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# TODAY'S ANALYSIS

## (12 November 2024)

### TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- ONE SUN ONE WORLD ONE GRID
- QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS: INDIA SHINES
- ELEPHANT PROTECTION IN SHETTIHALLI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY
- MCQs



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## ONE SUN ONE WORLD ONE GRID



- In November, 2024, India is actively engaged in discussions with several nations, including Oman, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Maldives, and Singapore, to establish cross-border electricity transmission lines as part of the ambitious **One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG)** initiative.
- This project was **1st proposed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2018** during the inaugural **Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)**.

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## ABOUT OSOWOG

- **Launch:** OSOWOG was **proposed by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi** at the **2018 ISA Assembly**. It envisions a **global interconnected solar grid** that shares solar energy across countries, ensuring continuous access to clean energy.
- **Collaboration:** In **COP26 (2021)**, the **Green Grids Initiative (GGI)**, launched by the **UK**, merged with **OSOWOG** into **GGI-OSOWOG** to promote renewable energy and ensure **net-zero emissions by 2030**.

### Implementation Phases

- Phase 1:** Connect India's grid to neighboring regions in **South Asia, Middle East, and Southeast Asia**.
- Phase 2:** Expand the grid to **Africa** for broader energy sharing.
- Phase 3:** Achieve a global interconnected grid by **2050**, integrating **2,600 GW** of renewable energy.

## CORE OBJECTIVES

- **Global Solar Grid:** Link solar power grids across continents to share energy globally, ensuring that **wherever the sun is shining, energy is available**.

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- **Maximize Renewable Energy:** Shift energy production from fossil fuels to cleaner sources, balancing global energy needs with solar power.
- **International Cooperation:** promote collaboration to ensure equitable, sustainable energy access for all countries.

## INDIA'S ROLE

- **Leadership:** India leads the OSOWOG initiative through **ISA**, aiming for **500 GW of non-fossil fuel electricity by 2030** and **Net Zero by 2070**.
- **Energy Growth:** India is the **4th largest renewable energy producer** globally, with solar power playing a central role.
- **Grid Interconnections:** India has established connections with **Nepal, Bangladesh, and Myanmar**, and is negotiating with other nations like **Sri Lanka, UAE, and Saudi Arabia**.

## INDIA'S STRATEGIC SHIFT:

- **Energy Demand:** India will account for **25% of global energy demand growth** by 2040, making solar power crucial for **energy security**.
- **Air Pollution:** Solar energy helps reduce **pollution** caused by fossil fuels.

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- **Water Crisis:** Solar power is **water-efficient**, unlike coal-based energy that depletes water resources.

## CHALLENGES

- **Infrastructure:** The need for large-scale **grid development**, **energy storage** systems, and **battery technologies**.
- **Investment:** OSOWOG requires **\$1 trillion** in funding by **2030** for developing countries.
- **Geopolitical Coordination:** Successful implementation requires global **cooperation**, **trade agreements**, and **regulatory harmonization**.

## KEY FACTS & FEATURES OF OSOWOG

- **Purpose of OSOWOG:**
  - The **OSOWOG** initiative aims to create a **global interconnected grid** that allows countries to transfer renewable energy, particularly solar power, across borders.
  - This grid will help countries to use **renewable resources more efficiently**, reduce **reliance on fossil fuels**, and optimize **energy distribution** across regions.
- **India-Oman Power Link:**
  - **One of the 1st projects under OSOWOG** is the interconnection of India's power grid with **Oman's grid**.

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- This link will help to **enhance renewable energy flow** between the two countries.
- A key aspect of this initiative is the creation of a **shared network** that enables the efficient transfer of renewable energy across regions.
- **Surplus solar or wind energy in one area can be transferred to another region experiencing** an energy deficit.
- **Renewable Energy Integration:**
  - The initiative aims to integrate **solar, wind, and hydro** power from different regions, which will help to balance **supply and demand peaks** and improve **grid stability**.
  - **By connecting renewable energy sources across borders**, countries can **better manage their electricity needs**, especially during peak times, and reduce their reliance on **fossil fuels**.
- **Current and Future Electricity Exchanges:**
  - **India currently exchanges about 4,100 MW** of electricity with neighboring countries, including **Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Myanmar**.
  - This capacity is expected to increase to **7,000 MW by 2026-27** as new interconnections are developed, including the Oman link.

