

14-10-2022

## Living Planet Report 2022

### Why in Newspapers?

Worldwide wildlife population has declined by 69 percent between 1970 and 2018. This information has been given in the 'Living Planet' Report (LPR) 2022 of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). The report focuses on about 32,000 populations of a total of 5,230 breeds. According to the 'Living Planet Index' (LPI) given in it, the wildlife population within the tropics is declining at an astonishing rate.

### Quick Issue?

- The Living Planet Report 2022 is a joint effort of the World Wildlife Fund and the Zoological Society of London.
- According to the report, 'Latin America and the Caribbean region have seen the biggest decline in wildlife population globally. There has been an average decline of 94 percent in five decades.

### Historical Background?

- According to this, the global wildlife population declined by 69% between 1970 and 2018.
- This does not mean that 69 percent of individual animals worldwide have declined.
- This report gives an average of changes in population size of different species of animals and not the number of animals lost.
- It measures the relative size of the decline in each animal population.
- This report analysed approximately 32,000 populations of 5,230 species.
- Apart from providing a comprehensive picture of declining wildlife populations around the world, the Living Planet report also highlighted the importance of tackling biodiversity loss and the climate crisis as one,

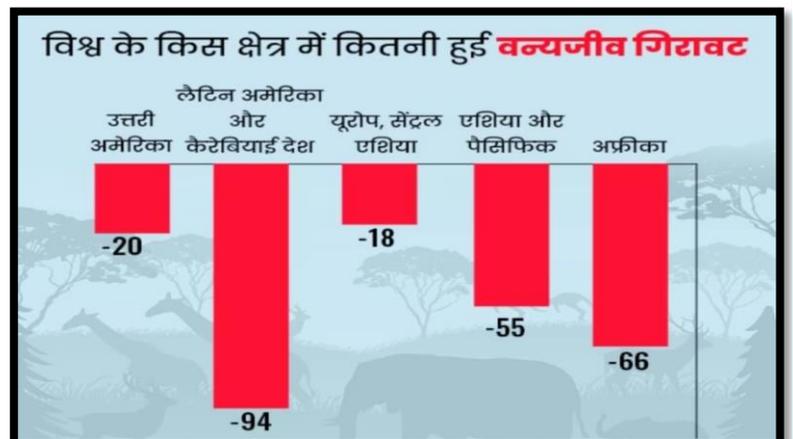
### Other Key Facts?

#### What is the Living Planet Report?

- The LPR is a biennial report published by the World Wide Fund for Nature's (WWF) Comprehensive Degradation of Nature that paints a picture of how species populations around the world are progressing and changing global ecosystems.

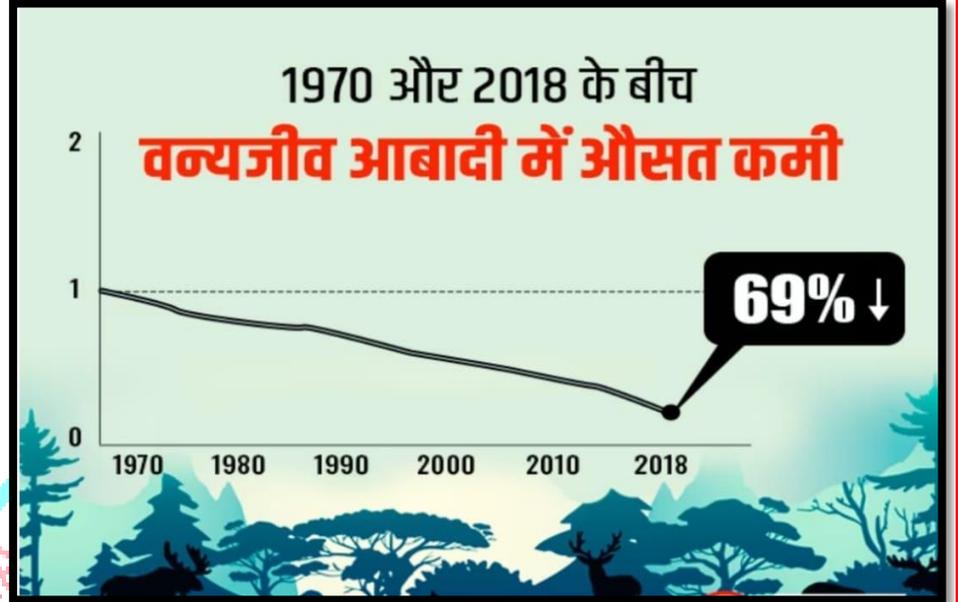
#### Declining population in Africa and Asia Pacific

