



**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU**  
( Research Unit )  
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
Government of India



## **HIMACHAL DAY – APRIL 15**

**Life Expectancy, Literacy level, Per Capita Income in HP higher than National Average**

**15 MOUs having Rs 810 crore investment in Medical Device Park signed in March 2022; HP has emerged as the largest hub for drug manufacturing units in Asia**

**Clean tap water provided to over 8.40 lakh households under Jal Jeevan Mission; Households with tap water up from 44% in 2019 to 93% by March 2022**

**Welfare schemes such as Ujjwala enable HP to be 100% LPG-enabled, become first ‘smoke-free state’ in India**

**For three consecutive years since 2018-19, HP ranked first in successful operation of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission**

**Atal Tunnel inaugurated by PM Modi in Oct 2020; various National Highway Projects launched in June 2021**

**PM laid foundation stone of hydropower projects of over Rs 11,000 crore in Dec 2021**

**Work on the 475 Km long Bilaspur-Manali-Leh railway line ongoing**

**Shimla and Dharamshala to be developed as Smart Cities**

**April 14, 2022**

*“Government is focusing on next generation infrastructure in Himachal Pradesh. Projects related to highways, railways, power, solar energy and petroleum sector are underway in the state.”*

*-Prime Minister Narendra Modi*

### **Background – A Brief History of Himachal Pradesh pre-independence**

The earliest known inhabitants of the region were tribals called Dasas. Later, Aryans came and they assimilated in the tribes. In the later centuries, the hill chieftains accepted suzerainty of the Mauryan empire, the Kaushans, the Guptas and Kanauj rulers. During the Mughal period, the Rajas of the hill states made some mutually agreed arrangements which governed

their relations. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Maharaja Ranjit Singh annexed/subjugated many of the states. When the British came, they defeated the Gorkhas and entered into treaties with some Rajas and annexed the kingdoms of others. The situation remained largely unchanged till 1947.

### **Introduction – Himachal Pradesh post-independence**

After Independence, 30 princely states of the area were united and the [Chief Commissioner's province of Himachal Pradesh came into being on 15 April, 1948](#). It became a Part C state on 26 January, 1950 with the coming into force of the Constitution of India. [It became a Union Territory on 01 November, 1956](#). Kangra and most of the other hill areas of Punjab were merged with Himachal Pradesh on 01 November, 1966 though its status remained that of a Union Territory. On 18 December, 1970 the **State of Himachal Pradesh Act** was passed by Parliament and the new state came into being on 25 January, 1971. Thus, Himachal Pradesh emerged as the eighteenth state of the Indian Union. Ergo, [on 25 January, 1971, Himachal Pradesh was made a full-fledged State](#). The State is bordered by Jammu & Kashmir on North, Punjab on West and South-West, Haryana on South, Uttarakhand on South-East and China on the East.<sup>1</sup>

### **Geography of Himachal Pradesh**

Himachal Pradesh is a small hilly State situated in the northern part of the country. The topography of the State is basically hilly ranging from small to very high hills. Its height ranges from 350 Meters to 6975 meters from main sea level. This snowy part of the State is the source of three major rivers namely Beas, Ravi and Chinab. Its climatic conditions vary from extremely hot to serve cold regions. Dharmsala and Palampur in Kanghra district receive the highest precipitation next to Chirapunji, while areas like Spiti almost have no rainfall during the winter season. The total geographical area of the State is 55673 Sq. Kms. Some parts of the state remain snow bound throughout the year where as other parts enjoy all the six seasons. Because of the peculiar climatic conditions, the State has become an attraction for tourists throughout the year. During winter, tourists visit State to enjoy snow and winter sports and during summer, tourists visit the State for getting relief from scorching heat of other parts of the country.

### **Demographics of the State**

As per the provisional population figures of census of 2011, [the total population of the State is 68,56,509 persons](#) as against the population of the 60,77,900 persons in Census 2001, showing a growth rate of 12.8 % during 2001-2011, which had been 17.53 % during 1991-2001. Out of the total population of 68.56 lakh, 34.74 Lakh are male and remaining 33.82 lakh are females showing a ratio of 974 females per 1000 of males. Life Expectancy is 71 years which is more than the National Average of 67.5 Years.

