National Single Window System

Transforming Business Approvals in India

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*The **National Single Window System (NSWS)** is a digital platform that guides investors in identifying the approvals required for their businesses. It also enables them to apply for these approvals based on their specific business requirements. Implemented by DPIIT, it enables investors to identify, apply for, and track approvals through a single interface. Its key features include the Know Your Approvals module, Common Registration Form, Applicant Dashboard, Document Repository and E-Communication Module. By enabling one-time submission, online processing and real-time tracking, NSWS reduces duplication, compliance burden and approval timelines while improving transparency and coordination. With expanding integration of Central Ministries, States and regulatory authorities, NSWS is strengthening India's **Ease of Doing Business** and fostering a more seamless investment ecosystem.*

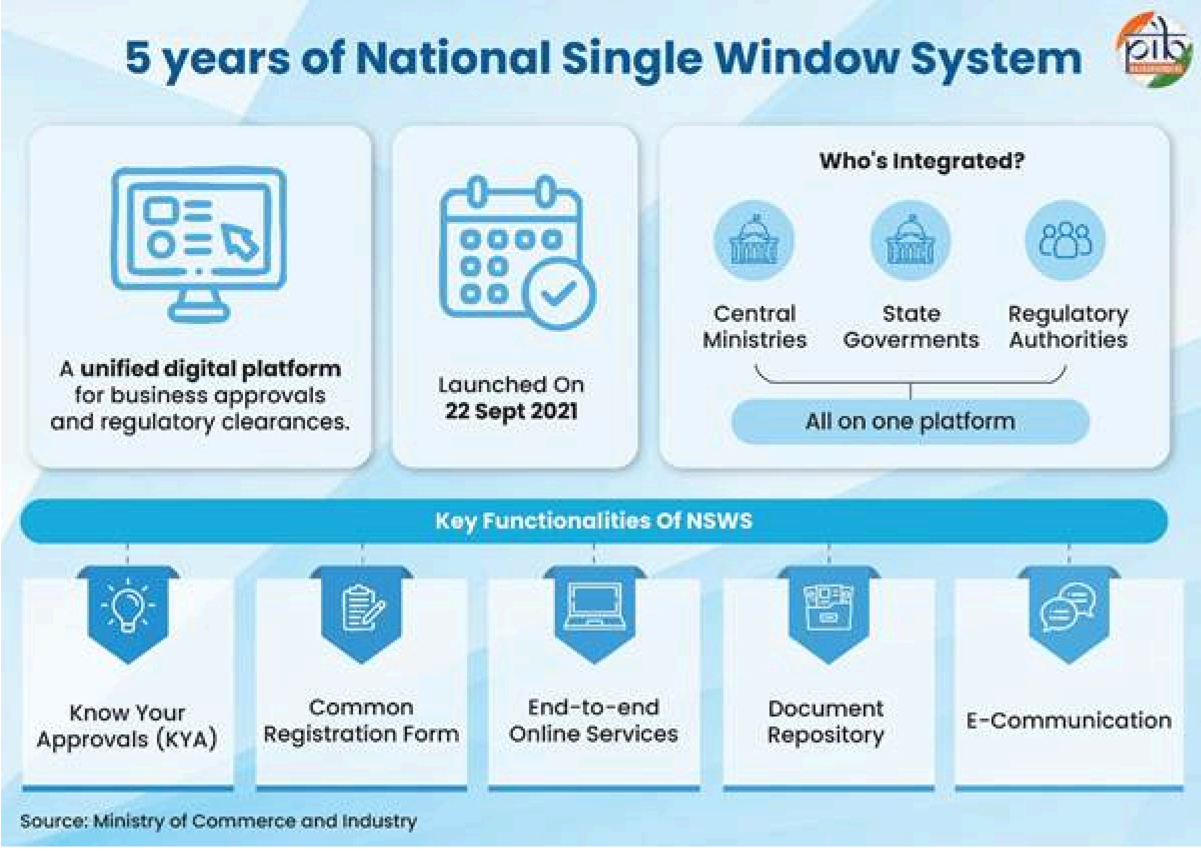
National Single Window System: An Overview

An efficient regulatory ecosystem is essential for promoting investment and economic growth. The Government has undertaken several digital governance reforms to create a transparent and investor-friendly regulatory ecosystem. The **National Single Window System (NSWS)** is one such reform. It serves as a digital platform that guides investors in identifying and applying for the approvals required for their businesses.

