

# **10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation**

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*For UPSC CSE Prelims*

**February, 2026 4<sup>th</sup> Week**

10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (23 Feb.)

**Q. With reference to the International Energy Agency (IEA), consider the following statements:**

1. It is a specialised agency of the United Nations.
2. Its headquarters is located in Geneva, Switzerland.
3. The World Energy Outlook is one of its flagship reports.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) Only one
- (B) Only two
- (C) All three
- (D) None

**Answer:** (A) Only one

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The IEA is not a UN specialised agency. It is an autonomous intergovernmental organisation established within the OECD framework.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The IEA headquarters is located in Paris, France, not Geneva.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** World Energy Outlook is one of the flagship annual reports published by the IEA. Other publications include World Energy Balances, Energy Technology Perspectives, World Energy Statistics and Net Zero by 2050.

Source- [DTE](#)

**Q. With reference to Exercise Vajra Prahar, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a bilateral Special Forces exercise conducted between India and France.
2. The 2026 (16th edition) of the exercise is scheduled to be held in Rajasthan.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) Both 1 and 2
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer:** (D) Neither 1 nor 2

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Exercise Vajra Prahar is a bilateral Special Forces exercise between India and the United States, not between India and France.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The 16th edition (2026) of the exercise is scheduled to be held in Himachal Pradesh, not Rajasthan.

Source- [ForumIAS](#)

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the National Green Tribunal (NGT):**

1. It is a statutory body.
2. It is guided by the principles of natural justice and is mandated to endeavour to dispose of cases within one year of filing.
3. The Chairperson of the Tribunal must be a retired Supreme Court or High Court judge.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) Only one
- (B) Only two

- (C) All three  
(D) None

**Answer:** (A) Only one

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct** - NGT is a statutory body established under the NGT Act, 2010.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect** - The Act mandates endeavour to dispose of cases within 6 months, not 1 year.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect** - Chairperson is a retired Supreme Court Judge or a retired Chief Justice of a High Court, not any High Court judge.

Source- [NGT](#)

**Q. Consider the following description:**

This tiger reserve, located on the Chhotanagpur plateau in Jharkhand, forms part of Betla National Park and was among the first nine reserves under Project Tiger. It was the first in the world where a tiger census was conducted using the pugmark method in 1932. Rivers such as North Koyal, Auranga and Burha flow through this drought-prone region.

The above description refers to which of the following?

- (A) Simlipal Tiger Reserve  
(B) Satpura Tiger Reserve  
(C) Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary  
(D) Palamu Tiger Reserve

**Answer:** (D) Palamu Tiger Reserve

Source- [TOI](#)

**Q. The Rapti River, recently in the news, is the most important tributary of which of the following rivers?**

- (A) Ganges  
(B) Yamuna  
(C) Ghaghra  
(D) Godavari

**Answer:** (C) Ghaghra

**Explanation:** The Rapti River is the most important left-bank tributary of the Ghaghara River. It originates in Nepal, flows through Uttar Pradesh, and ultimately joins the Ghaghara, which is itself a major tributary of the Ganges River.

Source- [DTE](#)

**Q. With reference to the PRASHAD Scheme, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a Central Sector Scheme.
2. It was launched under the Ministry of Culture.
3. It aims at integrated development of identified pilgrimage destinations and allows voluntary contributions through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Public Private Partnership (PPP).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 2 and 3 only  
(C) 1 and 3 only  
(D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer:** (C)

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** PRASHAD is a Central Sector Scheme.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It was launched under the Ministry of Tourism, not the Ministry of Culture.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The scheme focuses on integrated development of identified pilgrimage destinations and permits CSR and PPP contributions.

**Source-** [NOA](#)

**Q. The Taftan volcano, recently in the news, is located in which country?**

- (A) Pakistan
- (B) Iran
- (C) Afghanistan
- (D) Saudi Arabia

**Answer:** (B) Iran

**Explanation:** The Taftan volcano is a stratovolcano situated in southeastern Iran, close to the border with Pakistan. It has drawn attention recently due to signs of possible renewed volcanic activity after a long period of dormancy.

**Source-** [Earth](#)

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding Red Sanders:**

1. It is an endemic tree species found mainly in the Western Ghats of India.
2. It is listed under Schedule II of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) Both 1 and 2
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer:** (D) Neither 1 nor 2

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Red Sanders (*Pterocarpus santalinus*) is endemic to the Eastern Ghats of India, particularly in Andhra Pradesh, and not the Western Ghats.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is listed under Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, not Schedule II.

