

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

TH The Hindu

OECD becomes latest global agency to upgrade India's growth, ups 2026-27 expansion to 7.1%

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has become the latest global body to raise its growth forecast for India...



Why in News

- **OECD** raised its forecast for India's economic growth to **7.1% in 2026–27**, from its earlier estimate of **6.3%**.

Institutional Background

- **OECD** is an international organisation established to promote economic growth, development, prosperity and well-being among countries.
- It succeeded the **Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC)**, which was created to administer **Marshall Plan aid** after World War II.
- The **OECD Convention** was signed on **14 December 1960** and came into force on **30 September 1961**.

Membership and Governance

- The OECD currently has **38 member countries**, generally characterised by democratic governance and market-oriented economies.
- Its headquarters is located in **Paris, France**.
- Its governance includes the **OECD Council, OECD Secretariat and specialised committees**.

Key Functions and Reports

- The OECD works across areas including **trade, agriculture, industry, public governance, climate change and sustainable development**.
- It publishes major reports such as the **OECD Economic Outlook, PISA, Health at a Glance and Country Peer Review Reports**.
- The organisation has **no power to enforce its decisions** and primarily works through consultations, policy coordination and publications.

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development



India–OECD Linkage

- **India is not an OECD member** but has maintained a working relationship with the organisation.
- India has been an **OECD Key Partner since 2007**.

Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC)

PTI Press Trust of India

India sees CELAC as imp partner in shaping more representative global order: EAM Jaishankar

United Nations, Sep 23 (PTI) India and the regional bloc of Latin American and Caribbean countries have a shared interest in ensuring that...



Why in News

- The **India–CELAC Foreign Ministers’ Meeting** was held on the margins of the high-level **UN General Assembly** session.

Regional Grouping

- CELAC** was established on **3 December 2011** in **Caracas, Venezuela**, through the **Declaration of Caracas**.
- It aims to promote regional integration, unity and cooperation among **Latin American and Caribbean countries**.
- It succeeded the **Rio Group** and the **Latin American and Caribbean Summit on Integration and Development (CALC)**.



Institutional Features

- CELAC comprises **33 countries** and is **not a treaty-based organisation**.
- It has **no permanent secretariat, headquarters or binding decision-making powers**.
- Its presidency is held on a **rotating one-year basis** by a member state.

Decision-Making

- CELAC decisions are generally adopted through **consensus**.
- Its decisions take the form of **political declarations rather than legally binding instruments**.

Transfer Pricing

Why in News

- India’s Finance Minister urged **BRICS countries** to share experiences on treaty interpretation and multilateral negotiations concerning international taxation and transfer pricing disputes.

TOI The Times of India

BRICS should work together on transfer pricing: Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman

NEW DELHI: Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday urged BRICS nations to share their experiences on treaty interpretation and...



Basic Concept

- **Transfer pricing** refers to the prices charged for goods and services exchanged between companies under common control.
- It is commonly used by **multinational corporations (MNCs)** and their subsidiaries or associated enterprises to allocate income and expenses.
- Differences in tax rates across jurisdictions can create incentives for companies to structure intra-group transactions for tax efficiency.

Arm's Length Principle

- The **Arm's Length Principle (ALP)** requires related-party transactions to be priced as though they occurred between **independent and unrelated parties**.
- ALP seeks to prevent artificial manipulation of prices for shifting taxable income between jurisdictions.

Indian Tax Framework

- **Indian transfer pricing regulations** require income arising from **international transactions between associated enterprises** to be computed with reference to the **ALP**.
- International transfer pricing disputes commonly arise over the allocation of taxable profits among different jurisdictions.
- Transfer pricing must comply with applicable tax rules to distinguish legitimate tax planning from **tax evasion and abusive profit shifting**.

Tulu Language



The Indian Express

Tulu now second 'official language': What it means for Karnataka politics

Tulu gets second additional official language status in Karnataka's Dakshina Kannada and Udupi. Here is what the decision means and its...



Why in News

- The **Karnataka Government** decided to accord **Tulu the status of a second additional administrative language**.

Linguistic Distribution

- **Tulu** belongs to the **Dravidian language family**, along with Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam.
- It is mainly spoken in **Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts of Karnataka** and northern parts of **Kasaragod district of Kerala**.
- Tulu has a distinct traditional script known as the **Tigalari script**.

