

'Sharing is Caring'

If you have friends preparing for Civil Services, tell them that they can also receive Updates from Shubham's IAS by sending 'Name' and 'State' through WhatsApp on 75979-00000

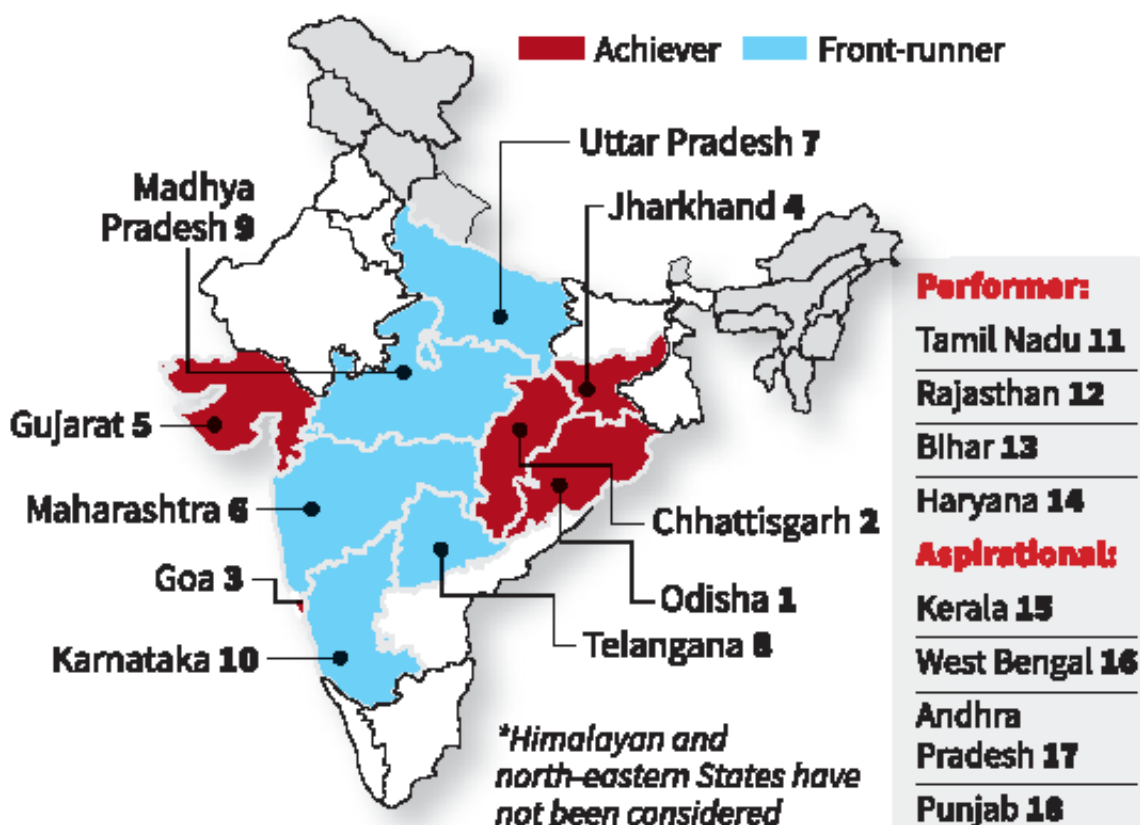
1. Odisha tops NITI fiscal health index, Chhattisgarh next best

Fiscal Health Index 2025

The report titled "Fiscal Health Index 2025" ranked States for 2022-23, covering 18 major States that drive the Indian economy in terms of their contribution to India's GDP, demography, total public expenditure, revenues, and overall fiscal stability.

Fine balance

Analysis in the Niti Aayog's report on the fiscal health index for FY23 highlights that strong revenue mobilisation, effective expenditure management, and prudent fiscal practices are critical determinants of success



Performance of States

Mineral-rich Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Goa, and Jharkhand have emerged as top-performing 'achievers' among the States listed in NITI Aayog's first Fiscal Health Index (FHI) report.

According to the report, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, and Kerala were the worst-performing States in the Fiscal Health Index (FHI), each facing significant fiscal challenges, and listed under "aspirational" category.

The report aims to evolve an understanding of the fiscal health of States and it has listed Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka under the "front-runners" category. Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Rajasthan, and Haryana were classified as performers.

Relevance: GS Prelims; Economics

Source: The Hindu

2. Evolution of India-Indonesia Ties: From Sukarno to Prabowo Subianto

1. Recent Developments

India and Indonesia signed agreements on maritime security, health, traditional medicine, culture, and digital cooperation during a meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Indonesia's President Prabowo Subianto in New Delhi. The ties between the two nations, spanning 75 years from Sukarno to Prabowo, have seen highs and lows, reflecting changing geopolitical dynamics.

From Sukarno to Prabowo Subianto: The evolution of India-Indonesia ties



carried out a daring mission to evacuate Indonesian leaders Sutan Sjahrir and Mohammad Hatta, showcasing India's solidarity.

2. Shared Colonial Legacy

• Solidarity Against Colonialism:

India and Indonesia shared experiences of colonial oppression and aspirations for political sovereignty and economic self-sufficiency in the 1940s and 1950s.

• Nehru's Support:

Jawaharlal Nehru played a significant role in supporting Indonesian independence during the National Revolution (1945-49). India provided humanitarian aid and imposed restrictions on Dutch activities, including banning Dutch airlines and encouraging labor strikes.

• Biju Patnaik's Heroic Mission:

In 1947, Indian aviator Biju Patnaik

3. A Decade of Friendship (1950s)

- Sukarno's Gratitude:

Indonesia's first President, Sukarno, expressed profound gratitude for India's support, culminating in his being the first Republic Day chief guest in 1950.

