Date: September 04, 2025

To,
The Listing Department
NATIONAL STOCK EXCHANGE OF INDIA LTD
Exchange Plaza, C-1, Block G.
Bandra Kurla Complex Bandra-East, Mumbai-400051

NSE Symbol: ITALIANE
ISIN: INE0R7R01018

Sub: Newspaper Publication in respect of 15th Annual General Meeting of the Company– Disclosure under SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

Pursuant to Regulations 30, Regulation 47 and other applicable provisions of the SEBI (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 read with SEBI Circular no. SEBI/HO/CFD/CFD-PoD-2/P/CIR/2024/ 133 dated 03th October, 2024, in compliance with Rule 20(4) of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and other applicable rules thereunder along with MCA General Circular No. 09/2024 dated 19th September, 2024 and applicable circulars issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs permitting conduct of Annual General Meeting ("AGM") through Video Conferencing / Other Audio Visual Means ("VC/ OAVM"), we hereby enclose the newspaper clippings of the notice published on Thursday, September 04, 2025, in English National daily newspaper 'Business Standard' and Hindi daily newspaper 'Indore Samachar'.

This intimation is also being uploaded on the Company's website at https://ofcoursegroup.com/

This is for your information and records.

Yours Faithfully,
For Italian Edibles Limited
(Formerly known as Italian Edibles Private Limited)

Ajay Makhija
Digitally signed by Ajay Makhija
Date: 2025.09.04 13:13:53 +05'30'

Ajay Makhija
Managing Director
DIN: 02847288
Encl: As above

Registered Office : 309/1/1/8, Block No. 03, Mangal Udyog Nagar, Gram Palda, Indore :- 452020 (M.P.) INDIA
Contact No.: +91 98262 98268 Email : italian_edibles@yahoo.com, info@ofcoursegroup.com,
www.ofcoursegroup.com
CIN: U15141MP2009PLC022797

आयकर विभाग की तीन दर्जन ठिकानों पर छापेमारी

इंदौर। आयकर विभाग की टीम ने साइस हाउस और उसके सहयोगियों के भोपाल सहित इंदौर और मुंबई के करीब तीन दर्जन ठिकानों पर छापे की कार्रवाई को अंजाम दिया है। छापे के दौरान भारी मात्रा में टैक्स चोरी के दस्तावेज जब्त किए गए हैं जिनकी जांच की जा रही है। इसके अलावा कई जगहों पर लॉकर की जानकारी भी मिली है। आयकर के छापे में इन ठिकानों से भारी मात्रा में नगदी और आभूषण मिलने की संभावना जताई जा रही है। सूत्रों की माने तो इस कार्रवाई में करोड़ों रुपए की टैक्स चोरी सामने आना तय माना जा रहा है। करीब तीन दर्जन ठिकानों पर की जा रही इस कार्रवाई में साइस हाउस ही प्रमुख केंद्र है जिसके ठिकाने भोपाल के एमपीनगर समेत अन्य स्थानों पर है। इसके साथ ही इंदौर में भी इसके सहयोगियों के यहां छापेमारी की गई है। इन स्थानों पर लॉकर मिलने की भी जानकारी सामने आ रही है।

भोपाल, इंदौर, मुंबई समेत कई शहरों में हुई कार्रवाई, करोड़ों की टैक्स चोरी उजागर होने की संभावना

भारी मात्रा में कैश के साथ मिली लॉकर की जानकारी

मेडिकल इक्विपमेंट्स और अस्पताल सर्विस देता है साइस हाउस- साइस हाउस के संचालक जितेंद्र तिवारी है साइस हाउस गौतम नगर में सी-25 में 1994 से संचालित है। इस कम्पनी द्वारा देश भर में मेडिकल इक्विपमेंट्स की सप्लाई की जाती है। साथ ही डायग्नोस्टिक सर्विस भी दी जाती है। यहां पैथालॉजी लैब और निजी अस्पताल की भी सेवा मिलती है। यह कम्पनी साइंस हाउस मेडिकल प्राइवेट लिमिटेड (एसएचएमपीएल) के नाम पर संचालित है।

ये कम्पनियां है साइंस हाउस ग्रुप की सहयोगी- साइंस हाउस ग्रुप के संचालक जितेंद्र तिवारी ने कई अन्य नामों से भी कम्पनियां संचालित कर रखी है। इसमें साइंस हाउस मेडिकल प्राइवेट लिमिटेड, पीओसीएल साइंस हाउस प्राइवेट लिमिटेड, रेडसेल टेक्नालॉजीज प्राइवेट लिमिटेड, जीवाणुडे फाउंडेशन और बायो साइंस हेल्थ केयर शामिल है।

मेडिकल सर्जिकल आइटम कारोबारी राजेश गुप्ता के यहां भी कार्रवाई- आयकर विभाग की यह कार्रवाई मेडिकल सर्जिकल आइटम कारोबारी राजेश गुप्ता के यहां भी हो रही है। राजेश गुप्ता के घर के बाहर बडी तादाद में सुरक्षाबल तैनात किए गए है, जबकि जांच एजेंसी के अधिकारी भी राजेश गुप्ता के घर पर मौजूद है। यह छापेमारी लालघाटी में पंचवटी के 64 बी स्थित निवास पर हुई है।

राजेश गुप्ता के घर कैश गिनने पहुंचे बैंक अधिकारी- आयकर छापे की कार्रवाई के दौरान लालघाटी स्थित राजेश गुप्ता के निवास पर बड़ा कैश मिला है। हालांकि अभी यह साफ नहीं हुआ है कि नकद राशि कितनी है लेकिन आयकर अफसरों के निर्देश पर एसबीआई के अधिकारी यहां पहुंचे हैं। इसके साथ ही राजेश गुप्ता के विदेशों में भी ठिकाने होने की जानकारी मिली है।

पूर्व में ईओडब्ल्यू में जितेंद्र तिवारी को किया था अरेस्ट, चाइना कनेक्शन भी है तिवारी का आयकर विभाग की छापेमारी की जद में आए साइंस हाउस ग्रुप के संचालक जितेंद्र तिवारी को विगत वर्ष जून माह में ईओडब्ल्यू अरेस्ट कर चुकी है। तिवारी की यह गिरफ्तारी ईओडब्ल्यू की टीम ने दिल्ली में एस समय की थी जब वह दो माह तक चाइना में रुकने के बाद देश वापस लौटा था। उसके खिलाफ अनूपपुर जिले में एक मामले में आर्थिक गड़बड़ी के मामले मे केस दर्ज हो चुका है।

यह था मामला- एमपी के अनूपपुर जिले में मनमानी कीमत पर दवाओं और मेडिकल उपकरणों की सप्लाई कर राज्य सरकार को करोड़ों की चपत लगाने के मामले में जितेंद्र तिवारी को गिरफ्तार किया गया था। दवाओं और उपकरणों के मामले में आर्थिक अनियमितता पाए जाने पर साइंस हाउस के डायरेक्टर जितेंद्र तिवारी और उसके भाई शैलेंद्र तिवारी के विरुद्ध लुक आउट नोटिस जारी किया गया था। इसके बाद दिल्ली पहुंचते ही सीआईएसएफ ने इनकी गिरफ्तारी की थी।

बस यूं ही...

शांता पारेख, इन्दौर 9425311944

बुलंद हो आवाज़

शाहिद कपूर की मा नीलिमा ने तीन शादियां की तीनो से बच्चे भी हुए पर अब वे अकेली है. ये कोई मज़े लेने वाली बात नहीं है. ये अच्छी जीवन शैली जीने वालो की बाते है व जब इनका प्रचार कई मीडिया साधनों से होता है तो ये चीजें आम समाज मे भी खिसकने लगती है, जम जाती फिर स्वीकार भाव बढ़ता है फिर समाज मे फ़िल्मी दुनिया का प्रभाव बढ़ता ही है, वेलेंटाइन बर्थडे करवा चौथ विवाह समारोह उनकी तरह भव्य करने की परम्परा चली है, जो पहले उच्च, फिर नीचे वाले लोगो को रिश्वत भ्रष्टाचार की दुनिया मे धकेलती है, चिंतको ने दिखावे को भ्रष्टाचार का बड़ा कारण माना है, सिनेमा कहता जो हो रहा वह दिखाते है, यथार्थवाद ने बड़ा बेड़ा गर्क किया है, इससे मास ट्रेनिंग मिलती है। स्थापना तो आदर्शो की ही होनी चाहिए इससे गति पर तो लगाम लगेगी पर जो बिके वह दिखाने का काम साहित्य भी करने लगा है हित साधन का आग्रह किसी का नहीं रहा, इसका तिरस्कार तो करना ही होगा. राम चरित्र पालन कठिन हो सकता है पर अनुचित तो नहीं मान सकते. हमने तो शिव की भाँग व कृष्ण की गोपियों का वस्त्र चुराना याद रख लिया इसलिए इतना चारित्रिक पतन हुआ. अब तो एसो का महिमामंडन भी होने लगा तो चिंता तो बनती ही है. गाड़ी को रिवर्स भी तो करते ही है तो करो अब भी. आवाज़ बुलंद होनी चाहिए.ताकि कंटेंट पर ध्यान दिया जा सके।

चालित झांकीयो में मदद के लिए आगे आये सत्यनारायण पटेल

इन्दौर 1942 से चली आ रही श्री गणेश विसर्जन चल समारोह की परम्परा को आगे बढाने मे अ.भा. कांग्रेस कमेटी के राष्ट्रीय सचिव व पूर्व विधायक श्री सत्यनारायण पटेल आगे आए और चल समारोह में शामिल झांकियों के निर्माण मे दो मिलो की झाँकी के लिए एक एक झाँकी को विशेष सहयोग. श्री गीता रामेश्वरम ट्रस्ट द्वारा दिया गया जिसमें, कल्याण मील, मालवा मिल के अलावा अन्य मिलो को 25-25 हजार रुपये नगद देकर मिलो की कमेटीया का होसला बढ़ाया। इस अवसर पर श्री पटेल परिवार के सहयोगी मदन परमालिया ने बताया की झाँकीयों की परमपरा को लिऐ पटेल परिवार सदेव आगे रहेगा। इस अवसर पर हुकमचंद मील के अध्यक्ष श्री श्रीवंश जी ने कहा की पटेल परिवार, के हम त्रिही है की वे हमेशा आगे आकर हमारी मिल कमेटीयो को आर्थीक सहयोग करते है। इस अवसर पर हरनाम सिंह धालीवाल, कन्हैयालाल मरमट, किशनलाल बोकरे, हिरालाल वर्मा, दिलीप माथुर, चंपालाल वर्मा, गेंदालाल वर्मा आदि की उपस्तिथी मे राशी दी गई परमालिया ने आगे बताये की इस अवसर पर मिलो की कमेटीयो के पदाधीकारीयों ने श्री सत्यनारायण पटेल का आभार माना।

मोबाईल रिचार्ज पर सरकार का नियंत्रण

एक खबर के अनुसार रिलायंस की अधीनस्थ जियो रिचार्ज रेंट बढ़ाने पर विचार कर रही है. जीयो राजा जीयो की तर्ज पर रिलायंस की टेलीकॉम कंपनी जियो द्वारा शरुआत में मोबाईल भी फ्री, सीम भी फ्री और रीचार्ज भी बहुत कम कीमत पर. अब जब लोगों को मोबाईल का चस्का लग गया तो धीरे-धीरे कंपनी ने फ्री को तो ताक में रख दिया।

हरेक की कीमतें पहले तो निश्चित की फिर शनैः -शनैः इतनी बढ़ाना आरम्भ कर दी कि अब उसकी प्रतिस्पर्धी कंपनी एयरटेल की रिचार्ज वेल्यू से उसकी रिचार्ज वैल्यू उसे कम लग रही है और वो रिचार्ज रेंट बढ़ाने पर विचार कर रही है. खैर बतौर प्रतिस्पर्धा के वे रिचार्ज किराया बढ़ाएं या घटाएं उससे मतलब नहीं किन्तु ग्राहकों को मोबाइल रिचार्ज रिजनेबल रेंट पर मिले/मिलता रहे उसपर सरकार का भी नियंत्रण जरुरी है ताकि कम्पनियाँ मनमानी तरीके से यूजर्स से अधिक रेंट न वसूल करने पाए. मूल्य-नियंत्रण विभाग को इस पर ध्यान देना चाहिए. ताकि सरकारी(बीएसएनएल) और गैरसरकारी दोनों ही संस्थाओं के मूल्यों में संतुलन बना रहे एवं कंपनी और यूजर्स दोनों ही फायदे में रह सकें.

