

DAILY GENERAL AWARENESS QUIZ

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Saturday, 12 September 2026

1. Four Indian Sites Added to UNESCO Tentative List. In context to the same tell us, which Indian city became the first to be inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List as a Historic City?

- (A) Jaipur (B) Varanasi
(C) Haridwar (D) Madurai

2. India Joins 26-Nation US-Led Global 6G Initiative. In context to the same tell us, In computer networks, IPv4 addresses consist of how many bits?

- (A) 16 bits (B) 32 bits
(C) 64 bits (D) 128 bits

3. Former CJI Dipak Misra Receives Kalinga Ratna Award. In context to the same tell us, in which year was the Kalinga Ratna Award instituted by its founding institution?

- (A) 1999 (B) 2001
(C) 2007 (D) 2014

4. Astrogate Labs Develops India's First Indigenous Optical Inter-Satellite Link. In context to the same tell us, which type of optical fiber is most suitable for long-distance telecommunication due to minimal modal dispersion?

- (A) Multi-Mode Step-Index Fiber
(B) Multi-Mode Graded-Index Fiber
(C) Plastic Optical Fiber
(D) Single-Mode Fiber

5. UP Increases Anganwadi Honorarium and ₹5 Lakh Health Cover. In context to the same tell us, what is the upgraded, modern version of traditional Anganwadi centers introduced to improve infrastructure and early learning called?

- (A) Saksham Anganwadi (B) Smart Anganwadi
(C) Poshan Kendra (D) Shishu Vikas Kendra

6. MoTA Clarifies FRA 2006 Rules to Power Ministry: No Gram Sabha Consent Needed for Stage-II Forest Clearance.

With reference to the constitutional status and structure of the Gram Sabha, consider the following statements:

(1) It is defined under Article 243(b) as a body of all persons registered in the electoral rolls of a village within a Panchayat's area.

(2) It constitutes the lowest elected tier of the three-tier Panchayati Raj system under Part IX.

(3) Its detailed powers and functions are determined by the laws enacted by the respective State Legislature.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (2) and (3) (D) None of the above

7. MHA Proposes 'Chapter K' Under Article 371 to Grant Ladakh an Elected Legislature.

Consider the following statements regarding Article 371 of the Constitution of India:

(1) Part XXI of the Indian Constitution deals with "Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions" covering Articles 371 through 371J.

(2) Article 371 and its sub-provisions currently grant specific legislative or administrative safeguards to 12 Indian States.

(3) The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) specifically advised against extending special provisions to Ladakh in 2019.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (2) and (3) (D) None of the above

8. Five Baby Orangutans Rescued in Odisha; STF and WCCB Launch Joint Probe into International Wildlife Syndicate.

With reference to the physical characteristics and geographical distribution of orangutans, consider the following statements:

(1) The name orangutan originates from the Malay language and translates directly to "man of the forest."

(2) In Asia, orangutans are found natively across the tropical rainforests of both India and Southeast Asia.

(3) Flanged adult males possess distinctive cheek pads and throat sacs used for producing loud long calls.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (2) and (3) (D) None of the above

1-{B} - 2-{B} - 3-{C} - 4-{D} - 5-{A} - 6-{B} - 7-{B} 8-{A}



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DAILY GENERAL STUDIES QUIZ



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Saturday, 12 September 2026

BIOLOGY

1. Consider the following statements regarding the endomembrane system:

1. The outer nuclear membrane is continuous with the endoplasmic reticulum.
2. Lysosomal proteins can pass through the rough endoplasmic reticulum and Golgi apparatus before reaching lysosomes.
3. Mitochondria and chloroplasts are components of the endomembrane system.

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

2. A diploid organism has $2n = 16$ chromosomes. How many chromosomes and DNA molecules will a normal cell contain at metaphase I of meiosis?

- (A) 8 chromosomes and 16 DNA molecules
(B) 16 chromosomes and 16 DNA molecules
(C) 16 chromosomes and 32 DNA molecules
(D) 32 chromosomes and 32 DNA molecules

3. Consider the following statements regarding C_4 and CAM plants:

1. In typical C_4 plants, initial carbon fixation and the Calvin cycle are spatially separated.
2. In CAM plants, initial carbon fixation and the Calvin cycle are temporally separated.
3. Both pathways eliminate the requirement for RuBisCO.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

4. A substance makes the inner mitochondrial membrane permeable to protons without directly inhibiting the electron transport chain. Assuming sufficient respiratory substrates and oxygen, which immediate outcome is most likely?

