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A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative

TARGET 2021

REPORTS & INDICES





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TARGET 2021

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| FINANCIAL ORGANIZATIONS | | |
| 1. | Ease of Doing Business | World Bank |
| 2. | World Development Report | |
| 3. | Global Economic Prospect (GEP) Report | |
| 4. | Remittance Report | |
| 5. | Ease of Living Index | |
| 6. | India Development Update | |
| 7. | Universal Health Coverage Index | |
| 8. | Global Financial Development Report | |
| 9. | Energy Efficiency Implementation Readiness | |
| 10. | Human Capital Index (Prepared as a part of World development Report) | |
| 11. | Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE) | |
| 12. | Logistics Performance Index | |
| 13. | Report : A Glass Half Full: The promise of Regional Trade in South Asia | |
| 14. | Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020 | |
| 15. | Human Capital Index (Prepared as a part of World development Report) | |
| 16. | Global Information Technology Report | |



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| 17. | Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report | |
| 18. | Global Competitiveness Report | |
| 19. | Global Enabling Trade Report | |
| 20. | Global Energy Architecture Performance Index Report | |
| 21. | Global Environment Performance Index | |
| 22. | World Power Language Index | |
| 23. | Inclusive Development Index | |
| 24. | Global Gender Gap Index | |
| 25. | Global Risk Report | |
| 26. | Energy Transition Index | |
| 27. | Future of Jobs Report, 2018 | |
| 28. | Global Manufacturing Index | |
| 29. | Social Mobility Index | |
| 30. | Indian Cities in Post-Pandemic World' Report | |
| 31. | Readiness for future of Production Report | WEF + AT Kearney |
| 32. | Global Financial Stability Report | International Monetary Fund (IMF) |
| 33. | World Economic Outlook | |
| 34. | The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) | Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) |
| 35. | Government at a Glance Report | |
| 36. | Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) | |
| 37. | World Trade Outlook Indicator | World Trade Organisation (WTO) |
| 38. | Global Financial System Report | Bank for International Settlements (BIS) |

| UN & ITS SPECIALISED AGENCIES | | |
|--|---|--|
| 39. | Global education monitoring Report | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) |
| 40. | Gender Parity Index | |
| 41. | State of the Education Report for India 2020 | |
| 42. | Report on Regular Resources | United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) |
| 43. | The State of the World's Children reports | |
| 44. | Averting a lost Covid Generation Report | |
| 45. | Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey | |
| 46. | Sustainability Index and Flourishing Index | WHO, UNICEF and THE LANCET |
| 47. | Global Report on Trafficking in Persons | United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) |
| 48. | World Drug Report | |
| 49. | World Wildlife Crime Report | |
| 50. | ICT Development Index | United Nations International Telecommunication Union (UN-ITU) |
| 51. | Global Cyber Security Index | |
| 52. | 'Global E-waste Monitor' Report | UN-ITU, United Nations University (UNU) and International Solid Waste Association (ISWA) |
| 53. | The Global Report | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) |
| 54. | World Investment Report | United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) |
| 55. | Trade & Development Report | |
| 56. | The Least Developed Countries Report | |
| 57. | Information and Economy Report | |
| 58. | The Technology and Innovation Report | |
| 59. | Commodities and Development Report | |
| 60. | World Economic situation and Prospects Report | UNCTAD & UN-Department of Economic & Social Affairs (UN-DESA) |



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| 61. | World's Women Report – Once in 5 years | UN-DESA |
| 62. | e-Participation Index | |
| 63. | e-Government Development Index | |
| 64. | International Migrant Stock 2019 | |
| 65. | Reports on Counterfeiting and Organized Crime | United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) |
| 66. | Industrial Development Report | United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) |
| 67. | Global Assessment Report | United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) |
| 68. | Human Cost of Disasters Report | United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction |
| 69. | State of World Population Report | United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) |
| 70. | Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation | United Nation's Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific's (UNESCAP) |
| 71. | World Cities Report | UN-Habitat |
| 72. | Habitat Commitment Index | |
| 73. | Levels and Trends in Child Mortality Report | UN Inter-agency Group |
| 74. | World Risk Index | United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) |
| 75. | World Happiness Report | UN – Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) |
| 76. | World Social Protection Report | International Labour Organization (ILO) |
| 77. | World Employment and Social Outlook | |
| 78. | Care Work & Care Jobs for the Future of Decent Work Report | |
| 79. | World of Work Report | |
| 80. | Global Wage Report | United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) |
| 81. | Gender Social Norms Index | |
| 82. | Human Development Report | |



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| 83. | Gender Inequality Index | | |
| | <i>Global Gender Gap Index</i> | <i>WEF</i> | |
| | <i>Gender Parity Index</i> | <i>UNESCO</i> | |
| 84. | Actions on Air Quality | United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) / UN Environment | |
| 85. | Global Environment Outlook | | |
| 86. | Emission Gap Report | | |
| 87. | Adaptation Gap Report | | |
| 88. | Inclusive Wealth Report | | |
| 89. | Food Waste Index 2021 | | |
| 90. | Global Methane Assessment Report | | |
| 91. | Protected Planet Report 2020 | | UN Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and IUCN |
| 92. | The Rise of Environmental Crime Report | | UNEP & INTERPOL |
| 93. | World State of Forest Report | | Food & Agriculture Organisation (FAO) |
| 94. | Global Forest Resources Assessment | | |
| 95. | Global Food Price Index | | |
| 96. | World Health Statistics | World Health Organization (WHO) | |
| 97. | World Tuberculosis Report | | |
| 98. | Global Nutrition Report | | |
| 99. | World Vision Report | | |
| 100. | World Malaria Report | | |
| 101. | Ambient Air Pollution Report | | |
| 102. | World Air Quality Report | IQAir and Greenpeace | |
| 103. | Greenhouse Gas Bulletin | World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) | |
| 104. | Global Seasonal Climate update | | |



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| 105. | State of the Global Climate 2020 | |
| 106. | United in Science Report | |
| 107. | Safety Reports | International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) |
| 108. | CORSIA | |
| 109. | World Migration Report | International Organisation for Migration (IOM) |
| 110. | Global Innovation Index | World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) |
| 111. | World Intellectual Property Report | |
| | <i>International Intellectual Property Index</i> | <i>US Chamber of Commerce</i> |
| 112. | World Water Development Report | UN-Water |
| OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS | | |
| 113. | Asian Economic Integration Report & Asian Development Outlook | Asian Development Bank |
| 114. | Asian Infrastructure Finance Report 2019 | Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) |
| 115. | Red List | International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) |
| NUCLEAR ORGANISATIONS REPORTS | | |
| 116. | Technical Cooperation Report | International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) |
| 117. | Nuclear Technology Review | |
| 118. | Red Book | |
| ENERGY RELATED REPORTS | | |
| 119. | World Energy Outlook, India Energy Outlook 2021 | International Energy Agency (IEA) |
| 120. | World Energy Investment Report 2021 | |
| 121. | The Future of Rail Report | |
| 122. | Global Electric Vehicle Outlook | |
| 123. | Status of Power System Transmission 2018 Report | |



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| 124. | Southeast Asia Energy Outlook | |
| 125. | World Energy Transitions Outlook Report | International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) |
| 126. | Renewable Capacity Statistics Report 2021 | |
| 127. | World Oil Outlook | Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) |
| NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS | | |
| 128. | The Energy Report & Living Planet Report | World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) |
| 129. | Global Corruption Report | Transparency International |
| 130. | Corruption Perception Index | |
| 131. | World Press Freedom Index | Reporters Without Borders |
| 132. | Death Penalty Report | Amnesty International |
| 133. | Global Hunger Index | International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) |
| 134. | Gender Vulnerability Index | Plan India |
| 135. | An Economy for the 99% | Oxfam |
| 136. | Confronting Carbon Inequality | Oxfam International and Stockholm Environmental Institute (SEI) |
| 137. | Widening Gaps - India Inequality Report, 2018 | Oxfam India |
| 138. | Change the World List Data | Fortune |
| 139. | Global Pension Index | Melbourne Mercer |
| 140. | Global Slavery Index | Walk Free foundation, Australia based Human Rights Group |
| 141. | Global Retail Development Index | AT Kearney (American Global Management Consulting Firm) |
| 142. | FDI Confidence Index | |
| 143. | Climate Change Performance Index | German Watch |
| 144. | Global Climate Risk Index | |
| 145. | Healthcare Access & Quality Ranking | Global Burden of Disease |

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| 146. | Global Burden of Diseases Report | Lancet Planetary Health Journal |
| 147. | Climate Change Performance Index | German Watch and Climate Action Network Europe |
| 148. | Rule of Law Index | World Justice Project, American independent Multidisciplinary organisation |
| 149. | Financial Secrecy Index | Tax Justice Network, UK based advocacy group |
| 150. | Commitment to Reduce Inequality Index | Oxfam and Development Finance International |
| RESEARCH CENTRES & OTHER INSTITUTES | | |
| 151. | Index of Economic Freedom | Heritage Foundation |
| 152. | International Intellectual Property Index | US Chamber of Commerce |
| 153. | Global Peace Index | Institute of Economics & Peace (IEP), Australia |
| 154. | Global Terrorism Index | |
| 155.G | Global Democracy Index / State of Democracy in the World 2020 | Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), UK |
| 156. | Government E-Payments Adoption Ranking | |
| 157. | Asia-Pacific Personalised Health Index | |
| 158. | Global Liveability Ranking | |
| 159. | Inclusive Internet Index | |
| 160. | Global Health Security Index | EIU and Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) & Johns Hopkins University Center for Health Security (CHS) |
| 161. | Report on International Arms Transfers | Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) |
| 162. | Young Child Outcomes Index (YCOI), Young Child Environment Index (YCEI) | Bernard Van Leer Foundation, Netherland based organisation |
| 163. | Global Talent Competitiveness Index | INSEAD, Adecco Group and the Human Capital Leadership Institute of Singapore |
| 164. | City Momentum Index | JLL Real Estate Services, US |
| 165. | State of Global Air Report | Health Effects Institute, Boston |

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| 166. | Global Ecological Footprint | Global Footprint Network |
| 167. | Social Progress Index | Social Progress Imperative |
| 168. | World Inequality Report | World Inequality Lab, Paris School of Economics |
| 169. | Digital Evolution Index | Tufts University, US and Mastercard |
| 170. | Multidimensional Poverty Status | UNDP, Oxford & Human Development Initiative |
| 171. | Global Youth Index | Commonwealth Secretariat |
| 172. | Varieties of Democracy Report | V-Dem Institute, University of Gothenburg, Sweden |
| 173. | International Religious Freedom Report | US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) |
| 174. | Global Wealth Report | Credit Suisse Group, a Switzerland-based multinational investment bank |
| 175. | World Competitiveness Index | Institute for Management Development (IMD) World Competitiveness Center. |
| | <i>Global Competitiveness Report</i> | <i>World Economic Forum</i> |
| REPORTS RELATED TO INDIA | | |
| 176. | India State of Forest Report | Forest Survey of India |
| 177. | Red Data Book | Botanical Survey of India |
| 178. | Good Governance Index | The Department of Administrative Reform and Public Grievances (DARPG) and Centre for Good Governance (CGG), Hyderabad |
| 179. | India Child Well-Being Report | 'World Vision India' and 'IFMR LEAD' |
| 180. | National Air Quality Indices | Central Pollution Control Board |
| 181. | Comprehensive Environment Pollution Index | |
| 182. | National Ambient Air Quality Standard | |
| 183. | Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index | Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), Delhi based think tank |
| 184. | India State Level Disease Burden Report | Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Public Health Foundation of India and Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). |
| 185. | Household Social Consumption Report | National Statistical Office |



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| 186. | Periodic Labour Force Survey | |
| 187. | Survey on Migration | Labour Bureau |
| 188. | Business Confidence Index | National Council of Applied Economic Research |
| 189. | Performance of Health Outcome Index | NITI Aayog |
| 190. | Data Governance Quality Index | |
| 191. | Healthy States, Progressive India Report | NITI Aayog NITI Aayog & Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation |
| 192. | Composite Water Management Index | |
| 193. | Transformation of Aspirational Districts | |
| 194. | Sustainable Tourism in the Indian Himalayan Region | |
| 195. | Strategy for New India at 75 | |
| 196. | Urban Transformation Index | |
| 197. | SDG India Index | |
| 198. | State Energy Efficiency Preparedness Index | NITI Aayog & Bureau of Energy Efficiency |
| 199. | School Education Quality Index (SEQI) | NITI Aayog, Ministry of Education and World Bank |
| 200. | Special Report on Sustainable Recovery | NITI Aayog and International Energy Agency |
| 201. | Export Preparedness Index (EPI) | NITI Aayog and Institute of Competitiveness |
| 202. | India Innovation Index | NITI Aayog, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), CII |
| | <i>Global Innovation Index</i> | <i>Cornell University, INSEAD & WIPO</i> |
| 203. | States' Startup Ranking | DPIIT |
| 204. | Energy Performance Index | Bureau of Energy Efficiency |
| 205. | State Rooftop Solar Attractiveness Index (SARAL) | Ministry of Power |
| 206. | City Liveability Index | Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs |
| 207. | Ease of Living Index (At India Level) | |
| 208. | Swachh Survekshan Report | |
| 209. | Municipal Performance Index | |



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| 210. | Financial Inclusion Index | Ministry of Finance |
| 211. | National Climate Vulnerability Assessment Report | Department of Science and Technology |
| 212. | Health in India Report | Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation |
| 213. | Financial Stability Report | Reserve Bank of India (RBI) |
| 214. | Indian Exclusion Report | Centre for Equity Studies (CES) in New Delhi |
| 215. | Internet Readiness Index | Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) |
| 216. | India Internet 2019 | |
| 217. | RESIDEX | National Housing Bank |
| 218. | Annual Survey of Education Report | PRATHAM |
| 219. | All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2018-19 | Ministry of Education |
| 220. | United Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) | |
| 221. | Performance Grading Index | |
| 222. | Education Development Index India (State Level) | Ministry of Education & National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) |
| 223. | Logistics Ease Across Different States Index | Ministry of Commerce and Industry |
| 224. | Composite District Infrastructure Index | Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region |
| 225. | Public Affairs Index | Public Affairs Centre (Not for Profit Think Tank) |
| 226. | India Justice Report 2019 | Tata Trusts |
| 227. | Greenex (Green Index) | Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) |
| 228. | Deficient Rainfall Impact Parameter (DRIP) Index | Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited (CRISIL) |



DEMOGRAPHICS

1. Human Development Index

- Human Development Report was recently released by UN Development Programme (UNDP).
- It unveils Human Development Index (HDI) which measures average achievement in three basic dimensions of human development,
 - i. Life expectancy,
 - ii. Education and
 - iii. Per capita income.
- According to its 2020 report, India ranks 131 out of 189 countries dropping two ranks this year, from 129.
- Among India's neighbours, Bangladesh ranked at the 133, while Pakistan stood at 154.
- The report stated that since 1990, the HDI value of India has increased to 0.645 from 0.429, registering an increase of over 50%.
- During the same period, the life expectancy at birth in India rose by nearly 12 years, while mean years of schooling witnessed an increase of 3.5 years.
- The expected years of schooling also rose by 4.5 years.
- GNI per capita of India also increased, registering a rise of nearly 274%.

