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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED

Daily Quiz — March 1, 2026

1 March 2026

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1 March 2026 · 10 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Q 1

The Brahmaputra River is designated as which National Waterway number under India's inland waterways system?

A National Waterway-1

B National Waterway-2 ✓

C National Waterway-3

D National Waterway-4

EXPLANATION

The Brahmaputra River is designated as National Waterway-2 (NW-2). NW-1 is the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river stretch, NW-3 is the West Coast Canal in Kerala, and NW-4 is the Godavari-Krishna river in Andhra Pradesh. Key assets inaugurated on NW-2 include Customs and Immigration complexes at Bogibeel and Dhubri, and the IWAI heritage building at Dibrugarh.

CONCEPT

The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) develops and maintains national waterways. India currently has 111 designated national waterways under the National Waterways Act, 2016. NW-2 (Brahmaputra) is strategic for Northeast connectivity, reducing freight cost for bulk cargo and supporting India's Act East Policy and trade with Bangladesh.

Q 2

The e-RCT initiative digitises the Railway Claims Tribunal. How many benches does the Railway Claims Tribunal have, and across how many cities are they spread?

A 18 benches in 15 cities

B 23 benches in 21 cities ✓

C 28 benches in 25 cities

D 32 benches in 30 cities

EXPLANATION

The Railway Claims Tribunal has 23 benches spread across 21 cities. The e-RCT initiative digitises the filing and case-processing procedures across all these benches, reducing procedural barriers for passengers and claimants. This is part of the broader RailTech reform agenda launched in early 2026.

CONCEPT

The Railway Claims Tribunal was established in 1989 under the Railway Claims Tribunal Act to adjudicate claims for compensation in cases of untoward incidents, goods loss/damage, and train accident claims. Before e-RCT, all filings were physical and geography-bound. Digitisation is part of Indian Railways' push for tech-led governance under RailTech Policy.

Q 3

Mission Basundhara 3.0, a digital land-services reform programme that saw renewed attention in March 2026, belongs to which state?

- A Tripura
- B Meghalaya
- C Assam ✓**
- D Manipur

EXPLANATION

Mission Basundhara 3.0 is Assam's digital land-governance programme. It uses digital processing for land settlement, mutation-linked approvals, and record corrections. Land records in Assam are especially important due to riverine change, forest-linked claims, and agricultural dependency.

CONCEPT

Mission Basundhara connects with national programmes like SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas), which uses drone surveys for property mapping in rural areas. Modern land reform in India means record modernisation, service digitisation, and cleaner cadastral governance — not only redistribution.

Q 4

The SVAMITVA scheme, which maps rural property, uses which technology for its surveys?

- A GPS ground survey teams
- B Satellite remote sensing (ISRO)
- C Drone-based aerial surveys ✓**
- D LiDAR scanning from aircraft

EXPLANATION

SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas) uses drone-based aerial surveys to map inhabited land in rural areas. This produces accurate property records, enabling villagers to use their homes as collateral for loans and access government schemes.

CONCEPT

SVAMITVA was launched in April 2020 by PM Modi. It aims to create a record of rights for rural households. Once surveyed, village residents receive a Property Card (Swamitva Card). The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj in collaboration with Survey of India and state Revenue Departments.

Q 5 Zero Discrimination Day is observed internationally on which date?

A February 28

B March 1 ✓

C March 3

D March 8

EXPLANATION

Zero Discrimination Day is observed every year on March 1. It was first celebrated in 2014 and promotes equal rights and access to healthcare, education, and public services without discrimination. It is closely linked with the work of UNAIDS (though its scope goes beyond HIV/AIDS to encompass all forms of discrimination).

CONCEPT

World Civil Defence Day is also observed on March 1. It was established by the International Civil Defence Organisation (ICDO) to raise awareness about civil protection and preparedness. These two observances on the same date — March 1 — link rights-based governance with disaster management capacity, both being state-capacity questions.

Q 6 The NITI Aayog State Support Mission focuses primarily on which aspect of governance?

