

DECEMBER

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MK Yadav Sir



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Google Gemini: what is it, and is it better than ChatGPT 4?

NANDAGOPAL RAJAN
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 7

GOOGLE GEMINI, a new multimodal general AI model, which the tech giant calls its most powerful yet, is now available to users around the world through Bard, some developer platforms, and even the new Google Pixel 8 Pro phones.

The flexible AI model, which comes in three sizes — Ultra (which is yet to be launched), Pro, and Nano — is being seen as Google's answer to ChatGPT, which has been ahead of the game so far when it comes to generative artificial intelligence (GenAI).

So what is Google Gemini?

Demis Hassabis, CEO and co-founder of the AI research lab Google DeepMind, said Gemini gets close to the vision of "AI that

feels less like a smart piece of software and more like something useful and intuitive — an expert helper or assistant".

Gemini has been built from scratch as a collaborative effort by teams across Google. It is also multimodal, which means it can work, understand, and operate across text, code, audio, image, and video. By contrast, ChatGPT cannot work on video at the moment, at least not natively.

It is also much more powerful than existing models. Google claims Gemini Ultra's performance "exceeds current state-of-the-art results on 30 of the 32 widely-used academic benchmarks" used in large language model (LLM) research and development.

Gemini Ultra is the first model to outperform human experts on massive multitask language understanding (MMLU), which uses a combination of 57 subjects such as math, physics, history, law, medicine, and



Google has termed Gemini its largest and most capable AI model. *Blog, Google*

ethics for testing both world knowledge and problem-solving abilities, Google said.

Also, Gemini can "understand, explain and generate high-quality code in the world's most popular programming languages, like

Python, Java, C++ and Go".

Why does Gemini come in three sizes?

They will cater to different needs. Gemini Ultra, the largest and most capable model, will be for highly complex tasks. Since this model is still completing trust and safety checks, it is available only to select customers, developers, partners, and safety and responsibility experts for early experimentation and feedback. It will be rolled out to developers and enterprise customers early next year.

Gemini Pro will be best at scaling across a wide range of tasks and is now available in Bard for regular users across the world. On Bard, it has a "specifically tuned version of Gemini Pro in English for more advanced reasoning, planning, understanding and more". Developers and enterprise customers will be able to access Gemini Pro via the Gemini API in Google AI Studio or Google Cloud Vertex AI.

Gemini Nano will manage on-device tasks, and is already available on Pixel 8 Pro, powering new features like Summarise in the Recorder app and Smart Reply via Gboard, starting with WhatsApp.

Will Gemini also impact Google search?

Google says Gemini will be rolled out for more products and services like Search, Ads, Chrome and Duet AI. It is already starting to experiment with Gemini in Search, "where it's making Search Generative Experience (SGE) faster for users, with a 40% reduction in latency in English in the US, alongside improvements in quality".

How does Gemini address issues of hallucination and safety?

Eli Collins, VP, Product, Google DeepMind, told *The Indian Express* that while they have done a lot of work on improving factuality in Gemini, the LLM can still hallucinate.

"When we integrate these models with products like Bard, we have additional techniques to improve the accuracy of responses."

On safety, Google said it is adding "new protections to account for Gemini's multimodal capabilities", and is considering potential risks and working to test and mitigate them at each stage of development.

The company claims it has the "most comprehensive safety evaluations of any Google AI model to date, including for bias and toxicity". It is also working with a diverse group of external experts and partners to stress-test models across a range of issues.

So is Gemini better than ChatGPT 4?

At the moment it is hard to say, but Gemini does seem to be more flexible. Its ability to work with video, and on devices without Internet give it an edge. Another factor is that Gemini is now free to use, while ChatGPT4 is only for paying users.

Context: Recently, Google introduced Project Gemini, an artificial intelligence (AI) model designed to exhibit human-like behavior.