2. Human Capital Index

- Recently, the World Bank released the Human Capital Index (HCI) report for 2020.
- It seeks to measure the amount of human capital that a child born today can expect to attain by age 18.
- The components of HCI are,
 1. **Survival** - measured by under-5 mortality rates
 2. **Expected years of Quality-adjusted school** - measured by quantity and quality of education
 3. **Health environment** - measured by Adult survival rates and rate of stunting for children under 5.
- The HCI 2020 includes health and education data of children for 174 countries up to March 2020.
- The HCI 2020 shows that pre-pandemic, most countries had made steady progress in building human capital of children, with the biggest strides made in low-income countries.
- India has been ranked at the 116th position in the HCI 2020.

HDI Vs HCI

- United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) calculates Human Development Index.
- HDI includes Health, Education and Per capita Income components.
- HCI excludes Per capita income and included quality adjustments in learning.
- This makes HCI far less representative of human capital development than the index claims to be.

3. Global Gender Gap Index 2021

- This Index was released by the World Economic Forum since 2006. It serves as a compass to track the progress on their towards gender parity of the countries in four areas,
 1. Political Empowerment,
 2. Economic Participation and Opportunity,
 3. Educational Attainment and
 4. Health and Survival.
- It also examines the drivers of gender gaps and outlines the policies and practices needed for a gender-inclusive recovery.
- The index scores the countries from 0 (inequality) to 1 (equality).

- **Findings** - Among 156 countries ranked by the Gender Gap Report 2021, Iceland is the most gender-equal country in the world.
- India has ranked 140th rank, becoming the third-worst performer in South Asia. India has closed 62.5% of its gender gap till date.
- For India, most of the decline occurred on the political empowerment subindex. The decline also took place on the economic participation and opportunity subindex, and health and survival subindex.
- The estimated earned income of women in India is only one-fifth of men's, which puts the country among the bottom 10 globally on the economic participation and opportunity subindex.

4. State of World Population Report 2021

- It is a flagship report launched by the UN Population Fund (UNFPA).
- The report examines the issue of missing women by studying sex ratio imbalances at birth as a result of gender-biased sex selection as well as excess female mortality due to deliberate neglect of girls because of a culture of son preference.
- This is the first time a UN report has focused on **bodily autonomy**, defined as the power and agency to make choices about your body without fear of violence or having someone else decide it for you.
- **Findings** - Nearly half the women from 57 developing countries do not have the right to make decisions regarding their bodies, including using contraception, seeking healthcare or even on their sexuality.
- Only 55% of women have fully empowered to make choices over healthcare, contraception and the ability to say yes or no to sex.
- Only 75% countries legally ensure full and equal access to contraception.
- Examples of violation of bodily autonomy –
 1. Child marriage,
 2. Female genital mutilation,
 3. Lack of contraceptive choices leading to unplanned pregnancy,
 4. Unwanted sex exchanged for a home and food,
 5. When people with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities cannot walk down a street without fearing assault or humiliation.
 6. People with disabilities stripped of their rights to self-determination, to be free from violence and to have a safe and satisfying sexual life.
- **UNFPA's Goal** - To end the global unmet need for contraception, preventable maternal deaths, gender-based violence and harmful practices by 2030.

5. Human Cost of Disasters Report

- United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction has released the Human Cost of Disasters 2000-2019 Report.
- Highlights of the report
 1. Climate change is largely to blame for a near doubling of natural disasters in the past 20 years.
 2. 7,348 major disaster events had occurred between 2000 and 2019, claiming 1.23 lives, affecting 4.2 billion people and costing the global economy some \$2.97 trillion.
 3. The figure far outstrips the 4,212 major natural disasters recorded between 1980 and 1999.
 4. The sharp increase was largely attributable to a rise in climate-related disasters, including extreme weather events like floods, drought and storms.
 5. The report relied on statistics from the Emergency Events Database, which records all disasters that kill 10 or more people, affect 100 or more people or result in a state of emergency declaration.

6. While a warming climate appeared to be driving the number and severity of such disasters, there had also been an increase in geophysical events like earthquakes and tsunamis that are not related to climate but are particularly deadly.
7. The deadliest single disaster in the past 20 years was the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, with 226,400 deaths, followed by the Haiti earthquake in 2010, which claimed some 222,000 lives.

6. Survey on Migration

- Labour Bureau under Union Labour and Employment Ministry is working on survey on migration.
- It will provide authentic estimates of the number of migrant workers in the country, along with an assessment of the issues being faced by them.
- The other surveys being carried out by the Labour Bureau are on
- **Domestic workers** - The survey on domestic workers, who form about 3% of the workers in the country, would be a first of its kind and would help the government identify the problems faced by domestic workers in order to formulate policies for their benefit.
- **Professional bodies** - The survey on professional bodies would help in assessing the employment and unemployment in various fields.

7. International Migration Report 2020

- This report is released by the Population Division at UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA).
- **Findings** - Indian diaspora is the world's largest, with 18 million people from the country living outside India in 2020.
 - The United Arab Emirates, the US and Saudi Arabia hosts the largest numbers of migrants from India.
 - Indian diaspora is comprised mainly of working persons, but also students and people who moved for family reasons.
 - Migration from India is largely motivated by labour and family reasons. Forced displacement is a much smaller category (10%).
- Other countries with a large diaspora included Mexico, Russia, China and Syria.
- The U.S. is the largest country of destination of international migrants with 51 million migrants (18% of the world's total) in 2020.
- The report said that COVID-19 pandemic may have slowed the growth in the stock of international migrants by 2 million by mid-2020, 27% less than the growth expected since mid-2019.
- It said that the growth in the number of international migrants has been robust between 2000 and 2020, which reached 281 million people living outside their country of origin in 2020.
- There was also declines in this growth in certain areas. It is the result of the **old age** of the migrant populations or the **return of refugees and asylum seekers** to their countries of origin.
- Between 2000 and 2020, the regional migration corridors Central and Southern Asia to Northern Africa and Western Asia grew the most - more than tripling in size.
- The majority of that increase resulted from labour migration from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka to the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

GOVERNANCE

8. Corruption Perceptions Index

- The Corruption Perceptions Index is an index published annually by Transparency International since 1995.
- It ranks countries "by their perceived levels of public sector corruption, as determined by expert assessments and opinion surveys.

- Transparency International (TI) has released the Corruption Perception Index (CPI) for 2020.
- India's rank has slipped six places to 86th among 180 countries.
- The CPI score for India is 40, which is almost constant this year as well as the previous year score.
- The index ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption according to experts and business people.
- It uses a scale of 0 to 100, where 0 is highly corrupt and 100 is very clean. A country with a higher score has a higher rank.

9. Democracy Index 2020

- The Economist Intelligence Unit releases democracy Index annually.
- The Index is based on five categories:
 1. Electoral process and pluralism.
 2. Civil liberties.
 3. Functioning of government.
 4. Political participation.
 5. Political culture.
- Based on the scores on 60 indicators within these categories, each country is then itself classified as one of four types of regime
 1. Full democracy
 2. Flawed democracy
 3. Hybrid regime
 4. Authoritarian regime.
- It looks at the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on freedom and democracy around the world.
- India had slipped two places to **53rd position** and has been classified as a '**flawed democracy**' in this Index, due to the democratic backsliding by authorities and crackdowns on civil liberties.

10. International Religious Freedom Report 2021

- This report was released by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF).
- For the second year in a row, it has recommended that the State Department put India on a 'Countries of Particular Concern (CPCs)' list for the worst violations of religious freedoms in 2020.
- It recommended imposing targeted sanctions on Indian individuals and entities for 'severe violations of religious freedom'.
- It recommended for the administration to promote inter-faith dialogue and the rights of all communities at bilateral and multilateral forums.
- It recommended the U.S. Congress to raise issues in the US-India bilateral space, such as by hosting hearings, writing letters, etc.,
- **CPC list** - Russia, Syria, Vietnam, Burma, China, Eritrea, Iran, Nigeria, North Korea, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.
- **Special Watch List** - Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Cuba, Egypt, Iraq, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Turkey, Nicaragua and Uzbekistan.

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom

- It is an independent bi-partisan U.S. federal government commission that was created by the International Religious Freedom Act, 1998.
- It is dedicated to defending the universal right to freedom of religion or belief abroad.

- It monitors religious freedom violations globally and makes policy recommendations to the President, the Secretary of State, and Congress.

11. Rule of Law Index

- It is released by the World Justice Project, an independent organization.
- It is a quantitative assessment tool designed to offer a detailed and comprehensive picture of the extent to which countries adhere to the rule of law in practice.
- The World Justice Project defines the rule of law system as one in which the following four universal principles are upheld:
 - The government and its officials and agents are accountable under the law.
 - The laws are clear, publicized, stable and fair, and protect fundamental rights, including the security of persons and property.
 - The process by which the laws are enacted, administered, and enforced is accessible, efficient, and fair.
 - Justice is delivered by competent, ethical, and independent representatives and neutrals who are of sufficient number, have adequate resources and reflect the makeup of the communities they serve.
- India has secured 69th rank of 128 countries.

It measures countries' rule of law performance across eight factors:

1. Constraints on Government Powers,
2. Absence of Corruption,
3. Open Government,
4. Fundamental Rights,
5. Order and Security,
6. Regulatory Enforcement,
7. Civil Justice,
8. Criminal Justice.

12. Freedom in the World Report 2021

- This report has claimed that India's status as a "free" country has declined to "partly free".
- Titled as "Democracy Under Siege", it was released by Freedom House, a watchdog of human rights.
- It rates people's access to **political rights** and **civil liberties** in 210 countries and territories.
- These countries are declared as "free", "partly free" or "not free".
- **Indicators** - Electoral process, political pluralism and participation, government functioning, Freedom of expression and belief, associational and organisational rights, rule of law, personal autonomy and individual rights.

13. Global Liveability Index 2021

- The Global Liveability Index for 2021 of 140 cities around the world was released by the Economist Intelligence Unit.
- Handling of the Covid-19 crisis seems to be one of the most important factors that dominated the formulation of the Index for 2021.
- The index takes into account more than 30 qualitative and quantitative factors spanning five categories - stability (25%), healthcare (20%), culture and environment (25%), education (10%), infrastructure (20%).
- **Findings** - New Zealand's Auckland is named the world's most liveable city for 2021, due to its successful approach in containing the pandemic.
- Austria's Vienna (Topped in 2018 and 2019) has completely dropped out of the top 10 after being heavily affected by Covid, and ranks 12.

14. Adaptation Gap Report 2020

- It was released by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- The report informs national and international efforts to advance climate change adaptation. It has two parts,

1. Recurrent assessment of global progress on adaptation in three areas: planning, financing and implementation.
 2. Deeper assessment of the status of adaptation within a particular sector or theme, but still framed around the above three elements (This year, the theme is Nature-based Solutions).
- The report has found that the annual cost of adaptation to the effects of climate change for developing countries would quadruple by 2050.
 - The report has found that there are huge gaps in finance for developing countries and in adaptation projects to the stage where they bring real protection against climate impacts such as droughts, sea-level rise, etc.
 - UNEP called for a drastic scale-up of public and private finance for adaptation, and increased investment in Nature-based Solutions.
 - Adaptation - reducing the fallout among communities and increasing their capacity to deal with climate-related disasters such as floods and drought - is a pillar of the 2015 Paris accord.
 - **Adaptation cost** includes costs of planning, preparing for, facilitating and implementing adaptation measures.
 - The adaptation cost has also outpaced the growth in adaptation finance and that is the reason for a maintained Adaptation Finance gap.
 - **Adaptation Finance** refers to the flow of funds to developing countries to help them tide over the damages caused by weather events from climate change.
 - **Adaptation Finance Gap** is the difference between Adaptation Cost and Adaptation Finance.
 - Adaptation costs are higher in developed countries but the burden of adaptation is greater for developing countries in relation to their gross domestic product (GDP).

15. **International Migration Report 2020**

- This United Nations report has found that the global migration has slowed down by nearly 30%, owing to restrictions that were put in place to contain the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.
- The report found that two million fewer people migrated between 2019-20 than expected.
- The report showed how two-thirds of registered migrants lived in less than 20 countries.
- The United States topped the list, hosting 51 million migrants in 2020.
- The most number of migrants lived in Europe in 2020.
- In terms of the largest Diasporas in 2020, India topped the list. 18 million Indians were living outside their country of birth in 2020.
- In 2020, women and girls comprised 48% of all international migrants, and refugees accounted for 12% of international migrants.

16. **World Press Freedom Index 2021**

- It is published by the Reporters Without Borders or Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF) since 2002.
- It ranks countries and regions according to the level of media freedom available to journalists.
- It is based on an evaluation of media freedom that measures pluralism, media independence, media environment and self-censorship, transparency, and the legal framework and the safety of journalists.
- It is also based on the quality of the infrastructure that supports the production of news and information.
- It includes indicators of level of media freedom violations in each region.

Findings

- The 2021 index ranked 180 countries. It is topped by Norway, while Eritrea is at the bottom.
- India is ranked 142, same as last year, after it had consistently slid down from 133 in 2016. India continues to be counted among the countries classified “bad” for journalism, along with Brazil, Mexico and Russia.

- With four journalists killed in connection with their work in 2020, India is one of the world's most dangerous countries for journalists trying to do their job properly.
- Instead of drafting new repressive laws to impose censorship, many Asia-Pacific countries have contented themselves with strictly applying existing laws that was already very draconian.

17. Academic Freedom Index

- Academic freedom, in general, refers to a scholar's freedom to express ideas without risk of official interference or professional disadvantage.
- It has been published by Global Public Policy Institute as a part of a global time-series dataset (1900-2019).
- It compares levels of academic freedom worldwide and enhances the understanding of its curtailments.
- The AFI used eight components to evaluate the scores namely Freedom to research and teach, Freedom of academic exchange and dissemination, Institutional autonomy, Campus integrity, Freedom of academic and cultural expression, Constitutional protection of academic freedom, International legal commitment to academic freedom under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and existence of universities.
- The scores are scaled 0-1. In the recent AFI, India has scored considerably low with a score of 0.352.
- India with a score of 0.352, is closely followed by Saudi Arabia (0.278) and Libya (0.238).
- The index did not report data for 35 countries - including the United States and Australia.
- Top Performers of the Index are Uruguay and Portugal top the AFI, with scores of 0.971 each, followed closely by Latvia (0.964) and Germany (0.960).

18. Global Cybersecurity Index

- India has ranked as the tenth best country in the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2020 released by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).
- The US topped the chart, followed by the UK and Saudi Arabia tied on the second position in the index.
- **Calculation** - GCI assessment is done on the basis of performance on five parameters of cybersecurity.
- The parameters include legal measures, technical measures, organisational measures, capacity development, and cooperation.
- The performance is then aggregated into an overall score.
- For each of the five aspects, all the countries' performance and commitment were assessed through a question-based online survey.
- Through in-depth consultations with a group of experts, the questions were then weighted and assessed, to arrive at the overall scores.
- **India's performance** - The GCI results for India show substantial overall improvement and strengthening under all parameters of the cybersecurity domain.
- India scored a total of 97.5 points from a possible maximum of 100 points, to make it to the tenth position worldwide in the GCI 2020.
- India has also secured the fourth position in the Asia Pacific region, underlining its commitment to cybersecurity.

International Telecommunication Union

- It is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs).
- It was found in 1865 as the International Telegraph Union, making it among the oldest international organizations still in operation
- Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, it aims to facilitate international connectivity in communications networks.
- It allocates global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develops the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies interconnect, and strives to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities.
- India has remained a regular member since 1952.
- India got elected as a member of ITU Council for another 4-year term (2019-2022).



