



*#freedom is freedom*

# Daily News Analysis



by **UPSC TREE**



**atto deepo bhava**



**15 Aug 2022**



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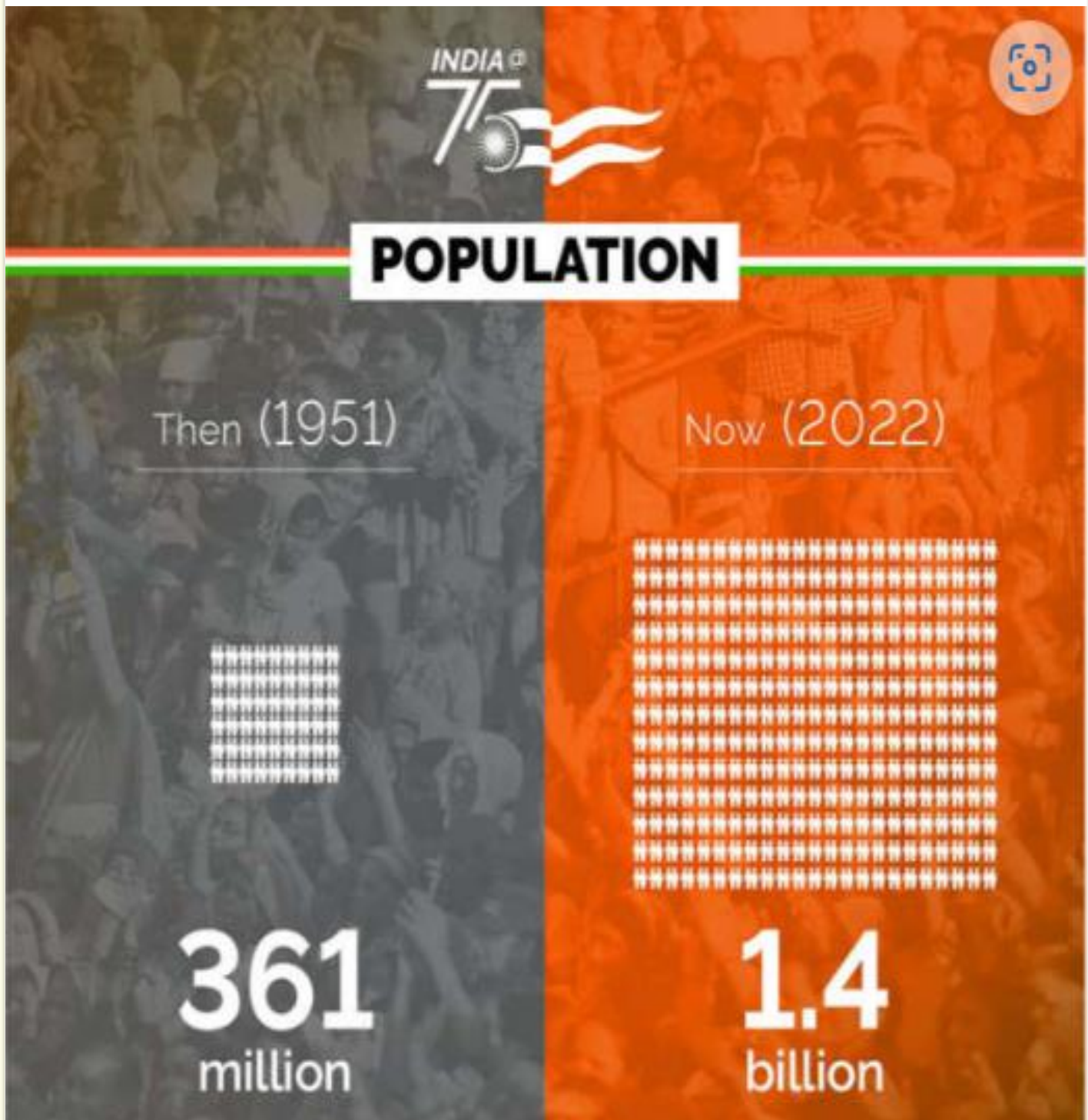
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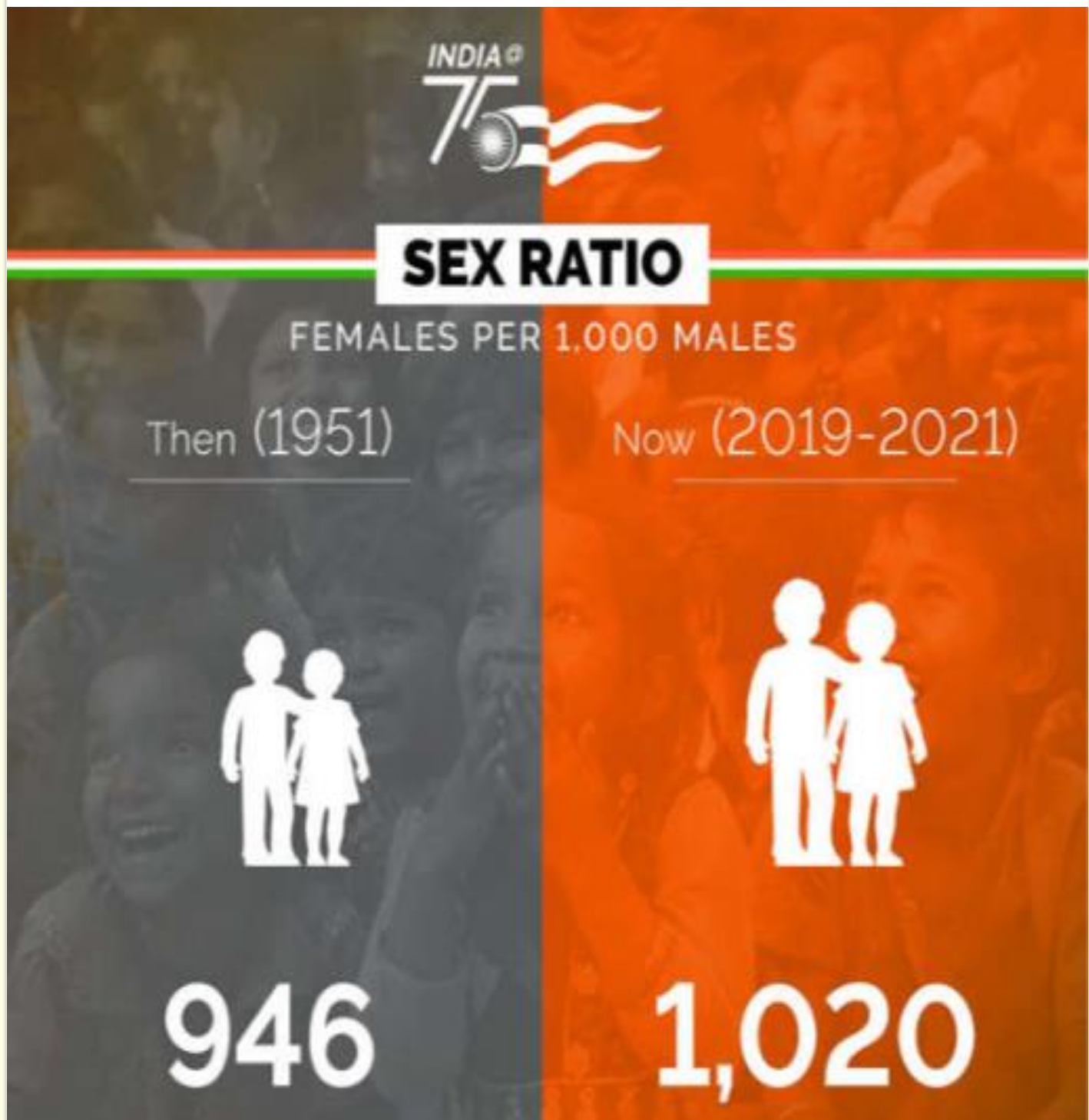
## India Then and Now

