GYANSHILA IAS
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DAILY GENERAL AWARENESS QUIZ

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Tuesday, 15 September 2026

1. Bhupender Yadav hails 18 years of Sariska tiger reintroduction. In context to the same tell us, in which year was Sariska declared a Tiger Reserve under Project Tiger?

(A) 1955 **(B)** 1973
(C) 1980 **(D)** 1990

2. Ministry of Tourism Signs MoU with IndiGo to Promote India as a Global Tourism Destination. In context to the same tell us, the slogan "Incredible India" was launched in which year to promote Indian tourism globally?

(A) 1995 **(B)** 2000
(C) 2002 **(D)** 2005

3. BJP Launches Narendra Cup Football Tournament in West Bengal. In context to football tournaments tell us, the Rovers Cup, once a famous football tournament, was traditionally held in:

(A) Delhi **(B)** Kolkata
(C) Goa **(D)** Mumbai

4. India crosses 300 GW of non-fossil fuel-based installed electricity generation capacity. In context to the same tell us, which gas is the main component of natural gas?

(A) Methane **(B)** Ethane
(C) Propane **(D)** Butane

5. Nepal government denies seeking climate compensation from India. In context to Political structure in Nepal tell us, the national legislature of Nepal is:

(A) National Assembly **(B)** Constituent Assembly
(C) People's Assembly **(D)** Federal Parliament

6. Govt. plans up to 15% isobutanol blending in diesel.
Consider the following statements regarding Isobutanol:
(1) Isobutanol is one of the four isomers of butanol with the chemical formula $C_4H_{10}O$.
(2) It is highly soluble in water and used as a primary solvent in aqueous solutions.
(3) Its vapors are heavier than air and can spread along the ground unnoticed.
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. Kerala's environmental policy urges integrated governance from Western Ghats to coast.
With reference to rivers originating from the Western Ghats, consider the following statements:
(1) The Krishna River originates from Mahabaleshwar in Maharashtra.
(2) The Periyar River, often called the "Lifeline of Kerala," originates from the Western Ghats.
(3) The Godavari River also originates from the Western Ghats and is the longest peninsular river.
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. Samudra Pradakshina is testament to India's Nari Shakti: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.
With reference to unique Indian expeditions, consider the following statements:
(1) Indian mountaineers successfully scaled Mount K2 in 1953, the year it was first climbed by the world.
(2) Indian Navy undertook the first-ever Antarctic expedition in 1981.
(3) Tenzing Norgay, an Indian Sherpa, was one of the first two humans to summit Mount Everest in 1953.
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-{C} - 3-{D} - 4-{A} - 5-{D} - 6-{A} - 7-{B} 8-{C}

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DAILY GENERAL STUDIES QUIZ

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Tuesday, 15 September 2026

HISTORY

1. Which of the following pairs is not correctly matched in the context of ancient Indian history?
(A) Inamgaon — Jorwe Culture
(B) Daimabad — Godavari Valley
(C) Navdatoli — Malwa Culture
(D) Ganeshwar-Jodhpura — Painted Grey Ware Culture

2. Which of the following statements is most appropriate regarding science during the Gupta period?
(A) Aryabhata regarded the Earth as the stationary centre of the universe.
(B) The Aryabhatiya contains systematic treatment of mathematical and astronomical problems.
(C) No development of the decimal place-value system took place during the Gupta period.
(D) Varahamihira was exclusively an author of religious literature.

3. Which of the following source-author associations is correct for reconstructing the history of Harshavardhana?
(A) Harshacharita — Banabhatta
(B) Si-Yu-Ki — Yijing
(C) Rajatarangini — Kalhana, a contemporary of Harsha
(D) Prithviraj Raso — Royal inscription of Harshavardhana

4. In the context of South Indian history, what was the most important political significance of the Pallava–Chalukya conflict?
(A) Establishment of the Delhi Sultanate in northern India
(B) Long-term competition among regional powers for supremacy in the Deccan and southern India
(C) Immediate collapse of the Chola Empire
(D) Establishment of the Vijayanagara Empire

5. Which of the following statements is correct regarding the Zabt system under the Mughals?
(A) It was concerned exclusively with the collection of religious taxes.
(B) It was a systematic method of assessment and collection of land revenue.
(C) It was developed exclusively during Jahangir's reign.
(D) The productivity of land had no significance under the system.