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- **Maximizing Solar Energy with Time-Zone Diversity:**

- The idea behind OSOWOG is to leverage **time-zone diversity**—since the sun is **always shining somewhere on Earth**, different regions can generate solar power at different times of the day.
- This allows for continuous generation of solar energy, making the system **more reliable and reducing the need for large-scale storage** solutions.

- **Proposed Projects under OSOWOG:**

- In addition to the **India-Oman link**, other planned interconnections include discussions with the **UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Singapore**.
- A **1,000-km undersea power cable** connecting **Gujarat** in India with **Oman** is also being explored.
- This would create a secure energy exchange route between the two countries.

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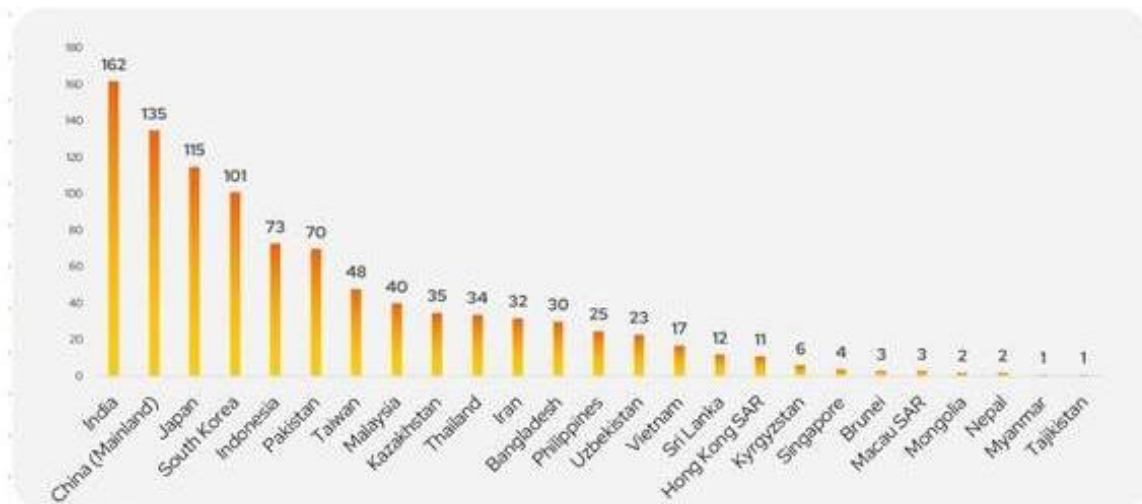
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# QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS: INDIA SHINES

- In November 2024, India has once again shown its strength in higher education with impressive results in the **QS World University Rankings: Asia 2025**.
- The latest rankings highlight the growing competition among universities in Asia and reflect India's increasing influence in the global education landscape.
- This year's rankings shows India's commitment to academic excellence, research, and international collaboration.

## Institutions by country/territory



Source: QS World University Rankings: Asia 2025

qs.com

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## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **India's Top Performers:**

- India has **7 institutions in the top 100** of the **QS Asia Rankings 2025**, a testament to the **country's growing prominence** in higher education.
- **2 Indian institutions are ranked in the top 50**, with **Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD)** leading the pack at **44th place**.

- **Improvement of Indian Universities:**

- The **University of Petroleum and Energy Studies (UPES)** saw the **largest improvement** among Indian universities, jumping **70 spots to 148th**.
- This boost was driven by improvements in key metrics like **International Research Network, Citations per Paper, and Papers per Faculty**.

- **Top 50 Universities:**

- **IIT Delhi (44th)** and **IIT Bombay (48th)** are **India's two institutions in the top 50**.
- IIT Delhi's rise from **46th last year** reflects an **impressive employer reputation score of 99%**, one of the highest in Asia.
- IIT Bombay ranked **48th** with strong scores in **employer reputation (99.5%)** and

**academic reputation (96.6%).**

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- **Top 100 Universities:**

- India has **5 institutions in the top 100:**

- **IIT Madras** (56th)

- **IIT Kharagpur** (60th)

- **Indian Institute of Science (IISc)** (62nd)

- **IIT Kanpur** (67th)

- **University of Delhi** (81st), which improved from **94th** last year.

- The **University of Delhi** showed notable improvement, achieving a high score of **96.4%** in the **International Research Network**.

- **Top 150 Universities:**

- India's higher education strength extends beyond the top 100, with institutions such as **IIT Guwahati, IIT Roorkee, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Chandigarh University (120th), UPES (148th), and Vellore Institute of Technology (150th)**, reflecting the depth of quality education in India.