**Source-** [DTE](#)

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Indian Star Tortoise:**

1. Female Indian Star Tortoises are considerably larger than their male counterparts.
2. These tortoises hibernate during winter months.
3. It is classified as 'Endangered' under the IUCN Red List.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) Only one
- (B) Only two
- (C) All three
- (D) None

**Answer:** (A) Only one

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct** - females are larger than males.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect** - they do not hibernate but may remain inactive during extreme heat, cold, or dry conditions.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect** - it is listed as 'Vulnerable', not 'Endangered', under the IUCN Red List.

Source- [DC](#)

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Ottawa Convention:**

1. It bans the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines due to their long-term impact on civilians.
2. India is a member of this Convention.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only  
(B) 2 only  
(C) Both 1 and 2  
(D) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer:** (A) 1 only

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct** - the Ottawa Convention (Mine Ban Treaty) prohibits anti-personnel mines.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect** - India is not a signatory to the Convention.

Source- [TH](#)

### 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (24 Feb)

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the FIDE Freestyle Chess World Championship 2026:**

1. It was held in Vienna, Austria.
2. Fabiano Caruana (USA) won the championship title by defeating Magnus Carlsen (Norway) in the final.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Explanation:** The championship was held at Schloss Weissenhaus in Wangels, Germany, not Vienna, Austria. Further, the title was won by Magnus Carlsen, who defeated Fabiano Caruana in the final. Hence, both statements are incorrect.

Source- [FIDE](#)

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the eligibility criteria for the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana:**

1. The household must be an Indian citizen.
2. The household must own a house with a roof suitable for installing solar panels.
3. The household must have a valid electricity connection.
4. The household must not have availed any other subsidy for solar panels.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

**Answer: (d)** All four

**Explanation:** Under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, households must be Indian citizens, own a suitable rooftop property, possess a valid electricity connection, and should not have previously availed any other solar panel subsidy. Hence, all four statements are correct.

Source- [BL](#)

**Q. With reference to Vasai Cathedral (Our Lady of Grace Cathedral), consider the following statements:**

1. It reflects early Portuguese colonial architecture in India.
2. It is located in Goa.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Correct Answer: (a)** 1 only

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** This 16th century cathedral is a classic example of early Portuguese colonial ecclesiastical architecture in India, characterised by massive stone structures and European stylistic elements.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is located in Vasai (Bassein), Maharashtra, within the historic Vasai Fort complex.

Source- [DC](#)

**Q. Consider the following pairs:**

**Port**                      **well known for**

1. Kamarajar Port – First major port in India registered as a company
2. V.O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port – Oldest artificial port in India
3. Visakhapatnam Port – Largest container port in India

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

**Correct Answer: (a)** Only one

**Explanation:**

- **Pair 1 is Correct-** Kamarajar Port (formerly Ennore Port) was the first major port in India to be incorporated as a company under the Companies Act, 1956.
- **Pair 2 is Incorrect-** V.O. Chidambaranar Port is a major port in Tamil Nadu, but it is not the oldest artificial port in India. The oldest artificial port in India is Chennai Port.

- **Pair 3 is Incorrect-** Visakhapatnam Port is one of India's deepest and most important east coast ports, but it is not the largest container port. The largest container port in India is Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNPT).

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q. Takeshima/Dokdo Island, often seen in the news due to a territorial dispute, is located in –**

- (a) Sea of Japan
- (b) Yellow Sea
- (c) East China Sea
- (d) Philippine Sea

**Correct Answer: (a)** Sea of Japan

**Explanation:** Dokdo (called Takeshima by Japan) is a group of small islets located in the Sea of Japan (East Sea), roughly midway between the Korean Peninsula and Japan.

The islands are administered by South Korea but claimed by Japan, making them a recurring issue in bilateral relations.

Source- [FP](#)

**Q. With reference to Chakravarti Rajagopalachari, consider the following statements:**

1. He led the Vedaranyam Salt Satyagraha in the Madras Presidency during the Civil Disobedience Movement.
2. He was the first Indian to serve as the Governor-General of independent India.
3. He founded the Swatantra Party advocating a market-oriented economic model.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (d)** 1, 2 and 3

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** He led the Vedaranyam Salt March (1930) in the Madras Presidency parallel to Mahatma Gandhi's Dandi March.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** He became the first and only Indian Governor-General of India (1948–1950) after Lord Mountbatten.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** In 1959, he founded the Swatantra Party, which supported free-market policies and opposed excessive state control.

