

India's Happiness Report 2021

2020 has been a year like no other. The **World Happiness Report 2021** focuses on the effects of COVID-19 and how people all over the world have faced. The pandemic's worst effect has been the 2 million deaths from COVID-19 in 2020. A rise of nearly 4% in the annual number of deaths worldwide represents a serious social welfare loss. For the living there has been greater economic insecurity, anxiety, disruption of every aspect of life, and, for many people, stress and challenges to mental and physical health.

The first World Happiness Report was released on April 1, 2012 as a foundational text for the UN High Level Meeting: Well-being and Happiness: Defining a New Economic Paradigm, drawing international attention. The first report outlined the state of world happiness, causes of happiness and misery, and policy implications highlighted by case studies. In 2013, the second World Happiness Report was issued, and in 2015 the third. Since 2016, it has been issued on an annual basis on the 20th of March, to coincide with the UN's International Day of Happiness.

The report primarily uses data from the Gallup World Poll. Each annual report is available to the public to download on the World Happiness Report website. The 2021 Report includes data from the ICL-YouGov Behaviour Tracker as part of the COVID Data Hub from the Institute of Global Health Innovation.

	Country name	Regional indicator	Ladder score	Standard error of ladder score	upperwhisker	lowerwhisker	Logged GDP per capita	Social support	Healthy life expectancy	Freedom to make life choices	Generosity	Perceptions of corruption	Ladder score in Dystopia	Explained by: Log GDP per capita	Explained by: Social support	Explained by: Healthy life expectancy	Explained by: Freedom to make life choices	Explained by: Generosity	Explained by: Perceptions of corruption	Dystopia + residual
1	Finland	Western Europe	7.842	0.032	7.804	7.782	10.775	0.954	72.000	0.949	-0.086	0.186	2.43	1.446	1.106	0.741	0.691	0.124	0.481	3.233
2	Denmark	Western Europe	7.820	0.035	7.687	7.552	10.933	0.954	72.700	0.946	0.030	0.179	2.43	1.302	1.108	0.763	0.686	0.208	0.485	2.868
3	Switzerland	Western Europe	7.571	0.036	7.643	7.530	11.117	0.942	74.400	0.919	0.025	0.282	2.43	1.566	1.079	0.616	0.653	0.204	0.413	2.839
4	Iceland	Western Europe	7.554	0.039	7.670	7.438	10.878	0.963	73.000	0.955	0.160	0.673	2.43	1.482	1.172	0.772	0.698	0.293	0.170	2.867
5	Netherlands	Western Europe	7.464	0.027	7.518	7.410	10.932	0.942	72.400	0.913	0.175	0.338	2.43	1.501	1.079	0.753	0.647	0.302	0.384	2.798
6	Norway	Western Europe	7.392	0.035	7.462	7.323	11.053	0.954	73.300	0.960	0.093	0.270	2.43	1.543	1.108	0.782	0.703	0.249	0.427	2.580
7	Sweden	Western Europe	7.363	0.036	7.433	7.293	10.867	0.934	72.700	0.945	0.086	0.237	2.43	1.478	1.062	0.763	0.685	0.244	0.448	2.693
8	Luxembourg	Western Europe	7.324	0.037	7.396	7.252	11.647	0.908	72.600	0.907	-0.054	0.386	2.43	1.751	1.003	0.760	0.639	0.165	0.353	2.653
9	New Zealand	North America and ANZ	7.277	0.040	7.335	7.196	10.640	0.948	73.400	0.929	0.154	0.242	2.43	1.400	1.094	0.785	0.665	0.276	0.445	2.612