- **Impressive Research Output:**

- **Anna University** achieved a perfect score of **100** in the **Papers Per Faculty** indicator, emphasizing its high research output and strong academic performance.

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- **High-Caliber Faculty:**

- India's commitment to top-tier teaching is evident as **15 universities scored above 99%** in the **staff with PhD** indicator, showing that India's institutions have highly qualified faculty.

- **Top Faculty-Student Ratio:**

- **North Eastern Hill University** and **University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore** achieved a perfect score of **100** in the **faculty-student ratio**, demonstrating strong academic credibility and effective teaching practices.

## INDIA'S GROWTH IN GLOBAL EDUCATION

- Over the last **decade**, India has made significant progress in the QS World University Rankings.
- In **2025**, India has **46 institutions** in the rankings, compared to just **11 in 2015**, showing a **318% increase** in the number of Indian universities listed.
- This growth places India among the top contenders in **higher education**, particularly within **Southern Asia**.
- India's **2 institutions in the top 50** and **7 in the top 100** highlight the country's commitment to building world-class universities and enhancing its **global competitiveness** in education.

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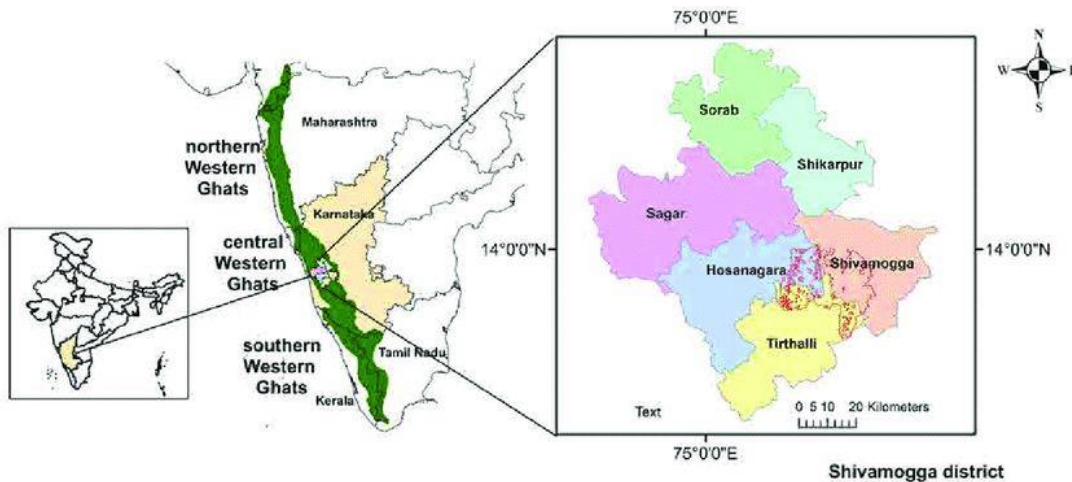


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# ELEPHANT PROTECTION IN SHETTIHALLI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

- On November 9, 2024, Environmental activists raised serious concerns over the growing threat to elephants in the **Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary** in Karnataka, following the death of a young male elephant.
- The elephant died from **electrocution** after it wandered into a **cornfield** in **Veera Guarana Bairanakoppa** on **November 5**, coming into contact with a **live wire**.
- The field, owned by a local villager, led to the **booking of the landowner** under the **Wildlife Protection Act**.