Source- [TOI](#)

**Q. In the question given below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (and Reason (R)). Mark your answer as per the codes provided**

**Assertion (A):** Smoke vortex structures can maintain their coherence and ascend vertically in the atmosphere for a prolonged duration.

**Reason (R):** The Coriolis force of the Earth is mainly responsible for their rotation.

Select the correct answer using the code 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

**Correct Answer: (c)** A is correct, but R is incorrect

- **Assertion (A) is correct-** Smoke vortices (smoke rings) can remain stable and rise for a considerable time because their rotating motion creates a circular “shell” of spinning air. This rotating shell reduces mixing with surrounding air and helps the warm core rise upward.
- **Reason (R) is incorrect-** The Coriolis force (due to Earth’s rotation) is not the main reason for the rotation of smoke vortices. Smoke rings form due to local pressure differences, buoyancy, and fluid dynamics, not because of Earth’s rotation.

Source- [TH](#)

**Q. With reference to the Fishing Cat, consider the following statements:**

1. It is native to South and Southeast Asia.
2. It is primarily nocturnal in nature.
3. It is listed under Schedule II of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It is distributed across South and Southeast Asia, including India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, and parts of Southeast Asia.
  - **Statement 2 is correct:** It is largely nocturnal, hunting mainly at night.
  - **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Fishing Cat is listed under Schedule I (not Schedule II) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, which provides the highest level of legal protection in India.
- Source- [TH](#)

**Q. The terms Seollal, Tet, and Losar, recently seen in the news, refer to:**

- (a) Traditional harvest festivals celebrated in Southeast Asia
- (b) Lunar New Year festivals celebrated in different Asian countries
- (c) Buddhist monastic councils held annually in East Asia
- (d) Maritime military exercises conducted in the Indo-Pacific region

**Correct Answer: (b)** Lunar New Year festivals celebrated in different Asian countries

**Explanation**

- **Seollal** – Lunar New Year celebrated in South Korea.
- **Tet** – Vietnamese Lunar New Year celebrated in Vietnam.
- **Losar** – Tibetan New Year celebrated in Tibet, Bhutan, and Himalayan regions of India

Source- [WION](#)

**Q. Consider the following description:**

It requires an average summer temperature of about 21–24°C during the active growth period and is generally cultivated at altitudes between 1500–2700 metres above sea level. Well-distributed rainfall of about 1000–1250 mm and well-drained loamy soils are most suitable for its optimum growth and fruiting.

The above description of climatic conditions is best suited for the cultivation of:

- (a) Strawberry
- (b) Grapes
- (c) Banana
- (d) Apple

**Correct Answer: (d)** Apple

**Explanation-** The given conditions correspond to apple cultivation, which is a temperate fruit crop.

Source- [TH](#)

**10 PM MCQs (25 Feb.)**

**Q1. Consider the following pairs:**

**Lakes in News      Known For**

1. Lake Baikal – World’s deepest lake
2. Benxi Lake – World’s smallest lake
3. Lake Turkana – World’s largest permanent desert lake

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

**Answer:** (c) All three

**Explanation:**

- **Pair 1 is correct-** Lake Baikal is the world’s deepest lake (about 1,642 m deep) and contains nearly 20% of the world’s unfrozen freshwater
- **Pair 2 is correct-** Benxi Lake in China is recognized as the world’s smallest lake
- **Pair 3 is correct-** Lake Turkana is the world’s largest permanent desert lake and the largest alkaline lake.

Source- [N18](#)

**Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023:**

1. The Election Commission consists of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and such number of other Election Commissioners (ECs) as may be fixed by Parliament.
2. The CEC and ECs are appointed by the President on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Prime Minister, a Cabinet Minister, and the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha (or leader of the largest opposition party).
3. Members of the Election Commission hold office for six years, or until they attain the age of 62 years, whichever is earlier.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (a) Only one

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The number of ECs is fixed by the President, not Parliament.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Selection Committee consists of the Prime Minister, a Cabinet Minister, and the Leader of Opposition (or leader of the largest opposition party).
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The age limit is 65 years, not 62 years (term: 6 years or 65 years, whichever is earlier).

