

UNCTAD Trade and Development Report 2026

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Reports & Indices

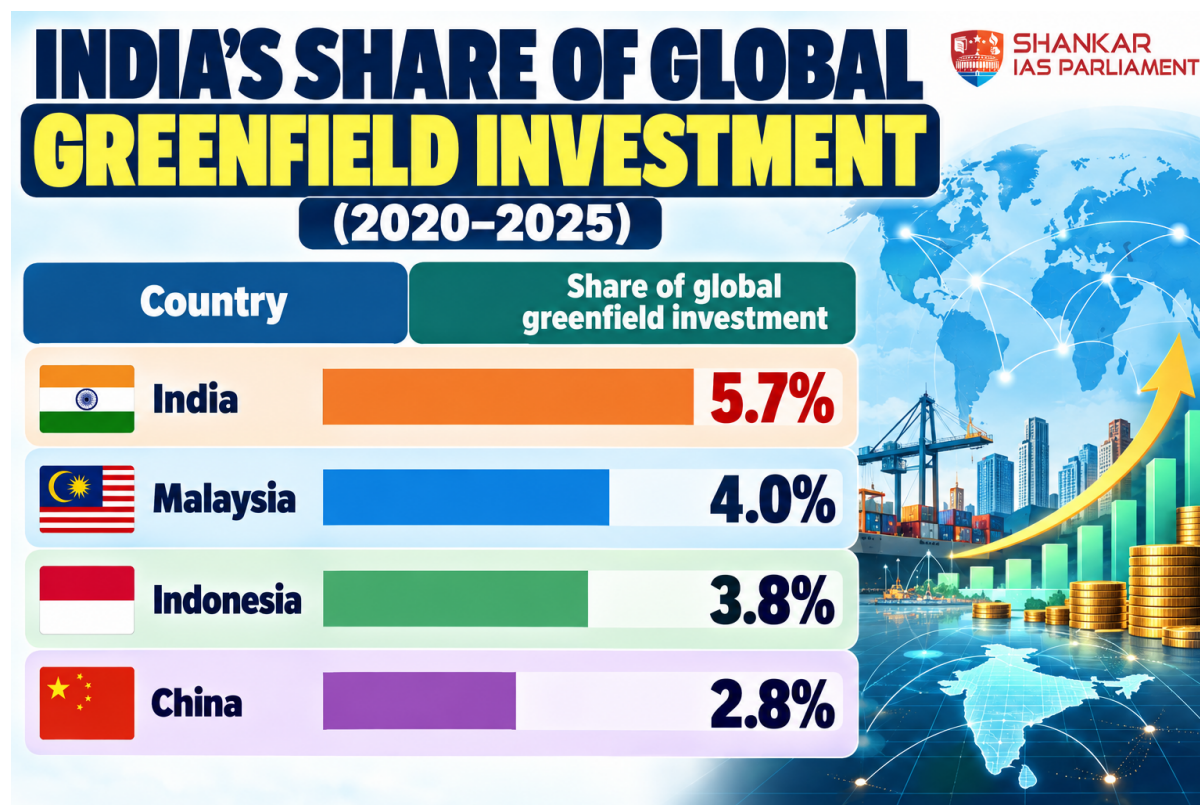
Why in News?

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) released the Trade and Development Report 2026.

- The report emphasizes the increasing significance of strategic sectors such as artificial intelligence infrastructure, semiconductors, and energy transition technologies.

Greenfield investment refers to a form of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) where a company creates a new business operation in a foreign country.