---

<sup>1</sup><https://himachal.nic.in/en-IN/at-a-glance.html>

## Literacy

The [literacy rate of the State is 82.80%](#) as against 76.5 % in Census 2001. The male literacy rate of the state which was 85.03 % in Census 2001 has increased to the level of 89.53 % and the female literacy has gone up to 75.93 % from 67.04 %, which shows that the literacy rate has been steadily increasing over the decade in the state.<sup>2</sup>

## Tourism

While [traditionally Himachal was known as a summer destination](#), the Department of Tourism & Civil Aviation has taken special efforts to break the seasonality factor and has developed diversified tourism products to attract tourists in other seasons too. Now Himachal is known as “**A Destination for All seasons and All Reasons.**” In fact, the Department has laid special emphasis on the development of activity-based tourism and opening up of new sub-destinations. To promote tourism in the countryside and to unexplored areas, appropriate infrastructure is being developed within available resources. [Shimla](#), [Manali](#), [Dharamshala](#), [Chamba](#) amongst others are top tourist destinations in Himachal Pradesh.<sup>3</sup>

Main pilgrim centres are [Bhima Kali temples](#), [Hatkoti](#), [Jwalajee](#), [Chamunda Devi](#), [Chintpurni](#), [Renuka](#), [Rewalsar](#), [Deoth Siddh](#) and [Naina Devi](#).<sup>4</sup> Himachal is also known for its adventure tourism activities like [River Rafting](#), [Still Water Sports](#), [Mountain Cycling](#), [Ice Skating](#), [Paragliding](#), [Trekking](#), [Skiing](#) etc.<sup>5</sup> [Numerous forts, palaces, temples, monasteries](#) and residences of heritage prominence are found all over the state of Himachal. The thousand-year-old Buddhist monastery of Tabo in Spiti with its fine wall-paintings and stucco statues has been declared a world Heritage Site by UNESCO. The village of Pragpur with its age-old and well-preserved architecture and cobbled streets has been declared a ‘Heritage Village.’

---

<sup>2</sup><https://msmedihimachal.nic.in/pages/view/93/95-introduction-of-the-state>

<sup>3</sup><https://himachaltourism.gov.in/>

<sup>4</sup><https://himachal.nic.in/en-IN/hindu-pilgrimages.html>

<sup>5</sup><https://himachaltourism.gov.in/types/adventure/>



## Summarizing the Strengths of Himachal Pradesh

- The State has made a significant transition from agrarian to industry and service led economy; with a quantum jump from a mere 7% contribution of secondary sector to State GSDP in 1950-51 to 43.01% in 2017-18.
- The state is well connected through three international airports located in Delhi, Amritsar and Chandigarh
- The State has three domestic airports in Dharamshala, Shimla and Kullu which are just an hour's flight from New Delhi International airport.
- There are more than 64 helipads in the State
- The [state has 19 National Highways of total length 2,592 km](#)
- With GSDP at USD 21.69 billion for FY 2019 and thriving at a growth rate of 11.2% at market price, Himachal Pradesh is one of the fastest-growing States in India. The State Per Capita Income for FY 2019 at current price is USD 2,528 which is more than the National Average.
- PHD Chamber of Commerce awarded Himachal Pradesh as the most consumer-friendly state.
- Abundance of industrial power that is amongst the cheapest in the country, open and progressive policies of the State Government backed by fast-track project clearances, continuous investment in upgradation of infrastructure development, human capital and social welfare has made Himachal Pradesh as the preferred destination in India for Entrepreneurs

## Top Sectors in Himachal Pradesh

- **Agri-Business, Food Processing & Post Harvest Technology**
  - [HP is known as the 'Fruit & Vegetable Bowl of India'](#)
  - HP Ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Apple & Almond production along with stone fruits such as Plum, Peach etc. and Citrus in India.
  - With four favorable agro-climatic zones, HP is one of the largest producers of off-season vegetables viz. capsicum, tomato, peas, cabbage, cucumber, and exotic fruits viz. persimmon and kiwi.
  - [The state has availability of one dedicated Mega Food Park](#), 18 Chain projects, 29 food processing units having capacity of 86,150 MT/KL, testing laboratory and land bank for industry, standing as a testament to the presence of world's leading food processing players in the State.
- **Manufacturing & Pharmaceuticals**
  - 60 developed industrial area/estates; pharmaceutical hub of Asia
  - The first Medical Devices Park in northern India spread over 265 acres has been approved by the Government of India in Nalagarh, Solan. [On March 21, 2022, Himachal Pradesh Industries department signed 15 MoUs amounting to Rs 810 crore with the investors in the upcoming Medical Device Park \(MDP\).](#)



