



Current GK - 16 Mar 2026 — Answer Key

Exam Date: 16 Mar 2026 | Total Time: 10 mins | Max Marks: 10

Section: GK

Q1. कलाईमामणि पुरस्कार किस राज्य का सर्वोच्च नागरिक सम्मान है?

- A) केरल
B) कर्नाटक
C) तमिलनाडु
D) आंध्र प्रदेश

Explanation: तमिलनाडु सरकार ने वर्ष 2021, 2022 और 2023 के लिए कलाईमामणि पुरस्कारों की घोषणा की। यह तमिलनाडु का सर्वोच्च नागरिक सम्मान है, जिसे तमिलनाडु इयाल इसाई नाटक मंडल द्वारा दिया जाता है। इसमें शास्त्रीय संगीत, नृत्य, वादन, लोकगीत, अभिनय और चित्रकला जैसी कई श्रेणियाँ शामिल हैं।

Q2. Melghat Tiger Reserve is located in which state?

- A) Maharashtra
B) Madhya Pradesh
C) Rajasthan
D) Gujarat

Explanation: Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) recently released 15 critically endangered Indian vultures in Melghat Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra. Melghat Tiger Reserve is located in Maharashtra on the southern offshoot of the Satpura Range called Gavilgarh Hill. It was the first tiger reserve established in Maharashtra. The name Melghat means the confluence of several valleys reflecting its landscape. It is the catchment area of five Tapi River tributaries: Khandu, Khapra, Sipna, Gadga, and Dolar.

Q3. Which state government launched the country's first integrated Divyang Sahayak Portal?

- A) Maharashtra
B) Gujarat
C) Rajasthan
D) Uttar Pradesh

Explanation: Maharashtra government launched the country's first integrated Divyang Sahayak Portal to streamline welfare schemes for persons with disabilities and improve implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. Portal reduces procedural steps, eliminates manual paperwork, and addresses data inaccuracies and grievance redressal issues. Citizens can search for schemes without remembering names based on demographic data and apply online. Entire departmental processing is digital, with service level agreements and auto-forward mechanism for pending applications.

Q4. Which ministry has launched open-source VoicERA Voice AI Stack on BHASHINI infrastructure at India AI Impact Summit 2026?

- A) Ministry of Science and Technology
- B) Ministry of Communications
- C) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- D) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**

Explanation: Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology launched VoicERA at India Artificial Intelligence Impact Summit 2026. VoicERA is an open-source, end-to-end Voice Artificial Intelligence stack to strengthen Digital Public Infrastructure. It was launched by Digital India BHASHINI Division under Digital India Corporation. It is built with EkStep Foundation, International Institute of Information Technology Bengaluru and Artificial Intelligence for Bharat. It runs on BHASHINI National Language Infrastructure as a multilingual voice execution layer.

Q5. Which Indian Naval Ship participated in the maiden India-RoK Navy Bilateral Exercise 2025 held in South Korea?

- A) INS Sahyadri**
- B) INS Shivalik
- C) INS Kolkata
- D) INS Satpura

Explanation: Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sahyadri made a port call at Busan Naval Harbour, South Korea, on 13 October 2025. It participated in the first-ever Indian Navy (IN) - Republic of Korea Navy (RoKN) Bilateral Exercise. The visit highlights the growing Navy-to-Navy interactions and Strategic Partnership between India and South Korea. INS Sahyadri, an indigenously built Shivalik Class Guided Missile Stealth Frigate, was commissioned in 2012. The ship is based at Visakhapatnam under the Eastern Naval Command. The exercise includes harbour and sea phases, with joint drills, cross-deck visits, and training.

Q6. Which wetland has been designated as the first Ramsar site of Chhattisgarh?

- A) Ravishankar Sagar
- B) Hasdeo Bango Reservoir
- C) Dudhawa Reservoir
- D) Kopra Reservoir**

Explanation: Chhattisgarh's Kopra Reservoir in Bilaspur district has been designated a Ramsar Site, becoming the state's first wetland of international importance. Ramsar Sites are wetlands recognised under the Ramsar Convention, headquartered in Gland, Switzerland. The reservoir has both natural and man-made features and supports irrigation, water security, and diverse bird habitats. The proposal was submitted by the state government last month and approved by the Union government. The recognition will boost eco-tourism, local livelihoods, and awareness about wetland conservation.

Q7. The Football for Schools programme is an initiative of FIFA and which organization?

- A) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** B) United Nations Development Programme
C) World Bank D) International Monetary Fund

Explanation: The Football for Schools (F4S) initiative was highlighted at PM SHRI Kendriya Vidyalaya, Dakshin Dinajpur, West Bengal. The Football for Schools programme is an initiative of Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). It aims to support education, development and empowerment of children through football. It promotes life skills and supports the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In India, it is implemented by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, with support from the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and Sports Authority of India (SAI).

Q8. Which team successfully defended the Team Championship title at the Khelo India Winter Games?

- A) Himachal Pradesh** B) Ladakh
C) **Indian Army** D) Jammu and Kashmir

Explanation: The Indian Army defended its team championship title at the 6th edition of the Khelo India Winter Games, winning a total of nine gold medals, including eight in the Gulmarg leg. Himachal Pradesh finished as runners-up after securing four gold medals on the final day of competition. The closing ceremony of KIWG 2026 was organised by the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council and managed by the Sports Authority of India at the Golf Course in Gulmarg. The first leg of the Games was held in Ladakh from January 20–26, 2026.

Q9. The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) functions under which ministry?

- A) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** B) Ministry of Finance
C) **Ministry of Labour and Employment** D) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Explanation: The Employees' State Insurance Corporation has begun its 75th Foundation Year celebrations, marking 70 years of social security service to workers. ESIC is a statutory social security body functioning under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India. It administers the Employees' State Insurance Scheme, which provides medical care and financial protection to employees. The scheme covers benefits related to sickness, maternity, disablement, and death due to employment injury. The legal basis of the scheme is the Employees' State Insurance Act, enacted in 1948. The scheme was officially launched on 24 February 1952, which is observed every year as ESIC Foundation Day.

Q10. Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

A)Himachal Pradesh

B)Uttarakhand

C)Gujarat

D)Odisha

***Explanation:** Recently, smooth-coated otters were officially recorded for the first time in Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary by the Uttarakhand Forest Department. Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Uttarakhand. It lies in the Terai Arc Landscape and forms part of the Shivalik Elephant Reserve. It connects the landscapes of Jim Corbett National Park and Rajaji National Park in the west with Pilibhit-Dudwa and the Terai region of Nepal in the east.*



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