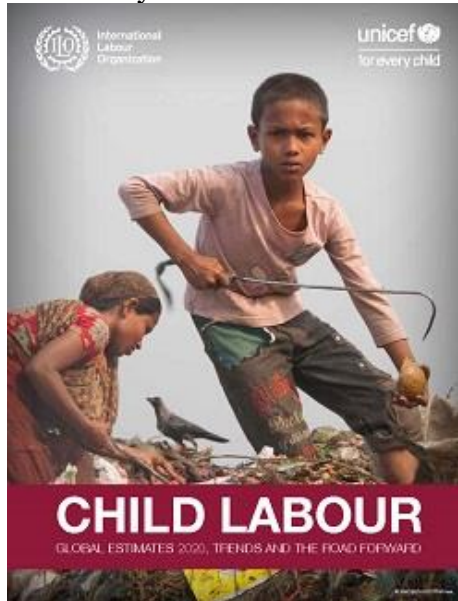


## Daily Current Affairs: 16.06.2021

### ILO, UNICEF Report: Child labour rises to 160 million – first increase in two decades

#### Why in the News?

- According to the ‘**Child Labour: Global estimates 2020, trends and the road forward**’ report by the **International Labour Organization (ILO)** and **UNICEF**, the number of children in child labour has risen to 160 million worldwide, an increase of 8.4 million children in the last four years.



#### Key Points

- **Child Labour: Global estimates 2020, trends and the road forward** report warns that progress to end child labour has stalled for the first time in 20 years, reversing the previous downward trend that saw child labour fall by 94 million between 2000 and 2016.

#### Key findings of the report:

- The report points to a significant rise in the number of children aged 5 to 11 years in child labour, who now account for just over half of the total global figure.
- The number of children aged 5 to 17 years in hazardous work has risen by 6.5 million to 79 million since 2016.
- The report warns that globally, nine million additional children are at risk of being pushed into child labour by the end of 2022 as a result of the pandemic.
- **The agriculture sector accounts for 70 percent of children in child labour (112 million) followed by 20 percent in services (31.4 million) and 10 percent in industry (16.5 million).**
- Nearly 28 percent of children aged 5 to 11 years and 35 percent of children aged 12 to 14 years in child labour are out of school.
- The prevalence of child labour in rural areas (14 percent) is close to three times higher than in urban areas (5 percent).

#### Measures to improve the situation:



- Adequate social protection for all, including universal child benefits.
- Increased spending on free and good-quality schooling and getting all children back into school - including children who were out of school before COVID-19.
- Promotion of decent work for adults, so families don't have to resort to children helping to generate family income.
- An end to harmful gender norms and discrimination that influence child labour.
- Investment in child protection systems, agricultural development, rural public services, infrastructure and livelihoods.

#### **Initiatives by the Government of India:**

- Child labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986
- National Policy on Child Labour (1987)
- Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015
- The Right to Education Act, 2009
- Initiatives like Operation Smile, Operation Muskaan

**Note:** Many NGOs like ChildFund, Bachpan Bachao Andolan, CARE India, Kailash Satyarthi Children Foundation etc. have been working to eradicate child labour in country.

**Source:** ilo.org

### **India can save logistics fuel worth ₹311 lakh crore between 2020 and 2050: NITI Aayog, RMI India Report**

#### **Why in the News?**

- NITI Aayog, Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) and RMI India's new report 'Fast Tracking Freight in India: A Roadmap for Clean and Cost-Effective Goods Transport' presents key opportunities for India to reduce its logistics costs.



#### **Key Points**

- Due to the rising demand for goods and services, freight transport demand is expected to grow rapidly in the future.
- While freight transport is essential to economic development, it is plagued by high logistics costs and contributes to rising CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and air pollution in cities.

#### **According to the report, India has the potential to:**

- Reduce its logistics cost by **4% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**
- Achieve 10 gigatonnes of cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions savings between 2020 and 2050
- Reduce nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) and particulate matter emissions by 35% and 28%, respectively, until 2050

#### **Need to Make Freight Transportation Cost Effective:**



- Freight transportation is a critical backbone of India's growing economy, it's important to make this transport system more cost-effective, efficient, and cleaner.
- Efficient freight transport will also play an essential role in realising the benefits of existing government initiatives such as Make in India, Aatmanirbhar Bharat, and Digital India.
- As India's freight activity grows five-fold by 2050 and about 400 million citizens move to cities, a whole system transformation can help uplift the freight sector.
- This transformation will be defined by tapping into opportunities such as efficient rail-based transport, the optimisation of logistics and supply chains, and shift to electric and other clean-fuel vehicles.

#### Recommendations:

- Increasing the rail network's capacity
- Improving warehousing and trucking practices
- Promoting intermodal transport
- Policy measures and pilot projects for clean technology adoption
- Stricter fuel economy standards

#### Recent Initiatives:

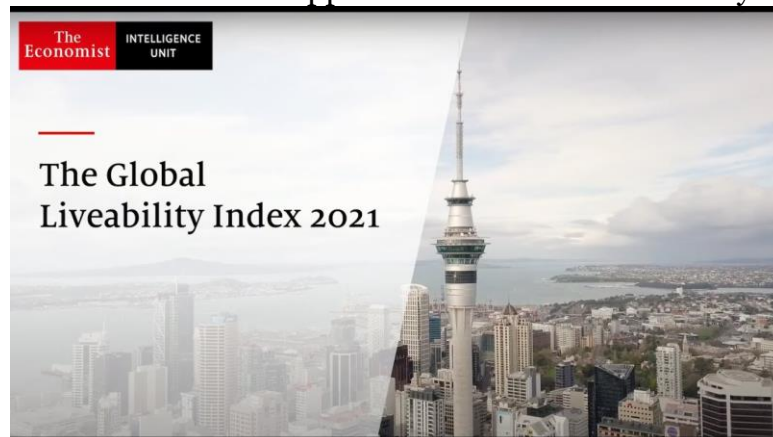
- Dedicated Freight Corridor
- Bharat Stage VI norms
- FAME Scheme
- Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency Regulations
- E-Way Bill Integration with FASTag

Source: PIB

## EIU's Global Liveability Index 2021

### Why in the News?

- **Auckland in New Zealand** has topped the EIU Global Liveability Index 2021.



