



Drishti IAS Presents...

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## REPORTS & INDICES

(January 2021 – March 2022)



Detailed  
Explanation

Answers

Answers

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Answers

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**1. Ans: B****Exp:**

- Recently, the **Global Risks Report 2022, an annual report, was released by the World Economic Forum**. It tracks global risk perceptions among risk experts and world leaders in business, government, and civil society.
  - ◆ It examines risks across five categories: **economic, environmental, geopolitical, societal, and technological**.
- **World Economic Forum (WEF)**: Based in Geneva, Switzerland, WEF is a **not-for-profit International organisation established in the year 1971**.
  - ◆ The Forum **provides a platform for the CEOs of the largest companies, heads of state of countries, to meet each other** and discuss business through bilateral meetings.
  - ◆ It is mostly known for its annual meeting at the end of January in Davos, a mountain resort in the eastern Alps region of Switzerland.. It's a meet to **showcase countries' potential** in order to attract businesses.
  - ◆ It is basically a networking event where countries project themselves to garner investment.
- **Hence option B is correct.**

**2. Ans: B****Exp:**

- Recently, the Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) released the India State of Forest Report-2021.
  - ◆ It is an assessment of India's forest and tree cover, published every two years by the Forest Survey of India.
  - ◆ The first survey was published in 1987, and ISFR 2021 is the 17th.
- **New Features of ISFR 2021:**
  - ◆ It has for the **first time assessed forest cover in tiger reserves, tiger corridors** and the **Gir forest** which houses the **Asiatic lion**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - ◆ The forest cover in tiger corridors has increased by **37.15 sq km (0.32%) between 2011-2021**, but decreased by 22.6 sq km (0.04%) in tiger reserves.
  - ◆ Forest cover has increased in 20 tiger reserves in these 10 years, and decreased in 32.

- ◆ Buxa (West Bengal), Anamalai (Tamil Nadu) and Indravati reserves (Chhattisgarh) have shown an increase in forest cover while the highest losses have been found in Kawal (Telangana), Bhadra (Karnataka) and the Sundarbans reserves (West Bengal).
- ◆ **Pakke Tiger Reserve** in Arunachal Pradesh has the **highest forest cover**, at nearly 97%. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- **Findings of the Report:**
  - ◆ **Increment in Area:**
    - The **forest and tree cover in the country continues to increase** with an additional cover of 1,540 square kilometres over the past two years.
    - India's forest cover is now **7,13,789 square kilometres, 21.71%** of the country's geographical area, an increase from **21.67% in 2019**.
  - ◆ **Increase/Decrease in Forests:**
    - The states that have shown the highest increase in forest cover are **Telangana (3.07%), Andhra Pradesh (2.22%) and Odisha (1.04%)**.
    - Five states in the Northeast – **Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland** have all **shown loss in forest cover**.
  - ◆ **States with Highest Forest Area/Cover:**
    - **Area-wise: Madhya Pradesh has the largest forest cover** in the country followed by Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Maharashtra. **Hence, statement 2 is correct**
    - In terms of forest cover as percentage of total geographical area, the top five States are Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur and Nagaland.
    - The term 'forest area' denotes the legal status of the land as per the government records, whereas the term 'forest cover' indicates presence of trees over any land.
  - ◆ **Mangroves** have shown an increase of 17 sq km. India's total mangrove cover is now 4,992 sq km.

**3. Ans: B****Exp:**

- Recently, a report titled "**Inequality Kills**" was **released by the Oxfam International**, the report pointed out a stark income divide worsened by the Covid pandemic, globally and in India.

- ◆ Oxfam is a global movement of people, working together to end the injustice of poverty. That means we tackle the inequality that keeps people poor.
- According to the report, the income of 84% of households in India declined in 2021, but at the same time, the number of Indian billionaires grew from 102 to 142.
  - ◆ During the pandemic, the wealth of Indian billionaires increased from Rs 23.14 lakh crore to Rs 53.16 lakh crore.
  - ◆ More than 4.6 crore Indians are estimated to have fallen into extreme poverty in 2020. This is nearly half of the global new poor according to the United Nations.
- Hence option B is correct.

4. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the **International Labour Organisation (ILO)** released a report titled **World Employment and Social Outlook - Trends (WESO Trends) 2022**.
  - ◆ The WESO Trends includes comprehensive labour market projections for 2022 and 2023. It gives assessments of how labour market recovery has unfolded worldwide, reflecting different national approaches to pandemic recovery and analysing the effects on different groups of workers and economic sectors.
- The International Labour Organisation was created in 1919, as part of the **Treaty of Versailles** that ended World War I, to reflect the belief that universal and lasting peace can be accomplished only if it is based on social justice.
  - ◆ It became a **specialized agency of the United Nations** in 1946.
  - ◆ It is a tripartite organisation, the only one of its kind bringing together representatives of governments, employers and workers in its executive bodies.
  - ◆ India is a founding member of the ILO with a total 187 member States.
- Hence, option C is correct.

5. Ans: B

Exp:

- The Corruption Perception Index (CPI) is **released by Transparency International**.
  - ◆ The Index ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption

according to experts and businesspeople.

- ◆ It relies on 13 independent data sources and uses a scale of zero to 100, where zero is highly corrupt and 100 is very clean.
- **Transparency International is s an international non-governmental organisation** founded in 1993 based in Berlin, Germany.
- Its non-profit purpose is to take action to combat global Corruption with civil societal anti-corruption measures and to prevent criminal activities arising from corruption.
- Hence option B is correct.

6. Ans: A

Exp:

- The **Henley Passport Index** is the original ranking of all the world's passports according to the **number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
  - ◆ Originally created by Dr. Christian H. Kaelin (chairman of Henley & Partners), the ranking is based on exclusive data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA), which maintains the world's largest and most accurate database of travel information.
  - ◆ It was launched in 2006 and includes 199 different passports.
  - ◆ It is updated in real time throughout the year as and when visa policy changes come into effect.
- **Global Rankings:**
  - ◆ Japan and Singapore top the index
  - ◆ Germany and South Korea held onto the joint second spot on the latest ranking, while Finland, Italy, Luxembourg, and Spain shared third place.
  - ◆ Afghanistan and Iraq continue to be in the 'worst passports to hold' category.
- **India's Performance:**
  - ◆ **In 2020, India stood at 84** while in 2016, India was ranked 85th along with Mali and Uzbekistan.
  - ◆ **India (83rd in 2022)** shares the position with Sao Tome and Principe in Central Africa, behind Rwanda and Uganda.
  - ◆ India now has visa-free access to 60 destinations worldwide with Oman and Armenia being the latest additions. India has added 35 more destinations since 2006.
  - ◆ Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

7. Ans: C

Exp:



**Index of Industrial Production (IIP):**

- IIP is an indicator that measures the changes in the volume of production of industrial products during a given period.
- It is **compiled and published monthly by the National Statistical Office (NSO)**, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It is a composite indicator that **measures the growth rate of industry groups** classified under:
  - ◆ **Broad sectors**, namely, Mining, Manufacturing, and Electricity.
  - ◆ **Use-based sectors**, namely Basic Goods, Capital Goods, and Intermediate Goods. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Base Year for IIP is **2011-2012**.
- IIP is used by government agencies including the Ministry of Finance, the **Reserve Bank of India, etc, for policy-making purposes**. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
  - ◆ IIP remains extremely relevant for the calculation of the quarterly and advance GDP (Gross Domestic Product) estimates.