19. Digital Quality of Life Index 2020

- DQL Index has been released by Surf Shark, an online privacy solutions provider.
- It is global research on the quality of digital wellbeing in 85 countries (81% of the global population).
- The study indexes the countries by looking at five fundamental pillars that define the digital quality of life namely, internet affordability, internet quality, electronic infrastructure, electronic security and electronic government.
- Underpinning these pillars are 12 indicators that are interrelated and work together to provide a measure of the overall digital quality of life.
- According to DQL India ranks among the lowest in the world in terms of Internet quality.
- India stands at the overall rank of 57 out of the 85 countries.
- However, in internet affordability, India has secured 9th place and outperforms countries like the UK, the USA and China.

20. SIPRI Data

- The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, which tracks military expenditure and arms trade globally, has published the latest military expenditure database.
- Military spending as a share of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), reached a global average of 2.4% in 2020, up from 2.2% in 2019.
- **Largest Military Spender** - The US, China, India, Russia and the UK together accounted for 62% of global military expenditure in 2020. Other top spenders are Saudi Arabia, Germany and France.
- Of the money spent on military globally, the US, China and India accounted for 39%, 13% and 3.7% of the global share respectively.
- While India's spending since 2019 grew by 2.1%, the increase for China was at 1.9%. The US's spending grew by 4.4% since 2019.
- From 2011 to 2020, American military expenditure dropped by 10%, but China saw a 76% growth while India's military spending grew by 34%.
- **Asia and Oceania** - Military spending was 2.5% higher in 2020 than in 2019 and 47% higher than in 2011, continuing an uninterrupted upward trend since 1989.
- It attributed the rise primarily to increases in spending by China and India, which together accounted for 62% of total military expenditure in the region in 2020.
- **Europe** - Military spending rose by 4.0% in 2020.
- **Sub-Saharan Africa** - Military expenditure increased by 3.4% in 2020.
- **Middle Eastern Countries** - The combined military spending of the 11 Middle Eastern countries decreased by 6.5% in 2020.
- **Military Burden** - The 2.6% increase in world military spending came in a year when the global GDP shrank by 4.4%, largely due to the economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- As a result, military spending as a share of GDP - the military burden - reached a global average of 2.4% in 2020, up from 2.2% in 2019.
- This was the biggest year-on-year rise in the military burden since the global financial and economic crisis in 2009.

21. Henley Passport Index 2021

- Henley and Partners, a London-based global citizenship and residence advisory firm, prepares the Henley Passport Index.
- It is the original ranking of all the world's passports according to the number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa.

- Created in 2006, the index ranks passports based on their power and mobility based on the exclusive data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA).
- [IATA maintains the world's largest and most accurate database of travel information.]
- The index is updated in real time according to countries' visa policy changes and it covers 227 destinations and 199 passports.
- It assumes only the passport of citizen of country and it is not for diplomatic, emergency or temporary in nature.
- **Findings** - India ranks 85th in the world's most powerful passport report 'Henley Passport Index 2021' with a visa-free score of 58.
- Japan tops the report, with passport holders able to access 191 destinations around the world visa-free.
- Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan continue to be the countries with the worst passport to hold with a passport score of 29, 28 and 26 respectively.

Other Passport Index

- **Arton Passport Index**, which ranks United Arab Emirates's passport at rank 1.
- As per this index,
 1. India has a mobility score (MS) of 67
 2. Visa required for 131 destinations,
 3. visa on arrival required for 41 destinations and
 4. 26 visa free destinations.
- It uses UNDP HDI 2018 in its methodology to rank passports.
- It is powered by Arton Capital, a global financial advisory.

22. USCC Report

- The US-China Economic and Security Review Commission (USCC) report says that the Chinese government planned the Galwan Valley clash with 'fatalities' on the Indian side in mind.
- It told that just weeks before the June 15 faceoff, China had signalled its intent to escalate tensions with India along the Line of Actual Control.
- The report says that the exact motivations behind the China's behaviour on the LAC this year remain unclear.
- But, it said that the close cause of the clash appeared to be India's construction of a strategic access road to support troops stationed in the border.
- The report also says that the Chinese forces have secured access and potential naval basing facilities in Pakistan.

USCC

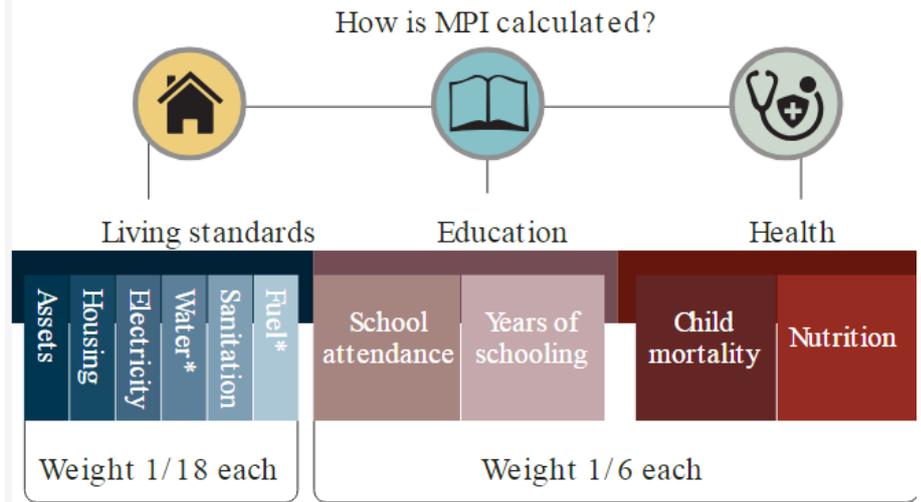
- The USCC was formed in 2000.
- It investigates national security and trade issues between China and US.
- It also provides recommendations to US Congress for legislative and administrative action on Beijing.

ECONOMY

23. Multidimensional Poverty Index

- MPI is a measure that takes into account the incidence of poverty and the extent of deprivation.
- It is calculated by Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

- The MPI value ranges between 0 and 1 and the value of 1 indicates the highest deprivation level, while 0 indicates the lowest.
- It has been calculated for 107 developing economies.
- MPI is the product of the following factors
 1. Poverty rate as a percentage of the population.
 2. Intensity as the average share of deprivations that poor people experience.



**Water refers to drinking water and fuel refers to cooking fuel*

- If someone is deprived in a third or more of 10 weighted indicators, the global index identifies them as “MPI poor”.
- NITI Aayog as the nodal agency has been assigned the responsibility of leveraging the monitoring mechanism of the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI).
- Global MPI is an international measure of multidimensional poverty covering 107 developing countries.
- India is 62nd among 107 countries with an MPI score of 0.123 and 27.91% headcount ratio, based on the NFHS 4 (2015/16) data.
- Bihar’s composite score (52 out of 100) on the Sustainable Development Goals is the lowest among all states, according to NITI Aayog’s SDG India Index Report 2020-21.

24. Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020

- Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report is biennial report of the World Bank.
- It provides the latest and most accurate estimates on trends in global poverty and shared prosperity.
- According to the report “new poor” will be the following
 - a) Be more urban poor.
 - b) Be more engaged in informal services and manufacturing and less in agriculture.
 - c) Live in congested urban settings and work in the sectors most affected by lockdowns and mobility restrictions.
- Highlight estimates of the report are as follows
 1. The COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to push an additional 88 million to 115 million people into extreme poverty this year, with the total rising to as many as 150 million by 2021, depending on the severity of the economic contraction.
 2. It mentions that Covid-19 can add around 27-40 million new poor in Sub-Saharan Africa and around 49-57 million in South Asia region.
 3. The pandemic and global recession may cause over 1.4% of the world’s population to fall into extreme poverty.
 4. Extreme poverty is defined as living on less than \$1.90 a day.
 5. The World Bank measures poverty lines of \$3.20 and \$5.50, and also a multidimensional spectrum that includes access to education and basic infrastructure.
 6. Global extreme poverty rate is projected to rise by around 1.3% to 9.2% in 2020.
 7. If the pandemic would not have been there, the poverty rate was expected to drop to 7.9% in 2020.

25. Highlights of World Economic Outlook

- According to recent World Economic Outlook 2020, India's gross domestic product (GDP) will witness a contraction of over 10%.
- This is more than the double of 4.5% contraction projected in the April edition.
- Highlights of the report are as follows
 1. Global growth would contract by 4.4% in 2020 and bounce back to 5.2% in 2021.
 2. Indian economy, severely hit by the pandemic, is projected to contract by 10.3% in 2020.
 3. The spread of the Covid-19 and containment measures have severely disrupted supply and demand conditions in India.
 4. However, India is likely to bounce back with an 8.8% growth rate in 2021, thus regaining the position of the fastest-growing emerging economy, surpassing China's projected growth rate of 8.2%.

26. Ease of Doing Business Index

- It is being released as part of the **World Bank** every year.
- It was introduced in 2004 and this year with the theme "Doing Business 2018: Reforming to Create Jobs".
- The ranking of country is based on index averages the country's percentile rankings on 10 indicators each having equal weightage.
- The indicators are -
 1. Ease of starting business
 2. Getting electricity
 3. Dealing with construction permits
 4. Registering property
 5. Protecting investors
 6. Access to credit
 7. Employing workers
 8. Trading across borders
 9. Paying taxes
 10. Enforcing contracts &
 11. Resolving insolvency
- A higher ranking of country in this list means that its regulatory environment is more conducive and favourable for the starting and operation of firms.
- India was placed at 63rd position this time (2019) out of 190 countries marking an improvement of 14 places from its 77th position in 2018.
- India's score improved from 67.23 in the previous year to 71.0 this year.
- India for the third consecutive year was present in the list of 10 economies where the business climate has improved the most.
- India continues to maintain its first position among South Asian countries.
- According to the report, New Zealand retained its 1st position whereas Somalia was ranked at 190th spot.
- This time two more parameters were considered namely, employing workers and contracting with the government but these are not included in the score and rankings.
- 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.
- India's ranking improved basically on four parameters:

1. Starting a Business
 2. Dealing with Construction Permits - building a warehouse cost around 4% of the warehouse value as compared to 5.7% in the previous year.
 3. Trading across Borders
 4. 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.

27. World Competitiveness Index

- The World Competitiveness Index was topped by Switzerland, while India maintained 43rd rank.
- This list is compiled annually by the Institute for Management Development (IMD) World Competitiveness Center.
- The Index ranks 64 economies and assesses the extent to which a country promotes the prosperity of its people by measuring economic well-being through hard data and survey responses from executives.
- It measures the prosperity and competitiveness of nations by examining four factors -- economic performance, government efficiency, business efficiency, and infrastructure.
- This year, the rankings examine the impact of COVID-19 on economies around the world.
- **India** - India has maintained its position for the past three years but this year, it had significant improvements in government efficiency.
- India's improvements in the government efficiency factor are due to,
 1. Relatively stable public finances (despite difficulties brought by the pandemic, in 2020 the government deficit stayed at 7%) and
 2. Positive feedbacks registered among Indian business executives with respect to the support and subsidies given by the government to the private companies.
- IMD, however, added that the short term performance of India's economy will depend on its ability to address the pandemic.

28. Global Innovation Index

- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) has released GII 2020.
- GII ranks global economies according to their innovation capabilities, including roughly 80 indicators, grouped into innovation inputs and outputs.
- Switzerland is the world's most-innovative economy followed by Sweden, the United States of America (U.S.), the United Kingdom (U.K.) and the Netherlands.
- India has been ranked 48th on the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2020 among 131 economies, breaking into the top 50 countries for the first time.
- According to recent reports India has made the most significant progress in the GII together with three other economies China, Vietnam and Philippines.
- In India three 'clusters' Bengaluru, Delhi and Mumbai feature in the top 100 science & technology hotspots, further endorsing India's presence in the global innovation economy.
- The WIPO had also accepted India as one of the leading innovation achievers of 2019 in the central and southern Asian region, as it has shown a consistent improvement in its innovation ranking for the last 5 years.

29. Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index

- Ministry of Labour and Employment said that the Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index 2020 lacked clarity and didn't take into account provisions of the 4 labour codes that are yet to be implemented.
- The Inequality Index 2020 placed India at rank 151 in terms of workers' rights and 129 overall out of 158 countries.

- It is released by the international charitable organisation 'Oxfam International' in partnership with Development Finance International.
- It monitors what the governments are doing through their policy commitments and actions to reduce inequality and tackle the gap between the rich and poor.
- The index is based upon three basic pillars: Public Services (health, education and social protection), Progressive Tax and Workers Rights.

30. World Bank Report on Remittances

- Remittance is a sum of money sent by someone working abroad to his or her family back in the home country.
- The World Bank has released a report on remittance flows, named "Migration and Development Brief".
- **Remittance inflow** - In 2020, India received over USD83 billion in remittances a drop of just 0.2% from 2019 (USD83.3 billion).
- India's remittances in 2020 decline due to a 17% drop in remittances from the UAE, which offset resilient flows from the other host countries.
- India is followed by China (USD 59.5 billion), Mexico (USD42.8 billion), the Philippines (USD34.9 billion), Egypt (USD29.6 billion), etc.
- **Remittance outflow** - Maximum from the US (USD68 billion), followed by UAE, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Germany and China.
- Remittances outflow from India in 2020 was USD7 billion, against USD7.5 billion in 2019, according to the World Bank.
- **Significance** - Remittance are a source of external financing for low- and middle-income countries. Also, they are helping to meet families' increased need for livelihood support.

31. World Economic Situation and Prospects 2021

- The World Economic Situation and Prospects 2021 was released by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA).
- It said that the world economy was hit by a once-in-a-century crisis a Great Disruption unleashed by the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020.
- India's economy is projected to grow at 7.3% in 2021.
- The global economy shrank by 4.3% in 2020, over two-and-a-half times more than during the global financial crisis of 2009.
- The modest recovery of 4.7% expected in 2021 would barely offset the losses of 2020.

32. Financial Stability Report

- This report was released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- The stress tests show that the Gross Non-Performing Assets (GNPA) ratio of banks may increase from 7.5% in September 2020 to 13.5% by September 2021 under the baseline scenario.
- If the macroeconomic environment worsens into a severe stress scenario, the GNPA ratio may escalate to 14.8%.

33. World Economic Outlook

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has released its World Economic Outlook report for January 2021.
- It had projected a growth rate of 11.5% for India's economy in 2021.
- This report suggests that India will be the only major economy to register a double-digit growth this year, followed by China.



- Earlier, a separate report released by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, estimated India's economy contract by 9.6% in 2020, while it is projected to grow at 7.3% in 2021.

34. World Employment and Social Outlook 2021

- The UN's International Labour Organization (ILO) published its flagship report 'World Employment and Social Outlook (WESO) 2021.'
- The theme of the report was, 'The role of digital labour platforms in transforming the world of work.'
- This ILO report explores how the contemporary platform economy is transforming the way work is organized, analyzing the impact of digital labour platforms on enterprises, workers and society as a whole.
- The report by the ILO focuses to,
 - a) Bring out a clear picture of global employment and social trends
 - b) Measure the underperformance of the labour market using the unemployment rate
 - c) Assess the full potential of the working-age population
 - d) Evaluate the participation of the labour market in the economic growth of the countries

Findings

- **Pandemic's impact** - The ILO report said that the pandemic has pushed over 100 million more workers into poverty, after working hours plummeted and access to good quality jobs evaporated.
- The pandemic has exacerbated existing inequalities in the labour market, with lower-skilled workers, women, young people or migrants among the most affected.
- **Loss of Working Hours** - Many people have held onto their jobs but have seen their working hours cut dramatically.
- In 2020, 8.8% of global working hours were lost compared to the fourth quarter of 2019 -- the equivalent of 255 million full-time jobs.
- While the situation has improved, global working hours have far from bounced back, and the world will still be short the equivalent of 100 million full-time jobs by the end of this year.
- **Unemployment rate** of 6.3% this year (2020-21), falling to 5.7% next year (2021-22) but still up on the pre-pandemic rate of 5.4% in 2019.
- Women have suffered disproportionate job losses while seeing their unpaid working time increase.
- The burden of intensified childcare and homeschooling activities has disproportionately fallen on them. So, women's employment dropped by 5% compared with 3.9% for men.
- **Effect on Workers** - There will be pandemic's longer-term "scarring" effects on workers and enterprises. The projected employment growth will be insufficient to close the gaps opened up by the crisis.

