

GS SCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

 iascore.in

**IAS
2023**

18

**PRELIMS
SAMPORNA
FACT FILE
INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS**

**INTERNATIONAL
REPORTS & INDICES**



For Information, Contact: 8448496262 | Website: <https://iasscore.in/>

GS SCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

SUCCESS IS A PRACTICE WE DO!



R. P. SINGH



RAJEEV CHAUDHARY



RASHID YASIN



MANOJ K. JHA



GAURAV BANSAL



SIDDHARTH MITTAL



RAJNISH JINDAL



SHIVLAL GUPTA



RAJVARDHAN



SOURABH MISHRA



SMRITI RAO



ABHISHIEKH SAXENA



VIRAJ C. RANE

THE MOST EXPERIENCED & SEASONED SUBJECT EXPERT

PRELIMS SAMPOORNA

As IAS Prelims 2023 is right around the corner, jitters and anxiety is a common emotion that an aspirant feels. As a journey, these last few days act most crucial in your preparation. This is the time when one should gather all their strength and give the final punch required to clear this exam. Consolidation of various resources that an aspirant is referring to is the main task here.

GS SCORE brings to you, Prelims Sampoorna, a series of all value-added resources in your prelims preparation, which will be your one-stop solution and will help in reducing your anxiety and boost your confidence. As the name suggests, Prelims Sampoorna is a holistic program, which has 360- degree coverage of high-relevance topics.

It is an outcome-driven initiative that not only gives you downloads of all resources which you need to summarize your preparation but also provides you with All India open prelims mock tests series in order to assess your learning. Let us summarize this initiative, which will include:

- GS Score UPSC Prelims 2023 Yearly Current Affairs Compilation of All 9 Subjects
- Topic-wise Prelims Fact Files (Approx. 40)
- Geography Through Maps (6 Themes)
- Map Based Questions
- Compilation of Previous Year Questions with Detailed Explanation
- 2+ Years Monthly Current Affairs Tests
- 8 Yrs. UPSC Previous Year Question Tests

Along with this, there will be ALL India Open Prelims Mock Tests Series which includes 10 Tests.

We will be uploading all the resources on a regular basis till your prelims exam. To get the maximum benefit of the initiative keep visiting the website.

To receive all updates through notification, subscribe:



<https://t.me/iasscore>



<https://www.youtube.com/c/IASSCOREofficial/>



<https://www.facebook.com/gsscoreofficial>



<https://www.instagram.com/gs.scoreofficial/>



<https://twitter.com/gsscoreofficial>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/gsscoreofficial/>

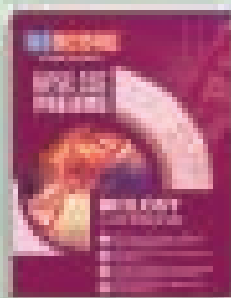
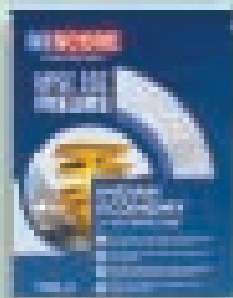
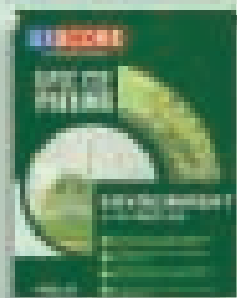
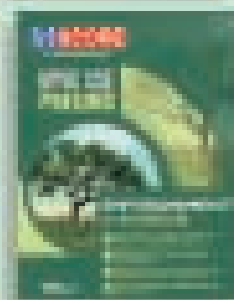
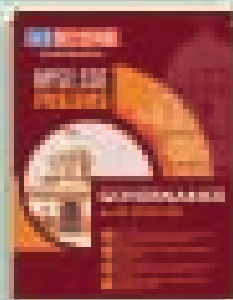
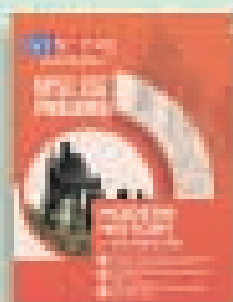
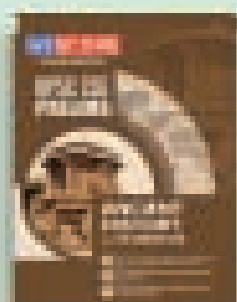
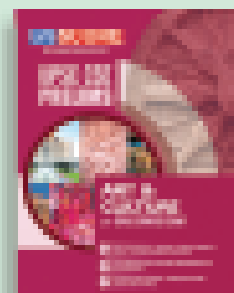
GS SCORE

www.gs-score.com

**UPSC OSE
PRELIMS**

**PRINTED
STUDY NOTES**

ORDER NOW



**UPSC PRELIMS
PRACTICE WORKBOOK**

GS SCORE

www.gs-score.com



**PRINTED
NOTES**

ORDER NOW

CONTENTS

■ Global Economic Prospect (GEP) Report; World Bank.....	1
■ Global Liveability Index 2022	2
■ Financial Stability Report: Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	3
■ World Competitiveness Index, 2022	4
■ Global Hunger Index, 2022	8
■ Global Gender Gap Index 2022	10
■ The lingering crisis of labour post-pandemic	12
■ World Press Freedom Index, 2022	14
■ Gender Inequality Index (GII); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	15
■ Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)	17
■ Emissions Gap Report 2022	20
■ Global Report on Food Crisis 2022	22
■ UN World Happiness Report 2022	23

TARGET PT 2023



Complete Revision of Prelims through
6000+ MCQs & 70+ Revision Classes

56 Session of
Concept cum
Revision Class
with
Daily Test



20 Session for
prelims
Concept after
Revision Class
with Test



Prelims
Test Series
in daily
26 tests



Quick
Revision
Study
Material

IAS-2023

Prelims Test Series

Total 37 Tests (GS + CSAT)

Questions based on UPSC Pattern

Discussion After each Test

Detailed Performance analysis
including All India Ranking

ENGLISH
& हिन्दी माध्यम
20+ OFFLINE
CENTERS

Online
&
Offline



1B, Second Floor, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh,
New Delhi - 110005 (Beside Karol Bagh
Metro Station Gate No. 8)



8448496262



iasscore.in

REPORTS

Global Economic Prospect (GEP) Report; World Bank

- The World Bank has released its latest report on Global Economic Prospects, outlining a slowdown in global growth due to a variety of factors including elevated inflation, higher interest rates, reduced investment, and disruptions caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
- The report warns that any additional negative developments, such as a resurgence of the COVID-19 pandemic or escalating geopolitical tensions, could push the global economy into recession, marking the first time in more than 80 years that two global recessions have occurred within the same decade.

Key-highlights of Global Economic Prospects Report

Growth Projections

- According to the report, the global economy is projected to grow by 1.7% in 2023 and 2.7% in 2024.
- The downturn in growth is expected to be widespread, with forecasts in 2023 revised down for 95% of advanced economies and nearly 70% of emerging market and developing economies.
- Over the next two years, per-capita income growth in emerging market and developing economies is projected to average 2.8%, a full percentage point lower than the 2010-2019 average.

Impact on Developing Countries

- The report highlights that the crisis facing development is intensifying as the global growth outlook deteriorates. Emerging and developing countries are facing a multi-year period of slow growth driven by heavy debt burdens and weak investment as global capital is absorbed by advanced economies.
- This will result in a weakness in growth and business investment, compounding the already-devastating reversals in education, health, poverty, and infrastructure, as well as the increasing demands from climate change.
- In Sub-Saharan Africa, which accounts for about 60% of the world's extreme poor, growth in per capita income over 2023-24 is expected to average just 1.2%, a rate that could cause poverty rates to rise, not fall.

Advanced Economies

- Growth in advanced economies is projected to slow from 2.5% in 2022 to 0.5% in 2023. Over the past two decades, slowdowns of this scale have foreshadowed a global recession.

- In the United States, growth is forecast to fall to 0.5% in 2023, the weakest performance outside of official recessions since 1970. In 2023, Euro-area growth is expected at zero percent, and in China, growth is projected at 4.3% in 2023.