- HP is ranked first among 'North-Eastern/ Hill States' in India Innovation Index 2020 and is recognized as the best performing State in Bio-Medical Waste Management by CPCB (2020)
- HP has emerged as the largest hub for drug manufacturing units in Asia, meeting 35% of the demand of pharma formulation in Asia. The state has a widespread presence of over 300 pharmaceutical companies, including Ranbaxy, Dr. Reddy's, Morepen and Torrent Pharmaceuticals and 700+ pharma formulations manufacturing units.
- In FY21, exports of drug formulations and biologicals from the state reached US\$814.39 million.

- **Tourism, Hospitality & Civil Aviation**

- One of the most visited states by international and domestic tourists in India
- Recognized as Asia's no. 1 paragliding site; tourism contributes 7% to the GDP of Himachal Pradesh and the state aims to increase the share to 8.5% by the end of 2022
- State attracted about 17.2 million tourists in 2019

- **AYUSH, Wellness & Healthcare**

- High diversity of medical and aromatic plants makes Himachal an ideal paradise
- 65% plus of the geographical area is covered with forests and having a high diversity of medical and aromatic plants is also positioning HP as an ideal paradise of Aromatherapy.
- The state is also active in Ayurvedic treatments through two regional ayurvedic hospitals, 34 district ayurvedic hospitals, 1039 ayurvedic health care centres, 143 AYUSH Health & Wellness Centres and 3 Unani Health Centres.

- **Housing, Urban Development, Transportation and Infrastructure**

- **IT, ITeS and Electronics Manufacturing** - Highest tele-density (141%) in India among the service areas.

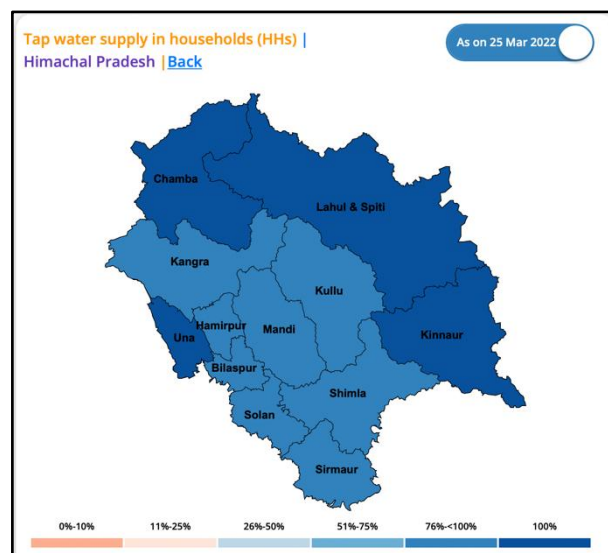
- **Education and Skill Development:** Adjudged first for initiatives in education amongst other states.

- **Hydro & Renewable Energy**

- [Net exporter of power accounts for 26% of the total hydro-power potential of India](#) with easily accessible power supply
- The state has an estimated hydro-power potential of 27,587 MW out of which 10,948 MW has been assessed as harnessable
- It has a total installed hydropower generation capacity of 2,910 MW

## Key Developments in the recent past:

- Working in line with ‘SabkaSath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and SabkaPrayas’, [Jal Jeevan Mission has successfully provided clean tap water to over 8.40 lakh households](#) in Himachal Pradesh as on March 25, 2022. The achievement made by the State is noteworthy because of Covid-19, lockdowns and difficult terrain.



