



# Current GK – 18 Apr 2026 – Answer Key

Exam Date: 18 Apr 2026 | Total Time: 10 mins | Max Marks: 10

## Section: GK

**Q1. What is 'VSHORADS', recently seen in the news?**

- A) Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPAD)**      **B) Peacekeeping operations in Europe**  
**C) Mobile Short Range Air Defence System**      **D) Military exercise between India and Europe**

*Explanation: Defence Research and Development Organisation successfully conducted three consecutive flight trials of the Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) at Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the coast of Odisha. VSHORADS stands for Very Short-Range Air Defence System and it is a Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPADS). It is indigenously designed and developed by Research Centre Imarat under DRDO with other laboratories and production partners. It is a lightweight, short-range, surface-to-air missile used to destroy aircraft and helicopters. Maximum range is 8 kilometres and it can engage targets up to 4.5 kilometres altitude.*

**Q2. Tamil Nadu's first Dark Sky Park has been established at which place?**

- A) Coonoor**      **B) Kolli Hills**  
**C) Kodaikanal**      **D) Yercaud**

*Explanation: Tamil Nadu launched its first Dark Sky Park at Ariyur Shola Reserve Forest in Kolli Hills, Namakkal district to promote astro-tourism. It was inaugurated remotely from Chennai by Forest Minister R S Rajakannappan. Kolli Hills was selected due to high altitude, dense forest cover and minimal light pollution within 1.5 km radius. The park enables clear viewing of stars, planets, Milky Way galaxy and the Moon.*

**Q3. Lake Natron, that was recently seen in news, is located in which country?**

- A) Tanzania**      **B) Kenya**  
**C) Egypt**      **D) Ethiopia**

*Explanation: Lake Natron in Tanzania glowing blood-red due to extreme volcanic chemistry, creating a striking and deadly natural wonder. Lake Natron is in the Arusha region of northern Tanzania near the Kenya border, in the eastern branch of the East African Rift. It is a highly alkaline soda and saltwater lake fed by the Ewaso Ngiro River. The lakes red colour comes from salt-loving microorganisms and algae thriving in its caustic waters. Lake Natron was designated a Ramsar Site of International Importance for its unique ecosystem.*

#### Q4. Where was the National Conference on Handlooms & Handicrafts 2025 held?

- A) Jharkhand  
C) Madhya Pradesh
- B) **Odisha**  
D) Gujarat

*Explanation: The National Conference on Handlooms & Handicrafts 2025 concluded in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, reaffirming the vision of making India's handmade sector a key pillar of Viksit Bharat 2047. The conference was organized by the Ministry of Textiles. The two-day event united officials, experts, and policymakers from across India. The conference stressed the need to blend traditional craftsmanship with modern tools and technology to enhance productivity. The National Traditional Textile Mission (2026–31) was presented, focusing on federal cooperation, women-led growth, financial inclusion, and GI-linked branding.*

#### Q5. Thanjavur painting is a classical art form originating from which Indian state?

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

*Explanation: The Department of Posts recently transported a priceless Thanjavur painting of Shri Ram from Bengaluru to Ayodhya via Logistics Post. Thanjavur (Tanjore) paintings originate from Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu, around 1600 AD, flourishing under the Nayakas of Thanjavur. It is created on wooden panels (palagai padam), usually jackfruit or teak, affixed with canvas and bound with Arabic gum. It is known for vibrant colors, including bright red, blue, green, and extensive gold leafwork.*

#### Q6. Which state/UT is the host of 2nd Khelo India Beach Games 2026?

- A) **Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu**  
C) Lakshadweep
- B) Tamil Nadu  
D) Maharashtra

*Explanation: The 2nd Khelo India Beach Games officially began on 5th January 2026 at Ghoghla Beach in Diu. More than 2,100 athletes are participating across eight different sports in the event. The games are being organised by the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, under the technical supervision of the Sports Authority of India and national sports federations. The event will be held from 5th to 10th January 2026. There are six medal sports: Beach Soccer, Beach Volleyball, Beach Sepak Takraw, Beach Kabaddi, Pencak Silat, and Open Water Swimming. Two events, Mallakhamb and Tug of War, are included as non-medal events.*

### Q7. Where was the United Nations (UN) Convention against Cybercrime held in October 2025?

- A) Malaysia
- B) Indonesia
- C) Vietnam**
- D) China

*Explanation: In October 2025, the United Nations (UN) Convention against Cybercrime was held in Hanoi, Vietnam, marking a major global step against cybercrime. The signing ceremony was co-hosted by Vietnam and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The Convention opened for signature on 25â€”26 October 2025 in Hanoi and remains open at the UN Headquarters, New York (USA) till 31 December 2026. The aim is to create the worldâ€™s first global legal framework to prevent, investigate, and prosecute cybercrimes. It covers ransomware, financial fraud, and non-consensual sharing of intimate images. It is the first treaty to criminalise the non-consensual sharing of intimate images, strengthening digital rights protection.*

### Q8. Which country is the host of Commonwealth Kho Kho Championship 2026?

- A) Indonesia
- B) **India**
- C) China
- D) Malaysia

*Explanation: More than 24 countries will participate in the inaugural Commonwealth Kho Kho Championship, scheduled to be held from March 9 to 14 next year. The championship will be hosted in India, although the venue is yet to be finalised. The Kho Kho Federation of India is in discussions with several states to finalise the venue after receiving approval from Commonwealth Sport (CS). The event will feature 16 men's teams and 16 women's teams, reflecting equal participation across genders. The tournament will be organised on the lines of the first Kho Kho World Cup, held in January this year in New Delhi, which saw participation from 23 nations.*

### Q9. The salvo launch of Pralay missiles was conducted by which organisation?

- A) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- B) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**
- C) Indian Navy
- D) Bharat Electronics Limited

*Explanation: Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted a salvo launch of two Pralay missiles from the same launcher off Odisha coast. The test was part of user evaluation trials by Indian Air Force and Indian Army. Both missiles followed the planned trajectory and met all flight objectives. Tracking was done by Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur and onboard telemetry systems. Pralay is an indigenously developed solid-propellant quasi-ballistic missile with high-precision guidance. It can carry different warheads for multiple target types. The missile was developed by Research Centre Imarat, Hyderabad with other DRDO labs.*

**Q10. 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.*



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