



UN World Happiness Report- 2020

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Why in News

The **Sustainable Development Solutions Network** for the United Nations released the World Happiness Report on 20th March, 2020.

March 20 was designated as the **World Happiness Day by the UN General Assembly in 2012.**

About the World Happiness Report

- The World Happiness Report ranks **156 countries** by how happy their citizens perceive themselves to be.
- The **rankings are based on polling** (Gallup World Poll) which looks at **six variables:** GDP per capita, social support, healthy life expectancy, freedom, generosity, and absence of corruption.
- The 2020 Report **for the first time ranked cities** around the world by their subjective well-being and looked into how the social, urban and natural environments combine to affect happiness.

Highlights From the Report

- **Top Performers**
 - **Finland** is ranked as the world's happiest nation for the third consecutive year.
 - **Nordic states dominated the top 10**, along with countries such as Switzerland, New Zealand and Austria.
 - Luxembourg edged into the 10th spot for the first time this year.
- **Worst Performers**

The countries at the bottom are those afflicted by **violent conflicts and extreme poverty**, with Zimbabwe, South Sudan and Afghanistan classified as the world's least happy nations.

- **India's Performance**

- **India, previously ranked at 140 dropped to 144.**
- Its rank is way lower than its neighbours. Nepal is ranked 92, Pakistan is at 66, Bangladesh at 107 and Sri Lanka at 130.
- India is a **new entrant** to the bottom-fifteen group.

Sustainable Development Solutions Network

- The SDSN, launched in 2012, mobilizes global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical problem solving for the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement.**
- It was established under the auspices of the **United Nations Secretary-General.**
- The SDSN and the Bertelsmann Stiftung have been **publishing the annual SDG Index & Dashboards Global Report since 2016.**

SOURCE: TH