GYANSHILA IAS
Learning Institute

DAILY GENERAL AWARENESS QUIZ



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DIRECTOR SHRI MATI SANGAM SINGH | MANAGING DIRECTOR SRI ADITYA SINGH GAUTAM

Saturday, 19 September 2026

1. World Ozone Day observed annually on 16th September. In context to the same select the incorrect statement about ozone depletion over Antarctica -

(A) The polar stratospheric clouds provide a surface for ozone depletion
(B) Ozone depletion is maximum in summer season
(C) Unique weather conditions cause increased ozone depletion
(D) The chlorine radicals are the major cause of ozone breakdown

2. PM Modi gifts NBRI curated 'Namoh 108 Lotus' to Vietnam president. In context to the same tell us, "NBRI Namoh 108" is a newly developed variety of -

(A) Sugar Cane **(B)** Lotus
(C) Ginger **(D)** Onion

3. PM Jan Dhan Yojana (PM-JDY) completed 12 years. In context to the same tell us, As per RBI rules, what is the minimum age required to open and operate the savings bank accounts independently?

(A) 10 Years **(B)** 12 Years
(C) 14 Years **(D)** 18 Years

4. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, paid tributes to Adi Shankaracharya on his Jayanti. In context to the same tell us, Kaladi the birth place of Adi Shankara is located in -

(A) Karnataka **(B)** Tamil Nadu
(C) Kerala **(D)** Andhra Pradesh

5. Govt grants Miniratna status to MECON Limited. In context to companies in India tell us, Which one of the following industries comes under public sector?

(A) Hindustan Aeronautic Limited
(B) Sudha Dairy
(C) Maruti Udyog Limited
(D) Tata Iron and Steel Company Limited

6. EAM Jaishankar Advocates Safe Maritime Routes, Diplomacy at East Asia Summit. Consider the following statements regarding East Asia Summit -

(1) The EAS was established in 2005.
(2) The first summit was held in Malaysia in 2006.
(3) The idea of an East Asia Grouping was proposed Mahathir Mohamad.
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. NDMA, AcSIR and CSIR-NIScPR sign MoU to promote disaster-resilient India. Consider the following statements regarding National Disaster Management Authority -

(1) It is an agency of Prime Minister office to co-ordinate response only during disasters.
(2) Prime Minister is ex-officio Chairman of National Disaster Management Authority.
(3) It was established to administer only Natural Disasters.
Which of the above is/are incorrect?

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

8. Nagaland launches initiative to boost HPV vaccination awareness. In the context of vaccines manufactured to prevent COVID-19 pandemic, consider the following statements -

(1) The Serum Institute of India produced COVID-19 vaccine named Covishield using mRNA platform.
(2) Sputnik V vaccine is manufactured using vector-based platform.
(3) COVAXIN is an inactivated pathogen-based vaccine.
Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) **(B)** Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) **(D)** All are correct

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

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DAILY GENERAL STUDIES QUIZ



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Saturday, 19 September 2026

ECONOMICS

1. The marginal rate of substitution between two goods represents:
(A) The rate at which market prices change
(B) The quantity of one good a consumer is willing to give up for an additional unit of another good while maintaining the same utility
(C) The ratio of total expenditure to income
(D) The rate at which production increases with capital

2. A consumer reaches equilibrium under the indifference curve approach when:
(A) Marginal utility of all goods becomes zero
(B) The budget line is tangent to the highest attainable indifference curve
(C) Total expenditure becomes equal to total utility
(D) Prices of all goods become equal

3. Which of the following best explains diminishing marginal returns?
(A) Output falls whenever all inputs are increased proportionately
(B) Additional units of a variable input eventually contribute smaller additions to output when other inputs are fixed
(C) Average cost always declines with production
(D) Fixed cost increases with output

4. Economies of scale occur when:
(A) Long-run average cost falls as output increases
(B) Marginal cost is always greater than average cost
(C) Total fixed cost increases with production
(D) Price falls below average variable cost