शकुंतला महेश नेनावा, 57,गिरधर नगर (तिलकनगर के पास), इंदौर (म.प्र.)... फोन.. 0731-4046326.

कार्टून कोना..........

इन्दौर हाइकोर्ट में दूसरी बार बैठी पंचपीठ में भी सुनवाई रही अधूरी

अब तीसरी बार 18-19 सितंबर फिर बैठेगी पंच पीठ, मामला ठेकेदार को ब्लेक लिस्टेड करने का

इन्दौर। मध्यप्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय खंडपीठ इन्दौर में चीफ जस्टिस संजीव सचदेवा की अध्यक्षता में जस्टिस विवेक रूसिया, जस्टिस विवेक अग्रवाल, जस्टिस सुबोध अभ्यंकर एवं जस्टिस विनय सराफ की पंच पीठ में चली नितिन इंटर प्राइजेस विरुद्ध मप्र शासन के मामले में सुनवाई अधूरी रही।

मामला ठेकेदार फर्म को ब्लेक लिस्टेड करने का है और मंगलवार को मामले में हुई सुनवाई साढ़े चार घंटे तक चली थी वहीं सोमवार को इसी मामले में इसी पंच पीठ ने पांच घंटे तक सुनवाई की थी जिसके अधूरी रहने पर मंगलवार को सुनवाई जारी रखी गई और अब सुनवाई फिर अधूरी रहने के चलते यह पंचपीठ तीसरी बार फिर से इसी मामले में सुनवाई के लिए 18-19 सितंबर को बैठेगी। बता दें कि इसके पहले इसी मामले में सुनवाई हेतु यह पंचपीठ 19 व 20 अगस्त को बैठी थी परन्तु बहस अधूरी रहने पर सुनवाई की अगली तारीख 1 एवं 2 सितंबर नियत की गई थी।

कल सुनवाई सुबह 10.30 बजे से दोपहर 1.30 बजे तक व लंच के बाद दोपहर 2.30 बजे से शाम 4.30 बजे तक साढ़े चार पांच घंटे चली। सुनवाई में शासन की ओर से महाधिवक्ता प्रशांत सिंह उपस्थित हुए तथा याचिकाकर्ता की ओर से एडवोकेट अमित मिश्रा (जबलपुर) उपस्थित हुए।

लंबी बहस में महाधिवक्ता प्रशांत सिंह ने इस मुद्दे पर तर्क रखे कि मामला आर्बीटेशन ट्रिब्यूटेशन (मध्यस्था परिषद) में जाना चाहिए। याचिकाकर्ता की ओर से अधिवक्ता अमित मिश्रा का तर्क है कि मामला न्यायिक स्तर पर निराकृत होना चाहिए।

साढ़े चार घंटे की बहस के बाद भी सुनवाई अधूरी रहने के बाद पंच पीठ ने अब अगली सुनवाई तारीख 18-19 सितंबर तय कर दी।

श्री मिश्रिलाल जी गंगवाल की 44 वीं पुण्यतिथि पर कार्यक्रम

इंदौर। देशभक्त ,स्वतंत्रता संग्राम सेनानी, पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री मध्य भारत, वित्त मंत्री (म. प्र.) स्व. भैया मिश्रीलाल जी गंगवाल की 44 वीं पुण्यतिथि पर परिवार, समाज, राजनैतिक व धार्मिक क्षेत्रों के गणमान्य नागरिकों द्वारा उनके एयरपोर्ट रोड पर पुलिस पेट्रोल पंप के पास गंगवाल मूर्ति स्थल पर दिनांक 4 सितंबर 2025 को सुबह 11 बजे श्रध्दा सुमन व उद्बोधन कार्यक्रम होगा।

चमेली देवी अग्रवाल रेडक्रास सेंटर छावनी पर 13-14 सितम्बर को निशुल्क स्वास्थ्य शिविर

इंदौर। बालाजी सेवार्थ विनोद अग्रवाल फाउंडेशन और संस्था ' छवि ' के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में पीड़ित मानवता की सेवा की दिशा में 13-14 सितम्बर को छावनी स्थित चमेली देवी अग्रवाल रेडक्रास डायग्नोस्टिक सेंटर पर निशुल्क स्वास्थ्य शिविर का आयोजन किया जा रहा है। इसमें 10 विशेषज्ञ चिकित्सकों द्वारा आम लोगों की जांच भी की जाएगी और परामर्श के साथ जरूरतमंद लोगों को निशुल्क दवाईयां भी प्रदान की जाएंगी। फाउंडेशन की प्रमुख श्रीमती वंशिका तपन अग्रवाल एवं संस्था ' छवि ' के गोपाल गोयल ने बताया कि शिविर में आने वाले मरीजों के लिए हड्डी रोग विशेषज्ञ, मेडिसीन, स्त्री एवं प्रसूति रोग, शिशु रोग, हृदय रोग, ईएनटी, नेत्र रोग, दंद रोग एवं फीजियोथैरेपी विशेषज्ञ उपलब्ध रहेंगे, जो आम मरीजों का निशुल्क परीक्षण कर जरूरत होने पर उन्हें दवाईयां भी प्रदान करेंगे। फाउंडेशन द्वारा वर्ष 2021 से लगातार इस तरह के निशुल्क स्वास्थ्य शिविर आयोजित किए जा रहे हैं। इस दौरान मरीजों के लिए ब्लड, यूरीन, एक्सरे, सोनोग्राफी, डेंटल, फिजियोथैरेपी आदि की निशुल्क जांचें भी की जाएगी। शिविर के संयोजक संदीप गोयल ऑटो मनोनीत किए गए हैं।

कामरेड होमी दाजी स्मृति समारोह कल, दिग्विजय सिंह होंगे शामिल

इंदौर। दिवंगत सांसद एवं जन नेता कामरेड होमी एफ दाजी जन्म शताब्दी के उपलक्ष में कल 5 सितंबर को राष्ट्रीय संवाद का आयोजन रखा गया है। समारोह में राज्यसभा सांसद एवं मध्य प्रदेश के पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री दिग्विजय सिंह मुख्य वक्ता के रूप में शामिल होंगे। समाजवादी विचार प्रसार केंद्र न्यास, स्टेट प्रेस क्लब, अभ्यास मंडल, श्रम संगठनों की संयुक्त अभियान समिति तथा भारतीय कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से आयोजित इस राष्ट्रीय संवाद कार्यक्रम में *भारत में समाजवाद- संभावनाएं एवं चुनौतियां* विषय पर विद्वान वक्ता अपने विचार रखेंगे। आयोजकों की और से प्रवीण खरीवाल, रुद्रपाल यादव, अरविंद पोरवाल ने बताया कि गांधी हाल प्रांगण स्थित अभिनव कला समाज सभागृह में संध्या 5 बजे आयोजित व्याख्यान में म. प्र प्रगतिशील लेखक संघ राज्य सचिव मंडल के वरिष्ठ सदस्य, समाजवादी विचारक, लेखक सत्यम सागर भी अपने विचार रखेंगे। आयोजकों ने जारी बयान में बताया कि 5 सितंबर 2025 से कामरेड होमी दाजी की जन्म शताब्दी प्रारंभ हो रही है। यह अवसर भारतीय जन आंदोलनों, श्रमिक चेतना और वैचारिक राजनीति की एक मजबूत परंपरा को स्मरण एवं पुनर्स्थापित करने का है। नेहरू काल से सांसद और दो बार विधायक चुने गए कामरेड होमी दाजी ने विद्यार्थी जीवन काल से ही स्वतंत्रता संग्राम में भाग लेना प्रारंभ कर दिया था। उन्होंने इंदौर में विदेशी कपड़ों की होली जलाई, पुलिसया दमन का शिकार हुए। वे जन आंदोलनों, श्रमिक आंदोलन में कई बार जेल गए, कामरेड दाजी कुशल वक्ता और संगठन कर्ता थे। उन्होंने इंदौर की कपड़ा मिलो के 30 हजार मजदूरों को संगठित कर उनके हितों के लिए संघर्ष का नेतृत्व किया। 1957 में 31 वर्ष की आयु में वे कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी की ओर से इंदौर से विधायक चुने गए। 1962 में वे लोकसभा चुनाव जीतकर संसद में पहुंचे। कामरेड दाजी ने तीन प्रधानमंत्रियों,जवाहरलाल नेहरू, लाल बहादुर शास्त्री एवं इंदिरा गांधी के कार्यकाल में संसद में जनता के हितों के लिए काम किया। 1972 में हुए पुनः मध्य प्रदेश विधानसभा के लिए निर्वाचित हुए। 14 मई 2009 में उनका निधन हो गया।

लायंस की ओर से आज जाल सभागृह में 107 शिक्षकों का सम्मान समारोह

इंदौर। लायंस इंटरनेशनल डिस्ट्रीक्ट 3233 जी-1 रीजन-3 द्वारा शिक्षक दिवस की पूर्व बेला में गुरुवार, 4 सितम्बर को सुबह 10 बजे साउथ तुकोगंज स्थित जाल सभागृह पर 107 शिक्षकों के सम्मान समारोह का आयोजन किया जाएगा। लायंस रीजन-3 की चेयर पर्सन ला. मंजू मंडलोई ने बताया कि लायंस के गेट वाइस एरिया लीडर डॉ. कुलभूषण मित्तल कुक्की के मुख्य आतिथ्य, डिस्ट्रीक्ट गवर्नल ला. अनिल खंडेलवाल के विशिष्ट आतिथ्य और ला जयप्रकाश त्रिपाठी, ला. राम जाट, पं. योगेन्द्र महंत, वेदमूर्ति पं. गोपाल जोशी, पूर्व विधायक पं. रवि जोशी, मुंबई के समाजसेवी पं. नरेन्द्र जोशी के विशेष आतिथ्य में आयोजित किया गया है। कार्यक्रम में डिस्ट्रीक्ट के अंतर्गत आने वाले सभी प्रमुख शहरों एवं कस्बों के स्कूलों की शिक्षिकाएं भी आमंत्रित की गई हैं।