35. Asian Development Outlook 2021

- The Asian Development Outlook 2021 is a report released by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- The report said the 45 economies that excluded Japan, Australia and New Zealand, were to grow 7.3% this year, supported by a healthy global recovery and early progress on COVID-19 vaccines.
- The pandemic was the biggest threat to Asia and the Pacific (including India), mainly due to delay in vaccine rollouts or major new outbreaks.
- Average inflation in the region was forecast to fall to 2.3% in 2021, from 2.8% in 2020.
- While east and south Asia forecast were to see the strongest growth, the central and Southeast Asia and the Pacific were to see more moderate growth.
- **India** - The report said that the ongoing 'second wave' COVID-19 pandemic could put India's economic recovery at risk.
- It said that excluding the second wave, India's economy was expected to grow 11% in fiscal year 2021-2022, amid a strong vaccine drive.



- India's GDP was expected to expand 7% in 2022.

36. Global Wealth Report

- It is released by Credit Suisse
- The Credit Suisse Global Wealth Report provides the most comprehensive and up-to-date coverage of information on household wealth worldwide.
- Highlights of the report are
 1. In 2019, total global wealth rose by USD 36.3 trillion and wealth per adult reached USD 77,309, which is 8.5% more when compared to 2018.
 2. As a consequence, the world has been better placed to absorb any losses from Covid-19 during 2020.
 3. However, total household wealth dropped by USD 17.5 trillion between January and March 2020, a 4.4% decrease compared to the value at the end of 2019.
 4. Household wealth in India is dominated by property and other real assets, although financial assets have grown over time, now forming 22% of gross assets. (Stocks, bonds, bank deposits are some examples of financial assets)
 5. The average wealth of Indian adults rose marginally to USD 17,420 at end-June 2020, as against USD 17,300 as of December 2019, showing some growth despite the Covid pandemic and lockdowns.
 6. Wealth inequality remains quite high in India.
 7. There is considerable poverty reflected in the fact that 73% of the adult population had wealth below USD 10,000 at the end of 2019.
 8. Between January and April 2020, unemployment rates approximately tripled in India to 24%.

37. Global Wage Report 2020

- It was published by the International Labour Organization (ILO).
- It found that the average wages in two-third countries fell or grew more slowly in the first six months of 2020 due to Covid-19 pandemic.
- In the remaining one-third countries - including Brazil, France, Italy and the US - an increase in average wages was the result of a large numbers of low-paid workers losing their jobs or leaving the labour market.
- It found that those workers in lower-skilled occupations lost more working hours than higher-paying managerial and professional jobs.
- The impact on women was worse than that on men.
- The growth in inequality created by the pandemic threatens a legacy of poverty and social and economic instability that would be devastating.
- Adequate and balanced wage policies, arrived at through inclusive social dialogue, are needed to support economic recovery.

38. Least Developed Countries Report 2020

- This report was released by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- It found that the Least Developed Countries (LDC) will put in their worst economic performance in three decades this year due to the pandemic.
- Between October 2019 and October 2020, the economic growth forecast for LDCs was revised sharply downwards from 5 to -0.4%.
- This revision was expected to lead to a 2.6% reduction in per capita income in LDCs in 2020.
- The number of people living in extreme poverty (earning less than Rs 150 per day), will increase by 32 million in 2020 because of COVID-19.



- Total remittances to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) are also forecast to fall by one-fifth in 2020, with an even sharper contraction in South Asian and sub-Saharan African countries.
- This increase in poverty will roll back some of the progress made towards sustainable development and possibly lead to long-term damage.
- Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), especially Goal 1 ('No Poverty') as well as those related to health and education will stall.
- The report urged the international community to support LDCs with adequate financial resources.

39. Digital Payments Index

- The Reserve Bank of India has constructed a Digital Payments Index (DPI) to capture the extent of digitisation of payments across India.
- The RBI-DPI comprises of 5 broad parameters that enable measurement of deepening and penetration of digital payments in the country over different time periods. These parameters are –
 1. Payment Enablers (weight 25%),
 2. Payment Infrastructure – Demand-side factors (10%),
 3. Payment Infrastructure – Supply-side factors (15%),
 4. Payment Performance (45%) and
 5. Consumer Centricity (5%).
- Each of these parameters has sub-parameters which consist of various measurable indicators.
- The RBI-DPI has been constructed with March 2018 as the base period, i.e. DPI score for March 2018 is set at 100.

40. World Investment Report 2021

- The World Investment Report 2021 was released by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).
- **India** - The report says that India is the fifth largest recipient of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the world.
- In India, the FDI increased 27% to USD 64 billion (2020) from USD 51 billion (2019), due to the acquisitions in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) industry.
- The second wave of the COVID-19 in India weighs heavily on the country's overall economic activities but its strong fundamentals provide optimism for the medium term.
- The report said that the investments from India may stabilise in 2021, supported by the country's resumption of free trade agreement (FTA) talks with the European Union (EU) and its strong investment in Africa.
- **Global** - The global FDI flows have been severely hit by the pandemic and they plunged by 35% in 2020 to USD 1 trillion.
- COVID-19 led lockdowns around the world slowed down existing investment projects and prospects of a recession led multinational enterprises (MNEs) to reassess new projects.
- The pandemic boosted demand for digital infrastructure and services globally, which led to higher values of greenfield FDI project announcements targeting the ICT industry, rising by more than 22%.
- **Asian region** - While some large economies in developing Asia like China and India recorded FDI growth in 2020, the rest recorded a contraction.
- FDI outflows from South Asia fell 12% to USD 12 billion, driven by a drop in investment from India.
- A wider resurgence of the virus in Asia could significantly lower global FDI in 2021, given that region's significant contribution to the total.
- Signs of trade and industrial production recovering in the second half of 2020 provide a strong foundation for FDI growth in 2021.



41. Business Confidence Index

- National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has released Business Confidence Index (BCI).
- It tracks the business sentiments of around 600 Indian companies to compute the composite index.
- Insights from the recent BCI are as follows
 1. It stood at 46.4 in the first quarter of 2020-21, a drop of 40.1 % from its level of 77.4 in the previous quarter.
 2. It fell 62 % in the June 2020 quarter on a year-on-year basis.
 3. This is the lowest that the BCI has ever fallen in the history of 113 Rounds of the NCAER Business Expectations Survey (BES).

42. Export Preparedness Index Report

- Recently, the NITI Aayog in partnership with the Institute of Competitiveness released the Export Preparedness Index (EPI) report 2020.
- It aims to identify challenges and opportunities, enhance the effectiveness of government policies and encourage a facilitative regulatory framework for export.
- The index ranked states on four key pillars, such as
 1. **Policy** - A comprehensive trade policy providing a strategic direction for exports and imports.
 2. **Business Ecosystem** - An efficient business ecosystem helping states attract investments and create an enabling infrastructure for individuals to initiate start-ups.
 3. **Export Ecosystem** - Assess the business environment, which is specific to exports.
 4. **Export Performance** - This is the only output-based parameter and examines the reach of export footprints of States and Union Territories.
- The EPI is a data-driven effort to identify the core areas crucial for export promotion at the sub-national level (states and union territories).
- The Index would be a helpful guide for the state governments to benchmark regional performance with respect to export promotion and thus deliver key policy insights on how to improve and enhance the exports.
- Observations from recent EPI
 1. Gujarat has topped the overall EPI 2020 followed by Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.
 2. Among the landlocked states, Rajasthan has topped the index, followed by Telangana and Haryana.
 3. Among the Himalayan states, Uttarakhand topped the index, followed by Tripura and Himachal Pradesh.
 4. Across Union Territories, Delhi has performed the best.

ENVIRONMENT

43. World Air Quality Report 2019

- World Air Quality Report is released by the pollution tracker IQAir and Greenpeace.
- The ranking is based on a comparison of PM 2.5 levels.
- Delhi has been ranked as the world's most polluted capital city followed by Dhaka (Bangladesh), Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia), Kabul (Afghanistan), Doha (Qatar).
- Hotan in China is the most polluted city with an average concentration of 110.2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ followed by Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh at 106.

Indian Scenario

- Shows a boost in Delhi's air quality by approximately 15% from 2019 to 2020.
- Delhi has been listed as the 10th most polluted city and the top polluted capital city in the world.
- Ghaziabad is the second most polluted city in the world followed by Bulandshahar, Birsakh Jalalpur, Bhiwadi, Noida, Greater Noida, Kanpur and Lucknow.
- 2020 was a particularly severe year for agricultural burning in which farmers set fire to crop residue after a harvest. Farm fires in Punjab increased 46.5% over 2019.

MOST POLLUTED CITIES IN 2019

| Rank | City | PM2.5 (micrograms/cu. m) |
|------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Ghaziabad (India) | 110.2 |
| 2 | Hotan (China) | 110.1 |
| 3 | Gujranwala (Pak) | 105.3 |
| 4 | Faisalabad (Pak) | 104.6 |
| 5 | Delhi (India) | 98.6 |
| 6 | Noida (India) | 97.7 |
| 7 | Gurgaon (India) | 93.1 |
| 8 | Raiwind (Pak) | 92.2 |
| 9 | Greater Noida (India) | 91.3 |
| 10 | Bandhwari (India) | 90.5 |

44. State of Global Air 2020

- It has been released by the Health Effects Institute (HEI).
- It highlights that air pollution is the largest risk factor for death among all health risks and it is the first-ever comprehensive analysis of air pollution's global impact on new-borns.
- HEI is an independent, non-profit research institute funded jointly by the USA's Environmental Protection Agency and others.
- Highlights of the report are as follows
 - India, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal are among the top ten countries with the highest PM2.5 (particulate matter) exposures in 2019 and all of these countries experienced increases in outdoor PM2.5 levels between 2010 and 2019.
 - India is also among the top ten countries with highest ozone (O₃) exposure in 2019.
 - Also, among the 20 most populous countries, India recorded the highest increase (17%) in O₃ concentrations in the past ten years.
 - Long-term exposure to outdoor and household (indoor) air pollution contributed to over 1.67 million annual deaths from stroke, heart attack, diabetes, lung cancer, chronic lung diseases, and neonatal diseases, in India in 2019.
 - Although the link between air pollution and Covid-19 is not completely established, there is clear evidence linking air pollution and increased heart and lung disease.
 - Average pollution levels in India are declining over the past three years but these have been marginal, particularly in the Indo-Gangetic plains which see extremely high PM pollution especially during winter.
 - After a decline in pollution due to the nationwide lockdowns after March, pollution levels are again rising and air quality is dipping to the 'very poor' category in several cities.

45. State of the Global Climate 2020

- This annual report is released by the World Meteorological Organization.
- It has found that the lockdowns and shutdowns to curb the Covid-19 pandemic would lower emissions and reduce the impact on climate.
- Double blow** - According to the report, extreme weather combined with Covid-19 in a double blow for millions of people in 2020.
- However, the pandemic-related economic slowdown failed to put a brake on climate change drivers and accelerating impacts.
- Temperature** - It reiterates that 2020 was one of the three warmest years on record, despite a cooling La Niña event.
- The global average temperature was about 1.2° Celsius above the pre-industrial (1850-1900) level. The six years since 2015 have been the warmest on record. 2011-2020 was the warmest decade on record.



- The WMO report listed five key indicators of irreversible changes in the global climate - Greenhouse gases, oceans, sea-level rise, the Arctic and the Antarctica.

Five Key Indicators

- **Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)** - Despite the economic slowdown due to the pandemic, emission of major GHGs increased in 2019 and 2020. It will be higher in 2021.
- **Oceans** - In 2020, the oceans had the highest heat content on record. Over 80% of the ocean area experienced at least one marine heatwave.
- The percentage of the ocean that experienced strong marine heat waves (45%) was greater than that which experienced moderate marine heat waves (28%).
- **Sea-level rise** - Since record-taking started in 1993 using the satellite altimeter, sea-level has been rising partly due to the increased melting of the ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica.
- However, there was a blip in summer of 2020 that recorded a drop in sea level, which is due to the La Niña induced cooling.
- **The Arctic** - The 2020 Arctic sea-ice extent minimum after the summer melt was 3.74 million square kilometre, marking only the second time on record that it shrank to less than 4 million sq km.
- In the Siberian Arctic, temperatures in 2020 were more than 3°C above average, with a record temperature of 38°C in the town of Verkhoyansk.
- **The Antarctica** - The Antarctic sea-ice extent remained close to the long-term average. However, the Antarctic ice sheet has exhibited a strong mass loss trend since the late 1990s.
- This trend accelerated around 2005 due to the increasing flow rates of major glaciers in West Antarctica and the Antarctic Peninsula.

46. Environment Performance Index

- Environment Performance Index is a biennial index released by Yale University.
- The global index considered 32 indicators of environmental performance, giving a snapshot of the 10-year trends in environmental performance at the national and global levels.
- India secured 168 rank in the 12th edition of the biennial (EPI Index 2020) out of 180 countries, the country scored 27.6 out of 100 in the 2020 index.
- India's rank was 177 (with a score of 30.57 out of 100) in 2018.
- India needs to re-double national sustainability efforts on all fronts, according to the index.
- The country needs to focus on a wide spectrum of sustainability issues, with a high-priority to critical issues such as air and water quality, biodiversity and climate change.
- All South Asian countries, except Afghanistan, were ahead of India in the ranking.
- India's rank on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) among the South Asian countries was low, according to State of India's Environment 2020.
- India scored below the regional average score on all five key parameters on environmental health, including air quality, sanitation and drinking water, heavy metals and waste management.
- Among South Asian countries, India was at second position (rank 106) after Pakistan on 'climate change'.
- A ten-year comparison progress report in the index showed that India slipped on climate-related parameters.
- The performance on climate change was assessed based on eight indicators, adjusted emission growth rates; composed of growth rates of four greenhouse gases and one pollutant; growth rate in carbon dioxide emissions from land cover; greenhouse gas intensity growth rate; and greenhouse gas emissions per capita.
- The report indicated that black carbon, carbon dioxide emissions and greenhouse emissions per capita increased in 10 years.
- Its overall score under climate change has dipped 2.9 points.

**47. Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index**

- Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) is a rational number to characterise the quality of the environment at a given location following the algorithm of source, pathway and receptor.
- An increase in CEPI score denotes adverse effects on the receiving environment.
- A Delhi-based think-tank Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) did an assessment of Tamil Nadu's CEPI scores.
- Groundwater is becoming more polluted in Tamil Nadu's industrial areas and Vellore is the state's most polluted district in terms of river pollution.
- According to the CEPI water score 2018, five industrial clusters in Tamil Nadu were found to have a water score of more than 50. Of these,
 1. Vellore-North Arcot, Manali and Tiruppur were 'critically polluted areas' - CEPI individual score of 60 and above.
 2. Cuddalore and Coimbatore were 'severely polluted areas' - CEPI individual score between 50 and 60.
- Most serious pollution threat to groundwater was from calcium, chloride and iron that are associated with sewage and pollution from tanneries.

