

**UPSC**

**GradeUP 365**

**Reports &  
Indices**

**(January 2020-March 2021)**

**Yearly Current Affairs  
Compilation**

Sahi Prep Hai Toh Life Set Hai



## UPSC Prelims 365 current affairs: “Abki Baar Prelims Paar”

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#### State of World Population Report 2020

Why in the news?

- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has recently released the **State of World Population Report 2020**.
- The title of the report is: ‘**Against my will: defying the practices that harm women and girls and undermine equality**’.
- The report focuses on the **problem of child marriage, son preference, gender-biased sex selection (GBSS) and female genital mutilation**.



### Highlights of the Report

- **India** accounts for **45.8 million** of the world's **142.6 million missing females** over the past **50 years due to gender-based sex selection** and preference for sons.
- The report identifies **19 harmful practices against women** out of which **3 are most widespread and persistent**: Female genital mutilation (FGM), child marriage and son preference.
- Globally, **one in five girls is married by age 18**.
- In 2020, an **estimated 4.1 million girls** will be subjected to **female genital mutilation**.

### About United Nations Population Fund

- It is the **United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency**.
- It aims to **deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe,** and every young person's potential is fulfilled.
- Its **headquarters** is in **New York, United States**.

## Sustainable Development Report 2020

### Why in the news?

- Recently the **Sustainable Development Report 2020** presents the **SDG Index and Dashboards for all UN member state**.



### About the Sustainable Development Report 2020

- Sustainable Development Report 2020 was prepared by teams of **independent experts at the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)** and the **Bertelsmann Stiftung**.
- The **SDG index frames** the implementation of **17 SDG goals among UN member states** in terms of **six broad transformations**:
  - Education and skills
  - Health and wellbeing
  - Clean energy and industry
  - Sustainable land use
  - Sustainable cities
  - Digital technologies.



### Highlights of the Report

- **Sweden** is placed at the **top of the latest SDG index for the year 2020** with an **overall score of 84.7**.
- **India** stands at the **117th position** with an **overall score of 61.92**. **China** is ranked at **48**, **Brazil** at **53** and **Russia** at **57**.
- In south Asia, **Maldives** is ranked at **91**, Sri Lanka at 94, Nepal at 96 Bangladesh at 109 and Pakistan at 134.

### About SDGs 2030

- **Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, adopted by all member states of the **United-Nations in 2015**.

#### The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- The **Sustainable Development Report (formerly the SDG Index & Dashboards)** is the **first worldwide study** to assess where **each country** stands about achieving the **Sustainable Development Goals**. Unlike its predecessor the **Millennium Development Goals**, the **SDGs set standards** not only for **emerging and developing countries**, but also for the **industrialized nations**.

## State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World

### Why in the news?

- Recently a report titled “**State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World**” has been released by **the United Nations**.
- The report has warned that **achieving the Sustainable Development Goal of ‘Zero Hunger’** that it had **mandated by 2030**, will be **very difficult**.



### About the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World Report

- The report is **jointly produced** by the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**, **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)**, **United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)**, **UN World Food Programme (WFP)** and **World Health Organization (WHO)**.

- The report aims to **produce the most authoritative global study** on the **progress towards ending hunger and malnutrition**.

#### Highlights of the report

- According to the report, about **six hundred and ninety million people went hungry in 2019** – up by **10 million from 2018** and by **nearly 60 million in five years**.

#### Undernourishment

- The **global prevalence of undernourishment** – or overall percentage of hungry people – had changed little at **8.9 per cent**, but the **absolute numbers have been rising since 2014**.
- The **number of undernourishment people** in India declined from **21.7% in 2004-06 to 14% in 2017-19**.
- **Asia** remains home to the **greatest number of undernourished people** followed by **Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean**.

#### Stunting

- According to the report, in **2019, between a quarter and a third of children under five (191 million) were stunted or wasted** – too short or too thin.
- The **prevalence of stunting** in children under five years of age in India declined from **47.8% in 2012 to 34.7% in 2019**.

#### Obesity

- The **number of adults (18 years and older) who are obese** grew from **3.1% in 2012 to 3.9% in 2016**.

#### Anaemia among women

- The **number of women of reproductive age (15–49) affected by anaemia** grew from **165.6 million in 2012 to 175.6 million in 2016**.

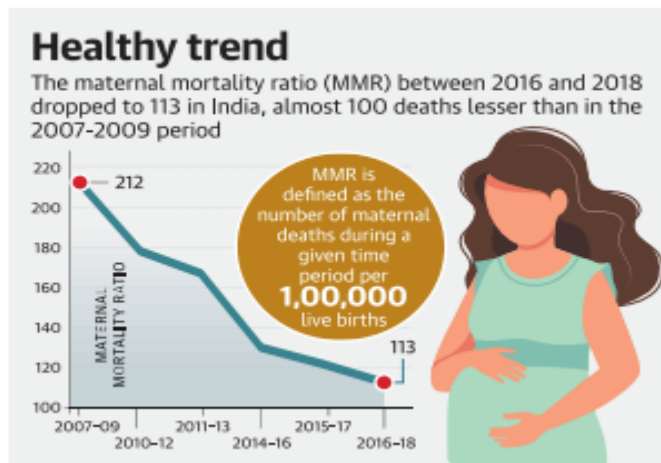
#### Note

- **SDG 2** deals with **End hunger**, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

## India registers a steep decline in maternal mortality ratio

#### Why in the news?

- The **Office of the Registrar General's Sample Registration System** has recently released **special bulletin on Maternal Mortality in India 2016-18**.



#### Key findings of the bulletin

- The **Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) in India** declined to **113 in 2016-18** from **122 in 2015-17** and **130 in 2014-2016**.
- The **MMR of various States** according to the **bulletin includes Assam (215), Bihar (149), Madhya Pradesh (173), Chhattisgarh (159), Odisha (150), Rajasthan (164), Uttar Pradesh (197) and Uttarakhand (99)**.
- The southern States registered a lower MMR – **Andhra Pradesh (65), Telangana (63), Karnataka (92), Kerala (43) and Tamil Nadu (60)**.

## Related Term

### Maternal mortality

- Maternal mortality in a region is a **measure of the reproductive health of women** in the area.
- As per the **World Health Organization**, **maternal death** is the **death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy**, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management.

### Maternal Mortality Ratio

- It is one of the **key indicators of maternal mortality**.
- It is defined as the **number of maternal deaths per 1, 00,000 live births**.
- The **target 3.1 of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)** set by the **United Nations** aims to **reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 1, 00,000 live**.

## World Intellectual Property Indicators-2019 Report

### Why in the news?

- As per **World Intellectual Property Indicators-2019 Report**, **India** has emerged as the **top tenth nation in the ranking of the total** (resident and abroad) **Intellectual Property (IP) filing activity**.



### Findings of the report

- The government pushes to schemes like "**Make in Indi**", "**SkillIndia**" and now "**Atma-nirbhar Bhara**", **IP Filing** and **grant activity** are likely to increase.
- **Industry 4.0** is witnessing **new inventions and breakthroughs** as it **faces challenges in providing the right environment to stimulate innovation**, especially in **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning**.
- **IP-intensive industries** have been **identified as an important and integral part of a country 'ss economy** and account for **more jobs and a larger share of its GDP**.

### Related Information

- The **National IPR Policy**, launched in **May 2016**, to **promote strong IP regime** in the **country**, **encourages innovation** to achieve country' ss **industrial and economic development goals**.
- Its clarion call is "**Creative India; Innovative Indi**".
- It **encompasses and brings to a single platform all IPRs**, considering all inter-linkages and thus **aims to create and exploit synergies between all forms of intellectual property (IP)**, concerned statutes and agencies.
- It sets in place an **institutional mechanism for implementation**, monitoring and review.
- It aims to **incorporate and adapt global best practices** to the **Indian scenario**.

### Nodal agency

- **Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP)**, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India, has been appointed as the **nodal department to coordinate, guide, and oversee the implementation and future development of IPRs in India**. India' ss **IPR regime** follows the **WTO 'ss agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)**.

### India and IPR

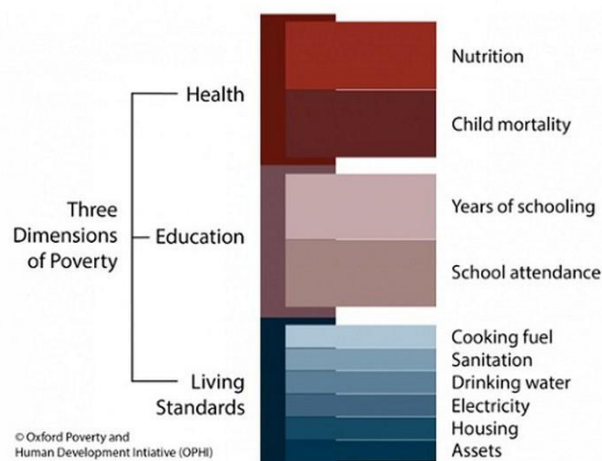
- **India is a member of the World Trade Organisation** and committed to the **Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property (TRIPS Agreement)**.
- **India is also a member of the World Intellectual Property Organization**, a body responsible for the **promotion of the protection of intellectual property rights** throughout the world.
- **India is also a member of the following important WIPO-administered International Treaties and Conventions** relating to IPRs.
  1. Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property
  2. Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for Patent Procedure
  3. Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization
  4. Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works
  5. Marrakesh Treaty to facilitate Access to Published Works by Visually Impaired Persons and Persons with Print Disabilities.