Source- [TH](#)

**Q3. INS Anjadip recently seen in the news is a:**

- (a) Survey vessel
- (b) Nuclear-powered submarine

- (c) Amphibious transport dock
- (d) Anti-submarine warfare shallow water craft

**Answer:** (d) Anti-submarine warfare shallow water craft

**Explanation:** INS Anjadip is the third of the eight Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC) being inducted into the Indian Navy to strengthen coastal defence and shallow-water anti-submarine operations.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q4. With reference to the procedure for renaming a State in India, consider the following statements:**

1. Article 3 of the Constitution empowers Parliament to change the name of a State.
2. The consent of the concerned State Legislature is mandatory for renaming a State.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (a) 1 only

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Under Article 3, Parliament has the power to form new States, alter boundaries, and change the name of any State.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The President refers the Bill to the concerned State Legislature for its views within a specified time. However, the State's consent is not binding on Parliament.

Source-[IE](#)

**Q5. With reference to International Mother Language Day, consider the following statements:**

1. It is observed every year on 21 February.
2. The theme for 2026 is "Youth voices on multilingual education."

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (c) Both 1 and 2

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** International Mother Language Day is observed annually on 21 February to promote linguistic and cultural diversity worldwide.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The 2026 theme is "Youth voices on multilingual education," highlighting the role of young people in preserving and promoting linguistic diversity.

Source-[UNESCO](#)

**Q6. Kole Wetlands, seen in the news recently, are located in**

- a) West Bengal
- b) Karnataka
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Kerala

**Answer: D**

**Explanation**

- The Kole wetlands are located in Kerala and spread over **Thrissur and Malappuram** districts.
- It is the largest **brackish, humid tropical wetland ecosystem** on the southwest coast of India.

Source: [TH](#)

**Q7.** Which one of the following best describes the meaning of the “Principle of Just Deserts”?

- A) Punishment should be proportionate to the gravity of the offence committed.
- B) The State must rehabilitate offenders through reformatory measures rather than impose punishment.
- C) Compensation must be paid to victims irrespective of the offender’s intent.
- D) Criminal liability arises only when mens rea and actus reus are both present.

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:** Punishment should be proportionate to the gravity of the offence committed.

- The Principle of Just Deserts is rooted in the retributive theory of punishment. It holds that:
- An offender deserves punishment because they have committed a wrong.
- The punishment must be proportionate to the seriousness of the offence.
- It emphasizes moral accountability and proportionality, not deterrence or reform.

**Source:** [IE](#)

**Q8.** With reference to the Hoysala Dynasty, consider the following statements:

1. The Hoysala rulers primarily ruled over parts of present-day Karnataka between the 11th and 14th centuries CE.
2. The temples built by the Hoysalas are known for their star-shaped platforms and intricate soapstone carvings.
3. The capital of the Hoysala kingdom was located at Madurai.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A**

**Explanation: 1 and 2 only**

**Statement 1 is correct:** The Hoysala Dynasty ruled much of present-day Karnataka from the 11th to 14th centuries CE, emerging after the decline of the Western Chalukyas.

**Statement 2 is correct:** Hoysala temple architecture is famous for:

- Star-shaped (stellate) platforms
- Highly detailed sculptures
- Use of soapstone (chloritic schist)

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** Madurai was the capital of the Pandya Dynasty, not the Hoysalas. The Hoysala capitals were Belur and later Halebidu (Dwarasamudra).

**Source:** [TH](#)

**Q9.** With reference to the NAMASTE Scheme, consider the following statements:

1. The scheme is jointly launched by the Union Ministries of Social Justice and Empowerment, and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
2. The National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC), a statutory body, is the implementing agency of the scheme.
3. The objective of the scheme is to formalize and rehabilitate the persons engaged in hazardous cleaning of sewer and septic tanks.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer: B**

**Explanation: Statements 1 and 3 are correct**

**Statement 1 is correct:** The National Action for Mechanized Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) scheme is jointly launched by the Union Ministries of Social Justice and Empowerment, and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** It is being implemented by the National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC), for a period of three years from FY 2023-24 to 2025-26. But the National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) is not a statutory body. It is a non-profit company registered under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 (now Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013).

**Statement 3 is correct:** The focus is on prevention of hazardous cleaning and promotion of safe cleaning practices through trained and certified sanitation workers. The objective of the scheme is to formalize and rehabilitate the persons engaged in hazardous cleaning of sewer and septic tanks.

**Source:** [PIB](#)

**Q.10.** With reference to Exercise DHARMA GUARDIAN, consider the following statements:

1. Exercise DHARMA GUARDIAN is a joint military exercise conducted between India and Japan.
2. The exercise primarily focuses on maritime security operations in the Indo-Pacific region.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only  
B) 2 only  
C) Both 1 and 2  
D) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: A**

**Explanation: 1 only**

**Statement 1 is correct:** Exercise DHARMA GUARDIAN is an annual joint military exercise between the armies of India and Japan, aimed at enhancing interoperability and tactical coordination.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** The exercise is army-to-army and focuses on:

- Counter-terrorism operations
- Urban warfare drills
- Peacekeeping operations
- It is not a maritime exercise (maritime exercises with Japan include JIMEX and MALABAR).

