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A Picture Postcard : A new Form of Art (GS Paper 1 Art and Culture)

Context

A new series of picture postcard of Tarun bhartiya has been released now day reflecting the picture of the conversion of the khasi people , a tribe of the Meghalaya

History of the Postcard

- History of the postcard goes back to late 18th century in europe
- During 19th century we saw various types of innovations: The global postal system. Among those innovations was the introduction of uniform penny postage stamps in Great Britain. People generally started to use this post card for sending the informations
- After the invention of the printing press people send the postcards of different pictures showing their interests
- Stamp also changed with the change of time . These stamps also reflects the nature of the administration as well as the society

- In 1837, when the fees charges for the letter become based on its weight , people used postcard drastically
- D. William Mulready, E.R.W. Hume, Dickey Doyle, and James Valentine were the the men who produced decorative envelopes
- Various types of pictures like patriotic, romantics were depicted on postcard
- In the world, Austria was the first country which developed postcard
- Gradually other countries of Europe and the world started postal services and postcards .
- In 1875 ,the General Postal Union was established in Switzerland through the representatives of 22 countries
- When Photography was not invented lithograph print, woodcuts and broadsides and other types of art work were done .
- With the invention of Printing press we see printed postal cards on which various type of pictures were printed

About tarun Bhartiya

- Tarun bhartiya is a famous film maker . Dring lockdown he had attained the public from his documentary From Shillong to Bihar
- Baseides , other documentaries like ‘Brief Life of Insects’ and ‘The Last Train in Nepal’ are milestone in his career
- Apart from film making, he is a good , poet and artist also
- He is shillong based political activist, poet and a artist
- Bhartiya’s set of 100 postcards from the Khasi Hills of Meghalaya Khasi Hills of Meghalaya show an uncomfortable story of conversion that unfolds across continents, communities and centuries.
- In fact, For the last several years many people of Khasi tribes had converted to Christianity for several reasons . He tried to understand the reasons behind such conversions. He presented this conversion of the Khasi people through Picture Post card and presented this art in BayArt Gallery Cardiff, Wales, as part of Diffusion 2021, Welsh International Festival of Photography.

- It is expected to see his presentation in India in the coming art festival held in chennai (chennai Photo Biennale) It will soon be presented in India as part of the Chennai Photo Biennale.
- At first glance, Bhartiya's photographs of cloud dotted hilltops, church steeples, local people ceremonies and rituals will be presented here in the form of post card photography

The postcard has had a revival of late, particularly by those who are trying to resuscitate the dying mail system to convey art and poetry, with its appeal in evoking a time gone by. "The picture postcard is something people buy and forget quickly; it's old and quaint but here, you are suddenly confronted by the contemporary,

Dr. Anshul Bajpai

Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2021 GS- 2 Poverty, Growth & Development

CONTEXT

Recently, Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2021 was released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI). The Index considers data from 109 countries and 5.9 billion people.

ABOUT INDEX

The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) was launched by the UNDP and the OPHI in 2010. MPI is based on the idea that poverty is not unidimensional (not just depends on income and one individual may lack several basic needs like education, health etc.), rather it is multidimensional. The index shows the proportion of poor people and the average number of deprivations each poor person experiences at the same time.

A person is **multidimensionally poor** if she/he is deprived in one third or more (means 33% or more) of the weighted indicators (out of the ten indicators). Those who are deprived in one half or more of the weighted indicators are considered living in **extreme multidimensional poverty**. MPI is significant as it recognizes poverty from different dimensions compared to the conventional methodology that measures poverty only from the income or monetary terms.

MPI uses three dimensions and ten indicators which are:

- **Education:** Years of schooling and child enrollment (1/6 weightage each, total 2/6);
- **Health:** Child mortality and nutrition (1/6 weightage each, total 2/6);
- **Standard of living:** Electricity, flooring, drinking water, sanitation, cooking fuel and assets (1/18 weightage each, total 2/6).

Global Data: Nearly 1.3 billion people are **multidimensionally poor** and about half (644 million) are children **under age 18**. Nearly **85% live in Sub-Saharan Africa** (556 million) or **South Asia** (532 million). More than 67% live in **middle-income countries**.

Periodic Reduction in Poverty: Of the 80 countries and five billion people for which there is data over time, **70 reduced MPI in at least one period**, with the fastest changes coming from **Sierra Leone** (2013-2017), followed by **Togo** (2013/2014-2017).

Absolute Reduction in Poverty: Some countries saw the fastest **absolute reductions** in their poorest regions—helping to fulfil their pledge to leave no one behind. These areas include **North Central in Liberia** (2013–2019/2020) and **Province 2 in Nepal** (2016–2019).

