

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – NOVEMBER 23, 2021

STATES

- **On November 22, the Andhra Pradesh government - withdrew two acts on creating the three capital cities for the state.**
- ✓ However, the state government is soon planning to introduce new bills on decentralisation of development in all regions.



- ✓ The state government also clarified that its proposal on three capital cities would remain but new legislation would be brought after consulting all stakeholders.
- ✓ It did not fix any deadline on the new legislation on three capital cities.
- ✓ The decision came even as the AP high court was hearing a batch of petitions challenging the proposal on three capitals.
- ✓ The state government introduced two bills in the assembly seeking repeal of the AP Capital Region Development Authority Act, 2020, and the AP Decentralisation and Inclusive Development of All Regions Act, 2020.
- ✓ The first act was introduced to change the nomenclature and powers of the AP Capital Region Development Authority to Amaravati Metropolitan Development Authority
- ✓ The second was brought forward on the location of the three capital cities — an executive capital at Visakhapatnam, a judicial capital at Kurnool, and Amaravati as the legislative capital, leaving it with just the state assembly.
- ✓ Both laws were passed in January 2020.

- ✓ As the AP Capital Region Development Authority Repeal Act, 2020, was passed in the state assembly now, the Amaravati Metropolitan Development Authority will cease to exist and in its place the now defunct APCRDA will be resurrected.

COMMITTEES

- **On November 22, the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Personal Data Protection Bill - adopted its draft report on the Personal Data Protection (PDP) Bill 2019**
- ✓ The report will be tabled for discussion in the Parliament session beginning November 29, following which the government will reintroduce the bill
- ✓ The revised draft suggests stricter compliance requirements for companies while exempting government agencies from the purview of the law.
- ✓ It has recommended that State have greater powers in the legal mechanism that will be set up to safeguard personal and non-personal data
- ✓ The panel, headed by BJP MP P P Chaudhary, decided to “dilute” penalties payable by social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter, if found in violation of privacy laws



- ✓ The report has retained an earlier proposal to follow global practices, like the European Union’s Global Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- ✓ The GDPR imposes penalties of 2% and 4% of the social media platforms’ “total worldwide turnover” if found to be in violation of any privacy laws.
- ✓ The 2019 draft of the Bill proposed the formation of a Data Protection Authority (DPA), which would regulate the use of users’ personal data by social media companies and other organizations within the country
- ✓ The JPC was set up in 2019 to take up the personal data protection bill and give a legal shape to the Right to Privacy after it was made a fundamental right by the Supreme Court in 2017
- ✓ The JPC has got five extensions to submit report on the Bill in the last two years.

AWARDS

- **Group Captain Abhinandan Varthaman - was conferred the Vir Chakra by President Ram Nath Kovind at an investiture ceremony in Rashtrapati Bhavan on November 22**



- ✓ Abhinandan shot down a Pakistani F-16 during the aerial fight following the Balakot air strikes in 2019
- ✓ Kirti Chakras to Sapper Prakash Jadhav (posthumously) and CRPF deputy commandant Harshpal Singh, and 10 Shaurya Chakras, among the other awards announced earlier, were also presented during the ceremony.
- ✓ The Shaurya Chakra was awarded posthumously to Major Vibhuti Shankar Dhoundiyal for an operation in which five terrorists were killed and 200kg explosives seized in Pulwama, J&K in February, 2019.
- ✓ The Shaurya Chakra is the third in order of precedence of peacetime gallantry awards after Ashoka Chakra and Kirti Chakra
- ✓ India conducted pre-dawn air strikes on the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) facility at Balakot on February 26 in 2019
- ✓ Following the strikes, the Pakistani Air Force launched a counterattack with advanced fourth-generation F-16 and JF-17 fighters, among others, to bomb Indian military targets across the Line of Control.
- ✓ Varthaman, then a Wing Commander, was among the fighter pilots who intercepted the incoming hostile jets.
- ✓ The attempt was thwarted by IAF but Varthaman's MiG-21 was shot down after he had downed the F-16.
- ✓ He was held captive in Pakistan for three days before being repatriated.

