



## CURRENT AFFAIRS

### 1. Swachh Vayu Survekshan 2023 and NCAP -

- Recently, the awards for Swachh Vayu Survekshan (Clean Air Survey) 2023 were announced. The survey was conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).
- Every year, the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies is celebrated on 7 September to raise awareness and facilitate actions to improve air quality. It was declared so by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2019.
- Theme for 4th International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies (Swachh Vayu Diwas 2023) - "Together for Clean Air."
- Swachh Vayu Survekshan (SVS) is a new initiative by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) to rank cities on the basis of air quality and implementation of activities approved under the city action plan (NCAP) in 131 non-attainment cities.

CITY LAGS IN AIR QUALITY	
<b>Category 1 Cities with population over 10 lakh</b>	
<b>City</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Indore	1
Agra	2
Thane	3
Srinagar	4
Bhopal	5
Trichy	6
Vadodara	7
Ahmedabad	8
Delhi	9
Mumbai	10

Swachh Vayu Survekshan is an initiative by MoEF&CC to rank cities on the basis of implementation of activities approved under city and air quality action plans in 131 NCAP cities

CRITERIA	
<b>Category 1</b> Population over 10 lakh No. of cities <b>47</b>	<b>Category 2</b> Population 3-10 lakh No. of cities <b>44</b>
<b>Category 3</b> Population under 3 lakh No. of cities <b>40</b>	

### The cities were assessed on eight major points:

- Control of biomass
  - Municipal solid waste burning
  - Road dust
  - Dust from construction and demolition waste
  - Vehicular emissions
  - Industrial emissions
  - Public awareness
  - improvement in PM10 concentration
- Top 3 cities under 1st category (million plus population): Indore followed by Agra and Thane. Worst Performers: Madurai (46), Howrah (45) and Jamshedpur (44) Bhopal ranked 5th and Delhi ranked 9th



- Top 3 cities under 2nd category (3-10 lakhs population): Amravati followed by Moradabad and Guntur. Worst Performers: Jammu (38), Guwahati (37) and Jalandhar (36)
- Top 3 cities under 3rd category (<3 lakhs population): Parwanoo followed by Kala Amb and Angul. Worst Performer: Kohima (39)

## 2. India's first solar city inaugurated in Madhya Pradesh's Sanchi -

- Madhya Pradesh (MP) Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan inaugurated Sanchi in Raisen district as India's first solar city.
- The initiative is in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of developing a solar city in every state by 2070.
- Sanchi Solar City has two solar plants - a 3 MW solar plant at Nagauri and a 5 MW solar plant at Gulgaon, which cater to the city's power and agricultural needs. Currently, an 8 MW grid-connected solar plant is under construction within Sanchi city.
- Madhya Pradesh Urja Vikas Nigam Limited (MPUVNL) acted as the nodal agency for this solar city project. MPUVNL launched an 'Energy Literacy Campaign' to educate the people of Sanchi about energy-saving practices.
- Sanchi Solar City is expected to reduce annual carbon dioxide emissions by about 13,747 tonnes, which is equivalent to the effect of planting more than 2 lakh adult trees.
- The project is expected to save over Rs 7 crore annually in energy-related expenses for both the government and citizens.
- Electric vehicle charging stations have been set up across the city to promote the adoption of electric vehicles.
- Public establishments have been fitted with rooftop solar systems to harness solar energy. Individual rooftop owners have also installed solar systems on their premises, thereby reducing their dependence on grid electricity.





- India has set a target of generating 40% of its total installed electricity generation capacity from renewable sources by 2030.

### 3. The Group of Twenty (G20) recently adopted the G20 New Delhi Leader's Declaration -

- The New Delhi Leader's Declaration was adopted on September 9, 2023. The Countries committed to, accelerating their actions to address environmental crises and challenges, including climate change.

- The New Delhi Leader's Declaration was adopted with consensus on a number of issues.

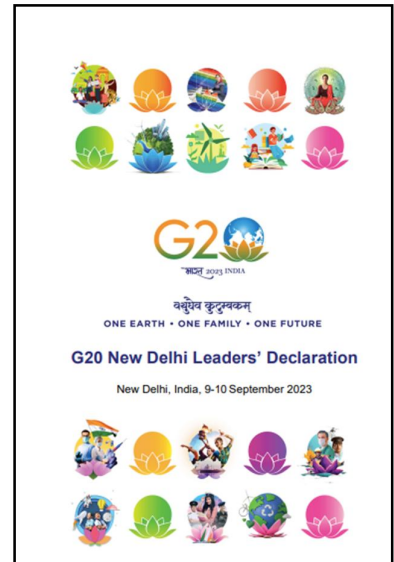
- These include sustainable development goals (SDG), climate finance, energy transitions, using and restoring natural ecosystems, harnessing and preserving ocean-based economy, plastic pollution, reducing disaster risk, and building resilient infrastructure. (SDG India)

- Paris Agreement- One of the aims of the declaration is "to tackle climate change by strengthening the full and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement and its temperature goal.

- The inclusion of the principles of CBDR is interesting as some developed G20 countries such as the United States have been averse to the usage.

- The G20 members also cited the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Synthesis Report.

- It stated that Global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are projected to peak between 2020 and at the latest before 2025 in global modeled pathways that limit warming to 1.5°C with no or limited overshoot and in those that limit warming to 2°C and assume immediate action. (Mitigating Climate Change)





## Quiz

**Q1. Consider the following statements, with reference to Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA):**

1. It is an India led initiative by the G20 grouping.
2. India, Britain and the US are the founding members of the alliance.
3. All the members of G20 are members of this alliance.

How many of the statements given above are correct ?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

**Q2. Consider the following statements:**

1. The G21 grouping includes G20 countries and the African Union.
2. All the countries in the African Continent are members to the African Union.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect ?

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

**Q3. Consider the following statements regarding Morocco:**

1. It is a mountainous country of western North Africa that lies directly across the Strait of Gibraltar.
2. It is the only African country with coastal exposure to both the

Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect ?

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

**Q4. To which country has India handed over the presidency of G20 during the New Delhi G20 summit ?**

- a) Indonesia
- b) USA
- c) Japan
- d) Brazil

**Q5. 'Christ the Redeemer' statue is a landmark monument located in which country ?**

- a) Australia
- b) Brazil
- c) Argentina
- d) Russia

**Q6. What is the theme of India's G20 presidency in 2023?**

- a) "Make in India, Buy in India"
- b) "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth, One Family, One Future"
- c) "Global Economic Prosperity"
- d) "Green Revolution for Sustainable Development"

### Answer Key

1	2	3	4	5	6
a	b	d	d	b	b