India then and now...



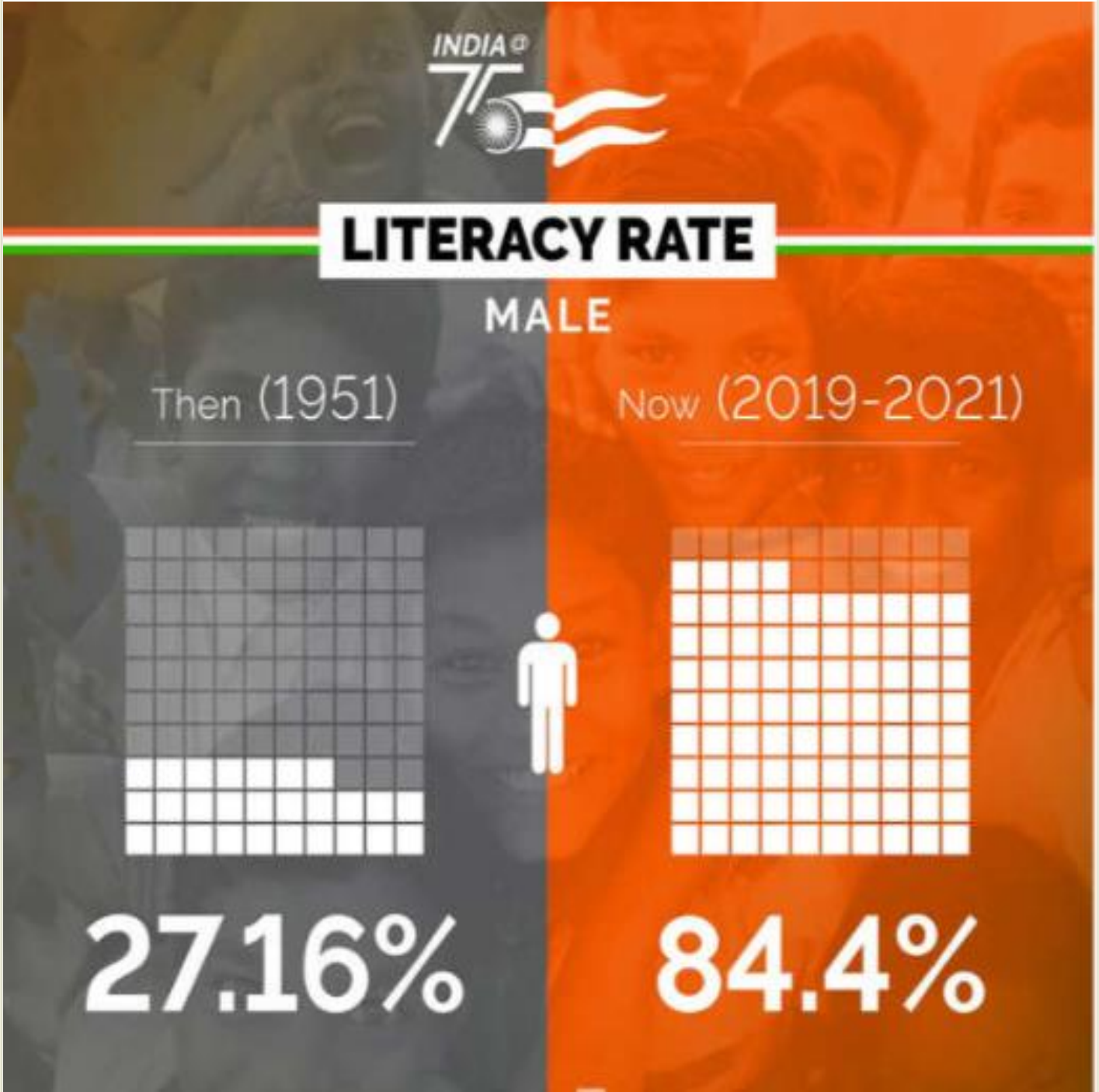
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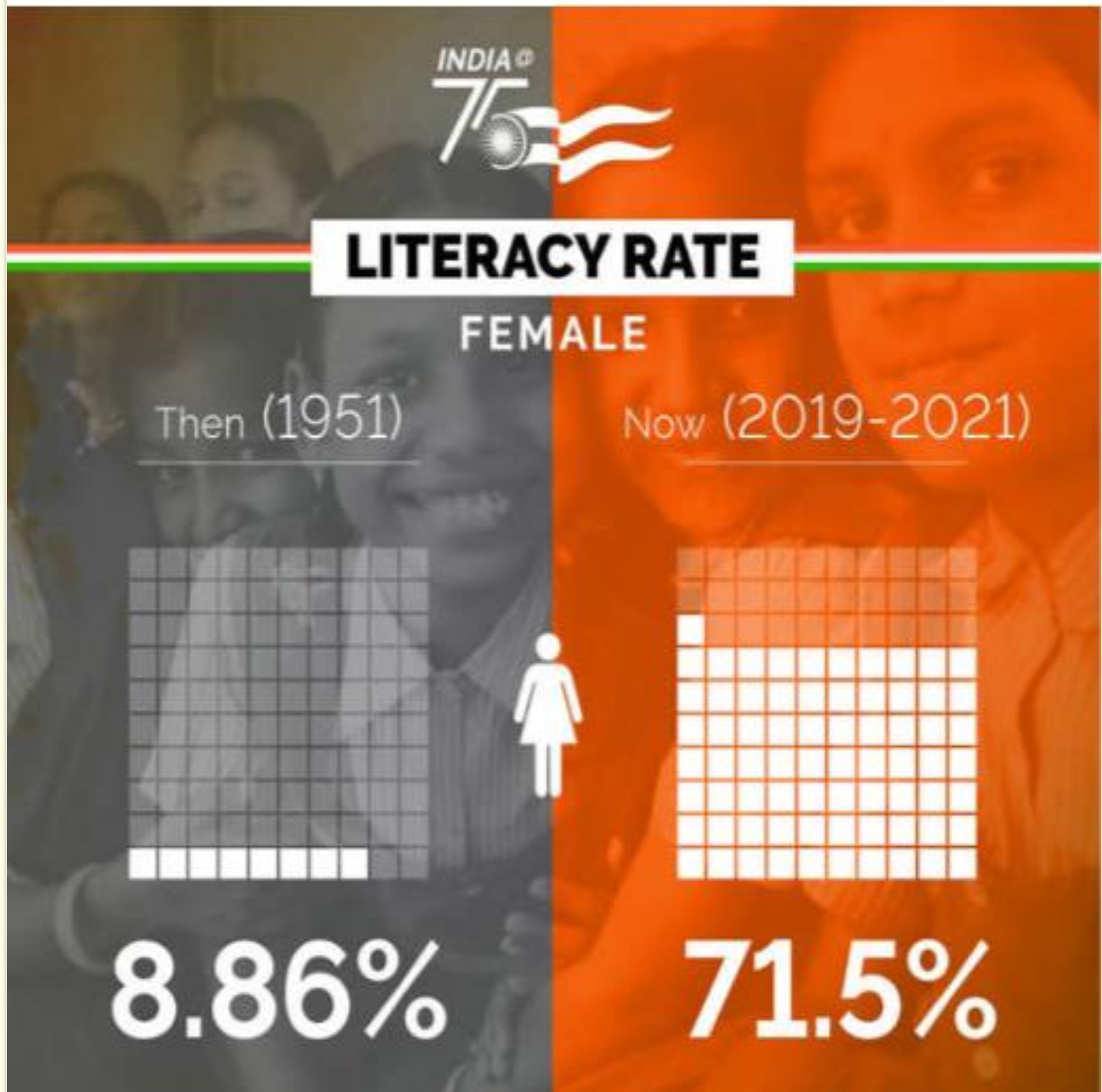
India then and now...