**8. Ans: C****Exp:**

- Recently, the **Worldwide Cost of Living report** has been released highlighting that **Tel Aviv (Israel's capital)** is the world's most expensive city to live in. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - ◆ Paris and Singapore came joint second, followed by Zurich and Hong Kong. New York was in sixth, with Geneva in seventh.
- The report is compiled by the **Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)**. It compares the cost of living indices in different cities. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - ◆ The index is **benchmarked against prices in New York City**, hence **cities with currencies that are stronger against the US dollar are likely to appear higher in the rankings**.
- In India, **Ahmedabad, Gujarat has been listed in the top ten cheapest cities** of the survey. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
  - ◆ Among the cheapest cities, Damascus (capital of Syria) is at the top. It is followed by Tripoli (Libya,) Tashkent (Uzbekistan), Tunis (Tunisia) and Almaty (Kazakhstan') in the ranking of cheapest cities.

**9. Ans: D****Exp:**

- Recently, the government **has revised the base year for Wage Rate Index (WRI) to 2016** which will replace the old series with a base of 1963-65. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - ◆ The Wage Rate Index Number measures the relative changes in wage rates over a period of time, high or low Wage Rate Index in an industry does not necessarily indicate high or low wage rate in that industry as compared to other industries.
  - ◆ A base year is the first of a series of years in an economic or financial index and is typically set to an arbitrary level of 100.
- The **Ministry of Labour & Employment** has released a new series of Wage Rate Index (WRI) with base year 2016, being **compiled and maintained by the Labour Bureau**, an attached office of the ministry. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - ◆ It is based on the recommendations of the International Labour Organization and the National Statistical Commission.
- The new series on WRI **has been compiled on a half-year basis** (on the first of January and July every year) as against the annual in the existing series.
  - ◆ The new WRI basket (2016=100) **has enhanced the scope and coverage in terms of occupations and industries** as compared to old WRI series (1963-65=100).
  - ◆ Of the 37 industries covered in the new series, **16 new ones** - including textile garments, footwear and petroleum - have been added under the manufacturing sector.
  - ◆ In the new series, the **oil mining industry has been introduced in the basket in place of mica mines industry**, to make the mining sector more representative of the three different kinds of mining namely coal, metal and oil. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
  - ◆ **Total 3 plantation industries** namely tea, coffee and rubber have been retained in the new WRI basket with enhanced coverage.
  - ◆ The **top five industries** - motor vehicles, coal mines, textile garments, iron & steel and cotton textiles **together account for 46% of the total weight**.

**10. Ans: A****Explanation:****About World Inequality Report 2022:**

- The report was released by the **World Inequality Lab**, which **aims to promote research** on global inequality



dynamics. Hence, option A is correct.

- This report presents the **most up-to-date synthesis of international research efforts** to track global inequalities.
- The **poorest half of the global population** “barely owns any wealth” **possessing just 2% of the total**, whereas the richest 10% of the global population own 76% of all wealth.
- India stands out as a **poor and very unequal country**. The top 1% of the population **hold more than one-fifth of the total national income** in 2021 and the bottom half just 13%.

11. Ans: B

Explanation:

About Global Health Security Index 2021:

- It is an **assessment and benchmarking of health security** and related capabilities across 195 countries.
- It has been developed in partnership by the **Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI)** and the Johns Hopkins Center. Hence, option B is correct.
- The GHS Index assesses countries’ **health security and capabilities across six categories**. The six categories are as follow:
  - ◆ **Prevention:** Prevention of the emergence or release of pathogens.
  - ◆ **Detection and Reporting:** Early detection and reporting for epidemics of potential international concern.
  - ◆ **Rapid Response:** Rapid response to and mitigation of the spread of an epidemic.
  - ◆ **Health System:** Sufficient and robust health system to treat the sick and protect health workers.
  - ◆ **Compliance with International Norms:** Commitments to improving national capacity, financing plans to address gaps, and adhering to global norms.
  - ◆ **Risk Environment:** Overall risk environment and country vulnerability to biological threats.

12. Ans: C

Exp:

- NITI Aayog has released the fourth edition of the State Health Index for 2019–20.
- The index is **developed by NITI Aayog, with technical assistance from the World Bank**, and in close consultation with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW). Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The report, titled “Healthy States, Progressive India”,

ranks states and Union Territories on their year-on-year incremental performance in health outcomes as well as their overall status.

- The State Health Index is an annual tool to assess the performance of states and UTs, which has been compiled and published since 2017.
- It is a weighted composite index based on 24 indicators grouped under the domains of ‘Health Outcomes’, ‘Governance and Information’, and ‘Key Inputs/Processes’. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
  - ◆ Health Outcomes: It includes parameters such as neonatal mortality rate, under-5 mortality rate, sex ratio at birth.
  - ◆ Governance and Information: It includes parameters such as institutional deliveries, average occupancy of senior officers in key posts earmarked for health.
  - ◆ Key Inputs/Processes: It consists of proportion of shortfall in health care providers to what is recommended, functional medical facilities, birth and death registration and tuberculosis treatment success rate.

13. Ans: A

Exp:

- On the occasion of the Good Governance Day (25<sup>th</sup> December), the government released the Good Governance Index 2021.
- The index was prepared by the **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)**, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- GGI is a **comprehensive and implementable framework** to assess the State of Governance across the States and UTs which enables ranking of States/Districts.
  - ◆ The objective of GGI is to **create a tool that can be used uniformly across the States** to assess the impact of various interventions taken up by the Central and State Governments including UTs.
  - ◆ Based on the GGI Framework, the **Index provides a comparative picture among the States** while developing a competitive spirit for improvement.
  - ◆ The GGI 2021 says that **20 States have improved their composite GGI scores** over the GGI 2019 index scores.
  - ◆ The GGI is envisaged as a **biannual exercise**.
- The Index categorises States and UTs into four categories, i.e.,
  - ◆ **Other States – Group A:**



- Gujarat has topped the composite ranking in the Good Governance Index 2021 covering 10 sectors, followed by Maharashtra and Goa. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

◆ Other States – Group B:

- Madhya Pradesh tops the list followed by Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh.

◆ North-East and Hill States:

- Himachal Pradesh topped the list followed by Mizoram and Uttarakhand.

◆ Union Territories:

- Delhi tops the composite rank registering a 14% increase over the GGI 2019 indicators.

14. Ans: C

Exp:

- India's national Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) measure uses the globally accepted and robust methodology developed by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) and the UNDP.
- This baseline report of the national MPI measure is based on the reference period of 2015-16 of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4).
  - ◆ NFHS-4 data has been used to derive an idea of baseline multidimensional poverty to know the situation on ground before the full rollout of various central government schemes. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Findings of the Index:
  - ◆ Bihar has the highest proportion of people of the state's population followed by Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh who are multidimensionally poor. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
  - ◆ Kerala registered the lowest population poverty levels, followed by Puducherry, Lakshadweep, Goa and Sikkim.
  - ◆ Bihar also has the highest number of malnourished people followed by Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh.

15. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, NITI Aayog has released a comprehensive report titled Health Insurance for India's Missing Middle.
  - ◆ The report brings out the gaps in the health insurance coverage across the Indian population and offers solutions to address the situation.
- According to the report, at least 30% of the population,

or 40 crore individuals (referred as the missing middle in this report) are devoid of any financial protection for health.

- ◆ The Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) and various State Government extension schemes, provide comprehensive hospitalization cover to the bottom 50% of the population.

- ◆ Around the top 20% of the population – 25 crore individuals – are covered through social health insurance, and private voluntary health insurance.

- Hence, option A is correct.

16. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Food Price Index is released by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- It was introduced in 1996 as a public good to help in monitoring developments in the global agricultural commodity markets.
- The FAO Food Price Index (FFPI) is a measure of the monthly change in international prices of a basket of food commodities. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- It measures changes for a basket of cereals, oilseeds, dairy products, meat and sugar.
- Base Period: 2014-16.

17. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the inaugural Global Drug Policy Index 2021 was released by the Harm Reduction Consortium. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
  - ◆ The Harm Reduction Consortium is a global consortium of networks aiming to challenge the global "war on drugs", scale up access to harm reduction services, and advocate for increased resources for harm reduction.
  - ◆ It is a first of its kind index that ranks 30 countries drawn from across regions. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- The index is a unique tool that documents, measures and compares national-level drug policies.
  - ◆ It provides each country with a score and ranking that shows how much their drug policies and their implementation align with the United Nations principles of human rights, health and development.
  - ◆ The Index provides an essential accountability and evaluation mechanism in the field of drug policy.

- ◆ It evaluates the performance of 30 countries covering all regions of the world.
- India's rank is 18 out of 30 countries. It has an overall score of 46/100. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

18. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** has released the **Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) Report (Index) 2021**. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
  - ◆ It was launched in 2018.
- The LEADS report is aimed at gauging the logistics performance of states and Union Territories (UT) and identifying areas where they can improve logistics performance.
  - ◆ States are ranked based on quality and capacity of key infrastructure such as road, rail and warehousing as well as on operational ease of logistics including security of cargo, speed of terminal services and regulatory approvals. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
  - ◆ The report is structured along the three dimensions which collectively influence logistics ease- Infrastructure, Services, and Operating and Regulatory Environment which are further categorised into 17 parameters.
- **Ranking of States:**
  - ◆ Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab have emerged as the top performers in the LEADS 2021 index respectively.
    - This is the third year in a row that Gujarat remained on top of the rankings. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
    - Delhi stands at the top rank among Other UTs.
- Jammu and Kashmir is the top ranker among the north-eastern states and Himalayan region followed by Sikkim and Meghalaya.

19. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, a global coalition of ten organisations launched the **Global Resilience Index Initiative (GRII)**.
  - ◆ It was launched during the **UNFCCC Conference of Parties (CoP) 26 adaptation day** (8th November 2021), it will be the world's first curated, open-source reference index.
- It has been launched to build a universal model for assessing resilience to climate risks.

- ◆ It will provide reference data on climate and natural hazard risks to inform and protect populations and economies, particularly in emerging and developing countries, form a basis for mobilising the trillions of investment needed to meet the Paris goals on climate-resilient development.
- ◆ It can be used in aggregated risk management across sectors and geographies.

- Hence, option C is correct.

20. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, **NITI Aayog** under the Indo-German Cooperation released the inaugural **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Urban Index and Dashboard 2021–22**. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- **Cities are fast becoming engines of growth**. The SDG Urban index and dashboard will go a long way in instituting a robust **SDG monitoring system in our cities**, and is a milestone step in our SDG localisation journey. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- The Niti Aayog is of the view that this transformative change is quite essential, given the increasing prominence of our cities and urban areas in charting the future of development in India.

21. Ans: A

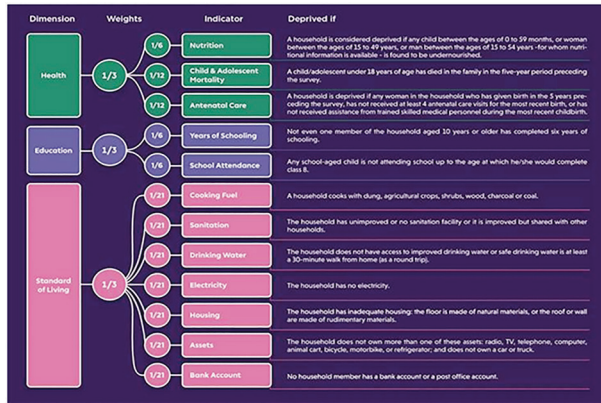
Exp:

- The **Global Nutrition Report** acts as a report card on the world's nutrition—globally, regionally, and country by country—and on efforts to improve it.
- According to the recently released Global Nutrition Report, 2021, **India has made no progress on anaemia and childhood wasting**. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
  - ◆ Over half of Indian women in the age group 15-49 years are anaemic. There has been a rise in anaemic Indian women since 2016 from 52.6% to 53% in 2020.
  - ◆ India is also among 23 countries that have made no progress or are worsening on reducing 'childhood wasting'.
- **Global Nutrition Targets:** At the current rate of progress, the global nutrition targets will not be achieved by 2025 globally and in most countries worldwide.
- Only seven countries are on track to meet four of the six maternal, infant and young child nutrition targets by 2025, while **no country is 'on track' to halt the rise in adult obesity** or achieve a 30% relative reduction in salt/sodium intake. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

## 22. Ans: D

## Exp:

- India's national Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) captures multiple and simultaneous deprivations faced by households across the three macro dimensions of health, education and living standards. The National MPI dimensions, indicators and weights are given below:



- Hence, option D is correct.

## 23. Ans: C

## Exp:

- On the Occasion of the World Teachers' Day (5th October), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) launched its 2021 State of the Education Report (SOER) for India: "No Teacher, No Class". Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Findings of the Report:
  - Lack of Teachers: There are nearly 1.2 lakh single-teacher schools in the country of which an overwhelming 89% are in rural areas.
    - The report projects that India needs 11.16 lakh additional teachers to meet the current shortfall.
  - Performance of States (Women Teachers): Tripura has the least number of women teachers, followed by Assam, Jharkhand and Rajasthan. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
    - Chandigarh leads the chart followed by Goa, Delhi, Kerala.
  - Increase in Number of Teachers in Private Sector: The proportion of teachers employed in the private sector grew from 21% in 2013-14 to 35% in 2018-19. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
    - The Right to Education Act stipulates that the Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) should be 30:1 in classes 1-5 and 35:1 in higher grades.

## 24. Ans: D

## Exp:

- The Henley Passport Index (HPI) is the original ranking of all the world's passports according to the number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
  - Originally created by Dr. Christian H. Kaelin (chairman of Henley & Partners), the ranking is based on exclusive data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA), which maintains the world's largest and most accurate database of travel information.
  - It was launched in 2006 and includes 199 different passports.
- Global Rankings for HPI 2021: Japan and Singapore stood at the top of this year's list, with their passport holders allowed to travel visa-free to 192 countries, while South Korea and Germany share the second position.
  - For the third consecutive year, Japan has secured the top position. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
  - Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, and Yemen are among the least powerful.
- India's Performance in HPI 2021: India fell down to the 90th position, with its passport holders allowed to travel visa-free to 58 countries.
  - India shares the rank with Tajikistan and Burkina Faso.
  - India was ranked 85th in the January 2021's index', (84th) in 2020 and (82nd) in 2019. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

## 25. Ans: A

## Exp:

- Recently, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) released the State of Climate Services report 2021. It focuses on Terrestrial Water Storage (TWS). Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- TWS is the sum of all water on the land surface and in the subsurface, i.e. surface water, soil moisture, snow and ice and groundwater.
- Global Scenario: TWS dropped at a rate of 1 cm per year in 20 years (2002-2021).
  - The biggest losses have occurred in Antarctica and Greenland. But many highly populated, lower latitude locations have also experienced TWS losses.
- Indian Scenario: The TWS has been lost at a rate of at least 3 cm per year. In some regions, the loss has been over 4 cm per year too. Hence, statement 2 is correct.