## Himachal Pradesh | Status of tap water supply in rural homes

Total number of households (HHs)

**17,27,518**

Households with tap water connections as on 15 Aug 2019

**7,62,721**  
(44.15%)

Households with tap water connections as on date

+0  
**16,03,374**  
(92.81%)

Households provided with tap water connection since launch of the Mission

**8,40,653** (48.66%)

## Status of progress in village

Total Village : **18,150**

Villages with 100 % HH tap connection

**14,559**

Villages where WS work in progress

**2,688**

Villages where WS work yet to start

**903**

Villages where VWSC are formed

**18,077**

Village action plan made

**18,006**

Village with grey water management plan

**0**

\* WS = Water supply

- On March 25, 2022, Himachal Pradesh [bagged first rank for the successful operation of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission \(DAY-NULM\)](#) from Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for the third consecutive year. Prior to this, the state had received the first prize under the mission in the year 2018-19 and 2019-20.
- On [January 17, 2022, Himachal Pradesh became the first 'smoke-free' state in India](#). The major milestone has been achieved while riding on the back of welfare schemes like 'Ujjwala Yojana' of the Central Government and 'Himachal Grihini Suvidha' scheme of the State Government.
- This Himalayan state has also become the **100 percent LPG-enabled state in the country as on January 17, 2022**. It refers to the fact that 100% of households in Himachal have LPG connections in their houses.



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and [laid the foundation stone of hydropower projects worth over Rs 11,000 crore in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh on December 27, 2021](#). Some of the hydropower projects are the Renukaji Dam project, [Luhri Stage 1 Hydro Power Project](#) and Dhaulasidh Hydro Power Project. He also inaugurated the Sawra-Kuddu Hydro Power Project.

- [Prime Minister Narendra Modi presided over the second ground breaking](#)

[ceremony of the Himachal Pradesh Global Investors' Meet](#) in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh on December 27, 2021. The meet is expected to give a boost to investment in the region through projects worth around Rs 28,000 crore.

- In October 2020, [the Atal Tunnel at Rohtang in Himachal Pradesh was inaugurated by the Prime Minister](#). The 9.02 km long tunnel, passes through the Rohtang Pass, is the world's longest highway tunnel, linking Manali with the Lahaul-Spiti valley. [Earlier the valley was cut off for about six months each year owing to heavy snowfall](#). The Tunnel is built with ultra-modern specifications in the Pir Panjal range of Himalayas at an altitude of 3000 metres (10,000 feet) from the Mean Sea Level (MSL). The tunnel reduces the road distance by 46 Kms between Manali and Leh and the time taken by about four to five hours.



- Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Shri [Anurag Thakur](#) also called for collective and synergised initiatives for comprehensive socio-economic development of Himachal Pradesh.

- Minister for Road Transport & Highways and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Shri Nitin Gadkari laid Foundation stone and inaugurated various National Highway Projects in Himachal Pradesh in June 2021. The total outlay of the 222-kilometre long nine road corridors is Rs.6,155 crore.



- Work on the 475 Km long Bilaspur-Manali-Leh railway line is ongoing. The Keylong station in Himachal, which will be a part of this line, will be India's first railway station under a tunnel. The Keylong station, in the project, will be inside the tunnel according to the first phase of the location survey. This will be the first such railway station in the country.
- The Ministry of Tourism under its schemes of Swadesh Darshan and PRASHAD provides financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territories/ Central Agencies for developing tourism infrastructure and facilities in the country. The Ministry sanctioned the project 'Development of Himalayan Circuit: Kiarighat, Shimla, Hatkoti, Manali, Kangra, Dharamshala, Bir, Palampur, Chamba in Himachal Pradesh' under Swadesh Darshan scheme in 2016-17 for Rs.86.85 crore. Ministry has identified Maa Chintpurni in Himachal Pradesh for development under PRASHAD Scheme.
- Under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U), 12,681 houses have been sanctioned, 12,967 have been grounded (included incomplete houses of earlier NURM) and 6185 have been completed/ delivered as on November 2021. For more details click [here](#).
- Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs released Rs. 28.80 lakh to the State Government of Himachal Pradesh as part of the 1<sup>st</sup> Instalment of central assistance for 30 Beneficiary-Led Individual House Construction or Enhancements (BLC) (New Construction) and 20 BLC (Enhancement) projects under PMAY-U Mission as of September 2021.