Google Gemini

- **About:** Gemini is an AI model that cannot be accessed directly. Rather, it acts as a base that Google and, ultimately, other developers can use to build products on top of.
- **Built by:** Gemini was built from the ground up to be multimodal, which means it can operate across and combine different types of information, including text, audio, image, code, and video.
- **It can recognise images, speak in real-time,** and even solve physics with remarkable ingenuity.
- **Gemini 1.0 comprises 3 Models:** Ultra, Pro, and Nano.
 - **Gemini Ultra:** It is Google's most powerful LLM ever and is aimed at enterprise applications that will run it for "highly complex tasks."
 - **Gemini Pro:** It is the most general-purpose of the three and has already been plugged into Bard for prompts that require advanced reasoning, planning, and understanding.
 - **Gemini Nano:** It is described as the most efficient model for on-device tasks, has been baked into the Pixel 8 Pro to process tasks like information summarisation and Smart Reply.
- **Tensor Processing Units:** Gemini 1.0 runs on its AI-optimised infrastructure using its in-house designed Tensor Processing Units (TPUs) v4 and v5e.

Is Gemini better than ChatGPT 4?

- Gemini seems to be **more flexible than GPT4** at the moment. Also its **ability to work with video and on devices without Internet** give it an edge.
- **Gemini is now free to use while ChatGPT4 is only for paid users.**

Centre-approved board praising Tagore put up at Santiniketan to mark UNESCO world heritage tag

Bishwanath Ghosh
KOLKATA

Visva-Bharati University has finally replaced the controversial plaques commemorating UNESCO's world heritage tag to Santiniketan with a board approved by the Centre.

It was in mid-September that Santiniketan, founded by Debendranath Tagore and home to Visva-Bharati, the university set up by his son Rabindranath, was accorded the heritage status. Soon, plaques came up marking the site, but bore only the names of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is the Chancellor, and (the then) Vice-Chancellor Bidyut Chakrabarty.

The move kicked up a storm and put the administration on the back foot. It claimed that the plaques were temporarily erected to demarcate the heritage area, and they carried the names of the Chancellor



Earlier, plaques marking the heritage site had names of PM and V-C but not Tagore.

and the Vice-Chancellor purely for authentication.

In late November, texts in Hindi and English, drafted by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and approved by the Union Ministry of Education, were sent to Visva-Bharati for correction and for Bengali translation. The university then formed a committee for the purpose and on Wednesday night a trilingual board came up.

The ASI text not only mentioned Rabindranath Tagore but also showered

him with superlatives that the committee had to tone it down. "Tagore's name, for example, was prefixed with the word 'great'. Now Tagore himself wouldn't have approved of it," a source told *The Hindu*.

The new board states, "Santiniketan continues to stand as a beacon of inter-cultural dialogue and artistic expression, nurturing the spirit of innovation and harmony. It remains a testament to Rabindranath Tagore's vision of an abode where the world makes its home in a single nest, resonating with the timeless pursuit of knowledge and unity in diversity."

Footnote

To possibly avoid controversy, it has a footnote: "The text on this board is the officially approved statement of the UNESCO recognition of heritage status as endorsed by the Ministry of Education."

Context: Visva-Bharati University has finally replaced the controversial plaques commemorating **UNESCO's world heritage tag to Santiniketan with a board approved** by the Centre.

Shantiniketan

- **About:** It was the home of Rabindranath Tagore, where he lived and composed many of his literary works, including songs, poems, and novels.
- **Location:** Birbhum District, West Bengal, India
- **Built by:** Debendranath Tagore (father of Rabindranath Tagore)
- **Shantiniketan Festivals:** Briksharopan (festival of Planting Saplings) and Halakarshan (festival of Plowing the Fields)

UNESCO World Heritage Sites

- **About:** It is a place that is listed by UNESCO for its special cultural or physical significance.
- **Maintained by:** International 'World Heritage Programme', administered by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee.
- **Selection Criteria:** Sites must be already classified landmarks, unique and significant culturally or physically, such as ancient ruins, historical structures, cities, monuments, etc.
- **India's Role:** India has been a member of the World Heritage Committee thrice before (1985-91, 2001-07 & 2011-15) and is serving a fourth term (2021-25).
- **India's Sites:** 41 World Heritage Sites.
- 33 are cultural, 7 are natural, and one, the Khangchendzonga National Park, is of mixed type.

Study of virus causing hemorrhagic disease in elephants might help in the development of diagnostics & therapeutics.