**Source:** [PIB](#)

### 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (26 Feb)

**Q1. Consider the following statements:**

1. Lake Tiberias is Israel's largest freshwater lake.
2. The Negev Desert is located in the northern part of Israel.
3. Between 2019-2024, Israel remained the second-largest arms supplier to India.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (a) Only one

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct** — Lake Tiberias (Sea of Galilee) is Israel's largest freshwater lake.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect** — The Negev Desert is located in southern Israel.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect** — During 2019–2024, France (not Israel) was the second-largest arms supplier to India, while Russia remained the largest.

Source- [HT](#)

**Q2. Consider the following pairs:**

1. Mount Aconcagua – Chile
2. Mount Kilimanjaro – Kenya
3. Mount Elbrus – Russia

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

**Answer:** (a) Only one

**Explanation:**

- Mount Aconcagua is located in Argentina, not Chile
- Mount Kilimanjaro is located in Tanzania, not Kenya
- Mount Elbrus is located in Russia

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q3. The SUJVIKA Portal, recently in news, was launched by:**

- (a) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (b) Ministry of Electronics and IT
- (c) Ministry of Science & Technology
- (d) NITI Aayog

**Answer:** (c) Ministry of Science & Technology

**Explanation:** The SUJVIKA Portal is an AI-driven Biotech Product Data Portal. It was launched by the Union Minister of Science & Technology during the 40th Foundation Day of the Department of Biotechnology. The portal aims to strengthen India's biotechnology ecosystem by providing structured data and improving accessibility to biotech products.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q4. With reference to Chicory, consider the following statements:**

1. Chicory is used as a substitute or additive in coffee.
2. As per Indian regulations, the use of chicory in coffee blends is completely prohibited in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (a) 1 only

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct** - chicory root is processed and commonly mixed with coffee.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect** - chicory is not prohibited in India; regulations allow up to 49% chicory in a coffee blend.

Source- [Mint](#)

**Q5. Consider the following countries:**

1. Bahrain
2. Kuwait

3. Oman
4. Qatar
5. Saudi Arabia
6. United Arab Emirates

How many of the above countries are members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)?

- (a) Only three
- (b) Only four
- (c) Only five
- (d) All six

**Answer:** (d) All six

**Explanation:** The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) comprises six West Asian countries — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q6.** With reference to Exercise VAJRA PRAHAR, consider the following statements:

1. Exercise VAJRA PRAHAR is a joint special forces exercise conducted between India and the United States.
2. The exercise focuses on enhancing interoperability in counter-terrorism and special operations in semi-urban and mountainous terrain.
3. It is a trilateral naval exercise conducted in the Indo-Pacific region.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A**

**Explanation: 1 and 2 only**

**Statement 1 is correct:** Exercise VAJRA PRAHAR is a joint exercise between the Special Forces of India and the United States, conducted annually.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It aims to:

- Improve interoperability
- Share best practices in counter-terrorism operations
- Conduct joint planning and tactical drills in varied terrain

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** It is not a naval exercise and not trilateral. It is a bilateral special forces exercise.

**Source:** [PIB](#)

**Q7.** Lakes Mai Ndombe and Tumba, seen in the news recently, are located in

- a) Indonesia
- b) Mexico
- c) Democratic Republic of Congo
- d) Ethiopia

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

- Two large lakes (Lakes Mai Ndombe and Tumba) in the Democratic Republic of Congo are releasing carbon that has been locked away for thousands of years in surrounding peatlands which could pose a threat to climate stability.

**Source:** [DD News](#)

**Q8.** With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), consider the following statements:

1. PMGKAY was launched in 2020 to provide free food grains to beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA).
2. The scheme provides an additional quantity of food grains over and above the regular subsidised entitlements under NFSA.
3. The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A)**

**Explanation: 1 and 2 only**

**Statement 1 is correct:** PMGKAY was launched in 2020 as part of the COVID-19 relief package to ensure food security for the poor.

**Statement 2 is correct:** Beneficiaries under the NFSA were provided additional free food grains over their regular entitlements.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, not the Ministry of Agriculture.

