Healthcare Access and Quality Ranking

Why in news?

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The latest Global Burden of Disease (GBD) study was published in the medical journal The Lancet with the rankings for healthcare access and quality (HAQ).

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What is HAQ?

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- The Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors study is done by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME).
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- It is an independent population health research centre associated with the University of Washington, along with a consortium of 2,300 researchers in more than 130 countries.
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- The HAQ Index is based on death rates from 32 ailments that could be avoided by timely medical intervention.
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What are the findings?

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- In the HAQ, India has fallen 11 places, and now ranks 154 out of 195 countries.
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- Newborns in India have a lesser chance of survival than babies born in Afghanistan and Somalia.
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- Further, India’s healthcare index of 44.8 is the lowest among the sub-continental countries,
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- Sri Lanka (72.8), Bangladesh (51.7), Bhutan (52.7), and Nepal (50.8) all fared

better.
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- The top-ranked nation was Andorra with an overall score of 95 and the lowest-ranked nation was Central African Republic at 29.
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- In the case of neonatal mortality, India scored 14/100.
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- Access to tuberculosis treatment in India was scored 26/100.
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- It is lower than Pakistan (29), Congo (30) and Djibouti (29).
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- For diabetes, chronic kidney diseases, and congenital heart diseases, India scored 38, 20, and 45, respectively.
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- India’s downward slide in the rankings indicates that it has failed to achieve health care targets, especially those concerning neonatal disorders, maternal health, tuberculosis, and rheumatic heart disease.
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Source: The Hindu

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