Emerging Market and Developing Economies

- Excluding China, growth in emerging market and developing economies is expected to decelerate from 3.8% in 2022 to 2.7% in 2023, reflecting significantly weaker external demand compounded by high inflation, currency depreciation, tighter financing conditions, and other domestic headwinds.
- By the end of 2024, GDP levels in emerging and developing economies will be roughly 6% below levels expected before the pandemic. Although global inflation is expected to moderate, it will remain above pre-pandemic levels.

Investment Growth

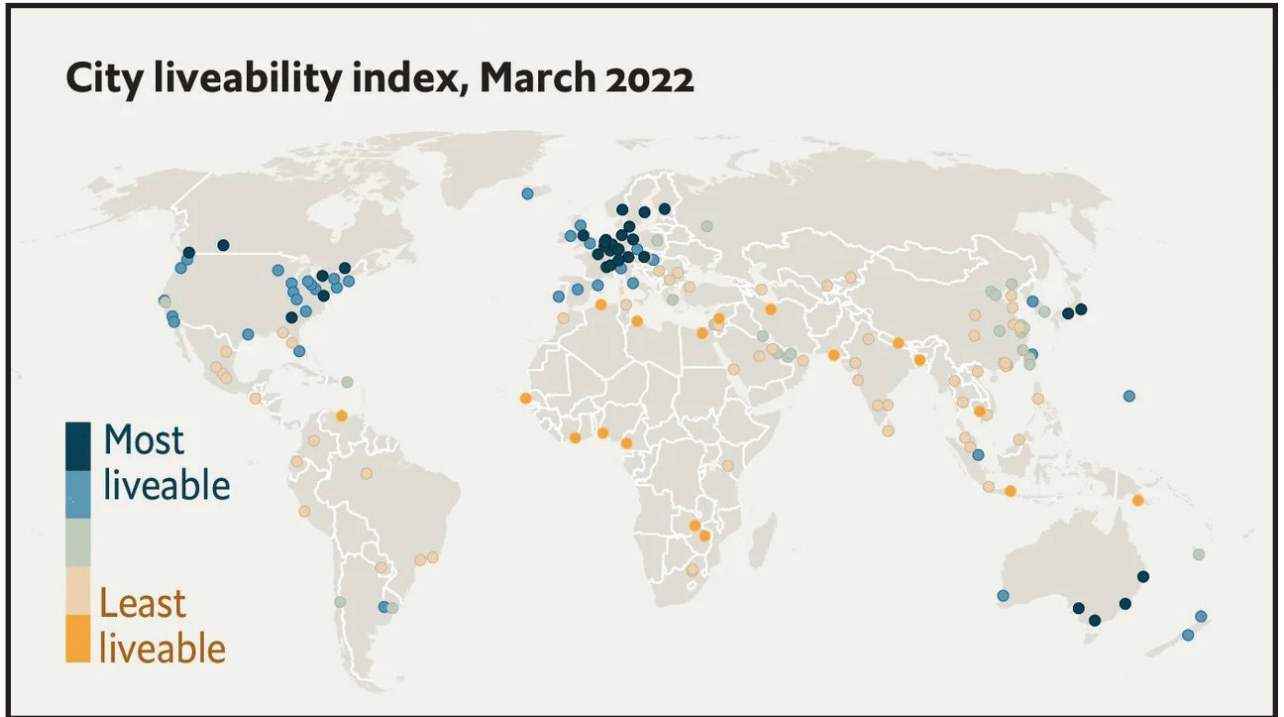
- The report also offers a comprehensive assessment of the medium-term outlook for investment growth in emerging market and developing economies.
- Over the 2022-2024 period, gross investment in these economies is likely to grow by about 3.5% on average—less than half the rate that prevailed in the previous two decades.
- The report suggests a menu of options for policymakers to accelerate investment growth, such as establishing sound fiscal and monetary policy frameworks and undertaking comprehensive reforms in the investment climate.

Global Liveability Index 2022

The European Intelligence Unit (EUI) recently released the Global Liveability Index 2022.

About

- It ranked 173 cities on the basis of their liveability or living conditions, which was determined by five factors – **stability, healthcare, culture and environment, education, and infrastructure**.
- When ranking, out of the five factors, the **EUI attaches the highest weightage to stability and culture and environment, which account for 25% each**.
- It is followed by healthcare and infrastructure with 20% each and education with 10%.
- The list, for the first time, included five Indian cities; Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Ahmedabad, and Bangalore.
- **Rank of Indian Cities:** All five scored poorly, ranked between 140 and 146.
 - ▶ Delhi: 140
 - ▶ Mumbai: 141
 - ▶ Chennai: 142
 - ▶ Ahmedabad: 143
 - ▶ Bangalore: 146
- It is in contrast, since the silicon valley of India topped the 'Ease of Living Index 2020', which was released by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- The most livable city according to the index is Vienna.
- The Syrian capital, Damascus is the least livable city in the world.



Key observations:

- **Bangalore received a score of 46.4, out of 100, in infrastructure.**
- Pakistan's largest city **Karachi** was one of the five least livable cities in the world in the index, but it has still **scored better than Bangalore in terms of infrastructure.**
- The infrastructure score is based on the quality of roads, public transportation system, international links, energy provision, telecommunications, water, and availability of good quality housing.

About the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)

- The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) was created in **1946.**
- It is the research and analysis **division of The Economist Group** and the world leader in global business intelligence.

Financial Stability Report: Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

What is it about?

- Recently, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released the 23rd issue of its Financial Stability Report (FSR).
- The FSR is **published biannually.**
- It reflects the collective assessment on risks to financial stability and the resilience of the financial system.
- The Report also discusses **issues relating to development and regulation of the financial sector.**

Financial Stability Report: Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

Reserve Bank released the 26th issue of the Financial Stability Report, which reflects the collective assessment of the Sub-Committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) on risks to financial stability and the resilience of the financial system.

Highlights:

- The global economy is facing formidable headwinds with recessionary risks looming large. The interplay of multiple shocks has resulted in tightened financial conditions and heightened volatility in financial markets.
- The Indian economy is confronting strong global headwinds. Yet, sound macroeconomic fundamentals and healthy financial and non-financial sector balance sheets are providing strength and resilience and engendering financial system stability.
- Buoyant demand for bank credit and early signs of a revival in investment cycle are benefiting from improved asset quality, return to profitability and strong capital and liquidity buffers of scheduled commercial banks (SCBs).
- The gross non-performing asset (GNPA) ratio of scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) fell to a seven-year low of 5.0 per cent and net non-performing assets (NNPA) have dropped to ten-year low of 1.3 per cent in September 2022.
- Macro stress tests for credit risk reveal that SCBs would be able to comply with the minimum capital requirements even under severe stress scenarios. The system-level capital to risk weighted assets ratio (CRAR) in September 2023, under baseline, medium and severe stress scenarios, is projected at 14.9 per cent, 14.0 per cent and 13.1 per cent, respectively.
- Stress tests for open-ended debt mutual funds showed no breach in limits pertaining to interest rate, credit and liquidity risks. Consolidated solvency ratio of both life and non-life insurance companies also remained above the prescribed minimum level.

World Competitiveness Index, 2022

Recently, the annual World Competitiveness Index was released by the **Institute for Management Development (IMD)**.

