

India Skills Report, 2026

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Economy

Why in News?

The India Skills Report 2026 has been released recently, was based on 100,000+ candidate assessments through the Global Employability Test (G.E.T.).

- **Launched in** - It has been published **every year** since its first release in 2014.
- **Published by** - Jointly by Educational Testing Service (ETS) in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), and the Association of Indian Universities (AIU).
- **Purpose** - To analyze India's employability landscape, identify skill gaps, and guide policy, industry, and educational institutions in workforce planning.
- **Theme, 2026** - Gig work, freelancing, AI-supported roles, remote work and entrepreneurship.

Key Findings

- **Employability Growth** - National employability rose from **46.2% in 2022 to 54.81% in 2025 to 56.3% in 2026**.
- **AI Talent Strength** - India holds **16% of global AI talent**, projected to reach 1.25 million specialists by 2027.
- **Tech Adoption** - Over 90% of employees reportedly use generative AI tools, reflecting deeper digital integration at workplaces.
- **Gig Workforce Expansion** - India's gig and freelance workforce is expected to **reach 23.5 million by 2030**, with project-based hiring rising 38% year-on-year.
- **Sectors in Demand** - Technology; Banking, Financial Services, and Insurance (BFSI); manufacturing; renewable energy and healthcare continue to drive hiring; top skills include AI, data analytics, cloud

computing and cybersecurity.

- **Most Employable States (2026)** - Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka.
- **Significance** - The findings position India as a ***preferred global source of skilled professionals***, reflecting both the scale of its workforce and its adaptability to new technologies.

References

1. [NDTV | India Skills Report, 2026](#)
2. [Indian Express | India Skills Report, 2026](#)