## **Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2020**

### **Why in the news?**

- Recently the **2020 global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)** was recently released by the **Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative** and the **United Nations Development Programme**.

### **What does the global MPI measure?**



### **Findings of the report**

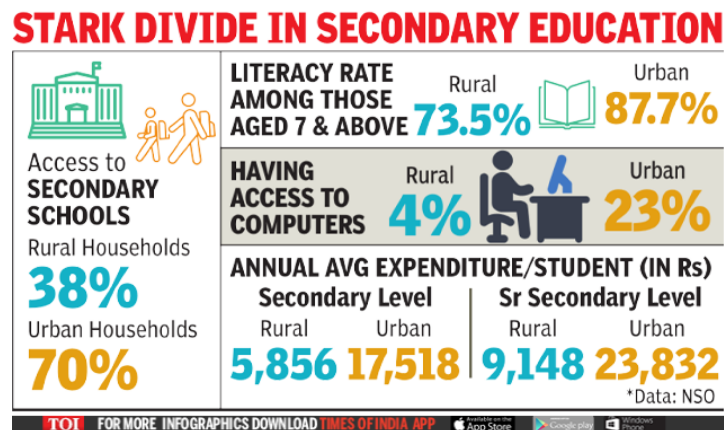
- Around **1.3 billion people** are **still living in multidimensional poverty**.
  - **Children show higher rates of multidimensional poverty**. Half of **multidimensionally poor people (644 million)** are **children under age 18**. One in **three children is poor** compared with **one in six adults**.
  - Four countries—**Armenia (2010–2015/2016)**, **India (2005/2006–2015/2016)**, **Nicaragua (2001–2011/2012)** and **North Macedonia (2005/2006–2011)** halved their **global MPIT value** and did so in **5.5–10.5 years**.
  - About **84 % of multidimensionally poor people live in Sub-Saharan Africa (558 million)** and **South Asia (530 million)**.
  - The countries with the **fastest reduction in MPI value in absolute terms** were **Sierra Leone, Mauritania, and Liberia**, followed by **Timor-Leste, Guinea, and Rwanda**.
- About the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index**
- It is a measure of **acute multidimensional poverty** and measures the acute **deprivations in health, education, and living standards** that a person may face simultaneously.

- The global MPI is **composed of three dimensions** (health, education, and living standards) and ten indicators.
- A person is **identified as multidimensionally poor** if they are deprived in at least one-third of the weighted indicators.
- The year **2020 marks the tenth anniversary** since the global MPI was first launched in partnership with the UNDP's Human Development Report Office (HDRO).

## **NSO Report on “Household Social Consumption: Education”**

### **Why in the news?**

- The National Statistical Office (NSO) released a report on “Household Social Consumption: Education” in which it surveyed **1.13 lakh households spread across over 8,000 villages and 6,000 urban blocks** between **July 2017 and June 2018**.
- The study involved **1.52 lakh students across** different levels of study.



### **Highlights of the Report**

- ✓ **On accessibility**
  - According to the **report around 92.7% of the rural households** have a **primary school within 1 km** as compared to **87.2% in urban areas**.
  - The situation gets skewed as only **38% of the rural household** has access to secondary school as compared to **70% in the urban areas on similar parameters**.
- ✓ **Literacy Rate**
  - The **all India literacy rate** among persons **aged 7 years and above is 77.7%**.
  - However, for the same age group, the **rural literacy is 73.5%** and in the **urban areas it is 87.7%**.
- ✓ **Internet Access**
  - The **digital divide between rural and urban households** is stark with just **4% of the rural population** having access to computers.
  - The report highlighted that while **15% surveyed population** in the **rural cluster has internet access**, **42% of the surveyed students** in the urban areas have access to the internet.
  - Only **24% of the persons between ages 15-29 years** in rural areas are able to operate a computer as compared to **56% of their urban counterparts**.
  - Annual average expenditure per student at secondary and senior secondary level in a **rural household stands at Rs 5,856 and Rs 9,148 respectively**.
  - An **urban household** for the same classes spends **Rs 17,518 and Rs 23,832 respectively**.
  - At school level while the **majority of the urban households** had shown a **preference for private schools**, it's the **opposite for rural households**.
  - The **report highlights that 76.1% of the rural children** are attending **primary and middle school run by the government**, while only **38% of the urban children** are attending government schools.

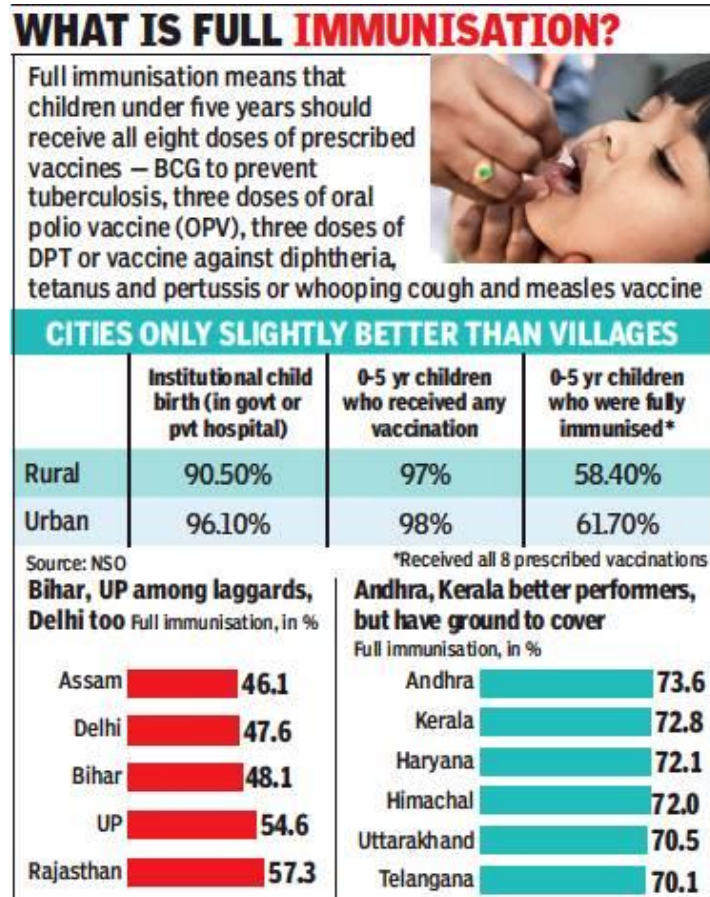


- However, for graduate and above studies, **49.7% rural students are attending classes** in government institutions as **compared to 41% of the urban counterparts** in government institutions.

## NSO Report on Immunization among Children

### Why in the news?

- According to survey conducted by **National Statistical Office (NSO)** during **July 2017-June 2018**, on immunization among Children.



### Highlights of the report

- According to the report **around 60% of children less than five years of age** were fully immunized which includes **about 59% of boys and 60% of girls** across the country.
- They had been fully immunised with all eight prescribed vaccinations – **BCG, OPV- 1, 2, 3, DPT- 1, 2, 3** and measles.
- In rural India, **about 58% (57% boys and 60% girls) children under five years** and about **62% (62% boys and 61% girls) children in urban India** had been fully immunised.
- The survey shows majority of the children received vaccination from government hospitals or clinics.
- About **95% of children in rural India** and **86% of children in urban India** had received some vaccination from government hospitals including primary and **community health centres or even Anganwadi centres**.
- Private sector catered to **about 5% of children in rural India**, though the percentage was slightly **higher at 14% of children in urban India** who received any vaccination.