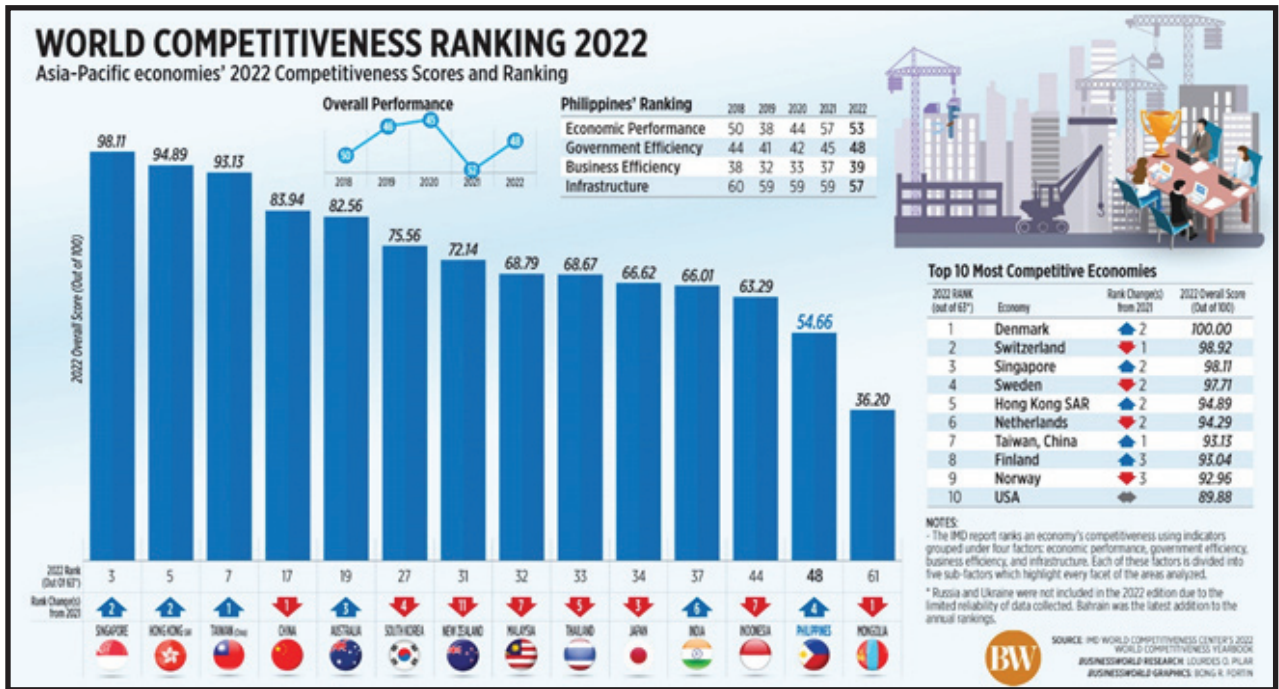
Background

- The **World Competitiveness Index** is a comprehensive annual assessment that serves as a global benchmark for country competitiveness.
- Global Indices and India's Rankings represent the country's performance on indicators that range from social to economic factors along with political indicators as well.
- IMD is a **Swiss foundation**, based in Switzerland, dedicated to the development of international business executives at each stage of their careers.
- The IMD **World Competitiveness Yearbook (WCY)**, first published in 1989, is a comprehensive annual report and worldwide reference point on the competitiveness of countries.

Key Highlights of the Report

- **Top Global Performers:**
- **Europe: Denmark has moved to the top of the 63-nation list** from the third position last year, while Switzerland slipped from the top ranking to the second position and Singapore regained the third spot from fifth.
- **Asia:** The top-performing Asian economies are **Singapore (3th), Hong Kong (5th), Taiwan (7th), China (17th) and Australia (19th)**.
- **Others:** Both Russia and Ukraine were not assessed in this year's edition due to the limited reliability of data collected.

- **India's Performance:** Performance on **four** Parameters:
 - ▶ **Economic performance:** It has improved from **37th** in 2021 to **28th** in 2022.
 - ▶ **Government efficiency:** It has improved from **46th** in 2021 to **45th** in 2022.
 - ▶ **Business efficiency:** It saw a huge improvement from 32nd rank in 2021 to 23rd in 2022.
 - ▶ **Infrastructure:** It on the other hand, saw no change at



How are rankings computed?

- The essential building block for the rankings is the **standardized value for all the criteria** (i.e., STD value).
- The first step is to compute the STD value for each criterion using the data available for all the economies.
- Then they rank the economies based on the criteria that are used in the aggregation: **a combination of hard and survey data.**

Reasons for India's Good Performance

- Major improvements in the context of retrospective taxes in 2021
- Re-regulation of a number of sectors, including drones, space and geo-spatial mapping.
- Significant improvement in the competitiveness of the Indian economy
- India as a driving force in the global movement to fight climate change and India's pledge of net-zero by 2070 at the COP26 summit also sits in harmony with its strength in environment-related technologies in the ranking.

What are the recent steps taken by India to increase its Competitiveness?

- **Towards Increasing Manufacturing Capacity:** India has made appreciable efforts to ensure resilience in manufacturing capacity such as via **Atmanirbhar Bharat** and **Make in India** initiatives which are aimed at domestic supply chains and heavy investment in manufacturing hubs.

- **The government has introduced the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme** in various sectors for enhancing India's manufacturing capabilities and exports.
- **Technological Advancement:** To facilitate technological advancement for increasing competitiveness, India's Department of Telecom (DoT) has constituted six task forces on 6G technology.
- The **Ministry of External Affairs**, through its **New, Emerging and Strategic Technologies (NEST) division** is also ensuring India's active participation in international forums on technology governance.
- It acts as the nodal division within the ministry for issues pertaining to new and emerging technologies and assists in collaboration with foreign partners in the field of technology.

India's strength

- The top five attractive factors of India's economy for business are –
 - ▶ A skilled workforce
 - ▶ Cost competitiveness
 - ▶ dynamism of the economy
 - ▶ high educational level
 - ▶ Open and positive attitudes

Weaknesses

- The challenges that India faces include;
 - ▶ Managing trade disruptions and energy security
 - ▶ Maintaining high GDP growth post the pandemic
 - ▶ Skill development and employment generation
 - ▶ Asset monetisation and resource mobilisation for infrastructure development

Way forward

- A nation that ensures balance between economic and social progress can enhance its productivity, followed by creating competitiveness and thus, prosperity.
 - ▶ Therefore, it is necessary to create an environment which not only pushes the businesses to compete successfully in local as well as international markets but ensures that the average citizen's standard of living also improves.
- Governments need to provide an environment characterized by efficient infrastructures, institutions and policies that encourage sustainable value creation by the enterprises.

Global competitiveness report

- The WEF's global competitiveness report evaluates countries' productivity and competitiveness in relation to 103 indicators spread across 12 pillars.
- These pillars are evaluated to score nations in the global competitiveness index:
 - ▶ Institutions
 - ▶ Infrastructure
 - ▶ ICT Adoption

- ▶ Macroeconomic Stability
 - ▶ Health
 - ▶ Skills
 - ▶ Product Market
 - ▶ Labour Market
 - ▶ Financial System
 - ▶ Market Size
 - ▶ Business Dynamism
 - ▶ Innovation Capability
- World Economic Forum (WEF) released the 2019 edition of the Global Competitiveness Report in October.
 - It features the **Global Competitiveness Index 4.0 (GCI4.0)**.

Global Competitiveness Index 4.0

- GCI 4.0 methodology is used by the Global Competitiveness Report. It provides guidance on what matters for long-term growth.
- It maps the competitiveness landscape of 141 economies through 103 indicators organized into 12 pillars.