- ◆ India has recorded the highest loss in terrestrial water storage if the loss of water storage in Antarctica and Greenland is excluded.
- ◆ India is the 'topmost hotspot of TWS loss'. The northern part of India has experienced the maximum loss within the country. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

26. Ans: A

Exp:

- The World Bank is an international organization dedicated to providing financing, advice, and research to developing nations to aid their economic advancement.
- The bank predominantly acts as an organization that attempts to fight poverty by offering developmental assistance to middle- and low-income countries.
- Major reports released by the World Bank are **Human Capital Index and World Development Report**.
- **Global Risks Report** is released by the **World Economic Forum (WEF)**.
- Hence, option A is correct.

27. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Multidimensional Poverty Index** was launched by the **UNDP** and the **OPHI** in 2010. Hence, statement 1 is not correct
- MPI is based on the idea that **poverty is not unidimensional** (not just depends on income and one individual may lack several basic needs like education, health etc.), rather it is multidimensional.
- The index shows the proportion of poor people and the **average number of deprivations each poor person experiences at the same time**.
- MPI uses **three dimensions** and ten indicators which are:
  - ◆ **Education:** Years of schooling and child enrollment (1/6 weightage each, total 2/6);
  - ◆ **Health:** Child mortality and nutrition (1/6 weightage each, total 2/6);
  - ◆ **Standard of living:** Electricity, flooring, drinking water, sanitation, cooking fuel and assets (1/18 weightage each, total 2/6)
  - ◆ Hence, statement 2 is correct
- A person is **multidimensionally poor** if she/he is **deprived in one third or more (means 33% or more)** of the **weighted indicators** (out of the ten indicators). Those who are deprived in one half or more of the weighted indicators are considered living in **extreme multidimensional poverty**. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

- MPI is significant as it recognizes poverty from different dimensions compared to the conventional methodology that measures poverty only from income or monetary terms.

28. Ans: A

Exp:

- The Report, "**Ecological Threat Report (ETR) 2021: Understanding ecological threats, resilience and peace**", was released by the **Institute of Economics and Peace (IEP)**, an international think tank. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The ETR Report ranks countries on the basis of **ETR Score** which is an average of the five threats. It uses the **relative severity of five indicators** to build up the **overall level of threat** faced by a country. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
  - ◆ The 5 indicators are **food risk, water risk, rapid population growth, temperature anomalies and natural disasters**.
  - ◆ In **sub-Saharan Africa**, the score is influenced by **high levels of population growth**, which will place increased **pressure on existing food and lead to water scarcity**.
- The Report recommended a policy to combine health, food, water, refugee relief, finance, agricultural and business development into **one integrated agency in high-risk areas and empowering local communities**. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.
  - ◆ **Circular Economic Systems** are the systems that **reuse resources, reduce emissions and weed out the chemicals** and toxins that are causing millions of premature deaths – **all while creating jobs**.

29. Ans: C

Exp:

- The international **environmental think tank 'Germanwatch'** released the **Global Climate Risk Index 2021**. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
  - ◆ This is the 16th Edition of the Index. It is published annually.
  - ◆ The most recent data available for 2019 and from 2000 to 2019 were taken into account.
- The Index **analyses the extent to which countries and regions have been affected** by the impacts of weather-related loss events (storms, floods, heat waves etc.). Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
  - ◆ The impact is calculated in terms of fatalities and economic losses, both. Hence, statement 4 is correct.

- Impacts from extreme-weather events hit the poorest countries hardest as these are particularly vulnerable to the damaging effects of a hazard, have a lower coping capacity and may need more time to rebuild and recover.
  - ◆ High-income countries are also getting severely impacted by climate change.
- **India has improved its rankings** from last year. **It is ranked 7th in the 2021 Index** as compared to 5th in 2020 Index. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
  - ◆ The Indian monsoon lasted a month longer than usual in the year 2019, with surplus rains causing major hardship.
    - The rain was 110% of normal, which is the most since 1994.
  - ◆ India was hit by a total of 8 tropical cyclones, of which, Cyclone Fani (May, 2019) caused the maximum damage.
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

**30. Ans: B**

**Exp:**

- The Global Hunger Report was released by **Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe** It has **ranked India at 101 positions out of 116 countries. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The GHI scores are based on the values of **four component indicators:**
  - ◆ Undernourishment,
  - ◆ Child wasting,
  - ◆ Child stunting,
  - ◆ Child mortality. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Based on the values of the four indicators, the GHI determines hunger on a 100-point scale.
  - ◆ 0 is the best possible score (no hunger) and 100 is the worst.

**31. Ans: B**

**Exp:**

- The World Energy Outlook (WEO) Report is released by the International Energy Agency (IEA).
- The WEO provides critical analysis and insights on trends in energy demand and supply.
- It is published every year.
- The 2021 report signalled pressure on governments to **push for greater climate action at the Conference of Parties (COP26) summit** (in Glasgow, UK).
- **Hence, option B is correct.**

**32. Ans: A**

**Exp:**

- **The Global Food Security (GFS) Index** measures the **underlying drivers of food security** based on the following factors:
  - ◆ Affordability
  - ◆ Availability
  - ◆ Quality and Safety
  - ◆ Natural Resources and Resilience
  - ◆ Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The GFS Index was designed and constructed by **London-based Economist Impact** and is **sponsored by Corteva Agriscience. Hence, statement 2 is not correct**
- India held the **71st position** with an **overall score of 57.2 points** on the GFS Index 2021 of 113 countries. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

**33. Ans: A**

**Exp:**

**About Production Gap Report:**

- The **Production Gap Report 2021** was released by the leading research institutes and the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The Production Gap Report, **first launched in 2019, tracks the discrepancy between governments' planned fossil fuel production and global production levels consistent with limiting warming to 1.5°C or 2°C. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

**34. Ans: B**

**Expl:**

- The **Global Agricultural Productivity Report (GAP Report)** is produced by Virginia Tech, a leading U.S. land-grant university in Blacksburg, Virginia.
  - ◆ However, the report was released in conjunction with the **World Food Prize** Foundation's annual conference.
  - ◆ According to a new report, **Global agricultural productivity is not growing as fast as the demand for food, amid the impact of climate change.**
  - ◆ **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Indian-American soil scientist - **Dr Rattan Lal** - has been declared the winner of the World Food Prize 2020.
- The World Food Prize is the foremost international honour recognizing the achievements of individuals who have advanced human development by improving the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world.
- **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

35. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, a report named **G20 Climate Risk Atlas** from the Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change (CMCC) has said that G20 (Group of 20) countries including the wealthiest like the US, European countries, and Australia will bear extreme impacts of climate change over the coming years.
- **Impact on G20 Countries:**
  - ◆ **Heatwaves:** Heatwaves could last at least ten times longer in all G20 countries, with heatwaves in Argentina, Brazil and Indonesia lasting over 60 times longer by 2050. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
  - ◆ **GDP Loss:** GDP losses due to climate damage in G20 countries increase each year, rising to at least 4% annually by 2050. This can reach over 8% by 2100, equivalent to twice the bloc's economic losses from Covid-19.
- **Impact on India:**
  - ◆ **Emission Scenarios:**
    - **Low Emission (emissions lower than in present):** Projected temperature variations will remain contained under 1.5 degree celsius, both by 2050 and 2100.
    - **Medium Emission (same as present):** Between 2036 and 2065, the maximum temperature of the warmest month in India could rise by at least 1.2° in a medium emission pathway. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
    - **High Emission (higher than present):** By 2050 under a high emission scenario average temperature could rise to 2 degree celsius.
  - ◆ **Rainfall:** Annual rainfall is likely to record a steep increase by 2050 with an 8% to 19.3% increase in all emission scenarios. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

36. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, a **International Labour Organization (ILO)** report titled '**World Social Protection Report 2020–22**' has revealed that, globally 4.1 billion people are living without any social safety net of any kind.
  - ◆ Social Security is a comprehensive approach designed to prevent deprivation, give assurance to the individual of a basic minimum income for himself and his dependents and to protect the individual from any uncertainties.