भारतीय स्टाम्प (मध्य प्रदेश संशोधन) विधेयक को चुनौती देने वाली जनहित याचिका हाइकोर्ट में दायर

इंदौर। मप्र विधानसभा में पास हुए भारतीय स्टाम्प (मध्य प्रदेश संशोधन) विधेयक 2025 को चुनौती देने वाली जनहित याचिका हाइकोर्ट में दायर कर दी गई है। इस पर इसी सप्ताह में सुनवाई संभावित है। यह याचिका इंदौर के नोटरी एसोसिएशन के प्रवक्ता प्रदीप होलकर की ओर से एडवोकेट जावेद खान एडवोकेट अजय बागड़िया द्वारा लगाई गई है। इसमें विधेयक में बढ़ाई गई दरों का विरोध करते हुए इसे जनविरोधी बताया गया है। याचिका जबलपुर मुख्य पीठ में डब्ल्यू पी नंबर 35179/2025 पर रजिस्टर्ड हो गई है। उल्लेखनीय है कि इस विधेयक के पास होने के बाद प्रदेश में एग्रीमेंट कराना अत्यधिक महंगा हो जाएगा। अब शपथ पत्र 50 रुपए के बजाय 200 रुपए में बनेगा। रेंट एग्रीमेंट 500 से बढ़कर एक हजार, प्रॉपर्टी एग्रीमेंट एक हजार की जगह 5 हजार रुपए में होगा। नोटरी एसोसिएशन सहित कई संगठनों द्वारा किए गए विरोध के बावजूद विधानसभा में इस विधेयक को पास किया गया। अभी इस विधेयक पर राज्यपाल से मंजूरी मिलना बाकी है।

Germany strongly backs early conclusion of India-EU FTA

Immense potential to scale up ties: Modi after meeting German foreign minister

ARCHIS MOHAN
New Delhi, 3 September

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar (*right*) and his German counterpart Johann Wadephul address the media in New Delhi on Wednesday. Wadephul said if others set up barriers to trade, we should respond by lowering these barriers and hurdles PHOTO: PTI

Germany is keen on doubling the bilateral trade with India and the country also "strongly" supports speedy negotiation and sealing of the India-European Union (EU) free trade agreement (FTA) by autumn this year, its foreign minister Johann Wadephul said here on Wednesday.

Wadephul is on a two-day visit to India.

It comes against the backdrop of the US' imposition of steep 50 per cent tariffs on India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's huddle with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday on the margins of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

At a joint press briefing with his Indian counterpart, S Jaishankar, the German foreign minister said, "If others set up barriers to trade, we should respond by lowering these barriers and hurdles."

Alluding to India's ties with Russia, and its purchase of Russian oil, Wadephul said, "I know that we don't 100 per cent see eye to eye with our Indian friends on this," and urged New Delhi to use its relations with Moscow to convince Russia to have peace with Ukraine.

Wadephul sidestepped the question on the US' move to impose steep tariffs on New Delhi.

The German foreign minister said his country backed Trump's efforts to force Russia to come to a negotiating table, and spoke of the EU sanctions on Russia, which he specified were "targeted", were "not tariffs", and were intended to make it difficult for Russia to fund its warfare.

He, however, expressed concern at Moscow finding "detours".

Meanwhile, in a reference to the US tariffs, Jaishankar said an India-EU FTA is in "our mutual interest", that it will "help stabilise the global economy" and added, "It will be one of the elements of the ballast that today the world economy really needs."

He said the two countries needed to lower tariffs and expand business and economic cooperation, "efforts" which in the current climate in international commerce "acquire a greater urgency."

Jaishankar welcomed Germany's intent to double bilateral trade from Euro 50 billion, and said the volatility on global economic and geopolitical landscape has made a "very compelling" case for India and Germany to expand ties.

Jaishankar said he shared Wadephul's "desire and optimism" about an agreement.

"We hope that another round (of negotiation) takes place fairly soon. We would like this to move to a decisive conclusion in the coming days," Jaishankar said, adding that Wadephul has assured him that "Germany would put its full weight" behind the FTA negotiations with the EU.

The two foreign ministers underlined that policies need to remain constant and predictable, which Jaishankar said has a "huge premium in global politics".

Wadephul said India equals Asia for Germany, just as Germany equals the EU for India, but flagged the need for the two countries to make it easier for each other in their respective markets, and that both needed to do "homework" in this regard.

"We need to make sure that market access restrictions are being reduced," Wadephul said. In the morning, Wadephul met Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal.

Wadephul, who also visited Bengaluru during his India visit, spoke about Germany "urgently" needing highly skilled workers, and India being one of the biggest sources of that with the German consulate in Bengaluru issuing 36,000 long-term visas last year.

He said there were 60,000 Indian students in Germany, the largest of any country, and spoke of his country's intent to increase the number of partner schools in India teaching German as a foreign language from 58 to 1,000.

He said last year a third of international students issued visas by Germany were from India.

Jaishankar and Wadephul also discussed bilateral political cooperation, ties in areas such as security and defence, economic relations, research and future technologies, climate and energy as well as education, skilling, mobility and people-to-people exchanges.

Jaishankar said there has been an uptick in India-Germany defence and security cooperation, which the two ministers agreed should be expanded. India's external affairs minister noted his appreciation for the smoothening of the processes and expeditious clearances in the export control processes in the defence and security domain, where India had faced significant difficulties earlier.

The two leaders also spoke about greater industry collaboration between the two countries in the context of defence ties.

Cabinet nod to ₹1.5K cr plan to boost critical minerals recycling

Move to enhance capacities to recycle battery waste, e-waste: PM

SAKET KUMAR
New Delhi, 3 September

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a ₹1,500 crore incentive scheme to promote recycling of e-waste and battery waste for the extraction of critical minerals, a move aimed at strengthening India's supply chain resilience in the sector.

The scheme, which falls under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM), will run for six years from 2025-26 to 2030-31. The scheme is designed to serve as a near-term solution until mining and exploration projects for critical minerals begin to yield results. Mining operations typically have long gestation periods, while recycling of secondary sources offers a quicker way to secure raw materials for industry, the Ministry of Mines said in a statement.

"This decision by the Union Cabinet pertaining to an incentive scheme to promote critical mineral recycling will boost capacities to recycle battery waste and e-waste, promote investment and encourage job creation" said PM Modi in a post on X.

The eligible feed stock under the scheme includes e-waste, lithium-ion battery (LIB) scrap, and other categories such as catalytic converters from end-of-life vehicles. Both large, established recyclers and smaller players, including start-ups, are expected to benefit. One-third of the overall financial outlay has been earmarked specifically for small and new recyclers, including start-ups.

Incentives will be offered in the form of a 20 per cent capital subsidy on plant, machinery, equipment, and associated utilities for units starting production within the specified time frame. A delay in meeting timelines will attract a lower subsidy. In addition, an operating expense subsidy will be provided, linked to incremental sales over the base year (2025-26).

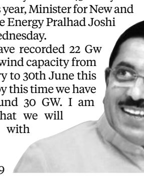
This subsidy will be disbursed in two parts. 40 per cent of the eligible amount in the second year and the remaining 60 per cent in the fifth year from 2026-27 to 2030-31, subject to achieving specified sales thresholds.

To ensure a greater number of beneficiaries, the total incentive per entity will be capped at ₹50 crore for large units and ₹25 crore for small units.

India to add 43 Gw RE generation capacity by yr-end: Pralhad Joshi

SAKET KUMAR
New Delhi, 3 September

India has added 30 gigawatt (Gw) renewable energy generation capacity so far this calendar year and the number is likely to touch 43 Gw by the end of this year, Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi said on Wednesday.



"We have recorded 22 Gw solar and wind capacity from 1st January to 30th June this year and by this time we have done around 30 Gw. I am hopeful that we will end up with (capacity addition) between 39 Gw and 43 Gw that we may achieve this year," Joshi said while speaking at an industry event here.

He added that, based on this progress and the multiple steps taken to resolve issues like transmission constraints, the government is hopeful of meeting the larger target of achieving 500 Gw of installed renewable energy generation capacity by 2030.

The country's installed renewable energy generation capacity currently stands at 226 Gw.

"At present, projects of nearly 186.3 Gw capacity are under implementation and another 67.08 Gw capacity has already been tendered. So, all put together, including the capacity already added as on date, we will have something like 499 Gw," Joshi said.

He told the audience that the government was taking steps to jack up the accuracy of weather forecasting systems to improve the performance of renewable energy projects.

The Centre was also trying to resolve the issues around delays in signing power sale agreements (PSAs).

The government has also amended the standard bidding guidelines for solar, wind and hybrid projects to provide for cancellation of letter of award (LoA) in cases where progress does not meet timelines beyond 12 months.

ALL IN A DAY

Tamil Nadu bags investment proposals in defence, RE, and textiles from UK

Tamil Nadu on Wednesday attracted investment proposals in defence, aerospace, shipbuilding intelligence, renewable energy, textile technology and design from various players in United Kingdom. The companies include aerospace major Rolls-Royce, maritime data firm Lloyd's List Intelligence, and Wilson Power & Distribution Technologies.

The UK visit was part of the second leg of the TN Rising European visit, led by Chief Minister M K Stalin. During the first leg in Germany, the state had received investment proposals to the tune of ₹7,020 crore, creating 15,320 jobs.

The MoUs signed today represent long-term strategic steps for Tamil Nadu in sectors of high value and future relevance in positioning the state as a national and global leader across niche domains.

The highlight of the day was the meeting with Rolls-Royce, one of the world's foremost aerospace and defence technology firms. The company expressed strong interest in expanding its operations in Tamil Nadu, with plans for an maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility, an research and development (R&D) and training centre, and a significant expansion of its IAMPL joint venture in Hosur. With Tamil Nadu being home to one of India's two Defence Industrial Corridors, this engagement with Rolls-Royce illustrates the state's potential as a hub for advanced aerospace manufacturing.

Lloyd's List Intelligence (Seasearcher) signed an MoU to expand its Global Capability Centre in Chennai, creating 200 jobs by FY 2026. As a world leader in maritime risk management, insurance and vessel tracking analytics, Lloyd's expansion will significantly bolster Tamil Nadu's capabilities in shipbuilding, port management, and maritime technology. Their flagship Sea searcher platform provides real-time visibility into global vessel movements, ownership structures, and port activities — insights that will be invaluable for unlocking Tamil Nadu's vast Blue Economy potential. SHINE JACOB

Suspended BRS leader Kavitha resigns from party and MLC post

A day after her suspension from KCR-led BRS, senior leader K Kavitha on Wednesday announced her resignation from the party and trained her guns against cousin and former minister T Harish Rao.

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SC asks Centre to frame policy to ensure foreigners jumping bail face charges

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Maharashtra leads in FPO ease of doing business; MP loses crown

SANJEEB MUKHERJEE
New Delhi, 3 September

FPO ranking 2025
In terms of ease of doing business

Rank	State
1	Maharashtra
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Source: State of the Sector Report for Farmer Producer Organisations Report 2025

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The rankings were released as part of the State of the Sector Report on FPOs (SoFPO), launched on Wednesday. SoFPO is an annual report brought out by the National Association for FPOs (NAFPO), Samunnati, and the Rabo Foundation.