48. SDG Index

- SDG Index is prepared by teams of independent experts at the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN).
- The SDG index frames the implementation of 17 SDG goals among UN member states in terms of six broad transformations:
 1. Education and skills,
 2. Health and wellbeing,
 3. Clean energy and industry,
 4. Sustainable land use,
 5. Sustainable cities,
 6. Digital technologies.
- The 6th edition of the Sustainable Development Report (2021) ranked India at 120th out of 165 countries with a country score of 60.1.
- Finland topped the rankings followed by Sweden, Denmark, Germany and Belgium.
- Since 2015, it is for the first time, all countries showed a reversal in progress in achieving the SDGs due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- East and South Asia have shown progress on the SDGs more than any other region on a regional level.
- Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Ivory Coast are three individual countries that have progressed most on the SDG Index score since 2015.

49. SDG India Index

- SDG India Index is a single measurable Index to map the progress of States & UTs towards 2030 SDGs.
- The index is released by NITI Aayog, it is developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- Launched in 2018, the index has been monitoring progress on the SDGs in the country at the national and sub-national level.
- The index estimation is based on data on indicators for the first 16 goals, with a qualitative assessment for Goal 17.
- It tracks the progress of all States and UTs on 62 Priority Indicators selected by NITI Aayog, which in turn is guided by MoSPI's National Indicator Framework.

- NITI Aayog has the twin mandate to oversee the implementation of SDGs in the country, and also promote Competitive and Cooperative Federalism among States and UTs.
- A composite score was computed between the range of 0-100 for each State and UT based on their aggregate performance across 13 SDGs, which indicates the average performance of State/UT towards achieving 13 SDGs & their respective targets.
- If a State/UT achieves a score of 100, it signifies that it has achieved the 2030 national targets.
- The higher the score of a State/UT, the greater the distance to the target achieved.
- Classification Criteria based on SDG India Index Score is as follows:
 1. Aspirant: 0-49
 2. Performer: 50-64
 3. Front Runner: 65-99
 4. Achiever: 100
- Recently, the third edition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) India Index and Dashboard 2020–21 was released by NITI Aayog.
- The SDG India Index 2020–21 is more robust than the previous editions on account of wider coverage of targets and indicators with greater alignment with the National Indicator Framework (NIF).
- The 115 indicators incorporate 16 out of 17 SDGs, with a qualitative assessment on Goal 17, and cover 70 SDG targets.
- This is an improvement over the 2018–19 and 2019–20 editions of the index, which had utilised 62 indicators across 39 targets and 13 Goals, and 100 indicators across 54 targets and 16 Goals, respectively.
- The country's overall SDG score improved by 6 points - from 60 in 2019 to 66 in 2020–21.
- India saw significant improvement in the SDGs related to clean energy, urban development and health in 2020.
- However, there has been a major decline in the areas of industry, innovation and infrastructure as well as decent work and economic growth.
- **State Wise Performance** - Kerala retained its position at the top of the rankings in the third edition of the index, with a score of 75, followed by Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh, both scoring 72.
- Bihar, Jharkhand and Assam were the worst performing States, Mizoram and Haryana seeing the biggest gains.

50. Nature Index

- The Nature Index is a database of author affiliation information collated from research articles published in an independently selected group of 82 high-quality science journals.
- The database is compiled by Nature Research, which is a part of Springer Nature which is an American German academic publishing company based in Germany.
- The Nature Index provides a close to real-time proxy of high-quality research output and collaboration at the institutional, national and regional level.
- The Nature Index is updated monthly, and a 12-month rolling window (1 April 2019 - 31 March 2020) of data is openly available.
- Recently three of the autonomous institutions of the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India have found their place among top 30 Indian Institutions including universities, IITs, IISERs, and Research Institutions and Labs as per Nature Index 2020 ratings.
- The overall ranking of India is 12th in the index and top 3 Ranking of Institutions from India are as follows
 1. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
 2. Indian Institute of Sciences (IISc)
 3. Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR)

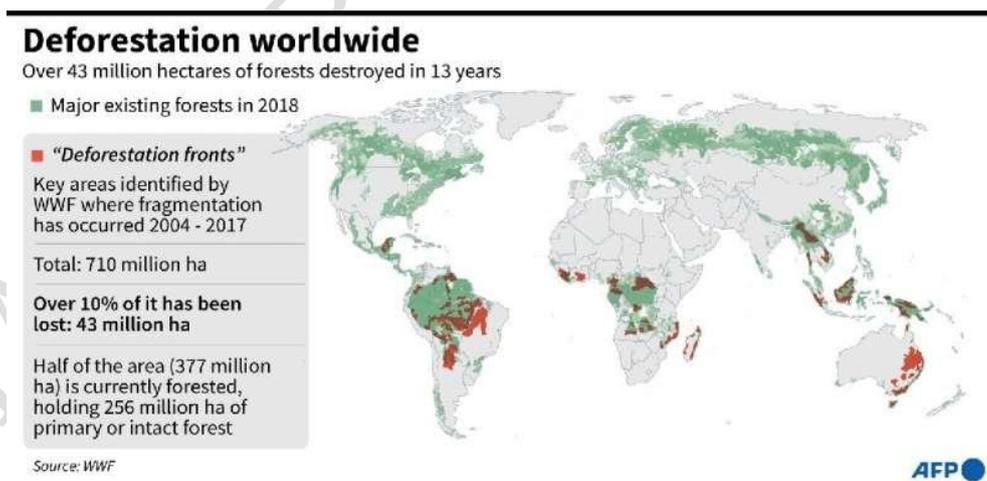
51. Living Planet Report 2020

- WWF's has released the Living Planet Report 2020.
- The report has found that there has been a reduction of 68 % in the global wildlife population between 1970 and 2016.
- 75 % of the Earth's ice-free land surface has already been significantly altered, most of the oceans are polluted, and more than 85% of the area of wetlands has been lost during this period.
- The highlights of the report are as follows
 1. The most important direct driver of biodiversity loss in the last several decades has been land-use change, primarily the conversion of pristine habitats into agricultural systems, while much of the oceans have been overfished.
 2. The highest biodiversity loss due to land use change globally has been found in Europe and Central Asia at 57.9 %, then in North America at 52.5 %, Latin America and Caribbean at 51.2 %, Africa at 45.9 % and then Asia at 43 %.
 3. The largest wildlife population loss, according to the Living Planet Index, has been in Latin America at an alarming 94 %
 4. One of the most threatened biodiversity globally has been freshwater biodiversity, which has been declining faster than that in oceans or forests.
 5. Almost 90 % of global wetlands have been lost since 1700 and global mapping has recently revealed the extent to which humans have altered millions of kilometers of rivers.
 6. India, a "megadiverse country" with over 45,000 species of plants in only 2.4 % of the world's land area, has already lost six plant species to extinction, according to the IUCN Red List.

52. WWF Report

- WWF said that more than 43 million hectares of forest have been lost in a little over a decade in just a handful of deforestation hotspots.
- It found that just 29 sites across South America, Africa and South East Asia were responsible for more than half of the global forest loss.

World's Forests in 2018



- Swathes of forest continue to be flattened each year (mainly due to industrial-scale agriculture) as biodiversity-rich areas are cleared to create space for livestock and crops.
- Brazilian Amazon and Cerrado, Bolivian Amazon, Paraguay, Argentina, Madagascar, along with Sumatra and Borneo in Indonesia and Malaysia were among the worst affected.
- As wild species find their living space shrinking further each year, the risk of a repeat of zoonotic diseases jumping to humans is ever higher.

- The report urged citizens to do their bit by avoiding products linked to deforestation such as some meat, soy and palm oil products.
- It also urged governments to work to secure the rights of indigenous peoples and conserve biodiversity-rich areas.

53. Global Forest Resources Assessment

- Global Forest Resources Assessment is released by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), every five years since 1990.
- This report assesses the state of forests, their conditions and management for all member countries.

Highlights of 2020 Report

1. The top 10 countries that have recorded the maximum average annual net gains in forest area during 2010-2020 are China, Australia, India, Chile, Vietnam, Turkey, the United States, France, Italy and Romania.
2. In India the forest area managed by local, tribal and indigenous communities in India increased from zero in 1990 to about 25 million ha in 2015.
3. The area of naturally regenerating forests worldwide decreased since 1990, but the area of planted forests increased by 123 mha.
4. Africa had the largest annual rate of net forest loss in 2010–2020, at 3.9 mha, followed by South America, at 2.6 mha.
5. On the other hand, Asia had the highest net gain of forest area in 2010–2020, followed by Oceania and Europe.
6. The largest proportion of the world's forests were tropical (45%), followed by boreal, temperate and subtropical.

54. Global Climate Risk Index 2021

- This Index, released by think tank 'Germanwatch', ranked countries according to their vulnerability to extreme weather events like storms, floods and heat waves.
- India was ranked the 7th worst-hit country in 2019 in this index.
- Eight of the 10 countries most affected between 2000 and 2019 were developing countries with low or lower middle income per capita.
- It said that the vulnerable people in developing countries suffered most from extreme weather events, whereas the impact of climate change was visible around the globe.

55. World Risk Index

- World Risk Index (WRI) is part of the World Risk Report 2020 released by the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS), BündnisEntwicklungHilft and the University of Stuttgart in Germany.
- It is calculated on a country-by-country basis, through the multiplication of exposure and vulnerability and describes the disaster risk for various countries and regions.
- Released annually since 2011, it indicates which countries are in the greatest need to strengthen measures for coping with and adapting to extreme natural events.
- Highlights of the report are as follows
 1. A comparison with the WRI 2019, shows that all south Asian countries have slipped on their ability to adapt to the reality of climate emergency.
 2. Countries with a score above 52.73, are 'very poor' in their adaptive capacities for extreme natural disasters.
 3. Among continents, Oceania is at the highest risk, followed by Africa and the Americas.
 4. According to the World Risk Index (WRI) 2020, India is 'poorly prepared' to deal with 'climate reality', due to which it is vulnerable to extreme natural disasters.

5. It becomes more important given that India's first ever comprehensive climate change assessment report highlighted the impacts of the climate crisis.

56. Emissions Gap Report 2020

- This annual report is released by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- It measures the gap between anticipated emissions and levels consistent with the Paris Agreement goals of limiting global warming this century to well below 2°C and pursuing 1.5°C.
- The year 2020 is on course to be one of the warmest on record, while wildfires, storms and droughts continue to wreak havoc.
- The findings from the report are:
 1. **Record high GHG emissions:** These emissions continued to grow for the third consecutive year in 2019.
 2. **Record carbon emission:** Fossil CO₂ emissions dominate total GHG emissions and consequently the growth in GHG emissions.
 3. **Forest fires increasing GHG emissions:** Since 2010, GHG emissions have grown at 1.3% per year on average.
 4. **G20 countries:** They account for the bulk of emissions.
 5. **Slowing GHG emission rate:** This is happening. But, GHG emissions are declining in OECD economies and increasing in non-OECD economies.
 6. **Consumption-based emissions:** Rich countries have higher consumption-based emissions than territorial-based emission.
 7. **COVID-19 impact:** CO₂ emissions could decrease by about 7% in 2020 compared with 2019 levels due to COVID-19.
 8. **Other GHGs level:** Although CO₂ emissions will decrease in 2020, the resulting atmospheric concentrations of major GHGs and nitrous oxide continued to increase in both 2019 and 2020.
 9. **Net zero level:** 126 countries covering 51% of GHG emissions have net-zero goals that are formally adopted, announced or under consideration.
- Another major UNEP report is Global Environment Outlook.

57. Confronting Carbon Inequality

- Confronting Carbon Inequality is a report released by Oxfam International and the Stockholm Environmental Institute (SEI).
- It highlights that a rich person contributes more to the climate crisis than a poor person.
- According to the report an Indian emitted only 1.97 tonnes of CO₂ (tCO₂) annually, while Americans and Canadians both emitted well over 16 tCO₂.
- The per capita CO₂ emissions of the richest 10% of Indians were about 4.4 tons in 2018, in comparison to the per capita emissions of the richest 10% Americans were 52.4 tons, almost 12 times that of the richest Indians.
- Highlights of the report are as follows
 1. **Cumulative Emissions** - The richest 1% of humanity accounted for 15% of cumulative emissions, while the poorest 50% accounted for only 7%.
 2. **Depletion of Global Carbon Budget** - The richest 10% depleted the global carbon budget by 31% and the poorest 50% used only 4% of the carbon budget.

A carbon budget is a cumulative amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions permitted over a period of time to keep within a certain temperature threshold.

3. **Emissions Growth** - While the richest 10% accounted for 46% of emissions growth, the poorest 50% accounted for only 6%.

About half of the emissions of the richest 10% are associated with North America and the European Union.



58. Report on Lightning Strikes

- Lightning strikes have caused 1,771 deaths between April 1, 2019 and March 31, 2020, according to a report on lightning incidents in India.
- This report has been prepared by Climate Resilient Observing Systems Promotion Council (CROPC).
- [CROPC is a non-profit organisation that works to disseminate early lightning forecasts.]
- Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha and Jharkhand together accounted for more than 60% of the deaths.
- A large number of deaths occur as not much awareness has been undertaken.
- As per the report, the Government of India and most states have not notified lightning as a disaster.

Lightning

- Lightning is the process of occurrence of a natural electrical discharge of very short duration and high voltage between a cloud and the ground or within a cloud.
- This would be accompanied by a bright flash and sound, and sometimes thunderstorms.
- Inter cloud or intra cloud (IC) lightning are visible and harmless.
- Cloud to ground (CG) lightning is harmful as the 'high electric voltage and electric current' leads to electrocution.

59. Report on Light Pollution

- The Royal Astronomical Society has published the first-ever study that took into account the overall impact of space objects around Earth.
- This study was done by the Slovak Academy of Sciences and Comenius University in Slovakia.
- This study has shown that the objects sent to space that orbit the Earth increase the overall brightness of night sky by 10% above natural levels.
- This additional light pollution has an impact over a larger part of the globe than ground-based sources.
- For calculations, the scientists from institutions in Slovakia, Spain and the US considered the active satellites as well as artificial space debris.
- Large fleets of communication satellites in the space not just add to the light pollution but also collide and form more debris.
- Light from this piling debris cloaks astronomical bodies like 'the glowing clouds of stars in the Milky Way' from human sight.

60. World's Forgotten Fishes Report

- According to this report by 16 global conservation organisations, nearly a third of all freshwater fish are threatened with extinction.
- Of the 80 freshwater species declared extinct, as many as 16 freshwater fish species were declared extinct in 2020 alone.
- The population of migratory freshwater fish fell 76% since 1970; that of mega-fish by 94%
- Pressures on global freshwater fish populations - Habitat degradation, poorly planned dams, overfishing, pollution, invasive species, wildlife crime, climate change, releasing wastewater and draining wetlands.
- The WWF has called on all governments to back the implementation of a global Emergency Recovery Plan for freshwater biodiversity.

61. Food Waste Index 2021

- This United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) report aims to advance progress on the Sustainable Development Goal 12.3 (SGD 12.3).

