lithium, cobalt, and others.

Recently, the government **auctioned new mining blocks** and opened the sector to **private players** (a first since August 2023) to spur exploration and reduce reliance on external supply chains.

Key Challenges

- Lack of domestic refining infrastructure
- Skilled manpower shortages
- Need for long-duration investments
- Regulatory bottlenecks delaying approvals
- Global supply asymmetry

Experts note that while India is not in a bad resource position (light REEs like neodymium are abundant), **domestic manufacturing will take 7–10 years to mature**.

Hindi Summary (हिंदी सार)

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने **₹7,280 करोड़** की योजना को मंजूरी दी है, जिसका उद्देश्य भारत में **Rare Earth Permanent Magnet (REPM)** निर्माण क्षमता विकसित करना है। इसमें दुर्लभ पृथ्वी ऑक्साइडों को **धातुओं → मिश्रधातुओं → तैयार चुम्बकों** में बदलने की पूरी आपूर्ति श्रृंखला शामिल होगी। यह पहल ऐसे समय में आई है जब **चीन के निर्यात प्रतिबंध** वैश्विक सप्लाई चेन को प्रभावित कर रहे हैं।

चीन का वर्चस्व

दुर्लभ पृथ्वी तत्व (REEs)—17 खनिजों का समूह—EV मोटर्स, नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और रक्षा में अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण हैं।

चीन का नियंत्रण:

- **90% वैश्विक प्रोसेसिंग पर**
- **70% वैश्विक उत्पादन पर**
- जबकि उसके पास केवल **30% प्राकृतिक भंडार** हैं।

चीन ने कई बार REEs को **भू-राजनीतिक हथियार** के रूप में उपयोग किया है—2009, 2020 और 2025 में निर्यात प्रतिबंध लगाकर, जिससे EV उद्योग पर भारी असर पड़ा।

भारत REEs पर क्यों ध्यान दे रहा है?

भारत की EV मोबिलिटी, नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक निर्माण और रक्षा महत्वाकांक्षाएँ REE मैग्नेट्स पर निर्भर हैं।

स्थिति:

- FY 2024–25 में **53,000 MT** REE मैग्नेट आयात
- वैश्विक उत्पादन में भारत की हिस्सेदारी **1% से भी कम**
- प्रमुख भंडार—आंध्र प्रदेश, ओडिशा, तमिलनाडु, केरल (मोनाजाइट रेत)

इसे ठीक करने के लिए भारत ने ₹16,300 करोड़ का National Critical Mineral Mission शुरू किया है, जो अगले सात वर्षों में ₹34,300 करोड़ खर्च करेगा।

सरकार ने नई खनन बोली जारी की है और निजी कंपनियों को अन्वेषण व प्रोसेसिंग की अनुमति दी है—जो इस क्षेत्र में एक बड़ा बदलाव है।

मुख्य चुनौतियाँ

- परिष्करण (refining) अवसंरचना की कमी
- कुशल श्रम व तकनीकी क्षमता की कमी
- लंबी निवेश वापसी अवधि
- जटिल नियम व मंजूरी प्रक्रियाएँ
- वैश्विक सप्लाई असमानता

विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार, भारत के पास अच्छी REE क्षमता है, लेकिन स्थानीय निर्माण क्षमता विकसित होने में 7-10 वर्ष लगेंगे।



English Summary

The Ministry of Culture implements the **Kala Sanskriti Vikas Yojana (KSVY)** — a **Central Sector Scheme** that provides **financial assistance** to organisations and individual artists engaged in various performing arts, including **traditional, folk, and classical art forms**.

KSVY includes multiple scheme components aimed at:

- Supporting **performing arts organisations**,
- Providing **grants to traditional artists**,
- Preserving and promoting **India's cultural heritage**,
- Encouraging **performances, festivals, workshops, and cultural education**.

The PIB note highlights that:

- **Annexure-I** contains the list/summary of schemes under KSVY.
- **Annexure-II** provides State-wise details of financial assistance and the number of organisations/individuals supported across the last three years.

The scheme supports a wide range of cultural activities across India, including in states like **Maharashtra**, ensuring continuity of traditional arts, livelihood support for artists, and preservation of intangible cultural heritage.

Hindi Summary (हिंदी सार)

संस्कृति मंत्रालय **कला संस्कृति विकास योजना (KSVY)** का संचालन करता है, जो एक **केंद्रीय क्षेत्र योजना** है। इसके माध्यम से देशभर के **परफॉर्मिंग आर्ट्स**, विशेषतः **पारंपरिक, लोक और शास्त्रीय कलाओं** से जुड़े कलाकारों और संस्थाओं को **वित्तीय सहायता** प्रदान की जाती है।

योजना के प्रमुख उद्देश्य हैं—

- परफॉर्मिंग आर्ट्स संस्थाओं को सहायता देना,
- पारंपरिक कलाकारों को अनुदान उपलब्ध कराना,

- भारत की सांस्कृतिक विरासत का संरक्षण और संवर्धन,
- सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमों, उत्सवों, कार्यशालाओं और कला शिक्षा को बढ़ावा देना।

PIB के अनुसार—

- **अनुबंध-I** में योजना के विभिन्न घटकों का विवरण दिया गया है।
- **अनुबंध-II** में पिछले तीन वर्षों में राज्य-वार वित्तीय सहायता और लाभार्थियों की संख्या दी गई है।

यह योजना महाराष्ट्र सहित पूरे देश में पारंपरिक कला रूपों को जीवित रखने, कलाकारों की आजीविका को सहारा देने और अमूर्त सांस्कृतिक विरासत के संरक्षण में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाती है।

ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA IN THE STATE OF KARNATAKA

Posted On: 01 DEC 2025 7:18PM by PIB Delhi

Atal Bhujal Yojana was a pilot scheme for participatory groundwater management, implemented in priority water stressed areas across seven States. In Karnataka, the scheme was implemented in 1199 Gram Panchayats of 14 districts, namely: Bagalkot, Belagavi, Bengaluru Rural, Chamarajanagar, Chikaballapur, Chikkamagaluru, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Gadag, Hassan, Kolar, Ramanagara, Tumakuru and Vijayanagar.