In the 2024 ranking, Madhya Pradesh was the top-performing state, followed by Maharashtra, while Uttar Pradesh has consistently held the third position.

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The report — structured into chapters authored by subject experts — noted that just about 6,100 FPOs of the 43,928 registered as of March 2025 cornered most of the ₹4,000 crore in loans sanctioned by financial institutions.

"This shows that a huge number of FPOs could still be outside the ambit of formal credit. Besides access to sources of formal finance, the lack of credit could stem from poor business practices, unsound business plans, and ineffective administration of FPOs could be significantly lowering the creditworthiness of many FPOs," the report said.

On the ease of doing business ranking, Maharashtra was placed first for providing the most supportive ecosystem and best business environment for FPOs, followed closely by Madhya Pradesh.

Around 10 states were assessed for the ranking, together accounting for nearly 81 per cent of all registered FPOs in the country.

The report also identified several key reasons for FPO failures, including banks' reluctance to meet their working capital requirements and the complexity of government schemes.

Regulatory compliance remains another hurdle, with delays in filing returns, weak record-keeping, lack of audits, and absence of goods and services tax and income-tax filings.

Without proper diagnostics, many FPOs adopted business models unsuited to local conditions — such as supplying inputs in already saturated markets or attempting aggregation without supporting infrastructure.

In several failed cases, community mobilisation — prerequisite for collective enterprise — was skipped or diluted. Many FPOs also lacked business plans, while their boards of directors often did not have the skills needed to run such organisations, the report added.

Germany strongly backs early conclusion of India-EU FTA

Immense potential to scale up ties: Modi after meeting German foreign minister

ARCHIS MOHAN
New Delhi, 3 September

Germany is keen on doubling the bilateral trade with India and the country also "strongly" supports speedy negotiation and sealing of the India-European Union (EU) free trade agreement (FTA) by autumn this year, its foreign minister Johann Wadephul said here on Wednesday.

Wadephul is on a two-day visit to India.

It comes against the backdrop of the US' imposition of steep 50 per cent tariffs on India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's huddle with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday on the margins of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

At a joint press briefing with his Indian counterpart, S Jaishankar, the German foreign minister said, "If others set up barriers to trade, we should respond by lowering these barriers and hurdles."

Alluding to India's ties with Russia, and its purchase of Russian oil, Wadephul said, "I know that we don't 100 per cent see eye to eye with our Indian friends on this," and urged New Delhi to use its relations with Moscow to convince Russia to have peace with Ukraine.

Wadephul sidestepped the question on the US' move to impose steep tariffs on New Delhi.

The German foreign minister said his country backed Trump's efforts to force Russia to come to a negotiating table, and spoke of the EU sanctions on Russia, which he specified were "targeted", were "not tariffs", and were intended to make it difficult for Russia to fund its warfare.

He, however, expressed concern at Moscow finding "detours".

Meanwhile, in a reference to the US tariffs, Jaishankar said an India-EU FTA is in "our mutual interest", that it will "help stabilise the global economy" and added, "It will be one of the elements of the ballast that today the world economy really needs."

He said the two countries needed to lower tariffs and expand business and economic cooperation, "efforts" which in the current climate in international commerce "acquire a greater urgency."

Jaishankar welcomed Germany's intent to double bilateral trade from Euro 50 billion, and said the volatility on global economic and geopolitical landscape has made a "very compelling" case for India and Germany to expand ties.

Jaishankar said he shared Wadephul's "desire and optimism" about an agreement.

"We hope that another round (of negotiation) takes place fairly soon. We would like this to move to a decisive conclusion in the coming days," Jaishankar said, adding that Wadephul has assured him that "Germany would put its full weight" behind the FTA negotiations with the EU.

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Wadephul said India equals Asia for Germany, just as Germany equals the EU for India, but flagged the need for the two countries to make it easier for each other in their respective markets, and that both needed to do "homework" in this regard.

"We need to make sure that market access restrictions are being reduced," Wadephul said. In the morning, Wadephul met Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal.

Wadephul, who also visited Bengaluru during his India visit, spoke about Germany "urgently" needing highly skilled workers, and India being one of the biggest sources of that with the German consulate in Bengaluru issuing 36,000 long-term visas last year.

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Jaishankar and Wadephul also discussed bilateral political cooperation, ties in areas such as security and defence, economic relations, research and future technologies, climate and energy as well as education, skilling, mobility and people-to-people exchanges.

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The two leaders also spoke about greater industry collaboration between the two countries in the context of defence ties.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar (*right*) and his German counterpart Johann Wadephul address the media in New Delhi on Wednesday. Wadephul said if others set up barriers to trade, we should respond by lowering these barriers and hurdles PHOTO: PTI

Cabinet nod to ₹1.5K cr plan to boost critical minerals recycling

Move to enhance capacities to recycle battery waste, e-waste: PM

SAKET KUMAR
New Delhi, 3 September

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a ₹1,500 crore incentive scheme to promote recycling of e-waste and battery waste for the extraction of critical minerals, a move aimed at strengthening India's supply chain resilience in the sector.

The scheme, which falls under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM), will run for six years from 2025-26 to 2030-31. The scheme is designed to serve as a near-term solution until mining and exploration projects for critical minerals begin to yield results. Mining operations typically have long gestation periods, while recycling of secondary sources offers a quicker way to secure raw materials for industry, the Ministry of Mines said in a statement.

"This decision by the Union Cabinet pertaining to an incentive scheme to promote critical mineral recycling will boost capacities to recycle battery waste and e-waste, promote investment and encourage job creation" said PM Modi in a post on X.

The eligible feed stock under the scheme includes e-waste, lithium-ion battery (LIB) scrap, and other categories such as catalytic converters from end-of-life vehicles. Both large, established recyclers and smaller players, including start-ups, are expected to benefit. One-third of the overall financial outlay has been earmarked specifically for small and new recyclers, including start-ups.

Incentives will be offered in the form of a 20 per cent capital subsidy on plant, machinery, equipment, and associated utilities for units starting production within the specified time frame. A delay in meeting timelines will attract a lower subsidy. In addition, an operating expense subsidy will be provided, linked to incremental sales over the base year (2025-26).

This subsidy will be disbursed in two parts. 40 per cent of the eligible amount in the second year and the remaining 60 per cent in the fifth year from 2026-27 to 2030-31, subject to achieving specified sales thresholds.

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India to add 43 Gw RE generation capacity by yr-end: Pralhad Joshi

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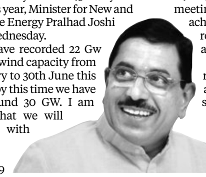
India has added 30 gigawatt (Gw) renewable energy generation capacity so far this calendar year and the number is likely to touch 43 Gw by the end of this year, Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi said on Wednesday.

"We have recorded 22 Gw solar and wind capacity from 1st January to 30th June this year and by this time we have done around 30 GW. I am hopeful that we will end up with (capacity addition) between 39 Gw and 43 Gw that we may achieve this year," Joshi said while speaking at an industry event here.



He added that, based on this progress and the multiple steps taken to resolve issues like transmission constraints, the government is hopeful of meeting the larger target of achieving 500 Gw of installed renewable energy generation capacity by 2030.

The country's installed renewable energy generation capacity currently stands at 226 Gw.

"At present, projects of nearly 186.3 Gw capacity are under implementation and another 67.08 Gw capacity has already been tendered. So, all put together, including the capacity already added as on date, we will have something like 499 Gw," Joshi said.

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Cabinet nod to ₹1.5K cr plan to boost critical minerals recycling

Move to enhance capacities to recycle battery waste, e-waste: PM

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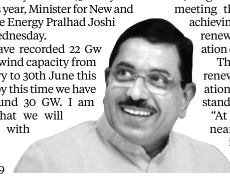

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Germany strongly backs early conclusion of India-EU FTA

Immense potential to scale up ties: Modi after meeting German foreign minister

ARCHIS MOHAN
New Delhi, 3 September

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar (*right*) and his German counterpart Johann Wadephul address the media in New Delhi on Wednesday. Wadephul said if others set up barriers to trade, we should respond by lowering these barriers and hurdles PHOTO: PTI

Germany is keen on doubling the bilateral trade with India and the country also "strongly" supports speedy negotiation and sealing of the India-European Union (EU) free trade agreement (FTA) by autumn this year, its foreign minister Johann Wadephul said here on Wednesday.

Wadephul is on a two-day visit to India.

It comes against the backdrop of the US' imposition of steep 50 per cent tariffs on India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's huddle with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday on the margins of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

At a joint press briefing with his Indian counterpart, S Jaishankar, the German foreign minister said, "If others set up barriers to trade, we should respond by lowering these barriers and hurdles."

Alluding to India's ties with Russia, and its purchase of Russian oil, Wadephul said, "I know that we don't 100 per cent see eye to eye with our Indian friends on this," and urged New Delhi to use its relations with Moscow to convince Russia to have peace with Ukraine.

Wadephul sidestepped the question on the US' move to impose steep tariffs on New Delhi.

The German foreign minister said his country backed Trump's efforts to force Russia to come to a negotiating table, and spoke of the EU sanctions on Russia, which he specified were "targeted", were "not tariffs", and were intended to make it difficult for Russia to fund its warfare.

He, however, expressed concern at Moscow finding "detours".

Meanwhile, in a reference to the US tariffs, Jaishankar said an India-EU FTA is in "our mutual interest", that it will "help stabilise the global economy" and added, "It will be one of the elements of the ballast that today the world economy really needs."

He said the two countries needed to lower tariffs and expand business and economic cooperation, "efforts" which in the current climate in international commerce "acquire a greater urgency."

Jaishankar welcomed Germany's intent to double bilateral trade from Euro 50 billion, and said the volatility on global economic and geopolitical landscape has made a "very compelling" case for India and Germany to expand ties.

Jaishankar said he shared Wadephul's "desire and optimism" about an agreement.

"We hope that another round (of negotiation) takes place fairly soon. We would like this to move to a decisive conclusion in the coming days," Jaishankar said, adding that Wadephul has assured him that "Germany would put its full weight" behind the FTA negotiations with the EU.

The two foreign ministers underlined that policies need to remain constant and predictable, which Jaishankar said has a "huge premium in global politics".

Wadephul said India equals Asia for Germany, just as Germany equals the EU for India, but flagged the need for the two countries to make it easier for each other in their respective markets, and that both needed to do "homework" in this regard.

"We need to make sure that market access restrictions are being reduced," Wadephul said. In the morning, Wadephul met Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal.

Wadephul, who also visited Bengaluru during his India visit, spoke about Germany "urgently" needing highly skilled workers, and India being one of the biggest sources of that with the German consulate in Bengaluru issuing 36,000 long-term visas last year.

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Jaishankar and Wadephul also discussed bilateral political cooperation, ties in areas such as security and defence, economic relations, research and future technologies, climate and energy as well as education, skilling, mobility and people-to-people exchanges.

Jaishankar said there has been an uptick in India-Germany defence and security cooperation, which the two ministers agreed should be expanded. India's external affairs minister noted his appreciation for the smoothening of the processes and expeditious clearances in the export control processes in the defence and security domain, where India had faced significant difficulties earlier.

The two leaders also spoke about greater industry collaboration between the two countries in the context of defence ties.

