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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED

Daily Quiz — January 6, 2026

6 January 2026

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6 January 2026 · 10 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Q 1

The Agreement on Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear Installations and Facilities between India and Pakistan was signed on which date and entered into force on which date respectively?

A December 31, 1988 and January 27, 1991 ✓

B January 1, 1992 and March 15, 1992

C February 21, 1999 and April 1, 1999

D July 2, 1972 and August 3, 1972

EXPLANATION

The Agreement was signed on December 31, 1988 (during PM Rajiv Gandhi and PM Benazir Bhutto) and entered into force on January 27, 1991. The 35th consecutive annual exchange occurred on January 1, 2026.

CONCEPT

India-Pakistan CBMs include this nuclear installations agreement, the Consular Access Pact (2008), and the Simla Agreement (1972). The Lahore Declaration (1999) was signed by PM Vajpayee and PM Nawaz Sharif.

Q 2

The Sacred Piprahwa Relics exhibition 'The Light and the Lotus' was inaugurated in January 2026. Piprahwa in Siddharthnagar, Uttar Pradesh is identified as which ancient site?

A Lumbini — birthplace of Siddhartha Gautama

B Bodh Gaya — site of Buddha's enlightenment

C Kapilavastu — the Sakya kingdom where Siddhartha grew up ✓

D Kushinagar — site of Buddha's parinirvana

EXPLANATION

Piprahwa is identified as ancient Kapilavastu, the Sakya kingdom where Prince Siddhartha Gautama lived until age 29. W.C. Peppe excavated the site in 1898 and found stone caskets with Brahmi inscriptions confirming them as the Buddha's sariras.

CONCEPT

The four main Buddhist Dhams: Lumbini (birth, Nepal), Bodh Gaya (enlightenment, Bihar), Sarnath (first sermon, UP), Kushinagar (parinirvana, UP). Nalanda University (Bihar) was the greatest Buddhist monastery-university, destroyed ~1193 CE by Bakhtiyar Khilji.

Q 3

In FY 2024-25, India became the world's largest rice producer. What was India's rice production figure that surpassed China?

- A 132.41 million tonnes
- B 139.87 million tonnes
- C 145.28 million tonnes
- D 150.18 million tonnes ✓**

EXPLANATION

India produced 150.18 million tonnes (MT) of rice in FY 2024-25, surpassing China's 145.28 MT to become the world's largest rice producer for the first time.

CONCEPT

India is also the world's largest rice exporter (~40% of global rice trade). Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan also released 184 new crop varieties across 25 crops: 122 cereals, 24 cotton, 13 oilseeds, 11 fodder, 6 pulses, 6 sugarcane.

Q 4

Under Mission Mausam, 3D-printed Automatic Weather Stations were developed by which institution?

- A India Meteorological Department (IMD), New Delhi
- B National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), Noida
- C Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune ✓**
- D Space Applications Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad

EXPLANATION

The Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune developed 3D-printed Automatic Weather Stations under Mission Mausam. The first batch was to be deployed in Delhi in February 2026, with the stations certified by IMD and BIS.

CONCEPT

Mission Mausam has a budget of Rs 2,000 crore (2024-2026) with a goal of 100% population coverage for 72-hour weather forecasts. NCMRWF at Noida is a parallel body to IITM for medium-range weather forecasting.

Q 5

DSIR's PRISM scheme, which had its eligibility criteria relaxed in January 2026, stands for which of the following?

- A Programme for Research in Industrial Science and Manufacturing
- B Promoting Innovations in Individuals, Startups and MSMEs ✓
- C Policy Research Initiative for Small and Medium enterprises
- D Public Research and Innovation Support Mission

EXPLANATION

PRISM stands for Promoting Innovations in Individuals, Startups and MSMEs. DSIR (Department of Scientific and Industrial Research) celebrated its 42nd Foundation Day in January 2026 and removed the 3-year mandatory existence condition for deep-tech startups under IRDPP, with maximum assistance of Rs 1 crore per startup.

