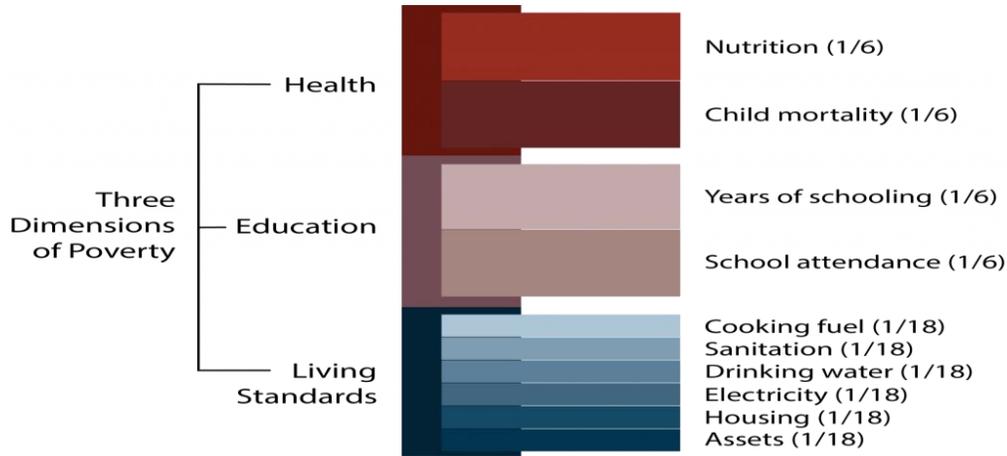


1. Multidimensional Poverty Index

Topic: Reports and Indices



In News: Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2022 was released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI).

More on the Topic:

- Across 111 countries which were assessed using the most recent comparable data available, **1.2 billion people (19.1 per cent) live in acute poverty**
- **Almost half of these people (593 million) are children under the age of 18 years.**
- The developing region with the **largest number of poor people is Sub-Saharan Africa (nearly 579 million)**, followed by South Asia (385 million).
- The population groups which were impacted by poverty higher saw a more rapid fall in the MPI score. Children from the age group of 0 to 17 years, saw the fastest reduction in their MPI scores.

India Specific Findings:

- India still has the world's highest number of poor at 228.9 million, followed by Nigeria (96.7 million projected in 2020).
- India is the only country in South Asia where female-headed households are poorer than male-headed households.
- Bihar continues to be the poorest state in the country. Others among the top 10 poorest states were Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Arunachal Pradesh and Rajasthan.
- West Bengal was the only state among the top-10 poorest in India in 2015-16, and not in 2019-21.
- The poor in India remain vulnerable amid rising food and fuel prices.

India Specific Findings:

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- The report indicated India's performance in lifting the poor out of poverty. **In the last 15 years, it lifted over 41.5 crore people out of poverty.** About Multi Dimensional Poverty Index:

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- The report indicated India's performance in lifting the poor out of poverty. **In the last 15 years, it lifted over 41.5 crore people out of poverty.**
- The Multidimensional Poverty Index **looks at poverty in a holistic manner, rather than as a simple outcome of income levels.** The MPI thus measures a person's deprivations across 10 indicators in three dimensions — health, education, and standard of living. All the sections are equally weighted.

Source: Indian Express

2. Debts recovery tribunals (DRTs)

Topic: Economy



In News: The government has created exclusive benches to deal with cases above ₹100 crore at debts recovery tribunals (DRTs) in Chennai, Mumbai and Delhi, agreeing to a long-standing demand by banks to get more focus on high-value cases.

More on the Topic:

- The The Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) and Debts Recovery Appellate Tribunals (DRATs) were established under **the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act (RDB Act),**



1993 with the specific objective of providing expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions.

- At present, 39 Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) and 5 Debts Recovery Appellate Tribunals (DRATs) are functioning across the country.
- Each DRT and DRAT are headed by a Presiding Officer and a Chairperson respectively.

Mandates of Debt Recovery Tribunal:

- The Debt Recovery Tribunal enforces the **RDB Act, 1993, and the SARFAESI ACT, 2002.**
- The DRT has to resolve the claim within six months. An appeal against the order of the DRT can be made to the DRAT within 45 days of the judgment
- DRTs are empowered to **pass comprehensive orders that can travel beyond civil procedures to render complete justice.** They can also hear cross-suit counterclaims and allow set-offs.
- However, **it cannot listen to claims of damages, deficiency of service, breach of contract, or criminal negligence on the lender's part.**
- **DRTs have the power to examine their own decisions.** They can also hear appeals against orders passed by their Recovery Officers.
- Debt Recovery Tribunals can now also consider **cases of bankruptcy from individuals and unlimited liability partnerships under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code.**

Source: Indian Express

3. The Parliamentary Committee on Official Language



Topic: Polity and Governance

In News: Parliamentary Committee on Official Language has submitted its report recently.