Context: Recently, the ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute (ICAR-IVRI), Izatnagar, Bareilly, has found the **exact status of elephant endotheliotropic herpesvirus subtypes (EEHV) and its subtypes** circulating among Asian elephant population in India.

Elephant Endotheliotropic Herpesviruses (EEHV)

- **About:** EEHV is responsible for one of the most devastating viral infectious diseases in elephants worldwide, especially young Asian elephants.
 - In India, the incidence of EEHV-HD was first reported in 1997.
- **Transmission of the Disease:** EEHV is mostly spread through mucosal secretions which include: Saliva, Breast milk, Nasal secretions, Vaginal secretions and Trunk to trunk contacts.
 - The disease can only affect elephants and is not infectious to humans or other animals.
- **Symptoms:** Lethargy, Selective appetite to complete anorexia, Pyrexia, Edema of the head and trunk and limb, Reduced trunk movement and Cyanosis of the tongue.
- **Treatment:** Treatment involves a combination of antiviral therapy, aggressive fluid therapy to counter hemorrhaging, immuno-stimulant drugs, and antipyretics and analgesics to manage symptoms.

Centre clears export of non-basmati rice to 5 African nations

SANDIP DAS
New Delhi, December 7

THE GOVERNMENT Thursday approved exports of about 0.24 million tonne (MT) of non-basmati white rice to five African countries through National Cooperative Export Ltd (NCEL).

According to a Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) notification, broken rice exports have been approved for Kenya (0.1 MT), Egypt (0.06 MT), Madagascar (0.05 MT), Comoros (0.02 MT) and Equatorial Guinea (0.01 MT).

In October, the government had given nod for exports of 1.34 MT of non-basmati white rice to Philippines, Cameroon, Malaysia, Ivory Coast, republic of Guinea, Nepal and Seychelles through NCEL.

Last month, the government had allowed exports of about 0.9 MT of broken rice to five African and Asian countries — Senegal, Mali, Gambia, Indonesia and Bhutan through NCEL.

On July 20, while the government banned shipment of white rice to boost domestic supplies, the exports are allowed to meet the food security needs of the developing countries through a government to government (G2G) route.

It had imposed 20% export duties on par-boiled rice to



improve domestic supplies till March 31, 2024.

Retail rice prices rose by 11.64% in October, marginally lower from previous month.

Rice inflation has been rising in double digits since the beginning of the year.

India has been the world's largest exporter of rice over the last decade with more than 40% share in annual global rice trade of 55 MT.

In FY23, India exported a record 17.78 MT of non-basmati rice worth of \$ 6.35 billion.

During the April-September period of the current fiscal, the country has exported 6.8 MT of non-basmati rice, a decline of 23% from the same period previous fiscal.

Context: Recently, the Indian government approved the export of **non-basmati white rice to five African countries** through the National Cooperative Export Ltd (NCEL).

- According to a Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) notification, broken rice exports have been approved for Kenya, Egypt, Madagascar, Comoros and Equatorial Guinea.

Key Points

- The **export of non-Basmati white rice was prohibited** on July 20, 2023, citing increasing domestic prices of rice.
- In September 2022**, the Centre had banned exports of broken rice.
- In August 2023**, the Centre imposed 20% export duty on par-boiled non-basmati rice.
- In October 2023**, the government had **given nod for exports of non-basmati white rice** to Philippines, Cameroon, Malaysia, Ivory Coast, republic of Guinea, Nepal and Seychelles.
- Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (**APEDA**) is the **agency responsible for regulation of export of Basmati rice**.

India's Status in Rice Exports

- India is the second-largest producer** of rice in the world, after China.
- India has become the largest rice exporter globally**, accounting for nearly 40% of global rice exports in 2022/23.
- Non-basmati white rice constitutes approximately 25%** of the total rice exported from the country.
- Basmati Rice production in India:** J & K, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Uttarakhand and western Uttar Pradesh.
- Categories of Rice Export: Basmati rice, Parboiled non-basmati rice, Raw white rice and Broken non-basmati rice.

Successful training launch of Short-Range Ballistic Missile 'Agni-1'

Context: Recently, the **training launch of the Short-Range Ballistic Missile 'Agni-1'** was successfully conducted from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha, showcasing the proven very high precision of the missile system.

