Global Passport Index (GPI)

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance*

Why in News?

Recently the Global Passport Index was released.

- **Global Passport Index (GPI) –** The ranking is published annually by **Global Citizen Solutions (GCS).**
- It measures the overall strength of a passport by assessing not only the number of countries its holders can access but also the economic and social advantages associated with the issuing country.
- **Global Citizen Solutions (GCS) –** It is a global mobility consultancy that evaluates passports based on mobility, investment attractiveness, and quality of life.
- Unlike passport rankings based solely on visa-free travel, the GPI adopts a broader multidimensional approach.
- **Methodology –** The Index uses **15 indicators** grouped under three pillars:
- **Enhanced Mobility Index (50%)**
    - Visa-free and visa-on-arrival access.
    - Global desirability of the passport based on the issuing country's quality of life.
- **Investment Index (25%)**
    - Global competitiveness.
    - Gross National Income (GNI).
    - Personal income tax rates.
    - Overall investment attractiveness.
- **Quality of Life Index (25%)**
    - Sustainable development.
    - Cost of living.
    - Happiness and overall living standards.
- **India's Performance**
- **Rank (2026) –** 125 out of 197 countries.
- **Previous Rank (2025) –** 124.
- **Ranks (2021–2023) –** 127 in each of the first three editions.
- India ranks below **Namibia (124th)** and behind countries such as **Philippines, Morocco, and Uzbekistan**.
- It ranks above **Azerbaijan (126th)**, while **Pakistan** is placed much lower at **188th**.

Reference

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