Historical and Educational Significance

- The oldest available **Tulu inscriptions** date to approximately the **14th–15th centuries CE**.
- Tulu has been taught as a **third optional language** in schools in Dakshina Kannada and Udupi from **Class 6 to Class 10** since the **2010–11 academic year**.

Cultural Significance

- Tulu has a strong **oral tradition, folklore and cultural heritage**.
- Cultural traditions associated with the Tulu-speaking region include **Yakshagana and Bhoota Kola**.
- The **Registrar General and Census Commissioner** recognises Tulu as an independent language and an important **non-Scheduled language** of India.

Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)

Scroll.in

India rejects Organisation of Islamic Cooperation remarks on J&K as 'unwarranted'

The bloc had stated that it was committed to supporting the 'inalienable right of the Kashmiri people to self-determination'.



Why in News

- India rejected references to **Kashmir** in the Joint Communique of the **OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir**.

Institutional Profile

- The **OIC** is the **second-largest intergovernmental organisation after the United Nations**.
- It has **57 member states** spread across **four continents**.
- Its headquarters is located in **Jeddah, Saudi Arabia**, and its official languages are **Arabic, English and French**.



Historical Evolution

- The organisation was established on **25 September 1969** following the **Rabat Islamic Summit in Morocco**.
- It originally functioned as the **Organisation of Islamic Conference** and was renamed **Organisation of Islamic Cooperation** in **2011**.
- Its Charter was originally adopted in **1972** and substantially revised in **2008**.

Institutional Structure

- The **Islamic Summit Conference** is the supreme authority and meets every three years.

- The **Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM)** meets annually to review implementation of organisational decisions.
- The **General Secretariat** functions as the executive organ, while the **Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC)** was established in 2011.
- Associated institutions include the **Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)**, **ICESCO** and **SESRIC**.

India–OIC Context

- India was invited to the inaugural **1969 OIC Summit** but was subsequently disinvited.
- India participated in an **OIC Council of Foreign Ministers meeting for the first time in 2019**.
- India rejects the OIC's role in commenting on matters concerning **Jammu and Kashmir**, considering them matters within India's sovereign jurisdiction.

PB-SHABD Platform

DD News

PBSHABD: How Prasar Bharati's news service is expanding access to verified content across India

Prasar Bharati's PBSHABD has emerged as a free multimedia news feed for India's wider media industry, providing registered organisations...



Why in News

- **PB-SHABD** is the news-feed service launched by **Prasar Bharati** to provide registered media organisations with free, ready-to-use news content.

Platform Features

- **PB-SHABD** stands for **Prasar Bharati-Shared Audio-Visuals for Broadcast and Dissemination**.
- It was launched in **March 2024** and operates as a round-the-clock news-feed service.
- Registered users can access content in **text, video, audio, photograph and infographic formats**.

Coverage and Access

- The platform provides news in **15 Indian languages** across nearly **50 categories**.
- Its coverage includes **national, regional and local developments** from India and abroad.

- Registered media organisations, digital publishers and content creators can use the service **free of cost**, with free access assured up to **March 2027**.



Prasar Bharati Linkage

- Prasar Bharati** is India's **statutory autonomous public-service broadcaster**, established in **1997** under the **Prasar Bharati Act, 1990**.
- Its two principal constituents are **Akashvani** and **Doordarshan**.
- Its headquarters is located in **New Delhi**.

Other Important News of the day

Sports News	in Indian Women's Cricket Team: Asian Games 2026 Gold News On AIR <u>Asian Games: Indian Women's Cricket Team Wins Country's First Gold in Aichi Akashvani News</u> The Indian Women's Cricket team reasserted its continental dominance by clinching a second successive gold medal at the Asian Games,... Why in News The Indian women's cricket team won India's first gold medal at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games 2026 by defeating Sri Lanka by 147 runs in the women's T20 final. Tournament Performance
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- India scored **216/3 in 20 overs**, while Sri Lanka were bowled out for **69 in 15.4 overs** in the final.
- India defeated **Japan by 8 wickets** in the quarter-final and **Bangladesh by 114 runs** in the semi-final.
- **Sree Charani** emerged as the tournament's leading wicket-taker with **8 wickets in three matches**.

Individual Records

- **Smriti Mandhana** scored **79 runs off 45 balls** in the final and became the first woman cricketer to complete **11,000 international runs**, according to the supplied source.
- **Shafali Verma** scored **48 runs** in the final and was the tournament's leading run-scorer with **188 runs in three innings**.
- Shafali Verma also scored her **maiden T20I century** against Bangladesh in the semi-final, reaching 100 runs from **49 balls**.