5. In a perfectly competitive market, an individual firm is described as a price taker because:
(A) It can freely determine the market price
(B) Its output is too small relative to the market to influence price
(C) Government fixes its selling price
(D) Consumers have no information about prices

6. A monopolist maximizes profit at the level of output where:
(A) Price equals average cost
(B) Marginal revenue equals marginal cost
(C) Average revenue equals average cost
(D) Marginal cost becomes zero

7. Price discrimination is possible only when:
(A) All buyers have identical demand elasticities
(B) Resale between different groups of consumers can be effectively prevented
(C) The firm operates under perfect competition
(D) The product has no market demand

8. In an oligopolistic market, firms are said to be strategically interdependent because:
(A) Each firm's decisions affect and are affected by the decisions of rival firms
(B) Firms have no knowledge of competitors
(C) There is only one firm in the market
(D) Entry into the industry is always completely free

9. The shutdown point of a competitive firm in the short run occurs when price falls below:
(A) Average fixed cost
(B) Minimum average variable cost
(C) Minimum average total cost
(D) Marginal revenue

10. In game theory, a Nash Equilibrium is reached when:
(A) Every player receives exactly the same payoff
(B) No player can improve their payoff by unilaterally changing strategy, given the strategies of others
(C) All players cooperate with each other
(D) The market becomes perfectly competitive

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

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Saturday, 19 September 2026

ARAB AND TURKIC INVASIONS – INDIA

1 ARAB INVASION AND CONQUEST OF SINDH

- The most important early Arab political expansion in North-West India took place in Sindh.
- Under the Umayyad rule, Muhammad bin Qasim launched a campaign against Sindh in 711–712 AD; in exams, **712 AD – Conquest of Sindh** is a key fact.
- The campaign was supported by **Al-Hajjaj ibn Yusuf**, the powerful Umayyad Governor of Iraq.
- The then king of Sindh was **Raja Dahir**. He was defeated in the war and killed.
- **Debal** was one of the initial important centres of the Arab campaign. After this, Arab armies advanced in the Sindhu region and reached **Multan**.
- Arab political control remained mainly limited to the regions of **Sindh and Multan**; they could not establish permanent dominance over large parts of North India at that time.
- The famous text related to the Arab conquest of Sindh is **Chachnama**. Its available form is a 13th century Persian text; therefore, historians use its accounts critically.

Exam Trap: Muhammad bin Qasim = Arab = Sindh, while Mahmud of Ghazni and Muhammad Ghori = Turkic political–military expansion.

GEOGRAPHICAL OVERVIEW OF ARAB AND TURKIC INVASIONS



2 MAHMUD OF GHAZNI – INDIAN CAMPAIGNS

- Mahmud of Ghazni (998–1030 AD) was the prominent ruler of the Ghaznavid Empire.
- He conducted repeated military campaigns in North-West India. The traditional count of "17 invasions of India" is common in exam literature, but it should not be accepted as an undisputed modern historical count.
- In 1001 AD, he defeated the Hindu Shahi ruler Jayapala near Peshawar.
- Later, he also fought with the Hindu Shahi ruler Anandapala.
- In 1018 AD, he campaigned against Mathura and Kannauj.
- His most famous Indian campaign was against Somnath in 1025–26 AD.
- Mahmud did not establish a Delhi-centred empire in India; however, Punjab became part of the Ghaznavid power.
- The scholar **Al-Biruni** was an important personality associated with **Mahmud's era**. His famous work Kitab al-Hind is an important source for the study of Indian society, religion, philosophy and knowledge traditions.

3 MUHAMMAD GHORI – DECISIVE TURKIC EXPANSION

- Muizz al-Din Muhammad bin Sam, commonly known as Muhammad Ghori, led Indian campaigns in the late 12th century.
- In the First Battle of Tarain (1191), Prithviraj III (Prithviraj Chauhan) defeated Ghori.
- In the Second Battle of Tarain (1192), Ghori decisively defeated Prithviraj.
- The victory of 1192 paved the way for the expansion of Ghurid power in North India.
- His general Qutbuddin Aibak organised and expanded the Ghurid victories in North India.
- After the death of Muhammad Ghori in 1206 AD, Aibak established independent rule. Generally, 1206 AD is considered the beginning of the Delhi Sultanate and the first Mamluk/Slave dynasty.