10	Austria	Western Europe	7.266	0.036	7.337	7.196	10.906	0.934	73.300	0.906	0.042	0.481	2.43	1.492	1.082	0.782	0.640	0.215	0.262	2.794
11	Australia	North America and ANZ	7.163	0.041	7.265	7.102	10.796	0.940	73.600	0.914	0.109	0.442	2.43	1.403	1.076	0.601	0.647	0.291	0.317	2.595
12	Israel	Middle East and North Africa	7.157	0.034	7.234	7.090	10.575	0.938	73.500	0.900	0.031	0.753	2.43	1.376	1.074	0.766	0.509	0.208	0.119	3.063
13	Germany	Western Europe	7.155	0.040	7.232	7.077	10.673	0.903	73.500	0.875	0.011	0.460	2.43	1.480	0.993	0.757	0.600	0.195	0.306	3.024
14	Canada	North America and ANZ	7.103	0.042	7.185	7.021	10.776	0.926	73.800	0.915	0.089	0.415	2.43	1.447	1.044	0.796	0.648	0.246	0.335	2.585
15	Ireland	Western Europe	7.085	0.040	7.164	7.006	11.342	0.947	72.600	0.878	0.077	0.363	2.43	1.644	1.082	0.753	0.606	0.238	0.387	2.594
16	Costa Rica	Latin America and Caribbean	7.069	0.056	7.179	6.960	9.880	0.891	71.400	0.934	-0.126	0.808	2.43	1.134	0.966	0.722	0.473	0.105	0.083	3.387
17	United Kingdom	Western Europe	7.064	0.036	7.138	6.990	10.707	0.934	72.500	0.899	0.233	0.459	2.43	1.423	1.062	0.757	0.580	0.340	0.306	2.596
18	Czech Republic	Central and Eastern Europe	6.965	0.049	7.062	6.868	10.536	0.947	70.600	0.888	-0.208	0.868	2.43	1.370	1.080	0.703	0.580	0.262	0.046	3.124
19	United States	North America and ANZ	6.951	0.049	7.047	6.856	11.023	0.920	68.200	0.837	0.086	0.696	2.43	1.333	1.030	0.621	0.554	0.252	0.154	2.807
20	Belgium	Western Europe	6.834	0.034	6.901	6.767	10.823	0.908	72.199	0.783	-0.153	0.646	2.43	1.463	0.996	0.747	0.499	0.088	0.187	2.882
21	France	Western Europe	6.690	0.037	6.762	6.618	10.704	0.942	74.000	0.822	-0.147	0.571	2.43	1.421	1.081	0.804	0.536	0.080	0.235	2.521
22	Bahrain	Middle East and North Africa	6.647	0.068	6.779	6.514	10.689	0.862	69.495	0.925	0.089	0.722	2.43	1.409	0.899	0.662	0.661	0.246	0.139	2.831
23	Malta	Western Europe	6.602	0.044	6.688	6.516	10.674	0.931	72.200	0.927	0.133	0.633	2.43	1.411	1.055	0.747	0.664	0.279	0.183	2.268
24	Taiwan Province of China	East Asia	6.584	0.036	6.659	6.510	10.871	0.896	69.600	0.794	-0.070	0.721	2.43	1.480	0.982	0.665	0.490	0.142	0.139	2.687
25	United Arab Emirates	Middle East and North Africa	6.561	0.039	6.637	6.484	11.085	0.844	67.333	0.932	0.074	0.589	2.43	1.555	0.860	0.594	0.670	0.236	0.223	2.422
26	Saudi Arabia	Middle East and North Africa	6.494	0.056	6.604	6.384	10.743	0.891	66.603	0.877	-0.149	0.694	2.43	1.435	0.964	0.571	0.603	0.090	0.163	2.668
27	Spain	Western Europe	6.491	0.042	6.574	6.408	10.571	0.932	74.700	0.761	-0.081	0.745	2.43	1.375	1.057	0.626	0.462	0.135	0.124	2.513
28	Italy	Western Europe	6.483	0.043	6.572	6.395	10.623	0.880	73.800	0.693	-0.084	0.866	2.43	1.393	0.940	0.796	0.379	0.133	0.047	2.794
29	Slovenia	Central and Eastern Europe	6.461	0.043	6.546	6.376	10.529	0.948	71.400	0.948	-0.101	0.806	2.43	1.360	1.093	0.722	0.690	0.122	0.063	2.388
30	Guatemala	Latin America and Caribbean	6.435	0.073	6.577	6.292	9.053	0.813	64.938	0.906	-0.036	0.775	2.43	0.845	0.790	0.519	0.636	0.163	0.105	3.375

