

## Current Affairs: 10/11.12.2021

### WORLD INEQUALITY REPORT 2022

**Men in India capture 82% of labour income, while women earn just 18%, according to the first-ever estimates of the gender inequality in global earnings presented in the World Inequality Report 2022 released.**

#### About:

The female share of the total labour income is the national aggregate labour income earned by women relative to the total aggregate of labour income within a country. In a country with perfect equality between women and men, the female labour income share would be 50%.

But the report finds that it is below 50% around the world, with significant variations across countries, ranging from below 10% to 45%. The report covered 180 countries between 1991 to 2019.

Female labour income in India of 18.3% is lower than the average for Asia, which was at 27% in 2019.

Eleven countries in the region have values above 30%. Among the neighbours that performed worse than India were Bhutan (17.5%), Bangladesh (16.9%), Pakistan (7.4%), and Afghanistan (4.2%); and those with a higher share were Nepal (23.2%), Sri Lanka (23.3%) and China (33.4%).

After the pandemic, there was a worsening of female labour participation rate, which fell to 16.1% during the July-September 2020 quarter, according to the Ministry of Statistics.

Eastern Europe has the highest female labour income shares, with the average female share near 41%.

Moldova has the highest female labour income in the world at 45%.

Overall, the share of women in total incomes from work neared 30% in 1990 and stands at 34% today.

### WILDLIFE CRIMES

**Between 2018 and 2020, about 2,054 cases were registered for killing or illegal trafficking of wild animals in India, Central Government statistics say.**

#### About:

1. In the three years, about 3,836 accused were arrested for the crime.
2. The number of cases registered in the year 2018 was 648 and 1,099 persons were arrested; followed by 805 cases and 1,506 arrests in 2019; and 601 cases and 1,231 arrests in 2020.
3. The data was made available on the basis of cases registered by the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau and State Forest and Police Authorities in the past three years.
4. The details were made public by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in response to a question in the Lok Sabha.
5. The reply on November 29 also pointed out that Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) has been created for control of wildlife crime at the Central Government level.

#### Operations by WCCB

- The WCCB had launched operation “Save Kurma” from to December 2016 to January 2017 to focus on the poaching, transportation and illegal trade of live turtles and tortoises.

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Another operation “Operation Turtshield- I” from December 2019 to January 2020 and Operation Turtshield-II” (December 2020 to February 2021) was taken up to tackle the illegal trade of live turtles, resulting in the seizure of 4,601 live/dead turtles and arrest of 45 accused in the first operation.

- “Operation Softgold” was undertaken from October, 2018 to March, 2019 to tackle illegal trade in Shahtoosh shawls (made from Chiru wool). During the operation, 350 shawls were found.

## TABLIGHI JAMAAT

**Saudi Arabia government has banned the Tablighi Jamaat calling it one of the gates of terrorism.**

### About:

1. Saudi Islamic Affairs Ministry has directed the mosques to warn people during Friday sermon against the Tablighi Jamaat. Government has also warned people against associating with the Tablighi Jamaat which has been banned in Saudi Arabia.
2. What is it? Tablighi Jamaat, which literally means a society for spreading the faith, is a Sunni Islamic missionary movement.
3. Objective: The proselytising movement aims to reach out to ordinary Muslims and revive their faith, particularly in matters of ritual, dress, and personal behaviour.
4. Background: It was launched by Deoband cleric and prominent Islamic scholar Maulana Muhammad Ilyas Khandhalaw in 1927 in Mewat to bring back Meo peasants (mostly Muslims who were largely practicing Hindu traditions) into the fold of traditional Islam.
5. How wide is its reach? In two decades after its launch, the Tablighi Jamaat had spread beyond the Mewat region. It has a significant base in Pakistan, Bangladesh, United States, Britain, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore.

## INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN DAY

**The International Mountain Day is celebrated on 11th of December every year.**

### About:

- The day aims to encourage sustainable development in mountains and spread awareness about protecting the mountain biodiversity as these delicate ecosystems are under tremendous pressure from climate change, overexploitation and pollution.
- Mountains are home to 15 per cent of the world's population and host about half of the world's biodiversity hotspots. They provide fresh water for everyday life to half of humanity.
- The increasing attention to the importance of mountains led the UN to declare 2002 the UN International Year of Mountains. The International Day was celebrated for the first time the following year, 2003.

The theme of this year’s International Mountain Day is 'Sustainable mountain tourism'. Sustainable tourism in mountains can contribute to creating additional and alternative livelihood options and promoting poverty alleviation, social inclusion, as well as landscape and biodiversity conservation.

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## GAUTAM RAGHAVAN

**Indian-origin Gautam Raghavan has been elevated to Head of the White House personnel office.**

**About:** He replaces Catherine Russel who has been appointed Executive Director of Unicef. Raghavan was Russel's Deputy at the White House Office of Presidential Personnel.