- Social protection includes access to health care and income security measures related especially to old age, unemployment, sickness, disability, work injury, maternity or the loss of the main breadwinner in a family, as well as extra support for families with children.

- Hence, option B is correct. \_

37. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **Times Higher Education (THE)** recently released its **World University Rankings 2022** edition. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
  - ◆ THE, formerly known as The Times Higher Education Supplement (THES), is a magazine reporting specifically on news and issues related to higher education.
  - ◆ Earlier, **Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)** released the **QS World University Rankings 2022**.
- The rankings cover the four main areas of university activity: teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook and THE has been releasing data since 2004.
- Overall, India is home to 35 of the world's top 1,000 universities, its second-highest total ever in the rankings. Last year, it was 36.
  - ◆ **Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru, at 301-350 position, is the only Indian institute in the top 350**, followed by IIT Ropar, JS Academy of Higher Education and Research, IIT Indore, Alagappa University and Thapar University. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
- Globally, the University of Oxford tops the ranking for the sixth consecutive year, while mainland China's Tsinghua University becomes the first Asian university to break into the top 20 under the current methodology (launched in 2011).
  - ◆ Country-wise, the US is the most-represented country overall with 183 institutions.

38. Ans: D

Exp:

- Climate Change Performance Index is **released by the Germanwatch, the New Climate Institute and the Climate Action Network** jointly. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- The Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) independently monitors climate protection performance of 57 countries and the European Union which together generate 90%+ of global GHG emissions.



- ◆ Enables comparison of climate protection efforts and progress made by individual countries.
- ◆ Parameters used:
  - Greenhouse Gas Emissions (40% of the overall score)
  - Renewable Energy (20%)
  - Energy Use (20%)
  - Climate Policy (20%)
- ◆ Top three ranks were empty as no country had met the criteria to get placed high enough on the index.
- ◆ Only two G20 nations, the **UK and India are among the high rankers in CCPI 2021. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  - USA, Canada, South Korea, Russia, Australia and Saudi Arabia are ranked at the bottom of the index.
  - China, the biggest current emitter of GHG, is ranked at the 33rd position.
- ◆ Overall, India ranked 10th and scored 63.98 points out of 100.
  - India, in its INDC, pledged to increase the share of non-fossil fuels-based electricity to 40% by 2030.

39. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the updated **Groundswell report** released by the **World Bank** indicated that **climate change** could force **216 million people across six world regions** to move **within their countries** by 2050.
- **First Groundswell Report:** It was published in 2018 and used a robust and novel modeling approach to help understand the scale, trajectory, and spatial patterns of future climate migration within countries, with a focus on three regions: **Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and Latin America.**
  - ◆ Specifically, it examined how **slow-onset climate change impacts on water availability and crop productivity**, and **sea-level rise** augmented by storm surge, could affect future internal migration, modeling three plausible scenarios.
- **Second Groundswell Report:** This report builds on the first report, applying the same approach to three new regions: the **Middle East and North Africa, East Asia and the Pacific, and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.**
  - ◆ Qualitative analyses of climate-related mobility in countries of the **Mashreq** and in **Small Island Developing States (SIDS)** are also provided.

- The two reports' combined findings provide, for the first time, a global picture of the potential scale of internal climate migration across the **six World Bank regions.**
  - ◆ It provides a better understanding of how projected climate change impacts, population dynamics, and development contexts shape mobility trends.
  - ◆ It highlights the far-sighted planning needed to meet this challenge and ensure positive and sustainable development outcomes.

40. Ans: C

Exp:

- In the calculation of the **Index of Industrial Production (IIP)**, the data of the following 8 sectors is measured. **Eight core sectors comprise 40.27%** of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP). **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It is **compiled and published monthly** by the **National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The **eight-core sector industries** that are measured under IIP, in decreasing order of their weightage:
  - ◆ **Refinery Products > Electricity > Steel > Coal > Crude Oil > Natural Gas > Cement > Fertilizers.**
  - ◆ **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

41. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** released a report titled as the **Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021.** **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - ◆ It presents comprehensive economic, financial, social and environmental statistics for ADB's 49 regional members.
- **Key Findings of Report:**
  - ◆ **Poverty:** The pandemic pushed 75-80 million people in the developing Asia-Pacific into extreme poverty in 2020.
  - ◆ **Contribution to Global GDP: Asia and the Pacific's economy has grown at a robust pace** in recent years and **contributed as much as 35% to global Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** in current US dollars in 2019. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
    - But Covid-19 took a toll just when weaker domestic investment and slowing global trade and economic activity started to challenge this momentum.

- ◆ **Household Income:** A significant number of households engaged in business were severely affected by the pandemic.
- ◆ **Unemployment:** As unemployment rates increased by at least 20% in 2020 due to the pandemic across the globe, the Asia-Pacific region lost an estimated 8% of working hours.
- ◆ **Labour Force Participation:** From 2019 to 2020, **labour force participation rates among women, on average, declined** by 1.4%, while **labour force participation rates among men declined** by 0.8%. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

42. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** in collaboration with **Fridays for Future** launched a report named '**The Climate Crisis Is a Child Rights Crisis: Introducing the Children's Climate Risk Index**'. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - ◆ It is the first comprehensive analysis of climate risk from a child's perspective.
  - ◆ Earlier an analysis, based on Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative (ND-GAIN) index, had shown the impact of Climate Change on children across the world.
- Children's Climate Risk Index ranks countries based on children's exposure to climate and environmental shocks, such as Cyclones and Heatwaves, as well as their vulnerability to those shocks, based on their access to essential services.
  - ◆ Pakistan (14th), Bangladesh (15th), Afghanistan (25th) and **India (26th)** are among four South Asian countries where children are at extremely high risk of the impacts of the climate crisis.
  - ◆ **India is among four South Asian countries where children are most at risk of the impacts of climate change** threatening their health, education, and protection. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

43. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** is compiled by **IHS Markit** for more than 40 economies worldwide. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - ◆ IHS Markit is a global leader in information, analytics and solutions for the major industries and markets that drive economies worldwide.
- PMI is a survey-based measure that asks the respondents about changes in their perception about key business variables as compared with the previous month.

- The purpose of the PMI is to provide information about **current and future business conditions** to company decision makers, analysts, and investors. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It is calculated **separately for the manufacturing and services sectors** and then a composite index is also constructed. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

44. Ans: B

Exp:

- A report titled '**The State of Food Security Nutrition in the World 2021 (SOFI)**' has studied the impact of Covid-19 pandemic-induced income loss on food intake and malnutrition.
  - ◆ The report is presented by the **Food and Agriculture Organization** of the United Nations, the **International Fund for Agricultural Development**, the United Nations Children's Fund, the **World Food Programme** and the **World Health Organization**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
    - The Global Food Policy Report 2021 is released by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)).
- The **prevalence of undernutrition among the total population in India** was **15.3%** during 2018-20. This is significantly low when compared to the global 8.9% during the same period.
- This is an improvement from the 21.6% during 2004-06. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- In the year 2020, about 17.3% of children under the age of five years suffered a wasted growth with low weight for height, the highest among countries.
- About 31% of children have low height for age (stunted) which is an improvement from 41.7% in 2012 but is still higher than many other countries in the world.
- The country has observed an increase in the prevalence of obesity among the adult population from 3% in 2012 to 3.9% in 2016.
- The prevalence of anaemia among women of reproductive age has only marginally improved from 53.2% in 2012 to 53% in 2019.

