



## UN World Happiness Report- 2019

The **Sustainable Development Solutions Network for the United Nations** released the **World Happiness Report on March 20**, which was designated as the **World Happiness Day by the UN General Assembly in 2012**.

- This is UN's **seventh annual World Happiness Report**, which ranks the world's 156 countries on **"how happy their citizens perceive themselves to be"**.
- The focus of report was- **"Happiness and Community: how happiness has been changing over the past dozen years, and how information technology, governance and social norms influence communities"**
- The report ranks countries on **six key variables** that support well-being:
  - Income,
  - Freedom to make life choices,
  - Trust,
  - Healthy life expectancy,
  - Social support and
  - Generosity.
- The happiness study ranks the countries of the world on the basis of **questions from the Gallup World Poll**. The results are then correlated with other factors, including GDP and social security.

### Findings

- The overall world happiness has **fallen over the past few years**, which has mostly been fuelled by a sustained drop in India, which came in **140<sup>th</sup> place this year (2019)** compared with **133<sup>rd</sup> in 2018**.
  - There has been an **increase in negative emotions, including worry, sadness and anger**.
- India featured in the five countries that had the **largest drop since 2008** in the index, along with Yemen, Syria, Botswana and Venezuela.
- The list is **topped by Finland for the second year in a row** followed by **Denmark, Norway, Iceland and the Netherlands**.
- Among India's neighbouring countries, **Pakistan is ranked 67<sup>th</sup>, Bangladesh 125th, Bhutan 95<sup>th</sup>, Sri Lanka 130<sup>th</sup> and China is placed at 93<sup>rd</sup>**.
- People in war-torn **South Sudan are the most unhappy** with their lives, followed by **Central African Republic (155), Afghanistan (154), Tanzania (153) and Rwanda (152)**.

### Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

- The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (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**.

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/un-world-happiness-report-2019>