## STAND-OFF ANTI-TANK (SANT) MISSILE

**Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Air Force (IAF) flight-tested the indigenously designed and developed Helicopter launched Stand-off Anti-tank (SANT) Missile from Pokhran ranges on December 11, 2021.**

### **About:**

The flight-test was successful in meeting all its mission objectives. The missile is equipped with a state-of-the-art MMW seeker which provides high precision strike capability from a safe distance. The weapon can neutralise targets in a range up to 10 kms. The SANT missile has been designed and developed by Research Centre Imarat (RCI), Hyderabad in coordination with other DRDO labs and participation from industries. This is the third in the series of indigenous stand-off weapons to be tested in recent times after long range bomb and smart anti airfield weapon for strengthening the arsenal of IAF.

## PINAKA EXTENDED RANGE SYSTEM

**Successful tests of Pinaka Extended Range (Pinaka-ER), Area Denial Munitions (ADM) and indigenously developed fuzes have been carried out at various test ranges.**

### **About:**

The Pinaka-ER Multi Barrel Rocket Launcher System was successfully tested at Pokhran range. The system is jointly designed by laboratories of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) - Armament Research & Development Establishment (ARDE), Pune and High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), Pune. The DRDO, after establishing the performance efficacy of the enhanced range Pinaka, transferred the technology of the system to the industry. The Pinaka-ER is the upgraded version of earlier Pinaka version which has been in service with the Indian Army for the last decade. The system has been designed in the light of emerging requirements with advanced technologies enhancing the range. The Area Denial Munition (ADM) variants of munition designed by the ARDE, Pune for Pinaka and manufactured by the industry partners under technology transfer were successfully carried out at Pokhran Field Firing Ranges. The indigenously-developed proximity fuzes for Pinaka rockets have also been tested.

## JYOTIRLINGAM TEMPLES OF MAHARASHTRA

**Ministry of Tourism under its Dekho Apna Desh Initiative organised a webinar on 'Jyotirlingam Temples of Maharashtra'.**

### **About:**

Maharashtra boasts of a large number of popular and revered religious and spiritual places that attracts large number of tourists.

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Trimbakeshwar (Tryambakeshwara), Bhimashankar, Parali Vajinath, Grishneswar and Aundh Nagnath are the prominent Jyotirlingas in the state of Maharashtra.



Tryambakeshwar/ Trimbakeshwar Jyotirlingam is located about 28 km South West of Nashik and it is also one of four places where Sinhastha Fair (Kumbh Mela) is held which draws people from all over India.

## Important Info :

### Jyotirlingas

- These shrines enshrining Shiva in the form of a Jyotirlingam and have been revered since time immemorial in the Indian system of beliefs.
- Out of 12 Jyotirlingas, the southernmost of these is located at Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu while the northernmost is located in the Himalayas at Kedarnath in Uttarkhand.
- These temples are closely linked with legends from the puranas and are rich in history and tradition.

## SUMMIT FOR DEMOCRACY

**Democracies should jointly deal with social media and cryptocurrencies, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a virtual address at the Summit for Democracy, hosted by U.S. President Joe Biden.**

### About:

The Summit for Democracy was a virtual summit hosted by the United States "to renew democracy at home and confront autocracies abroad" on December 9–10, 2021. The three themes are defending against authoritarianism, addressing and fighting corruption, and advancing respect for human rights. The summit was convened by Mr. Biden to strengthen democracies around the world. Biden announced the establishment of the Presidential Initiative for Democratic Renewal, under which the administration plans to provide \$424.4 million for supporting free and independent media, fighting corruption, strengthening democratic reforms, advancing technology for democracy, and defending free and fair elections.

## INTERNATIONAL SOLAR ALLIANCE (ISA)

**The UN General Assembly has conferred Observer Status on the International Solar Alliance (ISA), a historic decision which India said would help provide for a well-defined cooperation between the alliance and the UN that would benefit global energy growth and development.**

### About:

- UN confers Observer Status on Solar Alliance.
- The ISA was conceived as a joint effort by India and France to mobilise efforts against climate change through the deployment of solar energy solutions.
- It was presented by the leaders of the two countries at the 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Paris in 2015.
- The General Assembly, based on the Sixth Committee report, adopted resolution 76/123 & unanimously decided to invite the International Solar Alliance to participate in the sessions & work of the General Assembly in the capacity of an 'Observer', UN General Assembly President Shahid tweeted.

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## DST-ICTP-IMU RAMANUJAN PRIZE FOR YOUNG MATHEMATICIANS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES



Professor Neena Gupta, a mathematician at the Indian Statistical Institute in Kolkata, has been awarded the 2021 DST-ICTP-IMU Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians from developing countries for her outstanding work in affine algebraic geometry and commutative algebra.