SPORTS

- **Tamil Nadu - defeated Karnataka to lift the Syed Mushtaq Ali trophy 2021-22 for the national T20 title on November 22.**
- ✓ With this, Tamil Nadu became the most successful team in the history of Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy after winning their 3rd straight title
- ✓ Tamil Nadu have successfully avenged their 1-run defeat in the 2019 final at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi
- ✓ It was also the end of Karnataka's perfect record in the finals of domestic white-ball tournaments.
- ✓ The winner of the tournament will get Rs 10 Lakh, while, the runner-up will walk receive Rs 5 Lakh.



- ✓ Tamil Nadu's Shahrukh Khan was declared as the player of the match for his 15-ball 33, that sealed the game in Tamil Nadu's favour.
- **R Anandraj and CR Harshavardhini - won the men's and women's titles at the Tamil Nadu Table Tennis Association state championship which concluded in Chennai on November 22.**



- ✓ In the final, Anandraj beat V Abinay while Harshavardhini defeated S Sharmitha

INTERNATIONAL DAY

- **World Fisheries Day - November 21, 2021**
- ✓ The World Fisheries Day is observed every year to highlight the importance of healthy oceans ecosystems and ensuring sustainable stocks of fisheries
- ✓ The day also highlights the problems associated with the fishermen communities
- ✓ The first World Fisheries Day was celebrated on November 21, 2015, during the opening of the International Fishermen's organisation in New Delhi
- ✓ On the eve of the day, the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying awarded best performing States for 2020-21



- ✓ Balasore district in Odisha received India's best marine district award.
 - ✓ Telangana was awarded best performer in Inland Fisheries while Andhra Pradesh was awarded best marine State in India
 - ✓ To develop the fisheries sector, PM Narendra Modi had launched the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) at a budget of Rs 20,050 crore for five years in May 2020.
 - ✓ The scheme aims to achieve fish production of 22 MMT by 2025-21 from the earlier level of 15 MMT and generate employment opportunities for about 55 lakh people in the fisheries sector
- **World Television Day - November 21**



- ✓ The observance of the World Television Day highlights the importance and impact of television in our day to day lives
- ✓ In December 1996 the United Nations General Assembly announced the 21st of November World Television Day, the same year the first World Television Forum was held on November 21-22
- ✓ Television was invented by a Scottish engineer, John Logie Baird, in 1924
- ✓ It was introduced in India on September 15, 1959, in New Delhi, with the assistance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

➤ World Children's Day - November 20



- ✓ The day commemorates the Declaration of the Rights of the Child by the UN General Assembly in the year 1959
- ✓ The day is observed globally to promote the rights of children besides improving their standard of living and welfare.
- ✓ The Day was first observed in the year 1954 on 14 December by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
- ✓ On November 20, the UN General assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, in 1959 and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in 1989 on November 20 and hence World Children's Day is celebrated on this day.
- ✓ The International Labour Organization adopted the Prohibition and Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in 1999.
- ✓ Theme 2021 – 'A better future for every child'
- ✓ This year, iconic monuments like Rashtrapati Bhawan, Qutub Minar, and key parliament buildings like North Block, and South Block were illuminated with blue lights on 19 November 2021, a day ahead of World Children's Day.