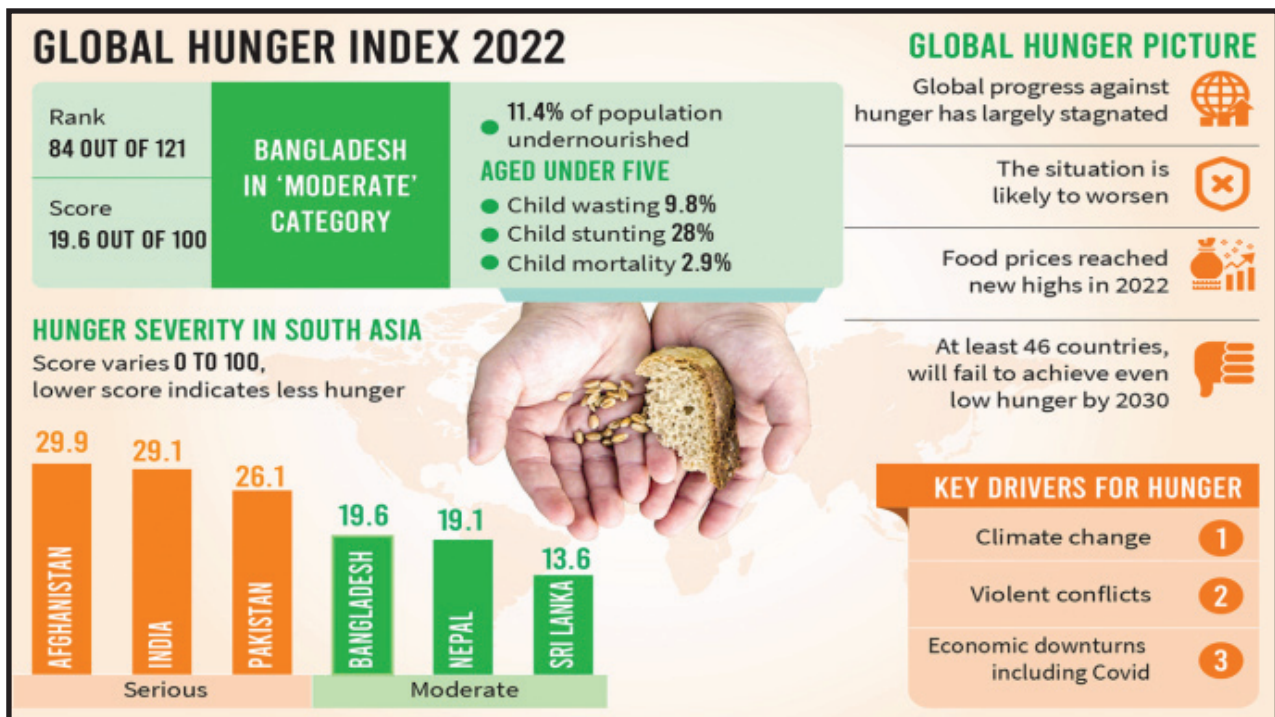
Global Hunger Index, 2022

About the Index

- **Annual Report:** It is an annual report (peer-reviewed) published by Concern Worldwide of Ireland and Welthungerhilfe (a German non-profit organization).
 - ▶ It was first produced in 2006. It is published every October.
 - ▶ The 2021 edition marks the 16th edition of the GHI.
 - ▶ The annual index is designed to measure and track hunger at the global, national, and regional levels and to assess progress and setbacks in combating hunger.
 - ▶ It ranks countries on a 100-point scale, with 0 being the best score (no hunger) and 100 being the worst, although neither of these extremes is reached in actuality.

GHI indicators:

- The GHI score is based on four indicators:
 - ▶ **Undernourishment:** Share of the population with insufficient caloric intake.
 - ▶ **Child Wasting:** Share of children under age five who have low weight for their height, reflecting acute under nutrition.
 - ▶ **Child Stunting:** Share of children under age five who have low height for their age, reflecting chronic under nutrition.
 - ▶ **Child Mortality:** The mortality rate of children under the age of five.
- ▶ The GHI is prepared by European NGOs of **Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe**.
- ▶ The GHI is an annual report and each set of GHI scores uses data from a 5-year period. The 2022 GHI scores are calculated using data from 2017 through 2021.



Performance of Countries on GHI 2022:

- **India (107)** ranked below Sri Lanka (64), Nepal (81), Bangladesh (84), and Pakistan (99).
 - ▶ **Afghanistan (109)** is the only country in South Asia that performs worse than India on the index.
 - ▶ India's score of 1 places it in the **'serious'** category.
 - ▶ China is among the countries collectively ranked between 1 and 17 having a score of less than five.
 - ▶ The **2022 GHI score** for the world is considered "moderate", but 18.2 in 2022 is only a slight improvement from 19.1 in 2014.
 - ▶ The reasons behind the drop in the position of several developing Countries remain to be the overlapping crises such as conflict, climate change, the economic fallout of the **COVID-19** pandemic as well as **the Ukraine war**, which has increased global food, fuel, and fertilizer prices.

Methodology:

- The Global Hunger Index was informed by the official data source **of the Government of India**.
 - ▶ The data from **National Family Health Survey (NFHS)** has been used while ranking India.
 - ▶ The **NFHS data confirms disconcertingly high child mortality rates** and chronic malnutrition persist in India, despite clear progress in the past few years.
 - ▶ Although the instances of child mortality are on the decline, a still large proportion of children still suffer from the **devastating consequences of acute and chronic malnutrition**.
 - ▶ The government has also criticized the indicator FAO uses to measure food security- **the prevalence of undernourishment**.
 - ▶ *This indicator has* been scrutinized and approved by countries through the UN Statistical Commission and the UN Economic and Social Council in 2015.

India's Concerns

The Government of India has raised concerns over the **Global Hunger Report 2022**.

- It has referred to the index as an erroneous measure of hunger and suffers from serious methodological issues.

What is the issue?

The Government of India has rejected the report based on the following reasons:

- Three out of the four indicators used for the calculation of the index are related to the health of Children and **cannot be representative of the entire population**.
- The FAO estimate is based on the "Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)" which is an "opinion poll" based on "8 questions" with a **sample size of "3000 respondents"** (*small sample size*).
- The report is not only disconnected from ground reality but also **chooses to deliberately ignore the food security efforts of the Government of India**, especially during the pandemic.

The reaction from the government might have made two fundamental mistakes.

- **No access to the latest NSS data:** The FAO doesn't have access to the latest, 75th round of the NSS data on consumer expenditures conducted in 2017-2018. It's not publicly available.
- **Lack of understanding regarding statistical protocols:** All of the methodological details regarding how FAO measures food security are public knowledge and explained yearly in the technical notes.

Initiatives to Eradicate Hunger/Malnutrition:

- POSHAN Abhiyan
- Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana
- Food Fortification
- National Food Security Act, 2013
- Mission Indradhanush
- Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme
- Eat Right India Movement

Global Gender Gap Index 2022

- Recently, the Global Gender Gap Index for 2022 was released and it ranks India at 135 out of 146 countries.
- In 2021, India was ranked 140 out of 156 countries.

What is the Global Gender Gap Index?

- The report is annually published by the **World Economic Forum (WEF)**.

Calculation

- On each of the four sub-indices as well as on the overall index the GGG index provides scores between 0 and 1, where 1 shows full gender parity and 0 is complete imparity.
 - It measures scores on a 0-to-100 scale, which can be interpreted as the distance covered towards parity or the percentage of the gender gap that has been closed.
- It benchmarks gender parity across four key dimensions or sub-indices —
 - ▶ economic participation and opportunity
 - ▶ educational attainment
 - ▶ health and survival
 - ▶ political empowerment
 - The report aims to serve “as a compass to track progress on relative gaps between women and men on health, education, economy and politics”.
 - According to the WEF it is the longest-standing index, which tracks progress towards closing these gaps over time since its inception in 2006.

How has India fared on different sub-indices?

- India has approximately 662 million (or 66.2 crore) women.
- India’s (135th) global gender gap score has oscillated between 0.593 and 0.683 since the index was first compiled.
- In 2022, India scored 0.629, which is its seventh-highest score in the last 16 years.
 - ▶ In 2022, India’s overall score has improved from 0.625 (in 2021) to 0.629.

INDIA'S REPORT CARD				
Index/sub-index	2022 (146 countries)		2021 (156 countries)	
	Rank	Score	Rank	Score
Global Gender Gap Index	135	0.629	140	0.625
Political empowerment	48	0.267	51	0.276
Economic participation & opportunity	143	0.350	151	0.326
Educational attainment	107	0.961	114	0.962
Health and survival	146	0.937	155	0.937

Source: World Economic Forum

Different sub-indices

◦ Political Empowerment

- Of all the sub-indices, this is where India ranks the highest (48th out of 146).
- This includes metrics such as the percentage of women in Parliament, the percentage of women in ministerial positions etc.
- However, notwithstanding its rank, its score is quite low at 0.267. Some of the best ranking countries in this category score much better. For instance, Iceland is ranked 1 with a score of 0.874 and Bangladesh is ranked 9 with a score of 0.546.
- Moreover, India's score on this metric has worsened since last year – from 0.276 to 0.267. The silver lining is that despite reduction, India's score is above the global average in this category.

◦ Economic Participation and Opportunity

- ▶ Here, too, India ranks a lowly 143 out of the 146 countries in contention even though its score has improved over 2021 from 0.326 to 0.350.
- ▶ Last year, India was pegged at 151 out of the 156 countries ranked. India's score is much lower than the global average, and only Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan are behind India on this metric.
- ▶ This includes metrics such as the percentage of women who are part of the labour force, wage equality for similar work, earned income etc.