### Related Information

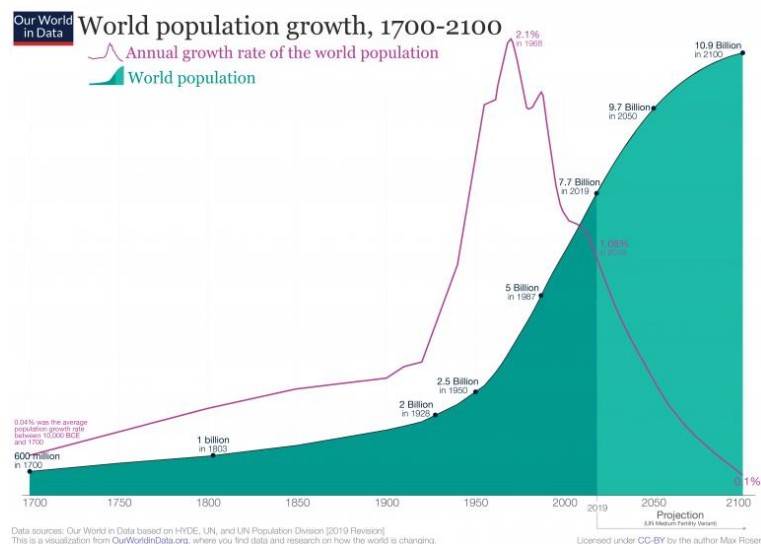
## About Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI)

- The **Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI)** has been launched by the **Government of India in 2017**.
- The aim of Intensified Mission Indradhanush, to reach each and every child under two years of age and all those pregnant women who have been left uncovered under the routine immunization programme.
- The special drive will focus on **improving immunization coverage** in select districts and cities to ensure **full immunization to more than 90% by December 2018**.
- **Intensified Mission Indradhanush** would be closely monitored at the **district, state and central level at regular intervals**.
- Further, it would be reviewed by the **Cabinet Secretary at the National level** and will continue to be monitored at the **highest level under a special initiative ‘Proactive Governance and Timely Implementation (PRAGATI)’**.

## World Population Projection

### Why in the news?

- Recently a **new analysis published in ‘The Lancet’** has projected that the **world population will peak much earlier** than previously estimated.
- The researchers have **analyzed population trends in 195 countries**.
- It used data from the **Global Burden of Disease Study 2017** to **model future population in various scenarios as a function of fertility, migration, and mortality rates**.



### Highlights of the report

- The research projects the **world population will peak at 9.73 billion in 2064**, which is **36 years earlier** than the **11 billion peaks** projected for **2100** by last year's UN report **World Population Prospects**.
- For **2100**, the new report projects a **decline to 8.79 billion from the 2064 peak**.
- For India, the **report projects a peak population of 1.6 billion in 2048**, up from **1.38 billion in 2017**.
- By 2100, the **population is projected to decline by 32% to 1.09 billion**.
- The **global TFR** is predicted to **steadily decline from 2.37 in 2017 to 1.66 in 2100**.
- The **TFR is projected to fall below 2.1 in 183 countries**.
- In **23 countries** including **Japan, Thailand, Italy and Spain**, it is projected to **shrink by more than 50%**.

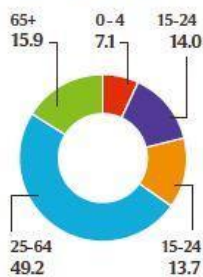
### Reports and India

- **India's TFR** was already below **2.1 in 2019**.

- The TFR is projected to have a **continue a steep decline until about 2040, reaching 1.29 in 2100.**
- The **number of working-age adults (20–64 years)** in India is projected to fall from **around 748 million in 2017** to around **578 million in 2100.**
- However, this will be the **largest working-age population in the world by 2100.**
- In the **mid-2020s, India** is expected to **surpass China’s workforce population (950 million in 2017, and 357 million in 2100).**
- From **2017 to 2100, India** is projected to **rise up the list of countries with the largest GDP, from 7th to 3rd.**
- India is projected to have the **second largest net immigration in 2100**, with an **estimated half a million more people immigrating to India in 2100** than emigrating out.
- Among the **10 countries with the largest populations in 2017 or 2100, India** is projected to have **one of the lowest life expectancies (79.3 years in 2100, up from 69.1 in 2017).**

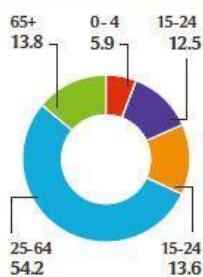
## MORE ELDERLY, FEWER KIDS

### WORLD (2050)



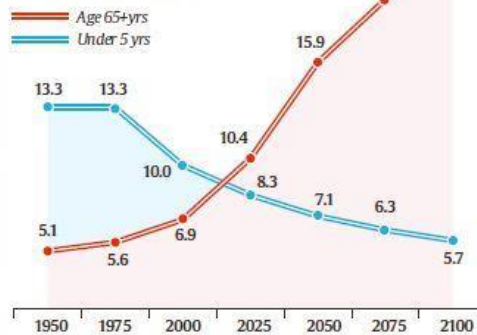
1/6th of world over 65 yrs, just 7% under age 5

### INDIA (2050)



1/7th of India over 65 yrs, just 5% under age 5

### WORLD TRENDS

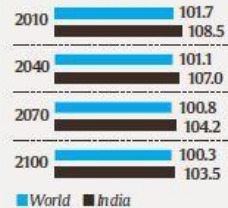


### INDIA TRENDS

India's under-65 population still below under-5 count, but not for long



### SEX RATIO



Graphs compare males per 100 females each year. The gap is projected to close between genders over the years, as well as between the world and India.

### WHEN INDIA OVERTAKES CHINA

(Populations in million)

Year	India	China
2018	1,353	1,427
2019	1,366	1,434
2020	1,380	1,439
2021	1,393	1,444
2022	1,407	1,448
2023	1,419	1,452
2024	1,432	1,455
2025	1,445	1,458
2026	1,457	1,460
2027	1,469	1,462
2028	1,481	1,463

## Related Information

### About Total fertility rate

- The **total fertility rate (TFR)**, sometimes also called the fertility rate, **absolute/potential natality, period total fertility rate (PTFR), or total period fertility rate (TPFR)** of a population is the average number of children that would be born to a woman over her lifetime if:
  - a. She was to experience the exact current age-specific fertility rates (ASFRs) through her lifetime, and
  - b. She was to survive from birth to the end of her reproductive life

## India likely to miss target of eradicating AIDS by 2030: ICMR study

### Why in the news?

- The **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has warned that **India may miss the national target** to end AIDS by 2030.
- The warning comes in a study by the **ICMR-National Institute of Medical Statistics, Division of Strategic information - Surveillance and Epidemiology, and the National AIDS Control Organization** under the **Ministry of health and family welfare**.

#### Key findings of the study

- The **decline in annual new HIV infections** was only **27% from 2010 to 2017** against a national target of a **75% decline by 2020**.
- The **national adult prevalence of HIV** was estimated to be **0.22% in 2017**.
- **Mizoram, Manipur and Nagaland** had the **highest prevalence of over 1%**.
- An **estimated 2.1 million people** were **living with the AIDS virus, HIV, in 2017**.

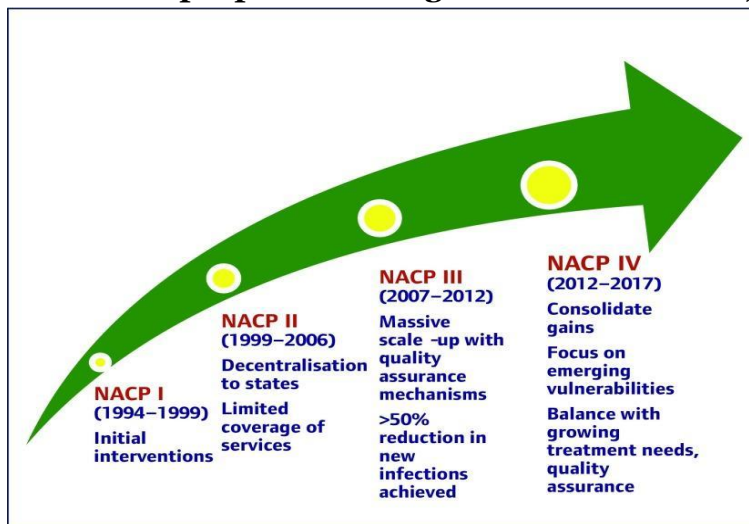


Image: The development of National AIDS Control Programme (1994–2017)

- The **states with the highest number of people living with HIV in 2017** were **Maharashtra (0.33 million), Andhra Pradesh (0.27 million) and Karnataka (0.24 million)**.
- **Telangana, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar** had **between 0.2 and 0.1 million** such patients.
- The **annual AIDS-related deaths** were estimated to be **69,000 nationally**.
- **Prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV** is another **critical target** to be achieved by 2020.
- **Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Telangana** had relatively higher PMTCT need.
- However, **treatment coverage** was still significantly **lower than the national average**.
- The **study calls for reinforcement of HIV prevention**, diagnosis and treatment efforts by **geographical regions and population groups**.

#### Background

- India, the **second most populated country** in the world, is home to an **estimated 2.1 million people** living with **HIV (PLHIV)**, the **third highest population** globally after **South Africa and Nigeria**.

#### Government initiative

- **National Health Policy 2017**, promises to “**achieve the global target of 90:90:90 for HIV/AIDS by 2020**, that is, 90 per cent of all people living with HIV will know their **HIV status**, **90 per cent** of all people diagnosed with **HIV infection** will receive **sustained antiretroviral therapy (ART)** and **90 per cent** of those **receiving ART** will have **viral suppression**.”