Cabinet nod to ₹1.5K cr plan to boost critical minerals recycling

Move to enhance capacities to recycle battery waste, e-waste: PM

SAKET KUMAR
New Delhi, 3 September

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a ₹1,500 crore incentive scheme to promote recycling of e-waste and battery waste for the extraction of critical minerals, a move aimed at strengthening India's supply chain resilience in the sector.

The scheme, which falls under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM), will run for six years from 2025-26 to 2030-31. The scheme is designed to serve as a near-term solution until mining and exploration projects for critical minerals begin to yield results. Mining operations typically have long gestation periods, while recycling of secondary sources offers a quicker way to secure raw materials for industry, the Ministry of Mines said in a statement.

"This decision by the Union Cabinet pertaining to an incentive scheme to promote critical mineral recycling will boost capacities to recycle battery waste and e-waste, promote investment and encourage job creation" said PM Modi in a post on X.

The eligible feed stock under the scheme includes e-waste, lithium-ion battery (LIB) scrap, and other categories such as catalytic converters from end-of-life vehicles. Both large, established recyclers and smaller players, including start-ups, are expected to benefit. One-third of the overall financial outlay has been earmarked specifically for small and new recyclers, including start-ups.

Incentives will be offered in the form of a 20 per cent capital subsidy on plant, machinery, equipment, and associated utilities for units starting production within the specified time frame. A delay in meeting timelines will attract a lower subsidy. In addition, an operating expense subsidy will be provided, linked to incremental sales over the base year (2025-26).

This subsidy will be disbursed in two parts. 40 per cent of the eligible amount in the second year and the remaining 60 per cent in the fifth year from 2026-27 to 2030-31, subject to achieving specified sales thresholds.

To ensure a greater number of beneficiaries, the total incentive per entity will be capped at ₹50 crore for large units and ₹25 crore for small units.

India to add 43 Gw RE generation capacity by yr-end: Pralhad Joshi

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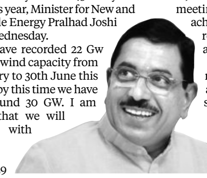
India has added 30 gigawatt (Gw) renewable energy generation capacity so far this calendar year and the number is likely to touch 43 Gw by the end of this year, Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi said on Wednesday.



"We have recorded 22 Gw solar and wind capacity from 1st January to 30th June this year and by this time we have done around 30 GW. I am hopeful that we will end up with (capacity addition) between 39 Gw and 43 Gw that we may achieve this year," Joshi said while speaking at an industry event here.

He added that, based on this progress and the multiple steps taken to resolve issues like transmission constraints, the government is hopeful of meeting the larger target of achieving 500 Gw of installed renewable energy generation capacity by 2030.

The country's installed renewable energy generation capacity currently stands at 226 Gw.

"At present, projects of nearly 186.3 Gw capacity are under implementation and another 67.08 Gw capacity has already been tendered. So, all put together, including the capacity already added as on date, we will have something like 499 Gw," Joshi said.

He told the audience that the government was taking steps to jack up the accuracy of weather forecasting systems to improve the performance of renewable energy projects.

The Centre was also trying to resolve the issues around delays in signing power sale agreements (PSAs).

The government has also amended the standard bidding guidelines for solar, wind and hybrid projects to provide for cancellation of letter of award (LoA) in cases where progress does not meet timelines beyond 12 months.

ALL IN A DAY

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Tamil Nadu on Wednesday attracted investment proposals in defence, aerospace, shipbuilding intelligence, renewable energy, textile technology and design from various players in United Kingdom. The companies include aerospace major Rolls-Royce, maritime data firm Lloyd's List Intelligence, and Wilson Power & Distribution Technologies.

The UK visit was part of the second leg of the TN Rising European visit, led by Chief Minister M K Stalin. During the first leg in Germany, the state had received investment proposals to the tune of ₹7,020 crore, creating 15,320 jobs.

The MoUs signed today represent long-term strategic steps for Tamil Nadu in sectors of high value and future relevance in positioning the state as a national and global leader across niche domains.

The highlight of the day was the meeting with Rolls-Royce, one of the world's foremost aerospace and defence technology firms. The company expressed strong interest in expanding its operations in Tamil Nadu, with plans for an maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility, an research and development (R&D) and training centre, and a significant expansion of its IAMPL joint venture in Hosur. With Tamil Nadu being home to one of India's two Defence Industrial Corridors, this engagement with Rolls-Royce illustrates the state's potential as a hub for advanced aerospace manufacturing.

Lloyd's List Intelligence (Seasearcher) signed an MoU to expand its Global Capability Centre in Chennai, creating 200 jobs by FY 2026. As a world leader in maritime risk management, insurance and vessel tracking analytics, Lloyd's expansion will significantly bolster Tamil Nadu's capabilities in shipbuilding, port management, and maritime technology. Their flagship Sea searcher platform provides real-time visibility into global vessel movements, ownership structures, and port activities — insights that will be invaluable for unlocking Tamil Nadu's vast Blue Economy potential. SHINE JACOB

Suspended BRS leader Kavitha resigns from party and MLC post

A day after her suspension from KCR-led BRS, senior leader K Kavitha on Wednesday announced her resignation from the party and trained her guns against cousin and former minister T Harish Rao.

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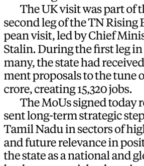
Maharashtra leads in FPO ease of doing business; MP loses crown

SANJEEB MUKHERJEE
New Delhi, 3 September



FPO ranking 2025
In terms of ease of doing business

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Source: State of the Sector Report for Farmer Producer Organisations Report 2025

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The rankings were released as part of the State of the Sector Report on FPOs (SoFPO), launched on Wednesday. SoFPO is an annual report brought out by the National Association for FPOs (NAFPO), Samunnati, and the Rabo Foundation.

In the 2024 ranking, Madhya Pradesh was the top-performing state, followed by Maharashtra, while Uttar Pradesh has consistently held the third position.

As of March 2025, Maharashtra had around 14,788 registered FPOs, accounting for nearly 34 per cent of the total in India, according to the SoFPO database.

The report — structured into chapters authored by subject experts — noted that just about 6,100 FPOs of the 43,928 registered as of March 2025 cornered most of the ₹4,000 crore in loans sanctioned by financial institutions.

"This shows that a huge number of FPOs could still be outside the ambit of formal credit. Besides access to sources of formal finance, the lack of credit could stem from poor business practices, unsound business plans, and ineffective administration of FPOs could be significantly lowering the creditworthiness of many FPOs," the report said.

On the ease of doing business ranking, Maharashtra was placed first for providing the most supportive ecosystem and best business environment for FPOs, followed closely by Madhya Pradesh.

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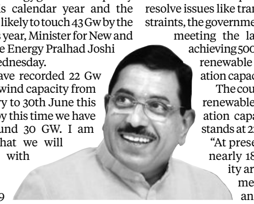

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Jaishankar said there has been an uptick in India-Germany defence and security cooperation, which the two ministers agreed should be expanded. India's external affairs minister noted his appreciation for the smoothening of the processes and expeditious clearances in the export control processes in the defence and security domain, where India had faced significant difficulties earlier.

The two leaders also spoke about greater industry collaboration between the two countries in the context of defence ties.

Cabinet nod to ₹1.5K cr plan to boost critical minerals recycling

Move to enhance capacities to recycle battery waste, e-waste: PM

SAKET KUMAR
New Delhi, 3 September

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a ₹1,500 crore incentive scheme to promote recycling of e-waste and battery waste for the extraction of critical minerals, a move aimed at strengthening India's supply chain resilience in the sector.

The scheme, which falls under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM), will run for six years from 2025-26 to 2030-31. The scheme is designed to serve as a near-term solution until mining and exploration projects for critical minerals begin to yield results. Mining operations typically have long gestation periods, while recycling of secondary sources offers a quicker way to secure raw materials for industry, the Ministry of Mines said in a statement.

"This decision by the Union Cabinet pertaining to an incentive scheme to promote critical mineral recycling will boost capacities to recycle battery waste and e-waste, promote investment and encourage job creation" said PM Modi in a post on X.

The eligible feed stock under the scheme includes e-waste, lithium-ion battery (LIB) scrap, and other categories such as catalytic converters from end-of-life vehicles. Both large, established recyclers and smaller players, including start-ups, are expected to benefit. One-third of the overall financial outlay has been earmarked specifically for small and new recyclers, including startups.

Incentives will be offered in the form of a 20 per cent capital subsidy on plant, machinery, equipment, and associated utilities for units starting production within the specified time frame. A delay in meeting timelines will attract a lower subsidy. In addition, an operating expense subsidy will be provided, linked to incremental sales over the base year (2025-26).

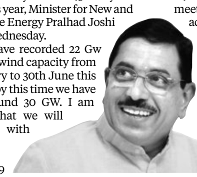
This subsidy will be disbursed in two parts. 40 per cent of the eligible amount in the second year and the remaining 60 per cent in the fifth year from 2026-27 to 2030-31, subject to achieving specified sales thresholds.

To ensure a greater number of beneficiaries, the total incentive per entity will be capped at ₹50 crore for large units and ₹25 crore for small units.

India to add 43 Gw RE generation capacity by yr-end: Pralhad Joshi

SAKET KUMAR
New Delhi, 3 September

India has added 30 gigawatt (Gw) renewable energy generation capacity so far this calendar year and the number is likely to touch 43 Gw by the end of this year, Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi said on Wednesday.



"We have recorded 22 Gw solar and wind capacity from 1st January to 30th June this year and by this time we have done around 30 GW. I am hopeful that we will end up with (capacity addition) between 39 Gw and 43 Gw that we may achieve this year," Joshi said while speaking at an industry event here.

He added that, based on this progress and the multiple steps taken to resolve issues like transmission constraints, the government is hopeful of meeting the larger target of achieving 500 Gw of installed renewable energy generation capacity by 2030.

The country's installed renewable energy generation capacity currently stands at 226 Gw.

"At present, projects of nearly 186.3 Gw capacity are under implementation and another 67.08 Gw capacity has already been tendered. So, all put together, including the capacity already added as on date, we will have something like 499 Gw," Joshi said.

He told the audience that the government was taking steps to jack up the accuracy of weather forecasting systems to improve the performance of renewable energy projects.

The Centre was also trying to resolve the issues around delays in signing power sale agreements (PSAs).

The government has also amended the standard bidding guidelines for solar, wind and hybrid projects to provide for cancellation of letter of award (LoA) in cases where progress does not meet timelines beyond 12 months.

ALL IN A DAY

Tamil Nadu bags investment proposals in defence, RE, and textiles from UK

Tamil Nadu on Wednesday attracted investment proposals in defence, aerospace, shipbuilding intelligence, renewable energy, textile technology and design from various players in United Kingdom. The companies include aerospace major Rolls-Royce, maritime data firm Lloyd's List Intelligence, and Wilson Power & Distribution Technologies.

The UK visit was part of the second leg of the TN Rising European visit, led by Chief Minister M K Stalin. During the first leg in Germany, the state had received investment proposals to the tune of ₹7,020 crore, creating 15,320 jobs.

The MoUs signed today represent long-term strategic steps for Tamil Nadu in sectors of high value and future relevance in positioning the state as a national and global leader across niche domains.