Source: [PIB](#)

**Q9.** The Druzhba pipeline, seen in the news recently, carries crude oil from

- a) Russia to Eastern Europe
- b) Qatar to Turkey
- c) Venezuela to Brazil
- d) Iran to India

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

- Druzhba, which translates as “friendship” in English, is a pipeline that carries crude oil from Russia to Eastern Europe, via Ukraine.

Source: [DD News](#)

**Q10.** With reference to the International Climate Initiative (IKI), consider the following statements:

1. The International Climate Initiative (IKI) is a funding programme launched by Germany to support climate and biodiversity projects worldwide.
2. It supports developing and emerging economies in areas such as climate mitigation, adaptation, and protection of natural carbon sinks.
3. The initiative is implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: A)**

**Explanation: 1 and 2 only**

## 10 PM MCQs Compilation [Fourth Week] February 2026

**Statement 1 is correct:** The International Climate Initiative (IKI) is a major climate finance programme launched by Germany.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It supports projects in:

- Climate change mitigation
- Adaptation
- Biodiversity conservation
- Sustainable land use
- Primarily in developing and emerging economies.

**Statement 3 is incorrect:** IKI is implemented by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) and the Federal Ministry for the Environment (BMUV), not UNEP.

Source: [TNIE](#)

### 10 PM Current Affairs MCQs (27 Feb.)

**Q1. Arrange the following political organizations in chronological order of their formation:**

1. East India Association
2. Sarvadeshak (All India) Hindu Mahasabha
3. Poona Sarvajanik Sabha

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1, 3, 2
- (b) 3, 1, 2
- (c) 1, 2, 3
- (d) 2, 1, 3

**Correct Answer: (a) 1, 3, 2**

**Explanation:**

- **East India Association** – Founded in 1866 by Dadabhai Naoroji in London.
- **Poona Sarvajanik Sabha** – Established in 1870 by M.G. Ranade and others in Poona.
- **Sarvadeshak (All India) Hindu Mahasabha** – Formally established in 1915 at Haridwar (though earlier Hindu Sabha activities began from 1909).

Source- [PMindia](#)

**Q2. Consider the following countries:**

1. Finland
2. Norway
3. Russia

How many of the above countries share a land border with Sweden?

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

**Answer: (b) Only two**

**Explanation:** Sweden shares land borders with:

- Norway (to the west and north)
- Finland (to the northeast)

However, Russia does not share a land border with Sweden. Sweden and Russia are separated by the Baltic Sea.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q3. The Global Mind Health 2025 Report, recently seen in news, is released by:**

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Visit [academy.forumias.com](https://academy.forumias.com) for our mentor based courses.

- (a) World Health Organization (WHO)
- (b) World Bank
- (c) Sapien Labs
- (d) World Economic Forum

**Answer: (c) Sapien Labs**

**Explanation:** The Global Mind Health 2025 Report has been released by Sapien Labs under its Global Mind Project, and it is based on the Mind Health Quotient (MHQ), which comprehensively measures mental functioning by assessing emotional well-being, cognitive abilities, social functioning, drive, motivation, and resilience.

Source- [IE](#)

**Q4. With reference to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), consider the following statements:**

1. It is a specialised agency of the United Nations.
2. India is a member of the IOC.
3. Its Secretariat is located in Paris, France.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (b) Only two**

**Explanation:**

- The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) is not a specialised agency of the United Nations; rather, it functions under UNESCO.
- India is a member of the IOC, and its Secretariat is located in Paris, France, at UNESCO Headquarters.

Source- [IOC](#)

**Q5. Which one of the following is the correct chronological order of the formation of the following States as full-fledged States of the Indian Union?**

- (a) Himachal Pradesh — Manipur — Sikkim — Goa
- (b) Manipur — Sikkim — Himachal Pradesh — Goa
- (c) Himachal Pradesh — Sikkim — Manipur — Goa
- (d) Manipur — Himachal Pradesh — Sikkim — Goa

**Answer: (a) Himachal Pradesh — Manipur — Sikkim — Goa**

**Explanation:**

- Himachal Pradesh became a full-fledged State in 1971.
- Manipur attained statehood in 1972.
- Sikkim became the 22nd State of India in 1975.
- Goa achieved statehood later in 1987.

Source- [PIB](#)

**Q6. Paktia province, seen in the news recently, is located in**

- a) Afghanistan
- b) Turkey
- c) Iran

d) Azerbaijan

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

- Tensions between Pakistan and Afghanistan escalated sharply, with Islamabad declaring “open war” on Kabul after carrying out airstrikes in parts of Kabul, Kandahar and Paktia, further intensifying hostilities between the two neighbouring countries.

