

# South Asia Environmental Crisis: Shocking Air Pollution, Water Scarcity, and

Environment · Answer Key · 12 Questions

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**1. Which South Asian city was recently ranked second globally for air quality, experiencing "unhealthy" levels with an Air Quality Index (AQI) of 167?**

- A) New Delhi, India
- B) Dhaka, Bangladesh**
- C) Karachi, Pakistan
- D) Kathmandu, Nepal

**2. The 'Plastic Free Rivers and Seas of South Asia' (PLEASE) project, implemented by SACEP, has successfully prevented a significant amount of plastic waste from polluting the region's waterways. Approximately how much plastic waste has been recycled into useful resources across six participating countries?**

- A) Over 10.2 million kilograms
- B) Over 626,000 kilograms**
- C) Over 1 million kilograms
- D) Over 5 million kilograms

**3. A recent report highlights that India, Pakistan, Nigeria, and Ghana host the largest number of cities with the highest heat risk scores. What percentage of these most at-risk cities are located in South and Southeast Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa combined?**

- A) Over 75%
- B) Over 95%**
- C) Over 50%
- D) Over 85%

**4. Regarding air quality standards in South Asia, what pollutant has received growing attention due to its transboundary nature and increasing emission trends, despite some countries having stringent national standards compared to other global regions?**

- A) Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)
- B) Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)
- C) Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)**
- D) Carbon Monoxide (CO)

**5. The South Asia monsoon provides a significant portion of the region's annual rainfall, vital for agriculture. What percentage of South Asia's annual rainfall is typically delivered by the monsoon season?**

- A) 40-50%
- B) 70-80%**
- C) 50-60%
- D) 60-70%

**6. In the context of water crises in Asia, approximately how many people in the Asia-Pacific region are estimated to lack access to clean water and sanitation?**

- A) 500 million
- B) 1 billion
- C) 2 billion**
- D) 1.5 billion

**7. A regional conference in Kathmandu is focusing on strengthening efforts to protect pangolins, considered one of the world's most trafficked mammals. Which two pangolin species are found in South Asia?**

- A) Sunda Pangolin and Philippine Pangolin
- B) Giant Pangolin and Tree Pangolin
- C) Chinese Pangolin and Indian Pangolin**
- D) Temminck's Pangolin and White-bellied Pangolin

**8. The 'State of Energy Transition in South Asia' report indicates that fossil fuels still constitute a significant portion of the region's primary energy mix. What is the approximate percentage of fossil fuels in South Asia's primary energy mix?**

- A) Approximately 50%
- B) Approximately 70%**
- C) Approximately 60%
- D) Approximately 80%

**9. Recent reports indicate a concerning trend in South Asia regarding extreme heat. According to experts, what percentage of heat deaths can now be attributed to climate change?**

- A) Less than 10%
- B) Approximately 25%
- C) More than a third**
- D) Approximately 50%

**10. The Indus Waters Treaty, governing water sharing between India and Pakistan, is facing renewed scrutiny. Which of the following is NOT one of the three western rivers assigned to Pakistan under this treaty?**

- A) Indus
- B) Jhelum
- C) Chenab
- D) Sutlej**

**11. South Asia is grappling with a 'triple water crisis' which includes too much water, too little water, and dangerously high levels of water pollution. What is cited as a major contributor to water pollution in the region?**

- A) Increased use of desalination plants
- B) Untreated wastewater discharge**
- C) Excessive use of chemical fertilizers in agriculture
- D) Industrial effluents being treated before discharge

**12. In 2021, air pollution was a leading environmental risk factor for poor health in Asia. In South Asia specifically, approximately how many deaths were attributed to air pollution in that year?**

- A) 630,000
- B) 2.6 million**
- C) 6 million
- D) 500,000