



Economic Survey 2020-21 Part - XVIII

1) Consider the following statements with respect to *Planetary pressures-adjusted Human Development Index (PHDI)*

1. It is an index which measures the level of human development when planetary pressures are considered.
2. The PHDI equals the HDI when there are no pressures on the planet and falls below the HDI when pressure increases.
3. India ranks better in PHDI than Human Development Index (HDI).

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 1 and 3 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : d

- India's rank in Human Development Index (HDI) was 131 in 2019, compared to 129 in 2018, out of a total 189 countries according to UNDP Human Development Report, 2020.
- It may be mentioned that the decline in HDI ranking by two points in 2019 as compared to 2018 is relative to other countries.
- By looking at the sub-component wise performance of HDI indicators, India's 'GNI per capita (2017 PPP \$)' has increased from US\$ 6,427 in 2018 to US\$ 6,681 in 2019, and 'life expectancy at birth' has improved from 69.4 years in 2018 to 69.7 years in 2019, respectively.
- However, the 'mean years of schooling' and 'expected years of schooling' remained unchanged in 2019 compared to 2018.
- However, considering the value of Planetary pressures adjusted HDI (PHDI), **India was positioned 8 ranks better than HDI rank.**

Planetary pressures-adjusted Human Development Index (PHDI)

- It is an experimental index that adjusts the Human Development Index (HDI) for planetary pressures in the Anthropocene.
- The PHDI discounts the HDI for pressures on the planet to reflect a concern for intergenerational inequality, similar to the Inequality-adjusted HDI adjustment which is motivated by a concern for intragenerational inequality.
- The PHDI is the level of human development adjusted by **carbon dioxide emissions per person** (production-based) and **material footprint per capita** to account for the excessive human pressure on the planet.
- In an ideal scenario where there are no pressures on the planet, the PHDI equals the HDI.
- However, as pressures increase, the PHDI falls below the HDI.
- In this sense, the PHDI measures the level of human development when planetary pressures are considered.

2) With respect to *Age Specific Attendance Ratio (ASAR)*, consider the following statements:

1. It indicates the proportion of children of a particular age group actually attending schools/colleges irrespective of the level or class in which they are studying.
2. Children in the age-group of 6-13 years have almost 95% attendance across States whereas the attendance rate in the early childhood education is low and diverging.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : c

Age Specific Attendance Ratio (ASAR)

- It indicates the proportion of children of a particular age group actually attending schools/colleges irrespective of the level or class in which they are studying.
- Children in the age-group of 6-13 years have reported almost 95% and above attendance across States.
- But the attendance rate in the early childhood education is low and diverging irrespective of the achievement in education status of the States concerned.
- While Punjab reported a high attendance rate of 61.6 per cent of the children in the age groups of 3-5 years (i.e. early childhood education), Karnataka reports the lowest attendance rate of only 18.3 per cent.
- In the 14-17 years age group, which covers the secondary and higher secondary education level, the attendance rates are low as compared to national average in Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Assam, Gujarat, and Rajasthan.
- In the 18-23 years age bracket, which comprises students pursuing higher education, Kerala and the hilly States have reported higher attendance compared to rest of India.

3) Which of the following statements regarding *National Education Policy (NEP), 2020*, is *incorrect*?

- a. It aims at universalization of education from pre-school to secondary level with 100 per cent Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in school education by 2030
- b. The policy proposed to replace the erstwhile 10+2 system by a new 5+3+3+4 curricular structure
- c. Teaching up to at least Grade 2 to be in mother tongue/regional language
- d. It proposed to make class 10 and 12 board examinations easier to test core competencies rather than memorized facts

Answer : c

National Education Policy (NEP), 2020

- Universalization of education from pre-school to secondary level with 100 per cent Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in school education by 2030.
- To bring 2 crore out of school children back into the mainstream through universalization of access and expanding the open schooling system.
- The current 10+2 system to be replaced by a new 5+3+3+4 curricular structure corresponding to ages 3-8, 8-11, 11-14, and 14-18 years, respectively
- Class 10 and 12 board examinations to be made easier to test core competencies rather than memorized facts.
- School governance is set to change, with a new standards framework based on online self-declaration in the public domain for both public and private schools.
- Emphasis on foundational literacy and numeracy, and no rigid separation between academic streams, extra-curricular, vocational streams in schools.

- Vocational Education to start from Class 6 with Internship Teaching up to at least Grade 5 to be in mother tongue/regional language, wherever possible.
- No language will be imposed on any student.
- Assessment reforms with 360-degree Holistic Progress Card, tracking student progress for achieving learning outcomes
- A new and comprehensive National Curriculum Framework for school education, Early Childhood Care & Education, Teacher Education and Adult Education.
- By 2030, the minimum degree qualification for teaching will be a 4-year integrated B.Ed. degree.

4) With respect to *Gig Economy*, consider the following statements:

1. The nature of job contract for a gig worker is usually shorter and more specific to the task or job assigned.
2. In India, gig workers were neither considered as worker nor employee and were not entitled to legal protections under labour laws.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : a

- During the period of COVID-19 induced lockdown, the increasing role of the gig economy was evident with significant growth of online retail business.

Gig Economy



- It can be defined as a work engagement where on one side, there is a service seeker i.e. a consumer with a demand for a specific task, and on the other side, there is a service provider i.e. a gig worker who can perform that specific task.
- This project-based gig economy allows the service adopter to cut overhead costs, and the gig worker to get paid for a specific task performed instead of receiving a fixed salary.
- Thus, a shift from a full time 9-to-5 job to an on-demand, freelance and task-based economy can be termed as gig economy.
- The benefit of the gig economy is that it allows flexibility in employer-employee relationship to both service seeker and service provider.
- Their labour contract is usually shorter and more specific to the task or job assigned.
- Till recently, gig or platform workers were devoid of their basic rights and social security protections mainly because they were neither considered as worker nor employee under definition of employee in the labour laws of the country.
- ***For the first time, these class of workers have been brought under the ambit of the newly introduced Code on Social Security 2020*** by defining them exclusively in the category of unorganized worker for providing social security benefits.

5) Assertion (A): Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR) of females in the productive age (15-59 years) was low when compared to males.

Reason (R): Females spend large time on unpaid domestic and caregiving services to household members compared to their male counterparts.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A
- b. Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A
- c. A is correct but R is incorrect

d. A is incorrect but R is correct

Answer : a

Time Use Survey, 2019

- According to the survey, LFPR of females in the productive age (15-59 years) was 26.5 per cent in 2018-19, as compared to 80.3 per cent for males (rural+urban).
- The survey showed that females spend disproportionately large time on unpaid domestic and caregiving services to household members compared to their male counterparts.
- This explains the reason for the relatively low level of female LFPR in India.