- (A) Increased proton gradient and increased ATP synthesis
(B) Reduced proton gradient and reduced ATP synthesis through oxidative phosphorylation

(C) Complete cessation of electron transport because oxygen cannot accept electrons

(D) Direct conversion of NADH into ATP without ATP synthase

5. A double-stranded DNA sample contains 20% adenine. Consider the following statements:

1. Thymine constitutes 20% of the total bases.
2. Guanine constitutes 30% of the total bases.
3. The same percentages must necessarily occur in each individual DNA strand.

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

6. In a normal wild-type E. coli cell, under which condition is transcription of the lac operon expected to be highest?

- (A) Glucose present and lactose absent
(B) Both glucose and lactose present
(C) Glucose absent and lactose present
(D) Both glucose and lactose absent

7. Consider the following statements regarding enzymes:

1. Enzymes lower the activation energy of a reaction.
2. Enzymes alter the equilibrium constant of the reaction they catalyse.
3. Enzymes accelerate the approach to equilibrium without changing the overall free-energy difference between reactants and products.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

8. In a population satisfying Hardy-Weinberg assumptions, the frequency of the homozygous recessive genotype aa is 0.09. What is the expected frequency of heterozygotes?

- (A) 0.21 (B) 0.42
(C) 0.49 (D) 0.91

1-{A}-2-{C}-3-{D}-4-{B}-5-{A}-6-{C}-7-{D}-8-{B}



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Saturday, 12 September 2026

Physiographic Divisions of India (Major Physiographic Regions of India)

India's landforms are the result of long-term geological structure, tectonic activities, processes of erosion and deposition. As per NCERT, India is divided into **6 major physiographic divisions**, with two island groups being considered separately.

1 The Himalayan Mountains – Young Fold Mountains

- Geologically, the Himalayas are **young fold mountains**.
- Form a massive northern mountain barrier.
- Extend in an arc from Indus to Brahmaputra for about **2,400 km**.
- Major parallel ranges – **Himadri, Himachal and Shivalik**.



2 Northern Plains – Alluvial Deposits

- Vast plains located south of the Himalayas.
- Formed mainly by **alluvial deposits** brought by rivers.
- Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra river systems played a major role.
- Important physiographic units – **Bhabar, Terai, Bhangar and Khadar**.



3 Peninsular Plateau – Ancient Stable Landmass

- The **oldest** and relatively **stable landmass** of India.
- Composed mainly of **igneous and metamorphic rocks**.
- Divided into the **Central Highlands** and the **Deccan Plateau**.
- Western and Eastern Ghats form its major marginal highlands.



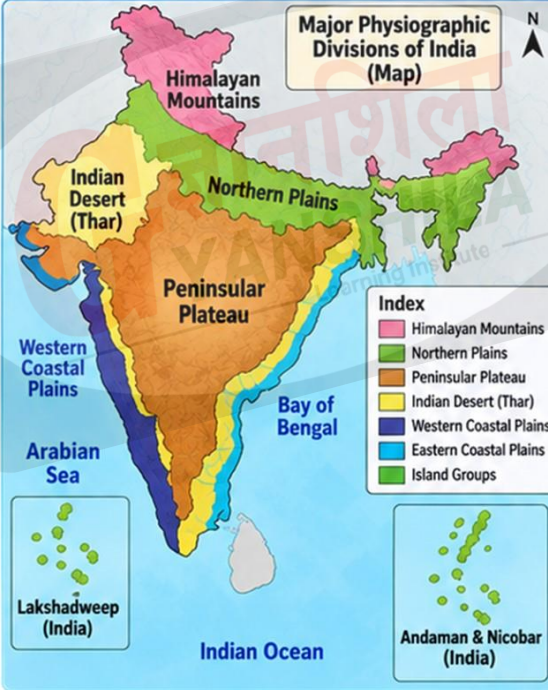
4 Indian Desert – Thar

- Located to the west of the Aravalli range.
- Mainly a dry and sandy region.
- Characterised by low rainfall, sparse vegetation and extensive sand dunes.
- Luni** is the main river system of this region.



6 Eastern Coastal Plains

- Located between the Eastern Ghats and the Bay of Bengal.
- Comparatively broader than the western coastal plains.
- Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri** form large deltas here.
- Northern part – **Northern Sarkar**
- Southern part – **Coromandel Coast**.



