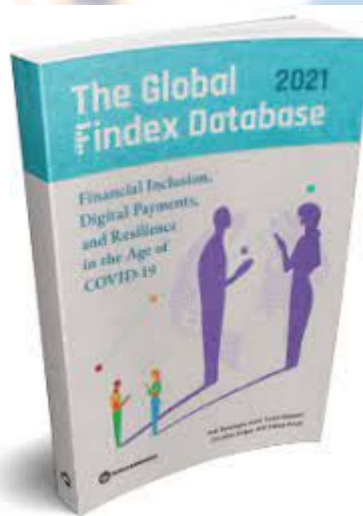




**Date – 8 July 2022**

## **The Global Findex Report 2021**



- Recently the World Bank has released 'The Global Findex Report 2021'.
- Global Findex surveyed more than 125,000 adults in 123 economies during COVID-19 to better understand how people use formal and informal financial services and digital payments.

### **Conclusion:**

#### **Account Ownership:**

- Worldwide account ownership has increased by 50%, with 76 percent of the adult population having access to accounts.
- Account ownership has increased widely in dozens of developing economies, and most new accounts have been opened in India and China.

### **Access to Formal Banking:**

- The bulk of the global population (130 million and 230 million, respectively) without formal banking lives in India and China.
- Women are often excluded from formal banking services because they lack official identification documents, do not have mobile phones or other forms of technology, and have little financial capacity.
- In developing countries, men accounted for 74%, while women were six points behind with 68% of the accounts.

### **Unbanking:**

- Globally 24% of adults are unbanked, with one of various reasons being a lack of money, with distance being a barrier for 31% of unbanked adults.
- People who do not have an account with any financial institution or mobile money service provider are classified as unbanked.
- Globally, 64% of unbanked adults are educated at the primary level or below.
- 36% of unbanked adults worldwide say financial services are too expensive.

### **COVID-19 and Digital Payments:**

- The COVID-19 pandemic catalysed an increase in the use of digital payments.
- In the year 2021, 18% of adults in developing countries paid utility bills directly from the account. About one-third of these bills were paid online for the first time.

### **Mobile Money:**

- Mobile Money is supporting financial inclusion in sub-Saharan Africa, especially for women.
- There are 11 economies where adults have more mobile money accounts than financial institution accounts, all located in sub-Saharan Africa.

### **Contribution to the expansion of financial reach of financial providers:**

- Government, private employers and financial providers helped expand financial access and use among the unbanked by reducing barriers and improving infrastructure.
- Financial inclusion has become a cornerstone for both short-term relief and sustainable recovery efforts since the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Financial Concerns:

- In terms of finances, adults in developing countries are more likely to be concerned than adults in high-income countries.
- The highest concern with regard to medical expenses was observed in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, with 64% of adults being more concerned, and the lowest in East Asia and the Pacific at 38% of adults.

### Recommendations:

- As governments seek to accelerate and expand access to digital banking services to tide over the pandemic, policies need to factor in protections for the most vulnerable sections, including women, the poor and those with limited educational qualifications or financial literacy.
- The gender gap in mobility must be bridged to ensure equitable progress on financial inclusion

**Swadeep Kumar**

## Operation Narcos



- Railway Protection Force (RPF) recently recovered narcotics worth more than Rs 7.40 crore under Operation “Narcos” (NARCOS).

### What is Operation Narcos?

- A month long all India campaign against drug trafficking through rail with a code code named “Operation Narcos” was launched in June-2022, with special focus on the menace of Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS).
- RPF has intensified its investigation in trains and identified black spots across the country in coordination with Narcotics Control Bureau and

other law enforcement agencies to target drug smugglers involved in this illegal trade.

### **Railway Protection Force:**

- The RPF contingent is an armed force of the Union of India. It is a security force owned by the Indian Railways, Ministry of Railways.
- The history of RPF dates back to 1882 when various railway companies appointed their own guards to protect railway property.
- The force was declared a statutory force in 1957 by an Act of Parliament, which was later declared as an armed force of the Union of India in 1985.
- RPF has been entrusted with the responsibility of safeguarding railway property.

### **Other initiatives of RPF:**

#### **Operation AAHT:**

- Special teams will be deployed on all long distance trains/routes to rescue the victims, especially women and children, from the clutches of traffickers.

#### **Meri Saheli:**

- This initiative will focus on the safety of women passengers. It was launched in September 2020 as a pilot project in South-Eastern Railway. Since then it has been extended to all the zones.

#### **Operation Yatri Suraksha-**

- Under “Operation Yatri Suraksha”, the RPF supports the State Police in the fight against passenger crime.