6. Which of the following pairs is incorrectly matched?
(A) Prarthana Samaj — Atmaram Pandurang
(B) Arya Samaj — Swami Dayanand Saraswati
(C) Aligarh Movement — Sir Syed Ahmad Khan
(D) Theosophical Society — Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar

7. In the context of colonial India's economic structure, what was the most significant consequence of the expansion of commercial agriculture?
(A) Complete separation of peasants from the market
(B) Increasing linkage of agricultural production with global and colonial market demand
(C) Complete elimination of rural indebtedness
(D) Uniform expansion of food-grain production in every region

8. Which of the following statements most appropriately describes the Ajivika tradition?
(A) It was merely a movement for restoring Vedic sacrifices.
(B) It was a Shramana tradition that emphasised determinism.
(C) It was an administrative branch of the Buddhist Sangha.
(D) Its fundamental doctrine was exclusively the acceptance of the theory of karma.

9. Which of the following conclusions is most appropriate regarding Emperor Ashoka's Dhamma?
(A) Ashoka made Buddhism a compulsory state religion for all subjects.
(B) Dhamma primarily aimed at promoting ethical conduct, tolerance and social harmony.
(C) Dhamma was concerned exclusively with the discipline of the Buddhist Sangha.
(D) The primary objective of Dhamma was to restore Vedic sacrifices in the Mauryan Empire.

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

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DAILY STATIC GK ONE-LINERS

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Tuesday, 15 September 2026

MAJOR THEORIES AND PROPONENTS OF THE ORIGIN OF THE EARTH

Important: The origin of the Earth is actually understood in the context of the origin of the Solar System/planets. Earlier theories have historical importance; the modern scientific explanation is based on **Solar Nebula + Protoplanetary Disk + Accretion.**

1 KANT'S GASEOUS HYPOTHESIS

- German philosopher Immanuel Kant, in the 18th century, attempted to explain the origin of planets through the development of a primeval substance/nebula.
- This became the intellectual background of the later Nebular Hypothesis.



Immanuel Kant (1724–1804)

2 LAPLACE'S NEBULAR HYPOTHESIS – 1796

- French mathematician Pierre-Simon Laplace, in 1796, modified the earlier idea.
- According to him, planets were formed from a slowly rotating cloud of matter associated with the young Sun.
- It is called the Nebular Hypothesis.



Pierre-Simon Laplace (1749–1827)

3 CHAMBERLIN–MOULTON HYPOTHESIS

- T. C. Chamberlin and F. R. Moulton presented the Planetesimal Hypothesis in the early 20th century.
- It imagined that due to the gravitational influence of another star passing near the Sun, matter was drawn out and small planetesimals were formed.
- It is historically important, but not the modern accepted model.



T. C. Chamberlin (1865–1944)
F. R. Moulton (1872–1952)

4 JEANS–JEFFREYS TIDAL HYPOTHESIS

- Sir James Jeans and later Harold Jeffreys supported/ developed the idea that matter was pulled out from the Sun due to a passing star.
- It is generally associated with the Tidal Hypothesis.



James Jeans (1877–1946)
Harold Jeffreys (1891–1989)

5 SCHMIDT–WEIZSÄCKER'S MODIFIED IDEA

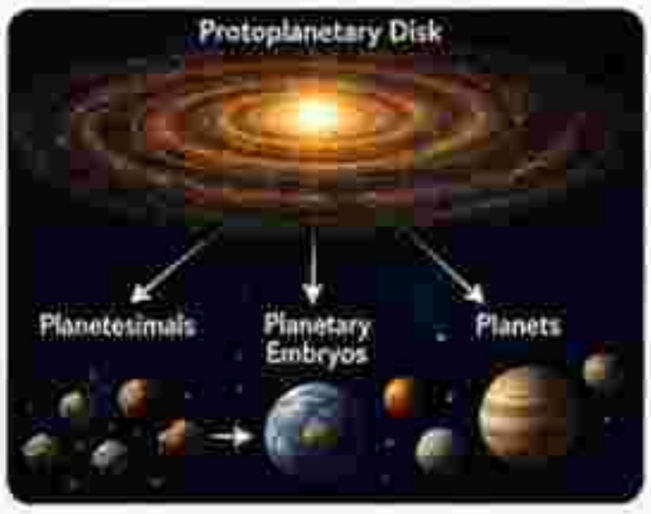
- Around 1950, Otto Schmidt and Carl Weizsäcker modified the nebular concept.
- A solar nebula composed of Hydrogen + Helium + Dust around the Sun was proposed.
- Through collision and aggregation of particles, a disk developed and planets formed by Accretion.