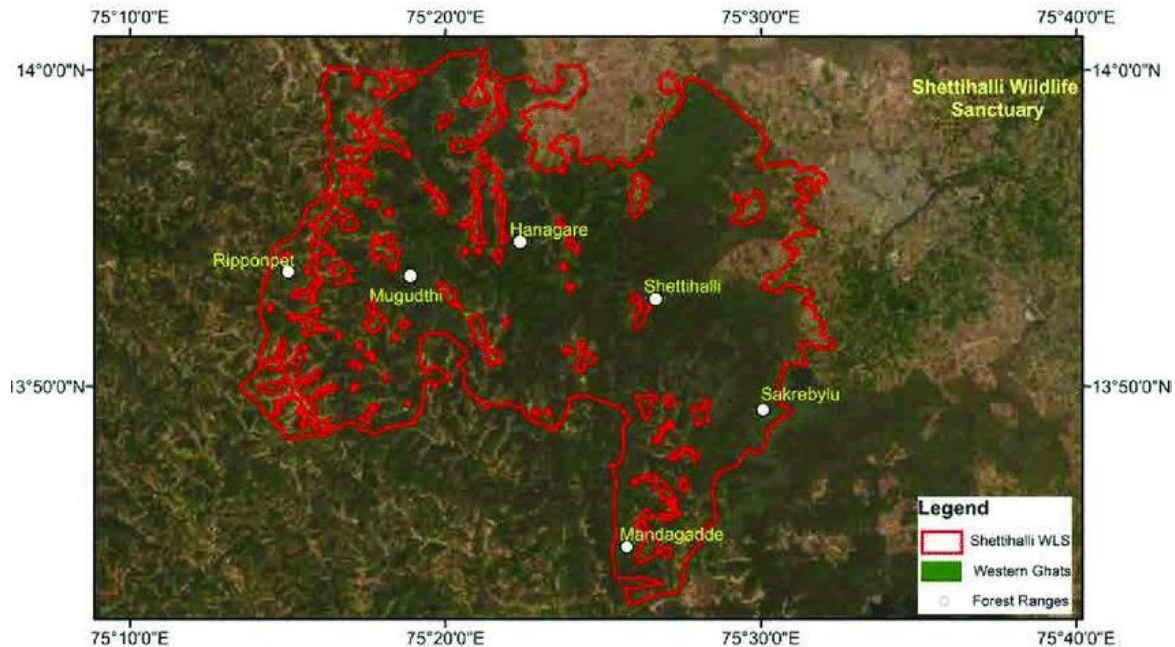
## LOCATION OF SHETTIHALLI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



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## IS IT THE FIRST SUCH INCIDENT?

- This **tragic incident is not the first of its kind.**
- Just 2 years ago, **two male elephants** met the same accident in the same area.
- The repeated occurrence of such **elephant deaths**, combined with alleged **lapses in the investigations**, has raised concerns about the **effectiveness of wildlife conservation efforts** in the region.

## DEMANDS BY ACTIVISTS

- A **comprehensive survey** of the sanctuary's range.
- Identification of **encroached areas** within the sanctuary.

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- **Transfer** of a veterinarian from the forest department, citing concerns over current management.
- A thorough **investigation into irregularities** within the **wildlife division**.
- **Restructuring of the elephant camp** for better care and management.
- Proper **utilization of vehicles** for patrolling and monitoring the sanctuary.
- Finalization of the **buffer zone** to protect wildlife from human encroachment.
- **Accountability for farmers** who are electrifying their fields, posing a deadly risk to wildlife.

## ABOUT SHETTIHALLI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY & THREATS IT FACES

- The **Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary**, established in **1974**, is one of **Karnataka's largest and most biodiverse** sanctuaries.
- It is home to a variety of wildlife, including **elephants, leopards, and sloth bears**.
- However, the sanctuary faces significant challenges from **human-wildlife conflict**, particularly from **electrocution deaths** of elephants, which endanger the survival of these species.

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- The sanctuary's wildlife is also at risk due to **encroachments, where human activities increasingly threaten the natural habitats** of the animals.
- Environmentalists argue that the **repeated incidents, lack of proper investigation, and inadequate protective measures** are putting the survival of elephants and other wildlife at significant risk.



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## MCQs

1. Consider the following statements and mark the correct one:

1. One Sun One World One Grid was announced by the Indian PM IN CoP 24 of UNFCCC in 2018.

2. It aims to achieve a global interconnected grid by 2050.

(A) Only 1

(B) Only 2

(C) Both 1 & 2

(D) Neither 1 nor 2



**Ans. (B)**

2. With which country, India has established grid connections?

(A) Sri Lanka

(B) Saudi Arabia

(C) Nepal

(D) Maldives

**Ans. (C)**

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3. Consider the following statements and mark the correct ones:

1. India is the fourth largest producer of renewable energy.

2. India aims to be net zero by 2050.

(A) Only 1

(B) Only 2

(C) Both 1 & 2

(D) Neither 1 nor 2



**Ans. (A)**

4. According to the QS World rankings, 2024, which college is the best ranking in India?

(A) IIT Bombay

(B) IIT Guwahati

(C) IISc, Bangalore

(D) IIT Delhi

**Ans. (D)**

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5. Consider the following statements and mark the correct one:

1. The Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the southern Western Ghats.
2. It was established in 1974.
3. It is Karnataka's largest wildlife sanctuary

- (A) Only 1 & 3  
(B) Only 1 & 2  
(C) Only 2 & 3  
(D) Only 2

**Ans. (C)**



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