45. Ans: B

Exp:

- The report titled "**India Inequality Report 2021: India's Unequal Healthcare Story**" released by **Oxfam India** shows that the socio-economic inequalities seep into the health sector and disproportionately affect health outcomes of marginalised communities due to the absence of Universal Health Coverage (UHC). **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**





- It provides a **comprehensive analysis of the health outcomes** across different socioeconomic groups to **gauge the level of health inequality that persists in the country. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The findings are **primarily based on secondary analysis** from rounds 3 and 4 of the **National Family Health Survey** and various rounds of the **National Sample Survey. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

46. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Wholesale Price Index (WPI)** measures the changes in the prices of goods sold and traded in bulk by wholesale businesses to other businesses.
  - ◆ It is **published by the Office of Economic Adviser, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - ◆ It is the most widely used inflation indicator in India.
  - ◆ Major criticism for this index is that the general public does not buy products at wholesale price.
  - ◆ The **base year of All-India WPI** has been revised from 2004-05 to **2011-12 in 2017. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

47. Ans: C

Exp:

**Performance Grading Index (PGI)**

- The PGI for States and Union Territories was first published in 2019 with reference year 2017-18.
- The PGI : States/UTs for 2019-20 is the third publication in this series.
- It is initiated by the **Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL). Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The PGI exercise envisages that the index would propel **States and UTs towards undertaking multi-pronged interventions** that will bring about the **much-desired optimal education outcomes. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The PGI helps the States/UTs to pinpoint the gaps and accordingly prioritise areas for intervention to ensure that the school education system is robust at every level.
  - ◆ The PGI is structured in two categories, namely, Outcomes and Governance & Management and comprises 70 indicators in aggregate with a total weightage of 1000.
- Domains under categories include: Access, Infrastructure & Facilities, Equity, Governance process.

48. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Global Liveability Ranking is an annual assessment published by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU). **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - ◆ The index takes into account more than 30 qualitative and quantitative factors spanning five broad categories: stability (25%), healthcare (20%), culture and environment (25%), education (10%), and infrastructure (20%).
- Due to the pandemic, the EIU added new indicators such as stress on health-care resources as well as restrictions around local sporting events, theatres, music concerts, restaurants and schools.
  - ◆ Each factor in a city is rated as acceptable, tolerable, uncomfortable, undesirable or intolerable.
- Austria's Vienna, number one in both 2018 and 2019, has completely dropped out of the top 10 after being heavily affected by Covid-19, and now ranks 12.
- **Auckland rose to the top of the ranking** owing to its successful approach in containing the Covid-19 pandemic, which allowed its society to remain open and the city to score strongly on a number of metrics including education, culture and environment. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Damascus remains the world's least liveable city, as the effects of the civil war in Syria continue to take their toll.

49. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **World Competitiveness Index** is a comprehensive annual report and worldwide reference point on the competitiveness of countries.
  - ◆ The index is released by the **Switzerland based Institute for Management Development (IMD). hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- As per the **World Competitiveness Index 2021**, among the BRICS nations, **India ranked second (43rd) after China (16th)**, followed by Russia (45th), Brazil (57th) and South Africa (62nd). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - ◆ India's strengths lie in investments in telecoms (1st), mobile telephone costs (1st), ICT services exports (3rd), remuneration in services professions (4th) and terms of trade index (5th).
  - ◆ India's performance is the worst in sub-indices such as broadband subscribers (64th), exposure to particulate pollution (64th), human development index (64th), GDP per capita (63rd) and foreign currency reserves per capita (62nd) among others.

50. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)**, in its **World Drug Report 2021**, has highlighted that the lockdown restrictions during Covid-19 have **accelerated drug trafficking using the Internet**.
  - ◆ Access to drugs has also become simpler than ever with online sales, and major drug markets on the dark web are now worth some \$315 million annually.
  - ◆ It is driven in part by a rise in the use of technology and cryptocurrency payments, operating outside the regular financial system. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- A rise in the use of technology during the pandemic has also triggered innovation in drug prevention and treatment services, through more flexible models of service delivery such as telemedicine, enabling healthcare professionals to reach and treat more patients. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)** was established in 1997. It acts as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention by combining the United Nations International Drug Control Program (UNDCP) and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division of the United Nations Office at Vienna.
  - ◆ UNODC publishes the World Drug Report. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

51. Ans: C

Exp:

- It is a **survey-based measure** that asks the respondents about changes in their perception about key business variables as compared with the previous month. **Hence, statements 1 is correct.**
- The purpose of the PMI is to provide information about current and future business conditions to company decision makers, analysts, and investors.
- It is calculated separately **for the manufacturing and services sectors** and then a **composite index is also constructed**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- PMI is compiled by IHS Markit for more than 40 economies worldwide.
  - ◆ IHS Markit is a global leader in information, analytics and solutions for the major industries and markets that drive economies worldwide. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

52. Ans: B

Exp:

- India has fallen 28 places in the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Gender Gap Report 2021. **Hence, statement 1 is correct**
- The Global Gender Gap Report was first published in 2006 by the WEF.
  - ◆ It benchmarks 156 countries on their progress towards gender parity in four dimensions:
  - ◆ Economic Participation and Opportunity, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival and Political Empowerment.
  - ◆ Over the Index, the highest possible score is 1 (equality) and the lowest possible score is 0 (inequality).
- India is now **one of the worst performers in South Asia**, it is now ranked 140 among 156 countries. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  - ◆ In South Asia, Bangladesh ranked 65, Nepal 106, Pakistan 153, Afghanistan 156, Bhutan 130 and Sri Lanka 116.
  - ◆ India was ranked 112th among 153 countries in the Global Gender Gap Index 2020.
- **Political Empowerment:**
  - ◆ India has declined on the political empowerment index as well by 13.5 percentage points, and a decline in the number of women ministers, from 23.1% in 2019 to 9.1% in 2021. **Hence, statement 3 is correct**
  - ◆ However, it has still performed relatively well compared to other countries, ranking at 51 in women's participation in politics.
- **Education Attainment:**
  - ◆ In the index of education attainment, India has been ranked at 114.
- **Economic Participation:**
  - ◆ The report notes that the economic participation gender gap actually widened in India by 3% this year.
  - ◆ The share of women in professional and technical roles declined further to 29.2%.
  - ◆ The share of women in senior and managerial positions also is at 14.6% and only 8.9% firms in the country have top female managers.
  - ◆ The estimated earned income of women in India is only one-fifth of men's, which puts the country among the bottom 10 globally on this indicator.
  - ◆ In Pakistan and Afghanistan, the income of an average woman is below 16% of that of an average man, while in India it is 20.7%.

