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1. Mukesh Ambani becomes richest sports owner in Forbes Billionaire 2023 list (April 6, 2023)

Mukesh Ambani was named the richest sports owner

Mukesh Ambani was named the richest sports owner in the **Forbes Billionaires 2023 list** and according to the list, he has a **net worth of \$83.4 billion**, surpassing **Los Angeles Clippers owner Steve Ballmer** who has a **net worth of \$80.7 billion**.

An Overview of the News

- **Despite a 3% decline in Reliance Industries' share price** over the past year, Ambani's net worth has still grown, reflecting the strength and diversity of his business interests.
- Mukesh Ambani is the **world's richest sports owner** as of 10 March 2023.
- Ambani-owned Reliance Industries has been expanding its presence in the sports industry in recent years.
- The company bought a franchise in the inaugural Women's Premier League and **owns cricket teams in South Africa and the United Arab Emirates**.

5 richest sports team owners

1. **Mukesh Ambani:** With a net worth of \$83.4 billion, Mukesh Ambani is the owner of the world's richest sports team. He is a citizen of India and is the owner of the Mumbai Indians, a cricket team that competes in the Indian Premier League.
2. **Steve Ballmer:** The former CEO of Microsoft, Steve Ballmer is an American citizen who owns the Los Angeles Clippers, a professional basketball team. His net worth has been estimated at \$80.7 billion.
3. **Rob Walton:** Heir to the Walmart fortune, Rob Walton is an American citizen who owns the Denver Broncos, a professional football team. His net worth has been estimated at \$57.6 billion.
4. **François Pinault and Family:** François Pinault is a French billionaire who owns Stade Rennais F.C., a professional football team in France. are the owners of. His net worth has been estimated at \$40.1 billion.
5. **Mark Mateschitz:** is an Austrian businessman who owns several sports teams, including professional football and Formula One racing teams, the New York Red Bulls and Red Bull Racing, respectively. He is also the owner of the German professional football team RB Leipzig. His net worth has been estimated at \$34.7 billion.

2. India Justice Report 2022 : Karnataka tops states, UTs in providing access to justice (April 5, 2023)

India Justice Report 2022

According to the **India Justice Report 2022** released in New Delhi on April 4, **Karnataka tops the list** of states and Union Territories in providing access to justice.

Parameters - This study relies on overall statistics from four pillars of justice delivery:

- Police
- Judiciary
- Prisons
- Legal aid

Highlights of the report

Shortage of Judges

- According to the report, as of **December 2022**, the **high courts were functioning with only 778 judges** as against the **sanctioned strength of 1,108**.
- The **subordinate courts** were functioning with **19,288 judges** as against the **sanctioned strength of 24,631 judges**.

Case Clearance Rate (CCR)

- As per reports, the **High Courts are settling more cases than the subordinate courts**.
- Between 2018-19 and 2022, the national average increased by **six percentage points (88.5% to 94.6%)** in **high courts**, but decreased by **3.6 points (93% to 89.4%)** in **subordinate courts**.
- The **High Courts of Kerala and Odisha have the highest case disposal rates** - 156% and 131%, respectively - while the **High Courts of Rajasthan (65%) and Bombay (72%)** have the lowest, respectively.

Increasing Pendency

- The number of cases per judgment has been **relatively stable** over the past five years in most states.
- At the High Court level, cases are **pending for an average of 11.34 years in Uttar Pradesh**, while West Bengal has a delay of 9.9 years. **Tripura has the lowest average (1 year), Sikkim (1.9 years) and Meghalaya (2.1 years)**.

Performance of States

- **Karnataka ranks first among 18 large and medium-sized states** with a population of over one crore in terms of delivery of justice, which includes police, judiciary, prisons and legal aid.
- **Tamil Nadu is second and Telangana is third**. **Uttar Pradesh is at the 18th position**, which is at the bottom.

- Among small states, **Sikkim topped the list of seven small states** with less than one crore population, followed by **Arunachal Pradesh**. **Goa** is at the bottom, at seventh position.

Court Hall

- Nationwide, the number of courts appears to be sufficient to accommodate the actual number of judges.
- But as per reports if all the sanctioned posts are filled, the court hall will become an issue.

About India Justice Report

- **Tata Trusts launched the India Justice Report (IJR) in 2019.**
- This is the **third edition**.
- Center for Social Justice, Common Cause, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, Daksh, TISS-Prayas, Vidhi Institute for Law Policy, and How India Lives, data partner of IJR, are among its partners.

