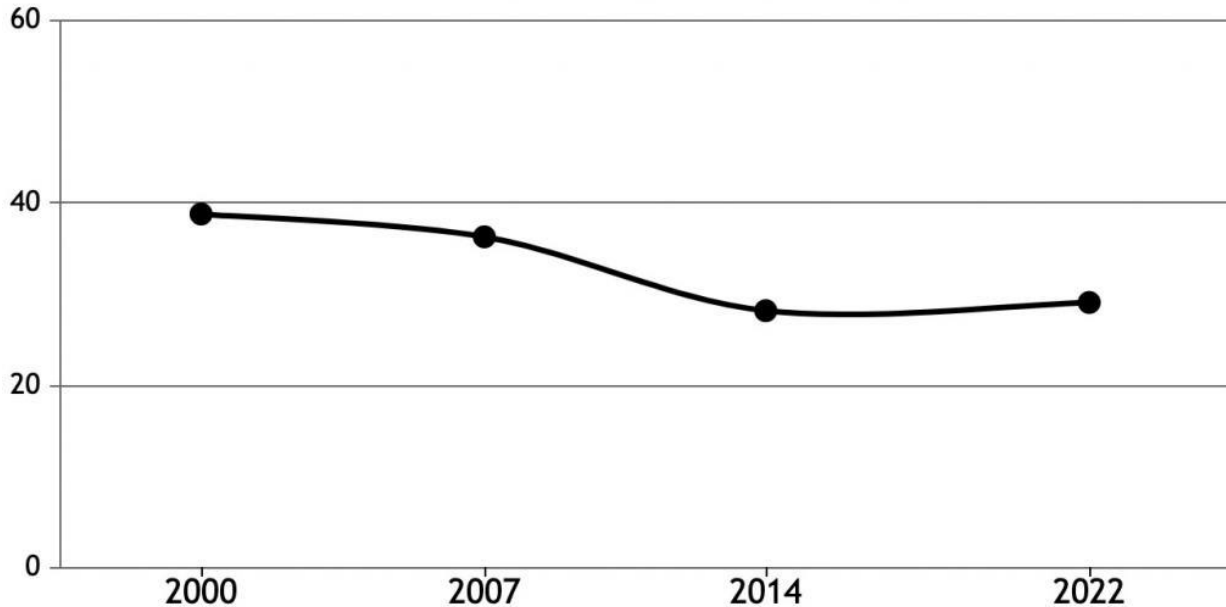


1. Global Hunger Index

Topic: Reports and Indices

GHI Score Trend for India



In News: India ranked 107 out of 121 countries in the Global Hunger Index 2022 with its child wasting rate at 19.3 per cent, being the highest in the world.

More on the Topic:

- With a score of 29.1, the level of hunger in India has been labelled "serious".
- **Undernourishment prevalence rose in India from 14.6 per cent in 2018-2020 to 16.3 per cent in 2019-2021.** This translates into 224.3 million people in India being undernourished out of the total 828 million people globally.
- **Child wasting which is a strong predictor of mortality among children under five years of age also worsened** from 15.1 per cent in 2012-16 to 19.3 per cent in 2017-21.
- India, however, **noted improvement in two parameters of child stunting from 38.7 per cent in 2012-16 to 35.5 per cent in 2017-21 and child mortality from 4.6 per cent in 2014 to 3.3 per cent in 2020.**
- In Asia, Afghanistan with a rank of 109 is the only country behind India. All other neighbouring countries have fared better than India.

Global Scenario:

- Africa South of Sahara and South Asia have highest hunger levels and are most vulnerable to future shocks and crises
- The world is facing a serious setback in efforts to end hunger with conflict, the climate crisis and the economic consequences of the **COVID-19 pandemic, compounded by the war in Ukraine - are major drivers of hunger.**

- The report warned that the situation is expected to deteriorate further as global crises overlap.

Solutions:

- It is importance to consider **the subnational context when designing programs and policies** to target child stunting.
- It is important to improve the coverage of health and nutrition interventions and household conditions (such as socioeconomic status and food security)
- Focussing on maternal factors (such as mothers' health and education) will also play an important role.

About Global Hunger Index:

- GHI is published by **Concern Worldwide (international humanitarian organization) and Welthungerhilfe (private aid organisation in Germany)**.
- The GHI is calculated based on four key indicators to gauge and track hunger at global, regional, and national levels. These indicators are **undernourishment, child stunting, child wasting and child mortality**.

Source: Indian Express

2. Manipur Government Policy on Population

Topic: Polity and Governance



In News: Manipur has followed Assam in restricting the number of children for a family to be eligible for government jobs or beneficiary schemes.

More on the Topic:

- Several other states such as Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat etc have similar laws aimed at controlling population.
- According to the 2022 edition of the United Nations' World Population Prospects (WPP), India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country in 2023. India is

currently at a stage of demographic transition with a substantial percentage of the youth population.

Arguments Favouring Population Control:

- More people means an **increased demand for food, water, housing, energy, healthcare, transportation, and more.**
- And all that consumption contributes to **ecological degradation, increased conflicts, and a higher risk of large-scale disasters like pandemics.**
- Unfortunately, the “average person” at any part of on Earth consumes at a rate over 50% above a sustainable level.