#### **Operation Nanhe Faristey:**

- It rescued 1,045 children who were found alone or abandoned at railway stations.

**Swadeep Kumar**

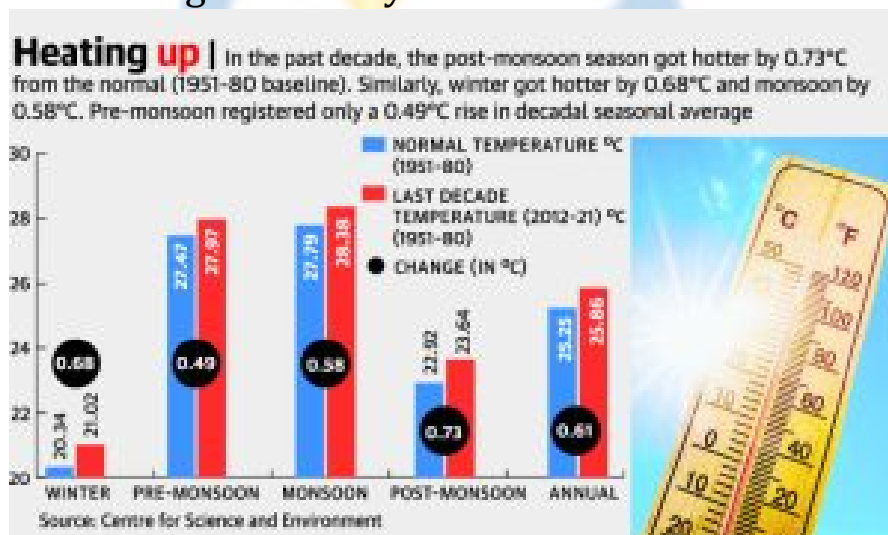
# Impact of Global Warming on Indian Monsoon

## Context:

It has been observed that during the monsoon seasons the temperatures are 0.3 degrees Celsius higher than the average summer figures' which explains some anomalies in the climate change

## Introduction

Recently, it has been reported that the temperature during the monsoon season is higher in comparison to the summer season however it should be lesser. Generally, the Monsoon season gives us relief from the higher temperature but this year one side high temperature distraught the people, and on the other side high humidity also.



## Data of Higher Temperature in India

- If we see the data of the average temperature of all India levels, we see the average temperature is 0.3 degrees Celsius higher than the average summer temperatures (March to May). If we compare it from 1951 to 1980 we see it has risen in comparison to past years. In the past decade, 2012-2021, this anomaly has risen to 0.4 degrees Celsius.
- As per the data record of the India Meteorological Department, the average temperature of India has risen 0.62 degrees Celsius from 1901 to 2020. The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) (A nonprofit organization of research-based in Delhi) shows it has translated to



summer temperatures rising slower than not only monsoon but even post-monsoon (October-December) and winter (January and February) temperatures.

- However, the rise in temperature can be also observed in the summer season. In the summer season, it has risen up to .49 degrees Celsius while in summer it rose .58 degrees Celsius. This year, India saw record pre-monsoon temperatures in northern and western regions, in the absence of rain.
- The average daily temperature has also risen mainly in Northern India. The average daily maximum temperature for March and April for Chandigarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand — as per IMD classification — was almost 4 degrees Celsius above normal (compared to its baseline of 1981-2010), which is just double as the anomaly observed at all India level

### **Causes of these Temperature anomalies**

As per the report of the Institute of Climate Change Studies (An autonomous body under the state government of Kerala), the temperature anomalies are increasing mainly because of less clouding on a higher number of days. “So, if rainy days are reducing, cloudless or less cloudy days will increase.

The causes of the rise in temperature can also be linked to the Global warming

Pollution is another reason for the higher temperature of the cities. A city also generates a lot of waste heat due to human activities which adds to the natural heat. This extra heat should dissipate after sunset, but due to pollution and continuing generation of waste heat the city fails to cool down, leading to the warmer conditions compared to rural areas,”

### **Consequences**

Because of the high temperature, many deaths have been recorded due to lung and heart attack, dehydration, etc. The Increased temperature and humidity impact the efficiency of the work. The headache and tiredness are the other impacts of the high temperature.

## **Conclusion**

As per the above analysis, it has been observed that due to pollution and Global warming how our daily life is being impacted. Therefore all of us should have civic sense and should try to reduce the pollution from our side. Because, pollution and climate change are the inevitable consequences of urbanization. Therefore, we should opt for several measures to reduce the inevitable consequences of urbanization otherwise we have to pay the big cost of this climate change

**Anshul**