## India Then and Now

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## India Then and Now

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## India@75: The stories behind the long struggle

### Details >>

- ☐ Gandhi did not attend the first Independence celebrations on August 15, 1947
- ☐ According to historians, the first national flag in India was hoisted on August 7, 1906, in Parsee Bagan Square (Green Park) in Calcutta, now Kolkata. The flag was composed of three horizontal stripes of red, yellow and green, while Vande Mataram was scripted on the middle strip.
- ☐ In 1931, a resolution was passed adopting a tricolour flag as the national flag. The flag, forebear of the present one, was saffron, white, and green, with Mahatma Gandhi's spinning wheel at the centre. On July 22, 1947, the Constituent Assembly adopted the Tricolour as the Free India National Flag. However, it replaced the spinning wheel on the flag with the Dharmachakra as the emblem. The first variant of the current national flag was designed by Pingali Venkayya in 1921.
- ☐ Although the Indian Independence Act was approved on July 18, 1947, Lord Mountbatten chose August 15 as the date of India's Independence as it coincided with the date of Japan's surrender to the Allied Forces after World War II on August 15, 1945.
- ☐ The demarcation line drawn by Sir Cyril Radcliffe to depict the Pakistani and Indian portions of Punjab and Bengal, also known as the Radcliffe line, was completed on August 3, 1947. But it was officially published only on August 17, 1947, two days after India got Independence.

