



Drishti IAS Presents...



PT

SPRINT 2023

REPORTS & INDICES

(March 2022 – March 2023)



Detailed
Explanation

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Explanation

Explanation

Answers

Answers

Explanation

Explanation

Answers

Answers

Explanation

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Explanation

Answers

Explanation

Explanation

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Explanation

Drishti IAS, 641, Mukherjee Nagar,
Opp. Signature View Apartment,
New Delhi

Drishti IAS, 21
Pusa Road, Karol Bagh
New Delhi - 05

Drishti IAS, Tashkent Marg,
Civil Lines, Prayagraj,
Uttar Pradesh

Drishti IAS, Tonk Road,
Vasundhara Colony,
Jaipur, Rajasthan

e-mail: englishsupport@groupdrishti.com, Website: www.drishtiiias.com

Contact: Inquiry (English): 8010440440, Inquiry (Hindi): 8750187501

1. Ans: C**Exp:****Aridity Anomaly Outlook Index**

- The index **monitors agricultural drought, a situation when rainfall and soil moisture are inadequate to support healthy crop growth** till maturity, causing crop stress and not the pH level of the soil.
 - ◆ An anomaly from the normal value signifies a **water shortage in these districts that could directly impact agricultural activity.**
 - ◆ It is Developed by the **India Meteorological Department (IMD) and not by NITI Ayog. Hence, statements 1 & 2 are not correct.**
- Its parameter includes, **Actual evapotranspiration and calculated potential evapotranspiration**, which require temperature, wind and solar radiation values.
 - ◆ **Actual evapotranspiration** is the quantity of water that is actually removed from a surface due to the processes of evaporation and transpiration.
 - ◆ **Potential evapotranspiration** is the maximum attainable or achievable evapotranspiration for a given crop due to evaporation and transpiration. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

2. Ans: B**Exp:**

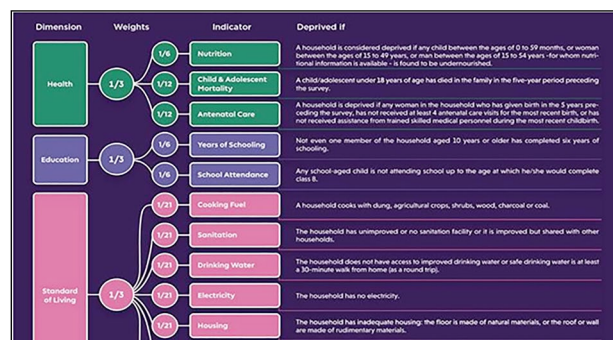
- The Population Division of the UN has been publishing the World Population Prospect in a biennial cycle since 1951. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Each revision of the WPP provides a historical time series of population indicators starting in 1950.
- According to the 2022 edition of the **United Nations' World Population Prospects (WPP)**, India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country in 2023.
- WPP takes into account the newly released national data to revise estimates of past trends in **fertility, mortality or international migration. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The share of the **global population aged 65 years or above is projected to rise from 10% in 2022 to 16% in 2050.**
- For the first time since 1950, the **rate of global growth was less than 1% per year in 2020. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- Many of the **fastest growing populations are in the poorest countries, where population growth brings additional challenges in the effort to eradicate poverty.**

3. Ans: D**Exp:**

- The GII is launched by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), a specialized agency of the United Nations. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ It aims to capture the multi-dimensional facets of innovation ranking and rich analysis referencing around 132 economies.
- India has shot up from a rank of 81 in 2015 to 46 in 2021 and has been on an upward trajectory over the past few years in the GII. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ **India performs better in innovation outputs than innovation inputs in 2021.**
 - ◆ In 2021, India ranked **57th** in innovation inputs, the same as last year but higher than 2019.
 - As for innovation outputs, India ranked **45th**. This position was the same as last year but higher than 2019.
 - ◆ **India ranked 2nd** among the 34 lower middle-income group economies.
 - ◆ **India ranked 1st** among the 10 economies in Central and Southern Asia.

4. Ans: C**Exp:**

- It's released by **NITI Aayog**, not by the Ministry of Finance, **hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- It ranks the states and the union territories on their **innovation performance to build healthy competition amongst them.**
- Among Hill and North East states, **Manipur is the leading category state. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Karnataka topped the index**, as its success is attributed to its peak performance in attracting FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) and a large number of venture capital deals. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**



5. Ans: D

Exp:

- The World Report on the Health of Refugee and Migrants is released by **World Health Organisation**, according to its global review of **health and migration calls** for urgent and concerted action to **support refugees and migrants** across the world to access **health care services** that are sensitive to their needs.
- Key Findings of the Report:
 - ◆ It states that **'Globally, about one in eight people are migrants.'** (Total 1 billion are Migrants)
 - ◆ From 1990 to 2020:
 - The total number of **international migrants** increased from **153 million to 281 million**.
 - About 48% of international migrants are **women** and some 36 million are **children**.
 - ◆ Further India remains the **top receiver of Remittances with USD 83 billions in 2020**.
- Hence, option D is correct.

6. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, the **World Economic Forum (WEF)** ranked **India at 135 out of 146 countries** in its **Global Gender Gap (GGG) Index for 2022**. Hence, statements 1 and 3 are correct.
 - ◆ India's **overall score has improved from 0.625 (in 2021) to 0.629**, which is its **seventh-highest score in the last 16 years**.
 - ◆ In **2021**, India was ranked 140 out of 156 countries.
 - The **gender gap** is the difference between women and men as reflected in social, political, intellectual, cultural, or economic attainments or attitudes.
- **GGGI benchmarks countries on their progress towards gender parity in four Key dimensions** with Sub Metrics.
 - ◆ Economic Participation and Opportunity
 - ◆ Educational Attainment
 - ◆ Health and Survival
 - ◆ Political Empowerment. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- On each of the four sub-indices as well as on the overall index the GGG index provides scores between 0 and 1, where **1 shows full gender parity and 0 is complete imparity**.
- It is the **longest-standing index**, which tracks progress towards closing these gaps over time **since its inception in 2006**.

7. Ans: C

Exp:

- It's been published by the **Population Division of the United Nations** in a biennial cycle since 1951 and **not by the World Economic Forum**. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- The report projected that India would surpass **China as the world's most populous country in 2023**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- According to the report, India's growth rate stood at 2.3 % in 1972, which has dropped down to less than 1% now.
- In this period, the number of children each Indian woman has during her lifetime has come down from about 5.4 to less than 2.1 now.
- This means that **India has attained the Replacement Fertility Rate, at which a population exactly replaces itself from one generation to the next**. Hence statement 3 is correct.

8. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, **India has improved its overall International Intellectual Property (IIP) score from 38.4% to 38.6%**, and the country is ranked **43rd out of 55 countries** on the **International Intellectual Property Index**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- International Intellectual Property Index is an **annual report compiled by the US Chambers of Commerce**. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- This year (2022) the index is **topped by the US** with 95.4%.

9. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, the Tribal Development Report 2022 was launched by the **Bharat Rural Livelihood Foundation (BRLF)**, which claims to be the **first of its kind since 1947**.
- The BRLF was set up by the Union Cabinet in 2013 as an independent society under the **Union Ministry of Rural Development** to scale up civil society action in partnership with central and state governments. Hence, option D is correct.

10. Ans: B

Exp:

Annual Status of Education Report (ASER):

- It is released by a **Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) Pratham**. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- It is an **annual, citizen-led household survey** that aims to understand whether **children in rural India** are



enrolled in school and whether they are learning. Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

- ASER has been conducted every year since **2005** in all rural districts of India. It is the largest citizen-led survey in India.
- **ASER** surveys provided representative estimates of the **enrolment status of children** aged 3-16 and the basic reading and arithmetic levels of children aged 5-16 at the **national, state and district level.**
 - ◆ There has been a **decline in the basic reading and arithmetic skills** of young children in **Class 3** and **Class 5** in India. Hence, **statement 3 is correct.**

11. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** is a composite economic indicator that is used to measure the performance of the **manufacturing sector and economic sectors both.** Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**
- It is based on a survey of purchasing managers, who are asked about the current and future state of their companies' production, new orders, employment, inventory, and supplier delivery times.
- A **PMI reading above 50** indicates that the **manufacturing sector** is **expanding**, while a reading **below 50** indicates that it is **contracting.** Hence, **statement 2 is correct.**

12. Ans: D

Exp:

- According to the **Oxfam's Report "Survival of the Richest: The India story"**, the **richest 1% in India** now own more than **40%** of the country's total wealth, while the bottom half of the population together share just **3%** of wealth between **2012** and **2021.** Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Windfall taxes** are taxes imposed on **unexpected or extraordinary profits**, such as those made during times of **economic crisis, war, or natural disasters.**
 - ◆ The idea behind this is that these companies have benefited from the rising prices of food and other essentials and should contribute a **fair share** to help address **poverty** and **inequality.** This measure could generate **revenue for governments to support social programs** that help **reduce poverty** and **inequality.** Hence, **statement 2 is not correct.**

13. Ans: D

Exp:

- The Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSE&L), Ministry of Education (MoE) released the **Centre's first-ever Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI-D).** Hence, **option D is correct.**

◆ **About:**

- PGI-D assesses the performance of the school education system at the district level by creating an index for comprehensive analysis.
- The PGI-D assessed district-level performance in school education based on the data collected from various sources, including Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE +), National Achievement Survey (NAS), 2017 and data provided by respective districts.

14. Ans: C

Exp:

- According to the latest democracy report(2022) from the **V-Dem Institute at Sweden's University of Gothenburg**, the level of democracy enjoyed by the average global citizen in 2021 is down to 1989 levels, with the democratic gains of the post-Cold War period eroding rapidly in the last few years. Hence **statement 1 is not correct.**
- The report **classifies countries into four regime types** based on their score in the **Liberal Democratic Index (LDI):**
 - ◆ Liberal Democracy, Electoral Democracy, Electoral Autocracy, and Closed Autocracy.
- The LDI captures both **liberal (individual and minority rights) and electoral aspects (free and fair elections) of a democracy** based on 71 indicators that make up the **Liberal Component Index (LCI)** and the **Electoral Democracy Index (EDI).**
- **India's Performance:**
 - ◆ India is **part of a broader global trend of an anti-plural political party** driving a country's autocratisation.
 - ◆ It was **ranked 93rd in the LDI**, India figures in the **"bottom 50%" of countries.** Hence **statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ It has slipped **further down in the Electoral Democracy Index, to 100**, and even lower in the Deliberative Component Index, at 102.
 - ◆ In South Asia, **India is ranked below Sri Lanka (88), Nepal (71), and Bhutan (65) and above Pakistan (117)** in the LDI.

15. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, the Social Progress Index (SPI) for States and Districts of India was released by the **Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM).** Hence, **statement 1 is not correct.**



- SPI is a **comprehensive tool that can serve as a holistic measure** of a country's social progress at the national and sub-national levels. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ The report aims to **provide a systematic account of the social progress made at all levels in the country.**
 - ◆ The **index uses an extensive framework comprising 89 indicators** at the state level and 49 at the district level.
- The index **assesses states and districts based on 12 components** across three critical dimensions of social progress, i.e., Basic Human Needs, Foundations of Well-being and opportunity.
 - ◆ **Highest SPI Score:** Puducherry, **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ **Lowest SPI Score:** Jharkhand and Bihar
 - ◆ **Basic Human Needs:** Goa, Puducherry, Lakshadweep, and Chandigarh are the top four states with the best performance in water, sanitation and shelter.
 - ◆ **Foundations of Wellbeing:** Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh, and Goa have emerged as the best-performing states for the Foundations of Wellbeing.
- For **Environmental Quality**, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Meghalaya are the top three states.
- **Opportunity:** Tamil Nadu has achieved the highest component score for Opportunity dimension.
- **Top Best Performing Districts:** Aizawl (Mizoram), Solan (Himachal Pradesh) and Shimla (Himachal Pradesh) have emerged as the top three best-performing districts.

16. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Union Ministry of Education** released data from the **All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE), 2020-2021**, which showed a **7.5% increase in student enrolments** across the country compared to 2019-20.
- **Findings of the Report:**
 - ◆ The **female enrolment in higher education programmes had increased to 49%** of total enrolments in 2020-21 compared to 45% in 2019-20. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ Gender Parity Index (GPI), the ratio of female GER to male GER, **has increased from 1 in 2017-18 to 1.05 in 2020-21.**

- ◆ The number of students in the Persons with Disabilities category dropped in 2020-21 to 79,035 from 92,831 in 2019-20.
- ◆ The **proportion of Muslim students enrolling for higher education dropped to 4.6%** in 2020-21 from 5.5% in 2019-20.
- ◆ During 2020-21, Uttar Pradesh; Maharashtra; Tamil Nadu; Madhya Pradesh; Karnataka and Rajasthan are the top 6 States in terms of number of students enrolled. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

17. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Global Gender Gap Index** benchmarks countries on their progress towards gender parity in four Key dimensions with Submatrices:
 - ◆ **Economic Participation and Opportunity**
 - ◆ **Educational Attainment**
 - ◆ **Health and Survival**
 - ◆ **Political Empowerment**
- On each of the four sub-indices as well as on the overall index the GGG index provides scores between 0 and 1, where 1 shows full gender parity and 0 is complete imparity.

Hence, option D is correct.

18. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, **the World Economic Forum (WEF)** has released the **18th Edition of Global Risks Report 2023** which seeks that the world be prepared for 'Natural disasters and extreme weather events' in the next two years. **Hence, option D is correct.**
- The WEF report has been released ahead of its flagship Davos 2023 Meeting, which is titled as **Cooperation in a Fragmented World.**

19. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **global growth**, which was estimated at **3.4% in 2022**, is now projected to fall to **2.9% in 2023**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The **IMF** effectively rules out the possibility of **global recession.**
- About 84% of countries are expected to have **lower headline (consumer price index) inflation in 2023** than in 2022. **Hence, statement 2 is correct**
- The **International Monetary Fund** releases the **World Economic Outlook** report.



20. Ans: B

Exp:

Food and Agriculture Organisation:

- **About:**
 - ◆ FAO is a **specialised agency of the United Nations** that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ **World Food Day is celebrated every year around the world on 16th October.** The day is celebrated to mark the anniversary of the founding of the FAO in 1945. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ It is one of the UN food aid organisations based in Rome (Italy). Its sister bodies are the World Food Programme and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).
- **Flagship Publications:**
 - ◆ The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA).
 - ◆ The State of the World's Forests (SOFO). **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI).
 - ◆ The State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA).
 - ◆ The State of Agricultural Commodity Markets (SOCO).

21. Ans: A

Exp.

- According to **Gross Domestic Climate Risk ranking by Cross Dependency Initiative (XDI), India has nine states in the 50 high risk states** including Punjab, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Kerala and Assam. **Hence statement 1 is correct and statement 2 is not correct.**
- XDI is a global organisation **specialising in climate risk analysis** for regions, banks and companies.