### About:

- Professor Gupta is the third woman to receive the Ramanujan Prize.
- The Prize was first awarded in 2005 and is administered by the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) jointly with the Department of Science and Technology (DST) Government of India and the International Mathematical Union (IMU).
- Ramanujan Prize is given annually to an eminent Mathematician who is less than 45 years of age on 31 December of the year of the award and has conducted outstanding research in developing countries.
- The DST-ICTP-IMU Ramanujan Prize committee, composed of eminent mathematicians from around the world, commented that Gupta's work "shows impressive algebraic skill and inventiveness".

## CYBER VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

To ensure women safety in cyberspace, the National Commission for Women (NCW) has launched an online resource center to offer help for women in distress on issues pertaining to online safety under the 'We Think Digital' programme, run collaboratively by the Commission, Facebook and Cyber Peace Foundation.

### About:

- The Resource centre can be accessed at [www.digitalshakti.org](http://www.digitalshakti.org).
- The Resource Centre will act as a source of information and support for online presence.
- The centre will also help in fighting Cyber violence against women and will help prevent tech abuse against them.
- The centre will provide information on cyber security in the form of posters, awareness videos, quizzes and self-learning modules which will include lessons with tips for safe usage and reporting and redressal of cybercrimes.
- The project was launched as Digital Shakti in 2018 with an aim to help women across the nation to raise the awareness level on the digital front and to train them to fight cyber-crime in the most effective ways. The project has sensitized over 1,75,000 women.

## BALKRISHNA DOSHI

Balkrishna Doshi, the most defining architect of post-independent India, won the Royal Gold Medal 2022 in recognition of his lifetime work of over seven decades as a thinker, architect and academic. The award, instituted by the UK's Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), is among the highest honours in the world for architecture.

### About:

- Balkrishna Vitaldas Doshi (born 1927) is an Indian architect.
- He is considered to be an important figure of Indian architecture and noted for his contributions to the evolution of architectural discourse in India.

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Having worked under Le Corbusier and Louis Kahn, he is a pioneer of modernist and brutalist architecture in India.

- His more noteworthy designs include the IIM Bangalore, IIM Udaipur, NIFT Delhi, Amdavad ni Gufa, CEPT University, and the Aranya Low Cost Housing development in Indore which was awarded the Aga Khan Award for Architecture.

## Awards

- In 2018, he became the first Indian architect to receive the Pritzker Architecture Prize, which is considered one of the most prestigious prizes in architecture.
- He has also been awarded the Padma Shri and the Padma Bhushan.
- He has been awarded the Royal Institute of British Architects' Royal Gold Medal for 2022.

## ATMANIRBHAR HASTSHILPKAR SCHEME

North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFi) announced a New Scheme Atmanirbhar Hastshilpkar Scheme for the grass root Artisans of the region under Ministry of Development of North-East Region (DONER).

### About:

- The scheme was officially launched on 9/12/2021.
- During the launching ceremony, a total of 17 artisans have been provided with credit assistance of Rs.1 lakh per artisan. The credit facility is collateral free and carries a subsidized interest rate of 6% p.a., which is repayable in 24 months. For regular repayment, an incentive of 1% on the interest rate is provided, which will be refunded to the artisans on successful repayment of loans.

### Important Info :

- North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFi), a premier financial institution in the North-Eastern Region with its head office at Dispur, Guwahati and branch offices all across North-Eastern Region has completed 26 years since its establishment in 1995.

## HOUSE RULE 193

**The Lok Sabha discussed on Climate Change under the House Rule 193.**

### About:

- Discussion under Rule 193 does not involve a formal motion before the House. Hence no voting can take place after discussion on matters under this rule.
- The Member who gives notice may make a short statement and such of the Members as have previously intimated to the Speaker, may be permitted to take part in the discussion.
- The Member who raises the discussion has no right of reply. At the end of the discussion, the Minister concerned gives a brief reply.

## BETI BACHAO, BETI PADHAO (BBBP) SCHEME

**The Government spent 80% of the funds under the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' (BBBP) scheme on media campaigns and must now revisit this strategy and invest in measurable**



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outcomes in health and education for girls, the Parliamentary Committee on Empowerment of Women has noted in its report tabled in the Lok

**Sabha.**

**About:**

- The Committee finds that out of a total of ₹446.72 crore released during the period 2016- 2019, a whopping 78.91% was spent only on media advocacy.
- Over the last six years, through focussed advocacy BBBP has been able to capture the attention of political leadership and national consciousness towards valuing the girl child. Now, it is time to focus on other verticals by making ample financial provisions to help achieve measurable outcomes related to education and health envisaged under the scheme.
- The scheme was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in January 2015 with the aim to address sex-selective abortion and the declining child sex ratio, which was at 918 girls for every 1,000 boys in 2011. The programme is being implemented across 405 districts.
- The total utilisation under the scheme was also poor — the committee found that since the inception of BBBP in 2014-15 till 2019-20, the total budgetary allocation under the scheme was ₹848 crore, excluding the COVID-19-stricken financial year of 2020-21.