



Current GK – 20 Mar 2026 – Answer Key

Exam Date: 20 Mar 2026 | Total Time: 10 mins | Max Marks: 10

Section: GK

Q1. Male Mahadeshwara Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

- A) Tamil Nadu
B) Maharashtra
C) **Karnataka**
D) Kerala

Explanation: Recently, a 12-year-old male tiger was brutally hunted, dismembered, and buried in Male Mahadeshwara Wildlife Sanctuary, four months after a previous poisoning incident. The sanctuary is located at the intersection of the Western and Eastern Ghats in Chamarajanagara District, Karnataka. It was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 2013. It is contiguous with Biligiri Rangaswamy Temple (BRT) Tiger Reserve, Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve, and Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary. It is home to the famous Male Mahadeshwara Temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva (Mahadeshwara). The sanctuary is bounded by the Kaveri River to the northeast and Palar River to the south.

Q2. निम्नलिखित में समुद्रगुप्त के बारे में कौन सा कथन गलत है?

- A) प्रयाग प्रशस्ति समुद्रगुप्त के कवि हरिषेण द्वारा रचित था जो अशोक के प्रयाग स्तम्भ में उत्कीर्ण है।
B) **वह उत्तर और दक्षिण को अपने प्रशासन में लेने वाला प्रथम राजा था।**
C) समुद्रगुप्त का राज्य एक बड़ा राज्य था जिसका साक्ष्य उसका अश्वमेध यज्ञ है।
D) कोई नहीं

Q3. Which organization released the report on 'Global Water Bankruptcy 2026'?

- A) United Nations Environment Programme
B) **UN University Institute for Water, Environment and Health**
C) International Water Management Institute
D) World Water Council

Explanation: The United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health released a report on Global Water Bankruptcy. It warns that the planet has entered a Global Water Bankruptcy era. Water Bankruptcy means long-term water use has exceeded renewable supply and safe limits, causing irreversible damage. Rivers, lakes, aquifers, wetlands, soils, and glaciers are degraded beyond full recovery. This differs from water stress, which is high demand but largely reversible. It also differs from water crisis, which is temporary and manageable with restoration. Key causes include chronic overuse of water resources, dam-driven overexpansion, ecological degradation, and climate change intensifying existing water stress.

Q4. What is the name of the traditionally constructed stitched sailing vessel of the Indian Navy that recently returned from Muscat?

- A) INS Tarangini
B) INS Sudarshini
C) **INSV Kaundinya**
D) INS Vikrant

Explanation: On 02 March 2026, Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Sanjay Seth flagged-in INSV Kaundinya at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai after her maiden overseas voyage to Muscat, Oman. INSV means Indian Naval Sailing Vessel. The voyage revived India's ancient maritime knowledge and inspires youth towards adventure and innovation. The 20-metre stitched wooden vessel sailed the Arabian Sea without modern reinforcements. Inducted in May 2025, named after legendary mariner Kaundinya, symbolising India's seafaring heritage.

Q5. Which country has been elected as co-chair of UN Global Geospatial Information's Regional Committee for 2025-2028?

- A) Nepal
B) Sri Lanka
C) Myanmar
D) **India**

Explanation: Recently, India has been elected as Co-Chair of the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia and the Pacific (UN-GGIM-AP) for a three-year term till 2028. UN-GGIM-AP is one of the five regional committees of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM). It is the main inter-governmental body for decisions on production, availability, and use of geospatial information within national, regional, and global policies.

Q6. प्रथम बौद्ध संगीति कहाँ हुई?

- A) वैशाली
B) **राजगृह**
C) कुशीनगर
D) कोई नहीं

Q7. Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve is located in which state?

- A) Assam
B) Jharkhand
C) **Chhattisgarh**
D) West Bengal

Explanation: Forest authorities in Chhattisgarh recently arrested 53 people for attempting to encroach on protected forest land within the Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve. The Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve is located in Chhattisgarh and forms a key wildlife conservation zone in central India. The reserve was established by merging two existing protected areas – the Sitanadi and Udanti Wildlife Sanctuaries. The reserve's drainage network is dominated by the Mahanadi River, which acts as the main river system.

Q8. What is IUCN status of Asiatic Caracal that was recently spotted in Rajasthan?

A) Endangered

B) Critically Endangered

C) Vulnerable

D) **Least Concern**

Explanation: The Asiatic Caracal was recently spotted in Ramgarh, Rajasthan, showing its rare presence in India. The Caracal (Scientific Name: Caracal caracal) is an elusive medium-sized wild cat species. It is called the desert lynx but is more closely related to the African golden cat and the Serval. In India, it is known as Siya Gosh, meaning 'black ear' in Persian. It is native to Africa, Central Asia, the Middle East, northwestern India, and arid Pakistan. Only about 50 remain in India, mostly in Rajasthan and Gujarat. It lives in semi-deserts, savannahs, shrublands, steppes, forests, and dry woodlands. Its IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) status is Least Concern.

Q9. What is the name of the initiative recently launched by the Ministry of Textiles to promote awareness about handicraft traditions and entrepreneurship?

A) National Handicrafts Development Program

B) **Chaupal Program**

C) Craft India Mission

D) Kaushal Yojana

Explanation: As part of National Handicrafts Week, the Ministry of Textiles launched the Chaupal Program nationwide in New Delhi. The program aims to promote handicraft traditions, build entrepreneurship, and form sustainable handicraft clusters under the National Handicrafts Development Program (NHDP). Chaupals will be permanent district-level platforms in 100 handicraft aspirational districts for artisan enrolment, scheme awareness, skill development, and entrepreneurship over the plan period. Chaupal Kits with audio-visual materials and essential equipment were distributed to facilitate workshops, demonstrations, and digital onboarding of artisans.

Q10. Which state has approved Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI-ML) Policy in January 2026?

A) **Rajasthan**

B) Gujarat

C) Uttar Pradesh

D) Madhya Pradesh

Explanation: Rajasthan Cabinet approved the Rajasthan Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI-ML) Policy-2026 to position the state as a hub for technology-driven investment and innovation. The policy aims to make public services faster, transparent, citizen-centric, and enhance administrative efficiency through responsible, ethical, and secure AI and ML use. The policy focuses on transparent, accountable, fair, and privacy-protected AI systems, reducing bias, ensuring data security, making AI decisions explainable and auditable, and addressing AI-related cybercrimes. An Artificial Intelligence Centre of Excellence will be created to support research, innovation, and capacity building.



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