

**22– 07 – 2024**

**News: QS World University Rankings 2025**

- Recently, the latest QS World University Rankings for 2025 were released revealing significant improvements for Indian universities and notable global standings.

## **QS World University Rankings 2025**

- **Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)** is a leading global career and education network for ambitious professionals looking to further their personal and professional development.
- QS Develops and successfully implements methods of comparative data collection and analysis used to highlight institutions' strengths.
- The '**QS World University Rankings**' is an annual publication of university rankings which comprises the global overall and subject rankings.

## Parameters and their weightage for the evaluation

- Academic Reputation (40%), Employer Reputation (10%), Faculty/Student Ratio (20%), Citations per faculty (20%) International Faculty Ratio (5%) and International Student Ratio (5%).

## Key Points

- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) retained its position as the best institute globally for the 13<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. MIT is followed by Imperial College of London (which improved its ranking from sixth to second) and Harvard University and University of Oxford who jointly ranked third.
- ETH Zurich continues to be the top institution in Continental Europe for the 17<sup>th</sup> year.

## Indian Universities' Performance

- In this edition of the rankings, with 46 universities, the Indian Higher Education system is the seventh most represented globally and the third in Asia, trailing only Japan (49 universities) and China (71 universities).
- 61% of Indian universities' ranking has improved, with IIT Bombay gaining the top spot in India.

- A total of 61% of Indian universities have risen in rank this time, while 24% have maintained their positions.

## Research and Collaboration

- **Citations per Faculty:** India's performance in this indicator is strong, with a score of 37.8, surpassing the global average of 23.5.
- This is the second-highest in Asia among countries with more than 10 ranked universities.
- However, India lags in the International Faculty Ratio and International Student Ratio indicators, underscoring the need for greater international collaboration and exchange.

## Top Indian Institutes

- **IIT Bombay:** Leading in India, IIT Bombay climbed from 149<sup>th</sup> in 2024 to 118<sup>th</sup> in 2025.
- **IIT Delhi:** Achieved the second position in India, moving up 47 ranks from 197<sup>th</sup> to 150<sup>th</sup>.
- **IIT Indore:** The only Indian institute that declined in ranking, dropping from 454<sup>th</sup> to 477<sup>th</sup>.

- **New Entries:** Symbiosis International (Deemed University) entered the top 20, ranked between 641-650 globally.

## Performance Grading Index (PGI)

- The Performance Grading Index (PGI) is a tool to provide insights on the status of school education in States and UTs including key levers that drive their performance and critical areas for improvement.
- The PGI for States and Union Territories was first published in 2019 with reference year 2017-18.

### Objectives

- The PGI exercise envisages that the index would propel States and UTs towards undertaking multi-pronged interventions that will bring about the much-desired optimal education outcomes.
- The PGI helps the States/UTs to pinpoint the gaps and accordingly prioritise areas for intervention to ensure that the school education system is robust at every level.

## **Implementing Agency**

- It is initiated by the **Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL)**.

## **Source of Information**

- The information on the indicators are drawn from data available with the DoSEL from **the Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE), National Achievement Survey (NAS) of NCERT, Mid Day Meal website, Public Financial Management System (PFMS) and the information uploaded by the States and UTs on the Shagun portal of DoSEL.**

## **Methodology**

- The PGI comprises 70 indicators in five domains, aggregated to a total weightage of **1000**.
- Domains under categories include: **Access, Infrastructure & Facilities, Learning Process, Equity and Governance process.**

# **Important Findings of the PGI 2023**

## **State-wise Performance**

- No **state found a place in top position (Level 1) with points scored above 950.**

- Chandigarh and Punjab, despite being top ranked, could only secure the sixth – highest grade of Level 2 closely followed by Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Delhi, Puducherry and Tamil Nadu at Level 3.
- Thirteen States including Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, West Bengal, and Madhya Pradesh have been categorised as Akankshi 1 States, where room for improvement is substantial.

## **Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI – D)**

- Recently, the Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSE&L), Ministry of Education (MoE) released the Centre's first-ever Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI-D) for 2018-19 and 2019-20.
- PGI-D assesses the performance of the school education system at the district level by creating an index for comprehensive analysis.
- The PGI-D assessed district-level performance in school education based on the data collected from various sources, including Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE +), National Achievement Survey (NAS), 2017 and data provided by respective districts.

## Structure

- The PGI-D structure comprises a total weightage of 600 points across 83 indicators, which are grouped under six categories:
- Outcomes, Effective Classroom Transaction, Infrastructure Facilities & Student's Entitlements, School Safety & Child Protection, Digital Learning and Governance Process.
- Two categories — digital learning and effective classroom transaction have been added in the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, these categories were not part of the state-level PGI.
- These categories are further divided into 12 domains.
- The PGI-D grades the districts into 10 grades. The highest achievable grade is 'Daksh', which is for districts scoring more than 90% of the total points in that category or overall.
- It is followed by 'Utkarsh' (81% to 90%), 'Ati Uttam' (71% to 80%), 'Uttam' (61% to 70%), 'Prachesta-1' (51% to 60%) and 'Prachesta-2' (41% to 50%).
- The lowest grade in PGI-D is 'Akanshi-3' which is for scores upto 10% of the total points.
- None of the districts figured in the highest 'Daksh' grade in both these years.

## Key Highlights of the Report

### Best Performers

- Three districts from Rajasthan performed the best in the assessment.
- According to the report, the three districts — Sikar, Jhunjhunu, and Jaipur figured in 'Utkarsh' grade in 2019-20 in contrast to a year before when no district featured in that category.
- Rajasthan has the highest 24 districts in this grade, followed by Punjab (14), Gujarat (13), and Kerala (13).

### Lowest Performers

- The districts with the lowest scores (1 out of 50) in this category were South Salmara-Mankachar (Assam), Alirajpur (Madhya Pradesh), North Garo Hills and South Garo Hills in Meghalaya, and Khowai (Tripura) in 2019-20.
- The 12 states/ UTs which don't have a single district in the Ati-Uttam and Uttam are Bihar, Goa, Jammu and Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttarakhand.
- **Progress:** As per the report, the number of districts in all categories has increased.
- In the 'Ati Uttam' grade, the number of districts increased from 49 to 86 during 2018-19 to 2019-20 showing "remarkable improvements".



- 33 districts improved their score in outcomes, but there is no grade-level improvement.
- The outcomes category includes learning outcomes of students, teachers' availability and professional outcomes.
- **Digital Learning Category:** As compared to 2018-19, 20 districts have shown over 20% improvement while 43 districts bettered their score by over 10% during 2019-20.
- **Infrastructural Facilities:** 478 districts improved their score in 2019-20 as compared to 2018-19.
- Out of these 478, 37 districts made an improvement of over 20% improvement in score and 115 districts made an improvement of over 10% implying grade-level improvement.