4 COMPARISON OF IMPORTANT EVENTS

Invader / Personality	Key Fact	Important Year
Muhammad bin Qasim	Conquest of Sindh; defeat of Raja Dahir	712 AD
Mahmud of Ghazni	Victory over Jayapala	1001 AD
Mahmud of Ghazni	Campaign against Mathura–Kannauj	1018 AD
Mahmud of Ghazni	Campaign against Somnath	1025–26 AD
Muhammad Ghori	First Battle of Tarain – Defeat	1191 AD
Muhammad Ghori	Second Battle of Tarain – Victory	1192 AD
Qutbuddin Aibak	Establishment of independent rule/ Beginning of Delhi Sultanate	1206 AD

UPSC QUICK REVISION

712 → Sindh | 1001 → Jayapala | 1018 → Mathura–Kannauj | 1025–26 → Somnath | 1191 → First Battle of Tarain | 1192 → Second Battle of Tarain | 1206 → Aibak/Delhi Sultanate

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TOPIC OF THE DAY

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Saturday, 19 September 2026

Salmonella

Why in News?

Salmonella infection is receiving attention in India due to its potential to cause **gastroenteritis, bloodstream infections, antimicrobial resistance, and serious public-health complications**.

Expository: -

Scientific Name — Salmonella-

- *Salmonella* is the scientific name of a **bacterial genus**.
- The genus is named in honour of American veterinary pathologist **Daniel Elmer Salmon**.
- The two major species are **Salmonella enterica** and **Salmonella bongori**.
- *S. enterica* contains many serotypes associated with human diseases.

Definition / What is Salmonella?-

- Salmonella is a **Gram-negative, rod-shaped and generally motile bacterium**.
- It belongs to the family **Enterobacteriaceae**.
- Infection caused by Salmonella is known as **salmonellosis**.
- Infection can range from intestinal disease to serious systemic infection.

History and Discovery-

- In **1879–1880**, Karl Joseph Eberth observed the bacterium associated with typhoid disease.
- In **1884**, Ge
- **Daniel Elmer Salmon and Theobald Smith** isolated a related bacterium from pigs in 1884.
- The genus **Salmonella** was later named after Daniel Elmer Salmon.

Types of Salmonella — S. Typhi, S. Typhimurium-

- **Salmonella Typhi** mainly causes **typhoid fever** and has humans as its only known natural reservoir.
- **Salmonella Typhimurium** is an important **non-typhoidal Salmonella** serotype and commonly causes gastroenteritis.
- S. Typhi mainly spreads from person to person.
- Non-typhoidal Salmonella is more commonly associated with animals and contaminated food.

Structure and Characteristics-

- Salmonella is a **Gram-negative, rod-shaped and flagellated** bacterium.
- It is **facultatively anaerobic**, meaning it can survive with or without oxygen.
- It possesses **O (somatic) and H (flagellar)** antigens; some serotypes also have the **Vi capsular antigen**.
- The **Vi antigen** of *S. Typhi* is important in its pathogenicity.

Causes / Causes of Infection-

- Consumption of contaminated **food or water** is a major cause.
- Undercooked meat, eggs, poultry and contaminated milk can increase the risk.
- Contact with infected people or animals can also cause infection.
- Poor sanitation and lack of safe drinking water promote transmission.

Symptoms-

- Common symptoms include **fever, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, nausea and sometimes vomiting**.
- In non-typhoidal salmonellosis, symptoms may begin within **6–72 hours** after infection.
- Typhoid commonly causes prolonged fever, fatigue, headache and abdominal pain.
- Severe infection may cause dehydration, bloodstream infection and other complications.