◦ Educational Attainment

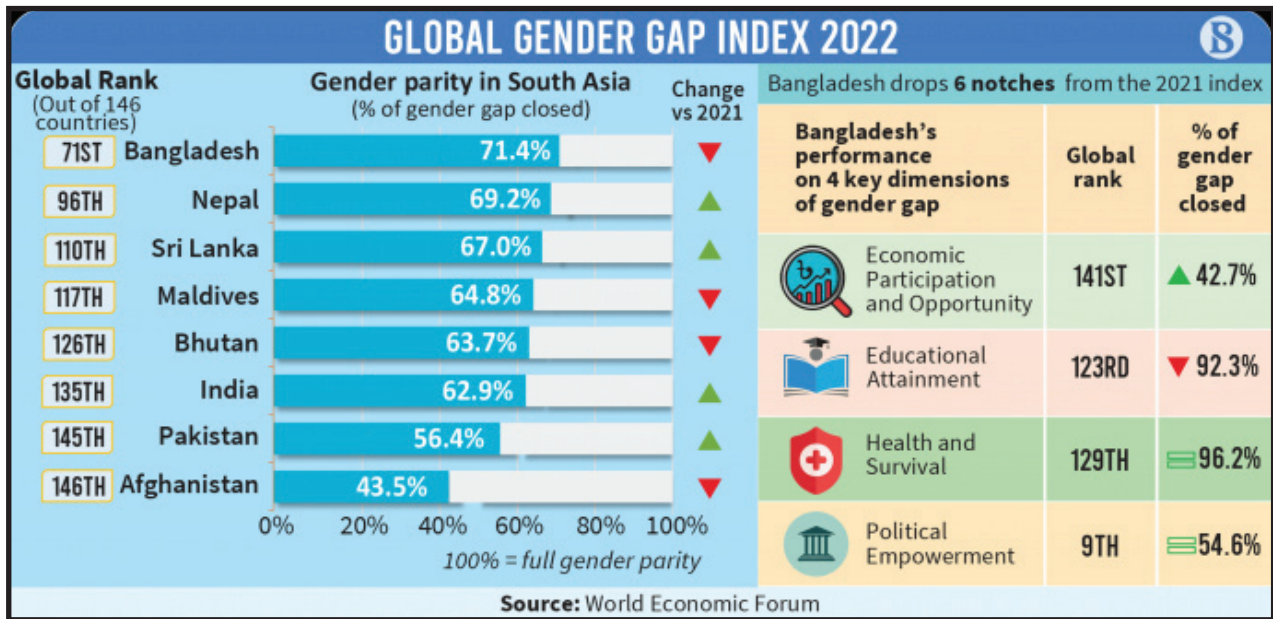
- ▶ Here India ranks 107th out of 146, and its score has marginally worsened since last year. In 2021, India was ranked 114 out of 156.
- ▶ This sub-index includes metrics such as literacy rate and the enrolment rates in primary, secondary and tertiary education.

◦ Health and Survival

- ▶ This includes two metrics: the sex ratio at birth (in %) and healthy life expectancy (in years).
- ▶ In this metric, India is ranked the last (146) among all the countries. Its score hasn't changed from 2021 when it was ranked 155th out of 156 countries.

Where does India stand amongst its neighbours?

- India ranks poorly among its neighbours and is behind Bangladesh (71), Nepal (96), Sri Lanka (110), Maldives (117) and Bhutan (126).



- Only the performance of Iran (143), Pakistan (145) and Afghanistan (146) was worse than India in South Asia.
- In 2021, India ranked 140 out of 156 nations.

The lingering crisis of labour post-pandemic

- The International Labor Organisation (ILO) has recently released two reports: 'Global Wage Report 2022-2023' and 'Asia-Pacific Employment and Social Outlook 2022', highlighting the global employment scenario (post-pandemic).

What does the data show?

- Trends in Nominal wage:** The nominal wages rose to Rs17,017 per month in 2021 from Rs4,398 in 2006. The source referred to was the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- Factoring in Inflation:** The real wage growth in India plunged to -0.2% in 2021 from 9.3% in 2006.
- Negative Growth:** The negative growth in India started after the pandemic.
- Neighboring Countries:**
 - In China, the growth decreased from 5.6% in 2019 to 2% in 2022.
 - In Pakistan, the growth is -3.8%.
 - Figures for Sri Lanka were not available
- Impact on low earners:** The greatest impact was on lower-income earners as they have to spend most of their disposable income on essential goods and services.

Is inequality rising?

- At the Asia-Pacific level:** Only the jobs in high-skill occupations saw a recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, and the same is true across all subregions.
- Hit on Low-to-medium-skill jobs:** There is an employment gain of 1.6% among high-skill workers between 2019 and 2021, but there is no such substantial gain among low-to-medium-skill workers.

- **Among G-20 Countries:** A significant gap in the average level of real wages between advanced G-20 countries and emerging G-20 countries such as India has been observed.
- It is on the level of about \$4,000 per month in advanced economies and about \$1,800 per month in emerging economies.

What are the ILO's remedies?

- **Prudent price expectation:** It is crucial to safeguard the standard of living of low-income households against unexpected future inflation hikes.
- **Managing wage inflation:** The potential measures which are to be taken to safeguard the standard of living must not come from undesirable wage inflation.
- **Creation of decent formal wage employment:** It is a prerequisite for a more equitable distribution of wages and income, and is a key contributor to equitable and sustainable wage growth.
- **Focus on the gender pay gap:** The governments must focus on the gender pay gap as when women leave the labor market, they are less likely to return than men.
- **Collective Efforts:** Collective efforts are required to gain momentum for growth. The government has to strengthen labor market institutions and wage policies.
- **Multilateral approach:** There is an urgent need to address the negative effects of climate change; increasing inequalities; the poverty, discrimination, violence, and exclusion endured by millions of people.
- **Taking down Discrimination:** The discrimination that women and girls continue to suffer in many parts of the world must end.
- **Ensuring HealthCare:** Access to vaccines, adequate sanitation and essential healthcare for all must be ensured.
- **Reducing the digital divide:** The growing digital divide between poor and wealthier countries needs to be reduced as it poses a potential speed-breaker when it comes to equitable growth.

About International Labour Organization (ILO)

- Established in 1919 by the Treaty of Versailles as an affiliated agency of the League of Nations.
- The full form of ILO is International Labour Organization.
- Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
- Became the first affiliated specialized agency of the UN in 1946.
- Tripartite principle: The basis of the ILO is the tripartite principle, i.e. the negotiations within the organization are held between the representatives of governments, trade unions, and member-states employers.
- The ILO is known to be the oldest and first specialized agency of the U.N.
- The organization's main objective is to provide services that unite forces among governments, workers, and businesses.
- It focuses on workers' or laborers' need to enjoy equity, freedom, human dignity, and security via employment.
- The International Labour Organization encourages international Labour standards.
- Received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1969

India and ILO

- India is a founding member of the ILO and it has been a permanent member of the ILO Governing Body since 1922.

- In India, the first ILO Office was started in 1928.
- India has ratified six out of the eight core/fundamental ILO conventions. These conventions are:
 - ▶ Forced Labour Convention
 - ▶ Abolition of Forced Labour Convention
 - ▶ Equal Remuneration Convention
 - ▶ Discrimination (Employment Occupation) Convention
 - ▶ Minimum Age Convention
 - ▶ Worst forms of Child Labour Convention
- India has not ratified the two core/fundamental conventions, namely Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948, and the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949.

World Press Freedom Index, 2022

- India's ranking in the World Press Freedom Index 2022 has fallen down to 150th position from last year's 142nd rank out of 180 countries.
- The top three positions for countries with the highest press freedom were taken by the Nordic trio of Norway (a score of 92.65), Denmark (90.27) and Sweden (88.84).

Key-highlights of the index:

- Top performing countries include Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Estonia and Finland while North Korea remained at the bottom of the list.
- The rankings of India's neighbours have also come down, with the index placing Pakistan at 157th position (145th last year), Sri Lanka 146th (127th), Bangladesh 162nd (152nd) and Myanmar at 176th (140th) position.
- Nepal has significantly improved its global ranking by 30 points from 106th position last year to 76th position in 2022.
- Russia's position has also come down from 150th last year to 155th this year, while China climbed up by two positions (from 177th to 175th).

What is RSF and what's the objective of this Index?