The highlight of the day was the meeting with Rolls-Royce, one of the world's foremost aerospace and defence technology firms. The company expressed strong interest in expanding its operations in Tamil Nadu, with plans for an maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility, an research and development (R&D) and training centre, and a significant expansion of its IAMPL joint venture in Hosur. With Tamil Nadu being home to one of India's two Defence Industrial Corridors, this engagement with Rolls-Royce illustrates the state's potential as a hub for advanced aerospace manufacturing.

Lloyd's List Intelligence (Seasearcher) signed an MoU to expand its Global Capability Centre in Chennai, creating 200 jobs by FY 2026. As a world leader in maritime risk management, insurance and vessel tracking analytics, Lloyd's expansion will significantly bolster Tamil Nadu's capabilities in shipbuilding, port management, and maritime technology. Their flagship Sea searcher platform provides real-time visibility into global vessel movements, ownership structures, and port activities — insights that will be invaluable for unlocking Tamil Nadu's vast Blue Economy potential. SHINE JACOB

Suspended BRS leader Kavitha resigns from party and MLC post

A day after her suspension from KCR-led BRS, senior leader K Kavitha on Wednesday announced her resignation from the party and trained her guns against cousin and former minister T Harish Rao.

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SC asks Centre to frame policy to ensure foreigners jumping bail face charges

After a foreign national accused in a cheating case jumped bail and was on the run, the Supreme Court has underlined the need to ensure foreign nationals committing crimes in the country don't "flee from justice". The apex court had on December 4 last year set aside the Jharkhand High Court's May 2022 order granting bail to accused Alex David.The bench said there was no bilateral treaty between Nigeria and India over extradition of a national to face criminal proceedings. PTI

Maharashtra leads in FPO ease of doing business; MP loses crown

FPO ranking 2025
In terms of ease of doing business

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Source: State of the Sector Report for Farmer Producer Organisations Report 2025

SANJEEB MUKHERJEE
New Delhi, 3 September

Maharashtra has topped the list of states with the most favourable ecosystem for the growth of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), replacing Madhya Pradesh, which has slipped to second place, according to the latest Ease of Doing Business for FPOs (EoDBF) ranking.

The rankings were released as part of the State of the Sector Report on FPOs (SoFPO), launched on Wednesday. SoFPO is an annual report brought out by the National Association for FPOs (NAFPO), Samunnati, and the Rabo Foundation.

In the 2024 ranking, Madhya Pradesh was the top-performing state, followed by Maharashtra, while Uttar Pradesh has consistently held the third position.

As of March 2025, Maharashtra had around 14,788 registered FPOs, accounting for nearly 34 per cent of the total in India, according to the SoFPO database.

The report — structured into chapters authored by subject experts — noted that just about 6,100 FPOs of the 43,928 registered as of March 2025 cornered most of the ₹4,000 crore in loans sanctioned by financial institutions.

"This shows that a huge number of FPOs could still be outside the ambit of formal credit. Besides access to sources of formal finance, the lack of credit could stem from poor business practices, unsound business plans, and ineffective administration of FPOs could be significantly lowering the creditworthiness of many FPOs," the report said.

On the ease of doing business ranking, Maharashtra was placed first for providing the most supportive ecosystem and best business environment for FPOs, followed closely by Madhya Pradesh.

Around 10 states were assessed for the ranking, together accounting for nearly 81 per cent of all registered FPOs in the country.

The report also identified several key reasons for FPO failures, including banks' reluctance to meet their working capital requirements and the complexity of government schemes.

Regulatory compliance remains another hurdle, with delays in filing returns, weak record-keeping, lack of audits, and absence of goods and services tax and income-tax filings.

Without proper diagnostics, many FPOs adopted business models unsuited to local conditions — such as supplying inputs in already saturated markets or attempting aggregation without supporting infrastructure.

In several failed cases, community mobilisation — prerequisite for collective enterprise — was skipped or diluted. Many FPOs also lacked business plans, while their boards of directors often did not have the skills needed to run such organisations, the report added.

Germany strongly backs early conclusion of India-EU FTA

Immense potential to scale up ties: Modi after meeting German foreign minister

ARCHIS MOHAN
New Delhi, 3 September

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar (*right*) and his German counterpart Johann Wadephul address the media in New Delhi on Wednesday. Wadephul said if others set up barriers to trade, we should respond by lowering these barriers and hurdles PHOTO: PTI

Germany is keen on doubling the bilateral trade with India and the country also "strongly" supports speedy negotiation and sealing of the India-European Union (EU) free trade agreement (FTA) by autumn this year, its foreign minister Johann Wadephul said here on Wednesday.

Wadephul is on a two-day visit to India.

It comes against the backdrop of the US' imposition of steep 50 per cent tariffs on India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's huddle with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday on the margins of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

At a joint press briefing with his Indian counterpart, S Jaishankar, the German foreign minister said, "If others set up barriers to trade, we should respond by lowering these barriers and hurdles."

Alluding to India's ties with Russia, and its purchase of Russian oil, Wadephul said, "I know that we don't 100 per cent see eye to eye with our Indian friends on this," and urged New Delhi to use its relations with Moscow to convince Russia to have peace with Ukraine.

Wadephul sidestepped the question on the US' move to impose steep tariffs on New Delhi.

The German foreign minister said his country backed Trump's efforts to force Russia to come to a negotiating table, and spoke of the EU sanctions on Russia, which he specified were "targeted", were "not tariffs", and were intended to make it difficult for Russia to fund its warfare.

He, however, expressed concern at Moscow finding "detours".

Meanwhile, in a reference to the US tariffs, Jaishankar said an India-EU FTA is in "our mutual interest", that it will "help stabilise the global economy" and added, "It will be one of the elements of the ballast that today the world economy really needs."

He said the two countries needed to lower tariffs and expand business and economic cooperation, "efforts" which in the current climate in international commerce "acquire a greater urgency."

Jaishankar welcomed Germany's intent to double bilateral trade from Euro 50 billion, and said the volatility on global economic and geopolitical landscape has made a "very compelling" case for India and Germany to expand ties.

Jaishankar said he shared Wadephul's "desire and optimism" about an agreement.

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The two foreign ministers underlined that policies need to remain constant and predictable, which Jaishankar said has a "huge premium in global politics".

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"We need to make sure that market access restrictions are being reduced," Wadephul said. In the morning, Wadephul met Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal.

Wadephul, who also visited Bengaluru during his India visit, spoke about Germany "urgently" needing highly skilled workers, and India being one of the biggest sources of that with the German consulate in Bengaluru issuing 36,000 long-term visas last year.

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SAKET KUMAR
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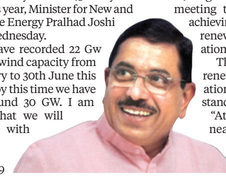

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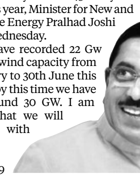

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Lloyd's List Intelligence (Seasearcher) signed an MoU to expand its Global Capability Centre in Chennai, creating 200 jobs by FY 2026. As a world leader in maritime risk management, insurance and vessel tracking analytics, Lloyd's expansion will significantly bolster Tamil Nadu's capabilities in shipbuilding, port management, and maritime technology. Their flagship Sea searcher platform provides real-time visibility into global vessel movements, ownership structures, and port activities — insights that will be invaluable for unlocking Tamil Nadu's vast Blue Economy potential. SHINE JACOB

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A day after her suspension from KCR-led BRS, senior leader K Kavitha on Wednesday announced her resignation from the party and trained her guns against cousin and former minister T Harish Rao.

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SC asks Centre to frame policy to ensure foreigners jumping bail face charges

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Maharashtra leads in FPO ease of doing business; MP loses crown

FPO ranking 2025
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Source: State of the Sector Report for Farmer Producer Organisations Report 2025

SANJEEB MUKHERJEE
New Delhi, 3 September

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"This shows that a huge number of FPOs could still be outside the ambit of formal credit. Besides access to sources of formal finance, the lack of credit could stem from poor business practices, unsound business plans, and ineffective administration of FPOs could be significantly lowering the creditworthiness of many FPOs," the report said.

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The report also identified several key reasons for FPO failures, including banks' reluctance to meet their working capital requirements and the complexity of government schemes.

Regulatory compliance remains another hurdle, with delays in filing returns, weak record-keeping, lack of audits, and absence of goods and services tax and income-tax filings.

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In several failed cases, community mobilisation — prerequisite for collective enterprise — was skipped or diluted. Many FPOs also lacked business plans, while their boards of directors often did not have the skills needed to run such organisations, the report added.

Germany strongly backs early conclusion of India-EU FTA

Immense potential to scale up ties: Modi after meeting German foreign minister

ARCHIS MOHAN
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Germany is keen on doubling the bilateral trade with India and the country also "strongly" supports speedy negotiation and sealing of the India-European Union (EU) free trade agreement (FTA) by autumn this year, its foreign minister Johann Wadephul said here on Wednesday.

Wadephul is on a two-day visit to India.

It comes against the backdrop of the US' imposition of steep 50 per cent tariffs on India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's huddle with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday on the margins of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

At a joint press briefing with his Indian counterpart, S Jaishankar, the German foreign minister said, "If others set up barriers to trade, we should respond by lowering these barriers and hurdles."

Alluding to India's ties with Russia, and its purchase of Russian oil, Wadephul said, "I know that we don't 100 per cent see eye to eye with our Indian friends on this," and urged New Delhi to use its relations with Moscow to convince Russia to have peace with Ukraine.

Wadephul sidestepped the question on the US' move to impose steep tariffs on New Delhi.

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He, however, expressed concern at Moscow finding "detours".

Meanwhile, in a reference to the US tariffs, Jaishankar said an India-EU FTA is in "our mutual interest", that it will "help stabilise the global economy" and added, "It will be one of the elements of the ballast that today the world economy really needs."

He said the two countries needed to lower tariffs and expand business and economic cooperation, "efforts" which in the current climate in international commerce "acquire a greater urgency."

Jaishankar welcomed Germany's intent to double bilateral trade from Euro 50 billion, and said the volatility on global economic and geopolitical landscape has made a "very compelling" case for India and Germany to expand ties.

Jaishankar said he shared Wadephul's "desire and optimism" about an agreement.

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Wadephul said India equals Asia for Germany, just as Germany equals the EU for India, but flagged the need for the two countries to make it easier for each other in their respective markets, and that both needed to do "homework" in this regard.

"We need to make sure that market access restrictions are being reduced," Wadephul said. In the morning, Wadephul met Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal.

Wadephul, who also visited Bengaluru during his India visit, spoke about Germany "urgently" needing highly skilled workers, and India being one of the biggest sources of that with the German consulate in Bengaluru issuing 36,000 long-term visas last year.

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The two leaders also spoke about greater industry collaboration between the two countries in the context of defence ties.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar (*right*) and his German counterpart Johann Wadephul address the media in New Delhi on Wednesday. Wadephul said if others set up barriers to trade, we should respond by lowering these barriers and hurdles PHOTO: PTI

Cabinet nod to ₹1.5K cr plan to boost critical minerals recycling

Move to enhance capacities to recycle battery waste, e-waste: PM

SAKET KUMAR
New Delhi, 3 September

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a ₹1,500 crore incentive scheme to promote recycling of e-waste and battery waste for the extraction of critical minerals, a move aimed at strengthening India's supply chain resilience in the sector.