- [The State has an abundance of raw material for the food processing industry.](#) Himachal Pradesh has dedicated infrastructure in the form of industrial facilities such as designated food parks, Mega food park, Agri Export zone, Inland container depot & Effluent Treatment plant for the growth of the Agri-Business and Food Processing industry in the State.
- [Industrial Investment Policy 2019](#) ensured that industries coming to HP are not at any disadvantage due to location. Special provisions have been made for transport subsidy, incentive related to allotment of land and Industrial Sheds, Interest Subvention, Concessional rate of Stamp duty and Registration fee, Assistance for transport of Plant & Machinery, etc.
- [Tourism Policy 2019](#) promoted the development of new tourist destinations by providing Capital Investment Subsidy for developing tourism infrastructure in remote locations.
- [Shimla and Dharamshala both have been selected as two of the hundred Indian cities to be developed as Smart Cities under Smart Cities Mission.](#)
- The [Single Window Clearance Mechanism \(SWM\)](#), established in 2004 was revamped as per the Budget Speech of 2015-16. The state [has implemented online Single Window System which provides approvals and renewals for investment in all the sectors.](#) Investors can now apply for permission for purchase of land under section 118 of the Himachal Pradesh Tenancy and Land Reform Act, 1972, through online portal. The State Government has eased out the process of getting construction permits by curtailing required No Objection Certificates (NoCs). [The State has achieved 94.13% \(2017-18\) in the implementation of Ease of Doing \(EoDB\) reforms.](#) The enactment of the State Single Window (Investment, Promotion & Facilitation) Act in 2018 backed by a strong Public Service Guarantee Act enacted in 2011, provides an enabling and investment-friendly environment to the investors.

\*\*\*

## Video References

- [https://youtu.be/88yI\\_c7vH-c](https://youtu.be/88yI_c7vH-c)
- [PM Modi launches various development projects in Himachal Pradesh | Full Event](#) dated 27 December 2021
- [PM Modi in Himachal Pradesh | Part 1 | Global Investors' Meet & Inauguration of various developmental projects](#) dated 27 December 2021

## Twitter References

- <https://twitter.com/PMOIndia/status/1475380901945118721?s=20>
- <https://twitter.com/i/broadcasts/1rmGPgVYjoZKN>
- <https://twitter.com/PMOIndia/status/1475381534416769028?s=20>

- <https://twitter.com/PMOIndia/status/1475381534416769028?s=20>
- <https://twitter.com/PMOIndia/status/1475381812318728194?s=20>
- <https://twitter.com/PMOIndia/status/1475383063051862020?s=20>
- <https://twitter.com/mygovindia/status/1475327098851975178?s=20>

## References

- <https://sdgindiaindex.niti.gov.in/#/state-compare?goal=AllGoal&area=IND002&timePeriod=2020>
- [https://sdgindiaindex.niti.gov.in/assets/Files/SDG3.0\\_Final\\_04.03.2021\\_Web\\_Spreads.pdf](https://sdgindiaindex.niti.gov.in/assets/Files/SDG3.0_Final_04.03.2021_Web_Spreads.pdf)(Page 220 & 221)
- [https://himachalservices.nic.in/economics/pdf/Economic\\_Survey\\_eng2020-21.pdf](https://himachalservices.nic.in/economics/pdf/Economic_Survey_eng2020-21.pdf)
- <https://risinghimachal.in/>
- <https://tourism.gov.in/sites/default/files/2022-01/Draft%20Tourism%20Policy%20ver%203%20Nov%2021%20updated.pdf>
- PIB Press Release [PM greets people of Himachal Pradesh on their Statehood Day](#) dated 25 Jan 2019
- <https://himachal.nic.in/en-IN/at-a-glance.html>
- <https://msmedihimachal.nic.in/pages/view/93/95-introduction-of-the-state>
- <https://blog.mygov.in/various-welfare-schemes-of-the-himachal-government-changing-the-lives-of-millions/>
- <https://www.ibef.org/download/Himachal-Pradesh-March-2021.pdf>
- <https://himachaltourism.gov.in/types/adventure/>
- <https://himachaltourism.gov.in/destination/architectural/>
- <https://himachal.nic.in/en-IN/hindu-pilgrimages.html>
- PB Press Release [PM's address at launching of various development projects in Himachal Pradesh](#) dated 27 Dec 2021
- [https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news\\_updates/pm-presides-over-the-second-ground-breaking-ceremony-of-himachal-pradesh-global-investors-meet/](https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/pm-presides-over-the-second-ground-breaking-ceremony-of-himachal-pradesh-global-investors-meet/)
- <https://newsonair.com/2021/09/17/anurag-thakur-emphasizes-the-need-of-formulating-visionary-50-year-roadmap-for-himachal-pradesh-to-make-it-model-state/>
- <https://www.investindia.gov.in/state/himachal-pradesh>

**AG/HP/RC/RN**