# Prelim Bits 13-10-2017

## Global Hunger Index – 2017

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- GHI is designed to measure and track hunger globally and by country and region.
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- It is calculated each year by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
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- The GHI ranks countries on a 100-point scale. Zero is the best score and 100 is the worst.
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- The components are -
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1. **Undernourishment** - The proportion of undernourished people as a percentage of the population.
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2. **Child wasting** - The proportion of children under the age of five who suffer from wasting i.e low weight for their height, reflecting acute under-nutrition.
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3. **Child stunting** - The proportion of children under the age of five who suffer from stunting i.e low height for their age, reflecting chronic under-nutrition &
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4. **Child mortality** - The mortality rate of children under the age of five.
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- India ranks 100 among 119 countries with a score of 31.4 and hunger situation in the “Serious” category.
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- Over three-year duration, the country has seen a slide of 45 positions from 55 in 2014.

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- According to the report, India is better only than Pakistan and Afghanistan among the Asian countries.
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## RE-Invest 2017

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- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is organising the 2nd edition of RE-Invest with France as the partner Country.
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- It is the flagship event to highlight achievements and attract investments in the clean energy sector.
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- It has been envisioned as a global event to deliberate upon strategies for development and deployment of renewable.
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- A highlight of this edition will be the founding ceremony of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
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- The formal founding of the ISA follows ratification of membership by the minimum 15 member states.
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- The Pacific island Kiribati became the 41st member to join the ISA.
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## UN Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

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- US have recently announced its withdrawal from UNESCO, accusing the organisation as Anti-Israel bias.
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- UNESCO is the first UN agency to have admitted Palestine as a full member in 2011.
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- The withdrawal goes into effect at the end of 2018.
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- UNESCO is responsible for promoting peace, social justice, human rights and international security through International cooperation on educational, science and cultural programs.

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- It has 195 member states and is based in Paris, France.
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- It is a global development agency with missions that include promoting sex education, literacy, clean water and equality for women.
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- It is known for its **World Heritage Mission** which encourages world countries to protect Natural and Cultural Heritage sites.
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- It publishes **Global Education Monitoring report** and **Gender Parity Index.**
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- It also leads the initiative of **Man and Biosphere Programme** for protecting Biosphere reserves across the world.
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## Srisailam Reservoir

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- The Srisailam dam is constructed across the Krishna River in Andhra Pradesh.
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- Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have been at loggerheads about release of water from the reservoir to irrigation schemes.
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- Consequently, the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB), an autonomous board was constituted.
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- It regulated the drawing of water from common irrigation projects Srisailam and Nagarjuna Sagar.
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- The recent rain brings copious inflow to the reservoir and it is being opened up for the first time in this water year.
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- Nagarjuna Sagar Dam was also built across the Krishna River where the river forms the boundary between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
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## International Day for Disaster Reduction

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- The day held every year on 13th October since 1989 to promote a global culture of risk-awareness and disaster reduction.
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- The 2017 campaign seeks to raise global awareness about effective actions, policies and practices taken to reduce exposure to disaster risk at the community level.
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- The "Sendai Seven" campaign which centred on the seven targets of the Sendai Framework was launched last year.
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- The first of the seven targets is reducing disaster mortality.
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- United Nation Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) acts as the designated agency for the coordination of disaster reduction strategies.
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## TOPEX/Poseidon

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- It is the joint satellite mission launched by NASA and French space agency in the year 1992 to map ocean surface topography.
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- It is the first satellite to precisely measure the rising sea levels.
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- It mapped global tides for the first time and monitored effects of currents on global climate change.
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## MedWatch

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- The Indian Air Force has launched an innovative mobile health App named 'MedWatch'.
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- It comprises a host of features that will provide authentic health information to all IAF personnel.

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- It acts as a reminder for timely immunisation for the children of all Air Warriors, enabling ‘Mission Indradhanush' programme.
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**Source: PIB, The Hindu, BusinessLine.**

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