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100 YEARS OF BUILDING TOMORROW

KNOWLEDGE **PAPERS**

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FICCI- CRISIL Knowledge Report on Engineering Connectivity: Innovations in Tunnel and Bridge Development

Tunnels and Bridges are the backbone of infrastructure, enabling reliable transport, reducing travel time and improving access for millions. Based on India's ambitious infrastructure development goals and diverse topography, bridges and tunnels are crucial instruments of economic and social transformation. They play a pivotal role in connecting remote regions, decongesting urban centres, facilitating trade and ensuring national security. This report delves into the vital significance of the country's bridge and tunnel infrastructure, examining its historical evolution, recent advancements and the potential. Historical context and modern achievements Historically, India's diverse geography-including the formidable Himalayas, dense urban areas and numerous rivers-has presented significant challenges to the transportation sector. In recent decades, however, modern engineering has eased the challenges. Until 2000, the country exhibited modest achievements in bridges and tunnels. The Howrah Bridge, Vivekananda Setu, the old Pamban Bridge and the old Gandhi Setu were some of the noteworthy bridge projects. Tunnels were largely limited to the Kolkata Metro project and, to some extent, in roads, railways and hydro projects.

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India Startup Law & Policy Guidebook

India stands at an inflection point in its entrepreneurial evolution - a rapidly advancing startup economy supported by progressive policies. Initiatives such as Startup India, the Atal Innovation Mission, and state-led incubation and acceleration programmes have significantly broadened access to opportunity. Today, innovation is no longer confined to metropolitan hubs; it is taking root in smaller cities and even rural districts, making entrepreneurship a nationwide movement. This growth, however, brings heightened responsibility. As more entrepreneurs take bold ideas to market, the ability to navigate India's legal and regulatory environment becomes essential for building ventures that are both resilient and compliant. Founders often confront complexities while making foundational choices such structuring their enterprise, understanding regulatory thresholds, managing workforce compliance, securing funding and protecting intellectual property. Without clarity at these early stages, startups can face avoidable hurdles that affect scalability, investment readiness, and long-term sustainability. The Startup Law Policy Guidebook looks to bridge this critical knowledge gap. It serves as a practical resource for startup founders, ecosystem enablers and emerging business leaders. By distilling the most relevant legal and policy requirements into clear and actionable insights, the guide book seeks to empowers entrepreneurs to make informed decisions from day one. Beyond national-level frameworks, the guidebook also highlights state / region-specific policy reforms and support structures that can be utilised while expanding geographically. These include state-run accelerators, financial assistance programmes, and sector-focused incentives that enhance access to capital and operational support

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Strategy For Sports Collaboration Between India & Australia

The Strategy for Sports Collaboration between India and Australia outlines a comprehensive framework to deepen bilateral cooperation across the sports ecosystem. Australia, recognised globally for its high-performance systems, cutting-edge sports science, advanced governance, and strong grassroots participation, is a natural partner for India as it expands its sporting ambitions, including its bids for the 2036 Olympics and 2030 Commonwealth Games. The report identifies key areas for collaboration such as capacity building, high-performance pathways, sports education, infrastructure development, integrity systems, and sports technology. It highlights the value of knowledge exchange, leveraging Australia's experience in hosting major sporting events and creating strong legacy models. Collaboration also extends to areas like para sports, diversity and inclusion, and leveraging the Indian diaspora to enhance people-to-people ties. Rooted in a shared history and strong political, economic, and cultural ties, the strategy sets the foundation for practical, mutually beneficial partnerships that strengthen India's sporting ecosystem while advancing Australia's global sporting engagement.

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Sporting India Rising

Sporting India: Rising captures the extraordinary transformation underway across India's sporting landscape - a transformation driven by a decade of purposeful reforms, empowered athletes, and partnerships that place sport at the centre of national progress. Anchored by the Government of India's ambitious initiatives, including Khelo India, Fit India, and large-scale investments in infrastructure, the country is experiencing unprecedented momentum across participation, performance, and professionalism. As India positions itself as a confident and capable sporting nation, FICCI continues to serve as the sector's principal convening platform - bringing together policymakers, sports federations, corporates, educational institutions, and grassroots actors. The report outlines the strengthening of athlete development pathways, the evolution of high-performance systems, and the rapid creation of world-class stadiums, training ecosystems, and sports science capabilities across states. It further highlights how policy vision, institutional commitment, and community engagement are converging to make sport a vehicle for employment, inclusion, urban development, and youth empowerment. The decade ahead will be decisive. With a maturing ecosystem, rising global ambitions, and a generation of athletes ready to redefine benchmarks, India stands on the verge of its most promising era. Through sustained government–industry collaboration, the nation is poised to shape a bold new chapter in global sport.