3. 26 % of world's population does not have safe drinking water: UNESCO report (March 24, 2023)

26 % of world's population does not have safe drinking water: UNESCO report

According to a report published by **UNESCO at the United Nations 2023** Water Conference in New York, **26 percent of the world's population does not have access to safe drinking water.**

An overview of the news

- As per the report, **46 per cent of the population does not have access to safely managed sanitation.**
- According to the report, **two to three billion people** experience **water scarcity for at least one month per year**, which poses serious risks to livelihoods, especially **food security and access to electricity.**
- The global urban population facing water scarcity will double from **930 million in 2016 to 1.7 to 2.4 billion in 2050.**
- The report states that the increasing incidence of extreme and prolonged drought is affecting **ecosystems, causing severe consequences for plant and animal life.**
- There is an urgent need to establish strong international mechanisms to prevent the global water crisis from spiraling out of control.

UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization)

- It is a specialized agency of the **United Nations**.
- It was established on **16 November 1945**.
- Headquarters: **Paris, France**
- UNESCO members - **193 countries**
- UNESCO Head - **Audrey Azoulay**

4. World Happiness Report 2023 (March 24, 2023)

World Happiness Report 2023

Recently the **11th edition of the World Happiness Report, 2023** was released by the **United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)**.

An overview of the news

- The report says that between **2020 and 2022, the world will see a 'significant' increase in resilience**.
- Two significant events affected the world during this period - **the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine**.
- According to the report, during this time of **crisis, global citizens became increasingly philanthropic and built stronger social ties**.
- There are **25 percent more "charitable acts"** worldwide in 2022 than before the pandemic.

Key Highlight of the report

Top Performing Countries

- **Finland continues to be the happiest country** around the world for the **sixth consecutive year**.
- **Denmark is at number two**, followed by **Iceland at number three**.

Worst Performing Countries

- **Afghanistan** is ranked as the **unhappiest nation**, followed by **Lebanon, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe respectively**.

India's Performance

- **India ranks 126 out of 136 countries**, making it one of the least happy countries in the world.
- **In 2022, India was ranked 136 out of 146 countries.**
- India's neighbors ranked **Sri Lanka (63), China (74) and Pakistan (108)**, among others.

About World Happiness Report

- It has been **published annually since 2012** by the **United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network**.
- The ranking uses key factors to measure happiness - **real GDP per capita, social support, healthy life expectancy, generosity and perceptions of corruption**.
- The report ranks global happiness based on survey data from people in **more than 150 countries**.

5. QS World University Rankings : IIT Bombay ranks first in country in Engineering and Technology (March 23, 2023)

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay has been ranked **1st in India and 47th globally in engineering and technology** by the **QS World University Rankings** for 2023.

India in Ranking

- IIT Bombay **scored 80.4 out of 100**.
- The institute is ranked in **4 out of 5 broad subject areas**, which include **Engineering & Technology, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences & Management and Arts & Humanities**.
- The institute has been ranked (51-100) for Art and Design, 66th for Computer Science & Information Technology, 51-100 for Civil & Structural Engineering, 77th for Chemical Engineering, 54th for Electrical & Electronics Engineering, 68th for Mechanical, Aeronautical & Manufacturing Engineering, and 37th for Minerals & Mining.

Global Ranking

- Globally, **US institutions** lead in **32 disciplines**.
- **Harvard University** is the **best-performing institution, ranking first in 14 subjects**, two more than last year.

6. Women and Men in India 2022 report (March 20, 2023)

The **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation** released the “**Women and Men in India 2022**” report on 15 March.

Findings of the Report

Sex Ratio

- The sex ratio at birth increased by three points from 904 in 2017-19 to 907 in 2018-20.
- India's sex ratio (females per 1,000 males) is expected to be 952 by 2036, up from 943 in 2011.

Population Growth

- Population growth, which fell from 2.2% in 1971 to 1.1% in 2021, is projected to decline to 0.58% in 2036.

Labor force Participation

- India's labor force participation rate for those over the age of 15 has been increasing since 2017-2018. Although women are far behind men.
- In 2021-22, the rate was 77.2 for men and 32.8 for women, with no improvement in this disparity.

Age of Sex Structure

- India's age and sex composition is expected to see a decline in the population under the age of 15 and an increase in the population over the age of 60 by 2036.

Fertility Rate

- The fertility rates for the age groups 20-24 years and 25-29 years declined from 135.4 and 166.0 to 113.6 and 139.6, respectively, between 2016 and 2020.
- This is likely due to economic independence from getting a proper education and securing a job.
- The same indicator for the 35-39 year age group increased from 32.7 in 2016 to 35.6 in 2020.

7. Lowest literacy rate in India found in Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh and Rajasthan: Ministry of Education (March 18, 2023)

Ministry of Education, Bihar has the lowest literacy rate in India at 61.8%, while Kerala has the highest at 94%.

According to the **Ministry of Education, Bihar** has the **lowest literacy rate in India at 61.8%**, while **Kerala has the highest at 94%**.