22. Ans: C

Exp:

- According to the **United Nations' (UN) new report "Trends in Maternal Mortality"**, of the estimated 287,000 maternal deaths recorded in 2020, 70 % took place in sub-Saharan Africa. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**
- India recorded the **second highest number of maternal deaths** in 2020, coming second at 24,000 to only Nigeria.
- However, there has been **an overall reduction of 73.5% in MMR in India**, between 2000 and 2020. **Hence, Statement 2 is not correct**

23. Ans: A

Exp:

- **About:**
 - ◆ The PM-KUSUM was launched by the MNRE in 2019, in order to **endow installation of off-grid solar pumps in rural areas** and reduce dependence on grid, in grid-connected areas.
 - ◆ The PM-KUSUM scheme was launched by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Components:**
 - ◆ **10,000 MW** of decentralized ground-mounted grid-connected renewable power plants.
 - ◆ Installation **20 lakh solar-powered** agriculture pumps
 - ◆ Converting **15 lakh** agriculture pumps, **already connected to the grid, into solar.**
- **Objective:**
 - ◆ It aims to enable farmers to **set up solar power generation capacity** on their arid lands **and to sell it to the grid.** **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ It also seeks to **increase the income of farmers by allowing them to sell surplus solar power** to the grid.

24. Ans: D

Exp:

- There are wide disparities in the **spread of automation** between and within nations,
- There is an **unequal progress toward mechanization among regions**, according to available statistics on the number of tractors per 1,000 hectares of arable land. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- This flagship report is published by the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) every year.** **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

25. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, the **Union Minister of Jal Shakti released the Dynamic Ground Water Resource Assessment Report** for the entire country for the year 2022. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- As per the report, the total annual groundwater recharge is **437.60 billion Cubic Meters (BCM)** and the annual ground water extraction is **239.16 BCM.**
- Assessment indicates an increase in ground water recharge.
- **Groundwater recharge** is a **hydrologic process** in which **water seeps** from the earth's surface downward. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**



26. Ans: A

Exp:

- World Social Protection Report' is released by the International Labour Organization (ILO). **Hence, option (a) is correct.**
- International Labour Organization is the only tripartite **United Nation (UN) agency.**
- It brings together governments, employers and workers of 187 member States (India is a member), to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men.

27. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Global Financial Stability Report** is published by the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**
- The Reserve Bank of India releases the Financial Stability Report (FSR). **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Financial Stability Report (FSR) is a biannual publication.
- The FSRs are periodic exercises for reviewing the nature, magnitude and implications of risks that may have a bearing on the **macroeconomic environment, financial institutions, markets and infrastructure.**
- **FSR estimates that banks' bad loans may fall further to 5.3 per cent by March 2023.** If the **macroeconomic environment worsens**, bad loans may rise to 6.2 per cent in a medium stress scenario, deteriorating to 8.3 per cent in a severe stress scenario. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

28. Ans: D

- The **India Discrimination Report** is released by **Oxfam India, which** highlighted that women and marginalized communities suffered discrimination in the job market.
- The dataset was taken from the 61st round of the **National Sample Survey on employment unemployment (2004-05)**, the **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)** in 2018-19 and 2019-20, and the **All-India Debt and Investment Survey** by the Centre.
- **Hence option D is correct.**

29. Ans: B

Exp:

- The Logistics Performance Index (LPI), **developed by the World Bank Group**, is an interactive benchmarking tool created to help countries identify the challenges and opportunities they face in their performance on trade logistics and what they can do to improve their performance.
- The logistics performance (LPI) is the weighted average of the country's scores on the **six key dimensions:**

- ◆ Efficiency of the **clearance** process (i.e., speed, simplicity and predictability of formalities) by border control agencies, including customs.
- ◆ **Quality of trade** and transport related infrastructure (e.g., ports, railroads, roads, information technology).
- ◆ Ease of **arranging competitively priced shipments.**
- ◆ Competence and quality of **logistics services** (e.g., transport operators, customs brokers).
- ◆ Ability to **track and trace consignments.**
- ◆ Timeliness of shipments in reaching destinations within the scheduled or expected **delivery time.**
- ◆ **India ranked 44th on the LPI in 2018.**
- ◆ **Hence, option C is correct.**

30. Ans: D

Exp:

- **World Bank released the Human Capital Index (HCI) report for 2020.** The index benchmarks key components of human capital across countries. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **India has been ranked at the 116th position in the HCI 2020.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ **Human Capital:** It consists of the **knowledge, skills, and health** that people accumulate over their lives, enabling them to realize their potential as productive members of society. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ **Parameters Used in HCI:** The HCI 2020 includes health and education data of children for 174 countries up to March 2020. Thus, providing a pre-pandemic baseline.
 - It covers 98% of the world's population.

31. Ans: D

Exp:

- The GII is launched by the **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**, a specialized agency of the **United Nations.**
- The GII aims to capture the multi-dimensional facets of innovation ranking and rich analysis referencing around **132 economies.**
- **Indicators:** The index ranks world economies according to their innovation capabilities and consists of roughly 80 indicators grouped into **innovation inputs and outputs.**
 - ◆ **Innovation inputs:** Institutions; Human capital and research; Infrastructure; Market sophistication; Business sophistication.
 - ◆ **Innovation outputs:** Knowledge and technology outputs; Creative outputs,
- **Hence, Option D is correct.**



32. Ans: C

Exp:

- The National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) is a list released by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The first National List of Essential Medicines of India was published in 1996 consisting of 279 medicines. This list was subsequently revised in 2003, 2011, 2015 and 2022. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- Its purpose is to guide safe and effective treatment of priority disease conditions of a population.
 - ◆ **Promote the rational use of medicines. Hence statement 3 is correct.**

33. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Global Report on Food Crises report** is the **flagship publication of the Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC)** and is facilitated by the Food Security Information Network (FSIN).
- It was founded by the European Union, FAO and WFP in 2016.
- It is an alliance of humanitarian and development actors working together to prevent, prepare for and respond to food crises and support the Sustainable Development Goal to End Hunger (SDG 2).
- Hence, **option C is correct**.

