



Global South Matters

DAKSHIN

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IN FOCUS

Who Controls Her Time: Gendered Time Use in the Global South

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Time is one of the most valuable resources people have, shaping their opportunities, well-being, and contributions to society. How individuals divide their time across work, caregiving, leisure and rest reflects broader social and economic patterns. Time Use Surveys (TUS) captures these patterns, revealing not just daily routines but also hidden inequalities, especially gender disparities. These insights are essential for designing inclusive and informed policies.

The India Time Use Survey (TUS) 2024 offers revealing insights into how men and women allocate time across work, caregiving and leisure. Among individuals aged 15-59 years, 41% of women participated in caregiving for household members, compared to 21.4% of men.

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Key Developments in the Global South



PM Modi Proposes a 21-Point Action Plan to Boost Cooperation Amongst BIMSTEC Nations

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi proposed a 21-point Action Plan covering different aspects of cooperation among the BIMSTEC nations at the 6th BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok, Thailand. He remarked to boost business across BIMSTEC nations and harness the rich potential of the IT sector. He also urged the need to work together in the field of disaster management in the wake of recent earthquake affecting Myanmar and Thailand. Shri Modi emphasised to work in the world of space and strengthen the security apparatus.

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India, Sri Lanka and UAE Boost Energy Cooperation

India, Sri Lanka and the United Arab Emirates on Saturday firmed up an ambitious agreement to develop Trincomalee as an "energy hub" with a broader aim to help Colombo to achieve energy security and fuel its economic growth. The pact was signed following wide-ranging talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Disanayake. To expand their energy ties, India and Sri Lanka also concluded a separate pact on electricity grid interconnection, a project that has been on the drawing board for some time.

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India and Thailand Discuss Deepening Strategic Partnership

During 03-04 April 2025, Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India paid an Official Visit to Thailand and participated in the 6th BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok, on the invitation of H.E. Ms. Paetongtarn Shinawatra, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand. Prime Minister Modi was accorded a ceremonial welcome by Prime Minister Shinawatra at the Government House in Bangkok. Acknowledging the deep civilisational, cultural, religious and linguistic bonds and 78 years of establishment of diplomatic ties between India and Thailand, both leaders held wide ranging discussions.

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PM Modi and Srilankan President Jointly Unveil Projects in Srilanka

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, accompanied by the President of Sri Lanka, H.E. Anura Kumara Disanayaka, today participated in a ceremony to inaugurate and launch two railway projects built with Indian assistance in Anuradhapura. The leaders inaugurated the 128 km Maho-Omanthai railway line refurbished with Indian assistance of USD 91.27 million, followed by the launch of construction of an advanced signaling system from Maho to Anuradhapura, being built with Indian grant assistance of USD 14.89.

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EAM Jaishankar, Fiji's Health Minister Lalabalav Discuss Ongoing Medical Cooperation

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met with Fiji's Minister for Health and Medical Services, Ratu Antonio Rabici Lalabalav, in Delhi on Monday. Jaishankar said that he and

Lalabalav discuss ongoing health and medical cooperation and called it an “important pillar” of long-standing partnership between two nations. The relations between India and Fiji are based on mutual respect, cooperation, and strong cultural and people-to-people ties.

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India and Nepal Sign MOU for Judicial Cooperation

The Supreme Court of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Supreme Court of Nepal to develop, promote and strengthen the judicial cooperation between the two countries today. The MoU was signed in the presence of Hon’ble Mr Justice Prakash Man Singh Raut, Chief Justice of Nepal and Hon’ble Mr Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Chief Justice of India. Inspired by the cordial and friendly relations existing between the two countries and their people the MoU aims at developing, promoting and strengthening cooperation between the judiciaries of the two countries.

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Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan Sign Trilateral Agreement

Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan on Monday signed an agreement on the junction point of their state borders. The signing of the agreement took place following a trilateral summit between Kyrgyz President Sadyr Japarov, Tajik President Emomali Rahmon, and Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev in the Tajik city of Khujand, an Uzbek presidency statement said. The trilateral deal, as well as an agreement between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan on the state border, will “serve to ensure the goals of stability and sustainable development, increasing the international authority of the entire region.”

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Nepal and Thailand Sign Eight Agreements

Nepal and Thailand on Wednesday signed eight different agreements during Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli’s day-long official visit to the East Asian nation ahead of the sixth summit of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC). During their meeting, which coincided with the 66th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between Nepal and Thailand, Prime Minister Oli and his Thai counterpart, Paetongtarn Shinawatra, discussed a range of issues, including strengthening bilateral relations; increasing trade and investment in areas like tourism, agriculture, herbal processing and medicine; and bringing more Thai businesses and investments in Nepal.

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Paraguay and Taiwan Explore Using AI in Agriculture

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Paraguay and the Taiwan International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF) are exploring opportunities to apply Artificial Intelligence (AI) in agricultural production, focusing on aquaculture and orchid cultivation.

