



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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World Happiness Index

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Context

- **Finland is ranked as the happiest country in the world** for the eighth consecutive year, and other Nordic countries – Denmark, Iceland, and Sweden, continued to remain in the top four, in that order.
- While Western countries dominated the top 20, especially European nations, **Costa Rica and Mexico entered the top 10 for the first time, ranking at 6th and 10th respectively.**
- **Afghanistan is again ranked as the unhappiest** country in the world; this year 147th against last year's 143rd rank (last).
- The State of Palestine is ranked 108th (103 in 2024), while Ukraine is at 111 rank (105 in 2024).
- **India ranked 118 out of 147 countries.**
- Among India's neighbouring countries, Sri Lanka was ranked at 133, Bangladesh at 134, Pakistan at 109, Nepal at 92, and China at 68.

About World Happiness Index

- It is an **annual report** published by the **Wellbeing Research Centre at the University of Oxford in partnership with Gallup, the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network.**
- The rankings are based on **people's self-assessed life evaluations.**
- It asks respondents to think of a ladder with the best possible life for them being a 10 and the worst being a zero.
- They are then asked to rate their current lives on that scale.
- The study considers 6 explanatory factors for happiness: **social support, GDP per capita, health life expectancy, freedom, generosity, and perception of corruption.**

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