34. Ans: C

Exp:

- **India ranked 132 among 189 countries on the Human Development Index (HDI) for 2022**, slipping two places from the previous year, according to the Human Development Report (HDR) 2021-2022, **released by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP)**.
- The Report has introduced planetary pressures-adjusted Human Development Index, which adjusts the standard **Human Development Index (HDI) by a country's per capita carbon dioxide emissions and material footprint**.
 - ◆ The other indices that form the part of the Report are: Inequality-adjusted **Human Development Index (IHDI)**, **Gender Development Index (GDI)**, **Gender Inequality Index (GII)** and **Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)**.
- Hence, **option C is correct**.

35. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the **World Happiness Report 2022** was published by the **United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN-SDSN)**.

- ◆ This year marks the 10th anniversary of the World Happiness Report.
- The SDSN, launched in 2012, mobilises global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical problem solving for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement.
- It was established under the auspices of the **United Nations Secretary-General**.
- The **SDSN and the Bertelsmann Stiftung** have been publishing the annual Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Index & Dashboards Global Report since 2016.
- Hence, **option A is correct**.

36. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, the **2021 World Air Quality Report** was **released by IQAir**, a Swiss air quality technology company. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The report presented an overview of the state of global air quality in 2021. IQAir measures **air quality levels based on the concentration of Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - ◆ IQAir endeavours to engage, educate, and inspire governments, researchers, Non-Government Organisations, companies, and citizens to work together to improve air quality and create healthier communities and cities.
- **Indian Scenario in the Report:**
 - ◆ India's **annual average PM2.5 levels reached 58.1 µg/m³** in 2021, **ending a three-year trend of improving air quality**. India's annual PM2.5 averages have now **returned to pre-quarantine concentrations** measured in 2019. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.
 - ◆ India was home to 11 of the 15 most polluted cities in Central and South Asia in 2021.
 - ◆ In 2021, Mumbai had recorded Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5 annual average of 46.4 microgram/cubic metre – nearly nine times above the World Health Organisation (WHO) limit.

37. Ans: C

Exp:

World Press Freedom Index

- It has been 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)**.
 - ◆ OIF is a 54 french speaking nation's collective.



- The Index ranks countries and regions according to the level of freedom available to journalists. However, it is not an indicator of the **quality of journalism**.
- **India ranked 150th** among the 180 countries.
- **Hence, option C is correct.**

38. Ans: A

Exp:

- India was ranked **40th** position out of **132** in the **Global Innovation Index (GII) 2022 rankings** released by **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ **India was ranked 46th** position in **2021**, and **81st** rank in **2015**.
- **The Global Innovation Index, which is published annually**, has been a leading reference for measuring an economy's innovation performance. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Switzerland is the most innovative economy** in the world in **2022** for the **12th** year in a row **followed by the United States, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands**.

39. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the National Report of the 2nd phase of fifth round of National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) was released.
 - ◆ **The National Family Health Survey (NFHS)** is a large-scale, multi-round survey conducted in a representative sample of households throughout India.
- The main objective of successive rounds of the NFHS has been to **provide reliable and comparable data relating to health and family welfare** and other emerging areas in India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Compared with NFHS-4, the **prevalence of overweight or obesity has increased** in most States/UTs in NFHS-5.
 - ◆ At the national level, it increased from 21% to 24% among women and 19% to 23% among men. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Total Fertility Rate (TFR), has further declined from 2.2 to 2.0 at the national level between NNFHS 4 and 5.
 - ◆ There are **only five states in India which are above replacement level of fertility of 2.1**. These states are Bihar, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand and Manipur. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

40. Ans: C

Exp:

- Export Preparedness Index (EPI) identifies challenges and opportunities, enhance the effectiveness of

government policies and encourages a facilitative regulatory framework for export. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- The EPI is a data-driven effort to identify the core areas crucial for export promotion at the sub-national level (states and union territories).
 - ◆ It explores and highlights India's export potential by examining the different contributions made by each state and union territories **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It is released solely by NITI Ayog. **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

41. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **International Renewable Energy Agency** releases the **World Energy Transitions Outlook**.
- The Outlook sets out priority areas and actions based on available technologies that must be realised by 2030 to achieve net zero emissions by mid-century.
- It also takes stock of progress across all energy uses to date, which shows that the current pace and scale of the renewables-based transition is inadequate.
- It provides in-depth analysis of two areas particularly relevant for the decarbonisation of end-use sectors: electrification and bioenergy.
- It also explores the socio-economic impacts of the 1.5°C pathway (under Paris Agreement) and suggests ways to speed progress towards universal access to clean energy (renewable energy).
- **Hence option C is correct.**

42. Ans: D

Exp:

Consumer Price Index:

- It **measures price changes from the perspective of a retail buyer**. It is released by the National Statistical Office (NSO). **Hence, statement 1 is not 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 Laborer (AL).
 - ◆ CPI for Rural Laborer (RL).
 - ◆ CPI (Rural/Urban/Combined).



