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1. Currently how many members are in the SAARC organisation?

- (a) 6
- (b) 7
- (c) 8
- (d) 10

Ans. c

Explanation: Initially there were 7 members in the SAARC but Afghanistan joined it on April 3, 2007. Now it has 8 members which includes; Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, the Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

2. When was SAARC established?

- (a) 1967
- (b) 1995
- (c) 1953
- (d) 1985

Ans. d

Explanation: SAARC was founded in Dhaka on 8 December 1985. This organization promotes development of economic and regional integration.

3. Which of the following statement is NOT correct about the SAARC?

- (a) First SAARC summit was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh
- (b) Till date 18 SAARC summits have been held
- (c) As on 2015, SAARC comprises 3% of the world's area, 21% of the world's population and 3.8% (US\$2.9 trillion) of the global economy.
- (d) 20th SAAARC summit will be held in New Delhi

Ans. d

Explanation: The date of 20th SAAARC summit is not finalised yet. The 19th SAARC summit to be held in Pakistan was cancelled.

4. Which of the following country is not the member of the SAARC?

- (a) Myanmar
- (b) Bhutan
- (c) Nepal
- (d) Maldives

Ans. a

Explanation: Myanmar is not the member of the SAARC. All the members of the SAARC are; Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, the Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

5. Which of the following SAARC member has the highest population?

- (a) Bangladesh
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) Nepal
- (d) Afghanistan

Ans. b

Explanation: India is the most populous country among the SAARC nations but as per the options given in the question Pakistan is the most populous country which has population of 200,813,818 in 2018.

6. Which of the following SAARC member has best HDI rank in the whole group?

- (a) India
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Bhutan

Ans. c

Explanation: All the members of the SAARC have HDI rank above 100 but Sri Lanka is the only member of the SAARC which has HDI rank below 100. HDI rank of the Sri Lanka is 73.

7. What was the theme of the SAARC year 2016-17?

- (a) Year for Girls
- (b) Year for Environment

(c) Year of Good Governance

(d) Year of Cultural Heritage

Ans. d

Explanation: The SAARC theme for the FY 2016-17 was Year of Cultural Heritage. Year for girls was the theme of 1990, Year for Environment- 1992 and Year of Good Governance was the theme of 2008.

8. Who is the current Secretary General of the SAARC?

(a) Sheel Kant Sharma

(b) Amjad Hussain

(c) Ahmed Saleem

(d) Arjun Bahadur Thapa

Ans. c

Explanation: Amjad Hussain B Sial of Pakistan is the current Secretary General of SAARC. He is holding the post since 1 March 2017. Mr. Kant Kishore Bhargava (1989) and Sheel Kant Sharma (2008) are the only two Indian who became the Secretary General of SAARC.

9. Where is the headquarters of the SAARC?

(a) Manila

(b) Kathmandu

(c) New Delhi

(d) Jakarta

Ans. b