Arguments Against Population Control:


- India is a country with a booming technology industry, one that relies on young people.
- There is a fear that **restrictions on having children will produce a shortage of the educated young people needed to carry on India’s technological revolution.**
- Most importantly, there is increasing evidence that India’s birth rate is slowing down to sustainable levels.
- In 2000, the fertility rate was still a relatively high 3.3 children per woman. **By 2016, that number had already fallen to 3 children.**
- Furthermore, **India’s economy was growing 6% per year in the years leading up to 2019, more than enough to support modest population growth.**
- **Desire for male children** could lead to unsafe abortions and female feticide. Penalising vulnerable section because of their inability to afford contraceptives or abortion

Source: Indian Express

3. ABO Incompatible Transplants

Topic: Science and Technology

TACKLING INCOMPATIBILITY

<p>➤ In ABO-incompatible kidney transplant, the kidney of a donor can be transplanted to recipient regardless of blood type, which otherwise can't be done due to immune response</p>		<p>are removed through plasmapheresis. Drugs are given to suppress immune response</p> <p>➤ Normal live donor kidney transplant costs ₹2.5-3 lakh in RMLIMS. ABO-incompatible will cost ₹5-6 lakh</p> <p>➤ Hospital stay in a normal kidney transplant is 14-16 days, while it is about a month in ABO</p>
<p>➤ Antibodies present in blood attack transplanted kidneys if the blood types of donor and recipient are different</p> <p>➤ In ABO-incompatible transplant, antibodies</p>		

In News: Manipal Hospital, Yeshwanthpur, became the first hospital to complete 27 ABO-incompatible kidney transplants in Karnataka.

More on the Topic:

- ABO-incompatible transplant is done when blood types of the receiver and donor are different, and therefore, incompatible.
- Such a transplant becomes very complex. **However, medical advancements over the years have made it possible to conduct such surgeries with success.**
- If there is a mismatch in the blood of donor and recipient, antibodies in recipient's body reject transplanted organs.
- In ABO-incompatible transplant, these antibodies are removed through **plasmapheresis**.
- Plasmapheresis is a method of **removing blood plasma from the body by withdrawing blood, separating it into plasma and cells, and transfusing the cells back into the bloodstream.** It is performed usually to remove antibodies in treating autoimmune conditions.
- The patient is given adequate medication pre and post the transplant to reduce the level of antibodies in the blood, which decreases chances of rejection of the organ.

Source: Hindu

4.Grameen Udyami Project

Topic: Government Schemes



In News: The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) recognised 165 students under the second phase of the Grameen Udyami Project.

More on the Topic:

- In order **to promote skill development in tribal communities for inclusive and sustainable growth**, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India is running the Grameen Udyami Project.
- Students were upskilled and acquired multiple skills as part of the drive to improve their employability.

- Additionally, it emphasises creating jobs for the local and rural economies.
- The candidates are receiving training in occupations such as organic farming, mushroom cultivation, IT/ITeS with e-governance, electrician and solar PV installation technician.

Source: PIB

5. Interpol Red Notice

Topic: International Relations



In News: Interpol has sent back India's request to issue a Red Notice against Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) founder Gurpatwant Singh Pannun. Pannun has been declared as an 'individual terrorist' under the fourth schedule of India's Unlawful Activities Prevention Amendment Act.

More on the Topic:

- The International Criminal Police Organization, commonly known as Interpol, is an international organization that facilitates worldwide police cooperation and crime control.
- Interpol was founded on September 7, 1923, at the close of the five-day 1923 Congress session in Vienna as the International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC).
- Interpol provides investigative support, expertise, and training to law enforcement worldwide, focusing on three major areas of transnational crime: terrorism, cybercrime, and organized crime.
- **Red Notices (RN) or Red Corner Notice are issued for fugitives wanted either for prosecution or to serve a sentence.**
- An RN is a request to law enforcement worldwide to locate and provisionally arrest a person pending extradition, surrender, or similar legal action.

Source: Business Standard

6. Sloth Bear

Topic: Environment and Ecology



In News: The first-ever World Sloth Bear Day celebrations were held by Wildlife SOS in Agra in collaboration with the IUCN and the UP Forest Department.

More on the Topic:

- Sloth bear is a **unique bear species found in India.**
- It is the least researched bear species and is **listed as ‘vulnerable’ on the IUCN Red List.**
- Wildlife SOS India involved in sloth bear protection, rescue and rehabilitation for over two decades, in collaboration with IUCN, has declared October 12 as ‘World Sloth Bear Day’ to promote the conservation and protection of this unique bear species.
- **They are endemic to the Indian sub-continent with small populations in Nepal and Sri Lanka.**

Source: Business Standard

7. Just Energy Transition Partnership

Topic: International Relations



In News: India has opposed the G7 nations’ plan of persuading India to start negotiations on a Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP).

More on the Topic:



- It is an initiative of the rich nations to accelerate phasing out of coal and reducing emissions.
- **The Power Ministry has refused to give its consent to the negotiations so far, as it argues that coal cannot be singled out as a polluting fuel, and energy transition talks need to take place on equal terms.**
- According to India's updated NDC, it stands committed to reduce the emission intensity of its GDP by 45 per cent by 2030, from 2005 level and achieve about 50 per cent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030.

Source: Business Standard