Launched on **22 September 2021**, NSWS is implemented by the **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry**. This year, it completes 5 years of its success. It integrates approvals offered by Central Ministries, State Governments, and regulatory authorities on a common digital platform.

Contribution to Ease of Doing Business

The NSWS **simplifies the approval process** by enabling one-time submission of information and documents. It helps **reduce compliance and approval timelines**. The platform also enhances transparency through real-time application tracking and online communication with regulatory authorities. These features make the approval process more predictable and efficient.



NSWS minimizes duplication of information across departments and improves coordination among government agencies through an integrated digital ecosystem. Collectively, these reforms strengthen the **Ease of Doing Business**, facilitate investment, and support the Government's vision of **Minimum Government, Maximum Governance**.

Key Functionalities of NSWS

NSWS enables online submission of applications and payment of fees. A key feature of NSWS is the **Know Your Approvals (KYA) module**, a tool that identifies the approvals applicable to a business based on its proposed activities. The portal hosts applications for approvals from **32 Central Ministries/ Departments and 34 State Governments and Union Territories**. This helps investors navigate regulatory requirements for business. The guidance provided through KYA is advisory in nature and does not constitute legal advice.

To simplify compliance, NSWS provides a **Common Registration Form** that captures information through a single interface and enables reuse of information across applications. The platform also offers seamless access to State Single Window Systems through a dedicated **State Registration Form**, ensuring integration with State-level approval mechanisms.

The platform includes an **Applicant Dashboard** for submitting applications, monitoring their status, and responding to departmental queries. The portal also allows investors to **renew applicable approvals** easily and **track the status of the application in real-time**. A **centralized Document Repository** enables one-time upload and reuse of documents across multiple approvals, reducing duplication of submissions. The **E-Communication Module** facilitates online exchange of queries and clarifications between applicants and the concerned Ministries and State Governments.

Approval Workflow under NSWS

An investor begins by registering on NSWS using an email ID and mobile number. The investor may identify applicable approvals through the Know Your Approvals (KYA) module or search for required approvals from list of approvals. After verification, they can submit applications for various Central and State approvals.

Once an application is submitted, NSWS forwards it electronically to the concerned Ministry, Department, or State Government for processing through its respective backend system. While **registration on NSWS is free of cost, applicants are required to pay the statutory fees** prescribed by the respective authority through the portal.

Applicants can monitor the status of their applications through the Applicant Dashboard. They can respond to departmental queries using the E-Communication Module, and access all uploaded documents from the centralized Document Repository.

Expanding Digital Integration

NSWS implements **Permanent Account Number (PAN)** as the **Single Business ID**, with user authentication of authorised representatives through the **Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)** and **DigiLocker** (for sole proprietors).

