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WHO RELEASES GLOBAL REPORT ON HYPERTENSION

This article covers "Daily Current Affairs" and the topic details "WHO Releases Global Report on Hypertension". This topic has relevance in the "Social Justice" section of the UPSC CSE exam.

For Prelims:

What is Hypertension?

Who releases the Global Report on Hypertension?

For Mains:

GS2: Social Justice

Why in the news?

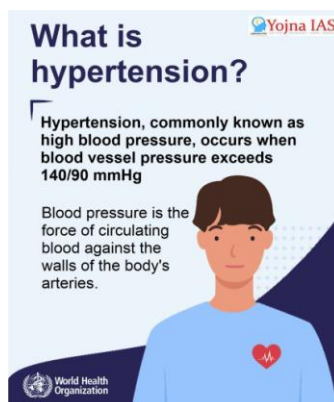
World Health Organization (WHO) released its first-ever report on the global impact of high blood pressure on 19 September.

Global Report on Hypertension: The Race Against a Silent Killer

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has unveiled its latest report titled "Global Report on Hypertension: The Race Against a Silent Killer."
- This report marks the first comprehensive compilation of data on the extensive consequences of uncontrolled hypertension, encompassing heart attacks, strokes, premature death, and substantial economic burdens on communities and nations.

Understanding Hypertension

- Hypertension, commonly known as high blood pressure, occurs when blood vessel pressure exceeds 140/90 mmHg. While prevalent, untreated hypertension can have serious health implications.



Key Findings from the Report

- **Global Impact:**

- High blood pressure now surpasses other leading risk factors, including tobacco use and high blood sugar, as a cause of mortality worldwide.
- The report reveals a twofold increase in the global population affected by hypertension between 1990 and 2019, with over three-quarters of affected adults residing in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs).
- High systolic blood pressure ranks as the leading global risk factor for mortality.

- **Indian Perspective:**

- India records an estimated 188.3 million adults aged 30–79 with hypertension.
- To attain a 50% control rate, an additional 67 million individuals in India require adequate treatment.
- The nation's hypertension prevalence, at 31%, slightly lags behind the global average. Approximately 37% have received diagnoses, while 30% are undergoing treatment.
- The India Hypertension Control Initiative, a part of the National Health Mission, has garnered recognition for its commendable work in primary healthcare.

- **The Silent Killer:**

- Hypertension affects one in three adults and often manifests without symptoms, earning its reputation as the “silent killer.”
- Nearly **half of those with hypertension are unaware** of their condition.

- **Global Prevalence:**

- One-third of the world's adult population faces hypertension, predisposing them to heart disease, stroke, and mortality.
- Males exhibit a slightly higher prevalence (34%) than females (32%).

- **Hypertension Care:**

- Among adults aged 30–79 with hypertension, only 54% have received diagnoses, 42% are undergoing treatment, and 21% have their hypertension under control.
- Treatment coverage ranges from a high of 60% in the Region of the Americas to a low of 27% in the African Region.

- **Global Targets and Prevention:**

- The world is not on track to meet the voluntary global target of a 25% reduction in raised blood pressure prevalence by 2025.
- Increasing global hypertension control to 50% could prevent 76 million deaths between 2023 and 2050, aligning with the Sustainable Development Goal target 3.4 of reducing premature mortality from non-communicable diseases.

- **Key Recommendations**

- **National Leadership and Accountability:** Establish national mechanisms to oversee and enhance the allocation of resources and implementation of integrated responses to noncommunicable diseases, specifically focusing on hypertension control.
- **Comprehensive Programs:** Develop programs addressing hypertension risk factors, including promoting healthy diets, reducing tobacco and alcohol use, and integrating physical activity into daily life.
- **Implement WHO HEARTS Package:** Adopt drug-specific treatment protocols, ensure a reliable drug supply, create team-based care, make healthcare patient-friendly, and establish an accurate information system for hypertension care data.

- **Address Broader Factors:** Strengthen healthcare systems and expand hypertension services to reach everyone gradually.

Sources:

Silent killer: The Hindu editorial on hypertension and the first WHO report on the subject – The Hindu

Q1. With reference to the Global Report on Hypertension, consider the following statements:

1. The first report on Hypertension was published in 2020.
2. The Global Report on Hypertension was published by the World Health Organization (WHO).
3. The report is a comprehensive compilation of data on the wide-ranging impacts of uncontrolled hypertension, including heart attacks and strokes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) None

Answer: (b)

Q2. Consider the following:

1. According to the Global Report on Hypertension, nearly two-thirds of those with hypertension are unaware of their condition.
2. The India Hypertension Control Initiative is a part of the Ayushman Bharat.
3. One-third of the world's adult population faces hypertension, with females being more prevalent than males.