- Governments of **over 190 nations**, including **India**, have promised to end **AIDS by 2030** by adopting the **UN Sustainable Development Goals**.
- That **target would be difficult** to achieve as the decline in **annual new HIV infections was only 27% from 2010 to 2017** against a national target of a **75% decline by 2020**.

### National AIDS Control Programme

- It is **implemented by the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO)** under the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**.

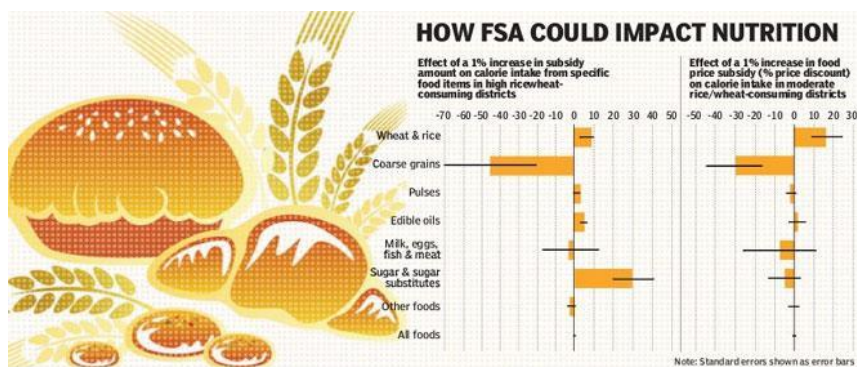
### Objective

- The **objective of the programme** to understand the **HIV disease burden** and epidemiological trends.
- The programme has now evolved into a major public health prevention and treatment programme.

## Effect of High Food Prices in Nutritional Security

### Why in the news?

- Recently, a study titled '**Pandemic Prices: COVID-19 price shocks and their implications for nutrition security in India**' was conducted by the **Tata-Cornell Institute for Agriculture and Nutrition in New York**.



### Highlights of the Report

- It **analyses prices of cereals** (wheat and rice) **and non-cereals** (onion, tomatoes, potatoes, five pulses and eggs) in **11 tier-1 and tier-2 cities** from **March 1 to May 31** compared to **the same period last year**.
- It uses **weekly-level retail data** from the **Department of Commerce Affairs of the Union government** and **wholesale prices from the National Egg Coordination Committee**.
- As compared to cereals, the **rise in prices of non-cereals was higher**.
- After the **lockdown was lifted**, prices of **cereals, eggs, potatoes, onions and tomatoes stabilised** quickly while those of **protein-rich pulses continued to remain high**.
- The potato price was as **high as 30-90%** in several cities but stabilised by the **first week of May**.
- The price of **onions** was as **high as 200-250%** immediately after the lockdown in some States and stabilised by April end.

### Impact of High Food Prices in Nutritional Security

- The **report submits** that the **relatively higher prices of more nutritious food** make it **difficult for the poor and marginal population** to access **such nutrient-rich food**.
- As a result, **proportion of such foods** in the **diets goes further down** and is **replaced by less nutritious and calorie-dense foods**.
- This is likely to **worsen the nutritional status of women and children** across India, and more so in the **impoverished regions of the country**.

## **Digital Quality of Life Index 2020**

### **Why in the news?**

- Recently, the **second edition of Digital Quality of Life Index** was released by Surfshark.
- ### **About Digital Quality of Life Index**
- It is a **global research** on the **quality of digital wellbeing in 85 countries (81% of the global population)**.



### **Parameters**

The **study indexes** the countries by **looking at five fundamental pillars** that define the **digital quality of life namely,**

1. Internet affordability
2. Internet quality
3. Electronic infrastructure
4. Electronic security
5. Electronic government.



### **Highlights of the Index**

- **Scandinavia** has the **highest number of internet users i.e. 95%** as compared to **35% in Southern Asia (the least active region globally)**.
- The **internet speed** (mobile and broadband) is **higher in countries** with **high Information & Communication Technology (ICT)** adoption rates and internet usage.

### **Global Rankings**

- The **7 of 10 countries** with the **highest digital quality of life** are in **Europe**.
- **Canada** stands out as a **country with the highest digital quality of life** in the **Americas**, while **Japan** takes the **leading position in Asia**.

**Indian Rankings: India stands at the overall rank of 57 out of the 85 countries.**

- **Internet Affordability: 9th place** and **outperforms countries** like the **UK, the USA** and **China**.
- **Internet Quality: 78th place** and is almost at the **bottom of the pillar**.
- **E-infrastructure: 79th place** and below countries like **Guatemala and Sri Lanka**.
- **Electronic Security: 57th position** in this **India** is above **Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka**, and **Bangladesh**.

- **Electronic government: 15th place and India is first among BRICS and SAARC countries.**

#### Related Information

#### Government Initiatives Related to Internet

- **Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan** which help to make citizens **digitally literate**.
- **Bharat Net programme** which provide an optical fibre network in all gram panchayats.
- **Digital India Programme** which is an umbrella program to prepare India for a knowledge-based transformation.
- **Digilockers** which enables Indian citizens to store certain official documents on the cloud
- **BHIM App** which help to enable digital payments.

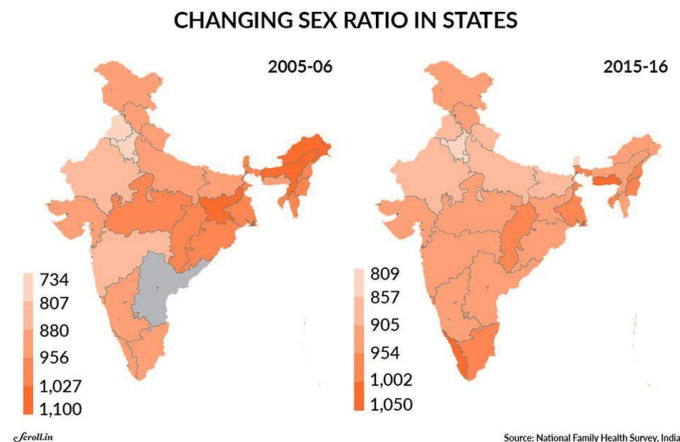
## **Status of Sex Ratio at Birth in India**

### Why in the news?

- The **Vice President** recently released a **report- Status of Sex Ratio at Birth in India.**

### About Status of Sex Ratio at Birth in India report

- It was brought out by the **Indian Association of Parliamentarians for Population and Development (IAPPD).**



### Highlights

- The **report mentioned** that there **has not been any change in the sex ratio at birth** in India from **2001-2017**.
- The **number of girl children born** is much less than what is **the general or natural norm**.

### Related Information

#### About Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (IAPPD)

- It is a **national level Organization** established in the **year 1978**.
- The **organization was formed** with an **imperative of moderating the pace of population growth** for a **smoother course of development**.
- It will help to ensure an **overall improvement in the quality of life** of the people and **maintain a proper balance between population and development**.
- Apart from **its links with and access to various NGOs** and specialised agencies both at the **national and international level, particularly in Asia**.

The **IAPPD** is an **affiliated body** of the following fora and associations:

- The **Global Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, New York, USA**.
- The **Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, AFPPD Bangkok, Thailand**.

- c. The **Asian Population and Development Association, APDA Tokyo, Japan.**
- d. **International Medical Parliamentarians Organization (IMPO)**

## **World Bank to pause publication of Doing Business report**

### **Why in the news?**

- The World Bank has recently **“paused”** the publication of **Doing Business Report**, which carries the **Ease of Doing Business (EODB) Rankings**.



### **Reasons of the Pause**

- The **effective suspension** of the **publication of the rankings** has been announced in the wake of several **reported irregularities regarding changes to data in the 2018 and 2020 reports published in October 2017 and October 2019.**
- According to the **World Bank**, the **countries most affected** appear to be **Azerbaijan, China, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates.**
- **India is not in the list of countries affected** by the **data irregularities.**

### **Related Information**

#### **About Ease of Doing Business Report**

- The report was **introduced in 2003.**
- The **Doing Business assessment** provides **objective measures of business regulations** and their **enforcement across 190 economies on ten parameters affecting** a business through its life cycle.
- The **Doing Business Report** ranks countries on the basis of **Distance to Frontier (DTF)**, a score that **shows the gap of an economy to the global best practice.**
- The report measures the performance of countries **across 10 different parameters** namely-
  1. Starting a Business
  2. Dealing with Construction permits
  3. Electricity availability
  4. Property registration
  5. Credit availability
  6. Protecting minority Investors
  7. Paying Taxes
  8. Trading across borders
  9. Contracts enforcement
  10. Resolving Insolvency
- In **2020 report** two more parameters were considered namely, **employing workers and contracting with the government** but these are not included in the **score and rankings.**

#### **Process of Ranking**

- It ranks countries on the basis of **Distance to Frontier (DTF) score** that **highlights the gap of an economy** with respect to the **global best practice.**



- For example, a **score of 75 means an economy was 25 percentage points away from the frontier constructed from the best performances across all economies and across time.**

### **Ease of Doing Business Report, 2020**

- India was placed at **63rd position in Ease of Doing Business Report, 2020** out of 190 countries marking an improvement of 14 places from its **77th position in 2018.**
- **India's Distance to Frontier** score improved to **71.0 from 67.23 in the previous year.**
- India for the **third consecutive year** was present in the **list of 10 economies** where the business climate has improved the most.

