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28 November 2024

Youth Unemployment in India

Context: Youth unemployment has been a longstanding challenge in India due to its large and dynamic youth population. However, recent data indicates that India's youth unemployment rate is lower than the global average, reflecting a positive trajectory in employment generation.

Youth Unemployment: A Global Perspective

- Youth unemployment refers to the percentage of individuals aged 15-24 (or sometimes 15-29) who are actively seeking but unable to find employment. It is a key indicator of a nation's labor market health.
- According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), the global youth unemployment rate dropped from 15.6% in 2021 to 13.3% in 2023, highlighting the challenges nations face in providing adequate job opportunities.

States/UTS with **high unemployment** rate in July 2023-June 2024 period

STATE/UT	Male	Female	Person
Lakshadweep	26.2	79.7	36.2
Andaman & N Islands	24	49.5	33.6
Kerala	19.3	47.1	29.9
Nagaland	27.9	26.6	27.4
Manipur	19.9	27.5	22.9
Ladakh	11.4	38.3	22.2
Arunachal Pradesh	21.9	19.6	20.9
Goa	13.2	31	19.1
Punjab	16.7	24.5	18.8
Andhra Pradesh	16.4	19.7	17.5

States/UTS with **lowest youth unemployment** rate

STATE/UT	Male	Female	Person
Madhya Pradesh	2.8	2.1	2.6
Gujarat	3.3	2.7	3.1
Jharkhand	4.8	1.5	3.6
Delhi	4.6	4.8	4.6
Chhattisgarh	6.6	5.8	6.3
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	7.8	3.7	6.6
Tripura	6.8	6.7	6.8
Sikkim	8.3	6.8	7.7
West Bengal	8.5	10	9
Uttar Pradesh	9.3	12.3	9.8

Source: NSSO

Youth Unemployment in India: Current Trends

- The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) reports that India's youth unemployment rate for those aged 15-29 was 10.2% in 2023-24, significantly lower than the global average of 13.3%.
- Key indicators from PLFS provide further insights:
  - **Worker Population Ratio (WPR):** Increased from 31.4% in 2017-18 to 41.7% in 2023-24, indicating improved youth employment.
  - **EPFO Payroll Data:** Reflects a surge in formal sector employment. Over 1.3 crore net subscribers joined the EPFO in 2023-24, and more than 7.03 crore net subscribers were added between 2017 and 2024.

Government Initiatives Supporting Employment

- To address youth unemployment, the Government of India has implemented several programs aimed at job creation, skill development, and entrepreneurship:
  - **Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP):** Supports micro-enterprises and job creation in rural and urban areas.
  - **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY):** Provides affordable credit to foster youth entrepreneurship.
  - **Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY):** Focuses on vocational training for rural youth in high-demand sectors.
  - **Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs):** Offers entrepreneurial training to prepare youth for self-employment.

Conclusion:

India's efforts to reduce youth unemployment are yielding results, as evident from the declining unemployment rate and rising employment indicators. Continued investment in skill development, formalization of employment, and fostering entrepreneurship is critical to sustaining this positive trend, ensuring economic growth, and unlocking the potential of the country's young workforce.

India's Commitment to Strengthening Intellectual Property

Context: India has reaffirmed its commitment to fostering inclusive growth and strengthening its intellectual

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property (IP) ecosystem by signing the Design Law Treaty (DLT) under the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

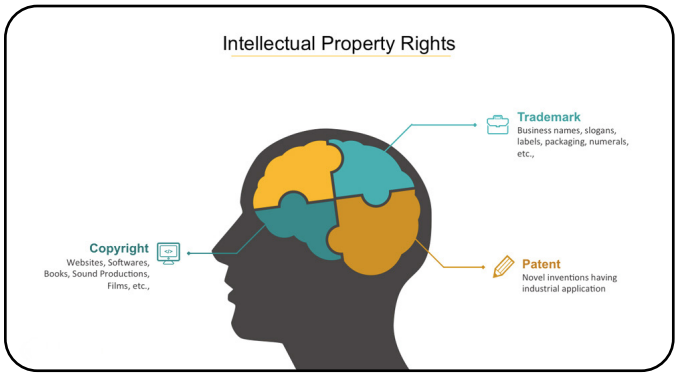
- After nearly two decades of negotiations, member states of WIPO adopted this landmark treaty, aiming to harmonize global design protection and make it more accessible and efficient, particularly for startups, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and independent designers.