- ❑ The demarcation line drawn by Sir Cyril Radcliffe to depict the Pakistani and Indian portions of Punjab and Bengal, also known as the Radcliffe line , was completed on August 3, 1947. But it was officially published only on August 17, 1947, two days after India got Independence.
- ❑ Sikkim became the 22nd state of India on May 16, 1975, after then President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed signed the 36th Constitutional Amendment Bill, which was introduced in Lok Sabha on April 23, 1975, and May 15. The amendment Bill was introduced after 97.5% of the people voted to go with India in the referendum held on April 14, 1975.

## Such a long reckoning

### Details >>

- ☐ It was a wet and windy September in London. The year was 1931.
- ☐ M.K. Gandhi, almost 62 years old then, was there to attend the Second Round Table Conference (RTC) as the sole representative of the Indian National Congress.
- ☐ Called by the British government to discuss the prospect of political changes in India, the conclave was showing up the fissures in India's polity. In two other Indian barristers — M.A. Jinnah, leading the Muslims at the Conference, and B.R. Ambedkar, the clear leader of the Depressed Classes — the divides stood out.



The Second Round Table Conference in 1931. ■ THE HINDU PHOTO ARCHIVES



- ❑ The only political change Gandhi and the Indian National Congress required was complete independence. Jinnah, Ambedkar and representatives of India's princes, Sikhs, zamindars and other 'minority interests' sought to tear up Gandhi's claim that the Congress represented an inclusive India which wanted nothing more and could do with nothing less than Swaraj for all Indians, in equality.
- ❑ **India is a majority of minorities. India is not about Hindu India and non-Hindu India. It is about the aspirations of peninsular India, Himalayan India, forest India, desert India, littoral India, coastal India.**

## Changing contexts of caste

### Context >>

- ☐ The meanings of caste have transformed — as a system regulating life chances, as a mode of political mobilisation, or as a socio-cultural identity.

### Important Points >>

- ☐ Caste today is active in three main ways.
- ☐ First, it is a system that regulates the distribution of material opportunity or life chances, and hence it is a source of enduring inequalities.
- ☐ Second, it remains one of the primary modes of political mobilisation, even though caste politics is now far more disaggregated, complex and uncertain than it used to be.
- ☐ Third, and perhaps most elusive, for everyone except a small upper-class, upper-caste elite caste continues to be a form of community offering a sense of kinship, belonging and identity. The contexts of caste have changed in ways that affect all three modalities.

### A rise and fall >>

- ☐ In its original form, 'reservation' was a pre-Independence idea emerging from the Poona Pact of 1932 and codified in the Government of India Act of 1935.

- ❑ It was intended to be an antidote for caste discrimination rather than a remedy for backwardness. But, by the time the Constitution of the new Republic was adopted in January 1950, the idea had changed fundamentally.
- ❑ The contexts of caste have changed a lot in the last 75 years, transforming its meanings, whether as a system regulating life chances, a mode of political mobilisation, or a form of socio-cultural identity.

## India's relative pace of growth

### HDI: 1950 vs 2019

The Human Development Index (HDI) is a measure of life expectancy, access to education and standard of living. **The graph shows HDI** measured on a scale of 0 (worst) to 1 (best). India's HDI improved from **0.11 in 1950 to 0.64 in 2019**. Despite the progress in absolute terms, its ranking among select countries dropped from **26th to 28th**. Two countries — Indonesia (INDO) and Saudi Arabia (KSA) surpassed India

### GDP per capita: 1960s vs 2020s

India ranked **24 out of the selected 26 nations** in GDP per capita. Its ranking **remained unchanged** in the 1960s and in 2020. While Indonesia lagged behind India in the 1960s, it moved ahead by 2020. **The graph shows GDP per capita (\$)** which is the sum of gross value added by all resident producers in the economy divided by mid-year population

### IMR: 1960-75 vs 2020

In 1960, with an infant mortality rate (IMR) of 161.8, **India ranked 26th out of 32 nations**. It had a better IMR than Turkey (TUR), Bangladesh (BD), Bhutan (BT), Egypt (EG), Nepal (NP) and Pakistan (PAK). **The graph depicts IMR** which is the number of infants dying before their first birthday per 1,000 live births. By 2020, **India's IMR improved to 27**, but except Pakistan, the aforementioned five countries surpassed India