- ◆ Of these, the **first three are compiled by the Labour Bureau** in the Ministry of Labor and Employment. **Fourth is compiled by the NSO** in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

- **Base Year for CPI is 2012.**

- ◆ Recently, the Ministry of Labor and Employment released the new series of Consumer Price Index for Industrial Worker (CPI-IW) with base year 2016.
- ◆ The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) uses CPI data to control inflation. In April 2014, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had adopted the CPI as its key measure of inflation.

43. Ans: D

Exp:

- **The World Health Organisation (WHO)** has released **Air Quality Database 2022**, which shows that Almost the entire global population (99 %) breathes air that exceeds WHO's air quality limits.
- The WHO for the first time has taken ground measurements of annual mean concentrations of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂). It also includes measurements of Particulate Matter with diameters equal or smaller than 10 µm (PM₁₀) or 2.5 µm (PM_{2.5}).
- The findings have prompted WHO to highlight the importance of curbing fossil fuel use and taking other tangible steps to reduce air pollution levels.
- **Hence, option D is correct.**

44. Ans: B

Exp:

- **India** has moved up by **six slots** to improve its position and **rank 61st** as per the **Network Readiness Index 2022 (NRI 2022)**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- This report was prepared by a **US-based Portulans Institute**, an independent non-profit research and educational institute.
- India leads in several indicators of the **Network Readiness Index (NRI) 2022**:
 - ◆ India secured **1st rank** in "AI talent concentration". **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ **2nd rank** in "Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country" and "International Internet bandwidth".
 - ◆ **3rd rank** in "Annual investment in telecommunication services" and "Domestic market size"
 - ◆ **4th rank** in "ICT Services exports".
 - ◆ **5th rank** in "FTTH/Building Internet subscriptions" and "AI scientific publications".

45. Ans: A

Exp:

- 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.
- It measures changes in a basket of cereals, oilseeds, dairy products, meat and sugar.
- **Base Period: 2014-16.**
- FAO is a specialised agency of the **United Nations** that leads international efforts to defeat hunger.
- **World Food Day** is celebrated every year around the world on 16th October. The day is celebrated to mark the anniversary of the founding of the FAO in 1945.
- **Hence, option A is correct.**

46. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2023** published by three non-governmental organizations **Germanwatch, New Climate Institute and the Climate Action Network (CAN) International**.
- In the **Climate Change Performance Index 2023**, India climbed **two spots** to **eighth** place out of **63** nations. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The **climate change performance index** is assessed in the following four categories, consisting of 14 indicators:
 - ◆ **GHG Emissions** (40% Weightage)
 - ◆ **Renewable Energy** (20% Weightage), **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ **Energy Use** (20% Weightage)
 - ◆ **Climate Policy** (20% Weightage)

47. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the **NITI Aayog launched the State Energy and Climate Index (SECI)**. It is the first index that aims to track the efforts made by states and UTs in the climate and energy sector. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The State Energy and Climate Index (SECI) **ranks states and UTs on six parameters**:
 - ◆ Discoms' (Power distribution companies) Performance,
 - ◆ Access Affordability And Reliability Of Energy,
 - ◆ Clean Energy Initiatives,
 - ◆ Energy Efficiency,
 - ◆ Environmental Sustainability,
 - ◆ New Initiatives.



- Based on the outcome of SECI scores, states and union territories have been categorised into three groups -- **front runners, achievers, and aspirants.**

- ◆ **Top Performers: Gujarat, Kerala and Punjab** have been adjudged as top three performer states in the NITI Aayog's SECI. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- ◆ The top three performers among smaller states are Goa, Tripura and Manipur.
- ◆ **Unsatisfactory Performance:** States like Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand were placed at the bottom.

48. Ans: D

Exp:

Global Wind Report 2022:

- Recently, the **Global Wind Report for 2022** was published by the **Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC).**
- GWEC was established in 2005 to **provide a credible and representative forum** for the entire wind energy sector at an international level.
- **Hence, option D is correct.**

49. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the **World Bank** in its report **South Asia Economic Focus (Bi- Annual)** cut its economic growth forecast for India and the whole South Asian region.
- South Asia Economic Focus describes recent economic developments, analyses the economic impact on South Asia of the war in Ukraine, presents growth forecasts, provides risk scenarios, and concludes that reshaping economies goes hand in hand with reshaping norms.
- **Hence, option A is correct.**

50. Ans: A

Exp:

- The **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** has released its Annual Frontiers Report named Noise, Blazes and Mismatches.
- The Frontiers report identifies and offers solutions to three environmental issues: **urban noise pollution, wildfires and phenological shifts** that merit attention and action from governments and the public at large to address the triple planetary crisis of climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss.
- **Hence, option A is correct.**

51. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, the **US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)** has recommended for the **second year in the row to put India on a list (Countries of**

Particular Concern or CPCs) for the worst violations of religious freedoms in 2021. **Hence, both statements 1 and 2 are not correct.**

- Earlier, the US State Department released a **strong and critical report on human rights in India in 2021.**
- **The Report's primary focus is on two groups of countries:**
 - ◆ **Country of Particular Concern (CPC):** It is a designation by the US Secretary of State of a nation engaged in severe violations of religious freedom under IRFA (International Religious Freedom Act of 1998).
 - ◆ **Special Watch List:** A "Special Watch List" country is one that is deemed not to meet all the CPC criteria but engages in or tolerates severe violations of religious freedom.