Poverty Across Ethnic and Racial groups: In some cases, **disparities in multidimensional poverty across ethnic and racial groups are greater** than disparities across geographical subnational regions. Within a country, **multidimensional poverty among different ethnic groups can vary immensely**. Therefore **different policy actions are needed** to reduce multidimensional poverty.

Education: Worldwide about **two-thirds** of multidimensionally poor people (836 million) live in households where **no woman or girl completed at least six years of schooling**. 227 million out of 836 million are alone in India. One-sixth of all multidimensionally poor people (215 million) live in households in which at least one boy or man has completed six or more years of schooling but **no girl or woman has**. The report also finds that **women and girls living in multidimensional poverty are at higher risk of intimate partner violence**.

Living Standard: 1 billion are exposed to solid cooking fuels, another billion live with **inadequate sanitation** and another billion have **substandard housing**. 788 million live in a household with at least one **undernourished person**. 568 million lack improved **drinking water** within a 30-minute round trip walk.

Effect of Covid: The **Covid-19 pandemic** has **eroded development progress around the world**, and we are still grappling to understand its full impacts. It has **exposed the weaknesses** in social protections systems, education, and workers' vulnerability around the world. These weaknesses are **deepest in countries with higher levels of multidimensional poverty**.

Indian Scenario

As **castes and tribes are a more prevalent line of social stratification in India**, this index presents the incidence and intensity of multidimensional poverty among castes and tribes and among individuals who are not members of any caste or tribe. In India **five out of six multidimensionally poor people are from lower tribes or castes**. **9.4%** of the **Scheduled Tribe** group lives in multidimensional poverty **33.3%** of the **Scheduled Caste** group lives in multidimensional poverty. **27.2%** of the **Other Backward Class** group lives in multidimensional poverty. In India close to 12% of the population live in **female-headed households**.

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Global Hunger Index and India's Ranking (GS 3, Economics, The Hindu, Indian Express)



Concern Worldwide (An Irish aid agency) and **Welt hunger hilfe**, (a German organization) jointly publish the Global hunger index report. The Global hunger index score is calculated on the basis of four indicators namely **Undernourishment, child wasting, child stunting and Child mortality**. Child wasting is defined as the share of children below 5 years who have low weight for their height reflecting acute under-nutrition. Child stunting is defined as children below 5 years who have low height for their age reflecting chronic under-nutrition and child mortality is defined as the number of children dying under 5 years of age divided by the number of live births of that year. The country's HDI score is classified by severity from **low, moderate, serious, alarming to extremely alarming** as per its score.

The global hunger index report is published in October every year. The 2021 hunger report is pointing towards a dire hunger situation in the backdrop of the covid pandemic and related lockdowns, climate crisis, and severe violent conflicts across the world. The goal of zero hunger by 2030 as per the Sustainable Development Goals seems too far. This report is showing signs of stagnating and even being reversed.

NEWS: In the Global hunger index report 2021 India, **with a score of 27.5 slips to the 101st spot** among 116 countries, fell behind Pakistan (92), Bangladesh (76), and Nepal (76). Only 15 countries like Papua New Guinea, Afghanistan, Nigeria, Mozambique etc. were worse than India. The report mentioned the level of hunger in India as serious. The GHI score for India has decelerated from 38.8 in 2000 the range of 28.8 – 27.5 between 2012 and 2021. People have been severely hit by pandemics and related restrictions in India. India is having the highest child wasting rate worldwide. Forever India has shown improvement in indicators like under-five mortality, Stunting, and Undernourishment.

The Government has challenged: The government has challenged India's poor ranking and the methodology used. India is among 31 countries where hunger has been identified as serious. Last year India's rank was 94 among 107 countries. As per the government, the publishing agencies have not done their due diligence before releasing the report. The Ministry of Women and Child Development said that they have based their assessment on the results of a 'four question' opinion poll, which was conducted telephonically by Gallup. The methodology used by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) is unscientific as it reported in the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the world 2021 report, that countries in the region Afghanistan, Bangladesh Nepal, and Sri Lanka have not been affected at all by pandemic induced losses of job and income.

The date of undernourishment is provided by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). The date of child mortality is taken from United Nation Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation. Child Wasting and Stunting data are sourced from a joint database of World Health Organisation, UNICEF and World Bank, among others. It is basically the data of FAO which the government has questioned. The Government has questioned the pollbased assessment that "has increased the value of 'proportion of population undernourished' from 14.0% for the previous period 2017-19 to 15.3% for the latest period 2018-20," according to an official. According to the FAO report, prevalence of undernourishment in a population is calculated in a very scientific manner that includes habitual dietary energy intake levels, information on the population structure and median height in each sex and age.

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Global Hunger Index 2021 GS- 2

Health, Important International Organisation, Issues Related to Children

CONTEXT

India has slipped to 101st position in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2021 of 116 countries, from its 2020 position of 94th.

