



## Human Freedom Index Report -2021

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- The 'Human Freedom Index report' has been jointly **released by the 'Cato Institute' of America and the 'Fraser Institute' of Canada**. This annual report assesses the state of freedom in the world based on parameters of personal, civil and economic freedom.
- **In the 2021 report, Switzerland, New Zealand and Denmark ranked first, second and third respectively.** Syria has been ranked last.
- According to this report, between 2008 and 2019, there has been a decline in the status of personal and civil liberties in most countries of the world. **The decline has been more worrying in matters of 'freedom of expression' and 'freedom of religion'.**
- There has been a steady decline in personal and civil liberties between 2013 and 2019 in India too. India has been ranked 119th out of 165 countries in the 2021 report. It is noteworthy that India was ranked 90th in 2013.
- India was ranked even lower than its neighboring countries Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka. However, it performed well as compared to China, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

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