Otto Schmidt (1891–1956)
Carl Weizsäcker (1912–2007)

6 MODERN SCIENTIFIC MODEL

- The Solar System formed about 4.6 billion years ago from the gravitational collapse of a huge molecular cloud.
- Collapse formed a rotating protoplanetary disk; in the center the Sun formed, and in the disk dust grains joined to form planetesimals → planetary embryos → planets.
- Due to high temperature near the Sun, rocky terrestrial planets formed, while in the colder outer region giant planets formed.



10 ONE LINER Q&A

1. With which early nebulous idea is the initial thought associated? — Immanuel Kant.
2. Who presented the Nebular Hypothesis in 1796? — Laplace.
3. Who presented the Planetesimal Hypothesis? — Chamberlin and Moulton.
4. Which idea is associated with Jeans–Jeffreys? — Tidal Hypothesis.
5. Who modified the Nebular idea? — Otto Schmidt and Carl Weizsäcker.
6. What is the central process of modern planet formation? — Accretion.
7. What are the initial small building blocks of planets called? — Planetesimals.
8. What are the larger initial bodies formed from planetesimals called? — Planetary Embryos.
9. In what structure do planets form in the modern model? — Protoplanetary Disk.
10. According to NASA, when did the Solar System begin to form? — 4.6 billion years ago.

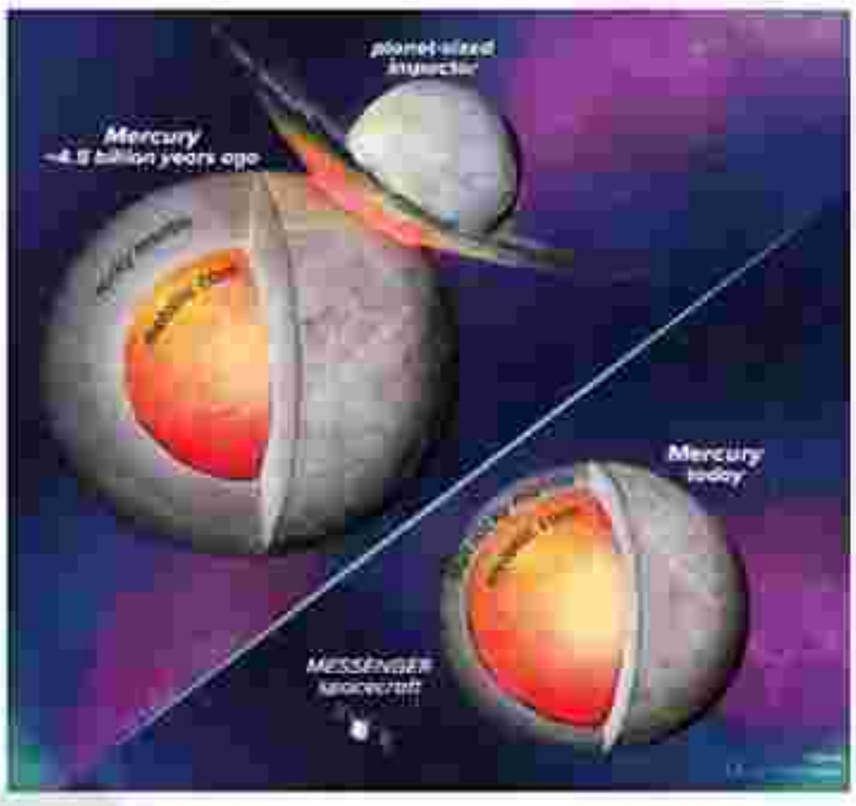
Sources: NCERT (Geography – Fundamentals of Physical Geography, Chapter: Origin and Evolution of the Earth), NASA (science.nasa.gov), Wikipedia (Planetary formation theories)

Tuesday, 15 September 2026

Planet Mercury

Why in News?

Mercury may have **shrunk more than scientists previously estimated**. A recent study suggests that the planet's diameter could have decreased by **as much as 23 kilometres** over its geological history.



Expository: -

Introduction-

- **Mercury** is the **smallest planet** in the Solar System and the **nearest planet to the Sun**.
- It is one of the four **terrestrial (rocky) planets**, along with **Venus, Earth and Mars**.
- Its proximity to the Sun and small size make it the **most elusive planet to observe with the unaided eye**.

Position in the Solar System-

- Mercury is the **first planet from the Sun** and lies at an average distance of about **57.9 million km** from the Sun.
- Its distance from the Sun varies from about **46.0 million km to 69.8 million km** because of its highly elliptical orbit.
- Mercury has the **shortest orbital period** of any planet, completing one revolution around the Sun in only **88 Earth days**.

