

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು  
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ಇಲಾಖೆ / ವಿಷಯ : DEPARTMENT / SUBJECT: Justice - Assembly Session

ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: The Hindu ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE: 9/12/2021

DATA POINT

## Freedom Decline

India's freedom score, which measures people's access to political rights and civil liberties, has declined sharply since 2018, according to the recently released report, "Freedom in the World 2021". India was downgraded from a 'Free' nation in 2019 to 'Partly Free' in 2020 in the report. Curtailing of personal liberties such as freedom of expression and religious practice coupled with a crackdown on the media and on protest gatherings were some reasons given for the decline

**DECLINING FREEDOM** | With a freedom score of 67 in 2020, India has been categorised as a 'partly free' nation. The country is part of a global decline in the state of democracy — every year since 2006, the countries where political rights and civil liberties declined outnumbered nations where they improved. In 2020, the freedom score of 73 countries declined, while it improved only in 28. The gap of 45 countries in 2020 was the widest in 15 years

Year	Freedom Score
2013	78
2014	77
2015	76
2016	75
2017	74
2018	73
2019	72
2020	67
2021	67

Year	Improved	Declined
2005	31	52
2006	59	59
2007	56	59
2008	43	60
2009	38	67
2010	34	67
2011	49	54
2012	37	63
2013	43	54
2014	40	62
2015	33	72
2016	43	67
2017	35	71
2018	35	65
2019	50	54
2020	28	73

**EROSION OF RIGHTS** | The chart shows the change in India's scores in 2020 compared to 2013 across various components which together compute the freedom score. India's score declined in four out of the seven components and improved in only one. People's associational and organisational rights and their freedom of expression and belief declined the most

Component	2013 Score	2020 Score
Personal autonomy and individual rights	12	11
Rule of law	11	10
Associational and organisational rights	10	9
Freedom of expression and belief	9	8
Functioning of govt.	8	7
Political pluralism and participation	7	6
Electoral process	13	14

**SOME OF THE ATTRIBUTES THAT EACH COMPONENT EVALUATES**

- Electoral process: Free and fair elections
- Political pluralism and participation: Free political organisation, political rights of marginalised sections
- Functioning of govt.: Corruption-free and transparent governance
- Freedom of expression and belief: Media freedom, freedom of religious expression, free speech
- Associational and organisational rights: Freedom of assembly, freedom for NGOs and trade unions
- Rule of law: Independence of judiciary, use of physical force by authorities
- Personal autonomy and individual rights: Freedom to choose marriage partner, freedom from economic exploitation

Source: Freedom House