5 Western Coastal Plains

- Narrow coastal plain between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea.
- Subdivisions – **Konkan, Kanara and Malabar coast**.
- Rivers are generally short and steep with a rapid flow.



7 Island Groups

- India has two major island groups – **Andaman & Nicobar** (in the Bay of Bengal) and **Lakshadweep** (in the Arabian Sea).
- Lakshadweep mainly consists of **coral islands/atolls**.



8 Significance of Physiographic Divisions

Himalayas	Northern Plains	Peninsular Plateau	Coastal Plains	Island Groups
Climatic and drainage divider	Basis of agriculture and dense settlement	Rich in mineral resources	Support maritime trade and deltaic agriculture	Enhance India's maritime and strategic position

Quick Revision

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Himalayan Mountains	Northern Plains	Peninsular Plateau	Indian Desert	Western Coastal Plains	Eastern Coastal Plains	Island Groups

"India's diverse landforms, their natural resources, economic activities and strategic location form the basis of its growth and development."

TOPIC OF THE DAY

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Mocha Port

Why in News?

The Iran-aligned Houthis recently took control of the **Yemeni port city of Mocha**, advancing strategically down the **Red Sea coast**.

Expository: -

About-

- **Mocha Port** is a historic port town located in **southwestern Yemen** on the Red Sea.
- It became famous worldwide because of its important role in the **coffee trade**.

Location-

- Mocha Port is situated on the **western coast of Yemen** along the **Red Sea**.
- It is located near the **Bab-el-Mandeb Strait**, an important maritime chokepoint.
- The port lies about **75 km north of Perim (Mayun) Island**.

Historical Significance-

- Mocha is traditionally believed to have been founded in the **14th century**.
- From the **15th century**, it became a major centre for exporting **Yemeni coffee** to European and Middle Eastern markets.
- **Indian traders** regularly visited the port and traded metal products for **coffee and myrrh**.

Origin of the Name – Mocha Coffee-

- The port was famous for exporting **high-quality Yemeni coffee** to international markets.
- The word **"Mocha"** became closely associated with **coffee** because of this historic trade.
- Mocha coffee became particularly popular in **Europe and the Middle East**.

Strategic Importance-

- Mocha Port is located close to the **Bab-el-Mandeb Strait**, which connects the **Red Sea with the Gulf of Aden**.
- Its location makes it strategically important for **maritime security and regional trade**.
- The port is also close to the wider **Asia–Europe maritime route**.

Role in Global Trade-

- Mocha was an important link in the historic maritime trade between **Asia, the Middle East and Europe**.
- **British and Dutch East India Companies** established trading centres at Mocha.
- Its importance declined after coffee production expanded in **Java and South America**.

Current Status-

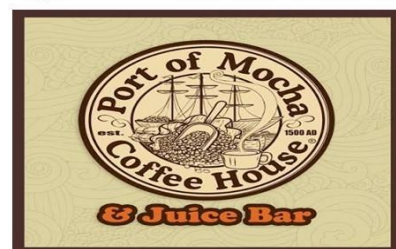
- The modern port was established in **1955** and later served as a minor **logistics and military hub**.
- Its operations have been seriously affected by the **Yemen Civil War** and regional instability.
- Today, Mocha remains strategically important despite its **reduced commercial role**.

Connection with India-

- **Indian traders** historically visited Mocha and exchanged finished metal products for **Yemeni coffee and myrrh**.
- Mocha's location near the Red Sea makes it relevant to **India–Europe trade**.
- Disruptions in the **Red Sea** can increase shipping time and costs for Indian trade.

Major Challenges-

- The port faces challenges from the **Yemen Civil War** and continuing political instability.
- **Houthi attacks** and regional tensions create risks for ships and maritime trade.
- **Piracy and shipping disruptions** remain major concerns in the wider region.



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MAP OF THE DAY BHARAT

Saturday, 12 September 2026

ZOJI LA PASS

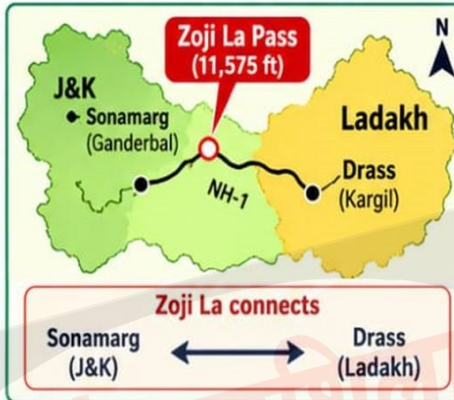
Gateway to Ladakh

A high mountain pass connecting Sonamarg (J&K) with Drass (Ladakh)