CONCEPT

DSIR was established in 1984 and functions under the Ministry of Science and Technology. It manages PRISM, SIRO (Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation), and IRDPP (Industrial Research and Development Promotion Programme).

Q 6

The Salal Hydroelectric Project, which has been a subject of India-Pakistan dispute under the Indus Waters Treaty, is located on which river in Jammu and Kashmir?

- A Jhelum River
- B Indus River
- C Chenab River ✓
- D Ravi River

EXPLANATION

The Salal Hydroelectric Project (690 MW, run-of-river) is on the Chenab River in Reasi district, J&K, operated by NHPC. Under the Indus Waters Treaty 1960, India can construct run-of-river hydro on western rivers (Chenab, Jhelum, Indus) without storage.

CONCEPT

The Indus Waters Treaty 1960 was mediated by the World Bank. Eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) are allocated to India; western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab) are allocated primarily to Pakistan with India permitted to use them for run-of-river hydro.

Q 7

Pakistan's Taimoor air-launched cruise missile, tested in January 2026, has an approximate range of which of the following?

A 200 km

B 350 km

C 450 km

D 600 km ✓

EXPLANATION

The Taimoor is an air-launched, subsonic, turbojet-propelled cruise missile with a range of up to 600 km. It incorporates stealth design elements and a precision guidance system as Pakistan's indigenously-developed long-range precision strike capability.

CONCEPT

Pakistan's cruise missile arsenal includes Babur (ground-launched, 700 km), Ra'ad (air-launched, 350 km), and now Taimoor. India's comparable systems include BrahMos (supersonic, ~300-500 km) and Nirbhay (subsonic cruise, ~1,000 km).

Q 8

Design Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme for semiconductor and display manufacturing in India is administered by which ministry?

A Ministry of Science and Technology

B Ministry of Heavy Industries

C Ministry of Commerce and Industry

D Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) ✓

EXPLANATION

The DLI (Design Linked Incentive) Scheme is administered by MeitY (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology). It provides financial incentives of up to 50% of eligible expenditures for semiconductor chip design startups and companies over 5 years.

CONCEPT

India's semiconductor mission also includes the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) under MeitY, PLI for IT hardware, and specific provisions under the Semicon India programme. Tata Electronics and Micron Technology have received approvals for fabrication and assembly/test units.

Q 9

Under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, who has the power to take special measures and prescribe regulations to prevent the outbreak or spread of a dangerous epidemic disease?

A State governments, when they find that the ordinary provisions of law are insufficient ✓

B Only the Central Government through a Presidential Proclamation

C The Union Health Minister on the recommendation of the National Health Authority

D District Magistrates with approval from the High Court

EXPLANATION

Under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, state governments can take special measures and prescribe regulations when they find that ordinary provisions of law are insufficient to prevent an epidemic. Central Government powers were added through a 2020 amendment.

CONCEPT

The Epidemic Diseases Act 1897 is one of the oldest public health laws. The 2020 amendment added protection for healthcare workers during epidemic duties. The National Disaster Management Act 2005 is a parallel law used during COVID-19.

Q 10

The Bactrian camel (*Camelus bactrianus*), found only in Nubra Valley in India, has what IUCN conservation status for its wild population?

A Vulnerable

B Critically Endangered ✓

C Endangered

D Near Threatened

EXPLANATION

The wild Bactrian camel (*Camelus bactrianus*) is listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, with only about 1,400 individuals in the wild globally. India has approximately 300 in Nubra Valley, Ladakh — the only location in India.

CONCEPT

The Bactrian camel (two humps) is distinct from the Dromedary (one hump, *Camelus dromedarius*) found in Rajasthan. Nubra Valley is also home to Snow Leopards, Tibetan wolf, and wild yak. Under the Wildlife Protection Act, Bactrian camel has Schedule I status — the highest protection.

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