Agni I Missile

- **Range and Classification:** Agni-1 is classified as a medium-range ballistic missile (MRBM) with an operational range of 700–900 km.
- **Propulsion:** This missile operates on a single-stage, solid-fuel propulsion system.
- **Payload Capability:** Capable of carrying a nuclear warhead, Agni-1 boasts an estimated payload capacity of 1,000 kg.
- **Technological Upgrades:** Recent enhancements include a more precise guidance system and an upgraded warhead, enhancing both accuracy and destructive power.
- **Mobility and Strategic Advantage:** Its road-mobile design ensures high mobility, making it a challenging target for adversaries.
- **Deployment:** Agni-1 underwent its maiden test-fire in 2002, followed by deployment by the Indian Army's Strategic Forces Command in 2007.
- **Origins and Development Program:** Originating from the **1983 Integrated Guided Missile Development Program (IGMDP)**, Agni-1 represents a significant milestone in India's missile development efforts.

IGMDP

- **About:** Initiated in 1982–83, the program aimed at the Research and Development (R&D) of a diverse array of missiles in India, spearheaded by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.
- **Nodal Ministry:** The Ministry of Defence administered this program, with operational management entrusted to the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Types of Missiles under the Programme

- Short Range Surface to Surface Missile (SSM) 'Prithvi'
- Long Range Surface to Surface Missile (SSM) 'Agni'
- Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (SAM) 'Akash'
- Short Range Surface to Air Missile (SAM) 'Trishul'
- Anti-tank Guided Missile (ATGM) 'Nag'.

MeitY blocks 100+ websites for job frauds

Context: Recently, the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) took action based on inputs from the Indian Cyber Coordination Centre (I4C) by blocking over 100 websites engaged in organized investment and task-based, part-time job frauds, most of which were operated by overseas entities.

Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C)

- **About:** it is an initiative of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India to deal with cyber crime in the country in a coordinated and comprehensive manner.
- **Aim:** to provide a framework and eco-system for Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) for dealing with Cybercrime in a coordinated and comprehensive manner.
 - I4C is envisaged to act as the nodal point to curb Cybercrime in the country.
- **Focus:** On tackling all the issues related to Cybercrime for the citizens, which includes improving coordination between various Law Enforcement Agencies and the stakeholders.
- **Objectives of I4C**
 - To act as a nodal point to curb Cybercrime in the country.
 - To strengthen the fight against Cybercrime committed against women and children.
 - Facilitate easy filing Cybercrime related complaints and identifying Cybercrime trends and patterns.
 - To act as an early warning system for Law Enforcement Agencies for proactive Cybercrime prevention and detection.
 - Awareness creation among public about preventing Cybercrime.
 - Assist States/UTs in capacity building of Police Officers, Public Prosecutors and Judicial Officers in the area of cyber forensic, investigation, cyber hygiene, cyber-criminology, etc.

UNICEF in collaboration with India to launch "Green Rising" initiative at COP28 Summit in Dubai today to mobilize youth to drive climate action

Context: Recently, **UNICEF's Generation Unlimited, in collaboration with India's Ministry** of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, unveiled the "**Green Rising**" initiative at **COP28 in Dubai**.

- The global "Green Rising" initiative and the "Green Rising India Alliance" marks a collaborative effort involving UNICEF, Generation Unlimited, and a diverse network of public, private, and youth partners.

Green Rising" Youth Initiative

- **About:** The initiative channels youth involvement for impactful grassroots environmental actions, aligning with global climate change mitigation efforts.
- **Aim:** To mobilize millions of young people worldwide, encouraging their active participation in green initiatives addressing and adapting to the severe impacts of climate change on their communities.
- **YuWaah Campaign in India:** Focused on inspiring youth through the Mission Life movement, the YuWaah campaign engages them in driving meaningful environmental actions at the grassroots level.
- **Declarations and Initiatives:** Historic declarations at the conference encompassed food systems, health, renewable energy, and efficiency, targeting the decarbonization of heavy-emitting industries.
- **Financial Commitments:** Pledges included 726 million dollars for Loss and Damage support, with significant boosts for the Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Fund, and Least Developed Countries Fund.
- **ALTERRA: UAE's Catalytic Fund:** The UAE's launch of the 30 billion dollars ALTERRA fund underscores a commitment to mobilize an additional 250 billion dollars for global climate action.