Size and Structure-

- **Diameter:** 4,879 km, about **0.38 times Earth's diameter** and 1.40 times the Moon's diameter.
- **Mass:** 3.3×10^{23} kg, about **5.5% of Earth's mass**.
- **Surface area: 74.8** million km², about **14.7% of Earth's surface area**.
- **Gravity:** 3.7 m/s², approximately **38% of Earth's gravity.**
- Mercury has a **large iron-rich core** that occupies a substantial portion of its interior.
- Its density is about **5,430 kg/m³**, making it the **second-densest planet after Earth**.

Surface Features-

- Mercury has an **ancient, heavily cratered surface**, shaped by impacts and prolonged exposure to the harsh space environment.
- Its surface shows evidence of **past volcanic and tectonic activity**.
- The planet contains enormous impact structures, including the **Caloris Basin**, one of the largest impact features in the Solar System.
- Permanently shadowed regions near its **polar areas** never receive direct sunlight, allowing **water ice** to persist there.
- Mercury's surface is heavily weathered by **solar radiation, micrometeorite impacts and extreme temperature changes**.

Temperature-

- Mercury experiences **extreme temperature variations** because of its proximity to the Sun and extremely thin atmosphere.
- Daytime surface temperatures can reach about **+450°C**, while nighttime temperatures can fall to around **–180°C**.
- Despite being closest to the Sun, Mercury is **not the hottest planet** in the Solar System.
- **Venus** has the highest average surface temperature because its thick atmosphere produces a powerful **greenhouse effect**.

Atmosphere-

- Mercury does not possess a conventional thick atmosphere; instead, it has an extremely thin **exosphere**.
- The exosphere contains elements such as **oxygen, sodium, hydrogen and helium**, along with trace gases.
- The approximate composition given is **oxygen (42%), sodium (29%), hydrogen (22%) and helium (6%)**.
- Its extremely thin exosphere cannot effectively retain heat, contributing to the planet's **large day–night temperature difference**.

Rotation and Revolution-

- Mercury takes about **58 Earth days** to rotate once on its axis.
- Mercury's solar day **lasts about 176 Earth days**, meaning the Sun takes 176 days to return to the same position in its sky.
- Mercury completes one revolution around the Sun in only **88 Earth days**, the shortest year of any planet.
- Its axial tilt is only about **0.01°**, meaning its equator nearly coincides with its orbital plane.

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MAP OF THE DAY BHARAT

Tuesday, 15 September 2026



Kali River (Kalinadi)

A Major West-Flowing River of Karnataka



- **Location** : Uttara Kannada district, Karnataka
- **Length** : ~ 184 km
- **Source** : Diggi (Supa Taluk), near Dandeli (Uttara Kannada)
- **Mouth** : Arabian Sea

1. Overview

- The **Kali River** is a major **west-flowing** river of **Karnataka**.
- It flows through **Uttara Kannada district** and meets the **Arabian Sea**.
- It is also called **"Kalinadi"**.
- Unlike the peninsular rivers (e.g., Krishna, Cauvery), which flow into the Bay of Bengal, it flows directly into the Arabian Sea from the Western Ghats.

2. Origin

- Originates near **Kushavali village** in **Joida taluk, Uttara Kannada** (Western Ghats).
- Some sources also mention **Diggi village** in **Supa taluk** (about 600 m elevation, near Dandeli) as the source – both are in Uttara Kannada district.
- Flows through dense forests, hilly terrain and deep gorges.

3. Course & Length

- Total length: **~184 km**.
- Flows entirely through **Uttara Kannada district**.
- **Major course**: Source → **Supa Reservoir** → south of **Dandeli** → **Bommanalli Reservoir** → **Kadra Reservoir** → marshy land → westwards → **Karwar** (near) → Arabian Sea.