Key Provisions of the Design Law Treaty (DLT):

- The DLT introduces several provisions to simplify and enhance the industrial design registration process:
  - » **Multiple Designs in Single Application:** The treaty allows applicants to file multiple designs in a single application under certain conditions, improving efficiency.
  - » **Filing Date Requirements:** The treaty sets clear requirements for granting a filing date, emphasizing the importance of timely filing to avoid losing rights.
  - » **Publication Flexibility:** Applicants can keep designs unpublished for up to six months after securing a filing date, providing protection against premature exposure.
  - » **Grace Period for Disclosure:** A 12-month grace period is introduced, allowing applicants to disclose their design without compromising its registration validity.
  - » **E-Filing System:** The introduction of electronic filing and the electronic exchange of priority documents streamline the application process, making it more accessible.
- These provisions aim to simplify design registration, making it more predictable, less complex, and affordable for applicants worldwide.

Significance of the DLT:

- The DLT empowers startups, SMEs, and independent designers by offering global protection for their designs. By standardizing procedural requirements, the treaty reduces administrative burdens and promotes global creativity.
- India's policy emphasis on design protection aligns with its broader goals to strengthen its IP ecosystem, supporting innovation and market growth.
- Programs like Startup India and the Startups Intellectual Property Protection (SIPP) scheme complement the DLT by facilitating IP access for entrepreneurs.



India's Progress in Design Registration:

- India has long recognized the importance of design in economic growth. In recent years, design registrations have surged, with domestic filings increasing by 120% in the last two years alone. Design applications grew by 25% in the past year, demonstrating the growing significance of design protection.

WIPO and India's Contribution:

- WIPO, a specialized UN agency, promotes IP rights globally. India's signing of the DLT strengthens its IP ecosystem and supports global design protection, contributing to WIPO's goals.

Conclusion:

The DLT is a crucial step in making industrial design

protection more accessible and efficient. For India, it strengthens the IP ecosystem, empowers startups and SMEs, and ensures that the country's creativity is globally protected, driving sustainable economic development and fostering innovation.

Milk, Meat, and Egg Production in India in 2023-24

Context: India has seen significant growth in the production of milk, meat, and eggs during the 2023-24 fiscal year, as reported by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying in the Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics - 2024.

Key Highlights of the Report

- **Milk Production:**
  - **Increase:** Milk production in India rose by 3.78% in 2023-24, reaching an estimated total of 239.30 million tonnes.
  - **Historical Growth:** Over the last decade, India's milk production has grown at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 5.62%. In 2014-15, the milk production was significantly lower at 146.3 million tonnes.
  - **Global Ranking:** India continues to be the largest milk producer in the world, surpassing other milk-producing nations by a substantial margin.
  - **State-wise Contribution:**
    - Uttar Pradesh leads the country with 16.21% of the total milk production, followed by Rajasthan (14.51%), Madhya Pradesh (8.91%), Gujarat (7.65%), and Maharashtra (6.71%).
    - States like West Bengal and Jharkhand recorded the highest annual growth rates, at 9.76% and 9.04%, respectively, for 2023-24 compared to 2022-23.
- **Egg Production:**
  - **Increase:** India's egg production for 2023-24 is estimated to reach 142.77 billion eggs, reflecting a compound annual growth rate of 6.8% over the last decade.
  - **Annual Growth:** Egg production grew by 3.18% over the previous year (138.38 billion eggs).
  - **Global Ranking:** India holds the position of the second-largest egg producer in the world, contributing significantly to global egg supplies.
  - **State-wise Contribution:**
    - Andhra Pradesh leads the country with a share of 17.85% of the total egg production, followed by Tamil Nadu (15.64%), Telangana (12.88%), West Bengal (11.37%), and Karnataka (6.63%).
- **Meat Production:**
  - **Increase:** Meat production in India for 2023-24 is estimated at 10.25 million tonnes, showing a compound annual growth of 4.85% over the past decade. The country's meat production has grown from 6.69 million tonnes in 2014-15.
  - **Annual Growth:** There was a 4.95% increase in meat production during 2023-24 compared to the previous year (9.77 million tonnes).
  - **Composition:**
    - Poultry is the dominant contributor, accounting for 48.96% of the total meat production.
    - Other sources of meat include buffalo meat (18.09%), cattle (2.60%), sheep (11.13%), goat (15.50%), and pig meat (3.72%).
  - **State-wise Contribution:**
    - West Bengal is the largest meat producer, with 12.62% of the total, followed by Uttar Pradesh (12.29%), Maharashtra (11.28%), Telangana (10.85%), and Andhra Pradesh (10.41%).
    - The highest annual growth rate in meat production was recorded in Assam (17.93%), followed by Uttarakhand (15.63%) and Chhattisgarh (11.70%).
- **Wool Production:**
  - **Growth:** India's wool production in 2023-24 is estimated at 33.69 million kg, showing a modest growth of 0.22% over the previous year. This compares with 36.76 million kg in 2019-20 and 33.61 million kg in the previous year.
  - **State-wise Contribution:**
    - Rajasthan leads wool production, contributing 47.53% of the total, followed by Jammu & Kashmir (23.06%), Gujarat (6.18%), Maharashtra (4.75%), and Himachal Pradesh (4.22%).

