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1. India overtakes China to become the world's most populous country (April 19. 2023)

India has overtaken China as the world's most populous country, according to United Nations data released on April 19.

An overview of the news

- According to UN data India's population is 142.86 crore while China's population is 142.57 crores.
- According to a new report by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), 25
 per cent of India's population is between the age group of 0-14 years.
- The population between the age group of 10-19 years is 18 percent
- The population in the age group of 10-24 years is 26 percent.
- The population in the age group of 15-64 years is 68 percent and the population above 65 years is 7 percent.
- According to experts, the **demographics of India differ from state to state.**
- Kerala and Punjab have a large elderly population, while Bihar and Uttar Pradesh have a large youth population.
- According to several studies conducted by various agencies, India's population is expected to grow for about three decades before reaching a peak of 165 crores. After that it will start declining.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

- A **subsidiary organ of the UN General Assembly** and works as a sexual and reproductive health agency.
- Established in 1967.
- In 1987, it was officially renamed the **United Nations Population Fund.**
- The original abbreviation, 'UNFPA' for the United Nations Fund for Population Activities was retained.
- Report State of World Population Report.

2. India ranked 77th in the world's 'Most Criminal Countries' ranking (April 13, 2023)

World of Statistics released the ranking of the world's "most criminal countries" in which India is ranked 77th, while the US is at 55th and the UK at 65th.

An Overview of the News

- As per the ranking, Venezuela has been ranked first as the most criminal country, followed by Papua New Guinea in second place and South Africa in third place.
- Turkey, Germany and Japan are among the least criminal countries, ranked 92nd, 100th and 135th respectively.
- According to this report, **Afghanistan ranks fourth with a crime rate of more than 76 crimes per 100,000 people.**
- The overall crime rate is calculated by dividing the total number of reported crimes by the total population and multiplying by 100,000.

Countries with the ten highest crime rates

- **Venezuela** (83.76)
- Papua New Guinea (80.79)
- **South Africa** (76.86)
- **Afghanistan** (76.31)
- **Honduras** (74.54)
- Trinidad and Tobago (71.63)
- **Guyana** (68.74)
- **El Salvador** (67.79)
- **Brazil** (67.49)
- Jamaica (67.42)

3. Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport enters the busiest airports club, ranks 9 in world (April 7, 2023)

Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport enters the busiest airports club, ranks 9 in world

Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) ranks ninth in the list of top ten busiest airports in the world, according to data from the Airports Council International (ACI).

An overview of the news

- For the first time, an Indian airport has made it to the list of top ten airports in terms of traffic.
- As per ACI report, **Delhi airport** is expected to handle more than **5.94 crore** passengers in 2022.
- As a result of this achievement, IGIA has jumped from 17th position in pre-Covid 2019 to 9th position, according to ACI data.
- In terms of traffic, five of the top ten airports are from the US.
- Apart from India, Dubai is the only other airport in Asia in the list.
- No Chinese airport made it to the list considering the travel restrictions due to the Covid situation in the country.
- Mumbai is India's second busiest airport.

Top 10 busiest airports in the world in 2022

- 1. Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (93.7 million passengers)
- 2. Dallas Fort Worth Airport (73.4 million passengers)
- 3. Denver Airport (69.3 million passengers)
- 4. Chicago O'Hare Airport (68.3 million passengers)
- 5. Dubai Airport (66.1 million passengers)
- 6. Los Angeles Airport
- 7. Istanbul Airport (64.3 million passengers)
- 8. Heathrow Airport in London
- 9. IGI Airport in Delhi
- 10. Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport

4. World Energy Transitions Outlook report - 2023 (April 7, 2023)

International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
Recently, the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) released the World Energy Transitions Outlook report-2023.

Highlights of the report

- The global energy transition is still not on track and well short of the 1.5°C pathway.
- To survive 1.5°C, deployment levels must increase from 3,000 gigawatts (GW) at present to more than 10,000 GW in 2030, averaging 1,000 GW annually.
- Equally, more investment towards countries requires public sector intervention.
- Global investment in energy transformation technologies to reach a new record of \$1.3
 trillion in 2022.
- Annual investments must more than quadruple to more than \$5 trillion to stay on the 1.5°C path.
- By 2030, cumulative investment should be US\$44 trillion, with transition technologies representing 80 percent of total investment, or \$35 trillion.
- Current pledges and plans fall well short of IRENA's 1.5°C pathway and would result in an emissions gap of 16 gigatonnes (Gt) in 2050.

About International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

It is an intergovernmental organisation.

- Founded in Bonn, Germany on 26 January 2009.
- Headquarter Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.
- Member Countries 167 and the European Union.
- India became a Member In 2009 as 77th Founding Member.
- Purpose To support countries in their transition to a sustainable energy future.

5. 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.

Mark Mateschitz: is an Austrian businessman who owns several sports teams,

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. 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.

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The same indicator for the 35-39 year age group increased from 32.7 in 2016 to 35.6 in 2020.