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Farm mechanisation: The path towards a future-ready India

Farm mechanisation is emerging as a cornerstone of India's transition towards a productive, resilient, and future-ready agricultural ecosystem. As agriculture continues to support nearly half of India's workforce and plays a critical role in food and nutritional security, enhancing productivity and efficiency has become imperative. With the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047 and the aspiration to build a $30 trillion economy, transforming agriculture through mechanisation is no longer optional but essential. This report presents a comprehensive assessment of India's farm mechanisation landscape, highlighting existing gaps, emerging challenges, and pathways to achieve national targets for 2030 and 2047. Despite steady progress, India's overall mechanisation level remains below global benchmarks, particularly among small and marginal farmers who constitute over 86% of total landholders.

Limited farm power availability, fragmented landholdings, labour shortages, and affordability constraints continue to impede widespread adoption. The report underscores the role of enabling policy frameworks, innovative financing models, shared-use mechanisms such as Custom Hiring Centres, and data- and technology-driven solutions including drones, automation, and precision agriculture. It also emphasises capacity building, gender inclusivity, and private sector participation as key levers for scale. Overall, the report serves as a strategic roadmap for policymakers, industry leaders, and stakeholders to accelerate mechanisation and build a competitive, sustainable, and inclusive agricultural future for India.

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White Paper on Iron Deficiency Anemia in Women and Children

Nutrition forms the foundation of a healthier and more productive future, and early childhood offers the most critical window to create a lasting impact.

Iron deficiency remains one of the most prevalent nutritional challenges in India, significantly affecting learning abilities, cognitive function, attention span, overall physical development in children and economic losses estimated at 1.3% of India's GDP.

The White Paper on 'Iron Deficiency Anaemia in Women and Children' brings forth critical insights into the alarming prevalence of Iron Deficiency Anaemia (IDA) across the country particularly among women and children. The study highlights the need for non-invasive screening technologies to facilitate early detection and timely intervention.

It also mentions various government programs like AMB, WIFS, and NIPI aim to combat IDA through iron supplementation and nutrition interventions. The study underscores the importance of community empowerment through knowledge sharing, behaviour change communication, and improved access to nutritional resources, enabling individuals and families to make informed dietary choices. By promoting awareness, accessibility, and science-backed interventions, the study aims to strengthen India's efforts toward combating micronutrient deficiencies and building a healthier, more resilient generation.

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Sustainability Champions: Recognizing outstanding private sector initiatives in sustainable agriculture

The FICCI Sustainable Agriculture Awards 2025 Compendium highlights exemplary private sector–led initiatives that are driving India's transition toward a more resilient, resource-efficient, and inclusive agricultural system. As agriculture continues to face mounting challenges from climate change, natural resource depletion, and income volatility, sustainable practices have emerged as a critical pathway for safeguarding farmer livelihoods and national food security.

This compendium brings together award-winning initiatives across five key thematic areas—Sustainable Farmer Income Enhancement, Farm-Level Sustainability in Sourcing, Natural Resource Management and Climate-Resilient Agriculture, Agri-based Decarbonization, and Sustainable Livelihood Advancement for Women in Agriculture.

The featured case studies showcase innovative, scalable models that integrate technology, responsible sourcing, climate-smart practices, and inclusive value-chain development. The initiatives documented herein demonstrate how industry stakeholders are delivering tangible on-ground impact by improving productivity, strengthening supply chains, conserving soil and water resources, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and empowering women farmers. By fostering collaboration between corporates, farmer organizations, research institutions, and communities, these programs underscore the critical role of private-sector leadership in advancing sustainable agriculture.

Overall, this compendium serves as a knowledge resource and inspiration for policymakers, industry leaders, and development practitioners seeking to replicate and scale impactful solutions that support India's long-term agricultural sustainability and resilience.

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FICCI-KPMG Paper: AI in Healthcare- Reimagine Care with AI-driven transformation

"AI in Healthcare"- Reimagine care with AI-driven transformation - With KPMG Healthcare systems face mounting pressure from rising patient demand, workforce shortages, and operational inefficiencies. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is emerging as a powerful enabler, enhancing—not replacing—human expertise across diagnostics, patient care, and operations.

AI can reduce backlogs, automate administrative tasks, personalize treatments, and improve diagnostic accuracy. Yet, adoption often stalls at pilot stages due to fragmented implementation, unclear returns on investment, and trust or ethical concerns. True transformation requires embedding AI purposefully into core workflows and aligning it with healthcare value streams.