Data is collected from people in over 150 countries. Each variable measured reveals a populated-weighted average score on a scale running from 0 to 10 that is tracked over time and compared against other countries. These variables include:

- Happiness (ladder)**
 Imagine a ladder, with steps numbered from 0 at the bottom to 10 at the top. The top of the ladder represents the best possible life and the bottom of the ladder represents the worst possible life.
- GDP per capita**
 Per capita gross domestic product (GDP) measures a country's economic output per person and is calculated by dividing the GDP of a country by its population.
- Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE)**
 Healthy life expectancies at birth are based on the data extracted from the World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Health Observatory data repository
- Social support**
 National average of the binary responses (either 0 or 1) to the question "If you were in trouble, do you have relatives or friends you can count on to help you whenever you need them, or not?"
- Freedom to make life choices**
 National average of responses to the question "Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with your freedom to choose what you do with your life?"
- Generosity**
 National average of response to the question "Have you donated money to a charity in the past month?" on GDP per capita.
- Corruption Perception**
 The measure is the national average of the survey responses to two questions: "Is corruption widespread throughout the government or not" and "Is corruption

widespread within businesses or not?” The overall perception is just the average of the two 0-or-1 responses. In case the perception of government corruption is missing, it uses the perception of business corruption as the overall perception.

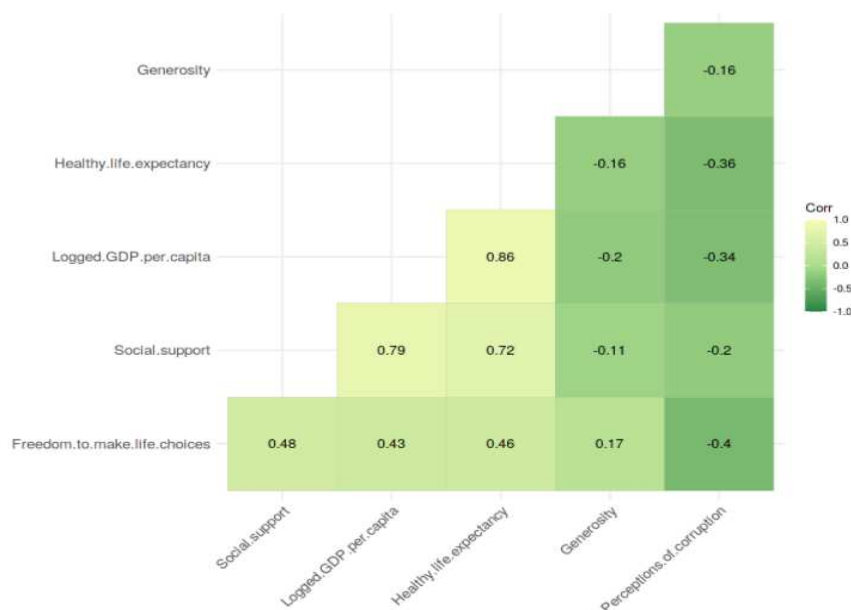
- Dystopia

Each country is also compared against a hypothetical nation called Dystopia. Dystopia represents the lowest national averages for each key variable and is, along with residual error, used as a regression benchmark. The six metrics (GDP, social support, life expectancy, freedom, absence of corruption, and generosity) are used to explain the estimated extent to which each of these factors contribute to increasing life satisfaction when compared to the hypothetical nation of Dystopia, but they themselves do not have an impact on the total score reported for each country.