A Direct welfare transfers to Below Poverty Line families

B Improving state government administrative capacity and implementation quality ✓

C Coordinating foreign aid and development assistance across states

D Building physical infrastructure in aspirational districts

EXPLANATION

The NITI Aayog State Support Mission aims to improve state-level administrative capacity, focusing on data use, departmental coordination, project preparation, and implementation quality. It is an example of cooperative federalism that goes beyond slogans to address backend governance architecture. A regional dialogue under this mission was held in Agartala (Tripura).

CONCEPT

India's national schemes often succeed or fail not because of design alone, but because state institutions vary sharply in administrative depth and execution ability. The State Support Mission tries to address this gap. It reflects a shift in governance reform — from flagship announcements to building the institutional plumbing required for consistent service delivery.

Q 7 What was the primary focus of the RailTech Policy introduced by Indian Railways?

- A Privatisation of railway station management
- B Creating a pathway for startups, academia, and industry to develop railway technology solutions ✓
- C Replacing diesel engines with electric engines across all routes
- D Expanding high-speed rail corridors

EXPLANATION

The RailTech Policy creates a structured pathway for startups, industry, and academic institutions to test and scale solutions for operational problems within Indian Railways. Priority areas include AI-based elephant intrusion detection, fire-detection systems, drone-based track monitoring, and predictive safety tools.

CONCEPT

Public sector modernisation in India now goes beyond hardware procurement to digital platforms, data pipelines, and faster institutional interfaces. Other railway technology initiatives include KAVACH (automatic train collision avoidance system, indigenous) and the push for hydrogen-fuelled trains. Indian Railways is the world's 4th-largest rail network by route length.

Q 8 Which annual observance on March 1 focuses on emergency preparedness and protection of civilians during disasters and crises?

- A World Disaster Reduction Day
- B International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction
- C World Civil Defence Day ✓
- D World Emergency Services Day

EXPLANATION

World Civil Defence Day is observed every year on March 1 by the International Civil Defence Organisation (ICDO). It focuses on emergency preparedness, community resilience, and protecting civilians during disasters. Unlike International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (October 13, established by UNGA), Civil Defence Day specifically focuses on operational response capacity.

CONCEPT

Civil defence covers emergency planning, evacuation, first aid, search and rescue, and critical infrastructure protection. India's civil defence architecture is governed by the Civil Defence Act, 1968, and is supplemented by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA, established 2005 under the DM Act) and State Disaster Management Authorities.

Q 9

The IWAI heritage building inaugurated in connection with National Waterway-2 projects is located at which city?

- A Guwahati
- B Bogibeel
- C Dibrugarh ✓**
- D Dhubri

EXPLANATION

The IWAI (Inland Waterways Authority of India) heritage building inaugurated in the March 2026 cycle is located at Dibrugarh in Assam. Customs and Immigration complexes were inaugurated at Bogibeel and Dhubri — different locations on NW-2. Dibrugarh is one of the key IWAI operational centres on the Brahmaputra.

CONCEPT

IWAI was established in 1986 under the Inland Waterways Authority of India Act, 1985. Its headquarters is in Noida, UP. India has approximately 14,500 km of navigable waterways. The government aims to increase the share of inland water transport (currently below 2% of freight) as it is 30-50% cheaper than road transport for bulk cargo.

Q 10

Which of the following correctly describes the SVAMITVA scheme's primary beneficiary and output?

- A Urban slum dwellers receiving land titles in cities
- B Forest-dwelling tribal communities receiving forest rights certificates
- C Rural residents in inhabited village areas receiving property cards for their homes ✓**
- D Farmers receiving electronic land records for agricultural plots

EXPLANATION

SVAMITVA specifically targets inhabitants of 'Abadi' (inhabited/residential) areas within villages — not agricultural land, not urban areas, and not forest-dwelling areas (which fall under the Forest Rights Act). The output is a Property Card (Swamitva Card) that can be used as collateral for bank loans and for accessing government schemes.

CONCEPT

SVAMITVA addresses a longstanding gap: while agricultural land records were relatively well-maintained (as they determine revenue), residential plots within villages often had no formal documentation. This caused legal disputes, difficulty in accessing credit, and inability to benefit from welfare programmes tied to property ownership.

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