ZOJI LA
ALTITUDE 11,575 FT
(3,528 m)

1. BASIC INFORMATION

- What is it?**
A high mountain pass in the Greater Himalaya.
- Location**
Connects Sonamarg (Ganderbal, J&K) with Drass (Kargil, Ladakh).
- Altitude**
11,575 feet (3,528 m)
Known as the gateway to Ladakh.
- River**
Sindhu's tributary, the Sindh River, originates here.
- Road**
Located on NH-1, which connects Srinagar-Leh.



2. GEOMORPHOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

- An example of the Himalayas' youth, where V-shaped valleys meet.
- Divides the Himalayas and Trans-Himalayas.
- North of the pass lies Drass (world's second coldest inhabited place).
- Marks the beginning of the Karewa structure beyond the pass.

3. HISTORICAL & STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE

- Part of the **ancient Silk Route**.
- 1947-48 War:** Operation Bison – India used Stuart Tanks at 11,000 ft to recapture the pass from Pakistan (first time).
- 1999 Kargil War:** Main logistical movement of Indian Army passed through this pass.

Stuart Tank
(Operation Bison)



4. GEO-POLITICAL & SECURITY DIMENSIONS

- Two Front War Concept:** Ladakh is located between China (LAC) and Pakistan (LOC). If Zoji La is closed, supply lines to Siachen and Eastern Ladakh get disrupted.
- Strategic Chokepoint:** Lack of all-weather connectivity between China's CPEC and Pakistan with Ladakh weakens India's deterrence.
- Alternative:** After Rohtang Pass (Atal Tunnel), Zoji La is the shortest route.

5. ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE

- Ladakh's entire economy (tourism, horticulture, supply) remains shut for 6 months.
- Main reason for high prices in Ladakh – connectivity breakdown.



6. ZOJI LA TUNNEL PROJECT

- Length** : 13.15 km + 14.2 km approach road (Asia's longest bi-directional tunnel)
- Altitude** : 11,578 ft (one of India's highest tunnels)
- Cost** : Rs 6,800 Cr
- Constructor** : MEIL | **Monitor** : NHIDCL
- Technology** : Horseshoe shape, NATM (New Austrian Tunneling Method), Smart Tunnel System (SCADA, Ventilation, Emergency Exit)

- Key Benefits:**
 - Travel time: 3 hours → 20 minutes
 - All-Weather Connectivity – Zero winter closure
 - Employment, tourism & investment boost in Ladakh
 - Military logistics cost reduced by up to 70%

Breakthrough:
9 June 2026 – Final Breakthrough.
Expected to be fully operational in 2027-28.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

- Himalayan region is a fragile ecosystem – Tunnel blasting may trigger avalanches (e.g., March 2026 – 7 deaths) and Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF).
- BRO** opened the pass even in winter in 2026 – a sign of climate change, as snow patterns are changing.



8. IMPORTANT QUICK FACTS

- Which places does Zoji La connect?
→ Sonamarg (J&K) and Drass (Ladakh)
- Which pass is related to Operation Bison?
→ Zoji La Pass
- Difference between Z-Morh Tunnel and Zoji La Tunnel?

Feature	Z-Morh Tunnel	Zoji La Tunnel
Length	6.5 km	13.15 km + (14.2 km approach)
Purpose	Reaches Zoji La Tunnel	Actual Zoji La Tunnel
Status	Open (in use)	Under construction (expected 2027-28)



Zoji La – Not just a pass, but a lifeline for Ladakh, a strategic shield for India.

#ZojiLaPass #India #Ladakh

MAP OF THE DAY WORLD

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BOMA-BADINGILO

Important for Prelims & Mains

Two National Parks | A Vast Migratory Landscape | South Sudan

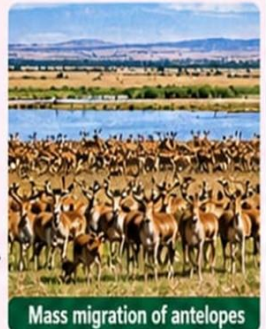
1 What is Boma-Badingilo?

- It is a large conservation landscape comprising two national parks:
 - Boma National Park
 - Badingilo National Park
- Both together form a vast area for migratory wildlife.
- It is located in South Sudan.