Stop producing ethanol from sugarcane juice: Govt to mills

Ethanol from B-heavy molasses allowed

NOT IN SWEET SPOT

Shares of sugar and ethanol firms decline

SANJEEB MUKHERJEE
New Delhi, 7 December

With sugar production expected to be down in the 2023-24 season, the central government has directed all sugar mills not to use sugarcane juice or syrup for making ethanol this year and has allowed the production of ethanol from B-heavy molasses as it is.

The 2023-24 sugar season started in October, while the ethanol supply year (ESY) started in November.

The direction came as negative news for the sugar companies, with their stocks trading lower on Thursday. Investors felt that ethanol



	Share price in ₹	1-day chg (%)
Uttam Sugar Mills	409.1	-8.2
EID Parry India	531.4	-5.9
Dalmia Bharat Sugar	408.6	-5.7
Balrampur Chini Mills	408.4	-5.3
Triveni Engineering & Industries	345.3	-5.0

Source: Bloomberg, exchange

Compiled by BS Research Bureau

PROPOSAL IN WORKS TO BUY 100K TONNES OF MAIZE AT MSP PAGE 8

realisations would get impacted as the major feedstock moved to produce more sugar.

In the 2022-23 ESY (December-October), sources said that until a few months ago, of the 4.94 billion litres of ethanol produced in the country, a

quarter, estimated to be around 1.26 billion litres, came from sugarcane juice or syrup as feedstock, while 2.33 billion litres (around 47 per cent) came from B-heavy molasses, and the rest, around 1.3 billion litres, came from grain-based sources. Turn to Page 8 ▶

Context: Recently, the Centre prohibited the utilization of 'sugarcane juice and sugar syrup' for ethanol production in the 2023-24 supply year, which commenced this month. This measure aims to ensure sufficient sugar availability for domestic consumption and to regulate prices.

- The government has allowed use of 'B-molasses' for ethanol production in 2023-24, a move which sugar industry bodies welcomed

Sugarcane Cultivation in India

- Two Distinct Agro-Climatic Regions:** Tropical and Subtropical
- Tropical region Shared about 45% and 55% of the total sugarcane area and production in the country
- Five Agro-Climatic Zones:** (i) North Western Zone (ii) North Central Zone (iii) North Eastern Zone (iv) Peninsular Zone (v) Coastal Zone.
- Suitable Conditions for Production:**
 - Temperature:** Between 21-27°C with hot and humid climate.
 - Rainfall:** Around 75-100 cm.
 - Soil Type:** Deep rich loamy soil.
- Sugarcane in Major Growing States:** Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Haryana
- Status of Sugarcane Sector in India**
- The Largest Sugarcane Producer:** India has emerged as the largest producer of sugarcane in the world, surpassing Brazil during the 2021-22.
- The Second Largest Sugar Exporter:** India has consistently been the second-largest exporter of sugar, following Brazil.

B-molasses

- About:** It is a viscous substance, principally obtained from the refining of sugarcane or sugar beet juice into sugar.
- It has approximately the same DM content as A molasses but contains less sugar and does not spontaneously crystallize.

PM Modi extends greetings on occasion of Hanukkah

Context: Recently, Prime Minister of India extended his greetings to the Jewish community in India and around the world on the occasion of Hanukkah.

Hanukkah

- **About:** Hanukkah, a festival of lights, commemorates events in Jerusalem in 165 BC.
- **Calendar Observance:** Begins on the 25th of Kislev, ending on the sacred Zos Chanukah in the Jewish calendar.
- **Timing:** Occurs between late November and December in the Gregorian calendar.
- **Temple Rededication:** Marks the rededication of the Second Temple during the Maccabean Revolt.
- **Contemporary Celebration:** Celebrated from December 18 to 26 this year.