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Power Packed News

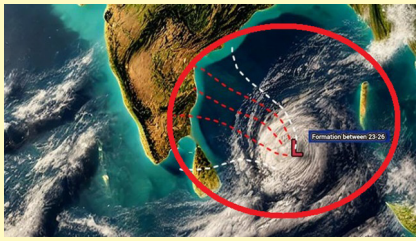
Nayi Chetna 3.0 Campaign Against Gender-Based Violence

- The Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan recently launched the third edition of the national campaign against gender-based violence, 'Nayi Chetna – Pehal Badlaav Ki,' in New Delhi.
- The campaign, organized by the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana—National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) under the Ministry of Rural Development, will run until December 23, 2024, across all Indian states and union territories.

- The campaign aims to raise awareness about gender-based violence (GBV), encourage community action, provide access to support systems, and empower local institutions to act against violence.
- A significant highlight was the inauguration of 227 Gender Resource Centres (GRCs) in 13 states. These centers serve as safe spaces for victims, offering information, legal aid, and support to report incidents.
- Union Minister Smt. Annapurna Devi launched the #AbKoiBehanAhi campaign, stressing the importance of collective efforts to combat GBV and empower women across India.

Cyclone Fengal

- Cyclone Fengal, the second cyclone of the post-monsoon season following Cyclone Dana, is advancing towards the Indian coast, with Tamil Nadu in its path. The name Fengal was proposed by Saudi Arabia.
- Currently classified as a deep depression over the northwest Bay of Bengal, the system is moving north-northwestwards and is expected to intensify into a cyclonic storm.
- The North Indian Ocean region, encompassing the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea, is prone to cyclones that frequently move towards Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.



About Tropical Cyclone:

- Tropical Cyclones are intense weather systems forming between the Tropics of Capricorn and Cancer, with winds exceeding 34 knots (63 km/h) as per the World Meteorological Organization.
- Powered by sea heat, they are driven by easterly trade winds, westerlies, and planetary winds, sustaining their energy through ocean-atmosphere interactions.
- These cyclones can cause severe impacts like heavy rainfall, strong winds, and storm surges, particularly in coastal areas.

Indian Coast Guard to Host SAREX-24 in Kochi

- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) will organize SAREX-24, the largest National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise, from November 28 to 29, 2024, in Kochi. The event will also include the 22nd National Maritime Search and Rescue (NMSAR) Board meeting.
- The theme for SAREX-24 is "Enhancing SAR capabilities through regional collaboration." The exercise will include live simulations to improve the skills needed for successful Search and Rescue (SAR) operations.

- It aims to strengthen both SAR capabilities and connections with international partners for better coordination during rescue missions.
- More than 40 international observers from various partner countries will attend, highlighting global cooperation in maritime safety. The event will focus on enhancing India's preparedness for maritime emergencies and improving regional teamwork in marine rescue efforts.

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- SAREX-24 will showcase India's contribution to saving lives at sea and its efforts to make regional coordination in marine safety stronger. This event provides an opportunity to share knowledge and improve collaboration for more effective rescue operations.

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)

- The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) with a ₹2,750 crore budget for the period up to March 31, 2028. This move aims to bolster India's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem, aligning with the vision of a "Viksit Bharat."
- AIM 2.0 is designed to expand, strengthen, and deepen India's already vibrant ecosystem, which includes the third-largest startup network globally.

About Atal Innovation Mission (AIM):

- Launched in 2016, AIM is a flagship initiative of NITI Aayog to foster innovation and entrepreneurship across the country.
- A key component of the initiative is the Atal Tinkering Labs, which aims to instill a creative and innovative mindset in students by encouraging experimentation and hands-on learning.
- India currently ranks 39th on the Global Innovation Index, and AIM's expansion is expected to improve the quality of innovation outputs and increase the inputs for research and development.
- The continuation of AIM will have a direct impact on job creation, the development of innovative products, and the provision of high-impact services across sectors.