2 Why is it important?

- Hosts one of the largest terrestrial mammal migrations in the world, which is **twice the scale** of the **Serengeti migration**.
- Around **6 million antelope** species migrate here every year, mainly:
 - White-eared kob, Tiang and Mongalla gazelle.
- These parks extend from the **White Nile River** to the **Ethiopian border**.



Mass migration of antelopes

3 Biodiversity



4 UNESCO World Heritage – 2026

- On 26 July 2026, it was inscribed on the **UNESCO World Heritage List** at the UNESCO meeting in Busan, South Korea.
- In the same meeting, France's D-Day coast, Greece's Mount Olympus and Japan's Asuka-Fujiwara were also added to the list.
- UNESCO selected it because it is a **pristine and vast ecosystem** that remains safe despite climate change.



World Heritage Site – 2026

5 Challenges – Important for Mains

- Decades of civil war led to the absence of conservation efforts.
- Threats include oil exploration, poaching and encroachment by livestock.
- Currently, **African Parks**, an organisation, is working with the Government of South Sudan for its protection.



African Parks
Safeguarding Africa's Natural Heritage



South Sudan Government

6 India Connection – Boma Technique



Boma technique – guiding animals into a funnel-shaped enclosure

- In India, the boma technique is also used. It is a **wildlife-management technique** brought from Africa, where animals are guided into a funnel-shaped enclosure made of cloth (kipa) and captured safely for translocation.
- Example:** In Madhya Pradesh, blackbuck and nilgai were captured and relocated to Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary using this technique.



Quick Facts for Exam

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Location | ▶ South Sudan |
| National Parks | ▶ Boma + Badingilo |
| Major Migration | ▶ White-eared kob, Tiang, Mongalla gazelle |
| Other Wildlife | ▶ Nubian giraffe, lion, cheetah, wild dog, 400+ bird species |
| Rivers/Border | ▶ White Nile – Ethiopian border |
| Conservation | ▶ African Parks |
| India Link | ▶ Boma technique (blackbuck & nilgai → Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary, MP) |

Boma-Badingilo | South Sudan | White Nile | Ethiopia border | World's largest terrestrial migration |
White-eared kob + Tiang + Mongalla gazelle | African Parks

UPSC 2026



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Saturday, 12 September 2026

1. Under the amended Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020, for how many preceding days is the lowest price of a product considered for determining its “prior price”?

- (A) 7 days (B) 15 days
(C) 30 days (D) 60 days

2. Yudh Abhyas 2026 is being conducted between the Indian Army and which country's army?

- (A) France (B) United States
(C) Australia (D) United Kingdom

3. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs proposed which Article for providing constitutional safeguards for Ladakh in September 2026?

- (A) Article 370(A) (B) Article 370(B)
(C) Article 371(J) (D) Article 371(K)

4. Former Chief Justice of India Justice Dipak Misra was recently conferred with which award in Cuttack?

- (A) Sarala Samman
(B) Kalinga Ratna Award
(C) Odisha Ratna Award
(D) Utkal Gaurav Award

5. Which research vessel was unveiled in Kolkata on 9 September 2026 to strengthen India's indigenous ocean-research capabilities?

- (A) ORV Sagar Manthan
(B) ORV Sagar Nidhi

- (C) ORV Sagar Kanya
(D) ORV Sindhu Shodhak

6. Who became the first woman from the Zaskar region of Ladakh to be commissioned as an officer in the Indian Army in September 2026?

- (A) Tsewang Dolma (B) Rigzin Ladol
(C) Stanzin Tsangyang (D) Tashi Angmo

7. Which team won the 2026–27 Duleep Trophy?

- (A) East Zone (B) South Zone
(C) North Zone (D) West Zone

8. Who won her first individual title on the World Archery Para Series circuit in the women's compound event in Ahmedabad in September 2026?

- (A) Bhawna (B) Sheetal Devi
(C) Aizada Seidan (D) Liang Qiurong

9. The 20th Asian Games, featuring HONOHON as its official mascot, will be hosted by which country?

- (A) China (B) South Korea
(C) Thailand (D) Japan

10. Who received the Raj Kapoor Special Contribution Award at the 62nd Maharashtra State Film Awards ceremony held in September 2026?

- (A) Rani Mukerji (B) Helen
(C) Shabana Azmi (D) Madhuri Dixit

1-{C} - 2-{B} - 3-{D} - 4-{B} - 5-{A} - 6-{C} - 7-{A} - 8-{B} - 9-{D} -10-{A}



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