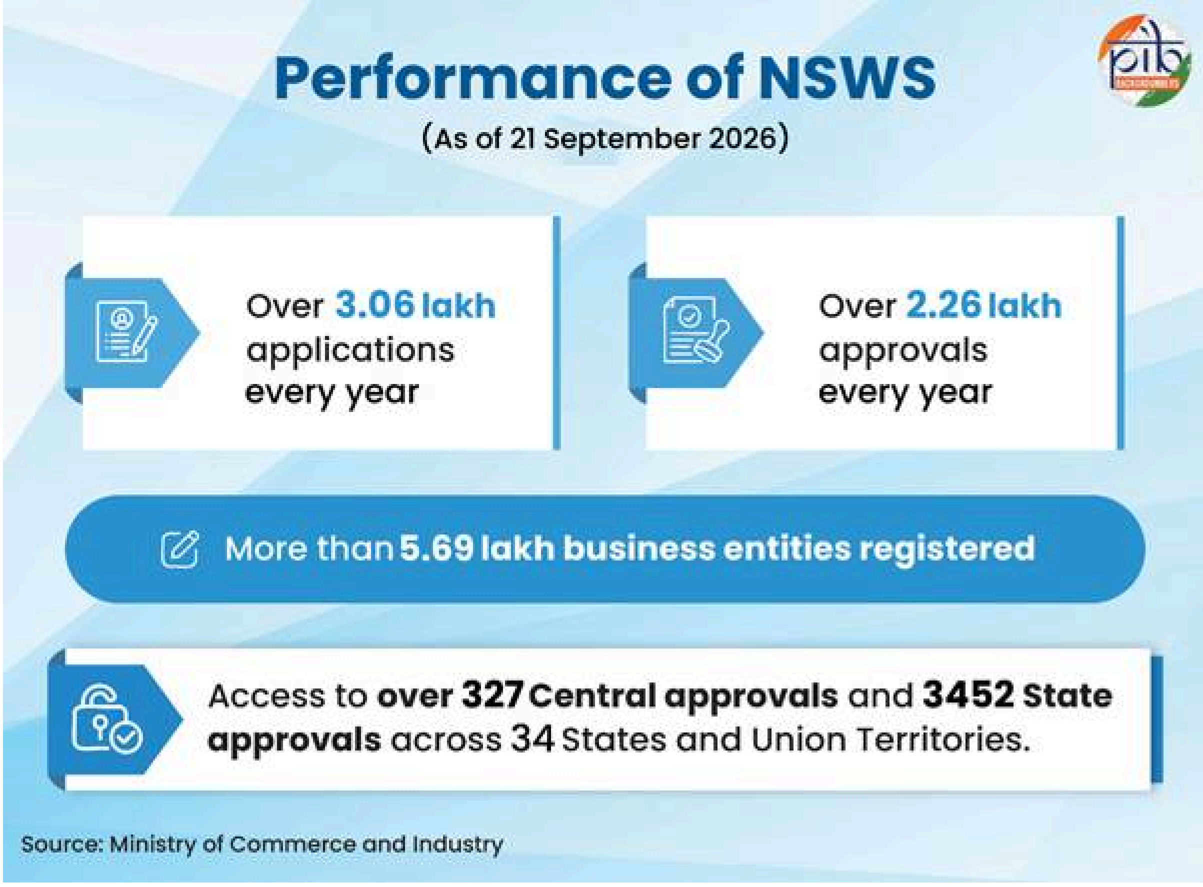
The **Foreign Investment Facilitation Portal (FIF Portal)** has also been integrated with NSWS, enabling a single-window mechanism for FDI applications requiring Government approval. The **Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandum (IEM)** and **Industrial License (IL)** processes have been fully migrated to the **National Single Window System (NSWS)** since **October 2025** and **March 2026**, respectively, and are now completely digital. The digitalised processes facilitate auto-population of information through integration with relevant government databases, eliminate manual approval requirements, and enable industries to generate acknowledgements instantly, thereby improving efficiency and reducing processing time.

Further, the **Production Investment Business Registration** module was launched on NSWS in **November 2025** to facilitate Indian companies in generating **Sponsorship Letters** for inviting foreign professionals under the **e-Production Investment Business Visa (e-B-4 Visa)**. The module provides a streamlined digital mechanism for registration and issuance of sponsorship-related documentation.
Additionally, the **Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO)** has integrated all **74 licensing modules** with NSWS, making it the first department to achieve complete transaction-level integration.

Coverage and Performance

Since its launch, the NSWS has significantly expanded its reach and service delivery. As of **21 September 2026**, the platform receives an annual average of **over 3.06 lakh** applications and facilitates the processing of **more than 2.26 lakh approvals each year**. The platform has also onboarded **over 5.69 lakh business entities**, including sole proprietorships, companies, LLPs and foreign entities.

NSWS currently provides access to **over 327 Central approvals** and **3452 State approvals** across **34 States and Union Territories**. It facilitates key regulatory approvals such as company incorporation, industrial licences, startup recognition, FDI approvals, and registration under the Contract Labour Act. **Assam (335), Karnataka (327), Tamil Nadu (223) and Manipur (190)** offer the highest number of integrated approvals.



The platform also serves as a common gateway for approvals under flagship initiatives, including the **National Green Hydrogen Mission**, **Ethanol Policy**, **Vehicle Scrapping Policy**, and the **Indian Footwear and Leather Development Programme**.

Towards a Seamless Business Ecosystem

The NSWS marks a significant step towards creating a transparent, and technology-driven regulatory ecosystem. Continued integration of Ministries, States, and regulatory authorities will further strengthen its effectiveness. Leveraging digital technologies and process simplification will enhance investor confidence and improve India's ease of doing business. As the platform evolves, NSWS has the potential to become the cornerstone of a unified business regulatory framework in India.

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