

Asia's Environmental Flashpoints: Air Quality Crisis, EV Surge, and Deforestation

Environmental News · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. In 2024, which Asian city was identified as the most polluted globally, recording a staggering annual average PM2.5 concentration of 128.2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$?

- A) New Delhi, India
- B) Byrnihat, India**
- C) Dhaka, Bangladesh
- D) Lahore, Pakistan

2. According to IQAir's 2024 World Air Quality Report, what percentage of global cities failed to meet the WHO's annual PM2.5 guideline value?

- A) 82.7%
- B) 91.3%**
- C) 75.5%
- D) 95.1%

3. In 2024, China achieved a significant milestone in renewable energy by installing a record amount of solar and wind power. What was the total combined capacity installed in gigawatts (GW)?

- A) 188 GW
- B) 278 GW
- C) 357 GW**
- D) 450 GW

4. Which Southeast Asian country has seen its electric vehicle (EV) sales share double since 2024 to reach close to 40% in 2025, surpassing the UK and EU in penetration?

- A) Thailand
- B) Indonesia
- C) Singapore
- D) Vietnam**

5. In 2024, deforestation in Indonesia continued to rise for the third consecutive year. What were the primary drivers identified for these losses?

- A) Urban expansion and tourism
- B) Mining, palm oil cultivation, and timber plantations**
- C) Wildfires due to natural causes
- D) Shifting agricultural practices for local consumption

6. South Korea's K-pop industry is under scrutiny for its environmental impact. Approximately how many physical albums are sold annually, contributing significantly to plastic waste?

- A) 20 million
- B) 50 million
- C) 100 million**
- D) 10 million

7. What was the total area of primary forest lost in Indonesia in 2024, as reported by NGO Auriga Nusantara, marking the third consecutive year of increase?

- A) 150,000 hectares
- B) 261,575 hectares**
- C) 300,000 hectares
- D) 100,000 hectares

8. Japan is developing innovative technologies for plastic waste. What is the projected recycling rate for plastic waste in Japan by 2030, according to the provided data?

- A) 50%
- B) 60%
- C) 70%
- D) 83.75%**

9. The Asia Pacific sustainable fashion market was valued at over \$1.5 billion in 2024. What is the projected compound annual growth rate (CAGR) for this market through 2033?

- A) 10.20%
- B) 15.50%
- C) 23.20%**
- D) 18.90%

10. In 2024, India set a record for solar power installations, adding approximately how many gigawatts (GW) of solar capacity?

- A) 12.8 GW
- B) 15.0 GW
- C) 24.5 GW**
- D) 30.1 GW

11. According to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Asia is warming at nearly twice the global average rate. What was the temperature anomaly recorded above the 1991-2020 average in 2024?

- A) +0.54 °C
- B) +1.04 °C**
- C) +1.54 °C
- D) +0.75 °C

12. Which country commanded the largest share (61.08%) of the Asia-Pacific electric vehicle market in 2024?

- A) India
- B) Japan
- C) South Korea
- D) China**