4. Tributaries

- **Pandri River** (joins from the left bank – north)
- **Tattihalla**
- **Vaki**
- **Kaneri**
- **Thana Halla** (joins just below the Kadra dam)
- **Kariholé**

5. Dams & Hydel Projects

The **Kalinadi Hydroelectric Project** is one of the important hydroelectric projects of Karnataka. Major dams:

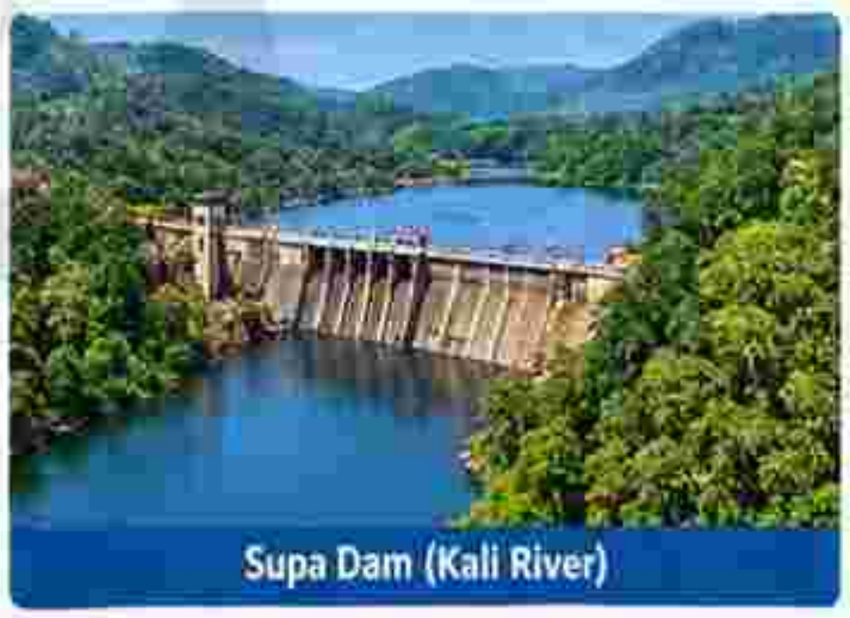
- **Supa Dam** – near Ganeshgudi/Kurundi, one of the largest earthen dams in Karnataka.
- **Bommanalli Dam**
- **Kadra Dam**
- **Kodasalli Dam**

6. Protected Areas

- **Kali Tiger Reserve** is located in the Western Ghats of Uttara Kannada district.
- It includes **Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary** and **Anshi National Park**.
- Both were integrated as **Dandeli–Anshi Tiger Reserve** in 2007 and renamed **Kali Tiger Reserve** in 2015.
- Important wildlife corridor in the Western Ghats.

Kali River – Map





Supa Dam (Kali River)

Major West-Flowing Rivers from the Western Ghats (Sahyadri)

River	Source	State	Length	Key Facts
Periyar	Sivagiri hills, Western Ghats	Kerala	~244 km	Kerala's longest river; Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary and Mullaperiyar Dam are on it.
Bharathapuzha	Annamalai hills (Tamil Nadu)	Kerala	~209 km	Kerala's second longest river; called "Nelakodi" (Blue River of Kerala).
Netravati	Bantwal (near), Western Ghats	Karnataka	~103 km	Flows near Mangaluru into the Arabian Sea; Kumaradhara is its tributary.
Sharavathi	Ambuthirtha, Shimoga	Karnataka	~128 km	Jog Falls (one of the highest waterfalls in India) is on this river.
Mandovi	Western Ghats, Bhimagad (Karnataka-Goa)	Goa	~77 km	Major river of Goa; joins with Zuari to form the Mormugao port.
Zuari	Western Ghats, Goa	Goa	~92 km	Second major river of Goa; forms an estuary with Mandovi.
Aghanashini	Near Sirksi, Uttara Kannada	Karnataka	~117 km	Karnataka's only major river without a dam.
Bedthi (Bedti)	Hubballi-Dharwad, Karnataka	Karnataka	~161 km	Flows from the Dharwad plateau and crosses the Western Ghats.
Varahi (Haladi)	Western Ghats, Udupi	Karnataka	~59 km	Joins with Saupamika etc. at Haladi/ Gangoli and falls into the Arabian Sea.
Pampa	Western Ghats, Pathanamthitta	Kerala	~176 km	Associated with Sabarimala pilgrimage, falls into Vembanad Lake.

Quick Recall : Kali River → Karnataka → West-flowing → Wes-flowrn Ghats → ~184 km → Arabian Sea → Uttara Kannada → Supa/Bommanalli/Kodasalli/Kadra → Kali Tiger Reserve

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MAP OF THE DAY WORLD

Tuesday, 15 September 2026

RED SEA

A VITAL LINK BETWEEN AFRICA AND ASIA

Introduction

- The **Red Sea** is a **semi-enclosed gulf** between **Africa and Asia**, part of the **Indian Ocean**.
- It is connected to the **Gulf of Aden** and **Bab el-Mandeb Strait** in the south, linking the **Arabian Sea** and the **Indian Ocean**.
- The northern part is divided by the **Sinai Peninsula** into the **Gulf of Aqaba** and the **Gulf of Suez**, where it connects to the **Mediterranean Sea** through the famous **Suez Canal**.