**Source:** [DD News](#)

**Q7.** The “52 Reforms in 52 Weeks” Initiative, is being implemented by

- a) Ministry of Home Affairs
- b) Ministry of Railways
- c) Ministry of Finance
- d) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

- The ‘52 reforms in 52 weeks’ initiative, launched by Ministry of Railways, focuses on strengthening safety, enhancing operational efficiency, and improving passenger services. A key priority is to reduce consequential train accidents and bring down train accident figures to a single digit.

**Source:** [PIB](#)

**Q8.** With reference to the Epstein-Barr Viral (EBV) Infection, consider the following statements:

1. It is also known as human herpesvirus 4.
2. It is responsible for causing infectious mononucleosis.
3. There is no vaccine for EBV.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer: C**

**Explanation: All are correct**

**Statement 1 is correct:** It is a widely spread double-stranded DNA virus and is a member of the herpes virus family. It is also known as human herpesvirus 4.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It is the virus responsible for causing infectious mononucleosis and other autoimmune diseases.

**Statement 3 is correct:** There is no vaccine for EBV. It can be managed with adequate hydration and plenty of rest along with medications.

**Source:** [DD News](#)

**Q9.** The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), seen in the news recently, is built on which one of the following rivers?

- a) Congo River
- b) Blue Nile River
- c) Orange River
- d) Zambezi River

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:** Blue Nile River

- The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD)'s saddle dam, the largest and most critical auxiliary dam globally built on Blue Nile River, is an active geohazard hotspot showing critical signs of instability. If breached could threaten downstream regions, threatening millions in Sudan and Egypt warned a study published in International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction, March 2026.

**Source:** [DTE](#)

**Q10.** With reference to the Indravati River, consider the following statements:

1. The Indravati River is a tributary of the Godavari River.
2. It originates in the Western Ghats and flows eastwards through the states of Odisha and Chhattisgarh.
3. The famous Chitrakoot Falls is located along its course.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 3 only
- B) 1 and 2 only
- C) 2 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer:** A

**Explanation:** 1 and 3 only

**Statement 1 is correct:** The Indravati is a major left-bank tributary of the Godavari River.

**Statement 2 is incorrect:** It rises in the Kalahandi district of Odisha on the western slopes of the Eastern Ghats. It flows westwards to join the Godavari, thus forming the boundary between Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh states at some places.

**Statement 3 is correct:** The famous 'Chitrakoot' falls (known as the "Niagara of India") form on the Indravati River, some 40 km from Jagdalpur in Chhattisgarh.

**Source:** [Tol](#)

10 PM MCQs (28 Feb.)

**Q1. Consider the following:**

1. Income Distance
2. Population (2011)
3. Demographic Performance
4. Forest Cover
5. Contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

How many of the above are included as criteria for horizontal tax devolution among States by the 16th Finance Commission?

- (a) Only three
- (b) Only four
- (c) All five
- (d) None

**Answer:** (c) All five

**Explanation:** The 16th Finance Commission has included Income Distance, Population (2011), Demographic Performance, Forest Cover, and Contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as criteria for horizontal tax devolution among States.

**Source-** [IE](#)

**Q2. Consider the following description:**

This wildlife sanctuary is situated in Kerala along the southern stretch of the Western Ghats and is a component of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It shares boundaries with Nagarhole and Bandipur in Karnataka and Mudumalai in Tamil Nadu. The Kabini, Cherupuzha, and Bavali rivers flow through this protected area.

Which of the following refers to the above description?

- (a) Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary
- (b) Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary
- (c) Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary
- (d) Parambikulam Tiger Reserve

**Answer:** (c) Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary

Source- [TH](#)

**Q3. With reference to Chandra Shekhar Azad, consider the following statements:**

1. He turned towards militant nationalism after the suspension of the Non-Cooperation Movement following the Chauri Chaura incident.
2. He was arrested during the Kakori Conspiracy of 1925 and later released due to lack of evidence.
3. He reorganised the Hindustan Republican Association into the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer:** (b) 1 and 3 only

**Explanation:** Chandra Shekhar Azad embraced militant methods after the suspension of the Non-Cooperation Movement. He participated in the Kakori Conspiracy but evaded arrest. After the crackdown on the Hindustan Republican Association, he reorganised it into the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association.