Judainism in Indian

- **Bene Israel:** meaning Children of Israel. Marathi speaking. Arrived in Maharashtra 2,100 years ago.
- **Cochin Jews:** arrived in India 2,500 years ago and settled down in Kerala as traders.
- **Baghdadi Jews:** Jews who came to India as traders from West Asia, mainly from Baghdad. They are settled mainly in Mumbai, Pune and Kolkata.
- **Bene Menashe:** The Manipur Jews constitute a community which sees itself as descendants of the Manasseh (Menashe) Tribe (which is one of the 10 lost tribes of Jews).
- **Bene Ephraim:** Also called “Telugu Jews”. They are a small group who speak Telugu. Their observance of Judaism dates to 1981.

INDIA CONTINUES MOMENTUM OF FASTEST-GROWING ECONOMY: FM

Nirmala: 13.5 cr people moved out of multidimensional poverty in 5 years



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman speaks in Rajya Sabha during the Winter Session proceedings on Thursday. PTI

**MAHENDER SINGH
MANRAL**
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 7

UNION FINANCE Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday said around 13.5 crore people have moved out of "multidimensional" poverty in the last five years and India continues to maintain the momentum of the fastest-growing major economy, with all sectors contributing significantly to economic activities.

Replying to a short-duration discussion in Rajya Sabha on the state of the economy, Sitharaman highlighted the various achievements of the Narendra Modi government since May 2014. "The second quarter growth was very high, it is the highest in the world. We continuously maintain that momentum of being the fastest-growing economy," she said.

Quoting Niti Aayog's 2022 report on poverty, she said 13.5 crore Indians have escaped multidimensional poverty.

Comparing the growth of the Indian economy with other countries, the minister said, "During

the same quarter (July-September 2023), the world's third and fourth largest economies have contracted - Germany contracted 0.4% and Japan contracted by 2.1%. Emerging economies, which are largely the engine of growth for the world, Vietnam grew by 5.33%, Malaysia by 3.3% and Thailand by just about 1.5%," she said.

"...For India to have reached 7.6% in the second quarter, it's a very significant number. Over the last eight years, India has become the fifth largest economy from being the tenth largest in 2015. The activities are all across the economy, it's not just one sector that is doing well. The service sector and the software services are doing very well. All sectors are significantly doing well. Because of the Make in India programme and also because of the PM's production-linked incentive scheme, the manufacturing sector is also significantly contributing to the economy. The manufacturing sector has registered the highest growth of 13.9% in the second quarter of this year," Sitharaman said.

She said the Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) has been in expansionary territory for

more than 29 consecutive months, which indicates sustained growth of manufacturing. "If you look at the major economies like the US, Australia, Eurozone, Brazil, China, South Korea they have seen a contractionary manufacturing terrain," the minister said.

"As per the BCG (Boston Consulting Group) report, Made in India products are increasingly being seen in the American supermarket. While US goods imports from China have declined by 10%, those imported from India have risen by 40% from 2018 to 2022. The focus has been on infrastructure building and our schemes in this respect have also helped states spend much more on building capital assets," she said.

The minister further informed the House that direct tax collection grew by 21.82% this year till November 9 and monthly GST collections stabilised at Rs 1.6 lakh crore in a sign of economic growth. Dismissing assertions on the employment front, Sitharaman said the unemployment rate has declined to 10% from 17.8% in 2017-18.

MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX

(Syllabus: GS Paper 3 – Economy)

Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)

- **About:** The index is a key international resource that measures acute multidimensional poverty across more than 100 developing countries.
- **Produced by:** United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)
- **Calculation of MPI:** Multiplying the incidence of poverty and the average intensity of poverty.
- **MPI Ranges:** From 0 to 1, and higher values imply higher poverty.

National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)

- **About:** It is prepared based on the latest National Family Health Survey of 2019-21.
 - NFHS is conducted by the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
- **First Edition Released:** 2021
- **Nodal Agency:** NITI Aayog
- **Indicators:** 3 equally weighted dimensions - Health, Education, and Standard of living

Context: Recently, the Union Finance Minister of India highlighted that approximately 13.5 crore people escaped "multidimensional" poverty in the last five years. India, maintaining its momentum as the fastest-growing major economy, witnesses significant contributions from all sectors to economic activities.

- **India has become the fifth largest economy** from being the tenth largest in 2015.

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