### Women in Parliament (%): 1997-98 vs 2021

Despite having seen several women in political leadership positions, India's relative growth in the **share of women in Parliament** has been slow with many countries outpacing India. From **7% in 1997, the share doubled to 14% in 2021**. Among the 31 nations compared, India ranked 27, positioned slightly ahead of Hungary (HU). Notably, India had a better rank (20) in 1997



### Net migration : 1960s vs 2017

India has always been a country with net out-migration. That is, it sends out more people than it takes in. However, in the past five decades the out-migration has intensified. In 2017, India had the **highest number of out-migrants** among the 31 nations considered. In the 1960s, 11 countries had more out-migrants than India. *The graph shows net migration, in-migration minus out-migration (in lakh)*

### Access to electricity: 1993- 2000 vs 2020

In 1993, only 51% of India's population had access to electricity. It was ranked 29 among the 32 nations considered. In 2020, India gained 3 positions to the 26th rank, outpacing Indonesia, the Philippines (PHL), Bangladesh, Nepal, S.Africa (SA) and Pakistan. *The graph shows the share of population with electricity access in %*

### Internet usage: 1990 vs 2020

Only the U.S., U.K., Canada (CAN), Germany (GE), France (FR), Japan (JP) and Italy (ITA) out of 32 countries considered had Internet access in 1990. But by 2020, the Internet usage was widespread with 43% of Indians using it. India ranked 28, ahead of Nepal, Sri Lanka (SL), Pakistan and Bangladesh in 2020. *The graph shows the share of population with the Internet access in %*

### CO2 emission: 1990 vs 2019

India's emission of carbon dioxide per capita has been significantly lower than other countries in the past three decades. But its position has fallen by two places between 1990 and 2019 among the 32 nations considered. It was the 6th lowest emitter in 1990 and 8th lowest by 2019. Colombia (COL) and the Philippines bettered India in this period. *The graph shows CO2 emission in metric tonnes per capita*

## Renewable resources:

### 1971 vs 2015

India's electricity production from renewable resources such as wind, biomass, and biofuels has grown at a sedate pace. In 1971, it was yet to open its account. By 2015, 5.3% of India's electricity was produced using renewable sources, ranked 15 out of 30 nations. ***The graph shows the share of electricity produced using renewable resources except hydropower (in %)***

## Life expectancy

# 70

In years, the average life expectancy of Indians at birth in 2020, according to the World Bank. The life expectancy improved to 41 years in 1960, more than a decade after the country got independence. Men in India had a life expectancy of 69 years, while women's stood at 71 years in 2020. The corresponding numbers for men and women in 1960 were respectively 42 and 41 years, indicating a relatively better improvement for women than men. The death rate has decreased from 22 per 1,000 people in 1960 to 7 in 2020.

## One Liner CA

☐ **Government lost ₹8,000 crore due to five cases: NITI Aayog**

A recent report commissioned by the NITI-Aayog has estimated that five orders of the Supreme Court and the National Green Tribunal favouring larger protection for the environment had cost the government around ₹8,000 crore in revenue. It recommends that the court undertake economic-impact analysis, based on forecasts put together by a group of experts, to address and adjudicate public interest cases involving economically sensitive matters.

☐ **Angry China stages new military drills near Taiwan as U.S. lawmakers visit.**

China announced more military drills around Taiwan as the island's president met with members of a new U.S. congressional delegation on Monday, in a further sign of support among American lawmakers for the self-governing island Beijing claims as its own. Taiwanese media showed the delegation ...

☐ **How Old Delhi sweet shops played a role in country's freedom struggle**

Did you know that the sweets of **Purani Dilli** were once used like morse codes, their boxes used to convey messages to our freedom fighters, each sweet an indicator of either a bomb attack, an agitation or simply a command to sleeper revolutionaries to prepare for action against the British Raj? Not just that, some sweetmeat shops became hideouts for young revolutionaries, who could easily disguise themselves as kitchen hands, hold secret meetings and get a constant supply of food unnoticed. A box of laddoos meant bombs were landing, a box of Bengal rosogollas meant a big consignment of explosives, while barfis meant cartridges and ammunition were on the way.

*“sic parvis magna”*

# Thanks!

**Do you have any questions?**

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