Transmission — How Does It Spread?-

- Contaminated **food and water** are major routes of transmission.
- Infection can spread through the **faecal–oral route** when food or water becomes contaminated with infected faeces.
- Contact with infected animals and pets can transmit non-typhoidal Salmonella.
- In typhoid, contaminated food and water from infected persons or carriers are important sources.



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MAP OF THE DAY BHARAT

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Saturday, 19 September 2026

GHEPAN LAKE

A PRISTINE GLACIAL LAKE IN LAHAUL VALLEY, HIMACHAL PRADESH, INDIA

Ghepan Lake is a beautiful and relatively untouched glacial lake located in the Lahaul Valley of Himachal Pradesh.

KEY INFORMATION

LOCATION
The lake is located in the Gahar and Tinan Valley area of Lahaul.
To its south lies the famous peak **Ghepan Goh Peak** in Tinan Valley.

ALTITUDE
Situated at an altitude of **4,130 meters (13,550 feet)** above mean sea level.

LENGTH
The lake is about **one mile** (approx. 1.6 km) long.

SPECIAL FEATURES
- A **turquoise blue** glacial lake with **floating ice chunks**.
- The water appears **bright blue** and surrounded by glaciers and snow-clad mountain remnants.
- A stunning, serene and less explored destination.

LOCAL NAME
Also known as **"Aliyas Lake"** (named after a Spanish trekker), but locally called **"Ghepang Tso"** or **"Ghepan Tso"** by the people of Teling-Labrang village.

ATTRACTION
A high altitude glacial lake with spectacular scenery, ideal for trekking, photography and nature lovers.



GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING

- Located in the Lahaul region of Himachal Pradesh.
- Part of the cold desert zone of Lahaul.
- Surrounded by high mountains, glaciers, rocky terrain and alpine meadows.
- Represents the beauty of the trans-Himalayan ecosystem.

ABOUT GHEPAN GOH PEAK

- The prominent peak to the south of the lake.
- Approx. altitude: 6,070 meters (approx.).
- A major landmark visible from the area around Ghepan Lake.
- Popular among trekkers and mountaineers.

LOCATION MAP



HOW TO REACH

- Nearest major town: Manali (approx. 240 km)
- Manali – Kokhsar – Tandi – Teling – Ghepan Lake (trek route)
- Trek from Teling village to the lake (approx. 6-8 hours walk).

BEST TIME TO VISIT

- June to September (after snow melts and weather becomes pleasant).
- Winters are extremely cold and the area remains snow-covered.

SIGNIFICANCE

- A natural glacial reservoir.
- Important for trekking, camping and adventure tourism.
- Shows the biodiversity and fragility of the Himalayan ecosystem.

QUICK FACTS

Location	Lahaul Valley, Himachal Pradesh, India
Altitude	4,130 meters (13,550 feet)
Length	Approx. 1 mile (1.6 km)
Type	Glacial Lake
Other Name	Aliyas Lake / Ghepang Tso (Local)
Nearest Town	Manali (approx. 240 km)
Best Season	June – September

EXAM RELEVANCE :

- ✓ Geography – Important lake of Himachal Pradesh
- ✓ Physical Features – Glacial Lake
- ✓ Environment – Himalayan Ecosystem
- ✓ Tourism – Adventure & Trekking Destination

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MAP OF THE DAY WORLD



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Saturday, 19 September 2026

ROMANIA

A COUNTRY IN SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE

Romania is a country in Southeast Europe, located on the lower Danube River and on the northwestern coast of the Black Sea.