- Health and Survival index:
  - ◆ On this India has fared the worst, ranking at 155.
  - ◆ The only country to have fared worse is China.
  - ◆ The report points to a skewed sex ratio as the major factor.
  - ◆ It says the ratio can be attributed to norms of son preference and gender-biased prenatal sex-selective practices.
  - ◆ China and India together account for about 90 to 95% of the estimated 1.2 to 1.5 million missing female births annually worldwide due to gender-biased prenatal sex selective practices

53. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Department of Science and Technology has released a report titled 'The Report Climate Vulnerability Assessment for Adaptation Planning in India Using a Common Framework'.
- It identifies the most vulnerable states and districts in India with respect to current climate risk and key drivers of vulnerability.
- It is part of the capacity building programme under the two missions of the National Action Plan on Climate Change (total 8 missions).
  - ◆ National Mission on Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE)
  - ◆ National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change (NMSKCC).
  - ◆ Hence, statement 1 is correct
- **Key Findings of the Report:**
  - ◆ **Highly Vulnerable States:** It identified Jharkhand, Mizoram, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, and West Bengal as states highly vulnerable to climate change.
  - ◆ **Low Vulnerable States:** Uttarakhand, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Nagaland, Goa and Maharashtra.
  - ◆ **Highly Vulnerable Districts:** Among all states, Assam, Bihar, and Jharkhand have over 60% districts in the category of highly vulnerable districts. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

54. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **World Press Freedom Index is a report published every year** since 2002 by Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF) or Reporters Without Borders.
  - ◆ Based in Paris, RSF is an independent NGO with consultative status with the United Nations,

UNESCO, the Council of Europe and the International Organization of the Francophonie (OIF).

- ◆ The Index ranks countries and regions according to the level of freedom available to journalists. However it is **not an indicator on the quality of Journalism. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- In the World Press Freedom Index 2021, **Norway has topped yet again for the fifth year in the row**, followed by Finland and Denmark. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  - ◆ Eritrea is at the bottom meanwhile China is ranked 177, and is only above North Korea at 179 and Turkmenistan at 178.
- India has ranked 142nd yet again out of 180 nations in the recently unveiled World Press Freedom Index 2021.
  - ◆ The Constitution, the supreme law of the land, guarantees freedom of speech and expression under Article 19, which deals with 'Protection of certain rights regarding freedom of speech, etc.
    - **Freedom of press is not expressly protected by Indian legal system but it is impliedly protected under article 19(1) (a) of the constitution**, which states - "All citizens shall have the right to freedom of speech and expression". **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

55. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** and the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media (GDI) released a report titled "**Gender Bias and Inclusion In Advertising In India**". **Hence, option A is correct.**
  - ◆ The research has shown that while ads in India are superior to global benchmarks insofar as girls and women have parity of representation in terms of screen and speaking time, their portrayal is problematic as they further gender stereotypes.
  - ◆ GDI is a non-profit research organization that researches gender representation in media and advocates for equal representation of women.
- **The report shows:**
  - ◆ Male characters are more likely to be shown making decisions about their future than female characters (7.3% compared with 4.8%), the latter are twice as likely to be shown making household decisions than male characters (4.9% compared with 2.0%).

- ◆ Two-thirds of female characters (66.9%) in Indian ads have light or medium-light skin tones—a higher percentage than male characters (52.1%).
- ◆ Female characters are nine times more likely to be shown as “stunning/very attractive” than male characters (5.9% compared with 0.6%).

**56. Ans: B**

**Exp:**

- According to the **United Nations’ Global Forest Goals Report 2021**, Covid-19 pandemic has aggravated the challenges faced by countries in managing their forests.
- The Report has been prepared by the **Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- It provides an initial overview of progress of Goals and targets contained within the **United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2030**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

**57. Ans: c**

**Exp:**

- The **Human Rights Report 2020**, released by the **US State Department**, pointed out several Human Rights Issues in India. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
  - ◆ The report, is **submitted every year to the US Congress**, is retrospective and contains a country wise discussion of the state of human rights.
- **The report shows:**
  - ◆ The harassment and detention of journalists critical of the (Indian) government in their reporting and on social media, has continued, although the government generally respected the freedom of expression.
  - ◆ Government’s requests for user data from Internet companies had increased dramatically.
    - The government made 49,382 user data requests from Facebook in **2019**, a **32% increase from 2018**. Over the same period, Google requests increased by 69%, while Twitter requests saw a 68% increase. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
  - ◆ The report takes note of the April 2020 detention of protesters against the citizenship laws and various other incidents under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act 1967.
  - ◆ The government continued taking steps to restore normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir by gradually lifting some security and communications restrictions.

**58. Ans: A**

**Exp:**

- The Freedom in the World report is published by the **USA based human rights watchdog Freedom House**, which is largely funded through USA government grants, has been tracking the course of democracy since 1941. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
  - ◆ Countries are declared as “free”, “partly free” or “not free”.
- Pointing to a decline in global democracy over the last 15 years, the Freedom in the World 2021 report said that nearly 75% of the world’s population lived in a country that faced deterioration over the last year.
  - ◆ The most free countries in the world, with a score of 100, are Finland, Norway and Sweden, while the least free with a score of 1 are Tibet and Syria.
- The 2021 report has **downgraded India’s status from ‘Free’ to ‘Partly Free’**.
  - ◆ India’s score was **67**, a **drop from 71/100** from last year (reflecting 2019 data) downgrading it from the free category last year (i.e., based on 2020 data). Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

**59. Ans: C**

**Exp:**

- The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** measures price changes from the perspective of a retail buyer. It is released by the **National Statistical Office (NSO)**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The CPI calculates the difference in the price of commodities and services such as food, medical care, education, electronics etc, which Indian consumers buy for use.
- The CPI has several sub-groups including food and beverages, fuel and light, housing and clothing, bedding and footwear.
- Four types of CPI are as follows:
  - ◆ CPI for Industrial Workers (IW).
  - ◆ CPI for Agricultural Labourer (AL).
  - ◆ CPI for Rural Labourer (RL).
  - ◆ CPI (Rural/Urban/Combined).
- **CPI for Industrial Workers (IW)**, CPI for Agricultural Labourer (AL) and CPI for Rural Labourer (RL) are compiled by the **Labour Bureau in the Ministry of Labour and Employment**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
  - ◆ CPI (Rural/Urban/Combined) is compiled by the National Statistical Office (NSO) in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

**60. Ans: B****Exp:**

- Recently, the Sustainable Development Solutions Network for the United Nations has released the World Happiness Report 2021.
  - ◆ The United Nations started to celebrate the International Day of Happiness in 2013 but a resolution for the same was passed in July, 2012.
  - ◆ This resolution was first initiated by **Bhutan which emphasised on the importance of national happiness over national income** since the early 1970s, thereby adopting the Gross National Happiness (GNH) over Gross National Product (GNP). **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
    - Gross National Happiness: The phrase 'gross national happiness' was first coined by the 4th King of Bhutan, King Jigme Singye Wangchuck, in 1972.
- The rankings are based on polling which looks at six variables:
  - ◆ **Gross Domestic Product (GDP)** Per Capita (Purchasing Power Parity).
  - ◆ **Social Support.**
  - ◆ Healthy life expectancy at birth.
  - ◆ Freedom to make life choices.
  - ◆ **Generosity.**
  - ◆ Perceptions of corruption.
  - ◆ **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Finland** has been ranked as the **happiest country** in the world for the **fourth consecutive year**, followed by Iceland, Denmark and Switzerland. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
  - ◆ Afghanistan (149) is the most unhappy country, followed by Zimbabwe (148), Rwanda (147), Botswana (146) and Lesotho (145).
  - ◆ India has been ranked 139, out of 149 countries evaluated.

**61. Ans: B****Exp:**

- Recently, the **World Bank** has published the **World Development Report 2021: Data for Better Lives.**
- The World Development Report 2021 provides a blueprint on how to harness the power of data for development, to ensure no one is left behind.
- Hence, option B is correct.