This Paper emphasizes how India is laying strong foundations for AI-driven healthcare through initiatives like IndiaAI, the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, and the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission. NITI Aayog's National AI Strategy further prioritizes healthcare, focusing on early diagnosis, personalized care, and pandemic preparedness. AI is already enhancing patient engagement, remote monitoring, clinical documentation, and hospital efficiency, while linking care across hospitals, primary care, and adjacent sectors to build a resilient ecosystem.

The paper will further establish that to unlock its full potential, AI adoption must be strategic and ethical—driven by clear purpose, robust governance, stakeholder alignment, strong data infrastructure, and trusted partnerships. Organizations should progress through a phased journey: Enable (lay foundations and pilots), Embed (integrate into workflows), and Evolve (harness frontier technologies). The future of healthcare is intelligent, seamlessly combining AI with human capability to deliver smarter, connected, and patient-centric outcomes.

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FICCI-Chase Advisors Paper: Unlocking the Longevity Dividend- Active and Healthy Ageing in India

India's population aged 60 and above is projected to exceed 300 million by 2050, making active and healthy ageing a national imperative. The report on 'Unlocking the Longevity Dividend: Active and Healthy Ageing in India,' seeks to position ageing as a transformative opportunity for the country. Drawing upon the global yet often under-discussed concept of Active and Healthy Ageing (AHA), it underscores the importance of enabling older persons to remain healthy, independent, socially connected, and economically engaged. The report advocates a whole-of-society approach integrating preventive and promotive health, geriatric care, mental well-being, lifelong learning, financial security, and age-friendly environments.

The report directly aligns with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)'s and Government of India's vision of creating an Empowered Elderly for Viksit Bharat @ 2047, where longevity is seen as a national asset.

Developed under the aegis of FICCI with knowledge partners Chase Advisors and Inspiring Seniors Foundation, it reflects extensive consultations with experts across geriatrics, healthcare systems, private sector innovators, and funders. The objective is clear: to catalyze policy, partnerships, and investments that will make Active and Healthy Ageing a pillar of India's growth story.

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FICCI-EY Parthenon Report: True Accountable Care - Maximizing Healthcare Delivery Impact, Efficiently

This report, 'True Accountable Care: Maximizing Healthcare Delivery Impact, Efficiently', explores how India can deliver healthcare that is accessible, affordable, and accountable at scale. Despite providers advancing the quality agenda, systemic challenges persist — limited focus on long-term outcomes, weak incentivization for quality and digitization, low insurance penetration, and financial strain on providers — all restricting equitable care delivery.

Clinical excellence must translate into the best outcomes for the maximum number of people. This requires advancing quality at the micro level while continuously innovating to reduce care costs across the health continuum. Sustained affordability remains critical for ensuring quality care in India's large, publicly supported population.

A step change is needed — one that balances quality, access, and affordability; empowers patients with trusted information; embeds agility, standardization, and innovation; moves toward outcome-based reimbursements; and ensures provider sustainability through aligned incentives.

The report proposes a 7C Framework as a roadmap toward a "True" Accountable Healthcare Ecosystem, featuring frameworks to balance cost and quality, tiered quality assessments, differentiated reimbursements, managed care pilots, and enhanced citizen empowerment.

https://www.ficci.in/study_details/24188



Post Event Report FICCI Business Mission on Logistics and Packaging to Italy, Milan

The FICCI Business Mission on Logistics & Packaging to Italy, held from 11–13 November 2025 in Milan, strengthened India–Italy industry collaboration on Logistics & Packaging sectors through meaningful dialogues, and strategic business interactions.

The mission began with the India-Italy Interactive Session jointly organised with ASSOLOGISTICA, which was addressed by key government and industry fraternities, including Mr Lavanya Kumar, Consul General of India in Milan and Mr Umberto Ruggerone, President, ASSOLOGISTICA.

FICCI facilitated multiple visits for Indian Delegation members to leading Italian Logistics and Packaging facilities during the three-day mission including BCUBE, CEVA Logistics, TFS (Twins for Service), Kuehne+Nagel and Gruber Logistics. The mission also featured a networking dinner hosted by the Consulate General of India in association with the Indian Business Forum, where Indian delegates got an opportunity to connect with representatives from 32 Italian organisations, enabling meaningful B2B discussions and exploring potential partnerships.

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INDUSTRY'S VOICE FOR POLICY CHANGE
Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, FICCI
Federation House Tansen Marg, New Delhi - 110001
Phone: 23738760-70 (11 Lines)
E-mail: ficci@ficci.com, Website: www.ficci.in
ficci_india ficciindia ficci_india FICCI FICCI India

For more details contact at
tripti.kataria@ficci.com