

19 – 03 – 2022

News: World Happiness Report

World Happiness Report

- World Happiness Report is released by **UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network**.
- Latest Rank of **India** is **136** which rose from previous **144**.
- It assigns a happiness score on a **scale of zero to 10**, based on an average of data **over a three year period**.
- Top Performer for the year is **Finland** whereas **Zimbabwe** performed the least.
- A total of **156** countries were assessed using the indicators like **GDP per capita, Social Support, and Healthy Life expectancy, Freedom, Generosity and Absence of Corruption**.

News: Great Barrier Reef suffers severe coral bleaching

- Australia's Great Barrier Reef is suffering widespread and severe coral bleaching due to high ocean temperatures two years after a mass bleaching event.

Great Barrier Reef

- Great Barrier Reef is **the worlds most extensive and spectacular coral reef ecosystem composed of over 2,900 individual reefs and 900 islands.**
- The reef is located in the **Coral Sea (North-East Coast), off the coast of Queensland, Australia.**
- It can be **seen from outer space and is the world's biggest single structure made by living organisms.**
- This reef structure is composed of and built by billions of tiny organisms, known as coral polyps.
- They are **made up of genetically identical organisms called polyps, which are tiny, soft-bodied organisms.** At their base is a hard, protective limestone skeleton called a calicle, which forms the structure of coral reefs.
- These polyps have microscopic algae called zooxanthellae living within their tissues. The corals and algae have a mutualistic (symbiotic) relationship.
- It was **selected as a World Heritage Site in 1981.**