An Overview of the News

- Apart from Bihar, other states with low literacy rates are **Arunachal Pradesh at 65.3% and Rajasthan at 66.1%, while Lakshadweep with 91.85% and Mizoram with 91.33% follow Kerala.**
- The **literacy rate in rural India is 67.77%**, while the **literacy rate in urban areas is 84.11%.**

About Saakshar Bharat Scheme

- **Saakshar Bharat Yojana** was implemented in **rural areas of 404 districts of 26 states** and one union territory to improve the adult literacy rate. The program targets areas with a **female literacy rate of 50% or less as per the 2001 census.**
- The objective of the plan was **to raise the country's overall literacy rate to 80%** and reduce the **gender gap to 10% by the end of the Twelfth Five Year Plan.** The program was extended till March 31, 2018.
- The objective of the **Samagra Shiksha scheme** is to provide universal access and retention in education, bridge gender and social category gaps, and enhance learning levels from pre-school to senior secondary level.
- The Central Government assists the States and Union Territories in implementing the **Samagra Shiksha Yojana as a programme.**

8. World's eighth most polluted country according to Swiss firm IQAir report: India (March 16, 2023)

Swiss firm IQAir Report has released its 'World Air Quality Report'

Swiss firm IQAir Report has released its '**World Air Quality Report**', according to which India has moved up to the eighth position in the list of world's most polluted countries in 2022 as compared to **fifth position last year.**

An Overview of the News

- According to this report, **39 of the world's 50 most polluted cities are in India.**
- The top **10 most polluted countries** include **Chad, Iraq, Pakistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Kuwait, India, Egypt and Tajikistan.**
- According to it, the **transport sector is responsible for 20-35% of PM 2.5 pollution in India.**
- **Lahore in Pakistan and Hotan in China** are the **two most polluted cities in the world**, followed by **Bhiwadi in Rajasthan at the third place and Delhi at the fourth place.**
- **India** has been placed at the **eighth position** in the latest report with **PM2.5 level at 53.3.**

- According to this report, **India and Pakistan have the worst air quality in the Central and South Asian region**. About 60% of the population lives in areas where the concentration of PM2.5 particles is seven times higher than the WHO recommended levels.
- The report concludes that globally, one in 10 people live in an area where air pollution is a health risk.

About Air Pollution

- Air pollution can have significant impacts on both human health and the environment.
- The effects of air pollution vary depending on the type and concentration of pollutants, as well as the duration and frequency of exposure.
- On human health, air pollution can cause respiratory problems, such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, and lung cancer.
- It can also lead to cardiovascular diseases, stroke, and premature death.
- The elderly, children, and people with pre-existing medical conditions are particularly vulnerable to the health effects of air pollution.
- Air pollution also affects the environment, contributing to climate change and damaging ecosystems.
- Acid rain, for example, can harm forests, lakes, and aquatic life. Ground-level ozone, which is formed by the reaction of pollutants in the atmosphere, can damage crops and reduce agricultural yields.
- Air pollution can also contribute to global warming by trapping heat in the atmosphere and contributing to the greenhouse effect.

9. India world's largest arms importer: SIPRI report 2023 (March 15, 2023)

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's (SIPRI) 2023 report, India will become the world's leading arms importer in 2022.

According to the **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's (SIPRI) 2023 report, India will become the world's leading arms importer in 2022.**

News Overview

- According to this report, between the years 2013-17 and 2018-22, **India's arms imports have decreased by 11 percent.**
- According to the report's findings, over the past five years, the **US had the world's largest military expenditure**, accounting for **40%** of the global share, followed by **Russia (16%), and France (11%).**

About SIPRI

- The **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)** is a global non-profit research institute.
- SIPRI focuses on **resolving conflicts, controlling arms and promoting disarmament.**
- The institute provides data, analysis and advice regarding armed conflicts, military expenditure and the arms trade.
- Establishment - **6 May 1966**
- Founders - **Tage Erlander, Alva Myrdal**
- Chairman - **Stefan Lofven**
- Director - **Dan Smith**
- Headquarter - **Solna**

10. Globally, just 1 in 4 children covered by social protection: UN report (March 6, 2023)

According to the **United Nations (UN) report**, only **26.4 percent** of children aged **0-15 years** are protected by social protection, the remaining **73.6 percent** have to live in **poverty, exclusion and multidimensional deprivation.**

Key findings of the report

- **2.4 billion** children in the world need adequate **social protection.**
- **About 1.77 billion children** aged 0-18 years do not have access to household cash benefits, a fundamental pillar of the social protection system.
- **One billion children** live in **multidimensional poverty** without access to **education, health, housing, nutrition, sanitation or clean water.**
- Children with disabilities or children living with a family member with disabilities are more **vulnerable to poverty.**
- Social protection policies are powerful tools for reducing poverty for children and their families.
- Social protection can also protect children from other greater risks such as **child labor and forced labor.**

India in the report

- The report states that **31 states in India** have implemented the national '**PM Cares for Children**' scheme.
- So far **only 4,302 children** have received assistance from the scheme.