In this regard, the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock, Carlos Giménez, met yesterday with representatives from the Taiwan Embassy in Paraguay, led by the Secretary-General of the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF), Huang Yu-Lin.

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NSO, India Unveils Digital Innovations to Strengthen Statistical System

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) launched a revamped Microdata Portal during the recently held Conference of State Government Ministers, marking a significant step in enhancing data accessibility, user experience, and the integration of advanced technologies in the Official Statistical System. The new portal, which serves as a centralized repository for extensive statistical data collected from national surveys and economic census overcomes technological limitations faced by the previous portal.

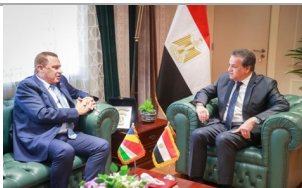
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Algeria and WHO to Enhance Health Cooperation

Algeria's Minister of Health, Abdelhak Saihi, met in Berlin (Germany) with the Director-General of the World Health Organization, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, to discuss ways to enhance cooperation between Algeria and the organization in the health sector and to develop health systems. The ministry's statement clarified that the meeting took place as part of Saihi's participation in the third global summit on disability, which is being held in the German capital, Berlin, upon the mandate of the President of the Republic, Mr Abdelmadjid Tebboune.

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Egypt and Seychelles Seek to Expand Health Cooperation

Egypt's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Health and Population Khaled Abdel Ghaffar met with Sylvestre Radegonde, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Seychelles, along with Ambassador Conrad Mederic and an accompanying delegation, to explore avenues for strengthening bilateral cooperation in the healthcare sector. The meeting, held at the Ministry's headquarters in the New Administrative Capital, focused on expanding collaboration in medical training, treatment services, and the exchange of expertise.

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UAE and Azerbaijan Seek to Boost Ties

H.H. Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, today received Jeyhun Bayramov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the friendly Republic of Azerbaijan, in Abu Dhabi. During the meeting, the two top diplomats discussed avenues of developing cooperation across various fields, including development, economy, and investment, in a manner that serves the mutual interests of both countries and supports their vision for achieving sustainable development.

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Egypt, Sierra Leone Discuss Boosting Joint Cooperation

Egypt's Ambassador to Freetown Rasha Suleiman discussed with Sierra Leone Agriculture Minister Henry Kpaka means to boost cooperation in the sector of agriculture and irrigation in the coming period and building on the outcome of the visit of Sierra Leone President Julius Maada Bio to Egypt on March 26-28. Both sides tackled means of joint cooperation and benefiting from the Egyptian expertise presented in the field of agriculture and modern irrigation to contribute to increasing the efficiency of agriculture production and achieve food security in Sierra Leone.

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African Development Bank and Mozambique Launch Drone-Based Initiative

The African Development Bank, the government of Mozambique, and Korea's government agency Busan Technopark have launched an innovative drone-driven initiative to strengthen disaster preparedness in Mozambique, a country frequently hit by floods, mudslides, cyclones, and other weather-related crises. The Drone-Based Disaster Management Project will establish a drone training centre in Mozambique to train 30 professionals, including 10 instructors. It will also implement a drone-based monitoring and response system across five high-risk flood zones.

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Papua New Guinea Seeks to Launch Digital Ids

The launch of Papua New Guinea (PNG's) national digital ID labelled "SevisPass" is now very close, the Minister of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Timothy Masiu said, adding that the expected economic and social dividends from it will be enormous. According to the minister, the SevisPass, if properly implemented, will bring several gains

to PNG, including potentially growing the GDP from between three and five percent in the next five years.

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Recent Event



Letter of Association (LoA) Signing Ceremony

DAKSHIN and the Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo (FUNGLODE), Dominican Republic celebrated the Letter of Association (LoA) signing ceremony on 8 April 2025. This is the 29th LOA that DAKSHIN has signed within the Latin America & Caribbean region. The event saw participation by colleagues from DAKSHIN, FUNGLODE, and dignitaries from the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and from the Embassy of India in Dominican Republic. Professor Gulshan Sachdeva; Chief Coordinator, DAKSHIN laid out the mandate of DAKSHIN and the sectoral focus of DAKSHIN in his welcome remarks. Dr. Marco Herrera, Executive Director, FUNGLODE presented the work programme of FUNGLODE and its broader focus on the larger issues of development and democracy and the scope for joint collaboration. Dr. K.M. Praphullachandra Sharma; Joint Secretary, Latin America and Caribbean Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India also graced the event. Mr Arup Kumar Saha, First Secretary (Political) and HOC at the Indian Embassy in Santo Domingo also welcomed this joint cooperation and expressed his unwavering support to this timely initiative. The event concluded with Dr. Monika Kochar delivering the vote of thanks to the participants.

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