

UN INDIA DIGEST

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



UNITED NATIONS
INDIA



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SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE
OUTCOME DOCUMENTS
September 2024

Pact for the Future,
Global Digital Compact,
and Declaration on Future
Generations

India joins call for united global action

India has joined the world's countries in adopting the Pact for the Future, a landmark declaration pledging concrete actions to build a safer, more sustainable and inclusive world. At the Summit of the Future, held in New York, United Nations Member States endorsed the Pact, as well as the Global Digital Compact and the Declaration on Future Generations. By doing so they agreed to turbo-charge efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and fulfil the terms of the 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, speaking at the Summit, stressed that "global action must match global ambition." Later, Secretary-General António Guterres and General Assembly President Philemon Yang called on leaders to reach global solutions to their biggest challenges.



Photo: UN News

UNFPA leads life skills training at madrasas



Photo: UNFPA

Madrasa students in Bihar are acquiring key skills in communications, critical thinking and creativity as part of the state Government's adolescent life-skills education programme. The Taalim-i-Naubalighan initiative, supported by the Bihar Department of Minority Welfare and Bihar State Madrasa Education Board, and implemented by the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) in partnership with Jamia Millia Islamia University and the Maulana Azad National Urdu University, has so far benefited more than 250,000 girls and boys.

FAO, IOM boost resilience in Telangana, Odisha

The Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Organization for Migration are working together on a joint programme for Enhancing the Resilience to Climate Change of migrant and vulnerable households in the coastal areas of Odisha and drought-prone areas of Telangana, under the aegis of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and relevant state departments. The programme, the first to be funded by the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund in India, aims to enhance resilience of households to climate change through diversified agriculture practices and by adopting migration as an adaptation strategy for sustainable livelihoods.



File Photo: IFAD



Photo: UNESCO

New education channel to bring learning to rural areas

"Making someone literate is a service to humanity, and UNESCO is doing a great job in helping people discover themselves," said India's Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar at an event organized by the Ministry of Education in collaboration with UNESCO, focused on promoting literacy through multilingualism. The event featured the launch of a new direct-to-home channel under the Department of School Education and Literacy's Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society programme, designed to provide accessible educational content to learners in remote and rural areas.

Sundarbans families learn to prevent drowning deaths

The drownings of young children are an all-too-frequent tragedy in the Sundarbans, a mangrove region where both fresh and saltwater ponds lie close to homes. Now, WHO India is partnering with government officials, academic institutions and NGOs to help more than 500 children and residents in at least one village in West Bengal to learn skills and raise awareness of low-cost solutions to prevent drowning. A pool has also been built to host swimming classes for children and to train community members in safe rescues and resuscitation techniques.



Photo: WHO

Photo of the month

Photo: WFP

Taste tests under way at the launch of a campaign by the UN World Food Programme and the Assam Directorate of Women & Child Development to boost consumption of fortified rice.

‘Nothing about us, without us’: building inclusive societies

The United Nations in India recently signed a joint Non-Discrimination Statement on the Employment of Persons with Disabilities, under which all UN agencies pledged to foster an equitable work environment for persons with disabilities. The Resident Coordinator's Office has begun inclusive hiring. UN India focal points held consultations with organizations of persons with disabilities on implementing the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS). The International Labour Organization hosted four training sessions to help UN colleagues solve challenges faced by persons with disabilities in the workplace.



Photo: ILO

Children take the lead

Young people with disabilities highlighted their accessibility challenges at a freewheeling interaction with UNICEF's Global Lead on Disability and Development Gopal Mitra, UNICEF India Representative Cynthia McCaffrey and UN Resident Coordinator Shombi Sharp at UN House as part of efforts to mainstream disability inclusion.



Photo: UNICEF

Intersectionality of disabilities

India's Chief Justice, Justice Dhananjaya Y. Chandrachud, emphasized the need for an inclusive society where every child can reach their full potential. He was speaking at a two-day stakeholder consultation organized by the Supreme Court of India's Juvenile Justice Committee, with support from UNICEF. The consultation, 'Protecting the Rights of Children Living with Disabilities', aims to strengthen links between services such as early identification, health care, education and legal assistance.



Photo: UNICEF



Photo: UNIDO

UNIDO shines light on homegrown climate tech

Climate-tech solutions supported by the UN Industrial Development Organization were in the spotlight at the Energy Efficiency Summit 2024, organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry. The summit was held as part of broader efforts to identify innovative tech solutions with the potential to save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Launched in 2016 by the Global Environment Facility and the Bureau of Energy Efficiency of the Indian Government, UNIDO's Facility for Low Carbon Technology Deployment strengthens the climate-focused technology transfer ecosystem in India by providing capacity building and financial support to innovators.

UNICEF helms efforts for child-friendly media

UNICEF brought together representatives from print, electronic, and digital news outlets in Kerala as part of efforts to urge the media to develop responsible content for young people. Inaugurating the session, G. R. Anil, Minister for Food and Civil Supplies, urged the media to be sensitive in their representation and reporting on children. Manoj Kumar, Chairperson of the Kerala State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, called for state-specific revised guidelines for media and film. K. L. Rao, Chief of the Tamil Nadu and Kerala UNICEF Office, highlighted UNICEF's collaboration with governments and tech companies to ensure children's online safety.



File photo: UNICEF

UN News Hindi: Monthly highlights



The UN News Hindi team covers critical global issues with a regional perspective, bringing you impactful multimedia stories, insightful interviews, explainers, and solution-oriented content that sheds light on UN priorities and campaigns. Dive into this month's digest.



At a glance

7 October: World Habitat Day

10 October: World Mental Health Day

14-24 October: ITU World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-24), New Delhi

15 October: International Day of Rural Women

16 October: World Food Day

24 October: United Nations Day

24-31 October: Global Media and Information Literacy Week

24-30 October: Disarmament Week

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