- [SDG 12.3 aims at halving per-capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reducing food losses along production and supply chains.]
- This report presents the most comprehensive food waste data collection, analysis and modelling to date, generating a new estimate of global food waste.
- It publishes a methodology for countries to measure food waste, at household, food service and retail level, in order to track national progress towards 2030 and to report on SDG 12.3.

Three-level methodology for measuring Food Waste Index



- **Findings** - The 2021 index has revealed that 17% of all food available at consumer levels was wasted in 2019.
- The food waste amounted to 931 million tonnes of food sold. Around 690 million people had to go hungry.
- It was prepared by using data from 54 countries and then extrapolated to the remaining countries.
- On an average, 74 kgs of food was wasted per capita/year at household level. India wastes in 50 kg/capita/year.
- **Recommendations** - Countries can raise climate ambition by including food systems in their NDCs.
- Regional Food Waste Working Groups will provide capacity building and training to participating Member States in measuring food waste, developing a national baseline, etc., for food waste prevention.
- The UN Food Systems Summit will provide an opportunity to launch bold new actions to tackle food waste globally.

Food Loss Index

- The Food Waste Index report is in contrast to the Food Loss Index of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- The Food Waste Index covers the later stages of food's journey - food waste - occurring at household, food service and retail level.
- Food loss and waste causes about \$940 billion/year in economic losses.
- As of now, none of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement mention food waste and only 11 mention food loss.

62. Composite Water Management Index

- The index is developed by NITI Aayog and it ranked states on how well they managed water.
- It is released by the Ministry of Water Resources.
- It comprises 9 broad sectors with 28 different indicators covering various aspects of groundwater, restoration of water bodies, irrigation, farm practices, drinking water, policy and governance.
- CWMI 2.0 ranks various states for the reference year 2017-18 as against the base year 2016-17.
- Gujarat (continues to hold on to its rank one in the reference year (2017-18), followed by Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.
- In North-Eastern and the Himalayan States, Himachal Pradesh has been awarded rank 1 in 2017-18 followed by Uttarakhand, Tripura and Assam.
- For the first time, Union Territories have submitted their data and Puducherry has been declared the top performer.
- 80% of the states have shown improvement in their water management scores over the last three years.

63. World Energy Investment Report 2021

- The International Energy Agency (IEA) has released the World Energy Investment Report, 2021.
- According to this report, global energy investment is expected to rebound this year and increase 10% year-on-year to around \$1.9 trillion.
- Most of this investment will flow towards power and end-use sectors, shifting out of traditional fossil fuel production.
- The global energy demand is projected to rise 4.6% year-on-year in 2021, offsetting its contraction in 2020.
- Energy efficiency sector will see a 10% rise in investment, though the low fossil fuel price may act as a deterrent.
- **Renewable power** will have the largest share - around 70% of the total \$530 billion will be spent on new power generation capacity.
- Substantial gain of renewable as the future energy outlook has been dependent on technological development, well-established supply chain and demand from consumers for carbon-neutral electricity.
- **Fossil fuel** - Upstream investment in oil is expected to grow 10%.
- This expansion in fossil fuels was planned with novel technologies like carbon capture and storage (CCS) and bioenergy CCS, which are yet to be attain commercial success.
- The increment of coal-fired power in 2020, mostly driven by China, is indicating that 'coal is down but not yet out'.
- **Pandemic recovery strategies** in many countries lack the required stimulant towards emission biennial technologies and pathways.
- The rhetoric around 'Net Zero' is gaining momentum but its transition to actual action is not visible.
- **Increased Emissions** - Global carbon dioxide emission is set to grow by 1.5 billion tonnes in 2020, after a contraction in 2020 mainly due to economic slowdown induced by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The emerging market is almost 70% responsible for demand growth and India plays an important part in this block.
- The responsibility-share of developed nations should not be undermined: Their in-country growth of emission is moderate but their exported emission is of concern.
- Market stimulus amid the pandemic may have lost the opportunity to maximise the clean developmental pathway.

64. Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index

- Ernst & Young has released the 57th Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (EY RECAI 57). It is a biannual report released since 2003.
- It ranks the world's top 40 countries on the attractiveness of their renewable energy investment and deployment opportunities.
- In the RECAI 57, the US and China are in the top two spots.
 - **The US** retains the top position as it reaccepted the Paris Accord, decided to cut greenhouse gas (GHG) levels by 50-52% as early as 2030 and achieve 100% carbon free power by 2035.
 - **China** maintains the second position by adding 72.4GW of new wind power in 2020, as developers rushed to beat an onshore wind subsidy cut.
- **India** has moved up to 3rd spot from 4th spot (in EY RECAI 56) owing to an exceptional performance on the solar photovoltaic (PV) front.
- The index has ranked India as the most attractive destination for solar PV investment and deployment.
- India's solar sector would grow substantially post the pandemic, with generation from solar PV forecast to outdo coal before 2040.
- The drastic change has been led by the government's policy ambitions, which have led solar PV to be the most cost-competitive source of power in the region.

- In 2020, global renewable energy capacity investments **grew 2%** to \$303.5 billion, the second-highest annual figure recorded to date.
- However, the EY RECAI 57 estimated that future development to achieve net zero will require a further investment of \$5.2 trillion and highlighted the role of institutional investors in financing the energy transition.
- Environment, sustainability and governance (ESG) goals are increasingly being prioritised on the investor agenda while institutional investors' interest in renewables continues to grow.

65. Renewable Capacity Statistics Report 2021

- The Renewable Capacity Statistics 2021 report was released by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).
- It said that 260 gigawatts (GW) of new renewable energy capacity was added worldwide in 2020, up 50% from the year before, as countries further reduced their reliance on fossil fuel power.
- More than 80% of all new electricity capacity added in 2020 was renewable, with solar and wind accounting for 91% of new renewables.
- Rise in new capacity was partly due to the decommissioning of fossil fuel power generation in Europe, North America and in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Russia and Turkey.
- China, the world's largest market for renewables, added 136 GW of renewables last year, while the United States installed 29 GW.
- Share of renewables in energy generation worldwide stands at 30%.
- Nations are switching from fossil fuels to renewables in an effort to meet the long-term goal, agreed under the 2015 Paris Agreement, of limiting a rise in average temperatures to below 2° C above pre-industrial levels.
- This requires countries to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

HEALTH

66. World Drug Report 2021

- The report is released by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).
- According to the 2021 Report, the lockdown restrictions during COVID-19 may have accelerated drug trafficking using the Internet.
- **Findings** - Between 2010 and 2019, the number of people using drugs increased by 22%, as there was an increase in the global population.
- Opioids account for the largest burden of disease attributed to drug use.
- In last 24 years, cannabis potency had increased by four times in some parts of the globe. Percentage of adolescents who perceived drug as harmful has reduced by 40%.
- A rise in the non-medical use of pharmaceutical drugs was observed during the coronavirus pandemic.
- **Darknet markets** - In Asia, China and India are the most frequently mentioned countries linked to shipment of drugs sold on the 19 major darknet markets analysed over 2011-2020.
- Access to drugs has become simpler than ever with online sales, and major drug markets on the dark web are worth \$315 million annually.
- The use of private planes for drug trafficking and contactless transactions, such as through the mail, are also on the rise.
- Although this is a “tiny fraction” of overall drug sales, the trend of using dark web on the rise, with a fourfold increase in annual sales from the beginning of the 2010s to more recent years.
- While cannabis dominates darknet sales, marketing on the so-called clear web often involves new psychoactive substances.



67. World Malaria Report

- This report was released by the WHO.
- 19 countries in sub-Saharan Africa and India accounted for 85% of the global malaria burden in 2018.
- While Africa and India saw the maximum dip in malaria cases between 2017 and 2018, they still accounted for 85% deaths.
- India also has one of the lowest funding per person at risk of being inflicted with malaria at just US\$0.2.
- Despite being the highest burden country in the South-East Asia region, India showed a reduction in reported cases of 51% compared to 2017.
- In the South-East Asia region, the major challenges remain decreased funding, treatment failures and vector resistance to pyrethroids, the insecticides used against the vectors.
- WHO says more and more countries are on the verge of eliminating malaria.
- Malaria is mainly caused by Plasmodium falciparum and Plasmodium vivax parasites.
- It is transmitted to people through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes.
- It is also transmitted by blood, so it can also be transmitted through an organ transplant, a transfusion and use of shared needles or syringes.
- It is preventable and curable.
- Plasmodium falciparum is the most prevalent malaria parasite in the African, South-East Asia, Eastern Mediterranean, Western Pacific region.
- Plasmodium Vivax is the predominant parasite in American region and its burden is high in South-East Asia region with the majority being in India.

68. Likelihood of Future Pandemics Report

- Recently IPBES has released a report on future pandemics.
- The report has warned that future pandemics will emerge more often, they'll spread more rapidly, do more damage to the world and kill more people than COVID-19, unless significant measures are taken.
- Key Findings of the report are as follows
 1. COVID-19 is at least the sixth pandemic to have taken place in the last century since the Great Influenza Pandemic of 1918.
 2. Three of the pandemics were caused by influenza viruses, one by HIV followed by SARS and COVID-19.
 3. Almost all the pandemics so far, have been zoonoses (diseases caused by germs that spread between animals and people).
 4. While the current pandemic's origins lie in microbes carried by animals, "like all pandemics, its emergence has been entirely driven by human activities.
 5. More than 70% of emerging diseases, such as Ebola, Zika and Nipah, are caused by microbes found in animals which spread due to contact among wildlife, livestock and people.
 6. About 30% of emerging infectious diseases are attributed to land-use change, agricultural expansion and urbanisation.
 7. There are over 1.7 million currently 'undiscovered' viruses that exist in mammals and birds, out of which up to 827,000 could have the ability to infect people.
- **Suggestions from the report** - Pandemic risk can be lowered by reducing the human activities that drive loss of biodiversity.

Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem (IPBES)

- It is an intergovernmental organization established to improve the interface between science and policy on issues of biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- In 2012 IPBES was established by the United Nations, but functions independently, HQ in Bonn, Germany.



69. Longitudinal Ageing Study of India

- Health Minister released India report on Longitudinal Ageing Study of India (LASI) Wave-1 on the virtual platform.
- LASI is a full-scale national survey of scientific investigation of the **health, economic, and social** determinants and consequences of population ageing in India.
- This report will provide a base for national and state level programmes and policies for elderly population.
- The LASI has been undertaken by the National Programme for Health Care of Elderly, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- Wave - 1 covered a baseline sample of over 72,000 individuals aged 45 and above and their spouses.
- This sample includes elderly persons aged 60 and above and oldest-old persons aged 75 and above from all States and Union Territories of the country excluding Sikkim.

70. State of Food Security Nutrition in the World

- The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) 2020 report was released on the sidelines of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development.
- It is produced jointly by the
 1. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO),
 2. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD),
 3. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF),
 4. UN World Food Programme (WFP)
 5. World Health Organization (WHO).
 6. Its first edition was brought out in 2017.

Highlights of the Report

1. The world is not on track to meet the goal of zero hunger by 2030 i.e. SDG2.
 2. Between 8.3 crore and 13 crore people globally are likely to go hungry this year due to the economic recession triggered by COVID-19.
 3. Hunger continues to be on the rise since 2014 and the global prevalence of undernourishment, or overall percentage of hungry people, is 8.9%.
 4. Almost 69 crore people went hungry in 2019 up by 1 crore in 2018
 5. Asia remains home to the greatest number of undernourished (38 crore).
 6. Africa is second (25 crore), followed by Latin America and the Caribbean (4.8 crore).
 7. A healthy diet costs more than Rs. 143 (or \$1.90/ day), which is the international poverty threshold.
 8. The number of people globally who can't afford a healthy diet is at 300 crore people, or more than the combined population of China and India.
- It showed a reduction in reported cases of 51 per cent compared to 2017 and of 60 per cent compared to 2016.
 - In the South-East Asia region, the major challenges remain decreased funding, treatment failures and vector resistance to pyrethroids, the insecticides used against the vectors.

EDUCATION

71. Annual Status of Education Report

- ASER is released annually by education non-profit Pratham.
- The report is based on a survey conducted in 26 districts across 24 states; it also highlights a gender gap in schooling.

- ASER 2020 is the first ever phone-based ASER survey and it was conducted in September 2020, the sixth month of national school closures.
- 5.5% of rural children are not currently enrolled for the 2020 school year, up from 4% in 2018.
- Due to the disruptions caused by the pandemic, families are waiting for the physical opening of schools to enrol their youngest children, with about 10% of six-year-olds not in school.
- Among 15-16 year-olds, however, enrollment levels are slightly higher than in 2018.
- The proportion of boys enrolled in government schools has risen from 62.8% in 2018 to 66.4% in 2020, while for girls, that number has gone up from 70% to 73% in the corresponding period.

72. School Education Quality Index

- The index is jointly released by the NITI Aayog, the Ministry of Human Resource Development, and the World Bank.
- It is to evaluate the performance of States and Union Territories (UTs) in the school education sector.
- It assesses States based on learning outcomes, access, equity and infrastructure and facilities, using survey data, self-reported data from States and third-party verification.
- The ranking is based on 30 indicators in 2 broad categories,
 - Outcomes that consisted of learning, access, infrastructure & facilities, and equity outcomes
 - Governance processes aiding outcomes
- Some of the parameters are,
 - The number of schools with the largest number of toilets for girl children
 - The average score of students in mathematics and language in classes III, V, and VIII,
 - The transition rate of students from primary to upper primary levels and also from upper primary levels to secondary level

| States/UT | Overall Performance Ranking | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| | Top 3 | Bottom 3 |
| Large States (20) | Kerala | Punjab |
| | Rajasthan | J & K |
| | Karnataka | UP |
| Small States (8) | Manipur | Sikkim |
| | Tripura | Meghalaya |
| | Goa | Arunachal Pradesh |
| UT | Chandigarh | Daman & Diu |
| | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | Andaman & Nicobar |
| | Delhi | Lakshadweep |

- It used 2016-17 as the reference year and 2015-16 as the base year.
- Kerala topped the list of large states in India in the Overall Performance and Rank in school education for the year 2016-17 with a total evaluation point of 82.2%.
- Kerala, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Assam are the best-performing Large States, each achieving an overall performance score above 60.0 percent.
- In the Outcomes category, Karnataka leads the Large States, with a score of 81.9 percent while Uttar Pradesh has the lowest score of 34.1 percent.
- In the Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes category, Kerala has the highest score of 79.0 percent while Jharkhand comes in last with a score of 21.0 percent.
- Manipur, Tripura and Goa are the top-performing Small States, each achieving an overall performance score above 55 percent.
- Manipur has the highest overall performance score of 68.8 percent.
- Arunachal Pradesh ranks last, with an overall performance score of 24.6 percent.
- Manipur ranks first among the Small States on the Outcomes category, with a score of 82.1 percent. Arunachal Pradesh has the lowest score, at 27.2 percent.

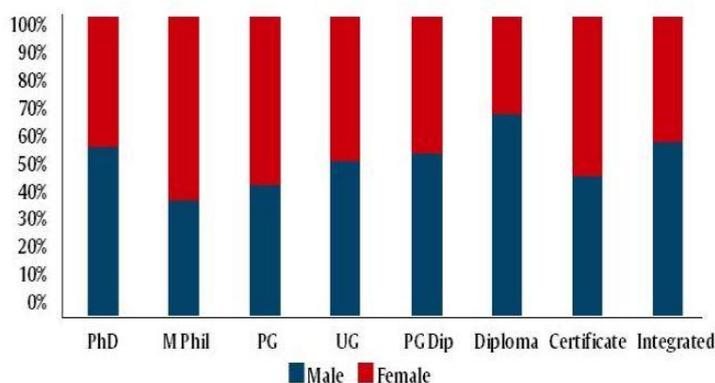
- In the Governance Processes Aiding Outcomes category, Mizoram has the highest score of 47.5 percent while Arunachal Pradesh ranks last with a score of 18.3 percent.