Using the dataset, we focus on some of the objective that is:

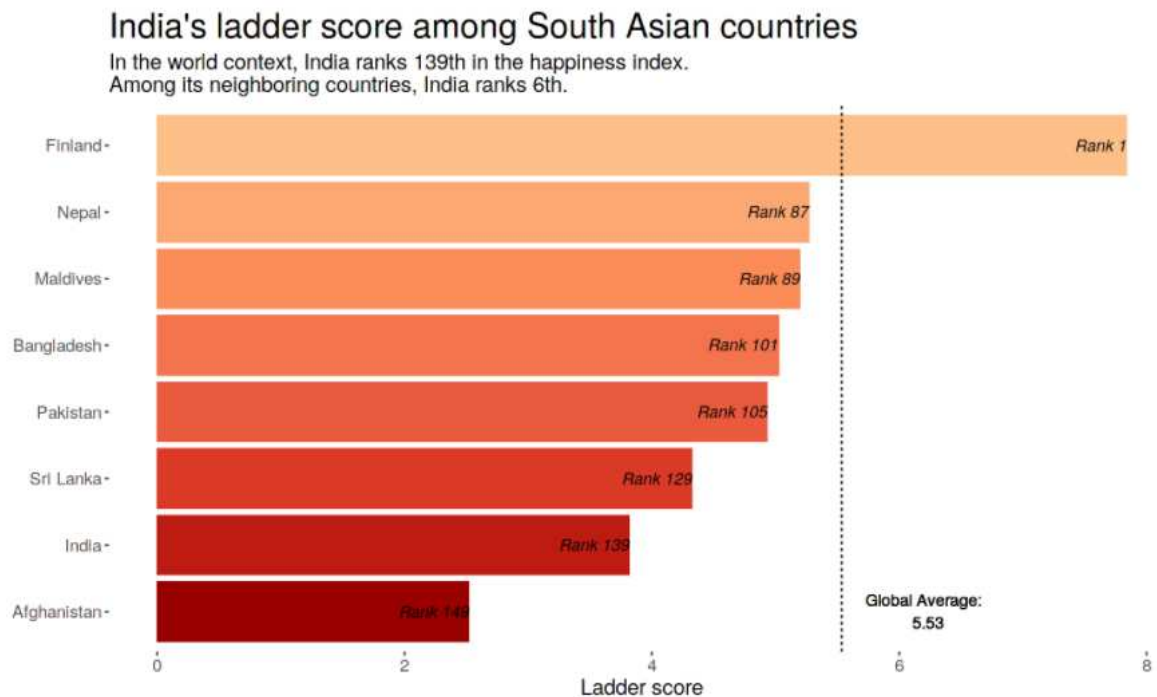
1. Is there any relation between Happiness among logged GDP per capita, healthy life expectancy and social support?
2. Exploring ladder score in India and South Asian countries.
3. Exploring GDP in India and South Asian countries.
4. Exploring social support in India and South Asian countries.
5. Exploring life expectancy in India and South Asian countries.
6. Exploring corruption in India and South Asian countries.
7. Exploring freedom to make life choice in India and South Asian countries.
8. Exploring generosity in India and South Asian countries.

According to the first objective



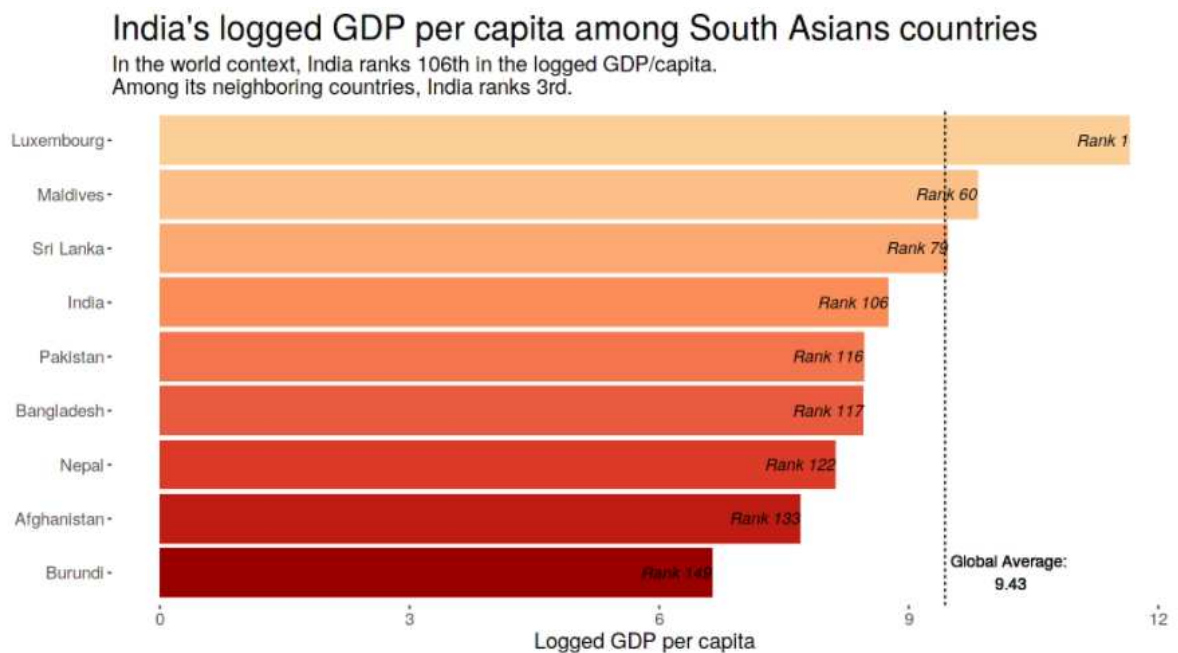
We can see from the above correlation plot that logged GDP per capita, healthy life expectancy and social support contributes the most to the happiness score.