- **International NGO**- RSF is an international NGO whose self proclaimed aim is to defend and promote media freedom. Headquartered in Paris, it has consultative status with the United Nations.
- **Objective**- The objective of the World Press Freedom Index, which it releases every year, "is to compare the level of press freedom enjoyed by journalists and media in 180 countries and territories" in the previous calendar year.
- **Definition of Press Freedom**- The RSF defines press freedom as "the ability of journalists as individuals and collectives to select, produce, and disseminate news in the public interest independent of political, economic, legal, and social interference and in the absence of threats to their physical and mental safety."

What are the findings with regard to world press freedom?

- **Increase in Polarisation**- In terms of global trends, the report flags a "twofold increase in polarisation amplified by information chaos – that is, media polarization fuelling divisions within countries, as well as polarisation between countries at the international level."

- **Divisions in Democratic societies-** It notes that “within democratic societies, divisions are growing” due to the spread of “opinion media” modelled on Fox News, and the rise of “disinformation circuits” amplified by how social media functions.
- **Ranking-** The top three positions for countries with the highest press freedom were taken by the Nordic trio of Norway (a score of 92.65), Denmark (90.27) and Sweden (88.84). The world’s 10 worst countries for press freedom include Myanmar (176th), China (175), Turkmenistan (177th), Iran (178th), Eritrea (179th) and North Korea (180th).

What does the Index say about India?

- **Press freedom is in crisis** -The report states that in India, “the violence against journalists, the politically partisan media and the concentration of media ownership all demonstrate that press freedom is in crisis”.
- **Violence against Journalist-** Describing India as “one of the world’s most dangerous countries for the media”, the report notes that “journalists are exposed to all kinds of physical violence including police violence, ambushes by political activists, and deadly reprisals by criminal groups or corrupt local officers”
- **Online attacks-** It highlights that “supporters of Hindutva, the ideology that spawned the Hindu farright, wage all out online attacks on any views that conflict with their thinking.”

Gender Inequality Index (GII); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

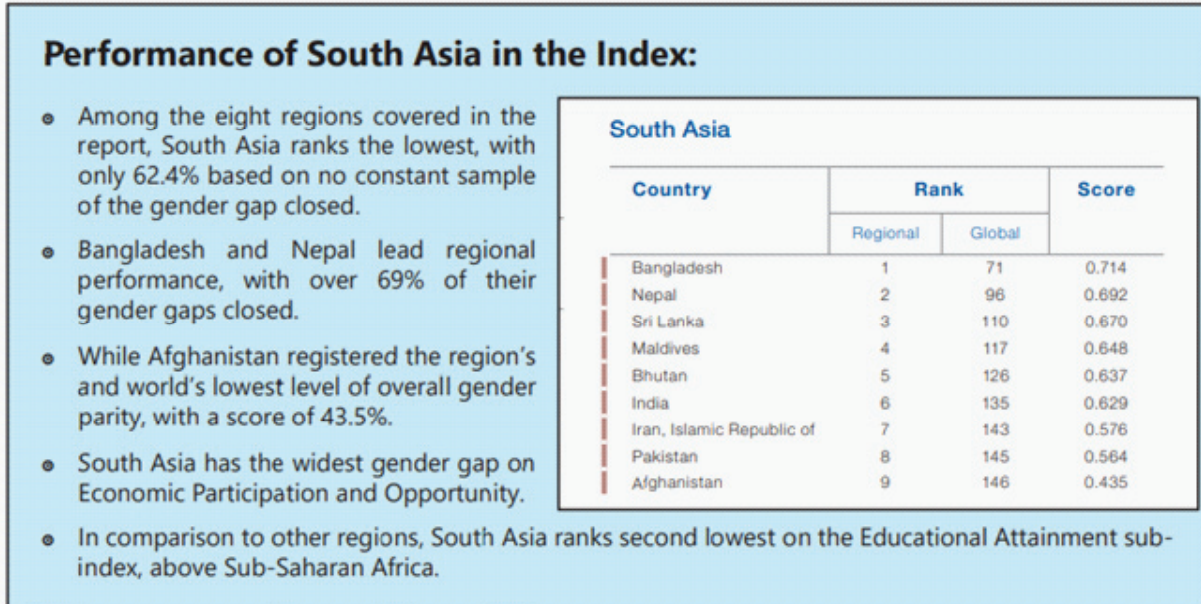
Background

- The Global Gender Gap Index is released by the World Economic Forum. It was first introduced in 2006 to benchmark progress towards gender parity.
- World Economic Forum (WEF) released Global Gender Gap (GGG) Index for 2022.
- Objective: It is the longest-standing index which tracks progress towards closing these gaps over time since its inception in 2006.
- The index benchmarks the current state and evolution of gender parity across four key dimensions-
 - ▶ Economic Participation and Opportunity,
 - ▶ Educational Attainment,
 - ▶ Health and Survival,
 - ▶ Political Empowerment
 - ▶ **Scoring:** The Index measures scores on a 0 to 100 scale
 - ▶ India’s ranking: India has been ranked at 135 out of 146 countries.
 - ▶ It is an index that is designed to **measure gender equality.**

Global Key findings:

- In 2022, the global gender gap has been closed by 68.1%. At the current rate of progress, it will take 132 years to reach full parity.
- Across the 146 countries, the Health and Survival gender gap has closed by 95.8%, Educational Attainment by 94.4%, Economic Participation and Opportunity by 60.3% and Political Empowerment by 22%.

- No country has yet achieved full gender parity, although the top 10 economies have closed at least 80% of their gender gaps, with Iceland (90.8%) leading the global ranking.
- Other Scandinavian countries such as Finland (86%, 2nd), Norway (84.5%, 3rd) and Sweden (82.2%, 5th) feature in the top 5.



Key findings about India:

- India's global gender gap score has oscillated between 0.593 and 0.683 since the index was first compiled.
- In 2022, India scores 0.629, which is its seventh-highest score in the last 16 years.

Economic Participation and Opportunity-

- India ranked 143 in this subindex even though there has been an increase in the share of women in professional and technical roles.
- Although the gender parity score for estimated earned income improved; while values for both men and women diminished, they declined more for men.
- India and Sri Lanka have progressed on closing the gender gap in the share of women in senior positions.

Health and Survival-

- India is ranked the last (146) among all the countries.
- This sub-index includes Sex ratio at birth and Healthy Life Expectancy.
- The five countries with gender gaps larger than 5% in this sub-index are Qatar, Pakistan, Azerbaijan, China and India.
- Sex ratio at birth remains relatively low in large, populated countries such as India and Pakistan, whereas Bangladesh, Bhutan, Iran and Sri Lanka have reached parity.

Political Empowerment-

- This sub-index includes- percentage of women in Parliament & percentage of women in ministerial positions etc.
- Among all the sub-indices India ranks the highest in this one (48th out of 146). Although its score is quite low at 0.267.

- In India and Nepal women have held the highest office in the country or participated more widely in government.

Educational Attainment-

- India ranked 107th in this sub-index with a score of 0.961.
- This section includes literacy rate (%), enrolment in primary, secondary and tertiary education.

NOTE:

- The Human Development Report Office releases five composite indices each year: Human Development Index (HDI), the Inequality-Adjusted Human Development Index (IHDI), the Gender Development Index (GDI), the Gender Inequality Index (GII), and the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI).
- The Human Development Report was released for the first time in the year 1990, by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- The 2019 Human Development Report was titled "Beyond income, beyond averages, beyond today: Inequalities in human development in the 21st century".

Steps taken by govt. to reduce the gender gap in all aspect of social, economic and political life:

- **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)**: ensures the protection, survival and education of the girl child.
- **Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK)**: aims to empower rural women with opportunities for skill development and employment.
- **Working Women Hostel (WWH)**: ensures the safety and security for working women. Scheme for Adolescent Girls: aims to empower girls in the age group 11-18 and to improve their social status through nutrition, life skills, home skills and vocational training.
- **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandna Yojna**: aims to provide maternity benefit to pregnant and lactating mothers.
- **Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana**: aims to provide housing under the name of the woman also.
- **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)**: aims to enable a large number of Indian youth including women to take up industry-relevant skill training in securing a better livelihood.
- **DeenDayal Upadhyay National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)**: focuses on creating opportunities for women in skill development, leading to market-based employment.
- **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana**: empowers women and protects their health by providing LPG cylinder free of cost.
- Sukanya Samridhi Yojna(SSY): Under this scheme, girls have been economically empowered by opening their bank accounts.

Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)

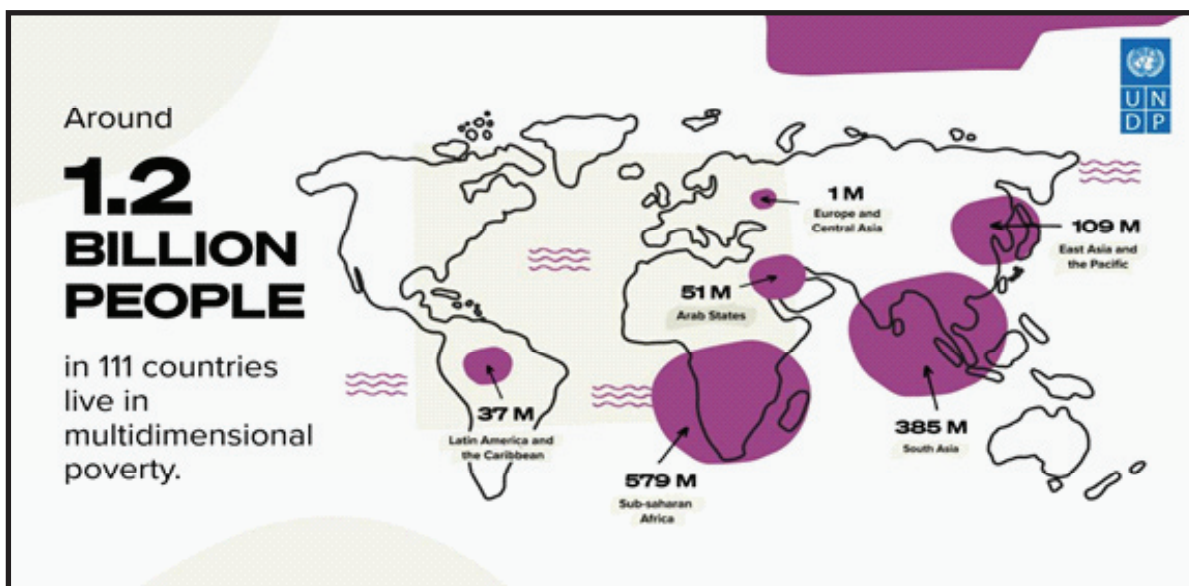
- The recently released **Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)** indicates that 41.5 crore people exited poverty in India during the 15-year period between 2005-06 and 2019-21.

The Global Multidimensional Poverty Index:

- Definition:** The global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) is an international measure of acute multidimensional poverty covering over 100 developing countries.
 - It complements traditional monetary poverty measures by capturing the acute deprivations in health, education, and living standards that a person faces simultaneously.
- Developed by:** The global MPI was developed by Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) with the **UN Development Programme (UNDP)** for inclusion in UNDP's flagship Human Development Report in 2010.
- It has been published annually by OPHI and in the HDRs ever since.
- The global MPI constructs a deprivation profile of each household and person through 10 indicators spanning health, education, and standard of living and includes both incidences as well as the intensity of poverty.
- All indicators are equally weighted within each dimension.
- The global MPI identifies people as multi-dimensionally poor if their deprivation score is **1/3** or higher.

Key Highlights: (India-specific Data)

- It shows that the **incidence of poverty fell** from 55.1% in 2005-06 to 16.4% in 2019-21 in the country.
- The **deprivations in all 10 MPI indicators saw significant reductions** as a result of which the MPI value and incidence of poverty more than halved.
- About 41.5 crore people exited poverty in India** during the 15-year period between 2005-06 and 2019-21, out of which two-thirds exited in the first 10 years, and one-third in the next five years.
- Improvement in MPI for India has significantly contributed to the **decline in poverty in South Asia**.
- It is for the **first time that it is not the South Asian region** with the highest number of poor people, at 38.5 crores, compared with 57.9 crores in **Sub-Saharan Africa**.
- The **report doesn't fully assess the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on poverty in India** as 71% of the **data from the National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-2021)** relied upon for MPI were collected before the pandemic.



Bihar is the poorest State in 2015-2016, seeing the fastest reduction in MPI value in absolute terms. The incidence of poverty there fell from 77.4% in 2005-2006 to 34.7% in 2019-2021.

India's present scenario:

- India has by far the largest number of poor people worldwide at 22.8 crores, followed by Nigeria at 9.6 crores.
- Two-thirds of these people live in a household in which at least one person is deprived of nutrition.
- There were also 9.7 crore poor children in India in 2019-2021.
- About 4.2% of the population in the country still lives in severe poverty.
- Rural areas account for nearly 90% of poor people.

Global S&T Innovation Center Index 2022

5 Chinese Cities have made it to the top 30 in the first edition of the released by the **Institute for Global Innovation and Development of East China Normal University**.

Key Points from the report:

- Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Hangzhou, and Guangzhou have been ranked in the top 30 cities of science and technology innovation.
- Beijing has surpassed Boston in the US.
- San Francisco-San Jose region in the US is the world's top scientific and technological innovation center.
- Among the top 100 science and technology innovation centers, 26 cities are from the US
- Only two European cities made the top 10, showing a lack of innovation momentum.

Other Ranking Indexes related to Innovation:

- **Global Innovation Index 2022**
- The Global Innovation Index, which is **published annually**, has been a **leading reference for measuring an economy's innovation performance**.
- The GII has been **recognized by the UN Economic and Social Council** in its 2019 resolution on Science, Technology, and Innovation for Development as an authoritative benchmark for measuring innovation in relation to the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.
 - ▶ **Theme for 2022:** "What is the future of innovation-driven growth?"
 - ▶ **India was ranked 40th position out of 132** in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2022.
- **Published by:** It is published by WIPO, in partnership with the Portulans Institute and with the support of its corporate partners including the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), the Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI), Ecopetrol (Colombia), and the Turkish Exporters Assembly (TIM).

What is WIPO?

- WIPO is the **global forum for intellectual property (IP) services**, policy, information, and cooperation.
- It is a **self-funding agency of the United Nations**, with 193 member states.
- It aims to **lead the development of a balanced and effective international IP system** that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all.
- Its mandate, governing bodies, and procedures are set out in the WIPO Convention, which established WIPO in 1967.

India Innovation Index:

- The Indian government introduced an India Innovation Index on the lines of the Global Innovation Index.
- This year it was the **third edition of the Report**.
- It highlighted the scope of innovation analysis in the country by drawing on the framework of the Global Innovation Index.

Related Initiatives by India

- **Digital India:** India embarked on the 'Digital India' journey in 2015 and has set up a goal of a trillion-dollar digital economy in the next few years.
- **National Education Policy 2020:** To further strengthen innovation, the National Education Policy was introduced which promoted the spirit of inquiry by setting up incubation & technology development centers.
- **Atal Tinkering Labs:** Over 9000 Atal Tinkering Labs encourage youth to develop solutions to society's problems.
- **Structural Reforms in IPR:** India has taken up structural reforms to strengthen its Intellectual property rights (IPR) regime including modernization of IP offices, reducing legal compliances, and facilitating IP filing for start-ups, women entrepreneurs, small industries, and others.

Emissions Gap Report 2022

Recently, the **Emissions Gap Report 2022**, was released, which has highlighted the need for countries to take significant steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference 2022 (UNFCCC COP 27) going to be held in **Egypt**.

Key Highlights of the Report:

- The Report was titled as '**The Closing Window – Climate crisis calls for rapid transformation of societies**' for the year 2022.
- **Objective:**
- The **annual report** assesses the gap between the pledges taken by **different countries** to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the estimated reduction required to maintain the average global temperature rise to **below 2°C**, preferably 1.5°C, by the end of this century.
- The flagship report is managed by the **UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre**.

The UNEP:

UNEP's mission is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

- It serves as a scientifically authoritative source of timely and policy-relevant information to key decision-makers, guiding the UNFCCC process and implementing the Paris Agreement.

The Paris Agreement, adopted by **196 countries** in 2015 at COP 21, was aimed at limiting global warming and maintaining the average global temperature rise, ideally, to **below 1.5°C**.