73. QS Rankings

- Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) is a leading global career and education network for ambitious professionals looking to further their personal and professional development.
- QS develops and successfully implements methods of comparative data collection and analysis used to highlight institutions' strengths.
- The 'QS World University Rankings' is an annual publication of university rankings which comprises the global overall and subject rankings.
- Six parameters and their weightage for the evaluation:
 1. Academic Reputation (40%)
 2. Employer Reputation (10%)
 3. Faculty/Student Ratio (20%)
 4. Citations per faculty (20%)
 5. International Faculty Ratio (5%)
 6. International Student Ratio (5%)
- Recently, QS World University Rankings 2021 shows a decline in the rankings of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc).
- Only the newer IITs in Guwahati and Hyderabad have shown some improvement.
- Only three educational institutes from India, the IIT Bombay (172), IISc Bengaluru (185) and IIT Delhi (193) feature in the top 200 list.
- Despite the Centre's flagship Institutes of Eminence (IoE) scheme to boost the Indian presence in these global rankings, the total number of Indian institutions in the top 1,000 global list has fallen from 24 to 21.
- In private universities, BITS Pilani and the Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) have dropped out of the top 1,000 list, but OP Jindal Global University has climbed to the 650-700 band in the rankings.
- Out of the six parameters, Indian institutions get zero scores on the ratio of international faculty and students while scoring well on research impact, measured through citations per faculty.
- India also scores poorly on faculty-student ratio because of counting only full-time faculty whereas American universities include PhD students who are teaching or are research assistants.

74. All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2018-19

- AISHE was initiated in the year 2010-11 by the Ministry of Education.
- The main objectives of the survey were to,
 1. Identify and capture all the institutions of higher learning in the country.
 2. Collect the data from all the higher education institutions on various aspects of higher education.
- Data is being collected on several parameters such as,
 1. Teachers, student enrolment, programmes,
 2. Examination results, education finance, infrastructure.
 3. Indicators such as Gross Enrolment Ratio, Pupil-teacher ratio, Gender Parity Index.





4. These are useful in making informed policy decisions and research for development of education sector.
- It is calculated for the 18-23 age group.
 - The recent report mentions that the number of institutions of national importance have increased to 135 in 2020 from 75 in 2015.
 - The Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) increased by a minuscule 0.8% in 2019-20.
 - The total enrolment in higher education stood at 3.85 crore in 2019-20 as compared to 3.74 crore in 2018-19, registering a growth of 11.36 lakh (3.04 per cent).
 - It shows the GER of female students is at 27.3 per cent, which is higher than 26.9 per cent for male students.
 - The GER for female in all social group is highest in Sikkim with 67.6%.
 - For Scheduled Castes, the ratio is 23.4 per cent and for Scheduled Tribes, it is 18 per cent.
 - Gender Parity Index (GPI) in Higher Education in 2019-20 is 1.01 against 1.00 in 2018-19 indicating an improvement in the relative access to higher education for females of eligible age group compared to males.
 - The number of PhDs has also increased by 60 per cent in the last five years.

INDIA

75. India Justice Report 2019

- The report was recently released by Tata Trusts.
- It is based on the four pillars of justice delivery such as police, judiciary, prisons and legal aid.
- It collects data from publicly available data of different government entities.
- It covered the themes like infrastructure, human resources, diversity (gender, SC/ST/OBC), budgets, workload and trends over the last 5 years.
- Centre for Social Justice, Common Cause, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, DAKSH, TISS- Prayas and Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy are other partners.
- **Key findings** – Maharashtra was ranked topmost among 18 states for the second time in a row, followed by Tamil Nadu and Telangana. Uttar Pradesh remains last.
- Amongst the smaller states, Goa remained at the top and Arunachal Pradesh at the bottom.
- Bihar leads the list of 25 states for employing most women in its police force which is 25.3%.
- It is the only state to have more than 20% women in the police force. However, women account for only 6.1% in the officer category.
- Tamil Nadu has the highest percentage of women police officers (24.8%), followed by Mizoram (20.1%).
- Overall, only 29% judges in High Courts across the country are women, but no state except Sikkim has over 20% women judges.
- Four states - Bihar, Uttarakhand, Tripura and Meghalaya have no woman judges in high courts.
- Karnataka is the only state to meet its quotas for SC, ST and OBC in both officer cadre and constabulary.
- Chhattisgarh being the only other state that meets the diversity requirements for constabulary.

76. India Internet 2020

- Internet And Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) released the report “India Internet 2020”.
- Internet penetration is defined as number of individuals aged above 12 per 100 population who accessed the Internet during a particular period.
- The number of active internet users in the country is likely to grow nearly 45 % to 900 million by 2025 compared to 622 million as of last year, an IAMAI-Kantar Cube report.

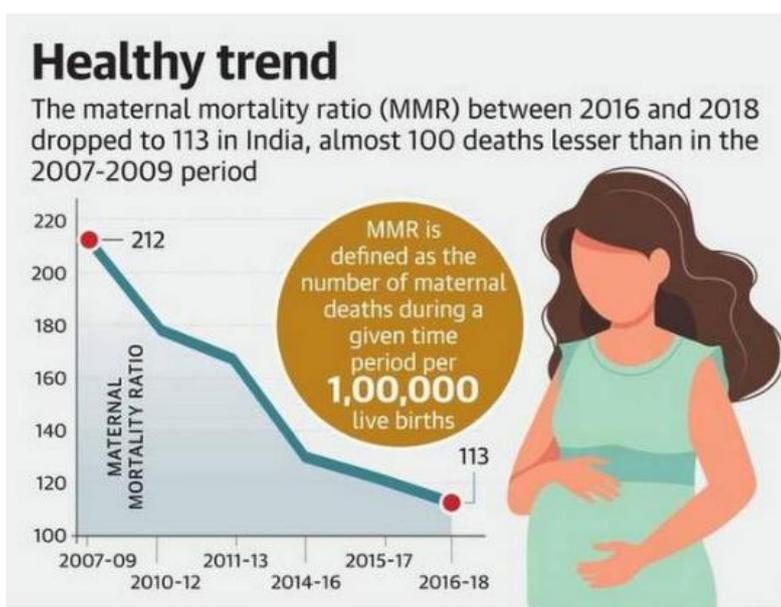
- The report suggests that even though the internet penetration in urban India is over two times than rural areas, the usership in rural areas has been growing at a faster rate on a year-on-year basis
- Mobile continues to remain the device of choice for accessing the internet in both urban and rural areas.
- Given the affordability of mobile devices along with the availability of cheaper data plans, accessing the internet through a mobile device has clearly become the first choice.

77. Health in India Report

- Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has released the report of a survey titled 'Health in India'.
- The objective of the report is to gather basic quantitative information on India's health sector.
- The survey defines ailment as any deviation from a person's state of physical and mental well-being.
- The 'Proportion of Persons who Responded as Ailing', or PPRA, in a 15-day period when they were approached by the surveyors, were registered as those suffering from ailments.
- Findings of the report are as follows
 1. Around 7.5 % of Indians reported that they were suffering from ailments.
 2. While in rural India only 6.8 % said that they were suffering from an ailment, this number in urban India was 9.1 %
 3. The Zoroastrian community remains the most susceptible to ailments (31.1 % of them were suffering from an ailment)
 4. The survey shows that women remain more susceptible to suffering from ailments than men.
 5. In rural India 6.1 % of males said that they were suffering from ailments, while 7.6 % of rural women said the same.
 6. While 8.2 % of urban males said that they were sick, 10 % urban females said the same.

78. Maternal Mortality Ratio

- Special bulletin on Maternal Mortality in India 2016-18 is released by the Office of the Registrar General's Sample Registration System (SRS).
- MMR is defined as the number of maternal deaths per 1,00,000 live births.
- According to recent report MMR in India has declined to 113 in 2016-18 from 122 in 2015-17 and 130 in 2014-2016.
- Northern states registered a higher MMR: 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).
- The target 3.1 of UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) aims to reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 1,00,000 live births.
- As per the WHO, 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.





79. **Infant Mortality Rate**

- Infant mortality is the death of young children under the age of 1 per 1000 live births.
- The under-five mortality rate, which is referred to as the child mortality rate whereas the infant mortality rate focuses only on children under one year of age.
- Premature birth is the biggest contributor to the IMR.
- Leading causes - birth asphyxia, pneumonia, term birth complications such as abnormal presentation of the fetus umbilical cord prolapse, or prolonged labor, neonatal infection and etc.
- Many factors contribute to infant mortality, such as the mother's level of education, environmental conditions, and political and medical infrastructure.
- The infant mortality rate (IMR) in Madhya Pradesh, recording the country's worst rate for years now.
- IMR in MP has surged by a single point over the previous year to 48 in 2018.
- In rural MP, 52 died per 1,000 live births (Infant mortality rate) and 36 in urban area.
- The country's average stands at 36 deaths for rural and 23 for urban areas.

80. **Sex Ratio at Birth**

- Recent Sample Registration System (SRS) reports show that sex ratio at birth in India, measured as the number of females per 1,000 males, declined marginally from 906 in 2011 to 899 in 2018.
- Biologically normal sex ratio at birth is 1,050 males to 1,000 females or 950 females to 1,000 males.
- There is considerable son preference in all states, except possibly in Kerala and Chhattisgarh.
- The UNFPA State of World Population 2020 estimated the sex ratio at birth in India as 910, lower than all the countries in the world except China.
- Other findings of are
 1. Total Fertility Rate (TFR) – In India the number of children a mother would have at the current pattern of fertility during her lifetime, as 2.2 in the year 2018.
 2. According to various findings Fertility is likely to continue to decline and it is estimated that replacement TFR of 2.1 would soon be, if not already, reached for India as a whole.
- But the most troubling statistics in the SRS report are for sex ratio at birth.

81. **India TB Report 2020**

- The report was released recently by the Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare.
- According to the report, National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme has comprehensively moved closer to near-complete online notification of all TB cases in the country through the NIKSHAY portal.
- Under the programme, in 2019, Nagaland and Tripura have been awarded for being the best performing among small states (Population - less than 50 lakh)
- Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh were awarded as best performing States among larger states (Population - more than 50 lakh)
- Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu were chosen as the best performers in the category of Union Territory.

82. **Report on Immunization among Children**

- National Statistical Office (NSO) released a report on immunization among children.
- The survey was conducted during July 2017-June 2018.
- **Highlights of the report -**
 1. Around 60% of children under five years of age were fully immunized.

2. This includes about 59% of boys and 60% of girls across the country who had been fully immunized with all eight prescribed vaccinations (BCG, OPV- 1, 2,3, DPT- 1,2,3 and measles).
3. In rural India (58%) and Urban (62%) were fully immunized.
4. Majority of the children received vaccination from government hospitals or clinics.

83. NFHS-5

- The National Family Health Survey (NFHS) report is released by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- This report analysed domestic violence under three categories:
 1. Married women between 18 and 49 years who have ever experienced Spousal violence (both physical and sexual violence)
 2. Physical violence during pregnancy
 3. Young women aged between 18 and 29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18
- According to the latest NFHS-5 (2019-2020) report, gender-based violence across most Indian states declined in the past 5 years.

84. AISHE Report 2019-20

- The release of the Report of All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2019-20 was announced by the Union Education Minister.
- It is the 10th in the AISHE series released annually by the Department of Higher Education.
- AISHE provides key performance indicators on the current status of Higher education in the country.
- **Findings** - In the last five years from 2015-16 to 2019-20, there has been a growth of 11.4% in the student enrolment. The rise in female enrolment in higher education during the period is 18.2%.
- Total Enrolment in Higher Education stands at 3.85 crore in 2019-20 as compared to 3.74 crore in 2018-19, registering a growth of 3.04%. Uttar Pradesh has highest student enrolment in India followed by Tamil Nadu.
- Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) - the percentage of students belonging to the eligible age group enrolled in Higher Education - in 2019-20 is 27.1% against 26.3% in 2018-19 and 24.3% in 2014-2015.
- Gender Parity Index (GPI) in Higher Education is 1.01 in 2019-20 against 1.00 in 2018-19 indicating an improvement in the relative access to higher education for females of eligible age group compared to males.
- Student enrolment in programmes at under-graduate and post-graduate level is at 3.38 crore.
- Nearly 85% of these students (2.85 crore) were enrolled in the six major disciplines - Science, Medical Science, Engineering & Technology, Humanities, Commerce and IT & Computer.
- Number of students pursuing PhD in 2019-20 is 2.03 lakh against 1.17 lakh in 2014-15.
- Pupil Teacher Ratio in Higher Education in 2019-20 is 26.
- Total Number of Teachers stands at 15,03,156 comprising of 57.5% male and 42.5% female.

85. State of the Education Report for India 2020

- The second edition of this report was launched by UNESCO New Delhi.
- This edition focuses on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).
- It aims to support the Government of India which has announced skill development as a key national priority under the Skill India Mission.
- In order to achieve evidence-based results to achieve the TVET vision in the country, the report outlines certain recommendations.

86. Annual Status of Education Report

- It is a nationwide survey of rural education and learning outcomes in terms of reading and arithmetic skills that has been conducted by the NGO Pratham for the last 15 years.
- It uses Census 2011 as the sampling frame and continues to be an important national source of information about children's foundational skills across the country.
- It provides a glimpse into the levels of learning loss that students in rural India are suffering, with varying levels of access to technology, school and family resources resulting in a digital divide in education.
- Highlights of the report are
 1. ASER 2020 is the first ever phone-based ASER survey and it was conducted in September 2020, the sixth month of national school closures.
 2. Enrolments - 5.5% of rural children are not currently enrolled for the 2020 school year, up from 4% in 2018.
 3. This difference is the sharpest among the youngest children (6 to 10) where 5.3% of rural children had not yet enrolled in school in 2020, in comparison to just 1.8% in 2018.
 4. The proportion of boys enrolled in government schools has risen from 62.8% in 2018 to 66.4% in 2020, while for girls, that number has gone up from 70% to 73% in the corresponding period.
 5. Patterns show a slight shift toward government schools, with private schools seeing a drop in enrolment in all age groups.
 6. Among enrolled children, 61.8% live in families that own at least one smartphone which was merely 36.5% in 2018.
 7. About 11% of families bought a new phone after the lockdown, of which 80% were smartphones.
 8. WhatsApp is by far the most popular mode of transmitting learning materials to students, with 75% of students receiving input via this app.

87. Household Social Consumption: Education Survey

- National Statistical Office (NSO) has report on "Household Social Consumption: Education".
- Highlights of the report
 1. **Digital divide** - Only 4% of the rural households having access to computers as compared to 23% in urban areas.
 2. Education accessibility –
 3. **Primary School** - 92.7% of the rural households have a primary school within 1 km as compared to 87.2% in urban areas.
 4. **Secondary School** - 38% of the rural household have access to secondary school as compared to 70% in the urban areas on similar parameters.
 5. **Attendance ratio** - Gross attendance ratio is nearly 100% of boys and girls in rural as well as urban areas attending classes.
 6. **Literacy rate** - The all India literacy rate among persons aged 7 years and above is 77.7% with rural literacy (73.5%) and urban literacy (87.7%).
 7. **Internet access** - 15% in the rural cluster and 42% in the urban areas have access to the internet.

