

UNDP's Human Development Report 2023/2024

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The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) recently released its **Human Development Report 2023/2024** "Breaking the gridlock Reimagining cooperation in a polarized world".



[ref-millennium post]

Key Highlights of the report:

HDI Advancements:

- India's **HDI (Human Development Index)** value increased from **0.633** to **0.644** in **2022**, placing it in the **medium human development** category.
- The rise in **HDI** is attributed to improvements in **life expectancy**, **education**, and **Gross National Income (GNI) per capita**.
- **Life expectancy** rose to **67.7** years, **expected years of schooling** reached **12.6**, **mean years of schooling** increased to **6.57**, and **GNI per capita** saw an increase from **\$6,542** to **\$6,951**.

Global Ranking:

- India secured the **134th** position out of **193 countries** in the **HDI ranking**, reflecting progress compared to previous years.
- Despite advancements, India lags behind some South Asian neighbors such as **Bangladesh**, **Bhutan**, **Sri Lanka**, and **China**.

Gender Inequality Reduction:

- India demonstrated progress in reducing **gender inequality**, with a value of **0.437**, surpassing global and South Asian averages.
- However, challenges persist, notably in the significant **gender gap** in the **labor force participation rate**.

Global Context:

- The UN report highlights a global trend of rising **inequality**, posing challenges to inclusive development.
- Despite overall progress, the world remains divided and faces challenges exacerbated by **political**

polarization and **conflict**.

Future Prospects:

- There is a call for collective action to address **inequality** and ensure equitable development globally.
- India's progress in human development underscores the importance of investing in **social infrastructure** beyond **GDP growth**.

Other key facts:

- The concept of **human development**, pioneered by economists like **Mahbub al Haq** and **Amartya Sen**, emphasizes the importance of enhancing people's choices and well-being beyond economic indicators.
- **UNDP** is an organ of the **UN**, that was established in **1965**, to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities, and foster inclusive growth.