- ✓ This lighting was a part of the #GoBlue campaign by UNICEF, which aims to focus on the rights of children and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on children's lives.
- ✓ World Children's Day is promoted and coordinated by UNICEF and the United Nations Children's Fund

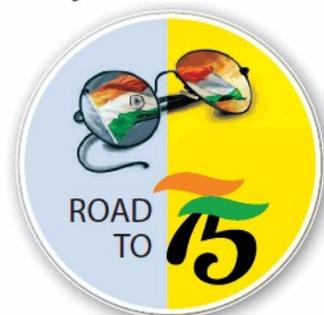
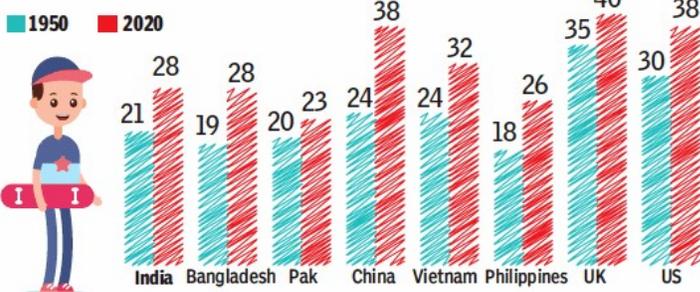
PROGRESS OF MAJOR HEALTH INDICES IN INDIA – A REPORT

At the time of Independence, India was a low-income, high-fertility country with poor life expectancy and infant mortality rate (IMR), but it has started looking good on many health indicators now, **Atul Thakur's** analysis shows

Median Age Up In A Still Young Country

Median age is the age that divides a country's population into two halves – younger and older than it. In the 1950s, India's median age was below 20, a level seen across most of Africa now. While India's median age is still among the youngest in the world, it has inched closer to where Europe was in the 1950s

Median age of the total population



IMR At 1950s' Level Of The West

India's IMR is at the level of the 'first world' in the 1950s, although Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Thailand are at the current level of the US and the UK



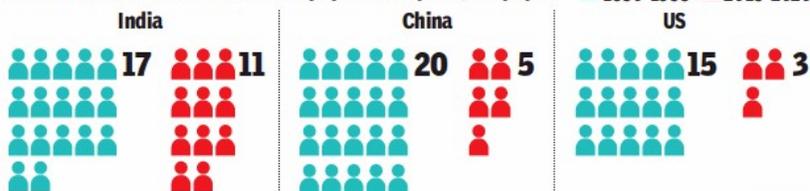
Infant mortality rate (infant deaths per 1,000 live births)

| Country | 1950-1955 | 2015-2020 |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| Pakistan | 250 | 61 |
| India | 181 | 32 |
| Bangladesh | 211 | 27 |
| Philippines | 85 | 20 |
| Vietnam | 103 | 17 |
| China | 129 | 10 |
| US | 30 | 6 |
| UK | 28 | 4 |

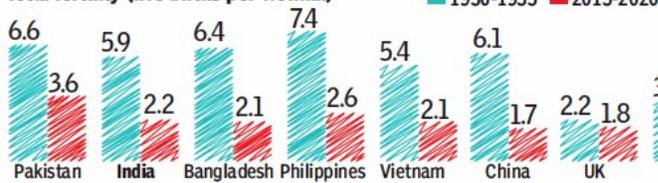
Fertility Rate Down, Population Growth Slowing

India's total fertility rate – births per woman – has declined from 5.9 in the 1950s, when the UK and the US were at 2.2 and 3.3, respectively, to 2.2 now. It is among the lowest in large Asian countries. Fears of a 'population explosion' have faded

Annual rate of natural increase of population (per 1,000 popn)



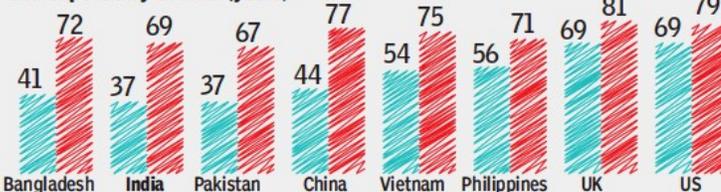
Total fertility (live births per woman)



Life Expectancy Has Almost Doubled

Since the 1950s, India's life expectancy has increased from 37 years to 69 years. There is scope for further improvement, though, as it is among the lowest in the subcontinent, and also among other large Asian countries

Life expectancy at birth (years)



Graphic: Anil Dinod
Source: UN