

South Asia's Economic Crossroads: Global Events Reshape Local Futures

South Asia Economy · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. According to the State of India's Digital Economy (SIDE) 2026 report, what is India's global ranking in terms of digital economy?

- A) Third
- B) Fourth
- C) Fifth**
- D) Eighth

2. Which sector in the Maldives, crucial to its economy and heavily impacted by climate change, accounts for approximately 28% of its GDP?

- A) Agriculture
- B) Manufacturing
- C) Textiles
- D) Tourism**

3. What is a primary driver of Pakistan's recent energy revolution, with a significant surge in imports and adoption by consumers seeking alternatives to grid power?

- A) Nuclear energy
- B) Coal power
- C) Solar power**
- D) Natural gas

4. Nepal's tourism sector, a vital contributor to its economy, saw a recovery to what percentage of its 2019 pre-pandemic levels by the end of 2025?

- A) 85%
- B) 90%
- C) 97%**
- D) 100%

5. What is a major factor contributing to the disruption of industries like garment exports in Bangladesh, as highlighted in recent economic analyses?

- A) A boom in the agricultural sector
- B) Strong international trade agreements
- C) Political instability and unrest**
- D) A rapid increase in tourism

6. Climate change poses significant threats to South Asian agriculture, with studies projecting potential decreases in crop yields due to factors like:

- A) Increased use of pesticides
- B) Rising average temperatures and altered rainfall patterns**
- C) A global decrease in demand for food
- D) Increased availability of fertile land

7. What strategy are multinational corporations increasingly adopting to diversify their supply chains and reduce reliance on a single country, creating opportunities for South Asian economies?

- A) China Plus One**
- B) Global sourcing
- C) Regional specialization
- D) Vertical integration

8. What is a primary challenge for Sri Lanka's economic recovery, despite recent growth, according to the World Bank?

- A) A decrease in foreign investment
- B) The recovery remains incomplete, with growth below pre-crisis levels and high poverty**
- C) A significant decline in the tourism sector
- D) The loss of key export markets

9. Bhutan is actively pursuing sustainable development with international partnerships. Which of the following areas are key focuses of its cooperation with organizations like the EU and World Bank?

- A) Fossil fuel exploration
- B) Renewable energy and sustainable tourism**
- C) Heavy manufacturing
- D) Traditional agriculture only

10. India's digital economy is experiencing rapid expansion, with significant investments being made in technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI). What percentage of AI users are now reportedly in developing countries, according to recent reports?

- A) Approximately 25%
- B) Approximately 50%
- C) Approximately 72%**
- D) Approximately 90%