

## Prelim Bits 24-04-2023 | UPSC Daily Current Affairs

### Logistic Performance Index (LPI), 2023

*India has climbed six places on the World Bank's Logistic Performance Index (LPI) 2023.*

- Indian government had announced [PM Gati Shakti initiative](#), a National Master Plan for multimodal connectivity, in 2021 to reduce logistics cost and boost the economy by 2024-25.
- In 2022, the [National Logistics Policy \(NLP\)](#) was launched to ensure last-mile delivery, end transport-related challenges, save time and money of the manufacturing sector and logistics sector.
- These policy interventions are fructifying, which can be seen in India's jump in LPI and its other parameters.

### Findings

- India was ranked 44th on the index in 2018 and has now climbed to 38th in the 2023 listing.
- India's performance has drastically improved from 2014, when it was ranked 54th on the LPI.
- India's rank moved up five places in infrastructure score from 52nd in 2018 to 47th in 2023.
- It climbed to the 22nd spot for international shipments in 2023 from 44th in 2018 and moved 4 places up to 48th in logistics competence and equality.

### Logistics Performance Index

- It is released by the World Bank, which is an interactive benchmarking tool that helps countries to identify the challenges and opportunities they face in their performance on trade logistics.
- The LPI 2023 allows for comparisons across 139 countries.
- The 2023 LPI for the first time measures the speed of trade with indicators derived from big datasets tracking shipments.

### References

1. [The Hindu | India climbs 6 places on World Bank's Logistic Performance Index](#)
2. [World Bank | Logistics Performance Index](#)

### Global Buddhist Summit 2023

*The two day Global Buddhist Summit 2023 concluded successfully in New Delhi with the New Delhi Declaration.*

- The focus of the Global Buddhist Summit was on modes of disseminating and internalizing universal values.
- The summit focused to find ways to work together, to address the burning challenges both within and globally and offer a sustainable model for future of the world.

## New Delhi Declaration

- The Declaration reinforces the points highlighted by the Prime Minister in his opening address.
- **Buddha's message** - There has been general agreement that the Buddha's message of Peace, Well-being, Harmony and Compassion for Universal Peace need to be highlighted.
- **Non-violence** - The declaration calls upon all nations, organizations and individuals to work towards creating a world free from conflict, violence and war.
- **Environment** - The declaration urges the governments and individuals to take action to reduce carbon emissions, protect biodiversity, and preserve natural resources for future generations.
- **Teachings of the Buddha** - For the welfare of all, Members of Sangha, Buddhist leaders, Scholars, followers and institutions can play a significant role in addressing the multi-faceted crisis.
- The values of Buddhism need to be inculcated among youths to rejuvenate the society towards Vasudeva Kutumbakam.

## References

1. [PIB | The two day Global Buddhist Summit 2023 concludes](#)
2. [The Hindu | Dalai Lama attends first global Buddhist conference](#)

## PSLV-C55 mission

*ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C55) carrying Singapore's TeLEOS-2 as primary satellite and Lumelite-4 as a co-passenger satellite was launched successfully.*

- In this mission, TeLEOS-2 a Synthetic Aperture Radar satellite will be the primary satellite and Lumelite-4 a technology demonstration nano-satellite will be co-passenger satellite.
- PSLV-C55 is a dedicated commercial PSLV mission of NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), for the international satellite customer from Singapore.
- PSLV-C55 mission will carry out in-orbit scientific experiments by using the spent PS4 stage as an orbital platform.

## PSLV Orbital Experimental Module (POEM)

- Poem is the spent fourth stage (PS4) of the launch vehicle that would be used as an orbital platform to carry out scientific experiments through non-separating payloads.
- While the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 stages are jettisoned into the ocean after they push the mission to desired orbit, the four-stage remains in orbit and becomes space junk.
- This is the third time that PS4 will be used after satellite separations as a platform for

experiments.

- There will be non-separable payloads mounted on MSA (multi satellite adapter).
- Payloads will be powered ON by a command, after all satellites are separated.
- The platform will have solar panel mounted around PS4 tank which will be deployed after confirmation of the stage achieving stabilization.
- The deployment of the solar panels will be through a ground command.
- The platform will ensure that the deployed solar panel points towards the Sun optimally using appropriate sun pointing mode, which will increase the power generation capability of the platform.
- The power will be provided to payloads and avionic packages based on their requirements.

