

India and global slavery index

Why in news?

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Annual Global Slavery Index was recently released.

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What is Global slavery Index?

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• It is published by the Australia-based human rights group Walk Free Foundation.

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• It includes data on three key variables-

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1. Prevalence of modern slavery in each country,

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2. Vulnerability,

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3. Government responses to modern slavery.

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 Modern slavery refers to situations of exploitation that a person cannot leave because of threats, violence, coercion and abuse of power or deception.

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• According to the index the global incidence of modern slavery is estimated s 46 million in 2016.

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What is the position of India?

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- \bullet India has been ranked 4^{th} out of 167 countries.
- The top three countries were North Korea, Uzbekistan and Cambodia.
- In 2016, it was deemed to have some 18.3 million people trapped in slavery.

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- \bullet There is an addition of 4 million slaves when compared with 2014 index.
- Indian Policy-makers discount the ranking as a function of the size of the population, but most populous country china is ranked at 4oth position.

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What implication does this index leaves on India?

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• The long-term structural weaknesses of India's economic reform has been the inability to expand the market for jobs in sync with its demographic growth.

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- Many of these new-age slaves are women and children, the most vulnerable sections on the frontline of economic slowdown and poverty.
- Increase in number of slaves every year is due to the rank failure of India's law enforcement institutions.
- \bullet Indian migrant labour has not been taken into account for this index, if they had been included India might have topped the list. \n
- \bullet According to UNDP India will see a severe job shortage in the next 35 years, the number of the country's modern slaves is likely to boom. \n

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Source: Business Standard

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