### **The essential features of India's performance this year are:**

India's ranking improved basically on **four parameters:**

- **Starting a Business-** India made starting a business easier by fully integrating multiple application forms into a general incorporation form,
- **Resolving Insolvency-** Recovery rate under resolving insolvency has improved significantly from 26.5% to 71.6%. Also, the time taken for resolving insolvency has also come down significantly from 4.3 years to 1.6 years.
- **Dealing with Construction Permits-** For example, building a warehouse cost around 4% of the warehouse value as compared to 5.7% in the previous year,
- **Trading across Borders-** with a single electronic platform- improved electronic submission methods for documents and upgrades to port infrastructure, import and export process became easier.

## **Global Innovation Index 2020 Ranking**

### **Why in the news?**

- The **Global Innovation Index (GII), 2020** has been released recently.
- The **Theme for 2020 Global Innovation Index: Who Will Finance Innovation?**



### **About Global Innovation Index**

- It is an **annual ranking that quantifies the state of national innovation ecosystem** across countries.

- The index has been released **jointly by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**, Cornell University and INSEAD Business School.

The **Global Innovation Index** relies on two sub-indices:

- a. Innovation Input Sub-Index.
- b. Innovation Output Sub-Index.

These sub-indices are built around several key pillars namely, **Input pillar and Output pillar:**

**Input pillars capture elements of the national economy that enable innovative activities**

- Institutions
- Human capital and research
- Infrastructure
- Market sophistication
- Business sophistication.

**Output pillars capture actual evidence of innovation outputs:**

- Knowledge and technology outputs
- Creative outputs.

**Highlight of the index**

**Global Performance**

- **Switzerland** has topped the index followed by Sweden, US, UK, and Netherlands.

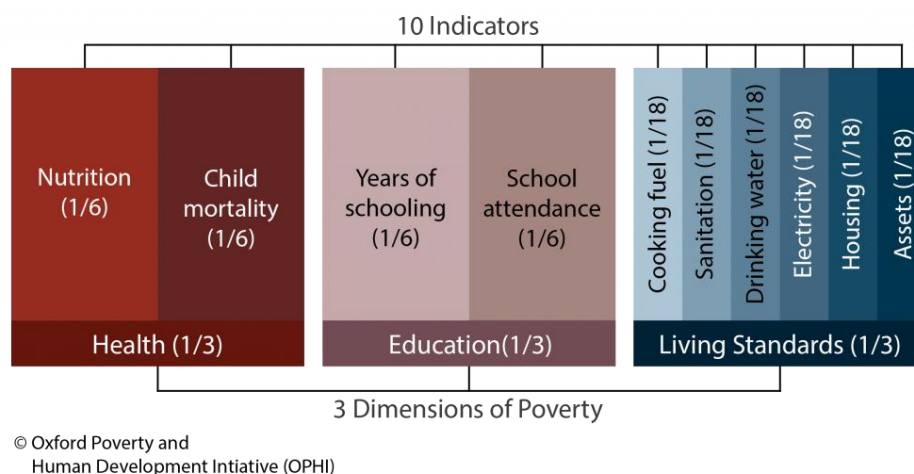
**India's Performance**

- India has joined the group of **top 50 countries in the global innovation index** for the first time moving up four places to the **48th rank**.
- India remained the **most innovative country in Central and Southern Asia** and is also the **third most innovative lower middle-income economy** in the world.
- **India** was at the **52nd position in 2019** and was **ranked 81st in the year 2015**.
- It is a remarkable achievement to be in a **league of highly innovative developed nations** all over the globe.

## **Global Multidimensional Poverty Index**

**Why in the news?**

- Recently, the NITI Aayog has been **assigned as the responsibility of leveraging the monitoring mechanism** of the **Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)** to drive reforms.
- **Global MPI** is part of **Government of India's decision to monitor the performance of the country in 29 select Global Indices**.
- The objective of the "**Global Indices to Drive Reforms and Growth (GIRG)**" exercise is to fulfil the **need to measure and monitor India's performance** on various **important social and economic parameters**.
- **NITI Aayog** has constituted a **Multidimensional Poverty Index Coordination Committee (MPICC)**.



## Related Information

### About Global Multidimensional Poverty Index

- It is an **international measure of multidimensional poverty** covering **107 developing countries**.
- It was **first developed in 2010** by **Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)** and **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.
- It is released annually at the **High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)** on **Sustainable Development of the United Nations**.
- It is computed by scoring each **surveyed household on 10 parameters** based on nutrition, child mortality, years of schooling, school attendance, cooking fuel, sanitation, drinking water, electricity, housing, and household assets.
- It utilises the **National Family Health Survey (NFHS)** which is conducted under the **aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)** and **International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS)**.

### India Ranking in MPI 2020

- **India is 62nd among 107 countries** with an **MPI score of 0.123** and **27.91% headcount ratio in Global MPI 2020**.
- The neighbouring countries **like Sri Lanka (25th), Bhutan (68th), Nepal (65th), Bangladesh (58th), China (30th), Myanmar (69th) and Pakistan (73rd)** are also ranked.

## UN's Commission on Status of Women

### Why in the news?

- Recently **India** has been elected as the **member of the Commission on Status of Women (CSW)**, a body of the **Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**.
- India will be a member of the **prestigious body for four years from 2021 to 2025**.

### About the Commission on the Status of Women

- It is the **principal global intergovernmental body** exclusively dedicated to the **promotion of gender equality** and the **empowerment of women**.
- A **functional commission of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**, it was established by **ECOSOC resolution 11(II) of 21 June 1946**.



- The **CSW** is **instrumental in promoting women's rights**, documenting the reality of **women's lives throughout the world**, and **shaping global standards** on gender equality and the **empowerment of women**.
- It **promotes women's rights**, highlights the **reality of women's lives** throughout the world and **helps in shaping global standards** on **gender equality** and the **empowerment of women**.
- The **45 member states** of the **United Nations** serve as **members of the Commission** at any one time.

#### **Related Information**

##### **About UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**

- The **UN Charter** established **ECOSOC in 1945** as one of the **six main organs of the United Nations**.
- It is the **principal body** for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on economic, social, and environmental issues, as well as implementation of **internationally agreed development goals**.
- It has **54 Members**, elected by the **General Assembly for overlapping three-year terms**.
- Seats in the council are **allocated based on geographical representation**.
- For Asia Countries **11 seats has been allocated**.
- For the nations to be the elected as members of **ECOSOC for a three-year term**, it needs **2/3rd majority of UN General Assembly votes**.
- Each member of the council has **one vote and generally voting in the council** is by **simple majority**.
- **The president is elected for a one-year term**

India & ECOSOC

##### **India is the member of ECOSOC (From 1 January 2018 – 31 December 2020)**

In 2018, **India** got **elected to various crucial subsidiary bodies** working under ECOSOC such as:

- a. **Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations** for a term of **2019-2023** and India got the highest number of votes followed by Pakistan.
- b. **Commission on Population and Development** for a term of **2018 – 2021**.
- c. **Commission for social development** for a term of **2018-2022**.
- d. **Commission on crime prevention and criminal justice** for a term of **2019 – 2021**.
- e. **Council to the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)** for a term of **2019-2021**.

## **Data Governance Quality Index**

### **Why in the news?**

- Recently **Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO)**, **NITI Aayog** has released **Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI)**.

### **More about the Survey**

- A survey was conducted by **Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO)**, **Niti Aayog**, to assess different **Ministries**

## **/Departments' performance on the implementation of Central Sector Schemes (CS) and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS).**



- **Department of Fertilizers under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has been ranked 2nd amongst the 16 Economic Ministries / Departments and 3rd out of the 65 Ministries / Departments with a score 4.11 on a scale of 5 on Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI). About Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI)**

- It is conducted by **Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), Niti Aayog.**



### **Aim**

- To assess the **data preparedness of ministries/departments** on a **standardized framework to drive healthy competition** among them and **promote cooperative peer learning** from best practices.

### **Major Themes**

- In the survey, an **online questionnaire** was prepared **under six major themes of DGQI** -- data generation; data quality; use of technology; data analysis, use and dissemination; data security and HR capacity and case studies.

## Weightages

- Weightages were assigned to the **themes and sub-weightages** to each question **within every theme to arrive at final DGQI scores** ranging between **0 to 5 for every scheme**.
- **Categories of Ministries/Departments:** Administrative, Strategic, Infrastructure, Social, Economic and Scientific.

## Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020: Reversals of Fortune

### Why in the news?

- **Global extreme poverty** is expected to **rise in 2020 for the first time** in over 20 years as the **disruption of the COVID-19**, the **World Bank** highlighted in its **biennial Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report**.



