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Human Development Report 2021-22

Why in Newspapers?

According to the Human Development Report 2021-22, India's rank in the Human Development Index (HDI) has come down from 130 in 2020 to 132 in 2022, in line with the global decline in HDI scores in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Quick Issue?

- The theme of the Human Development Report, 2021-22 is "Uncertain Times, Unsettled Lives: Shaping our Future in a World in Transformation".

Historical Background?

- Human Development Reports (HDR) are released from the year 1990 which has explored various topics through Human Development Approach.
- This Human Development Report is published by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).
- **Goal:** It aims to contribute to the expansion of opportunities, choices and freedoms.
- HDI is a composite index that measures average achievement in human development taking into account four indicators:-
 - Life expectancy at birth (Sustainable Development Goal 3),
 - expected years of schooling (Sustainable Development Goal 4.3),
 - Average years of schooling (Sustainable Development Goal 4.4),
 - Gross National Income (GNI) (Sustainable Development Goal 8.5).
- 90% of countries have recorded a reduction in their Human Development Index value in 2020 or 2021, reversing progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
- **Decline in life expectancy:** A major contributor to the decline of the Human Development Index is the global decline in life expectancy, which has declined from 72.8 years in 2019 to 71.4 years in 2021.
- Humans unprepared for climate change: It states that humans are not prepared for climate crises such as fires and storms and other planet-level changes due to the Anthropocene in recent years.

Other Key Facts?

Indian perspective

- **Human Development Index:** India's HDI value in the year 2021 was 0.633, lower than the world average of 0.732. In the year 2020 also, India registered a decline in its HDI value (0.642) as compared to the pre-Covid level of the year 2019 (0.645).
- **Life Expectancy:** India's life expectancy at birth in the year 2021 was recorded as 67.2 years.
- **Schooling:** Required years of schooling 11.9 years; Average years of schooling 6.7 years.
- **Gross National Income:** Gross National Income per capita was US\$ 6,590.
- **Gender Inequality Index:** India is ranked 122nd in the Gender Inequality Index.



- **Declining Insect Population:** Due to the lack of insect pollinators, humans face a challenge in the production of food and other agricultural products on a large scale.
- Since insects are important because of their diversity, ecological role and impact on agriculture, human health and natural resources.
- They form the biological basis for all terrestrial ecosystems, further; they cycle nutrients, pollinate plants, disseminate seeds, maintain soil structure and fertility, and support populations of other organisms. Control and provide a major food source for other organisms.
- **Micro plastic Threat:** Plastic is now everywhere – in country-sized garbage dumps in the ocean, in protected forests and mountains.

Likely Question Asked In Preliminary Exam

Que. Which of the following is/are included in the Oxford Poverty and Multidimensional Poverty Index with the support of UNDP?

1. Lack of education, health, property and services at the household level
2. Purchasing Power Parity at the National Level
3. Limitation of Budget Deficit and GDP Growth Rate at the National Level

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer—(a) only 1

Que. Which of the following indicators is not used to calculate the Human Development Index (HDI)?

- (a) Life expectancy (b) Education
(c) Per capital income (d) Social inequality

Answer—(d) Social inequality



US Start-up Bridge

Why in Newspapers?

Recently the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry launched the US Startup Setu Support Entrepreneurs in Transformation and Skill Enhancement Program in the Bay Area of San Francisco, USA.

Quick Issue?

- The initiative will connect start-ups in India to USA-based investors and actors of the start-up ecosystem with mentorship and support in various areas including funding, market access and commercialisation.
- SETU or Auxiliary Entrepreneur in Transformation and Skill is an initiative of the Government of India under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Historical Background?

- The term startup refers to the first phase of a company's operations. Startups are established by one or more entrepreneurs who want to develop a product or service that is in demand in the market.
- These companies usually start out with high costs and limited revenue, which is why they seek capital from various sources such as venture capitalists.
- The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has recognized startups that belong to 56 diverse sectors.
- More than 4,500 startups have been recognized in areas related to emerging technologies like Internet of Things (IoT), robotics, artificial intelligence, analytics etc.
- As a result of continuous government efforts in this direction, the number of recognized startups has increased from 471 in 2016 to 72,993 in 2022.
- To reduce the geographical barriers between US companies looking to invest in entrepreneurship and Sun rising startups in India.
- The sector will be supported through mentorship portal under the Startup India Initiative Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience, and Growth (MAARG) program, which is a one-stop destination for startups in India Solution Finder.
- The portal has been developed with the idea that it should be accessible from every corner of the country to connect with a patron.

Other Key Facts?

Need

- It is estimated that almost 90% of start-ups and more than half of well-funded startups fail in their initial days.
- Lack of experience in handling business is a major problem and founders need right guidance for decision making and ethical support.
- As India has become a leading start-up destination, proper guidance at the right time is paramount.
- Apart from this, the Government of India invites veterans, experienced experts and industry people to contribute to the development of the nation by encouraging them in the journey of a startup.



Likely Question Asked In Preliminary Exam

Que. What is meant by Venture Capital?

- (a) a short-term capital provided to industries
- (b) A long-term start-up capital provided to new entrepreneurs
- (c) Funds provided to industries at the time of loss
- (d) Funds provided for replacement and renovation of industries

Answer: (b) A long term start-up capital provided to new entrepreneurs

