

Childrens Climate Risk Index (CCRI)

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A new UNICEF report titled 'The Climate Crisis Is a Child Rights Crisis: Introducing the Children's Climate Risk Index' (CCRI) was released recently.



[Ref: India Today]

It is UNICEF's first report focussed on children.

<u>Highlights of the report:</u>

- India is among **33** "extremely high risk" countries where children are most at risk of climate change affecting their health and education.
 - It warns of repeated flooding and air pollution, as environmental shocks, leading to adverse socio-economic consequences for kids and women.
- It ranks India at a **vulnerable 26** and among four South Asian nations where children would **face the most significant adverse impacts** of climate change.
- Besides India, the other South Asian countries are **Pakistan**, **Bangladesh**, **Afghanistan** with a ranking of 14th, 15th and 15th respectively.
- **Bhutan is ranked 111th**, with children at relatively lower risk.
- The 33 "extremely high-risk" countries collectively emit just 9% of global CO₂ emissions, while 10 highest emitting countries together account for nearly 70% of global emissions.
- Approximately 1 billion children live in one of the 33 countries classified as "extremely high-risk".
- China ranks at top accounting for 30.3% of global Co2 emissions, followed by and USA 14.6%.
- India accounts for much less at 7.1%.
- Nepal and Sri Lanka are among the top 65 countries most impacted globally with a ranking of 51 and 61 respectively.
- More than 600 million Indians will face 'acute water shortages' in the coming years, while at the same time flash flooding is to increase significantly in the majority of India's urban areas once



the global temperature increase rises above 2° Celsius.

• 21 of the world's 30 cities with the most polluted air in 2020 were in India.

About the report:

- The report ranks countries based on children's exposure to climate and environmental shocks such as cyclones and heatwaves, as well as their vulnerability to those shocks based on their access to essential services.
- The Index data has pointed to the **serious deprivations faced by children** due to the intensifying effect that climate and environmental shocks.