To the second objective



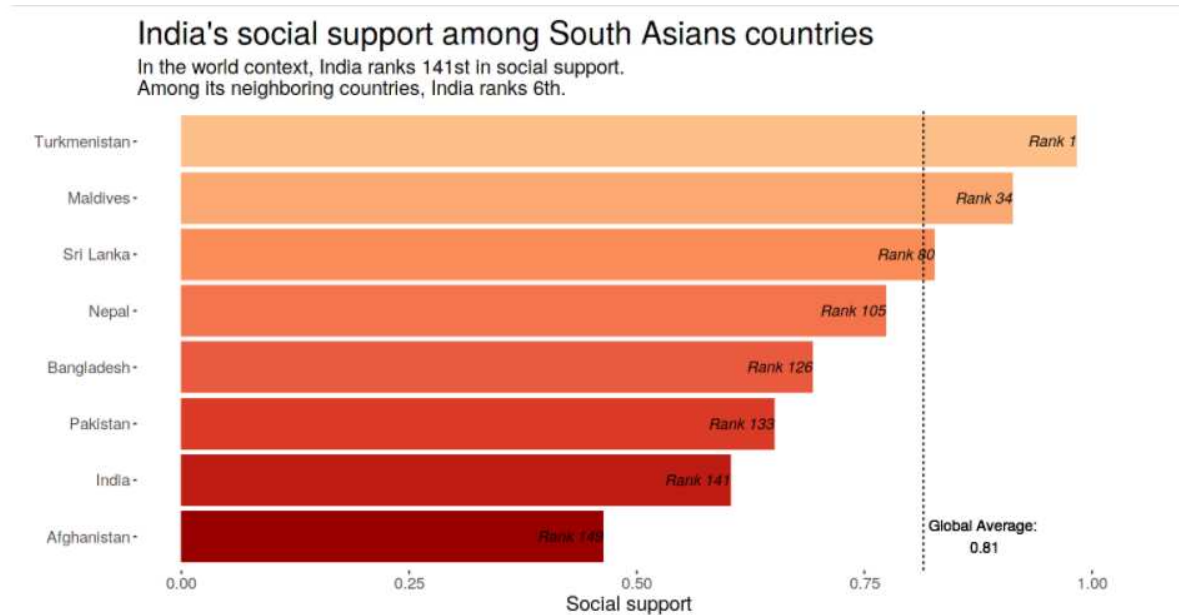
India's ladder score among its neighboring countries is in 6th position. Among the world, it's in 139th rank. From this plot, we can understand that Indian people are somewhat not that much happy during the pandemic time.