### Key Points

#### About Global Liveability Index:

- The Global Liveability Index is an annual assessment published by the London-based **Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)**, ranking 140 global cities for their urban quality of life.
- The **index** takes into account more than 30 qualitative and quantitative factors spanning five broad categories: stability (25%), healthcare (20%), culture and

environment (25%), education (10%), and infrastructure (20%).

### The 3 most liveable cities in 2021:

- Auckland, New Zealand
- Osaka, Japan
- Adelaide, Australia

### The 3 least liveable cities in 2021:

- Damascus, Syria
- Lagos, Nigeria
- Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

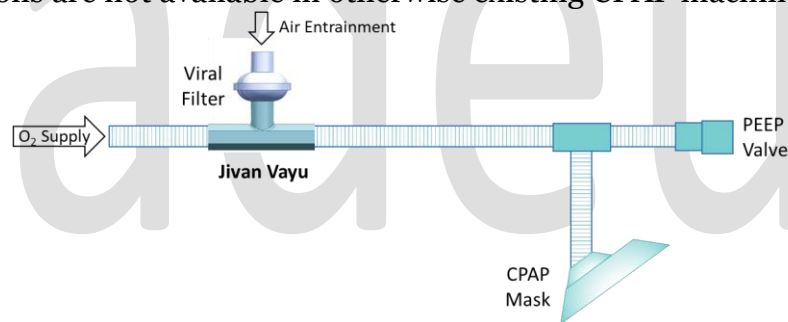
**Note: Austria's Vienna**, number one in both 2018 and 2019, has completely dropped out of the top 10 after being heavily affected by COVID, and now ranks 12.

**Source: Indian Express**

## IIT Ropar develops nation's first power-free CPAP device 'Jivan Vayu'

### Why in the News?

- Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar has developed a device 'Jivan Vayu' which can be used as a substitute of CPAP (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure) machine.
- This is Nation's first such device which functions even without electricity and is adapted to both kinds of oxygen generation units like O<sub>2</sub> cylinders and oxygen pipelines in hospitals.
- These provisions are not available in otherwise existing CPAP machines.



### Key Points

#### About 'Jivan Vayu':

- It has an inbuilt viral filter at the air entrainment end which has a viral efficacy of 99.99%.
- The viral filter ensures that the air does not bring in any pathogens from the environment.
- The device has been manufactured using 3D printing and has also been tested mechanically.

#### Need of 'Jivan Vayu':

- This was the need of the hour during the present COVID pandemic when power supply is the key concern for saving lives of those on medical equipments such as ventilators and oxygen concentrators.

**Source: PIB**

## El Salvador becomes first country to adopt bitcoin as legal tender

### Why in the News?

- El Salvador has become the first country in the world to adopt bitcoin as legal tender.
- Its use as legal tender will begin in 90 days, with the bitcoin-dollar exchange rate set by the market.



### Key Points

- The use of bitcoin will be optional for individuals and would not bring risks to users.
- Bitcoin could boost the economy, help counter El Salvador's low banking penetration rate and facilitate faster transfers for \$6 billion of remittances a year.

### About Bitcoin:

- It is a decentralized digital currency, without a central bank or single administrator that can be sent from user to user on the peer-to-peer bitcoin network without the need for intermediaries.



### Facts about El Salvador:

- **President:** Nayib Bukele
- **Capital:** San Salvador
- **Currency:** United States Dollar (USD)

Source: The Hindu

## French Open 2021

- The French Open 2021 is a Grand Slam tennis tournament played on outdoor clay courts.
- It was held at the Stade Roland Garros in Paris, France, from 30 May to 13 June 2021.



**List of winners:**

Men's singles	Women's singles	Men's doubles	Women's doubles	Mixed doubles
<p><b>Winner-</b> Novak Djokovic (Serbia)</p> <p><b>Runner-up-</b> Stefanos Tsitsipas (Greece)</p>	<p><b>Winner-</b> Barbora Krejčíková (Czech Republic)</p> <p><b>Runner-up-</b> Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (Russia)</p>	<p><b>Winner-</b> Pierre-Hugues Herbert (France), Nicolas Mahut (France)</p> <p><b>Runner-up-</b> Alexander Bublik (Kazakhstan), Andrey Golubev (Kazakhstan)</p>	<p><b>Winner-</b> Barbora Krejčíková (Czech Republic), Katerina Siniakova (Czech Republic)</p> <p><b>Runner-up-</b> Bethanie Mattek-Sands (America), Iga Świątek (Poland)</p>	<p><b>Winner-</b> Desirae Krawczyk (America), Joe Salisbury (Britain)</p> <p><b>Runner-up-</b> Elena Vesnina (Russia), Aslan Karatsev (Russia)</p>



- **Note: Novak Djokovic (Serbia)** won his second French Open title and 19th Grand Slam title.

**Source: Indian Express**

## Ramakrishna Math and Mission vice-president passes away



- Vice-President of Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission Swami Shivamayanandaji passed away.
- Shivamayananda was born in Bihar on December 20, 1934.
- He joined the order in Belur Math in 1959, received "Sanyas Diksha" from Swami Vireshwaranandaji Maharaj in 1969.

**Source: The Hindu**

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