ABOUT INDEX

Global Hunger Index

Annual Report: Jointly published by **Concern Worldwide** and **Welthungerhilfe**. It was first produced in 2006. It is published every October. The 2020 edition marks the 15th edition of the GHI.

Aim of the index is to comprehensively measure and track hunger at the global, regional, and country levels. The calculation of GHI scores are calculated each year to assess progress and setbacks in combating hunger. It is calculated on the basis of four indicators:

- **Undernourishment:** Share of the population with insufficient caloric intake.

- **Child Wasting:** Share of children under age five who have low weight for their height, reflecting acute undernutrition.
- **Child Stunting:** Share of children under age five who have low height for their age, reflecting chronic undernutrition.
- **Child Mortality:** The mortality rate of children under the age of five.

The scoring is done on the basis of the values of the four indicators, the GHI determines hunger on a 100-point scale where 0 is the best possible score (no hunger) and 100 is the worst. Each country's GHI score is classified by severity, from low to extremely alarming.

Global Scenario

Worldwide Hunger is represented by a GHI score of 18.2 (moderate level), down from a 2000 GHI score of 28.2 (serious). Following are the factors explaining the global scenario-

The **Covid-19 pandemic** and the **resulting economic downturn**, as well as a **massive outbreak of desert locusts** in the Horn of Africa and other crises, are **exacerbating food and nutrition insecurity** for millions of people. It needs to be noted that **2020 GHI scores do not reflect the impact of Covid-19** on hunger and undernutrition. The above mentioned crises come on top of **existing hunger** caused by **conflict, climate extremes, and economic shocks** (random, unpredictable events).

Region-wise Performance: Africa South of the Sahara and South Asia have the **highest hunger and undernutrition levels** among world regions, with 2020 GHI scores of 27.8 and 26.0, respectively—both considered serious. **SDG 2 Progress: The world is not on track to achieve the second**

Sustainable Development Goal – known as **Zero Hunger** for short – by **2030**.

Indian Scenario

India has a level of hunger that is falling under the “**serious**” category. With a score of 27.2, it **ranks 94 out of 107 countries** in the Index. In **2019**, India’s rank **was 102 out of 117 countries**. India features behind Nepal (73), Pakistan (88), Bangladesh (75), Indonesia (70) among others. Out of the total 107 countries, only 13 countries fare worse than India including countries like Rwanda (97), Nigeria (98), Afghanistan (99), Liberia (102), Mozambique (103), Chad (107) among others.

Performance on the Indicators:

- **Undernourishment:** 14% of India’s population is undernourished (2017-19). It was 16.3% during 2011-13.
- **Child Wasting:** 17.3% (2015-19), it was 15.1% in 2010-14.
- **Child Stunting:** 34.7%, it has improved significantly, from 54% in 2000 to less than 35% now.
- **Child Mortality:** 3.7%, it was 5.2% in 2012.

Government of India Stand

The **Ministry of Women and Child Development** has criticised the report claiming that the methodology used by FAO is unscientific. According to the Government, the Global Hunger Index Report 2021 and FAO report on ‘The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021’ have completely ignored the many facts like they have based their assessment on the results

of a 'four question' opinion poll, which was conducted telephonically by Gallup.

The scientific measurement of undernourishment would require measurement of weight and Height, whereas the methodology involved here is based on a Gallup poll, based on a pure telephonic estimate of the population. The report completely disregards Government's massive effort to ensure food security of the entire population during the Covid period such as Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojna (PMGKY) and Atma Nirbhar Bharat Scheme (ANBS).

Wayforward

We have the following initiatives by the government of India to tackle Hunger and Malnourishment in India.

- **Eat Right India Movement:** An outreach activity organised by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for citizens to nudge them towards eating right.
- **POSHAN Abhiyaan:** Launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in 2018, it targets to reduce stunting, undernutrition, anemia (among young children, women and adolescent girls).
- **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana:** A centrally sponsored scheme executed by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, is a maternity benefit programme being implemented in all districts of the country with effect from 1st January, 2017.
- **Food Fortification:** Food Fortification or Food Enrichment is the addition of key vitamins and minerals such as iron, iodine, zinc, Vitamin A & D to staple foods such as rice, milk and salt to improve their nutritional content.
- **National Food Security Act, 2013:** The National Food Security Act, (NFSA) 2013 legally entitled up to 75% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population to receive subsidized food grains under the Targeted Public Distribution System.

- **Mission Indradhanush:** It targets children under 2 years of age and pregnant women for immunization against 12 Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (VPD).
- **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme:**
Launched on 2nd October, 1975, the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme offers a package of six services (Supplementary Nutrition, Pre-school non-formal education, Nutrition & health education, Immunization, Health check-up and Referral services) to children in the age group of 0-6 years, pregnant women and lactating mothers.

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