The programme has demonstrably improved groundwater management through active community participation. Formation of Participatory Groundwater Management Committee (PGMC), preparation of participatory Water Security Plans, adoption of water efficient practices,

English Summary

Atal Bhujal Yojana (Atal Jal) is a **World Bank-assisted, Central Sector Scheme** aimed at **participatory groundwater management**. It focuses on **water-stressed regions in seven States**, including Karnataka. In Karnataka, the scheme was implemented in **1,199 Gram Panchayats** across **14 districts**: Bagalkot, Belagavi, Bengaluru Rural, Chamarajanagar, Chikaballapur, Chikkamagaluru, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Gadag, Hassan, Kolar, Ramanagara, Tumakuru, and Vijayanagar.

Key Achievements

The programme significantly improved **groundwater management** through **active community participation**. Major interventions include:

- Formation of **Participatory Groundwater Management Committees (PGMCs)**
- Preparation of **Water Security Plans**
- Adoption of **water-efficient agricultural practices**
- Behaviour change campaigns
- Community-led monitoring of groundwater levels

These grassroots initiatives strengthened **local water governance**, promoted **sustainable groundwater usage**, and supported climate-resilient agriculture.

Hindi Summary (हिंदी सार)

अटल भूजल योजना (Atal Jal) विश्व बैंक सहायता प्राप्त **केंद्रीय क्षेत्र योजना** है, जिसका उद्देश्य **सामुदायिक सहभागिता आधारित भूजल प्रबंधन** को बढ़ाना है। यह योजना देश के **सात जल-संकटग्रस्त राज्यों** में लागू है, जिनमें **कर्नाटक** प्रमुख है। कर्नाटक में योजना **14 जिलों** के **1,199 ग्राम पंचायतों** में लागू की गई:

बागलकोट, बेलगावी, बेंगलुरु ग्रामीण, चामराजनगर, चिक्कबल्लापुर, चिक्कमगलुरु, चित्रदुर्ग, दावणगेरे, गदग, हासन, कोलार, रामनगर, तुमकुरु और विजय नगर।

मुख्य उपलब्धियाँ

योजना ने **भूजल प्रबंधन** में उल्लेखनीय सुधार किया, जिसका आधार **सामुदायिक भागीदारी** रही। प्रमुख हस्तक्षेपों में शामिल हैं—

- **Participatory Groundwater Management Committee (PGMC)** का गठन
- **जल सुरक्षा योजनाओं** का निर्माण
- जल-कुशल कृषि प्रथाओं को अपनाना
- व्यवहार परिवर्तन अभियान

- समुदाय द्वारा भूजल स्तर की निगरानी
- इन प्रयासों ने **स्थानीय जल शासन** को मजबूत किया, **भूजल का टिकाऊ उपयोग** सुनिश्चित किया और जलवायु-संवेदनशील कृषि को बढ़ावा दिया।

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT RATE

Posted On: 01 DEC 2025 3:44PM by PIB Delhi

The official data on Employment and Unemployment is collected through Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), which is conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) since 2017-18. As per the latest available Annual PLFS reports, the estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above has decreased from 6.0% in 2017-18 to 3.2% in 2023-24.

English Summary

The Government of India releases official employment and unemployment data through the **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)**, conducted annually by the **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** since **2017-18**.

According to the latest Annual PLFS data:

- India's **Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status** (for persons aged **15 years and above**) has **declined from 6.0% in 2017-18 to 3.2% in 2023-24**.
- This indicates a sustained improvement in labour market conditions over the six-year period.

The PLFS provides estimates for:

- **Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)**
- **Worker Population Ratio (WPR)**
- **Unemployment Rate (UR)**

The PIB note emphasizes the significant fall in unemployment under the “usual status” category, reflecting structural changes, rising participation in non-farm sectors, and improved employment opportunities.

Hindi Summary (हिंदी सार)

भारत सरकार **नियतकालिक श्रम बल सर्वेक्षण (PLFS)** के माध्यम से रोजगार और बेरोजगारी का आधिकारिक डेटा जारी करती है। यह सर्वेक्षण **सांख्यिकी एवं कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय (MoSPI)** द्वारा **2017-18** से प्रतिवर्ष संचालित किया जा रहा है।

ताज़ा PLFS रिपोर्ट के अनुसार:

- **15 वर्ष और उससे ऊपर** आयु वर्ग के लिए **Usual Status** के आधार पर **बेरोजगारी दर** 2017-18 के **6.0% से घटकर 2023-24 में 3.2%** हो गई है।
- यह बताता है कि पिछले छह वर्षों में श्रम बाज़ार की स्थिति में निरंतर सुधार हुआ है।

PLFS निम्न संकेतकों का अनुमान प्रदान करता है:

- **LFPR (Labour Force Participation Rate)**
- **WPR (Worker Population Ratio)**
- **UR (Unemployment Rate)**

PIB नोट बेरोजगारी में आए उल्लेखनीय सुधार को रेखांकित करता है, जो गैर-कृषि क्षेत्रों में बढ़ती भागीदारी और रोजगार अवसरों में सुधार को इंगित करता है।