To the third objective



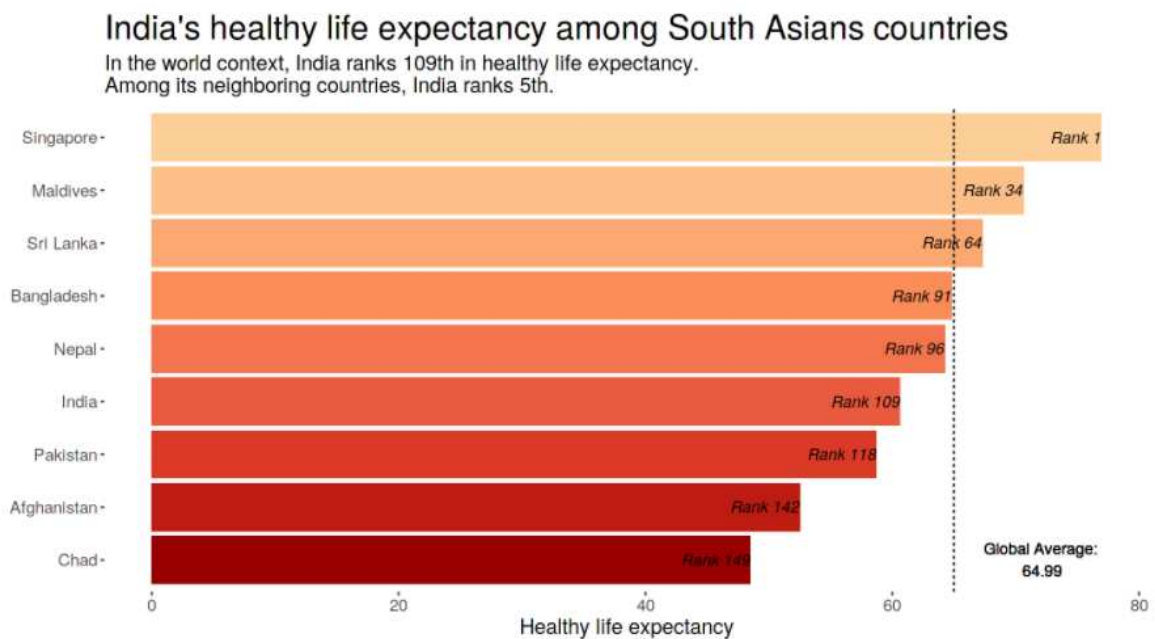
India is in 3rd position among its neighboring countries in GDP. Among the world, it's in 106th position. It's surprising to know that Maldives and Sri Lanka are doing far better than from India in GDP. There could be many factors why India's GDP is in 106th rank like economic policy, political situation, natural disaster etc.

To the fourth objective



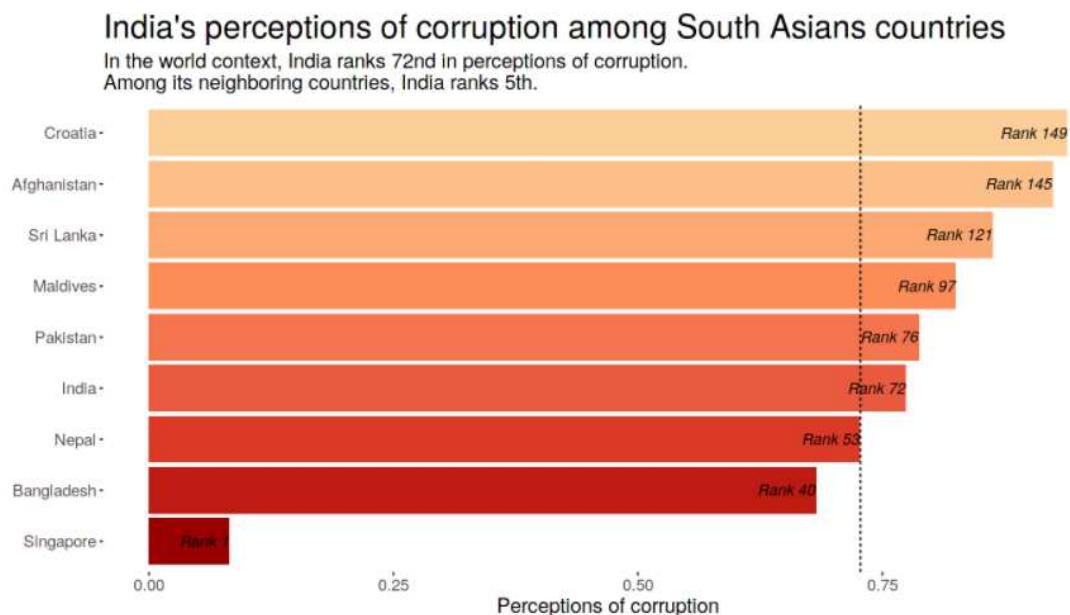
India is in 141st rank among the world in social support. From the plot, we can see India's neighboring countries are good in social support during the pandemic time.

