

UN INDIA DIGEST

News and updates from the 26 entities of the UN Country Team



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INDIA



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IOM helps returning migrant workers find their feet in Telangana

Returning migrant workers in Telangana are reintegrating into their former communities with help of a pilot scheme backed by the [International Organization for Migration](#). The workers receive training in industries ranging from garment-making to construction and have access to courses in financial management, business development and driving heavy vehicles. A toll-free helpline and in-person resource centres have been created.



Photo: National Academy of Construction

Women take the lead in WFP-backed food project



Photo: WFP/Parvinder Singh

Women in Uttar Pradesh are taking charge in an innovative nutrition [project](#) supported by the UN World Food Programme ([WFP](#)) and led by the State Government. Through self-help groups and micro-enterprises, the women are blending, packaging and distributing take-home rations for their communities. The local government initiative, which has already involved more than 4,000 women across the state, not only provides incomes for the women but combats malnutrition as well.

In Odisha, UN meets Government, signs deal on volunteers

United Nations Resident Coordinator Shombi Sharp met Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik and other Government officials during a recent visit to Odisha, the state home to the UN's largest field presence in India. During the visit, UN Volunteers also signed a memorandum of understanding with the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology that will allow its students to serve as UNVs across the country.



Photo: UNIC New Delhi/ Rohit Karan

New report flags terror links to drug trade

The annual report of the body that implements UN drug control conventions shows that the illegal drug trade is on the rise in India, with the trade being used across South Asia to fund terrorism. The International Narcotics Control Board report, launched with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, also highlights that more drugs are being sold online, making them easier to get and harder to trace.

Taking vaccines to the last mile

The Government of India, in partnership with United Nations Development Programme and GAVI the Vaccine Alliance, is revolutionising the way life-saving vaccines are tracked, stored and delivered to every mother and child through a suite of digital platforms. This digital infrastructure is poised to significantly boost vaccination rates and improve public health outcomes across the country. The news comes as the UN marked World Immunization Week at the end of April.



Photo: UNDP India/Gaurav Menghaney

Photo of the month



Photo: UNESCO New Delhi/Shaan

Sarod player Debasmita Bhattacharya performs at UNESCO's International Jazz Day concert in New Delhi

India commemorates 30 years since Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda

The UN gathered with survivors, students, Government officials, diplomats, and educators for a day-long commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda. "What happened in my country should never happen in any country in the world, Rwanda's High Commissioner Jacqueline Mukangira – who lost many of her family in the genocide – told a solemn ceremony in New Delhi. UN Resident Coordinator Shombi Sharp urged attendees to embrace the anniversary's theme of "Remember, Unite, Renew". School students drew paintings, wrote a play and sang songs as part of their reflections on the genocide.



Photo: UNIC New Delhi/Shachi Chaturvedi

Fighting disease in quest to phase out DDT in India

Indian research institutions have developed sustainable and cost-effective technologies to replace DDT in the fight against mosquitoes and malaria. Supported by [UNIDO](#), [UNEP](#) and the Global Environment Facility, the [project](#) aims to produce bio-botanical pesticides that are much healthier for humans and the ecosystem. The large-scale growth of neem trees used in these pesticides has helped to create jobs and diversify incomes for rural communities.



Photo: UNIDO



Photo: UNAIDS

UNAIDS, UNDP awarded for championing transgender rights

The India teams of UNAIDS and UNDP have been [honoured](#) at the 3rd National Transgender Awards for championing the rights of the transgender community. UNAIDS and UNDP have been tackling challenges faced by transgender individuals by providing increased access to healthcare, HIV prevention and treatment, legal advocacy, policy interventions and economic inclusion initiatives in collaboration with national and state governments.

UN News Hindi



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7 May: UNODC launches regional programme for South Asia

At a glance

17 May: World Telecommunication and Information Society Day

29 May: International Day of UN Peacekeepers

31 May: World No-Tobacco Day

For more information, visit the UN in India website:

<https://india.un.org>

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