### Highlights of the report

- The **Poverty and Shared Prosperity series of report by World Bank** provides the **latest and most accurate estimates** on trends in **global poverty and shared prosperity**.
- For **more than two decades**, extreme poverty was **steadily declining**.

- Now, for the **first time in a generation**, the **quest to end poverty** has suffered its **worst setback**.
- **‘Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020: Reversals of Fortune** provides new data and analysis on the causes and consequences of this reversal and identifies policy principles countries can use to counter it.
- The **report presents new estimates** of COVID-19’s **impacts on global poverty and inequality**.
- The report shows that pandemic-related **job losses** and deprivation **worldwide** are **hitting already-poor and vulnerable people** hard, while also **partly changing the profile of global poverty** by creating **millions of “new poor.”**
- This report provides new evidence on **emerging “hot spots,”** where multiple **threats to poor people’s lives** and livelihoods converge.
- Many of these hot spots are in **Sub-Saharan Africa**, a region now expected to be home to **about a third of the people** who are **newly impoverished by COVID-19**.
- The pandemic may push **another 88 million to 115 million** into **extreme poverty** or having to **live on less than \$1.50 per day**, resulting in a **total of 150 million** such individuals.
- Some **9.1% to 9.4% of the world** will be **affected by extreme poverty in 2020**.

### **Related Information**

#### **Other Important Reports of World Bank**

1. Ease of Doing Business
2. World Development Report
3. Global Economic Prospect (GEP) Report
4. Remittance Report
5. Ease of Living Index
6. India Development Update
7. Global Financial Development Report
8. Energy Efficiency Implementation Readiness
9. Human Capital Index (Prepared as a part of World development Report)
10. Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)
11. Logistics Performance Index
12. Report: A Glass Half Full: The promise of Regional Trade in South Asia
13. **Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2018: Piecing Together the Poverty Puzzle**
14. Human Capital Index (Prepared as a part of World development Report)
15. **Universal Health Coverage Index (World Bank + WHO)**

## **World Economic Outlook Report 2020**

### **Why in the news?**

- Recently **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has released the **World Economic Outlook Report, 2020** titled **“A Long and Difficult Ascent”**.

### **About World Economic Outlook Report**

- It is a **survey conducted by the International Monetary Fund** that is usually **published twice a year** in the **months of April and October**.

[www.gradeup.co](http://www.gradeup.co)

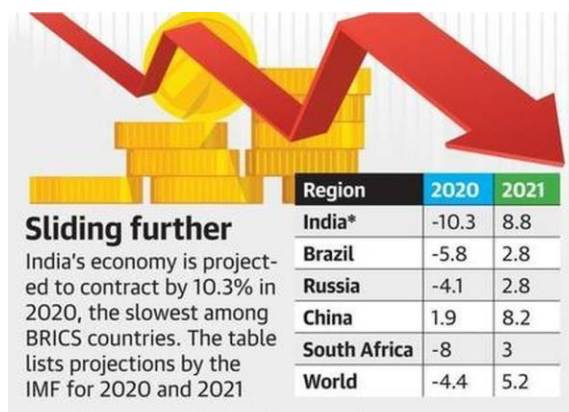
- It analyzes and predicts global economic developments during the near and medium term.
- The aim of the report is to provide analysis and forecasts of economic developments of member countries and highlights risks and uncertainty.

### **Highlights of the report**

- The **Global growth is projected to be -4.4%** (i.e., a contraction in output of 4.4%) for 2020.

#### **India and the report**

- **Indian economy** is expected to grow at **-10.3 % (i.e., a contraction) in 2020**.
- However, **India is expected to rebound in 2021 with 8.8% growth— an upgrade of 2.8 percentage points** relative to the June update.
- **Consumer prices in India** are expected to grow at **4.9% this year and by 3.7% in the next fiscal**.
- The **current account balance** is projected to **grow by 0.3% this year and -0.9% next year**.



\*India's figures are for fiscal years. All figures in %



## About International Monetary Fund

- It was **conceived at a UN conference in Bretton Woods in July 1944.**
- **The IMF is headquartered in Washington, US. Functions**
- It has a **core responsibility of the IMF is to provide loans to member countries experiencing actual or potential balance of payments problems.**
- Unlike **development banks, the IMF does not lend for specific projects.**
- The **SDR is an international reserve asset, created by the IMF in 1969 to supplement its member countries' official reserves.**
- **Gold remains an important asset in the reserve holdings of several countries, and the IMF is still one of the world's largest official holders of gold.**

## Reports

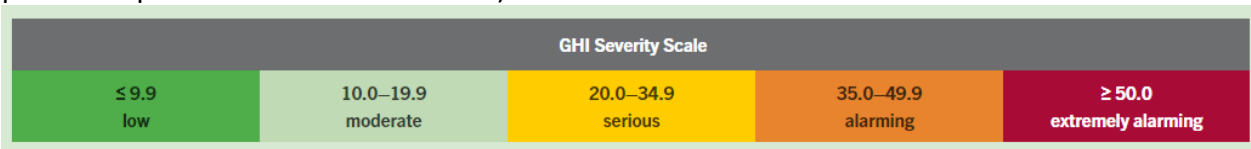
- a. World economic outlook
- b. Global Financial stability report

## Global Hunger Index,

### 2020

#### Why in the news?

- The 15<sup>th</sup> Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2020 was released recently by Welthungerhilfe and Concern Worldwide.
- The GHI has been brought out almost every year by Welthungerhilfe (lately in partnerships with Concern Worldwide) since 2000.



#### How are Countries ranked?

- The Global Hunger Index (GHI) is a tool for comprehensively measuring and tracking hunger at global, regional, and national levels.
- GHI scores are based on the values of four component indicators:
  - a. **Undernourishment** (share of the population with insufficient caloric intake)
  - b. **Child wasting** (share of children under age five who have low weight for their height, reflecting acute undernutrition)
  - c. **Child stunting** (share of children under age five who have low height for their age, reflecting chronic undernutrition)
  - d. **Child mortality** (mortality rate of children under age five, partly reflecting the fatal mix of inadequate nutrition and unhealthy environments).
- Based on the values of the four indicators, the GHI determines hunger on a **100-point scale where 0 is the best possible score (no hunger) and 100 is the worst.**
- Each country's GHI score is classified by severity, from low to extremely alarming.

#### Key findings

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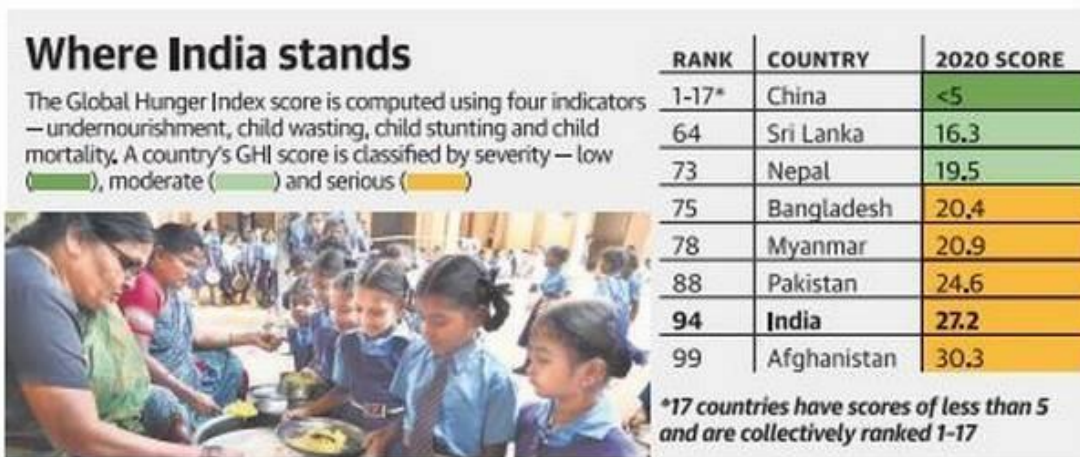
At the Global level

- According to the **2020 Global Hunger Index**, **Worldwide hunger** is at a moderate level.
- **Africa South of the Sahara and South Asia** has the **highest hunger and undernutrition levels** among world regions, with **2020 GHI scores of 27.8 and 26.0, respectively—both considered serious.**
- According to **2020 GHI scores**, **3 countries** have alarming levels of hunger  
- **Chad, Timor-Leste, and Madagascar.**

- Hunger is also considered to be **alarming in 8 countries** - Burundi, Central African Republic, Comoros, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen - **based on provisional categorizations.**
- **The world is not on track to achieve the second Sustainable Development Goal - known as Zero Hunger for short - by 2030.**
- At the current pace, approximately 37 countries will fail even to reach low hunger, as defined by the GHI Severity Scale, by 2030.

India and Global Hunger Index

- **India has the highest prevalence of wasted children under five years in the world, which reflects acute undernutrition.**
- India ranks **94 out of 107 countries in the Index**, lower than her neighbours such as **Bangladesh (75)** and **Pakistan (88)**.



