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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED

Daily Quiz — January 25, 2026

25 January 2026

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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED

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25 January 2026 · 10 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Q 1

January 25, 2026 marks the 16th National Voters Day. National Voters Day is observed on January 25 to mark the founding anniversary of which constitutional body?

- A Supreme Court of India
- B Election Commission of India ✓**
- C National Human Rights Commission
- D Comptroller and Auditor General

EXPLANATION

National Voters Day is observed on January 25 each year to mark the founding anniversary of the Election Commission of India (ECI), which was established on January 25, 1950 - one day before the Constitution came into force on January 26, 1950. The first NVD was observed on January 25, 2011 (1st NVD). The 16th NVD was observed on January 25, 2026.

CONCEPT

Article 324 of the Constitution provides for the ECI: "Superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of the electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to Parliament and to the Legislature of every State and of elections to the offices of President and Vice-President shall be vested in a Commission (referred to in this Constitution as the Election Commission)." The first CEC was Sukumar Sen (1950-1958), who conducted India first two General Elections.

Q 2

The ECI launched ECINET in 2026, integrating 40+ applications. The app cVIGIL, integrated into ECINET, allows citizens to do which of the following?

- A Apply for voter ID card online
- B Report Model Code of Conduct violations with geotagged photos ✓**
- C Track their postal ballot status
- D Access candidate criminal records

EXPLANATION

cVIGIL is an ECI app that allows citizens to report Model Code of Conduct (MCC) violations in real time with geotagged photos and videos from their smartphones. Reports go directly to the flying squads for action within 100 minutes. It was first used in the 2018 state elections and has become a key transparency tool. The KYC (Know Your Candidate) app provides candidate criminal/financial/educational details from affidavits.

CONCEPT

Model Code of Conduct (MCC): Set of guidelines developed by ECI for conduct of political parties and candidates during election period. It comes into force when election schedule is announced by ECI and remains in force until results are declared. It is NOT a law - it is enforced by ECI authority. It covers: government policy announcements, use of official machinery, inflammatory statements, poll promises (freebies debate), and campaign behavior.

Q 3

Padma Awards 2026 announced 131 awards with 5 Padma Vibhushan, 13 Padma Bhushan, and 113 Padma Shri. What is the maximum number of Padma Awards that can be given in a single year, as per the award guidelines?

- A 100
- B 120 ✓**
- C 131
- D 150

EXPLANATION

The maximum number of Padma Awards in a given year is 120. However, this limit excludes posthumous awards and awards to foreign nationals, NRIs, PIOs, and OCIs. This is why totals can exceed 120 - in 2026, 131 awards were given because 16 were posthumous and 6 were to foreign/NRI/PIO/OCI recipients.

CONCEPT

Padma Awards framework: Instituted 1954 along with Bharat Ratna. Hierarchy: Padma Vibhushan (2nd civilian honour after Bharat Ratna) > Padma Bhushan > Padma Shri. Suspended twice: 1978-79 (Janata Party, Morarji Desai) and 1993-97 (Congress, PV Narasimha Rao). Selection: Padma Awards Committee (chaired by Cabinet Secretary) -> PM -> Home Minister -> President approves. Presentation: Rashtrapati Bhavan, typically March-April.

Veteran actor Dharmendra Singh Deol was awarded the Padma Vibhushan posthumously in 2026. Which landmark Bollywood film of 1975 featured him alongside Amitabh Bachchan and is considered one of the greatest Indian films ever made?

Q 4
 A Deewar

 B Zanjeer

 C Sholay ✓

 D Don

EXPLANATION

Sholay (1975), directed by Ramesh Sippy, featured Dharmendra alongside Amitabh Bachchan, Hema Malini, Jaya Bhaduri, Sanjeev Kumar, and Amjad Khan (as Gabbar Singh). It is consistently ranked as one of the greatest Indian films ever made and is a cultural landmark. Dharmendra played the role of Veeru. He was also a Member of Parliament from Bikaner (2004-2009) on a BJP ticket.

CONCEPT

Padma Vibhushan is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service in any field. It is the second highest civilian award after Bharat Ratna. For UPSC, key fact: Padma Awards are NOT "titles" under Article 18 of the Constitution, as per Supreme Court ruling - they are honorifics/decorations, not hereditary distinctions. Article 18 prohibits titles (aimed at preventing aristocracy), but awards recognising merit and service are constitutionally permissible.

Praveen Kumar won the gold medal at the 2024 Paris Paralympics in the High Jump T64 category, earning him the Padma Shri 2026. The "T64" classification in Para-Athletics refers to athletes with which type of disability?

Q 5
 A Visual impairment

 B Intellectual disability

 C Below-knee amputation using a prosthetic running blade ✓

 D Wheelchair athletes

EXPLANATION

T64 in Para-Athletics classification refers to athletes with unilateral below-knee amputation who compete using a prosthetic running blade. The "T" prefix indicates track and field events. T64 athletes use running prosthetics (carbon fibre blades) and compete in sprints and jumping events. Praveen Kumar set a world record in High Jump at the 2024 Paris Paralympics and won the gold medal, making him one of India most decorated para-athletes.

CONCEPT

Para-Athletics classification codes: T = Track and Field; F = Field events only. Numbers 11-13 = Visual impairment; 20 = Intellectual disability; 31-38 = Cerebral palsy / coordination impairment; 40s = Short stature; 51-58 = Wheelchair; 61-64 = Limb deficiency (amputees). India won 29 medals at 2024 Paris Paralympics (7 gold, 9 silver, 13 bronze) - best-ever haul.