Asian Games Significance

- India's **216/3** was the highest total recorded in women's cricket at the Asian Games at the time of the final.
- The victory gave India its **second consecutive Asian Games gold in women's cricket**, following its gold at the **Hangzhou Asian Games**.
- The **Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games 2026** are being hosted in **Japan**, with the women's T20 final forming an important milestone in India's campaign.

Defence

Exercise Pitch Black



Major boost to 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat': MoD signs Rs 811 crore contract with BDL for 160 Satellite Smart Anti Airfield Weapons for IAF

Ministry of Defence has inked a contract with Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) for the procurement of 160 Satellite Smart Anti Airfield Weapons...



Why in News

- The **Ministry of Defence** signed a contract with **Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)** for **160 SAT-SAAW systems** and associated equipment for the Indian Air Force.

Defence Technology

	• SAT-SAAW is an air-to-ground precision-guided glide bomb developed indigenously by the DRDO. • It can be launched from aircraft platforms such as Jaguar, Hawk and Su-30 MKI. • The weapon is designed to neutralise enemy airfields from a long stand-off range. Targeting and Capabilities • It can destroy runways, taxiways, aircraft hangars, reinforced bunkers and radar installations. • The SAT variant combines GPS/NavIC satellite navigation with an onboard Inertial Navigation System (INS). • It can engage stationary targets with an accuracy of about 7 metres, including during day, night and adverse weather conditions. Strategic Significance • The system will contain around 60% indigenous content, supporting Aatmanirbharta in defence. • Indigenous subsystems include the Initial Measurement Unit, Long Impact Delay Fuse and Twin Store Carrier. • Deliveries are scheduled for 2027–28 and 2028–29.
Science and Technology	Black Carbon  The Indian Express <u>Knowledge Nugget Black Carbon: What makes this tiny particle a climate concern?</u> Explore insights on black carbon, its impact on Himalayan glaciers, and health risks. Understand its significance in climate change. Why in News • A new report identified black carbon as a significant contributor to Himalayan glacier melt. Scientific Characteristics • Black carbon is a dark, sooty material produced through the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels, biofuels and biomass. • It is a component of PM2.5 and is classified as a Short-Lived Climate Pollutant (SLCP).

	- Unlike CO₂, black carbon is a particle rather than a greenhouse gas and remains in the atmosphere for only days to weeks. Himalayan and Climatic Impact - Deposited black carbon darkens snow and ice, lowers their albedo and increases absorption of solar radiation. - This can accelerate glacier and snow melt, affecting freshwater availability in mountain-dependent regions. - Black carbon can also influence rainfall, atmospheric circulation, cloud formation, agriculture and ecosystems. - It has significant public-health impacts and is associated with premature mortality. Major Sources - Major sources include diesel engines, coal-fired power plants, cookstoves, biomass burning, forest fires, crop-residue burning and brick kilns. - Black carbon can be transported beyond its original source region through atmospheric circulation.
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Uttar Pradesh in News

Uttar Pradesh: Chief Minister Special Award Scheme for Gram Panchayats

 Jagran

यूपी में बेहतर काम करने वाली ग्राम पंचायतों को मिलेंगे 50 लाख रुपये, 30 सितंबर तक करें आवेदन



Why in News

- The **Uttar Pradesh Government** will award the best-performing **Gram Panchayats** under the **Chief Minister Special Award Scheme**, with selected Panchayats receiving **₹50 lakh**.

Governance Dimensions

- The scheme recognises Gram Panchayats demonstrating excellence in **development works and public service delivery**.
- Evaluation covers **basic facilities, sanitation, drinking water, welfare schemes, rural facilities, innovation and resource utilisation**.
- Award categories include **door-to-door waste collection, liquid waste management, own-source revenue generation, Mera Talab Meri Yojana and CSC-based public services**.

Selection Framework

- Each Gram Panchayat can apply in **only one category**, with applications open until **30 September 2026**.
- Applicants first undergo a **20-mark questionnaire**, and those securing at least **60% marks** qualify for the second stage.
- The second stage involves an **80-mark special questionnaire** assessing performance in greater detail.
- A **divisional-level team** will verify applications and development works before final selection.

Institutional Significance

- Final selection will be undertaken at the **state level**, while successful initiatives will be showcased as **development models** for replication by other Gram Panchayats.
- The scheme links **performance-based recognition** with grassroots governance and improved delivery of rural public services.