Neighboring Countries

Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Sudan, Eritrea and **Djibouti**.

Unique Features

- The **unique colour changes** in the Red Sea are due to the excessive growth of **algae**.
- Geologically, it lies in a depression between the **Arabian and North African tectonic plates**.
- It is known for its **warm and salty waters** and is a **major maritime route** between **Europe** and Asia.

Resources

The Red Sea region has five major types of mineral resources: **petroleum** reserves, **evaporite deposits, sulfur, phosphates** and **heavy metal deposits**.

Islands in the Red Sea

- **Tiiran Island:** Located near the mouth of the Gulf of Aqaba.
- **Shadwan Island:** Located at the entrance of the Gulf of Suez.

Map of the Red Sea



Major Islands

- **Tiran Island:** Near the mouth of the Gulf of Aqaba.
- **Shadwan Island:** At the entrance of the Gulf of Suez.

Strategic Maritime Route

- Connecting the **Red Sea** – through the **Gulf of Aden** and **Bab el-Mandeb Strait** – to the **Arabian Sea** and **Indian Ocean**.

Countries Around the Red Sea

Country	Capital	Location / Importance
Egypt	**Cairo**	Northeastern Africa; **Suez Canal** is located here, which connects the Red Sea to the **Mediterranean Sea**.
Saudi Arabia	**Riyadh**	**Arabian Peninsula**; eastern coast of the Red Sea; major port – **Jeddah**.
Yemen	**Sana'a** (official), currently **Aden** (executive/diplomatic)	South-western part of the Arabian Peninsula; located at the eastern end of the **Bab el-Mandeb Strait**.
Sudan	**Khartoum**	North-eastern Africa; confluence of the **White** and Blue Nile is at Khartoum.
Eritrea	**Asmara**	East Africa (Horn of Africa); western coast of the Red Sea; port – **Massawa**.
Djibouti	**Djibouti**	Northern tip of the Horn of Africa; western end of the **Bab el-Mandeb Strait**; strategically very important (naval bases of India and many other countries).

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Tuesday, 15 September 2026

1. Who won the women's singles title at the 2026 US Open?
(A) Elena Rybakina **(B)** Coco Gauff
(C) Aryna Sabalenka **(D)** Iga Swiatek

2. What is the primary objective of the recently launched 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan'?
(A) Promoting electoral reforms across India
(B) Advancing Viksit Bharat through Jan Bhagidari
(C) Expanding digital governance across India
(D) Promoting industrial investment across India

3. The New Delhi Declaration 2026 was adopted at which BRICS Summit, marking 20 years of BRICS?
(A) 17th BRICS Summit
(B) 18th BRICS Summit
(C) 19th BRICS Summit
(D) 20th BRICS Summit

4. Which state has passed the Ease of Doing Business Bill, 2026 to reduce regulatory burden on businesses in September 2026?
(A) Gujarat **(B)** Karnataka
(C) Maharashtra **(D)** Rajasthan

5. Who inaugurated the 'Ganesh Gyanarthi Exhibition' organised by the Asiatic Society of Mumbai in September 2026?
(A) Rajnath Singh **(B)** Piyush Goyal
(C) Dharmendra Pradhan **(D)** Amit Shah

6. The World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF) 2026 is being hosted by which country for the first time in South Asia?
(A) India **(B)** Finland
(C) Sweden **(D)** Netherlands

7. What was the theme of the UNESCO International Literacy Day 2026 global celebration?
(A) Literacy for Equality and Global Peace
(B) Literacy for People, the Planet and Prosperity
(C) Literacy for Innovation and Digital Education
(D) Literacy for Inclusion and Sustainable Development

8. Hindi Diwas is observed annually on which date to commemorate the Constituent Assembly's 1949 decision on Hindi?
(A) September 11 **(B)** September 12
(C) September 13 **(D)** September 14

9. The three-day Table Top Exercise of the Colombo Security Conclave concluded in which city in September 2026?
(A) Colombo **(B)** Kochi
(C) Visakhapatnam **(D)** Galle

10. Which botanical species' saplings were planted by BRICS leaders during the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi?
(A) Ficus religiosa **(B)** Ficus benghalensis
(C) Azadirachta indica **(D)** Mangifera indica

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