Source- [DDnews](#)

**Q4. The State of India's Environment (SOE) 2026 report, recently in the news, is released by which of the following?**

- (a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- (b) NITI Aayog
- (c) Centre for Science and Environment and Down To Earth
- (d) United Nations Environment Programme

**Answer:** (c) Centre for Science and Environment and Down To Earth

**Explanation:** The State of India's Environment (SOE) 2026 report is released by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) along with its publication Down To Earth.

Source- [DTE](#)

**Q5. With reference to Vitamin B3 (Niacin), consider the following statements:**

1. It is a fat-soluble vitamin.
2. The human body cannot synthesise Vitamin B3 from any other nutrient and depends entirely on dietary intake.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only

- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer:** (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Explanation:** Vitamin B3 (Niacin) is a water-soluble vitamin, not fat-soluble. Additionally, the human body can synthesise small amounts of Niacin from the amino acid tryptophan. Therefore, it is not entirely dependent on dietary intake.

Source- [NM](#)

**Q6.** With reference to the Hexagon Alliance, consider the following statements:

1. It is a strategic coalition proposed by Israel.
2. It is seen as counter of the “axis of resistance”.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: C**

**Explanation: Both 1 and 2**

**Statement 1 is correct:** The Hexagon Alliances is a new strategic coalition proposed by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu which could reshape alignments in West Asia. It is a proposed six-nation strategic framework to strengthen economic, diplomatic, and security cooperation across West Asia and the Mediterranean.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It aims at countering Iran’s influence and other regional threats. It is also being seen as counter of “Shia axis” also known as the “axis of resistance”.

Source: [Live Mint](#)

**Q7.** Consider the following statements regarding different types of air defence system of Israel:

1. The David’s Sling is mid-range system designed to shoot down ballistic missiles fired from 100 km to 200 km away.
2. Iron Beam is a ground-based, high-power laser system designed to intercept smaller aerial threats, such as UAVs and mortars.
3. The long-range Arrow-2 and Arrow-3 interceptors are designed to engage incoming targets both in and outside the atmosphere respectively.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer: C**

**Explanation: All are correct**

**Statement 1 is correct:** The mid-range David’s Sling system is designed to shoot down ballistic missiles fired from 100 km to 200 km away.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It is a ground-based, high-power laser system designed to intercept smaller aerial threats, such as UAVs and mortars. Using lasers to super-heat and disable aerial threats, Iron Beam’s operation is expected to be substantially cheaper than some of the other aerial defence systems that use intercepting missiles to shoot down incoming threats.

**Statement 3 is correct:** The long-range Arrow-2 and Arrow-3 interceptors, developed by Israel, are designed to engage incoming targets both in and outside the atmosphere respectively. They operate at an altitude that allows for safe dispersal of any non-conventional warheads.

Source: [DD News](#)

**Q8.** With reference to the AI4Agri Summit 2026, consider the following statements:

1. It is a global knowledge-exchange platform that promotes evidence-based use of AI to improve agricultural productivity, resilience, and farmer incomes.
2. It has strategic partnership with World Bank, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: C**

**Explanation: Both are correct**

**Statement 1 is correct:** AI4Agri Summit 2026 is a global knowledge-exchange platform that brings together policymakers, state governments, international experts, and practitioners. It promotes evidence-based use of AI and digital public infrastructure to improve agricultural productivity, resilience, and farmer incomes.

**Statement 2 is correct:** It has strategic partnership with leading multilateral and development institutions such as World Bank, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), etc.

Source: [DD News](#)

**Q9.** Consider the following countries:

1. Brazil
2. Paraguay
3. Argentina
4. Chile
5. Peru

How many of the above countries share a land boundary with Bolivia?

- a) Only two
- b) Only three
- c) Only four
- d) All five

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

- Bolivia is bordered by Brazil to the north and east, Paraguay to the southeast, Argentina to the south, Chile to the southwest, and Peru to the west.

Source: [DD News](#)

**Q10.** Consider the following statements about the Jiyo Parsi Scheme:

1. The Ministry of Minority Affairs is the nodal ministry of this scheme.
2. It is a Central Sector Scheme.
3. It is aimed at reversing the declining population trend of the Parsi community.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two

- c) All three
- d) None**

**Answer: C**

**Explanation: All are correct**

- Jiyo Parsi Scheme is a unique Central Sector Scheme aimed at reversing the declining population trend of the Parsi community. The scheme by Ministry of Minority Affairs provides financial assistance for medical support related to fertility treatments, childcare assistance, advocacy and awareness programmes, and community outreach initiatives designed to encourage family formation and population stabilisation.

**Source:** [PIB](#)