The scheme, which falls under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM), will run for six years from 2025-26 to 2030-31. The scheme is designed to serve as a near-term solution until mining and exploration projects for critical minerals begin to yield results.

Mining operations typically have long gestation periods, while recycling of secondary sources offers a quicker way to secure raw materials for industry, the Ministry of Mines said in a statement.

"This decision by the Union Cabinet pertaining to an incentive scheme to promote critical mineral recycling will boost capacities to recycle battery waste and e-waste, promote investment and encourage job creation" said PM Modi in a post on X.

The eligible feed stock under the scheme includes e-waste, lithium-ion battery (LIB) scrap, and other categories such as catalytic converters from end-of-life vehicles. Both large, established recyclers and smaller players, including start-ups, are expected to benefit. One-third of the overall financial outlay has been earmarked specifically for small and new recyclers, including start-ups.

Incentives will be offered in the form of a 20 per cent capital subsidy on plant, machinery, equipment, and associated utilities for units starting production within the specified time frame. A delay in meeting timelines will attract a lower subsidy. In addition, an operating expense subsidy will be provided, linked to incremental sales over the base year (2025-26).

This subsidy will be disbursed in two parts. 40 per cent of the eligible amount in the second year and the remaining 60 per cent in the fifth year from 2026-27 to 2030-31, subject to achieving specified sales thresholds.

To ensure a greater number of beneficiaries, the total incentive per entity will be capped at ₹50 crore for large units and ₹25 crore for small units.

India to add 43 Gw RE generation capacity by yr-end: Pralhad Joshi

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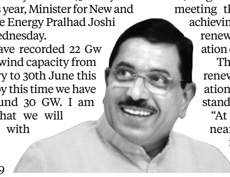
India has added 30 gigawatt (Gw) renewable energy generation capacity so far this calendar year and the number is likely to touch 43 Gw by the end of this year, Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi said on Wednesday.

"We have recorded 22 Gw solar and wind capacity from 1st January to 30th June this year and by this time we have done around 30 GW. I am hopeful that we will end up with (capacity addition) between 39 Gw and 43 Gw that we may achieve this year," Joshi said while speaking at an industry event here.



He added that, based on this progress and the multiple steps taken to resolve issues like transmission constraints, the government is hopeful of meeting the larger target of achieving 500 Gw of installed renewable energy generation capacity by 2030.

The country's installed renewable energy generation capacity currently stands at 226 Gw.

"At present, projects of nearly 186.3 Gw capacity are under implementation and another 67.08 Gw capacity has already been tendered. So, all put together, including the capacity already added as on date, we will have something like 499 Gw," Joshi said.

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The Centre was also trying to resolve the issues around delays in signing power sale agreements (PSAs).

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Cabinet nod to ₹1.5K cr plan to boost critical minerals recycling

Move to enhance capacities to recycle battery waste, e-waste: PM

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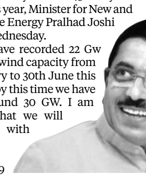

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Source: State of the Sector Report for Farmer Producer Organisations Report 2025

Germany strongly backs early conclusion of India-EU FTA

Immense potential to scale up ties: Modi after meeting German foreign minister

ARCHIS MOHAN
New Delhi, 3 September

Germany is keen on doubling the bilateral trade with India and the country also "strongly" supports speedy negotiation and sealing of the India-European Union (EU) free trade agreement (FTA) by autumn this year, its foreign minister Johann Wadephul said here on Wednesday.

Wadephul is on a two-day visit to India.

It comes against the backdrop of the US' imposition of steep 50 per cent tariffs on India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's huddle with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday on the margins of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

At a joint press briefing with his Indian counterpart, S Jaishankar, the German foreign minister said, "If others set up barriers to trade, we should respond by lowering these barriers and hurdles."

Alluding to India's ties with Russia, and its purchase of Russian oil, Wadephul said, "I know that we don't 100 per cent see eye to eye with our Indian friends on this," and urged New Delhi to use its relations with Moscow to convince Russia to have peace with Ukraine.

Wadephul sidestepped the question on the US' move to impose steep tariffs on New Delhi.

The German foreign minister said his country backed Trump's efforts to force Russia to come to a negotiating table, and spoke of the EU sanctions on Russia, which he specified were "targeted", were "not tariffs", and were intended to make it difficult for Russia to fund its warfare.

He, however, expressed concern at Moscow finding "detours".

Meanwhile, in a reference to the US tariffs, Jaishankar said an India-EU FTA is in "our mutual interest", that it will "help stabilise the global economy" and added, "It will be one of the elements of the ballast that today the world economy really needs."

He said the two countries needed to lower tariffs and expand business and economic cooperation, "efforts" which in the current climate in international commerce "acquire a greater urgency."

Jaishankar welcomed Germany's intent to double bilateral trade from Euro 50 billion, and said the volatility on global economic and geopolitical landscape has made a "very compelling" case for India and Germany to expand ties.

Jaishankar said he shared Wadephul's "desire and optimism" about an agreement.

"We hope that another round (of negotiation) takes place fairly soon. We would like this to move to a decisive conclusion in the coming days," Jaishankar said, adding that Wadephul has assured him that "Germany would put its full weight" behind the FTA negotiations with the EU.

The two foreign ministers underlined that policies need to remain constant and predictable, which Jaishankar said has a "huge premium in global politics".

Wadephul said India equals Asia for Germany, just as Germany equals the EU for India, but flagged the need for the two countries to make it easier for each other in their respective markets, and that both needed to do "homework" in this regard.

"We need to make sure that market access restrictions are being reduced," Wadephul said. In the morning, Wadephul met Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal.

Wadephul, who also visited Bengaluru during his India visit, spoke about Germany "urgently" needing highly skilled workers, and India being one of the biggest sources of that with the German consulate in Bengaluru issuing 36,000 long-term visas last year.

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Jaishankar and Wadephul also discussed bilateral political cooperation, ties in areas such as security and defence, economic relations, research and future technologies, climate and energy as well as education, skilling, mobility and people-to-people exchanges.

Jaishankar said there has been an uptick in India-Germany defence and security cooperation, which the two ministers agreed should be expanded. India's external affairs minister noted his appreciation for the smoothening of the processes and expeditious clearances in the export control processes in the defence and security domain, where India had faced significant difficulties earlier.

The two leaders also spoke about greater industry collaboration between the two countries in the context of defence ties.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar (*right*) and his German counterpart Johann Wadephul address the media in New Delhi on Wednesday. Wadephul said if others set up barriers to trade, we should respond by lowering these barriers and hurdles PHOTO: PTI

Cabinet nod to ₹1.5K cr plan to boost critical minerals recycling

Move to enhance capacities to recycle battery waste, e-waste: PM

SAKET KUMAR
New Delhi, 3 September

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a ₹1,500 crore incentive scheme to promote recycling of e-waste and battery waste for the extraction of critical minerals, a move aimed at strengthening India's supply chain resilience in the sector.

The scheme, which falls under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM), will run for six years from 2025-26 to 2030-31. The scheme is designed to serve as a near-term solution until mining and exploration projects for critical minerals begin to yield results. Mining operations typically have long gestation periods, while recycling of secondary sources offers a quicker way to secure raw materials for industry, the Ministry of Mines said in a statement.

"This decision by the Union Cabinet pertaining to an incentive scheme to promote critical mineral recycling will boost capacities to recycle battery waste and e-waste, promote investment and encourage job creation" said PM Modi in a post on X.

The eligible feed stock under the scheme includes e-waste, lithium-ion battery (LIB) scrap, and other categories such as catalytic converters from end-of-life vehicles. Both large, established recyclers and smaller players, including start-ups, are expected to benefit. One-third of the overall financial outlay has been earmarked specifically for small and new recyclers, including start-ups.

Incentives will be offered in the form of a 20 per cent capital subsidy on plant, machinery, equipment, and associated utilities for units starting production within the specified time frame. A delay in meeting timelines will attract a lower subsidy. In addition, an operating expense subsidy will be provided, linked to incremental sales over the base year (2025-26).

This subsidy will be disbursed in two parts. 40 per cent of the eligible amount in the second year and the remaining 60 per cent in the fifth year from 2026-27 to 2030-31, subject to achieving specified sales thresholds.

To ensure a greater number of beneficiaries, the total incentive per entity will be capped at ₹50 crore for large units and ₹25 crore for small units.

India to add 43 Gw RE generation capacity by yr-end: Pralhad Joshi

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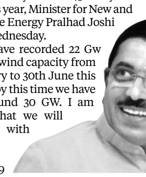
India has added 30 gigawatt (Gw) renewable energy generation capacity so far this calendar year and the number is likely to touch 43 Gw by the end of this year, Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi said on Wednesday.

"We have recorded 22 Gw solar and wind capacity from 1st January to 30th June this year and by this time we have done around 30 GW. I am hopeful that we will end up with (capacity addition) between 39 Gw and 43 Gw that we may achieve this year," Joshi said while speaking at an industry event here.



He added that, based on this progress and the multiple steps taken to resolve issues like transmission constraints, the government is hopeful of meeting the larger target of achieving 500 Gw of installed renewable energy generation capacity by 2030.

The country's installed renewable energy generation capacity currently stands at 226 Gw.

"At present, projects of nearly 186.3 Gw capacity are under implementation and another 67.08 Gw capacity has already been tendered. So, all put together, including the capacity already added as on date, we will have something like 499 Gw," Joshi said.

He told the audience that the government was taking steps to jack up the accuracy of weather forecasting systems to improve the performance of renewable energy projects.

The Centre was also trying to resolve the issues around delays in signing power sale agreements (PSAs).

The government has also amended the standard bidding guidelines for solar, wind and hybrid projects to provide for cancellation of letter of award (LoA) in cases where progress does not meet timelines beyond 12 months.

ALL IN A DAY

Tamil Nadu bags investment proposals in defence, RE, and textiles from UK

Tamil Nadu on Wednesday attracted investment proposals in defence, aerospace, shipbuilding intelligence, renewable energy, textile technology and design from various players in United Kingdom. The companies include aerospace major Rolls-Royce, maritime data firm Lloyd's List Intelligence, and Wilson Power & Distribution Technologies.

The UK visit was part of the second leg of the TN Rising European visit, led by Chief Minister M K Stalin. During the first leg in Germany, the state had received investment proposals to the tune of ₹7,020 crore, creating 15,320 jobs.

The MoUs signed today represent long-term strategic steps for Tamil Nadu in sectors of high value and future relevance in positioning the state as a national and global leader across niche domains.

The highlight of the day was the meeting with Rolls-Royce, one of the world's foremost aerospace and defence technology firms. The company expressed strong interest in expanding its operations in Tamil Nadu, with plans for an maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility, an research and development (R&D) and training centre, and a significant expansion of its IAMPL joint venture in Hosur. With Tamil Nadu being home to one of India's two Defence Industrial Corridors, this engagement with Rolls-Royce illustrates the state's potential as a hub for advanced aerospace manufacturing.

Lloyd's List Intelligence (Seasearcher) signed an MoU to expand its Global Capability Centre in Chennai, creating 200 jobs by FY 2026. As a world leader in maritime risk management, insurance and vessel tracking analytics, Lloyd's expansion will significantly bolster Tamil Nadu's capabilities in shipbuilding, port management, and maritime technology. Their flagship Sea searcher platform provides real-time visibility into global vessel movements, ownership structures, and port activities — insights that will be invaluable for unlocking Tamil Nadu's vast Blue Economy potential. SHINE JACOB

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A day after her suspension from KCR-led BRS, senior leader K Kavitha on Wednesday announced her resignation from the party and trained her guns against cousin and former minister T Harish Rao.