88. SARAL

- Ministry of Power and New and Renewable Energy, launched the 'State Rooftop Solar Attractiveness Index' (SARAL).
- SARAL has been designed collaboratively by,
 1. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE),
 2. Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation (SSEF),
 3. Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) and

4. Ernst & Young (EY).

- It has been developed to evaluate Indian states based on their attractiveness for rooftop development.
- It is the first of its kind index to provide a comprehensive overview of state-level measures adopted to facilitate rooftop solar deployment.
- It currently captures 5 key aspects,
 1. Robustness of policy framework
 2. Implementation environment
 3. Investment climate
 4. Consumer experience
 5. Business ecosystem
- It encourages each state to assess the initiatives taken so far, and what it can do to improve its solar rooftop ecosystem.
- This will help states to channelize investments that can eventually help the sector grow.
- It is also to create more conducive environment for solar rooftop installations and lead to accelerated growth of the sector.
- The Ministry has set a target of 175 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2022,
 1. In that 100 GW solar power is to be operational by 2022, of which 40 GW is expected to come from grid connected solar rooftops.
- Karnataka has been placed at the first rank in the Index followed by Telangana, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh.

89. Municipal Performance Index

- The index is launched by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.
- It aims to assess the performance of municipalities based on five enablers.
- They are Service, Finance, Planning, Technology and Governance which have been further divided into 20 sectors which will be evaluated across 100 indicators.
- This will help Municipalities in better planning and management, filling the gaps in city administration, and improving the liveability of cities for its citizens.
- The MPI has classified municipalities based on their population as-
 1. Million+ category (Municipalities having over a million population) - **Indore** (Top), Surat, Bhopal.
 2. Less than Million Population category (Municipalities with a population of less than a million) - New Delhi Municipal Council (**NDMC**) (Top), Tirupati and Gandhinagar.
- It examined the sectoral performance of 111 municipalities (with Delhi assessed separately, and the three Municipal Corporations) across 5 verticals which comprise of 20 sectors and 100 indicators in totality.
- Five verticals - Services, Finance, Policy, Technology and Governance.
- The MPI is an effort to assess and analyse the performance of Indian municipalities based on their defined set of functions.
- The EoLI measures an outcome of the indicator, while the MPI focuses on the factors that produce those outcomes.

90. Young Child Outcomes Index

- YCOI is a part of the “State of the Young Child in India” report, brought out by a civil society organization Mobile Creches.
- The report is supported by Bernard Van Leer Foundation.
- The report has also released Young Child Environment Index (YCEI) for 2015-16.



- **YCOI** - It takes following indicators into account
 1. Health,
 2. Nutrition
 3. Cognitive growth
 4. Infant mortality rate,
 5. Stunting,
 6. Net attendance at the primary school level.
- **YCEI** – It is based on indices using data related to various indicators on gender, poverty, health, safe water supply and education.
- This Index make clear that states with better circumstances tend to have better young child outcomes.
- It uses five policy enablers that influence child well-being outcomes, including poverty alleviation, strengthening primary healthcare, improving education levels, safe water supply and promotion of gender equity.
- Highlights of the report are as follows
 1. Kerala, Goa, Tripura, Tamil Nadu and Mizoram are among the top five States for well-being of children.
 2. Eight States that have scores below the country's average: they are Assam, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.
 3. The index has been constructed for two time periods (2005–2006 and 2015–2016) to enable inter-State comparisons as well as provide an idea of change over time.
 4. According to the environment index, Kerala, Goa, Sikkim, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh secured the top five positions.
 5. The environment index was constructed for 2015–2016 only due to limitations of data availability.
 6. The eight States that have a below average score on the outcomes index also fared poorly on this one.
 7. India spent ₹ 1,723 per child in 2018–2019, an amount that is insufficient and fails to reach the entire eligible population.
 8. While the population of children under six years of age is 158.8 million, the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) covers only 71.9 million children as calculated from the total number of beneficiaries across States.

91. **Good Governance Index**

- The index was launched to assess the state of governance in the country.
- The rankings were launched by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, and the Centre for Good Governance.
- The objectives of GGI are to provide quantifiable data to compare the state of governance in all States and UTs.
- It enables them to formulate and implement suitable strategies for improving governance and shift to result oriented approaches and administration.
- It takes into account 10 sectors –
 1. Agriculture and Allied Sectors,
 2. Commerce & Industries,
 3. Human Resource Development,
 4. Public Health,
 5. Public Infrastructure & Utilities,
 6. Economic Governance,



7. Social Welfare & Development,
8. Judicial & Public Security,
9. Environment and
10. Citizen-Centric Governance.

- The states and UTs are divided into three groups -- big states, north-east & Hill states and UTs.
- In the 'Major States' category, Karnataka continued to occupy the top position, while Maharashtra moved past Tamil Nadu to reach the second place.
- Telangana, Kerala, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab completed the top ten in that order.
- Karnataka's rank is attributable to its substantive number of venture capital deals, registered geographical indicators and information and communications technology exports.
- Delhi retained its first rank, while Chandigarh made a big leap since 2019 and landed in the second place this year.
- Under the 'North-Eastern/Hill States' category, Himachal Pradesh moved up from the second position to emerge as the top ranker this year, while 2019's top performer (in this category), Sikkim, slipped down to the fourth position.

92. Public Affairs Index

- The Public Affairs Centre has developed Public Affairs Index (PAI) as a unique statistical tool to evaluate the performance of governance in the States released by **Public Affairs Centre**.
- It is largely based on secondary data and has been extracted from Union Government Ministries and Departments.
- According to the PAC, the governance performance is analysed in the context of sustainable development defined by three pillars of equity, growth and sustainability.
- It is a data driven platform to rank the 30 States of India from the lens of governance.
- Key Highlights of Public Affairs Index-2020 are as follows
 1. Kerala was adjudged the best-governed state in the country while Uttar Pradesh ended at the bottom in the large states category.
 2. The four southern states, namely, Kerala (1.388), Tamil Nadu (0.912), Andhra Pradesh (0.531), and Karnataka (0.468) stood in the first four ranks in the large state category in terms of governance.
 3. Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Bihar were at the bottom of the ranking, scoring negative points in the category i.e. -1.461, -1.201 and -1.158 points respectively.
 4. In the small state category, Goa ranked first with 1.745 points, followed by Meghalaya (0.797) and Himachal Pradesh (0.725).
 5. The worst performers who scored negative points are Manipur (-0.363), Delhi (-0.289) and Uttarakhand (-0.277).
 6. Chandigarh emerged the best governed union territory in the category of UTs with 1.05 PAI points, followed by Puducherry (0.52) and Lakshadweep (0.003).
 7. Dadar and Nagar Haveli (-0.69), Andaman, Jammu and Kashmir (-0.50) and Nicobar (-0.30) were the least performers.

93. Periodic Labour Force Survey

- The third Annual Report on the basis of Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted during July 2019-June 2020 was released.
- PLFS is India's first computer-based survey launched by the National Statistical Office (NSO) in 2017. It has been constituted based on the recommendation of Amitabh Kundu.
- The first Annual Report (July 2017- June 2018) was released in 2019.



- The objective of PLFS is primarily,
 1. To estimate the key employment and unemployment indicators for the urban areas only in the 'Current Weekly Status' (CWS) quarterly - **Quarterly survey**
 2. To estimate the employment and unemployment indicators in both 'Usual Status' (ps+ss) and CWS in both rural and urban areas annually - **Annual survey**
- **Key Indicators** - Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) is the percentage of persons in labour force (i.e. working or seeking or available for work) in the population.
- Worker Population Ratio (WPR) is the percentage of employed persons in the population.
- Unemployment Rate (UR) is the percentage of persons unemployed among the persons in the labour force.
- **Activity Status** - The activity status of a person is determined on the basis of the activities pursued by the person during the specified reference period.
- When the activity status is determined on the basis of the reference period of last 365 days preceding the date of survey, it is known as the usual activity status of the person.
- When the activity status is determined on the basis of a reference period of last 7 days preceding the date of survey, it is known as the Current Weekly Status (CWS) of the person.
- The activity status on which a person spent relatively long time during 365 days preceding the date of survey, was considered the usual principal activity status of the person.
- Subsidiary economic activity status is the activity status in which a person in addition to his/her usual principal status, performs some economic activity for 30 days or more for the reference period of 365 days preceding the date of survey.

National Statistical Office

- It is the central statistical agency of the Government mandated under the Statistical Services Act, 1980 under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- It is responsible for the development of arrangements for providing statistical information services to meet the needs of the Government and other users for information on which to base policy, planning, monitoring and management decisions.
- Services - Collecting, Compiling and Disseminating official statistical information.

94. Household Social Consumption Report

- Recently, the report on 'Household Social Consumption: Education in India has been released.
- It is a part of 75th round of National Sample Survey, which includes data from July 2017 to June 2018'.
- It is based on the National Statistical Office (NSO) survey and provides for state-wise detail of literacy rate among the persons aged seven years and above.
- The report coincides with the International Literacy Day which is celebrated on 8th September every year.
- The report provides for state-wise detail of literacy rate among the persons aged seven years and above.
- Highlights of the report are as follows
 1. India's Overall Literacy Rate stands at 77.7% in which literacy rate at Urban Areas stood at 87.7% and rural areas at 73.5%.
 2. With 96.2 % literacy, Kerala has once again emerged as the most literate state in the country followed by Delhi, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.
 3. While Andhra Pradesh featured at the bottom with a rate of 66.4 %.
 4. The male literacy rate (84.7%) is higher than the female literacy rate (70.3%) among all states with a considerable gap in the worst-performing states.
 5. Nearly 4 % of rural households and 23 % of urban household possessed computers.
 6. Among persons of age 15-29 years, nearly 56% in urban areas and 24% in rural areas were able to operate a computer.
 7. In the same age group, nearly 25% in rural areas and 58% in urban areas reported the use of the internet.

95. India Workplace Equality Index

- This index is India's first comprehensive benchmarking tool for employers to measure their progress on LGBT+ inclusion at workplace.
- Non-profit Keshav Suri Foundation has partnered with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), Pride Circle and Stonewall UK, to bring the IWEI to India Inc.
- The index measures nine areas: policies and benefits, employee lifecycle, employee network group, allies and role models, senior leadership, monitoring, procurement, community engagement and additional work.
- There are three categories of IWEI: Gold, silver and bronze categories.
- The IWEI comes two years after the Supreme Court's landmark reading down of Section 377.

96. India Innovation Index Report 2020

- Initiated by NITI Aayog in 2019, this report is on the lines of the Global Innovation Index (GII), which ranks countries annually.
- The indicators include the level and quality of education, number of highly skilled professionals, investment in R&D, FDI inflows, internet subscribers, number of patents and trademark applications filed, etc.,
- Innovation Index is divided in to three categories—major states, Union Territories, and hill and North East states.
 1. Karnataka is ranked the most innovative among major states.
 2. Delhi topped the category among Union Territories.
 3. Delhi stood out as the top performer among both states and UTs.
 4. Amongst North East and hill states, Himachal Pradesh topped.
- The findings of the report pointed out that there is a North-South divide, with the southern states having fared much better.

97. National Climate Vulnerability Assessment Report

- The report, titled 'Climate Vulnerability Assessment for Adaptation Planning in India Using a Common Framework' was released by the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
- It identifies the most vulnerable states, districts and panchayats in India with respect to current climate risk and key drivers of vulnerability.
- It was coordinated by the Climate Change Program of SPLICE Division of the DST in partnership with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Embassy of Switzerland.
- [SPLICE - Strategic Programs, Large Initiatives and Coordinated Action Enabler]
- It was part of a capacity building programme under the National Mission on Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem and National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change.

Findings

- The report revealed that eight Indian states - Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Mizoram, Odisha, Assam, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh and West Bengal - are highly vulnerable to climate change.
- Key vulnerability drivers are lack of forest area per 100 rural population, low road density, poor health infrastructure, lack of implementation of MGNREGA, lack of women's participation in workforce, among others.
- Among all states, Assam, Bihar and Jharkhand have over 60% districts in the category of highly vulnerable districts.
- **States with lower-middle vulnerability** - Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, Sikkim and Punjab.
- **States with low vulnerability** - Uttarakhand, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Nagaland, Goa and Maharashtra.

- **Uses** - The report will aid in prioritising adaptation investment, developing and implementing adaptation programmes by the states.
- The assessments can further be used for India's reporting on the Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement. They will support India's National Action Plan on Climate Change.

98. Climate Change Performance Index

- CCPI is published annually by Environment think tank Germanwatch since 2005.
- It is an independent monitoring tool for tracking countries' climate protection performance.
- It compares the climate protection performance of 57 countries and the European Union (EU), which are together responsible for more than 90% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- India, for the second time in a row ranked among the top 10, along with the EU and the UK. It scored 63.98 points out of 100.
- It received high ratings on all CCPI indicators except 'renewable energy', where it was categorised as having a 'medium' performance.
- The index found that no country was doing enough to meet the goals of the 2015 Paris Agreement.
- Six G20 countries were ranked among very low performers.
- The United States, with a rank of 61, was the worst performer.

99. India Energy Outlook 2021

- This report - released by the International Energy Agency (IEA) - has forecasted that India will overtake the European Union as the world's third-largest energy consumer by 2030.
- [At present, India is the 4th-largest global energy consumer behind China, the US and the European Union.]
- It is based on the forecast that India accounts for the biggest share of energy demand growth over the next two decades.
- India's primary energy consumption would double as the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) expands to USD 8.6 trillion by 2040.
- India accounts for one-quarter of global energy demand growth from 2019-40 - the largest for a country.
- Its share in the growth in renewable energy is the second-largest in the world, after China.

100. India's Energy Needs Report

- According to recent findings on energy needs Less than 3% of India's energy needs met by hydro, solar, wind and nuclear sources
- More than 54%* of India's energy needs were met by coal production in FY19.
- Over 97%* of energy needs were served by fossil fuels: coal, crude oil, oil products and natural gas.
- Energy consumption includes electricity and transport.
- The calculations are done after converting all the energy sources into a solitary unit: a Tonne of Oil Equivalent.
- One tonne of oil equivalent is equal to the energy released by burning one tonne of crude oil (=11.63 megawatt-hours).

101. Ease of Living Index 2020

- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs released the final rankings of Ease of Living Index (EoLI) 2020.
- It is aimed at providing a holistic view of Indian cities based on
 1. The services provided by local bodies,
 2. The effectiveness of the administration,



3. The outcomes generated through these services in terms of the liveability within cities
 4. The citizen perception of these outcomes.
- The Index categorises the cities into,
 1. Million+ populated cities (Population of more than a million) - **Bengaluru** (Top), Pune, Ahmedabad, Chennai, etc.,
 2. Less than Million populated cities (Population of less than a million) - **Shimla** (Top), Bhubaneswar, Silvassa, etc.,
 3. All the cities under the Smart Cities Program.
 - EoLI is an assessment tool that evaluates the quality of life and the impact of various initiatives for urban development.
 - The framework for this assessment was prepared by MoHUA with the Institute for Competitiveness as the knowledge partner.
 - It measures the Indians' well-being in 111 cities based on Quality of Life, Economic-ability, and Sustainability - 49 indicators under 13 categories.
 - It incorporates the residents' view on the city administration's services through a Citizen Perception Survey (CPS) - 30% weightage.
 - It seeks to accelerate India's urban development outcomes, including the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.