52. Ans: B

Exp:

World Economic Outlook:

- It is a **survey by the International Monetary Fund (IMF)** that is usually published twice a year in the months of April and October.
- It analyses and predicts global economic developments during the near and medium term.
- In response to the growing demand for more frequent forecast updates, the WEO Update is published in January and July, between the two main WEO publications released usually in April and October.
- **Hence, option B is correct.**

53. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** released the Report on **Currency and Finance (RCF).**
- According to the report, the Indian economy may take more than a decade to overcome the losses caused by the outbreak of the **Covid-19 pandemic.**
- The **theme of the report is "Revive and Reconstruct"** in the context of nurturing a durable **recovery post-Covid-19 and rising trend growth in the medium-term.**
- **Hence, option B is correct.**

54. Ans: B

Exp:

- The IMF was **set up along with the World Bank after the Second World War** to assist in the **reconstruction of war-ravaged countries.**
- The two organizations agreed to be set up at a **conference in Bretton Woods in the US.** Hence, they are known as the **Bretton Woods twins.**



- **Reports by IMF:**
 - ◆ Global Financial Stability Report
 - ◆ World Economic Outlook
 - ◆ Regional Economic Outlook
 - ◆ Fiscal Monitor
- Chief Economists Outlook is published by **World Economic Forum**.
- Hence, **option B is correct**.

55. Ans: C

Exp:

- **International Migration Outlook 2022**, a report on international migration patterns was released by the **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**.
- According to it, after a record decrease in 2020 due to the COVID-19 crisis, **permanent-type migration to OECD countries bounced back by 22% in 2021**.
 - ◆ Family migration increased by 40% in 2021 and remained the largest category of inflows, accounting for more than four in ten new permanent immigrants to the OECD.
- **Indian Scenario:**
 - ◆ Students from **China (22%) and India (10%) account for the largest share of foreign students** in OECD countries. About a third of the world's population aged 20-29 live in these two countries.
 - ◆ A look at the stay rates of Indians and Chinese students who had obtained their education permit in 2015 shows that in nearly every OECD country, including Canada, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and Japan, Indians have significantly higher retention rates than the Chinese. Hence, **option c is correct**.

56. Ans: B

Exp:

- The World Health Organisation (WHO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) jointly launched the first Global Report on Assistive Technology (GREAT). Hence **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The report assumes significance as 90% of those who need assistive technology do not have access to it globally.
- Assistive technology into health systems is critical for progress towards the targets in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) relating to Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Hence **statement 2 is correct**.

57. Ans: C

Exp:

- **The State of Inequality in India' Report** compiles information on inequities across sectors of health, education, household characteristics and the labor market.
 - ◆ The report consists of two parts – Economic Facets and Socio-Economic Manifestations which looks at five key areas that influence the nature and experience of inequality.
- The Report was released by the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister. Hence **statement 1 is correct**.
- **Chandigarh, Delhi, Punjab, Goa** in order is in the top in terms of wealth concentration. Punjab will be the top state not Goa. Hence **statement 2 is not correct**.
- In 2019-20, among different employment categories, the **highest percentage was self-employed workers (45.78%)**, followed by regular salaried workers (33.5%) and casual workers (20.71%). Hence **statement 3 is correct**.

58. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **World Governance Index** plays a key role in deciding the sovereign credit rating of any nation.
- The World Governance Indicators (WGI) is released by the **World Bank**. Hence **statement 1 is not correct**.
- World Governance Indicators are based on the following set of criteria:
 - Voice and Accountability, Political Stability and Absence of Violence, Government Effectiveness, Regulatory Quality, Rule of Law, Control of Corruption. Hence **Statement 2 is not correct**.

59. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Indo-Gangetic Plain has the worst air pollution. New Delhi and several of the most polluted cities are located in this region. Hence **statement 1 is correct**.
- Lead poisoning or chronic intoxication is caused by the absorption of Lead in the circulatory system of the human being. It is characterized especially by fatigue, abdominal pain, nausea, diarrhea, loss of appetite, a dark line along the gums, and muscle paralysis or weakness of limbs.
- Lead exposure also causes anemia, hypertension, **renal impairment**, immunotoxicity and toxicity to the reproductive organs. Hence **statement 2 is correct**.