- In **2019 Indian ranked 102 Global Hunger Index**
- The report put **India under serious category with a score of 27.2.**
- The **child stunting rate in India was 37.4 %.**
- The **child wasting was at 17.3 %.**
- The **undernourishment rate of India was at 14% and child mortality at 3.7 %.**

## **Water Risk Filter analysis report 2020**

### **Why in the news?**

- Recently **World Wildlife Fund (WWF)** has released the **Water Risk Filter analysis report 2020.**

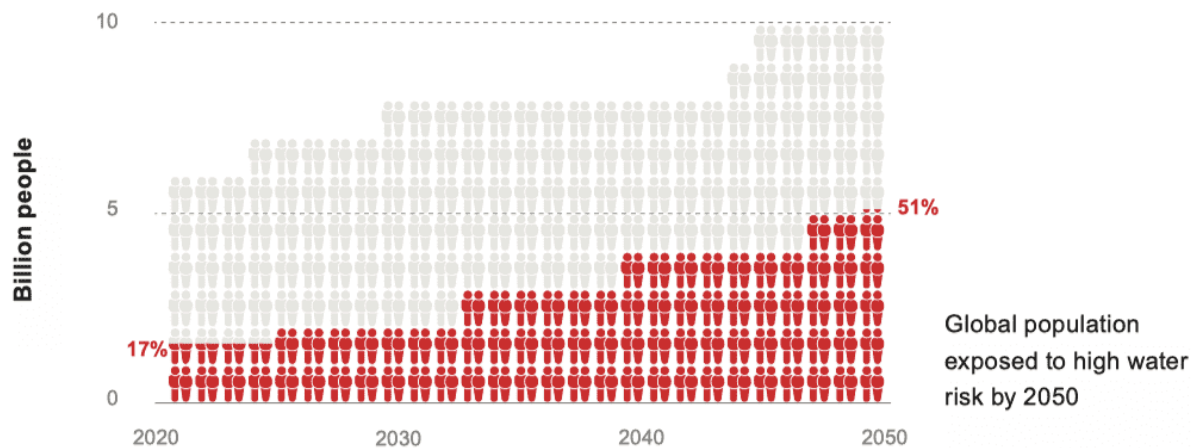
### **About Water Risk Filter**

- It is an **online tool co-developed by the WWF** that helps evaluate the **severity of risk places faced** by graphically **illustrating various factors that can contribute to water risk.**

### **Highlights of the report**

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- According to the **scenarios in the WWF Water Risk Filter**, the **100 cities** that are **expected to suffer the greatest rise in water risk by 2050** are home to **at least 350 million people** as well as **nationally and globally important economies**.
- Globally, **populations in areas of high-water risk could rise from 17% in 2020 to 51% by 2050**.
- The global list includes **cities such as Beijing, Jakarta, Johannesburg, Istanbul, Hong Kong, Mecca, and Rio de Janeiro**. China accounts for almost half the cities.



### India and Report

- According to the report, **India has 30 cities** in the list.
- **Jaipur** topped the **list of Indian cities (45<sup>th</sup>)** followed by **Indore (75<sup>th</sup>)** and **Thane**.
- **Mumbai, Kolkata, and Delhi** also featured on the list.

### Reasons

- This comes as **cities across India** face **shortage of water** due to **rapid urbanization, climate change, and lack of appropriate infrastructure** which continues to put **stress on the existing infrastructure**.

### Recommendations to tackle the water crises

- **Multi-stakeholder engagement and ownership involving local communities** could be the key in **creating and conserving sustainable water infrastructure and rejuvenating urban freshwater systems**.
- **Urban planning and wetland conservation** need to be integrated to **ensure zero loss of freshwater** systems in urban areas.
- The **improving urban water infrastructure** and **cutting water consumption** will help **reduce water risks**.
- The **nature-based solutions** including **restoring degraded watersheds, reconnecting rivers to their floodplains, and restoring or creating urban wetlands** are critical.

### Related Information

#### About World Wildlife Fund

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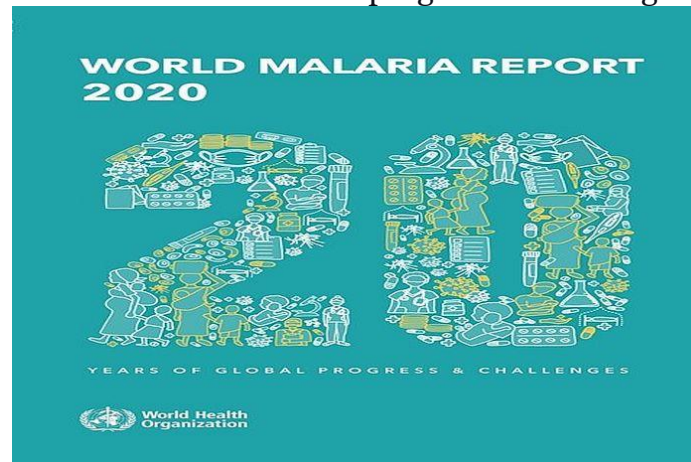
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- It is an **international non-governmental organization** founded in 1961 to **stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment** and to build a future in which **humans live in harmony with nature**.
- It is headquarters at **Gland, Switzerland**.

## **World Malaria Report 2020**

### **Why in the news?**

- The World Malaria Report (WMR) 2020 released by WHO, which gives the estimated cases for Malaria across the world, based on mathematical projections, indicates that India has made considerable progress in reducing its malaria burden.



### **Highlights of the report**

- Countries in South-East Asia made substantial progress, with reductions in cases and deaths of 73% and 74%, respectively.
- According to the report, the South-East Asia Region accounted for about 3% of the burden of malaria cases globally.
- The report noted that the 11 highest-burden countries - Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, India, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda and Tanzania - account for 70% of the global estimated case burden and 71% of global estimated deaths from Malaria.
- Malaria cases reduced by 73% in the region, from 23 million in 2000 to about 6.3 million in 2019.

### **India and the report**

- India is the only high endemic country which has reported a decline of 17.6% in 2019 as compared to 2018.
- The Annual Parasitic Incidence (API) reduced by 27.6% in 2018 compared to 2017 and by 18.4% in 2019 as compared to 2018.
- India has sustained API less than one since the year 2012.
- India has also contributed to the largest drop in cases region-wide, from approximately 20 million to about 6 million.
- The percentage drop in the malaria cases was 71.8%, and deaths were 73.9% between 2000 to 2019.
- States of Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Meghalaya and Madhya Pradesh disproportionately accounted for nearly 45.47 per cent of malaria cases and 70.54 per cent of falciparum Malaria cases in 2019. 64% of malaria deaths were also reported from these states.

### India efforts for the elimination of Malaria National Framework for Malaria Elimination

- In 2016, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare introduced its first National Framework for Malaria Elimination (2016-2030).

### National Strategic Plan for Malaria Elimination (2017-22)

- It was launched by the Health Ministry in July 2017 which laid down strategies for the next five years.

### WHO initiation with India

- WHO has initiated the **High Burden to High Impact (HBHI) initiative** in 11 high malaria burden countries, including India.
- Implementation of HBHI initiative has been started in four states, i.e. West Bengal and Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh in July 2019.

## Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2021

### Why in the news?

- Recently, **India has ranked high along with the European Union and the United Kingdom in the latest edition of the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI).**

### Highlights of the index

- According to the index, **no country is doing enough to meet the goals of the 2015 Paris Agreement.** The **biggest current emitter** of greenhouse gases (GHG) **China figures at 33rd rank.**
- Only two G20 countries - **the UK and India - are among the high rankers** while six others - the **USA, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Australia, South Korea, and Russia (52nd)** – are at the bottom of the index.
- The **United States, with a rank of 61, was the worst performer.**

## **BUT SLIPS ONE POSITION**

### Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) Ranking 2020



## Indian and CPI

- **India**, for the **second time in a row**, continued to **remain in the top ten**.
- The **country scored 63.98 points out of 100**.
- Last year, **India** had been ranked at the **ninth position**, with an **overall score of 66.02**.
- It **received high ratings** on all **CCPI indicators** except ‘**renewable energy**’, where it was **categorised** as having a ‘**medium**’ performance.

## About the Climate Change Performance Index

- The **CCPI** is an **independent monitoring tool** for tracking **countries’ climate protection performance**.
- It has been published **annually since 2005**.
- The **CCPI** is developed by **not-for-profit organisations Germanwatch** and **NewClimate Institute** (Germany) together with the **Climate Action Network (CAN International)**.
- It is an **essential tool to enhance transparency** in international climate **politics and enables comparison of climate protection efforts** and progress made by **individual countries**.
- The **CCPI currently evaluates** and compares the **climate protection performance of 57 countries** and of the **European Union (EU)**, which are together responsible for more than **90% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions**.
- The last country to be **added was Chile** for the **CCPI 2020**.