- The report said that the wildlife population in Africa has decreased by 66 percent and in Asia Pacific by 55 percent. Wildlife populations in freshwater areas have declined by an average of 83 percent more than other species groups. According to the IUCN list, cycad populations are most threatened, while corals are declining the fastest, followed by amphibians.



rather than two separate issues. The link between these two issues was highlighted for the first time in this report.

- According to this report, Latin America and the Caribbean region, which hosts the Amazon rainforest, saw the highest wildlife decline of 94 percent between 1970 and 2018.
- Africa recorded the second biggest decline of 66 percent during the same period, followed by the Pacific (55 percent).
- Lesser declines in nature were reported in North America and Europe, with declines of 20 percent and 18 percent, respectively.
- The major threats facing terrestrial vertebrates are climate change, pollution, agriculture, hunting, logging and invasive species.
- The decline in the population of vertebrate wildlife is mainly observed in the tropical regions of the world.
- The population of freshwater species has declined by 83 percent. Most of the migratory fish species are facing the threat of habitat degradation and barriers to migration.
- Freshwater ecosystems are threatened primarily by the proximity of human populations, overfishing, water absorption, pollution, and the breakdown of waterway connectivity.



### Likely Question Asked In Preliminary Exam

**Que. Consider the following statements?**

1. The Living Planet Report 2022 is a joint effort of the World Wildlife Fund and the Zoological Society of London.
2. According to this, the global wildlife population declined by 69% between the years 1970 and 2018.
3. This report gives an average of changes in population size of different species of animals and not the number of animals lost.

**Which of the above statement is true?**

(a) 1 and 2

(b) 2 and 3

(c) All of the above

(d) none of the above

**Answer - (c) All of the above**

## Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index 2022

### Why in Newspapers?

India has improved its ranking by 6 places in the recently released Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index (CRII) 2022. It is ranked 123 in the world out of 161 countries. India was ranked 129th in the 2020 index.

### Quick Issue?

- India's rank has improved mainly due to improvements in indicators measuring the impact of public spending and the effect of taxes on reducing inequality.
- The index ranks countries on policies made by the government and action taken to fight inequality in the first two years of the COVID pandemic.

### Historical Background?

- The index has been prepared by Oxfam International and Development Finance International (DFI).
- It has three areas; Public services (health, education and social security), taxation and workers' rights.
- The CRI index tracks the performance of 161 countries in reducing inequality among their populations.
- Oxfam International is an international private organization based in England. It was originally established in 1942.
- Development Finance International or DFI Group is a non-profit group that enables the raising of development finance to fight poverty and inequality.
- The 2022 edition is the first detailed assessment of the policies and actions of countries combating inequality during the years of the pandemic.
- It recorded an increase in economic inequality in both rich and poor countries after the outbreak of the pandemic in 2020. Most governments have cut spending on health, education and social security.
- 50% of low-income and lower-middle-income countries have reduced the share of health care spending in their budgets.
- 50% of all countries have reduced the share of social security spending and 70% of countries have cut the share of education spending.

### Other Key Facts

#### Oxfam International

- Oxfam International was formed in 1995 by a group of independent non-governmental organizations.
- These organizations established Oxfam International to be more effective in reducing global poverty and injustice, increasing their efficiency.
- The name "Oxfam" comes from the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief established in Britain in 1942.
- Oxfam International Secretariat is located in Nairobi, Kenya
- Oxfam India CEO:** Amitabh Behar
- CRI:** Commitment to Reducing Inequality Index