**62. Ans.: C****Expl.:**

- One of the issues in **India-US trade relationship**, "totalization agreement" will allow Indian professionals

working in the USA to get a refund of social security contributions that they make while working in the USA.

- India remains on the "**Special 301**" **Priority Watch List for 2020** prepared by the **United States Trade Representative (USTR)**, based on concerns owing to its treatment of patents, infringement rates, and protection of trade secrets.

**63. Ans.: A****Exp.:**

- The "Technology And Innovation Report" is **released by UNCTAD**. India was the biggest 'overperformer' in frontier technologies than the country's per capita Gross Domestic Products (GDP) would suggest, according to a recent country-readiness index of the Technology And Innovation Report 2021.

**64. Ans: A****Exp:**

- The World Air Quality Report is prepared by a **Swiss organisation IQAir**.
  - ◆ The 2020 report on World Air Quality mentions that 22 of the top 30 most polluted cities globally are in India.
- Delhi has been ranked as the world's most polluted capital city followed by Dhaka (Bangladesh), Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia), Kabul (Afghanistan), Doha (Qatar).
- Bangladesh has been ranked as the most polluted country followed by Pakistan and India.
- Hotan in China is the most polluted city with an average concentration of 110.2  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  followed by Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh at 106.
- **Hence, A is the correct option.**

**65. Ans: D****Exp:**

- The phrase 'gross national happiness' was first coined by the 4th King of Bhutan, King Jigme Singye Wangchuck, in 1972.
  - ◆ The concept implies that sustainable development should take a holistic approach towards notions of progress and give equal importance to non-economic aspects of wellbeing.
- GNP is the total value of all finished goods and services produced by a country's citizens in a given financial year, irrespective of their location.
- Theme of 2021: "Happiness For All, Forever".
- The World Happiness Report ranks 149 countries by how happy their citizens perceive themselves to be.



- ◆ The rankings are based on polling (Gallup World Poll) which looks at six variables:
- ◆ Gross Domestic Product Per Capita (Purchasing Power Parity).
- ◆ Social Support.
- ◆ **Healthy life expectancy at birth.**
- ◆ **Freedom to make life choices.**
- ◆ **Generosity.**
- ◆ **Perceptions of corruption.**
- Respondents are asked to rate their own current lives on a 0-10 scale.
- **Hence, option D is correct.**

66. Ans: B

Exp:

- Economic Survey says that the “basic needs’ approach to economic development focuses on minimum specified quantities of basic necessities such as food, clothing, shelter, water and sanitation that are necessary to prevent ill health and undernourishment.
  - ◆ The **Bare Necessities Index (BNI)** is an attempt to quantify this approach to economic development using data from the **National Statistical Office (NSO)**. It is created for all States/Union Territories by employing data at State Level.
- Economic Survey 2020-21 constructs a Bare Necessities Index (BNI) at the **rural, urban and all India level**. The BNI summarises 26 indicators on five dimensions viz., water, sanitation, housing, micro-environment, and other facilities. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - ◆ The BNI has been created for all States for 2012 and 2018 using data from two NSO rounds viz 69th and 76th on Drinking Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Housing Condition in India. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- **Improvement in Bare Necessities:**
  - ◆ Bare necessities have **improved across all States** in the country in 2018 as compared to 2012. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - ◆ Increase in equity is noteworthy as the rich can access private options for public goods.

67. Ans: B

Exp:

- According to a **United Nations (UN) report** “Ageing water infrastructure: An emerging global risk”, over 1,000 large dams in India will be roughly 50 years old in 2025 and such ageing embankments across the world pose a growing threat. **Hence, option B is correct.**

- The report, compiled by Canada-based Institute for Water, Environment and Health, says the world is unlikely to witness another large dam-building revolution as in the mid-20th century, but dams constructed then will inevitably be showing their age.
- The analysis includes dam decommissioning or ageing case studies from the USA, France, Canada, India, Japan, and Zambia and Zimbabwe.

68. Ans: B

Exp:

- The Henley Passport Index is the original ranking of all the **world’s passports** according to the **number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - ◆ It was launched in 2006 and includes 199 different passports.
- **Top Rank Holders:**
  - ◆ **Japan continues to hold the number one position** on the index, with passport holders able to access 191 destinations around the world visa-free.
  - ◆ **Singapore is in second place** (with a score of 190) and **South Korea ties with Germany in third place** (with a score of 189). **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Bottom Rank Holders:**
  - ◆ **Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan** continue to be the countries with the worst passport to hold with a passport score of 29, 28 and 26 respectively.
- **India’s Performance:**
  - ◆ India ranks 85th, with a visa-free score of 58.
  - ◆ The Indian passport ranked higher in both 2020 (84th) and 2019 (82nd).

69. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, **India Innovation Index Report 2020** was released by NITI Aayog in which Karnataka retained its top position in the major States category. **Hence, the statement 1 is correct.**
- In making India Innovation Index Institutions involved include **NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Ayog** with the Institute for Competitiveness.
- **The index has been developed on the lines of the Global Innovation Index(GII)**, to ameliorate the innovation ecosystem of India. **Hence, the statement 2 is correct.**
- The indicators that the survey uses includes parameters such as:



- ◆ **Number of PhD students, enrolment in engineering and technology colleges and number of highly skilled professionals.**
- ◆ Investment in **R&D** and number of patents and trademark applications filed.
- ◆ **Number of Internet subscribers. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- ◆ **FDI inflows** and business environment.

70. Ans: A

Exp:

- **Singapore** has been ranked **2nd** in the most powerful passport report '**Henley Passport Index 2021**'. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**
  - ◆ Japan continues to hold the number one position on the index, with passport holders able to access 191 destinations around the world visa-free.
- The **first UN treaty to be named after Singapore**, the United Nations Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation (or, **Singapore Convention on Mediation**) recently came into force.
- Recently, the **Hawker Culture in Singapore** was inscribed on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity at the 15th session of the Intergovernmental Committee (IGC). Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**
- India and Singapore successfully conducted the **27th edition of Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX)** and also participated in the second edition of the **Singapore-India-Thailand Maritime Exercise (SITMEX)** both held in November 2020. Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**

71. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **India Justice Report (2020)** prepared by the Tata Trusts in collaboration with the Centre for Social Justice, Common Cause, DAKSH, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy and the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative has been released recently.
  - ◆ The Report assesses the capacity of various states to deliver justice.
- The **overall ranking** is a result of a state's ranking across the four pillars of justice delivery system - **Judiciary, Police, Prisons and Legal aid. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - ◆ Maharashtra was ranked topmost among 18 states for the second time in a row, followed by Tamil Nadu and Telangana. Uttar Pradesh remains last.
  - ◆ Amongst the smaller states, Goa remained at the top and Arunachal Pradesh at the bottom.
- **Women Ratio in Police Force:**
  - ◆ Bihar leads the list of 25 states for employing most women in its police force which is 25.3%.
  - ◆ It is the only state to have more than 20% women in the police force. However, women account for only 6.1% in the officer category.
  - ◆ **Tamil Nadu has the highest percentage of women police officers (24.8%), followed by Mizoram (20.1%). Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Women Ratio in Judiciary:**
  - ◆ Overall, only 29% judges in High Courts across the country are women, but **no state except Sikkim has over 20% women judges.**
  - ◆ Four states - Bihar, Uttarakhand, Tripura and Meghalaya have **no woman judges in high courts. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**