TeLEOS-2 Satellite	LUMELITE-4 Satellite
• TeLEOS-2 will be able to provide all-weather day and night coverage, and capable of imaging at 1m full-polarimetric resolution.	• It aims to augment Singapore's e-navigation maritime safety and benefit the global shipping community.

## References

1. [The Hindu | ISRO PSLV-C55 successfully launches two Singapore satellites into orbit](#)
2. [The Hindu | ISRO to send uncrewed rocket as part of Gaganyaan Mission](#)
3. [India Today | The experimental mission India is launching to space with PSLV-C55](#)

## State of the Global Climate report, 2022

*Rising global temperatures in 2022 contributed to more frequent and intense extreme weather events all around the world, according the State of the Global Climate 2022 report.*

- The report is released annually by the United Nation's World Meteorological Organization.

## Findings

- **Sea level rise** - The report recorded that sea levels rising at an annual average of 4.62 millimetres in the past decade.
- The world's glaciers melted at dramatic speed last year, with global sea levels rising at double the pace they did two decades ago.
- **La Nina** - The La Nina cooling weather phenomenon failed to ease the temperature hikes, with the past eight years considered the highest mean temperatures on record.
- **Oceans** - Oceans were meanwhile the warmest on record, with 58% of ocean surfaces experienced a marine heatwave.
- **India** - Heatwaves in India in 2022 brought down the yield of wheat crops, significantly pushing the Government of India to ban wheat exports from the country.
- The heatwaves have become 30 times more likely due to climate change.

## World Meteorological Organisation

- The WMO is an intergovernmental organization that originated from the International

Meteorological Organization (IMO).

- It was established in 1950 and later became the specialised agency of the United Nations.
- It is headquartered in Geneva with World Meteorological Congress as the supreme body.

## References

1. [Down to Earth | Climate change worsened extreme weather events in 2022](#)
2. [The Indian Express | Past 8 years 'warmest on record'](#)
3. [WMO | State of the Global Climate in 2022](#)

## Rule of law Index

### Rule of law

- The notion behind the rule of law is to curb the exercise of arbitrary power by anyone.
- **United Nations** - The rule of law is a principle of governance in which all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including the State itself, are accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated.
- **WJP** - World Justice Project (WJP), an independent, multidisciplinary organization working to advance the rule of law worldwide, lays out 4 broad outcomes, if the rule of law prevails in a country.
- **Accountability** - Implying that the government as well as private actors are accountable under the law.
- **Just Law** - Implying that the law is clear, publicised, and stable and is applied evenly.
- It ensures human rights as well as property, contract, and procedural rights.
- **Open Government** - Implying that the processes by which the law is adopted, administered, adjudicated, and enforced are accessible, fair, and efficient.
- **Accessible and Impartial Justice** - Implying that justice is delivered timely by competent, ethical, and independent representatives.

### Rule of law index

- It is released annually by the World Justice Project.
- The index measures people's perceptions and experiences of the rule of law in 140 countries and jurisdictions.
- To build this index, the WJP looks at eight factors, which are further sub-divided into 44 sub-factors.
- **Constraints on government powers** - This includes things like how effectively does the legislature or the judiciary deal with the government.
- **Absence of corruption** - This essentially ascertains if public offices are being used for private gains.
- **Open Government** - This includes things such as the right to information and laws and government data are well publicised.
- **Fundamental rights** - This also includes whether the due process was followed.
- **Order and security** - Whether crime is effectively controlled and civil conflict limited etc.

- **Regulatory enforcement** - Things like whether regulations are effectively enforced etc.
- **Civil justice** - Includes factors such as whether people can afford and access civil justice,
- **Criminal justice** - Includes factors such as whether due procedures are followed etc.
- The index values range between 0 and 1 with 1 being the score for complete adherence to the rule of law.

## Status of India

- India's overall score in the 2022 report is 0.5 and its global rank is 77 out of 140 countries.
- Within the South Asia region, India is placed third, behind Nepal and Sri Lanka, out of six countries; Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan being the other three.
- Among the 38 countries that fall under the same income bracket, namely lower-middle income, India is ranked 9th.
- Countries such as Senegal, Ghana, Indonesia and Ukraine were ahead of India as of the 2022 report.
- **Uttar Pradesh (UP)** - The WJP Index does not provide sub-national ranks.
- However, the India Justice Report (IJR), a collaborative effort between various organisations ranks UP at 18 among the 18 large and mid-sized states of India.

## Reference

1. [The Indian Express | What is the rule of law and where do India and UP rank?](#)