BASIC INFORMATION

Capital	Bucharest
Official Language	Romanian
Currency	Romanian Leu (RON)
Population	About 19 million (1.9 crore)
Area	238,397 sq km (92,046 sq mi)
Borders	North & East: Ukraine Northeast: Moldova West: Hungary Southwest: Serbia South: Bulgaria East: Black Sea

LOCATION MAP



MAJOR CITIES


Cluj-Napoca


Iași


Constanța


Timișoara


Brașov

HISTORY AT A GLANCE

- Lower Paleolithic settlements in the region.
- Later became Dacia before Trajan's Dacian Wars and Romanization.
- **1859:** Union of Moldavia and Wallachia under Alexandru Ioan Cuza.
- **1881:** Became the Kingdom of Romania under King Carol I.
- **1877:** Gained independence from the Ottoman Empire (recognized by Berlin Treaty).
- **After World War I:** Transylvania, Banat, Bukovina and Bessarabia joined the Old Kingdom, forming Greater Romania.
- **1940:** Lost territories to Hungary, Bulgaria and the Soviet Union under Axis pressure.
- **1944:** Romania switched sides after the Act of 23 August and joined the Allies.
- **Post World War II:** Under Soviet occupation, King Michael I was forced to abdicate; Romania became a Socialist Republic and a member of the Warsaw Pact.
- **1989:** Fall of Communism and the Romanian Revolution.
- **Today:** A liberal democracy and active member of international organizations.

KEY FACTS

- 12th largest country in Europe by area.
- 6th most populous member state of the European Union.
- Developed country with a high-income economy.
- Recognized as a middle power in international relations.
- 11 UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- Net exporter of automotive parts globally.
- One of the countries with the fastest internet speeds in the world.
- Emerging technology hub.

MEMBER OF IMPORTANT ORGANIZATIONS

European Union (EU) | NATO | BSEC – Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) | OSCE | Council of Europe | WTO

PHYSICAL FEATURES

- Major Mountains: Carpathians
- Major River: Danube (Europe's second longest river)
- Sea: Black Sea (Southeast)
- Climate: Temperate-continental

WHY ROMANIA IS IMPORTANT?

- Strategic location at the crossroads of Central, Southeastern & Eastern Europe
- Strong economy and growing investment destination
- Automotive & technology industries driving global competitiveness
- Rich cultural heritage and historical significance
- Active role in regional stability & international cooperation


Parliament Palace, Bucharest

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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ



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Saturday, 19 September 2026

1. Who has been named the recipient of the 2026 Arthur M. Bueche Award?
(A) Sethuraman Panchanathan
(B) Subra Suresh
(C) Venkatesh Narayanamurti
(D) Ramesh Raskar

2. Who scored the fastest T20I century by an Indian batter in just 30 balls in September 2026?
(A) Sanju Samson **(B)** Suryakumar Yadav
(C) Tilak Varma **(D)** Abhishek Sharma

3. Where was India's 51st Doppler Weather Radar inaugurated in September 2026?
(A) Sambalpur **(B)** Gopalpur
(C) Paradip **(D)** Balasore

4. What was India's rank in the Global Gender Gap Index 2026?
(A) 121st **(B)** 126th
(C) 131st **(D)** 136th

5. In which category was India placed in the Free to Think 2026 report?
(A) Severely restricted **(B)** Mostly free
(C) Partially restricted **(D)** Fully free

6. What is the name given to the newly identified impact crater on the Moon's near side that formed in 2024?
(A) Shoemaker **(B)** McGetchin
(C) Copernicus **(D)** Wagner

7. On which date is Hyderabad Liberation Day observed every year?
(A) 15 September **(B)** 16 September
(C) 17 September **(D)** 18 September

8. Who has been appointed as the World Bank Group's Chief Economist and Senior Vice President for Development Economics?
(A) Indermit Gill **(B)** Michael Kremer
(C) Ajay Banga **(D)** Abhijit Banerjee

9. Which State/Union Territory ranked first overall in the India Electric Mobility Index 2025?
(A) Maharashtra **(B)** Karnataka
(C) Chandigarh **(D)** Delhi

10. The 2026 reconstitution of the Central Board of Film Certification was carried out under which Act?
(A) Copyright Act, 1957
(B) Cinematograph Act, 1952
(C) Cable Television Act, 1995
(D) Press Council Act, 1978

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