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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED

Daily Quiz — February 8, 2026

8 February 2026

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8 February 2026 · 10 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Q 1

Rat-hole coal mining, banned by NGT in Meghalaya in April 2014, gets its name from which characteristic feature?

- A Miners work only at night, like rats
- B Narrow tunnels just wide enough for one person dug into hillsides or riverbeds ✓
- C The coal is found only near rat burrows
- D The mines use rat poison to prevent rodent infestations

EXPLANATION

Rat-hole mining involves digging narrow horizontal tunnels (just wide enough for one person) into hillsides or riverbeds to extract coal. NGT banned it in April 2014 citing no mining leases, no environmental clearances, child labour, and zero safety standards. It is prevalent in Jaintia Hills, East Khasi Hills, and Garo Hills in Meghalaya.

CONCEPT

Meghalaya's coal areas fall under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, giving Autonomous District Councils (Khasi Hills ADC, Garo Hills ADC, Jaintia Hills ADC) powers over tribal land — creating enforcement challenges. The 2018 Ksan mine flooding (East Jaintia Hills) trapped 15 miners for 140+ days; all confirmed dead.

Q 2

Bangladesh's Jatiya Sangsad has 350 seats. How are these seats distributed?

- A 300 directly elected + 50 reserved for women (distributed proportionally) ✓
- B 250 directly elected + 100 reserved (50 women + 50 minorities)
- C 300 directly elected + 50 appointed by the President
- D 275 directly elected + 75 reserved for ethnic minorities

EXPLANATION

Jatiya Sangsad has 350 seats: 300 directly elected constituency seats (First-Past-the-Post system) and 50 reserved for women, distributed proportionally based on parties' share of constituency seats. The 13th election was held on February 12, 2026 — the first since Sheikh Hasina's ouster in August 2024.

CONCEPT

Muhammad Yunus, who led Bangladesh's interim government, won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2006 for founding Grameen Bank (1983) and pioneering microcredit for the rural poor. India-Bangladesh bilateral trade exceeds USD 12 billion; India exports approximately 1,160 MW of electricity to Bangladesh.

Q 3 In which year did the National Green Tribunal (NGT) ban rat-hole coal mining in Meghalaya?

A 2010

B 2012

C 2014 ✓

D 2018

EXPLANATION

NGT issued a comprehensive ban on rat-hole coal mining in Meghalaya in April 2014. The ban was upheld by the Supreme Court. Despite this, illegal mining has continued due to the Sixth Schedule complexities, private land ownership of coal deposits, and enforcement challenges.

CONCEPT

NGT was established under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010. It has original jurisdiction to handle cases related to environmental protection, forest conservation, and biodiversity. Its orders are binding and can be appealed to the Supreme Court.

Q 4 UIDAI completed 1 crore Mandatory Biometric Updates (MBUs) for schoolchildren, covering how many schools?

A 10,000 schools

B 50,000 schools

C 83,000 schools ✓

D 1,20,000 schools

EXPLANATION

UIDAI completed over 1 crore MBUs for schoolchildren covering 83,000 schools in collaboration with UIDAI Regional Offices and state education departments. MBUs are required because children's biometrics (fingerprints, iris) change significantly during growth.

CONCEPT

UIDAI (Unique Identification Authority of India) was established under the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016. Aadhaar is used as proof of identity for DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer), banking, and government services. India has issued over 140 crore Aadhaar numbers.

Q 5 Dr. Zakir Hussain, whose birth anniversary is February 8, held which distinction among Indian Presidents?

- A First President from South India
- B First Muslim President and 3rd President of India ✓
- C Youngest President of India
- D First President to complete two terms

EXPLANATION

Dr. Zakir Hussain was India's 3rd President (May 13, 1967 – May 3, 1969) and the first Muslim President of India. He died in office on May 3, 1969. He was born on February 8, 1897, and was associated with Jamia Millia Islamia.

CONCEPT

India's Presidential succession after Zakir Hussain: V.V. Giri (acting, then elected), then V.V. Giri became the 4th President. The sequence: Rajendra Prasad (1st), S. Radhakrishnan (2nd), Zakir Hussain (3rd — died in office), V.V. Giri (4th). The Vice President (V.V. Giri) serves as acting President when the President dies in office.

Q 6 RSS (Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh), which celebrated its centenary, was founded in which year and city by whom?

- A 1920; Mumbai; Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- B 1925; Nagpur; Dr. K.B. Hedgewar ✓
- C 1928; Pune; Vinayak Damodar Savarkar
- D 1930; Nagpur; Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

EXPLANATION

RSS was founded on September 27, 1925 in Nagpur by Dr. K.B. Hedgewar. It celebrated its centenary year in 2025. RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat described 'Hindu' as 'an adjective, not a noun — a cultural and civilizational umbrella' at a centenary event in Mumbai.

CONCEPT

RSS describes itself as a cultural organisation focused on Hindu nationalist ideology. It grew into one of the world's largest volunteer organisations. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is ideologically affiliated with the RSS through the Sangh Parivar family of organisations.

Q 7

Arjun Babuta and Elavenil Valarivan set a world record at the Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship 2026. In which event and with what score?

- A 50m Rifle 3 Positions; 1,180 points
- B 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team; 505 points ✓**
- C 25m Rapid Fire Pistol; 590 points
- D 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team; 578 points

EXPLANATION

Arjun Babuta and Elavenil Valarivan won gold in the 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team event at the Asian Rifle/Pistol Championship 2026, held in New Delhi, with a score of 505 points — both a championship record and world record.

CONCEPT

Arjun Babuta won a silver medal at the Paris Olympics 2024 in the 10m Air Rifle event. Elavenil Valarivan has been a consistent performer on the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) circuit. India hosted the championship, reflecting its growing role as a hub for international shooting events.

Q 8

Seychelles President Patrick Herminie visited India in February 2026. India has built which facility on Seychelles' Assumption Island?

- A A joint naval base
- B A coast guard facility ✓**
- C A satellite tracking station
- D An oil storage terminal

EXPLANATION

India built a coast guard facility on Assumption Island, Seychelles, as part of India-Seychelles maritime cooperation. The visit focused on port-led development, coastal management, and blue economy cooperation. Seychelles also joined the Colombo Security Conclave as its 6th member in February 2026.

CONCEPT

Seychelles has an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of approximately 1.37 million sq km — among the largest EEZ-to-land ratios globally. India's SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) vision emphasises India's role as a net security provider in the Indian Ocean Region.

Q 9

The new Income Tax Act 2025, which replaces the Income Tax Act 1961, is scheduled to be implemented from which date?

A January 1, 2026

B April 1, 2026 ✓

C July 1, 2026

D January 1, 2027

EXPLANATION

The Income Tax Act 2025 received Presidential assent in August 2025 and is scheduled for implementation from April 1, 2026. CBDT opened draft rules and forms for public consultation with a February 22, 2026 deadline. It replaces the 60-year-old Income Tax Act 1961.

CONCEPT

CBDT (Central Board of Direct Taxes) is the apex body for direct tax administration in India under the Ministry of Finance. Direct taxes (income tax, corporate tax) are administered by CBDT; indirect taxes (GST, customs) are administered by CBIC (Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs). The Income Tax Act 2025 aims to simplify tax language, reduce litigation, and modernise tax administration.

Q 10

India defeated the USA in the T20 World Cup 2026. Where was this match held, and what was the winning margin?

A Eden Gardens, Kolkata; 45 runs

B Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai; 29 runs ✓

C Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad; 8 wickets

D Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru; 6 wickets

EXPLANATION

India defeated USA by 29 runs in Match 3 of the T20 World Cup 2026 at Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai. Scores: India 162, USA 132/8. India is hosting the 2026 T20 World Cup.

CONCEPT

The T20 World Cup has been expanding cricket's global reach. The USA co-hosted the 2024 T20 World Cup (with West Indies) and upset Pakistan in the group stage. The ICC's strategy to grow cricket in non-traditional markets (USA, Canada, Germany) has increased the number of ICC member nations to 108.

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