How many of the abovementioned statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (d)

Q3. Examine the WHO's 'Global Report on Hypertension,' its significance for global public health, and challenges in tackling hypertension.

Gaurav Nikumbh

CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT

This article covers "Daily Current Affairs" and the topic details "CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT". This topic has relevance in the Environment section of the UPSC CSE exam.

For Prelims:

About the Summit?

For Mains:

GS 3: Environment

Climate Ambition Summit Overview?

Why in the news:

China, United States and India, the top three emitters in that order were all absent from the recently held Climate Action Summit 2023

About the Summit

- **Significance of Global Emissions:** China, the United States, and India rank among the world's top three greenhouse gas emitters, collectively contributing to around 42% of global emissions. Their actions and commitments are pivotal in the global fight against climate change.
- **Purpose of the Summit:** The Climate Action Summit (CAS) was convened by the United Nations to showcase leaders who have credible strategies, policies, and plans for addressing climate change. Its objective is to uphold the Paris Agreement's target of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.
- **Limited Participation:** Despite the summit's significance, only 34 countries and seven institutions were granted speaking slots during the event. Notably, neighboring countries of India, such as Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Pakistan, were among the speakers, along with other emerging economies.
- **Criteria for Participation:** Countries seeking speaking opportunities at the summit **had to present updated pre-2030 Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), net-zero objectives, plans for transitioning to renewable energy, strategies for phasing out fossil fuels, renewable energy targets, Green Climate Fund commitments, and plans for adaptation and resilience.** This indicates a high threshold for participation.
- **Future Commitments:** The summit **urged all major emitters, including the G-20 nations, to commit to more ambitious NDCs that encompass absolute emissions reductions and cover all greenhouse gases by 2025.**
- **India's Climate Pledges:** In 2022, India revised its climate commitments, aiming to reduce emissions intensity by 45% compared to 2005 levels by 2030. Additionally, the government pledged to source 50% of its electricity from renewable, non-fossil fuel sources and increase carbon sequestration through afforestation efforts.

Climate Ambition Summit Overview:

Urgency of Climate Action:

- IPCC's latest assessment underscores the need for immediate, substantial greenhouse gas emissions reductions.
- Despite significant damage, emissions remain at record levels.
- Urgent action required to limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

Climate Justice and Equity:

- Acknowledgment that those least responsible for the crisis suffer its most severe impacts.
- Calls for immediate support from governments and international financial institutions for vulnerable communities.

Multisectoral Participation:

- Summit aimed to accelerate climate action by uniting governments, businesses, financial institutions, local authorities, and civil society.
- Recognized the necessity of collective global effort for a transition to a renewable-energy-based, climate-resilient global economy.

Three Acceleration Tracks:

Ambition Track:

- Government leaders, especially major emitters, expected to present updated pre-2030 Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and net-zero targets.
- Encouraged to commit to energy transition plans excluding new coal, oil, and gas projects, with fossil fuel phase-out plans and ambitious renewable energy targets.
- Focus on Green Climate Fund pledges and adaptation/resilience plans.
- Urged all main emitters and G20 governments to commit to more ambitious economy-wide NDCs with absolute emissions cuts by 2025.

Credibility Track:

- Business, city, region, and financial leaders tasked with aligning transition plans with a UN-backed credibility standard ("Integrity Matters" report).
- Standard includes net-zero pledges fully aligned with the 1.5°C target, specific requirements (2025 and 2030 targets, scope 3 emissions, fossil fuel phase-out, genuine emissions reductions without offsets, and science-based climate action advocacy).

Implementation Track:

- Leaders from various sectors to present existing/emerging implementation partnerships for decarbonizing high-emitting sectors (e.g., energy, shipping, aviation, steel, cement).
- Focus on partnerships addressing climate justice (international financial system reform, early warning systems for adaptation and loss and damage).

Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/india-us-china-absent-at-uns-climate-summit/article67329914.ece>

Q.1 Consider the following statements:

1. China, United States and India are the top three emitters of Greenhouse Gases (GHG)
2. India is third highest emitter in Per Capita terms

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANSWER: A

Q.2 Consider the following statements:

1. India is aiming to reduce emissions intensity by 70% compared to 2005 levels by 2030
2. India has committed to become a Net Zero emitter by 2070.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANSWER: B

Q.3 Discuss the significance of international climate summits in the context of global efforts to combat climate change. How can countries, particularly major emitters, contribute effectively to achieving the goals set forth in these summits?

Rishabh



Yojna IAS
योजना है तो सफलता है