Playback singer Alka Yagnik received the Padma Bhushan in 2026. In 2023, she was reported to be the most-streamed female artist globally on which music platform, reflecting the international reach of Bollywood music?

Q 6

- A Apple Music
- B Spotify ✓**
- C YouTube Music
- D Amazon Music

EXPLANATION

In 2023, Spotify data showed Alka Yagnik was the most-streamed female artist globally on the platform, with over 1.03 billion streams - a remarkable achievement reflecting the global reach of Hindi film music. She later disclosed she had been diagnosed with sudden sensorineural hearing loss (SSHL). She has won 3 National Film Awards and 7 Filmfare Awards for Best Female Playback Singer over her 4+ decade career.

CONCEPT

Soft power through Bollywood and Indian music is a recurring UPSC theme. India cultural exports (films, music, yoga, cuisine) are part of GS-2 diplomacy and GS-1 cultural influence discussions. The 1.03 billion streams figure also reflects the Indian diaspora in the UK, USA, Middle East and Southeast Asia as cultural conduits. Padma Bhushan recognises distinguished service of a high order in any field including arts.

The Election Commission of India was established one day before the Constitution came into force. Which article of the Constitution provides that no person shall be excluded from the electoral roll on grounds of religion, race, caste, or sex?

Q 7

- A Article 14
- B Article 21
- C Article 324
- D Article 325 ✓**

EXPLANATION

Article 325 provides: "There shall be one general electoral roll for every territorial constituency for election to either House of Parliament or to the House or either House of the Legislature of a State and no person shall be ineligible for inclusion in any such roll or claim to be included in any special electoral roll for any such constituency on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex or any of them."

CONCEPT

Constitutional articles on elections (Part XV): Article 324 (ECI powers); Article 325 (no exclusion on religion/race/caste/sex); Article 326 (universal adult franchise - age 18; lowered from 21 by 61st Amendment 1988); Article 327 (Parliament power to legislate for elections); Article 328 (State Legislature power); Article 329 (bar on court interference in electoral matters during election process; only election petitions allowed post-election). These are frequently tested in UPSC Prelims.

Q 8

National Tourism Day is observed on January 25 in India. The government theme for National Tourism Day 2026 focuses on which type of tourism, reflecting the policy push towards non-urban heritage?

- A Medical and Wellness Tourism
- B Heritage and Cultural Tourism
- C Rural and Community-Centric Tourism ✓
- D Adventure and Eco-Tourism

EXPLANATION

The theme of National Tourism Day 2026 was "Rural and Community-Centric Tourism" - aligning with the government push to develop rural tourism as a livelihood generation and heritage preservation strategy. This is distinct from World Tourism Day (September 27, UNWTO, Madrid). India received approximately 9.2 million international tourist arrivals in 2024.

CONCEPT

Key tourism schemes: PRASHAD (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive) for pilgrimage sites; Swadesh Darshan for integrated tourist circuits (thematic routes - Northeast, Buddhist, coastal, etc.); Rural Tourism Cluster scheme. India tourism ministry operates under Ministry of Tourism. Incredible India brand. E-Visa available to 166+ countries. UNWTO (UN World Tourism Organization) HQ: Madrid, Spain. World Tourism Day: September 27.

Q 9

V.S. Achuthanandan was awarded the Padma Vibhushan posthumously in 2026. He served as Chief Minister of which Indian state from 2006 to 2011?

- A Tamil Nadu
- B Karnataka
- C Andhra Pradesh
- D Kerala ✓

EXPLANATION

V.S. Achuthanandan (Vasudevan Sreedharan Achuthanandan) served as Chief Minister of Kerala from 2006 to 2011. He was a veteran Communist Party of India (Marxist) leader and one of the founders of CPI(M) in 1964. He was known for his anti-corruption campaigns, the Munnar plantation workers protest (removing illegal encroachments), and his consistent grassroots political work spanning 7 decades.

CONCEPT

Kerala political context: Kerala operates on a power-alternating basis between Left Democratic Front (LDF: CPI-M led) and United Democratic Front (UDF: INC led). Current CM as of 2024: Pinarayi Vijayan (CPI-M). Kerala is known for high human development indicators (literacy ~96%, low IMR, high life expectancy) despite relatively lower per-capita income compared to western India. The "Kerala Model" of development emphasises social investment over pure economic growth.

The President of India traditionally addresses the nation on the eve of Republic Day (January 25). This address is distinct from another constitutional provision requiring the President to address Parliament. **Q 10** Under which Article must the President address both Houses of Parliament assembled together at the commencement of the first session each year?

- A Article 74
- B Article 79
- C Article 87 ✓**
- D Article 111

EXPLANATION

Article 87 of the Constitution provides that the President shall address both Houses of Parliament assembled together at the commencement of the first session after each general election to the Lok Sabha, and at the commencement of the first session of each year (the Budget session). This is different from the presidential address to the nation on Republic Day eve (January 25) or Independence Day eve (August 14), which are customary speeches, not constitutionally mandated.

CONCEPT

Constitutional articles on President: Article 74 (President acts on CoM advice); Article 79 (Parliament = President + Rajya Sabha + Lok Sabha); Article 87 (President address to Parliament); Article 111 (President assent to Bills - can return once but must assent if returned again). The President nominal executive powers vs substantive Council of Ministers power is a recurring UPSC Mains theme. Article 53: executive power vested in President; Article 74: shall act on CoM advice - so President is constitutional head, not executive head.

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