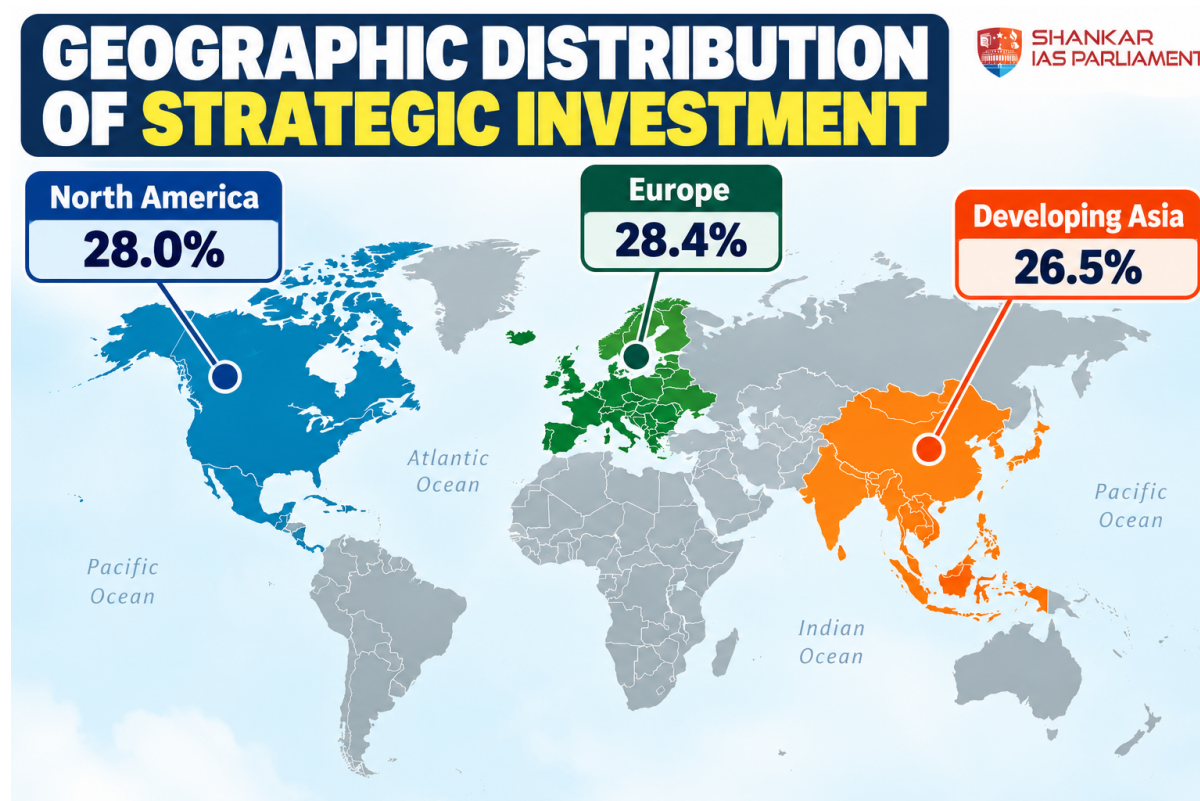
India's Contribution



- Between 2020 and 2025, India **represented 5.7% of global greenfield investments**, which is more than twice the share attributed to China at 2.8%.
- Developing Asia received a substantial share of strategic investments compared to

other developing economies.

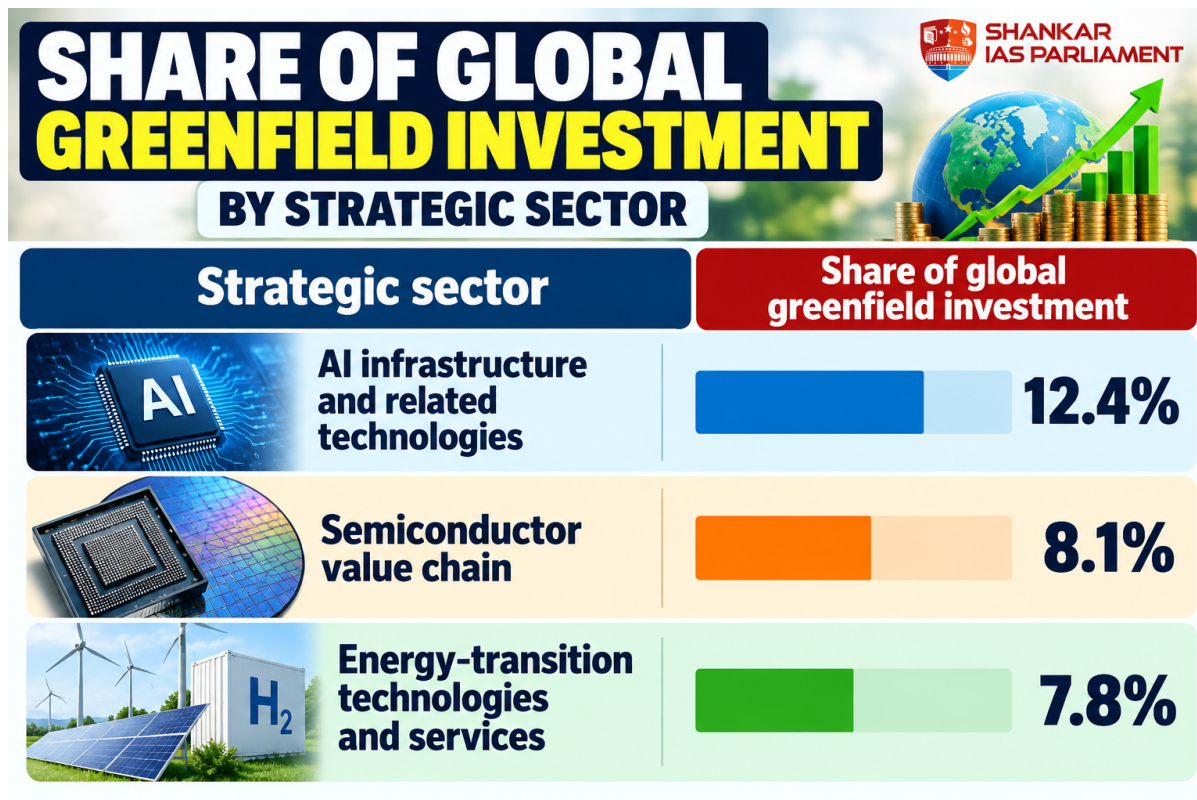
Geographic Distribution of Strategic Investment



- Europe and North America collectively accounted for **56.4% of global strategic investment**.
- Within developing economies, the majority of investment was concentrated in developing Asia.
- China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore emerged as primary destinations for new strategic investment.
- A key concern is that least developed countries (LDCs) and other developing economies struggle to integrate into global strategic industries due to the geographic concentration of investment.

Sector-wise Investment

- The report indicates that strategic sectors increased their share of global greenfield investment from 16% to 44% between 2020 and 2025.
- The report highlights the following key areas of investment:



- The total global greenfield investment reported for the period was \$845.7 billion.
- AI infrastructure and related technologies accounted for the largest share among the identified strategic sectors.

Industrial Policies: India's Position

- In the period from 2022 to 2025,
 - India implemented a total of 707 industrial policy measures.
 - The rate of industrial policy implementation increased both globally and within India.
 - During this period, India declined in comparative rankings, as the United States, China, Australia, and Brazil implemented a greater number of measures.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

- **Established** - 1964.
- **Headquarters** - Geneva, Switzerland.
- **Parent body** - United Nations General Assembly.
- **Objective** - To promote the integration of developing countries into the global economy in a way that supports development.
- **Key areas of work** - International trade, investment, finance, technology, debt and sustainable development.
- **Reports** - Trade and Development Report, World Investment Report and Technology and Innovation Report.

Reference

[The Hindu | Global Greenfield Investments](#)



SHANKAR
IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering