

**10– 04 – 2022**

**News:** World Food Price Index

- According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO), the World food price index averaged 159.3 points in March, breaking an earlier record of 137.6 points scaled 11 years ago in February 2011.

**World Food Price Index (WFPI)**

- World Food Price Index (WFPI) was **introduced in 1996 as a public good to help in monitoring developments in the global agricultural commodity markets.**
- The FAO Food Price Index (FFPI) is a **measure of the monthly change in international prices of a basket of food commodities.**
- It measures changes for a basket of **cereals, oilseeds, dairy products, meat and sugar.**
- Base Period of Food Price Index is set as **2014-16.**

## Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger and improve nutrition and food security.
- The FAO is composed of 197 member states. India is a founding member.
- It is headquartered in Rome, Italy, and maintains regional and field offices around the world, operating in over 130 countries.
- FAO also acts as the secretariat of Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA) and that of Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC).
- It helps governments and development agencies coordinate their activities to improve and develop agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and land and water resources. It also conducts research, provides technical assistance to projects, operates educational and training programs, and collects data on agricultural output, production, and development.
- The FAO is governed by a biennial conference representing each member country and the European Union, which elects a 49-member executive council.
- State of World's Forest is a biennial flagship report published by FAO.
- India has released a 75 rupee coin in 2020 in commemoration with the 75<sup>th</sup> year of FAO with the theme "A country will shine if the nutrition is correct".

- The **Country Program Framework** prepared by FAO India in collaboration with **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India** is aligned **with our national priorities** and has a much required multi sectoral approach.
- Flagship publications of FAO include **State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA), State of World's Forests (SOFO)**.
- The **Food Price Index** is a measure of the monthly change in the international prices of a basket of food commodities. It is published by the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) is the **joint collaboration of FAO and WHO**.

### **Days Implemented by FAO**

- The International Day of Forests (21<sup>st</sup> March every year) is implemented by **Secretariat of UN Forum on Forests & Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**.
- Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) in partnership with **World Health Organisation (WHO)**, implements the **World Food Safety Day** on June 7<sup>th</sup> of every year on behalf of UNGA.
- World Food Day is celebrated to **commemorate the establishment of the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) on 16<sup>th</sup> October 1945**.

- Food and Agricultural Organisation implements the World Soil Day (5<sup>th</sup> December every year) on behalf of UNGA.
- GloLitter Partnerships Project is launched by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) with initial funding from the Government of Norway.
- Recently, FAO along with Arbor Day Foundation has awarded Hyderabad with Tree City of the world.

FAO has identified 5 key priority areas:

- Help eliminate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition
- Make agriculture, forestry, and fisheries more productive and sustainable
- Reduce rural poverty
- Enable inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems
- Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises

### **FAO in India**

- Strengthening Institutional Capacities for Sustainable Mountain Development in the Indian Himalayan Region.
- Promoting Nutrition Education and Communication in India.

- Strengthening Agriculture and Allied Sector Contributions to **India`s National Biodiversity Action Plan** (NBAP) 2008 and the **National Biodiversity Targets** (NBTs).
- Technical Assistance to Farmer Water School Programme and Agricultural Activities under the **Uttar Pradesh Water Sector Restructuring Project** (UPWSRP), Phase- II.
- Support to the implementation of **Indian Ocean Tuna Commission Regional Observer Scheme**.
- Implementing the **Monitoring and Analyzing Food and Agricultural Policies** (MAFAP) Programme in India.