## The CCPI assesses countries’ performance in four categories:

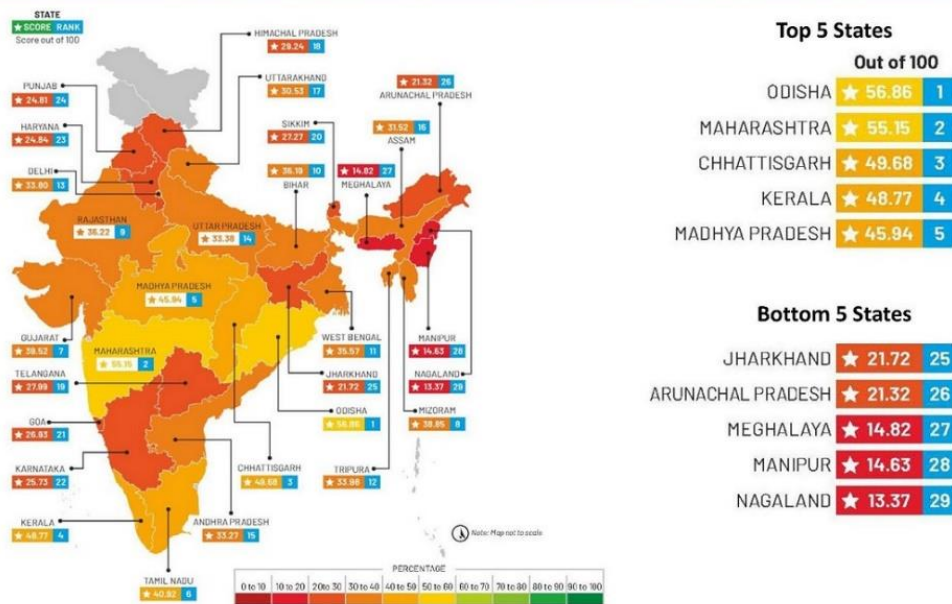
- **GHG Emissions** (40% of overall score),
- **Renewable Energy** (20% of overall score),
- **Energy Use** (20% of overall score) and
- **Climate Policy** (20% of overall score).

## Urban Governance Index 2020

### Why in the news?

- The **Urban Governance Index 2020** has been recently released by **Praja Foundation**, a **Mumbai-based think tank**.

## Urban Governance Index – Rank & Score



### Highlights

- **Odisha** was ranked first in the index followed by **Maharashtra, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh.**
- **Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, and Nagaland** performed the worst in the index.
- The **National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi** ranked 13th.

### About Urban Governance Index 2020

- The index ranks states to indicate where they stand in terms of real empowerment of grassroots democracy and local self-government.

### Themes

- The ranking is based on these main themes-
  - How empowered elected city representatives and legislative structures are?
  - How empowered the state’s city administration is?
  - How empowered the citizens are and finally, the financial empowerment and financial autonomy of the state?
- The **Urban Governance Index 2020** spanned **three years (2017-2020)** in **40 cities across 28 states** as well as the **NCT of Delhi.**

## Human Development Index (HDI)

### Why in the news?

- **India** ranked **131 among 189 countries** on the **Human Development Index (HDI) for 2019**, slipping two places from the previous year, according to the **Human Development Report (HDR) 2020** released by the **United Nations Development Program (UNDP).**

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## Miles to go

Though India improved its absolute value of the Human Development Index (0.645 in 2019 from 0.642 the previous year), it dropped a place in the overall ranking

Country	HDI rank (2019)	Change from 2018
Russia	52	-3
Sri Lanka	72	1
Brazil	84	0
China	85	2
South Africa	114	1
<b>India</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>-2</b>
Bangladesh	133	1
Nepal	142	1
Pakistan	154	0

### Key Highlight of the index

- **Norway topped the index**, followed by **Ireland** and **Switzerland**.
- **Hong Kong** and **Iceland** complete the **top five**.

### Asia high human development Countries

- **Sri Lanka** (72), **Thailand** (79), **China** (85) and **Indonesia** and **Philippines** (both 107), and **Vietnam** (117), among others, were "high human development" countries.

### Medium Human Development Countries

- **India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal, Cambodia, Kenya, and Pakistan** were ranked among countries with "medium human development" with ranks between **120 and 156 among the 189-counties**.

- In the **BRICS** grouping, **Russia** was 52 in the human development index, **Brazil** 84, and **China** 85.

### India and HDI

- **India's HDI value for 2019 is 0.645**, which puts the country in the **medium human development category**, positioning it at **131 out of 189 countries** and territories.

- Between **1990 and 2019**, **India's HDI value** increased from **0.429 to 0.645**, an increase of **50.3%**.

- **India's GNI per capita** increased by about **273.9% between 1990 and 2019**.

### Life Expectancy

- **Life expectancy for Indian's at birth was 69.7 years in 2019**, slightly lower than the **South Asian average of 69.9 years** but slightly higher than the **average of medium human development index groupings in the world at 69.3 years**.

### India's green energy initiatives

- **Solar capacity in India** increased from **2.6 gigawatts in March 2014 to 30 gigawatts in July 2019**, achieving its **target of 20 gigawatts** four years ahead of schedule.

- In **2019**, **India ranked fifth** for installed **solar capacity**.

### Multidimensional Poverty Index

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• The **most recent survey data publicly available** for India's MPI (**Multidimensional Poverty Index**) estimation refer to **2015-2016**.

• In **India, 27.9%** of the populations are **multi-dimensionally poor**, while an additional **19.3%** are **classified** as vulnerable to **multidimensional poverty**.

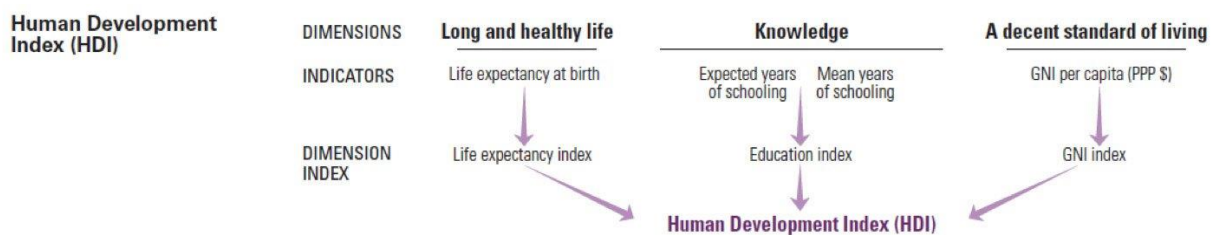
**About the Human Development Index**

• It is a **statistical tool** used to measure a **country's overall achievement** in its **social and economic dimensions**, which has been published by the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.

• It is part of the Human Development Report.

• HDI measures the **average achievement of a country in three basic dimensions of human development**:

- A long and healthy life.
- Access to knowledge.
- A decent standard of living.



**Background**

• The **HDI was developed** by **Indian economist Amartya Sen** and **Pakistani economist Mahbub ul Haq**, which was further used to measure the **country's development** by the **United Nations Development Program (UNDP)**.

• The **2010 Human Development Report** introduced an **Inequality-adjusted Human Development Index (IHDI)**.

**Human Freedom Index 2020**

**Why in the news?**

• Recently, the **Human Freedom Index 2020** was released by the **Cato Institute** in the United States and **Fraser Institute** in Canada.



**Key Highlights of the index**

• The Human Freedom Index 2020, which uses data from 2008 to 2018, noted a decrease in personal freedoms since 2008 globally.

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- This sixth annual index uses 76 distinct indicators of personal and economic freedom in the following areas:

- Rule of Law
- Security and Safety
- Movement
- Religion
- Association, Assembly, and Civil Society
- Expression and Information
- Identity and Relationships
- Size of Government
- Legal System and Property Rights
- Access to Sound Money
- Freedom to Trade Internationally
- Regulation of Credit, Labor, and Business

- It provides a **human rating on a scale of 0 to 10**, where 10 represents more freedom, the average human freedom rating for 162 countries in 2018 was 6.93

### **Global Performance**

- **New Zealand was ranked one in the index**, followed by Switzerland and Hong Kong.

- The index put **China at 129** due to the **Chinese Communist Party's unprecedented intervention in Hong Kong in 2019 and 2020**.

- Bangladesh got 139 and Pakistan at 140 in this index.

- **The three least-free countries** in descending order are **Venezuela, Sudan, and Syria**.

- The report added that out of 10 regions, the regions with the **highest levels of freedom** are North America (Canada and the United States), Western Europe and East Asia.

- **Women-specific freedoms** are strongest in North America, Western Europe, and East Asia and are least protected in the Middle East and North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, and South Asia.

### **India's performance in Human Freedom Index 2020**

- India was ranked 111th out of the 162 countries under personal, civil and economic freedom.

- India was ranked 110 in terms of personal freedom and 105 on economic freedom, with an overall score of **6.43 out of 10**.

- India ranks above neighbours Pakistan (140), Bangladesh (139) and China (129) but below Bhutan (108), Sri Lanka (94) and Nepal (92).