To the fifth objective



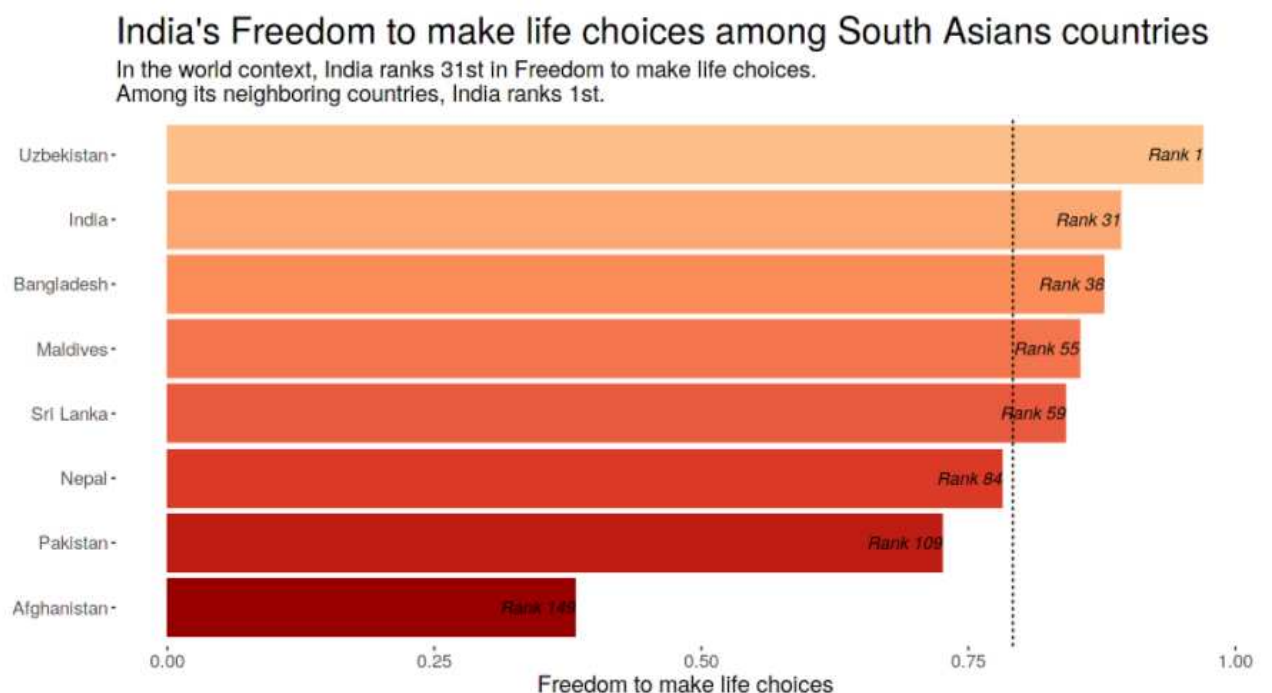
Rank of India among world in life expectancy is 109th and among neighboring countries is 5th. 1st rank is Singapore in life expectancy.

