

15th October 2024

Global Hunger Index

India's ongoing battle with hunger and malnutrition has been highlighted by its 105th position out of 127 countries in the 2024 Global Hunger Index (GHI), with a score of 27.3, placing it in the 'serious' category.



Key Point

- ❖ The theme of the 2024 GHI is "How gender justice can advance climate resilience and zero hunger."
- ❖ India's progress has stagnated, with its score shifting only slightly from 29.3 in 2016 to 27.3 in 2024.
- ❖ The Global Hunger Report 2024 was released by Concern Worldwide and Welt Hunger Hilfe, Non-Government Organisations from Ireland and Germany respectively.
- ❖ GHI is a means of monitoring whether countries are achieving hunger-related SDGs.
- ❖ GHI is a tool designed to comprehensively measure and track hunger at the global, regional, and country levels

Asian Table Tennis Championships 2024

In Table Tennis, India's top-ranked pair of Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee have scripted history by clinching the first-ever medal for the country in Women's Doubles of Asian Championships 2024.



Key Point

- ❖ Asian Championships 2024 organized in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- ❖ Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee lost their semi-final match against Japan's Miwa Harimoto and Miyuu Kihara.
- ❖ The Indian pair, ranked 15th in the world, was defeated 3-0 by the 33rd-ranked Japanese duo.
- ❖ At the Asian Table Tennis Championships, semi-finalists are awarded the bronze medal.
- ❖ This is the first medal for the Indian women's doubles team at the Asian Table Tennis Championships since 1972.

Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd Becomes 14th Maharatna CPSE

The government has approved the upgradation of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to 14th Maharatna, Central Public Sector Enterprises.



Key Point

- ❖ Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has approved the upgradation of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited to Maharatna CPSE.
- ❖ It said the proposal had earlier been recommended by the Inter-Ministerial Committee headed by the Finance Secretary and the Apex Committee headed by the Cabinet Secretary.
- ❖ Hindustan Aeronautics Limited is a Department of Defence Production, CPSE with an annual turnover of 28 thousand 162 crore rupees and net profit of over seven thousand five hundred crore rupees in 2023-24.
- ❖ Here are the criteria that an entity must satisfy to be recognized as a Maharatna Company.
- ❖ To qualify, a company must have:
 - Net worth exceeding 5,000 crore for the last three years
 - Average turnover exceeding 25,000 crore for the last 3 years;
 - Operating profit exceeding 5,000 crore for the last 3 years.
- ❖ Autonomy:
 - Invest up to 5,000 crore without government approval;
 - Form joint ventures abroad without needing prior clearance;
 - Raise resources for their projects through various means.

Maharatna CPSEs

1. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
2. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
3. Coal India Limited
4. GAIL India Limited
5. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited
6. Indian Oil Corporation Limited
7. NTPC Limited
8. Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited,
9. Power Finance Corporation

10. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited
11. Steel Authority of India Limited
12. Rural Electrification Corporation Limited
13. Oil India Ltd

RBI Enhances Transaction Limits on UPI 123, UPI Lite

To encourage wider adoption of the unified payments interface (UPI), the RBI recently announced an increase in transaction limits on UPI123 and UPI Lite.



Key Point

- ❖ **About UPI Lite**
- ❖ UPI Lite is an "On-device wallet".
 - Users must first contribute money to the app's wallet from their bank accounts.
- ❖ Users can make real-time payments without the Internet
- ❖ Allows users to make low-value transactions without entering a UPI PIN.
- ❖ **Phase One:** UPI Lite will process transactions in near offline mode, Debit (payments) can be made without Internet connection and credits into the account will be done online

- ❖ **Initial limit:** ₹500, per transaction, with a wallet limit of ₹2,000.
- ❖ **New limits:**
 - Per transaction: ₹1,000.
 - Wallet limit: ₹5,000.
- ❖ **About UPI123Pay**
- ❖ UPI 123Pay is a Suite of solutions developed for Non Smart phone / feature phone users to use the UPI without internet connectivity
- ❖ Started in March 2022 to enable feature-phone users to use UPI.
- ❖ It is available in 12 languages.
- ❖ Technology alternatives include IVR number, app functionality, missed-call and proximity sound-based payments.
- ❖ **Transaction Limits:**
 - Initial transaction limit: ₹5,000 per transaction.
 - New transaction limit: Increased to ₹10,000 to encourage wider use.

Inter-Parliamentary Union Meeting

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, who is leading a Parliamentary delegation to the 149th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), arrived in Geneva.



Key Point

- ❖ He will address the assembly on the theme “**Harnessing science, technology and innovation for a more peaceful and sustainable future**”
- ❖ The assembly will continue till the 17th of this month.
- ❖ The Delegation comprises Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh Singh, the Secretary General of both houses and various other Members of Parliament.
- ❖ IPU is the international organization of Parliaments.
 - **Established:** In 1889 in Paris
 - **Slogan:** "For Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland. democracy. For everyone"
 - **Aim:** To promote representative democracy and world peace.

Short News

- ❖ **Noel Tata** has been appointed as the chairman of Tata Trusts, succeeding his half-brother, Ratan Tata.
- ❖ The Indian Navy's most awaited and largest sailing regatta, the **Indian Navy Sailing Championship (INSC)**, will take place at the Indian Naval Academy (INA), Ezhimala, from 16 October to 19 October 24.
- ❖ Surgeon Vice Admiral Kavita Sahai, SM, VSM assumes charge as Director of General Medical Services (Navy) on 14 Oct 2024.
- ❖ Continuing with the Long Range Training Deployment in the Persian Gulf, INS Tir and ICGS Veera of First Training Squadron (1TS) arrived at the Port of Manama, Bahrain on 12 Oct 2024.
- ❖ The India Digital Agri Conference 2024, co-organized by ICFA and IIT Ropar TIF – AwaDH at New Delhi.
- ❖ External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar inaugurated the **eMigrate V2.0 web portal and Mobile App** in Delhi.
- ❖ Army Chief General **Upendra Dwivedi** has left for Japan on a four-day visit to bolster the defence cooperation between India and Japan
- ❖ Union Minister for Parliamentary and Minority Affairs, Kiren Rijiju, announced that the 75th anniversary of the Indian Constitution, on November 26, will be commemorated with a nationwide “**Constitution Glorification Campaign**” in every village.

Important Daily Current Affairs Question

1. What is the rank of India in the Global Hunger Index 2024

- (a) 105
- (b) 106
- (c) 111
- (d) 121

Answer – (a)

2. Who are the Indian players that won the first-ever medal for the country in Women's Doubles at the 2024 Asian Championships?

- (a) Manika Batra and Archana Kamath
- (b) Sreeja Akula and Diya Chitale
- (c) Aghika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee
- (d) Madhurika Patkar and Mouma Das

Answer – (c)

