

Network Readiness Index 2022

Why in News?

India has improved its position by six slots and is now placed at **61**st rank as per the Network Readiness Index 2022 (NRI 2022) report released recently.

What is the Network Readiness Index 2022?

About:

- The Network Readiness Index (NRI) report maps the network readiness landscape of 131 economies based on their **performance in four areas:**
 - Technology, People, Governance, and Impact.
- The report is prepared by the Portulans Institute, an independent non-profit, nonpartisan research and educational institute based in Washington DC.
- This year's index includes **49 high-income economies**, **32 upper-middle-income economies**, 36 lower-middle-income economies, and 14 low-income economies.

Global Rankings:

- US has taken the 1st spot from the Netherlands (4th) as the most network-ready society.
 - The biggest mover in the index is **Singapore** (2nd), pushing **Denmark** (6th) and **Finland** (7th) out of the top 5.
 - The other five countries that made it to the Top 10 are **Sweden** (3rd), **Switzerland** (5th), **Germany** (8th), **South Korea** (9th), and **Norway** (10th).
- Based on the top ten performers, NRI affirms that advanced economies in Europe, parts of Asia and the Pacific, and North America are some of the world's most network-ready societies.

India's Status:

- India has not only improved its ranking, but also improved its score from 49.74 in 2021 to 51.19 in 2022.
- India leads in several indicators:
 - India secured 1st rank in "AI talent concentration".
 - **2nd rank** in "Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country" and "International Internet bandwidth".
 - 3rd rank in "Annual investment in telecommunication services" and "Domestic market size"
 - 4th rank in "ICT Services exports".
 - 5th rank in "FTTH/Building Internet subscriptions" and "Al scientific publications".
- As per the report, **India has a greater network readiness** than would be expected given its income level.
 - India is ranked 3rd out of 36 in the group of lower-middle-income countries after Ukraine and Indonesia.

What are India's Related Initiatives?

- National Broadband Mission
- National Digital Communications Policy, 2018.
- BharatNet

- Government's Digital India programmeNational Al Portal

Source: PIB

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