- According to the 2022 report, the national pledges taken by countries since last year only make a “negligible difference” to predicted 2030 emissions.
- These pledges or the **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC)**, only reduce the emissions by **1 percent** by the end of the decade.
- With the current policies, the global temperature is expected to rise by 2.8°C by the end of this century, and emissions should be cut down by **45 percent** globally to maintain the goal temperatures.
- It also emphasized transformative solutions across sectors, including **food systems**.

What are the factors associated with contributing to Global Emissions?

◦ The Livestock emissions:

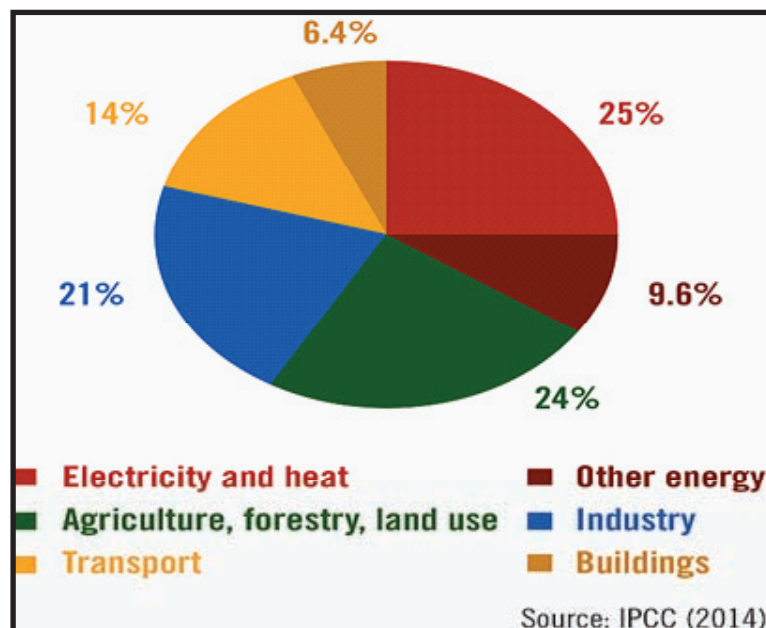
- Emissions from livestock mainly include carbon dioxide (from urea), nitrous oxide (from livestock dung and urine), and methane (from belching) among others.
- They contribute towards the greenhouse effect as due to these gases, heat gets trapped around the surface of the earth and causes global warming.

Do you know?

The Global Warming Potential (**GWP**) of gases is a metric that helps measure ‘the radiative effect (determined by the ability to absorb energy) of each unit of gas’ over a specific period of time such as 100 years, as expressed relative to the radiative effect of carbon dioxide.

The Agriculture industry:

- The **process of cow belching** releases more methane into the environment due to enteric fermentation, a digestive process where complex sugars are converted into simpler molecules to be absorbed into the bloodstream, producing methane as a by-product. Whenever a farm animal digests food, methane is released into the atmosphere.
- The **cultivation of paddy**, which floods the fields, prevents oxygen from penetrating the soil and creates suitable conditions for methane-emitting bacteria. This accounts for roughly **8 percent** of human-linked emissions.



World Bank Poverty Report

- World Bank has released the report titled **Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2022: Correcting Course**.

Key- Highlights

- Slowing poverty reduction rate:** The rate of poverty reduction was slowing since 2015 but the Covid pandemic and the war in Ukraine has reversed the outcomes.
 - Poverty reduction has slowed because of subdued global economic growth.
 - At this rate, the global goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030 would not be achieved.
- Increase in extreme poverty:** The number of people living below the extreme poverty line rose by over 70 million in 2020.
 - This was the largest one-year increase since the start of monitoring of global poverty in 1990.
- Inequality:** The income losses of the poorest 40 percent averaged 4 per cent. It was double the losses of the wealthiest 20 percent. This resulted in the rise of global inequality.
- Decline in median income:** The global median income has declined by 4 per cent in 2020.
 - This was the first decline since measurements of median income began in 1990.
- Learning poverty:** Simulations suggest that poverty due to the learning losses will exceed the economic poverty shock for many countries.
- Food inflation:** High food price inflation can have detrimental impacts on poorer households, which spend a larger share of their income on food.
 - However, for many poor rural households engaged in agriculture, higher food prices can be a source of income growth.

Poverty Estimation in India

- Individuals or households that fall below a minimum level are designated to be **Below the Poverty Line and are considered poor**.
- The Poverty Line calculation in India is now carried out by the **NITI Aayog** based on the data collected by the **National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)**.

Global Report on Food Crisis 2022

- Recently, Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC)** has released the Global Report on Food Crisis, where it has highlighted the acute food insecurity globally.

Key-findings

- The number of people facing acute food insecurity and requiring urgent life-saving food assistance and livelihood support continues to grow at an alarming rate.
- According to the report, around 193 million people in 53 countries or territories experienced acute food insecurity at crisis or worse levels in 2021.
 - This represents an increase of nearly 40 million people compared with the already record numbers of 2020.
- Of these, over half a million people (570 000) in Ethiopia, southern Madagascar, South Sudan and Yemen were classified in the most severe phase of acute food insecurity Catastrophe.

- When looking at the same 39 countries or territories featured in all editions of the report, the number of people facing crisis or worse nearly doubled between 2016 and 2021, with unabated rises each year since 2018.

Cause of food crises

- **Conflict** (main driver pushing 139 million people in 24 countries/territories into acute food insecurity, up from around 99 million in 23 countries/territories in 2020)
- **Weather extremes** (over 23 million people in 8 countries/territories, up from 15.7 million in 15 countries/territories)
- **Economic shocks** – (over 30 million people in 21 countries/territories, down from over 40 million people in 17 countries/territories in 2020 mainly due to the fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic).

What is GNAFC?

- It was Founded by the European Union, FAO and WFP in 2016.
- It is an alliance of humanitarian and development actors working together to prevent, prepare for and respond to food crises and support the Sustainable Development Goal to End Hunger (SDG 2).

UN World Happiness Report 2022

- **India** has improved its rank by three spots to **acquire 136th position in the United Nations' World Happiness Report for the year 2022.**

Key-highlights

- **The 2022 World Happiness Report** was released on **March 18, 2022.**
 - ▶ **It is the 10th edition of the report.**
- The World Happiness Report has been published by the **United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, since 2012**, to rank countries by how happy their citizens perceive themselves to be.
- The Report is based on **two key ideas-**
 - ▶ **Happiness or life evaluation measured through opinion surveys.**
 - ▶ **Identifying key elements that determine well-being and life evaluation across countries.**

Sustainable Development Network Solution

- **The SDSN, launched in 2012**, mobilizes global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical problem solving for the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement.**
- It was established under the auspices of the **United Nations Secretary-General.**
- **The SDSN and the Bertelsmann Stiftung** have been publishing **the annual SDG Index & Dashboards Global Report since 2016.**

Ranking

- **Top Performers: Finland topped the list for the fifth time in a row. Finland was followed by Denmark, Iceland, Switzerland, and the Netherlands.**

- **Worst Performers:** Afghanistan was named the most unhappy country in the world, ranking last on the index of 146 countries. Lebanon (145th), Zimbabwe (144th), Rwanda (143rd), and Botswana (142nd) following.
- **India's position:** India continued to fare poorly in the world happiness index, with its position marginally improving to 136 as against last year's 139.
- **India's Neighbours**
 - ▶ Nepal (84)
 - ▶ Bangladesh (94)
 - ▶ Pakistan (121)
 - ▶ Sri Lanka (127)

GS SCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

IAS 2024

GS MAINS Q&A

COMPLETE GS MAINS & ESSAY *through*
CONCEPT BUILDING & ANSWER WRITING



CONCEPT
CLASSES



TESTS



STUDY
MATERIAL



MENTORING



Finally, A Good Practice programme for Mains

OPTIONAL Q&A

GEOGRAPHY



POLITICAL
SCIENCE



ANTHROPOLOGY



PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION



HISTORY



SOCIOLOGY



1B, Second Floor, Pusa Road, Karol Bagh,
New Delhi - 110005 (Beside Karol Bagh
Metro Station Gate No. 8)



8448496262



iascore.in



SUCCESS IS A PRACTICE WE DO!