To the sixth objective



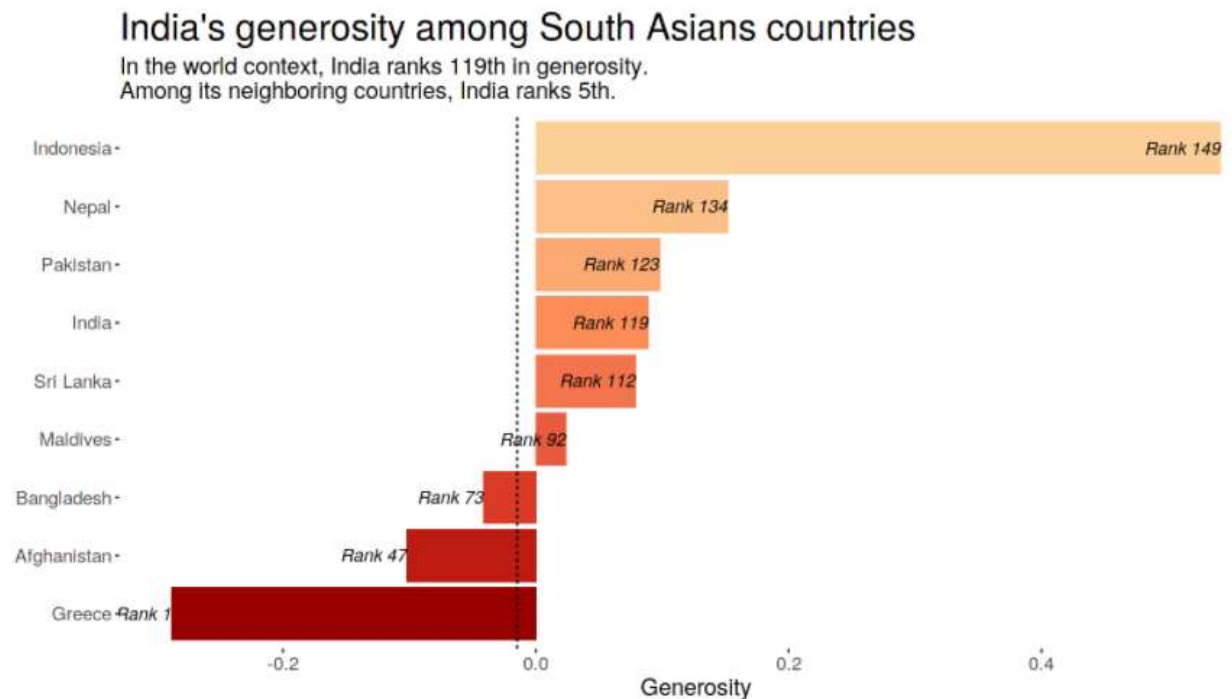
India is in 72nd rank in corruption among the world. And Singapore is in 1st rank which means it has low rate of corruption. Bangladesh is in 40th rank in corruption. From this plot, we can understand that India has more to go to make lower corruption otherwise people would give up their trust on the government and it would become a chaos.

To the seventh objective



Uzbekistan ranks 1st in the Freedom to make life choice in the world. And India ranks 31st in the world. Among neighboring countries, India is 1st. It's sad to see that Afghanistan comes last. As USA left that country and Taliban takes over the control of Afghanistan. People lose trust on the Afghan government.

Last objective



In generosity, India ranks 119th in the world context. And among neighboring countries, it is in 5th position. As India faced lots of internal and external disruption during pandemic time, it's quite difficult to be generous.

Doing the analysis of the above objectives, we could say that GDP, healthy life expectancy and social support contributes the most to the happiness score. And India is not that much happy during the pandemic time. There could be several reasons for that. According to the Observer Research Foundation, they said that declining incomes and unemployment, and unfavourable perceptions about corruption in the country, lack of social support, low levels of educational attainment and age composition of India's population makes the country unhappy. Some of the neighbouring countries of India is doing better in happiness index score or ladder score.

To quote late President Pranab Mukherjee of India, "A narrow vision focus on economic development may have given us a better GDP and increase in per capita income but moved our focus from environmental sustainability, social welfare, emotional and mental wellbeing of our people... The quest of happiness is closely tied to the quest for sustainable development which is a combination of social inclusion and environmental sustainability."

Indeed, for pursuing progress in its truest sense which is reflected no better than in happiness, India has to embrace sustainability and inclusivity in all economic, social, and political dimensions.