

CURRENT AFFAIRS

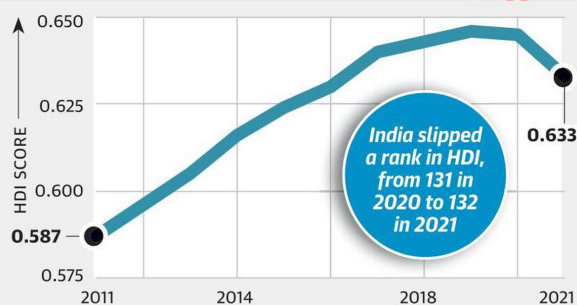
9th Sep. 2022

UNDP'S HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX: INDIA RANKS 132 OUT OF 191 COUNTRIES

- A report on the 2021 **Human Development Index (HDI)** is part of the Human Development Report 2021-2022 released by the United Nations Development Programme.
- The HDI measures the average achievement of a country in three basic dimensions of human development — a long and healthy life, education and a decent standard of living.
- It is calculated using four indicators — life expectancy at birth, mean years of schooling, expected years of schooling, and the Gross National Income (GNI) per capita.

Development declines

India's score in Human Development Index (HDI) dropped from 0.645 in 2020 to 0.633 in 2021, according to the latest UNDP report. **The chart shows India's HDI score in the past 10 years**



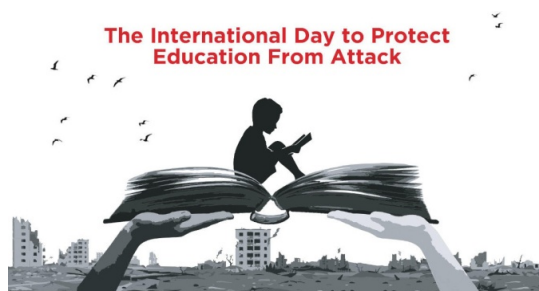
Indian Scenario

- India ranked 132nd among 191 countries and territories on the 2021 Human Development Index (HDI). In the 2020 report, India had ranked 131st among 189 countries and territories. The decline in the country's performance from its previous level was on account of a fall in life expectancy.
- **Among India's neighbours, Sri Lanka (73rd), China (79th), Bangladesh (129th), and Bhutan (127th) are ranked above India, while Pakistan (161st), Nepal (143rd), and Myanmar (149th) are worse off.** The report said around 90 per cent of countries registered a decline in their HDI value in 2020 or in 2021.

INTERNATIONAL DAY TO PROTECT EDUCATION FROM ATTACK: 09th SEPTEMBER

The International Day to Protect Education from Attack is an international observance established by a unanimous decision of **the United Nations General Assembly in 2020**. It is observed on September 9 of each year. The purpose of the day is to raise awareness regarding the importance of safeguarding schools as places of protection and safety for students and educators and the need to keep education at the top of the public agenda.

The International Day to Protect Education From Attack



HUKBALAHAP REBELLION

Hukbalahap Rebellion also called Huk Rebellion, (1946–54), Communist-led peasant uprising in central Luzon, Philippines. The name of the movement is a Tagalog acronym for Hukbo ng Bayan Laban sa Hapon, which means "People's Anti-Japanese Army." The Huks came close to victory in 1950 but were subsequently defeated by a combination of advanced U.S. weaponry supplied to the Philippine government and administrative reforms under the



charismatic Philippine president Ramon Magsaysay.

National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)

- National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), launched in 2019, is India's flagship program for better air quality in 122 cities.
- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) to modify the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) which proposes 20-30% reduction of air pollution by 2024.

BY 2024, POLLUTION CUT BY 30%

NATIONAL CLEAN AIR PROGRAMME (NCAP)

Cities to be covered: 102

GOAL: To meet annual average ambient air quality standards

MID-TERM (5 YEARS) TARGET: Reducing air pollution by 20-30% by 2024, taking 2017 as base year

HOW: Through city-specific air pollution abatement action plan

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AGENCIES: World Bank, German development agency (GIZ), AFD (French funding agency), Swiss Development Corporation, Bloomberg Philanthropies

BUILD CAPACITY BY SETTING UP:

- 1 National emission inventory
- 2 Air Information Centre for data analysis
- 3 Source apportionment studies
- 4 Guidelines for indoor air pollution
- 5 Rural monitoring stations

Key Points Of NCAP

- It was launched by the MoEFCC in January 2019.
- It is the first-ever effort in the country to frame a national framework for air quality management with a time-bound reduction target.
- It seeks to cut the concentration of coarse (particulate matter of diameter 10 micrometer or less, or PM10) and fine particles (particulate matter of diameter 2.5 micrometer or less, or PM2.5) by at least 20% in the next five years, with 2017 as the base year for comparison.
- The plan includes 102 non-attainment cities, across 23 states and Union territories, which were identified by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on the basis of their ambient air quality data between 2011 and 2015.
- Non-attainment cities: These are those that have fallen short of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for over five years.

About NGT

National Green Tribunal

- It is a specialised body set up under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources.
- It draws inspiration from India's constitutional provision of Article 21, which assures the citizens of India the right to a healthy environment.
- Original Jurisdiction: It is related to matters of "substantial question relating to the environment" and "damage to the environment due to specific activity".
- It follows principles of Natural Justice.
- NGT is mandated to make disposal of applications or appeals finally within 6 months of filing the same.
- The NGT has five places of sittings, New Delhi is the Principal place of sitting and Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai are the other four.

India & UK conducts Counter Ransomware Exercise for 26 Nations

- National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) of India and the UK Government in collaboration with BAE Systems have successfully designed & conducted the Cyber Security Exercise for 26 Countries.
- **Aim:** To simulate a large, wide-spread cyber security incident affecting organisations within a country.



- It is a part of the International Counter Ransomware Initiative- Resilience Working Group.
- This initiative is being led by India under the leadership of NCSC.
- The theme of the exercise is based on Energy Sector in which the respective National Cyber Crisis Management Teams of the CRI Partner Nations will have to deal with a ransomware attack on multiple electricity distribution companies. These companies are responsible for the distribution of electricity to domestic customers and are the last link to the public supply. The exercise explores the complexity of decision-making around response to ransomware on Critical National Infrastructure.
- There are over 26 invitees, from CRI Partner Nations and their respective organisations; including Cyber Security, National Crisis Management, National Security Policy, Critical National Infrastructure, and Law Enforcement Agencies.
- The aim to organise this virtual Cyber Exercise on Ransomware Resilience is to simulate a large, wide-spread cyber security incident affecting organisations within a country. This exercise has been designed to support the mission of the CRI, and aims to allow participating CRI Members to test their capability to respond to a major ransomware incident; Demonstrates the benefit of sharing information and collaborating during a major incident; provide opportunities for the CRI Nations to share their approaches to countering ransomware.