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SC asks Centre to frame policy to ensure foreigners jumping bail face charges

After a foreign national accused in a cheating case jumped bail and was on the run, the Supreme Court has underlined the need to ensure foreign nationals committing crimes in the country don't "flee from justice". The apex court had on December 4 last year set aside the Jharkhand High Court's May 2022 order granting bail to accused Alex David.The bench said there was no bilateral treaty between Nigeria and India over extradition of a national to face criminal proceedings. PTI

Maharashtra leads in FPO ease of doing business; MP loses crown

FPO ranking 2025
In terms of ease of doing business

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The rankings were released as part of the State of the Sector Report on FPOs (SoFPO), launched on Wednesday. SoFPO is an annual report brought out by the National Association for FPOs (NAFPO), Samunnati, and the Rabo Foundation.

In the 2024 ranking, Madhya Pradesh was the top-performing state, followed by Maharashtra, while Uttar Pradesh has consistently held the third position.

As of March 2025, Maharashtra had around 14,788 registered FPOs, accounting for nearly 34 per cent of the total in India, according to the SoFPO database.

The report — structured into chapters authored by subject experts — noted that just about 6,100 FPOs of the 43,928 registered as of March 2025 cornered most of the ₹4,000 crore in loans sanctioned by financial institutions.

"This shows that a huge number of FPOs could still be outside the ambit of formal credit. Besides access to sources of formal finance, the lack of credit could stem from poor business practices, unsound business plans, and ineffective administration of FPOs could be significantly lowering the credit-worthiness of many FPOs," the report said.

On the ease of doing business ranking, Maharashtra was placed first for providing the most supportive ecosystem and best business environment for FPOs, followed closely by Madhya Pradesh.

Around 10 states were assessed for the ranking, together accounting for nearly 81 per cent of all registered FPOs in the country.

The report also identified several key reasons for FPO failures, including banks' reluctance to meet their working capital requirements and the complexity of government schemes.

Regulatory compliance remains another hurdle, with delays in filing returns, weak record-keeping, lack of audits, and absence of goods and services tax and income-tax filings.

Without proper diagnostics, many FPOs adopted business models unsuited to local conditions — such as supplying inputs in already saturated markets or attempting aggregation without supporting infrastructure.

In several failed cases, community mobilisation — prerequisite for collective enterprise — was skipped or diluted. Many FPOs also lacked business plans, while their boards of directors often did not have the skills needed to run such organisations, the report added.

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It comes against the backdrop of the US' imposition of steep 50 per cent tariffs on India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's huddle with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday on the margins of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

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Move to enhance capacities to recycle battery waste, e-waste: PM

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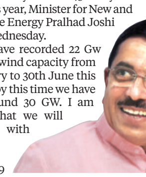

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The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a ₹1,500 crore incentive scheme to promote recycling of e-waste and battery waste for the extraction of critical minerals, a move aimed at strengthening India's supply chain resilience in the sector.

The scheme, which falls under the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM), will run for six years from 2025-26 to 2030-31. The scheme is designed to serve as a near-term solution until mining and exploration projects for critical minerals begin to yield results.

Mining operations typically have long gestation periods, while recycling of secondary sources offers a quicker way to secure raw materials for industry, the Ministry of Mines said in a statement.

"This decision by the Union Cabinet pertaining to an incentive scheme to promote critical mineral recycling will boost capacities to recycle battery waste and e-waste, promote investment and encourage job creation" said PM Modi in a post on X.

The eligible feed stock under the scheme includes e-waste, lithium-ion battery (LIB) scrap, and other categories such as catalytic converters from end-of-life vehicles. Both large, established recyclers and smaller players, including start-ups, are expected to benefit. One-third of the overall financial outlay has been earmarked specifically for small and new recyclers, including start-ups.

Incentives will be offered in the form of a 20 per cent capital subsidy on plant, machinery, equipment, and associated utilities for units starting production within the specified time frame. A delay in meeting timelines will attract a lower subsidy. In addition, an operating expense subsidy will be provided, linked to incremental sales over the base year (2025-26).

This subsidy will be disbursed in two parts. 40 per cent of the eligible amount in the second year and the remaining 60 per cent in the fifth year from 2026-27 to 2030-31, subject to achieving specified sales thresholds.

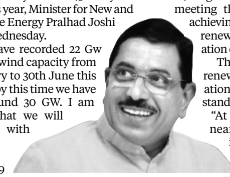
To ensure a greater number of beneficiaries, the total incentive per entity will be capped at ₹50 crore for large units and ₹25 crore for small units.

India to add 43 Gw RE generation capacity by yr-end: Pralhad Joshi

SAKET KUMAR
New Delhi, 3 September

India has added 30 gigawatt (Gw) renewable energy generation capacity so far this calendar year and the number is likely to touch 43 Gw by the end of this year, Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi said on Wednesday.

"We have recorded 22 Gw solar and wind capacity from 1st January to 30th June this year and by this time we have done around 30 GW. I am hopeful that we will end up with (capacity addition) between 39 Gw and 43 Gw that we may achieve this year," Joshi said while speaking at an industry event here.



He added that, based on this progress and the multiple steps taken to resolve issues like transmission constraints, the government is hopeful of meeting the larger target of achieving 500 Gw of installed renewable energy generation capacity by 2030.

The country's installed renewable energy generation capacity currently stands at 226 Gw.

"At present, projects of nearly 186.3 Gw capacity are under implementation and another 67.08 Gw capacity has already been tendered. So, all put together, including the capacity already added as on date, we will have something like 499 Gw," Joshi said.

He told the audience that the government was taking steps to jack up the accuracy of weather forecasting systems to improve the performance of renewable energy projects.

The Centre was also trying to resolve the issues around delays in signing power sale agreements (PSAs).

The government has also amended the standard bidding guidelines for solar, wind and hybrid projects to provide for cancellation of letter of award (LoA) in cases where progress does not meet timelines beyond 12 months.

ALL IN A DAY

Tamil Nadu bags investment proposals in defence, RE, and textiles from UK

Tamil Nadu on Wednesday attracted investment proposals in defence, aerospace, shipbuilding intelligence, renewable energy, textile technology and design from various players in United Kingdom. The companies include aerospace major Rolls-Royce, maritime data firm Lloyd's List Intelligence, and Wilson Power & Distribution Technologies.

The UK visit was part of the second leg of the TN Rising European visit, led by Chief Minister M K Stalin. During the first leg in Germany, the state had received investment proposals to the tune of ₹7,020 crore, creating 15,320 jobs.

The MoUs signed today represent long-term strategic steps for Tamil Nadu in sectors of high value and future relevance in positioning the state as a national and global leader across niche domains.

The highlight of the day was the meeting with Rolls-Royce, one of the world's foremost aerospace and defence technology firms. The company expressed strong interest in expanding its operations in Tamil Nadu, with plans for an maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility, an research and development (R&D) and training centre, and a significant expansion of its IAMPL joint venture in Hosur. With Tamil Nadu being home to one of India's two Defence Industrial Corridors, this engagement with Rolls-Royce illustrates the state's potential as a hub for advanced aerospace manufacturing.

Lloyd's List Intelligence (Seasearcher) signed an MoU to expand its Global Capability Centre in Chennai, creating 200 jobs by FY 2026. As a world leader in maritime risk management, insurance and vessel tracking analytics, Lloyd's expansion will significantly bolster Tamil Nadu's capabilities in shipbuilding, port management, and maritime technology. Their flagship Sea searcher platform provides real-time visibility into global vessel movements, ownership structures, and port activities — insights that will be invaluable for unlocking Tamil Nadu's vast Blue Economy potential. SHINE JACOB

Suspended BRS leader Kavitha resigns from party and MLC post

A day after her suspension from KCR-led BRS, senior leader K Kavitha on Wednesday announced her resignation from the party and trained her guns against cousin and former minister T Harish Rao.

Kavitha, daughter of party founder and former Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR), also announced quitting as member of the Legislative Council and indicated there was "pressure" on her father to act against her.

She accused Harish Rao of "conspiring" against the KCR family. PTI

SC asks Centre to frame policy to ensure foreigners jumping bail face charges

After a foreign national accused in a cheating case jumped bail and was on the run, the Supreme Court has underlined the need to ensure foreign nationals committing crimes in the country don't "flee from justice". The apex court had on December 4 last year set aside the Jharkhand High Court's May 2022 order granting bail to accused Alex David.The bench said there was no bilateral treaty between Nigeria and India over extradition of a national to face criminal proceedings. PTI

Maharashtra leads in FPO ease of doing business; MP loses crown

FPO ranking 2025
In terms of ease of doing business

Rank	State
1	Maharashtra
2	Madhya Pradesh
3	Uttar Pradesh
4	Tamil Nadu
5	Haryana
6	Karnataka
7	Odisha
8	Rajasthan
9	Bihar
10	West Bengal

Source: State of the Sector Report for Farmer Producer Organisations Report 2025

SANJEEB MUKHERJEE
New Delhi, 3 September

Maharashtra has topped the list of states with the most favourable ecosystem for the growth of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), replacing Madhya Pradesh, which has slipped to second place, according to the latest Ease of Doing Business for FPOs (EoDBF) ranking.

The rankings were released as part of the State of the Sector Report on FPOs (SoFPO), launched on Wednesday. SoFPO is an annual report brought out by the National Association for FPOs (NAFPO), Samunnati, and the Rabo Foundation.

In the 2024 ranking, Madhya Pradesh was the top-performing state, followed by Maharashtra, while Uttar Pradesh has consistently held the third position.

As of March 2025, Maharashtra had around 14,788 registered FPOs, accounting for nearly 34 per cent of the total in India, according to the SoFPO database.

The report — structured into chapters authored by subject experts — noted that just about 6,100 FPOs of the 43,928 registered as of March 2025 cornered most of the ₹4,000 crore in loans sanctioned by financial institutions.

"This shows that a huge number of FPOs could still be outside the ambit of formal credit. Besides access to sources of formal finance, the lack of credit could stem from poor business practices, unsound business plans, and ineffective administration of FPOs could be significantly lowering the creditworthiness of many FPOs," the report said.

On the ease of doing business ranking, Maharashtra was placed first for providing the most supportive ecosystem and best business environment for FPOs, followed closely by Madhya Pradesh.

Around 10 states were assessed for the ranking, together accounting for nearly 81 per cent of all registered FPOs in the country.

The report also identified several key reasons for FPO failures, including banks' reluctance to meet their working capital requirements and the complexity of government schemes.

Regulatory compliance remains another hurdle, with delays in filing returns, weak record-keeping, lack of audits, and absence of goods and services tax and income-tax filings.

Without proper diagnostics, many FPOs adopted business models unsuited to local conditions — such as supplying inputs in already saturated markets or attempting aggregation without supporting infrastructure.

In several failed cases, community mobilisation — prerequisite for collective enterprise — was skipped or diluted. Many FPOs also lacked business plans, while their boards of directors often did not have the skills needed to run such organisations, the report added.