

Lists, Reports and Indexes

ILO releases World Social Protection Report 2017-2019

- The International Labour Organisation (ILO) in November 2017 released the World Social Protection Report 2017-2019.
- The World Social Protection Report depicts that only 45 per cent of the global population is effectively covered by at least one social benefit, while the remaining 55 per cent that is 4 billion people are left unprotected.

Highlights of World Social Protection Report 2017-2019

- Only 29 per cent of the population enjoys access to social security, while the other 71 per cent population is not or partially protected.
- It recommends an increase of public expenditure on social protection to extend social protection coverage, especially in Africa, Asia and the Arab States.
- It emphasizes that universal social protection contributes to eradicating poverty, reducing inequality, promoting economic growth and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

India ranks 109 in mobile internet speed, 76 for broadband in Ooklas November Speedtest Global Index

- India is ranked 109th in the mobile internet speed and 76th for fixed broadband speed globally, which is a 15 per cent increase, according to data from Ooklas November Speedtest Global Index.
- As of November, Norway ranks first in the world for mobile internet with an average download speed of 62.66 Mbps. Singapore takes the top spot for fixed broadband with a 153.85 Mbps average download.
- Ookla analyses the performance of the internet in every country based on consumer-initiated tests taken by real people using Speedtest.

India ranks 100 in Legatum Global Prosperity Index 2017

- India has moved up four spots in the latest edition of the Legatum Prosperity Index. The country now ranks 100th on the index, up from 104th last year. Norway heads the ranking, followed by New Zealand, Finland, Switzerland and Sweden.
- The rankings are based on a country's performance on nine pillars, namely — economic quality, business environment, governance, personal freedom, social capital, safety and security, education, health and natural environment.

UN releases World Economic Situation and Prospects 2018 Report

- The United Nations (UN) on 11 December 2017 released the World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) 2018 report in New York.
- As per the World Economic Situation and Prospects 2018, the current macroeconomic conditions offer policy-makers greater scope to address some of the deep-rooted issues that hamper progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

Highlights of the World Economic Situation and Prospects 2018

- In 2017, world economic growth reached 3 per cent, the highest growth since 2011. The global growth is expected to remain steady at 3 per cent in 2018 and 2019.

- The recent pickup in global growth originates from firmer growth in several developed economies, although East and South Asia remain the world most dynamic regions.

Bengaluru 4th most popular destination for innovation centres globally

- India's Silicon City was ranked the fourth most-popular innovation centre destination following Silicon Valley, Singapore and London said a report by Capgemini's Digital Transformation Institute.
- Organisations are increasingly establishing innovation centres across the globe to boost research within their ranks. India now accounts for 25 per cent of innovation centres in Asia while Asian cities comprise of 29 per cent of the innovation centre count globally.
- The report also noted that while firms are heavily investing in innovation centres in an attempt to keep up with market changes, they are failing to become more innovative. 80 per cent of the new innovation centres are exploring artificial intelligence and big data analytics.

International Migration Report 2017: India tops world in number of migrants abroad

- The UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) on 18 December 2017 released the International Migration Report 2017 on the occasion of International Migration Day.
- As per the report, there are an estimated 258 million people living in a country other than their country of birth. This reflects an increase of 49 per cent in the number of migrants since 2000.
- The data presented in the report are based on national statistics, population censuses as well as population registers and nationally representative surveys.
- International migration makes an important contribution to population growth in many parts of the world and even reverses population decline in some countries or areas.

Region-wise highlights

- The report states that over 3 per cent of the world's inhabitants in December are international migrants, an increase from 2.8 per cent in 2000.
- Between 2000 and 2015, migration contributed 42 per cent of the population growth in Northern America and 31 per cent in Oceania.
- In Europe, the size of the total population would have declined during the period 2000-2015, if there have been no migration.

India tops world in number of migrants abroad

- India has largest Diaspora in the world with more than 16.6 million people from India living overseas. The number of Indian-born persons residing abroad was 15.9 million in 2015.
- Russia, China, Bangladesh, Syria, Pakistan and Ukraine have large migrant populations living abroad, ranging from 6 to 11 million each.

Virat Kohli replaces Shah Rukh Khan as most valuable celebrity brand: Report

- Star cricketer Virat Kohli has replaced Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan as India's top-ranking celebrity brand, according to a report by a valuation advisor.
- In the 2017 report titled 'Rise of the Millennials: India's Most Valuable Celebrity Brands', Duff & Phelps said that Kohli topped the list with brand value of \$144 million, followed by actors Shah Rukh (\$106 million), Deepika Padukone (\$93 million), Akshay Kumar (\$47 million) and Ranveer Singh (\$42 million).
- Duff & Phelps, a global valuation and corporate finance advisor, published the third edition of its annual study of celebrity brand values in India.

Salman Khan tops Forbes India Celebrity 100 list for second straight year

- Bollywood star Salman Khan has been ranked numero uno on the sixth Forbes India Celebrity 100 List. Shah Rukh Khan and India's cricket captain Virat Kohli took the second and third spot respectively, with actor Priyanka Chopra the only female celebrity in the top 10 list.
- The 2017 Forbes India Celebrity 100 List rankings are based on estimates of entertainment-related earnings of celebrities. The period under consideration is October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017.

Top 10 Celebrities in the List

1. Salman Khan
2. Shah Rukh Khan
3. Virat Kohli
4. Akshay Kumar
5. Sachin Tendulkar
6. Aamir Khan
7. Priyanka Chopra
8. MS Dhoni
9. Hrithik Roshan
10. Ranveer Singh

India to become world's fifth largest economy in 2018, says CEBR

- India looks set to leapfrog Britain and France next year to become the world's fifth-largest economy in dollar terms, a report showed in December.
- The Centre for Economics and Business Research (Cebr) consultancy's 2018 World Economic League Table painted an upbeat view of the global economy, boosted by cheap energy and technology prices.
- India's ascent is part of a trend that will see Asian economies increasingly dominate the top 10 largest economies over the next 15 years.

India ranks 5th in list of countries with highest NPA levels: CARE Ratings

- India has the highest level of non-performing assets (NPA) among BRICS countries and is ranked fifth on a list of countries with the highest levels of NPAs, a report by CARE Ratings revealed.
- The only countries ranked higher than India on the list are Greece, Italy, Portugal, and Ireland. All these countries, along with Spain, are commonly referred to as PIIGS, and have been victims of sovereign debt crises in recent years.
- Spain is the only PIIGS country ranked lower than India on the list, with an NPA ratio of 5.28 percent. At 9.85 percent, India's NPA ratio is over 400 basis points higher.

Here are highlights from the Report

- The four major economic drivers in the developed world, UK, US, Japan and Germany had NPA ratios less than 2%.
- Within the emerging market economies (EMEs), China, Argentina and Chile had low ratios of between 1-2%.
- Within the developed countries, France had a higher NPA ratio of 3.41%.
- Brazil and South Africa, which are part of the BRICS Group of nations, had moderately high ratios of 3.69% and 2.83%, respectively.
- India's NPA ratio (which excludes the restructured assets which are around 2% higher than NPA) is one of the highest in the group.
- The countries with higher NPA ratios than India are part of the PIIGS group- Portugal, Greece, Italy, Ireland.
- Spain had a lower number at 5.28%.