60. Ans: B

Exp:

- **The World Economic Forum (WEF)** is a Swiss nonprofit foundation established in 1971, based in **Geneva, Switzerland**. Recognized by the Swiss authorities as the **international institution for public-private cooperation**. Committed to improving the state of the world by engaging business, political, academic, and other leaders of society to shape global, regional, and industry agendas.
- **Reports released by World Economic Forum**
 - ◆ Global Risk Report.
 - ◆ Global Travel and Tourism Report.
 - ◆ Select the correct answer using the code given below:
 - ◆ **Energy Transition Index.**
 - ◆ **Global Competitiveness Report.**
 - ◆ Global IT Report
 - WEF along with INSEAD, and Cornell University publishes this report.
 - ◆ **Global Gender Gap Report.**
 - ◆ Global Risk Report.
 - ◆ Global Travel and Tourism Report.
- **The World Development Report is released by the World Bank and the World Economic Outlook is released by the IMF.**
- **Hence option B is correct.**

61. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Global Hunger Index (GHI)** is a tool for comprehensively measuring and tracking hunger at **global, regional, and national levels**.
- The **GHI is an annual report and each set of GHI scores uses data from a 5-year period**. The **2022 GHI scores are calculated using data from 2017 to 2021**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- **GHI scores are based on the values of four component indicators:**
 - ◆ Undernourishment
 - ◆ Child stunting
 - ◆ **Child wasting, Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Child mortality

62. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)** was created in 2001.

- ◆ SCO was established as a multilateral association to ensure security and maintain stability across the vast Eurasian region.
- ◆ It envisages joining forces to counteract emerging challenges and threats, and enhance trade, as well as cultural and humanitarian cooperation.
- Prior to the creation of SCO in 2001, **Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan** were members of the **Shanghai Five**. Hence **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The SCO's official languages are **Russian and Chinese**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- **Iran became the 9th member of SCO in 2021**. Hence **statement 3 is correct**.

63. Ans: A

Exp:

- India scored above the regional average in the **World Bank's Women, Business and the Law 2023 report**. For India, report used data on laws and regulations in Mumbai, India's main business city. Hence, **option A is correct**.
- India received a **perfect score for laws related to freedom of movement, women's work decisions, and marriage constraints**.
- **Women, Business and the Law 2023 is the 9th in a series of annual reports that analyze laws and regulations affecting women's economic opportunity in 190 economies**.
 - ◆ **Women, Business and the Law data is available for the period from 1971 to 2023 (calendar years 1970 to 2022)**
- **Indicators: It has eight indicators-** Mobility, Workplace, Pay, Marriage, Parenthood, Entrepreneurship, Assets, and Pension.



64. Ans: A

Exp:

- The report released by the **Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation** in June 2022, collated numbers for temporary visitors and migrants. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- **86.8% females migrated for marriage** while 49.6% of the males migrated in search of employment. Hence, **Statement 2 is not correct**.

65. Ans: C

Exp:

- In the Global gender gap index (which measures progress towards gender parity), India slipped to 135th place in 2022. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- However, recently the WEF has agreed to make changes in criteria for Global Gender Gap Reports by taking into account the participation of women at panchayat level to rank countries in its future reports. It will better India's position at the global level.
- As per the data compiled by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), of which India is a member, women represent just 14.44% of the total members of the Lok Sabha. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

66. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL)** is a sub scheme under the Atal Innovation Mission of the Government of India. The objective of this scheme is to **foster curiosity, creativity, and imagination in young minds**; and inculcate skills such as design mindset, computational thinking, adaptive learning, physical computing etc. By setting up innovation labs in schools across India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **ATL Sarthi** is a comprehensive **self-monitoring framework launched by AIM** to strengthen the **ecosystem** of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL). It is designed to enable ATLs to be efficient and effective. **Hence, statement 2 is Correct.**

67. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has released Women and Men in India 2022 report. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The sex ratio at birth went up by three points to 907 in 2018-20 from 904 in 2017-19.
- India's sex ratio (females per 1,000 males) is expected to improve to 952 by 2036, up significantly from 943 in 2011.
- India's Labour Force Participation Rate for those above 15 years of age has been on the rise since 2017-2018. However, women are severely lagging behind men. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The rate was 77.2 for males and 32.8 for females in 2021-22, with no improvement in this disparity over the years.
- Less participation is due to social factors, educational qualifications and gender discrimination in terms of wages and opportunities in the workplace.

- India's age and sex structure, as per which the population under 15 years of age is expected to decline and the population above 60 years is expected to increase by 2036.

68. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Living Planet Report 2022 is released by the World-Wide Fund for Nature**, this report is released every two years.
- **Key findings:**
 - ◆ There has been a **69% decline in the wildlife populations** of mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish, across the globe in the last 50 years.
 - ◆ Region-wise Decline in Wildlife Populations:
 - ◆ The highest decline in the wildlife populations (94%) was in the Latin America and the Caribbean region.
 - ◆ Africa recorded a 66% fall in its wildlife populations from 1970-2018 whereas the Asia-Pacific recorded a decline of 55%.
- **Key Threats to Biodiversity:**
 - ◆ WWF identified six key threats to biodiversity to highlight 'threat hotspots' for terrestrial vertebrates:
 - ◆ Agriculture
 - ◆ Hunting
 - ◆ Logging
 - ◆ Pollution
 - ◆ Invasive Species
 - ◆ Climate Change, **Hence, option D is correct.**

69. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, the Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSE&L), Ministry of Education (MoE) released the **Centre's first-ever Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI-D)** for 2018-19 and 2019-20. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- PGI-D assesses the performance of the school education system at the **district level by creating an index for comprehensive analysis**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The PGI-D assessed district-level performance in school education based on the data collected from various sources, including **Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE +), National Achievement Survey (NAS), 2017 and data provided by respective districts**