- Treaty of Friendship (1951):

India and Indonesia signed a treaty pledging "perpetual peace and unalterable friendship," fostering trade, cultural, and military ties.

- Non-Aligned Movement (NAM):

The nations collaborated on global platforms like the Bandung Conference (1955) and were founding members of NAM.

4. Decline in Relations (1960s)

- Diverging Alliances:

The 1960s saw a deterioration in ties as India moved away from China due to the Tibetan uprising, while Indonesia under Sukarno grew closer to Beijing and Pakistan.

- Anti-India Sentiments:

During the 1965 Indo-Pak War, Indonesia supported Pakistan, even supplying weapons and fueling public hostility toward India.

5. Cold War Era (1970s-1980s)

- Suharto's Leadership:

After General Suharto's rise to power, Indonesia repaired some damaged ties with India. Agreements like the 1977 maritime boundary pact were signed, though relations remained lukewarm.

- Key Visits:

Suharto visited India in 1980, while Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi made trips to Indonesia in 1981 and 1986, respectively.

6. Look East Policy (1990s)

- Economic Liberalization:

India's economic reforms under P.V. Narasimha Rao and the adoption of the 'Look East' policy revitalized ties with Southeast Asia, including Indonesia.

- Trade and Cooperation:

This period saw increased trade and the beginning of deeper economic and security cooperation.

7. Act East Policy and Modern Relations (2014-Present)

- Strengthening Ties:

Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the 'Act East' policy enhanced strategic and economic ties, focusing on connectivity, maritime security, and defense collaboration.

- Growing Trade:

Bilateral trade grew from \$4.3 billion in 2005-06 to \$38.84 billion in 2022-23. Key imports from Indonesia include coal and palm oil, while India exports refined petroleum, vehicles, and steel products.

8. Scope for Improvement

Despite significant progress, experts highlight unrealized potential in India-Indonesia relations, particularly in economic and defense partnerships. Recent agreements signed during Prabowo's visit aim to enhance maritime security, connectivity, and trade, paving the way for stronger ties in the future.

India and Indonesia stand at a pivotal moment in their bilateral journey, with opportunities to unlock greater cooperation across multiple domains.

Relevance: GS Prelims & Mains Paper II; Bilateral Relations

Source: Indian Express

3. Republic Day 2025: What are the different awards that will be given on January 26?

Introduction

President Draupadi Murmu approved the conferment of Jeevan Raksha Padak series of awards 2024 on 49 persons. This follows an announcement by the centre, awarding 942 service medals, including 95 for gallantry, for personnel of various central and state police forces on the eve of India's 76th Republic Day.

What are the different types of awards given out on Republic Day?

Civilian Service Awards

Perhaps the best-known among all the categories, the highest honours among the civilian awards are the Bharat Ratna and the Padma Awards – the Padma Vibhushan, the Padma Bhushan and the Padma Shri.

Bharat Ratna is India's highest and most prestigious civilian honour, awarded for exceptional service in any field – art, literature, science, or public service. The Prime Minister recommends the nominees for this award, and a maximum of three persons can be conferred the Bharat Ratna in a year. 53 persons have been awarded the Bharat Ratna so far.

The Padma Vibhushan is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service, the Padma Bhushan for distinguished service of higher order, and the Padma Shri for distinguished service in any field. The award winners are selected by the Padma Awards committee. Any person working in any field – with the exception of Government employees, barring doctors and scientists – are eligible for the award. The nomination process is open to the public, and allows people to nominate themselves.

Service Medals

These awards recognise distinguished service, dedication, and exceptional contributions by personnel in the Armed Forces, Paramilitary Forces, and Police. They are announced on Republic Day and Independence Day.

The President's Medal for Distinguished Service (PSM) is awarded for a special distinguished record in service, while the Medal for Meritorious Service (MSM) is awarded for valuable service characterised by resource and devotion to duty.

Gallantry Awards

Medals for gallantry are awarded to members of the armed forces, paramilitary forces, and civilians for bravery and heroic action.

WARTIME AWARDS: These are awarded for acts of bravery in the face of the enemy, and are primarily for armed forces personnel. The highest honours among the wartime gallantry awards are the Paramvir Chakra, the Mahavir Chakra and the Vir Chakra.

PEACETIME AWARDS: The highest honours in peacetime include the Ashoka Chakra, the Kirti Chakra and the Shaurya Chakra.

A government press release distinguishes these awards thus, "The Param Vir Chakra is awarded for the most conspicuous act of bravery and self-sacrifice in the face of the enemy, while the Ashok Chakra is awarded for similar acts of valour and self-sacrifice but, other than, in the face of the enemy."

Peacetime awards can be awarded to armed forces, paramilitary forces, police, or civilians.



POLICE GALLANTRY MEDALS: Awards for members of the police are announced twice a year – on the eve of Republic Day and Independence Day – to recognise their acts of bravery, distinguished service, and exemplary conduct.

The President's Medal for Gallantry is awarded to those who have done a "rare conspicuous gallant act of exceptional courage & skill in saving life and property, or in preventing crime or

arresting criminals, apprehending a prisoner or in preventing their escape", according to a government press release.

The Police Medal for Gallantry recognises acts of bravery and courage in the line of duty.

CIVILIAN GALLANTRY MEDALS: These awards recognise civilians for acts of bravery and saving lives.

The Jeevan Raksha Padak Awards originated as an offshoot of the Ashoka Awards. They are given for lifesaving acts of service by people from all walks of life, and may even be given posthumously. The award has three categories – Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak, Uttam Jeevan Raksha Padak and Jeevan Raksha Padak.

The National Bravery Awards recognises children who show exceptional courage and is awarded by the Indian Council for Child Welfare (ICCW).

Relevance: GS Prelims & Mains Paper II; Governance

Source: Indian Express