More on the Topic:



- The committee has recommended the removal of English as one of the languages in examinations held for recruitment to the Central services.
- It has stated that the requisite knowledge of Hindi among candidates should also be ensured.
- English, as a medium of instruction in all technical and non-technical institutions, will be permitted only where it is absolutely essential, as the idea is to replace the language gradually with Hindi in those institutions.
- While IITs, IIMs and All India Institute of Medical Sciences are considered technical institutions, Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas fall under the other category.
- High Courts in non-Hindi speaking states, where proceedings are recorded in English or a regional language, must make translations available in Hindi since they are often cited in judgements.
- Government officials and other employees in the central government not using Hindi in Hindi-speaking states will face consequences in the Annual Performance Assessment Report (APAR).
- If imposed, these rules will be applicable only in states where Hindi is the official language.
- States like Tamil Nadu and Kerala are exempted under The Official Languages Act, 1963 and the Rules and Regulations (of the Act), 1976.

About Official Language Committee:

- The Official Language Committee, headed by the Union Home Minister, was set up **to review and promote the use of Hindi language in official communication**, as mandated by Article 351 of the Indian Constitution.
- It was constituted in **1976 under Section 4 of The Official Languages Act, 1963** The first report of the Committee was submitted in 1987.

Source: Hindu

4. Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana-‘Mukhyamantri Amrutam (PMJAY-MA)

Topic: Government Schemes



Mukhyamantri Amrutum Yojana
(MA Yojana)



In News: Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana-⁴ Mukhyamantri Amrutam (PMJAY-MA) beneficiaries in Gujarat (a Gujarat government Scheme) will be provided with Ayushman Cards.

More on the Topic:

- As the then Chief Minister of Gujarat, Prime Minister had started the “Mukhyamantri Amrutam (MA)” scheme in 2012 to protect poor citizens from the catastrophic costs of medical treatment and illness.
- In the year 2014, “MA” Yojana was extended to cover those families who are having an annual income limit of Rs. 4 lakh.
- Later, this scheme was extended to several other groups as well. The scheme was rebranded as Mukhyamantri Amrutam Vatsalya (MAV) Yojana.
- The scheme is considered as the inspiration behind Ayushmann Bharat Yojana.

Source: PIB

5. Grievance Redressal Index



Topic: Polity and Governance

In News: The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has topped Grievance redressal Index.

More on the Topic:

- The Index ranks all Group A Ministries, Departments and Autonomous Bodies for resolving public grievances.

- The report is published by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances **Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS):**

- Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) is **an initiative of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG).**
- It is an online platform available to the citizens 24x7 to lodge their grievances to the public authorities on any subject related to service delivery.
- It is a single portal connected to all the Ministries/Departments of Government of India and States.
- CPGRAMS also provides appeal facility to the citizens if they are not satisfied with the resolution by the Grievance Officer.
- After closure of grievance if the complainant is not satisfied with the resolution, he/she can provide feedback. If the rating is 'Poor' the option to file an appeal is enabled.

What is UIDAI?

- UIDAI was founded in 2009 but became a statutory body in 2016 under the Aadhar act.
- It is mandated to assign a 12-digit unique identification (UID) number (Aadhaar) to all the residents of India.
- It comes under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.

Source: Business Standard

6. Forex Exchange Reserves

Topic: Economy



In News: India's forex reserves have tumbled to around \$530 bn from a peak of \$642 billion in September last year.

More on the Topic:

- Two reasons are sighted as the reason for the fall of Forex reserves.

- **Fall in the value of holdings in dollars** and other currencies by RBI.
- Central bank's intervention in the currency market to protect the rupee.

Possible Impacts:

- It may lead to **Widening Current Account deficit**.
- **Balance of payment crisis is expected:** Volatile Capital flows, economists expect the balance of payments to be negative, depleting reserves further.
- While reserves at current levels are adequate to cover more than eight months of imports, a fall below eight months of import cover (about \$500 billion) could start catching the market's attention.

Possible Measures to Mitigate the challenge:

- The RBI had announced measures to **liberalise foreign exchange inflows, including giving foreign investors access to a larger portion of government debt and banks wider room to raise more deposits from non-residents**.
- **Strengthening structural natural buffers is also important**.
- **Floating sovereign bonds**, like the Resurgent India bonds (RIBs) and India Millennium Deposit bonds (IMDs) in the past will help boost forex reserves.

Source: Business Standard

7.Aluminium Freight Train Rake

Topic: Science and Technology



In News: First indigenously manufactured aluminium freight train rake has been inducted into Railways.

More on the Topic:

- A rake in a train is a line of coupled passenger coaches, freight wagons, or railcars (excluding the locomotive) that typically move together. One rake can have around 40



to 58 wagons attached to it. A rake in a train is a line of coupled passenger coaches, freight wagons, or railcars (excluding the locomotive) that typically move together. One rake can have around 40 to 58 wagons attached to it. received the award at the International Association of Horticulture Producers (AIPH) 2022.

- Rakes were made up of Aluminium before.
- Aluminium rakes have the following advantages:
- It is more Lighter and aides in More speed, lower energy consumption and higher freight-carrying capacity
- It also causes lower CO2 footprint
- It is 100 percentage Recyclable.

Source: Business Standard
