



UPSC &amp; STATE PCS CURRENT AFFAIRS · UJIYARI.COM

**DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED**

# Daily Quiz — March 10, 2026

10 March 2026

CURATED &amp; WRITTEN BY

**Bharat Choudhary**UPSC Educator & Content Creator • [linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)

## DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED

# Daily Quiz — March 10, 2026

10 March 2026 · 10 Questions · Answers &amp; Explanations Included

**Q 1**

Digital India was launched in which year, and what is its full-form significance beyond just internet connectivity?

- A 2012; a scheme to provide free laptops to students
- B 2015; a governance architecture covering digital public infrastructure, service delivery, identity, payments, and state capacity ✓**
- C 2018; a programme to build 5G mobile networks across India
- D 2020; a pandemic-response initiative for remote work

**EXPLANATION**

Digital India was launched in 2015 under PM Modi. Its significance has evolved beyond internet connectivity to a broader governance architecture built around digital public infrastructure (DPI) — covering digital identity (Aadhaar), payments (UPI), service delivery (DigiLocker, eSign, eHospital), data governance, and state capacity modernisation. India's DPI stack is now considered a global model.

**CONCEPT**

India's Digital Public Infrastructure includes three foundational layers: Identity (Aadhaar — world's largest biometric database), Payment (UPI — Unified Payments Interface), and Data (DigiLocker, OCEN). DPI is India's 'public utility approach' to digital infrastructure — like roads or electricity, built and made openly available for private players to build services on top. India has been advocating the DPI model internationally at G20 and with developing countries.

**Q 2**

Green ammonia and green methanol are gaining importance as energy carriers for which industrial sectors that are difficult to decarbonise through direct electrification?

- A Residential heating and consumer electronics
- B Shipping, fertiliser production, and industrial processes requiring high-temperature heat ✓**
- C Personal transport and electric vehicle charging
- D Office buildings and data centres

**EXPLANATION**

Green ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3$  made using green hydrogen from renewable energy) and green methanol ( $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  made similarly) are promising for shipping (as marine fuel replacing bunker fuel), fertiliser manufacturing (ammonia is the feedstock for urea/DAP), and industrial processes requiring high-temperature heat that electric furnaces cannot easily provide — the so-called 'hard-to-abate' sectors.

**CONCEPT**

India's National Green Hydrogen Mission (launched 2023) targets 5 million MT of green hydrogen production by 2030 and Rs 19,744 crore investment. Green ammonia is the most promising  $\text{H}_2$  carrier for export and fertiliser decarbonisation. India is the world's 2nd-largest fertiliser consumer and heavily dependent on imported natural gas for domestic urea production — green ammonia addresses both energy security and fertiliser security simultaneously.

**Q 3**

The National Green Hydrogen Mission, which underpins green ammonia and green methanol development, targets annual production of how much green hydrogen by 2030?

- A 1 million metric tonnes
- B 5 million metric tonnes ✓**
- C 10 million metric tonnes
- D 50 million metric tonnes

**EXPLANATION**

India's National Green Hydrogen Mission targets 5 million metric tonnes (MMT) of green hydrogen production annually by 2030. The mission also aims to reduce Rs 1 lakh crore in fossil fuel imports, create over 6 lakh jobs, and develop 125 GW of renewable energy capacity specifically for hydrogen production.

**CONCEPT**

Green hydrogen is produced through electrolysis of water using renewable electricity — splitting  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  into  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2$ . Producing 1 kg of green hydrogen requires approximately 55 kWh of electricity and 9 litres of water. India's solar and wind advantages make green hydrogen economically viable in the long term. India is positioning itself as a green hydrogen exporter to Europe (which has committed to large-scale green hydrogen imports post-Russia energy crisis).

**Q 4**

The Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) regulates the use of explosive weapons in populated areas through which approach?

- A Completely banning all explosive weapons from all military operations
- B Requiring pre-notification of civilian populations before any attack
- C Protocols restricting specific weapon categories based on their effects on civilians and civilian infrastructure ✓**
- D Criminalising use of explosive weapons under the Rome Statute (ICC jurisdiction)

**EXPLANATION**

The CCW (Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, 1980) uses Protocols to restrict specific weapon categories: Protocol II covers mines and booby traps, Protocol III covers incendiary weapons (like white phosphorus), Protocol IV covers blinding laser weapons, Protocol V covers explosive remnants of war. It does not ban explosive weapons outright but restricts their use in ways that cause disproportionate civilian harm.

**CONCEPT**

International humanitarian law (IHL) is built on three pillars: distinction (between combatants and civilians), proportionality (military advantage vs. civilian harm), and precaution (minimising incidental civilian damage). Explosive weapons in populated areas (EWIPA) fail all three tests. The political declaration on EWIPA (November 2022) was signed by 83 states — India is among signatories. CCW is governed under UNODA (UN Office for Disarmament Affairs).

**Q 5**

Finland's relevance as an economic partner for India is primarily based on which complementary strengths?

- A Finland's large military and nuclear energy expertise
- B Finland's excellence in clean technology, telecommunications, education, and circular economy approaches ✓**
- C Finland's large agricultural surplus and food processing industry
- D Finland's significant share in global oil and gas production

**EXPLANATION**

Finland is relevant to India because of its strengths in clean technology (energy efficiency, smart grids), telecommunications (Nokia's network equipment heritage), education (Finnish school system ranked among world's best), and circular economy approaches (resource efficiency, recycling). India offers scale, markets, digital public infrastructure, and tech talent. This complementarity makes India-Finland ties an example of focused middle-power partnership.

**CONCEPT**

Middle powers in international relations are countries with significant but not dominant influence — Finland, Sweden, Netherlands, South Korea, Australia are examples. India increasingly engages middle powers on specific issue areas: clean energy (Denmark), space (France), education (Finland), water management (Netherlands), digital (Singapore). This multi-partner, issue-specific engagement is part of India's multi-alignment strategy.

**Q 6**

The Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur, Odisha — where VSHORADS was tested — is managed by which organisation and located on which coast?

- A ISRO; West Coast (Arabian Sea)
- B DRDO; East Coast (Bay of Bengal) ✓**
- C Ministry of Defence; Coromandel Coast (Bay of Bengal)
- D HAL; West Coast (near Goa)

**EXPLANATION**

The Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur, Balasore district, Odisha is managed by DRDO and located on the East Coast on the Bay of Bengal. It is India's premier missile testing facility. Other major missiles tested here include Akash (surface-to-air), Prithvi (ballistic), Prahar (tactical surface-to-surface), Dhanush (naval ballistic missile), and VSHORADS. Abdul Kalam Island (formerly Wheeler Island, also Odisha) is another DRDO test facility nearby.

**CONCEPT**

India's missile testing infrastructure is concentrated in Odisha because: Bay of Bengal allows safe testing over open ocean, uninhabited coastline, and proximity to Hyderabad (DRDO Labs where missiles are developed). India is a member of MTCR (Missile Technology Control Regime) since 2016 — this allows import of dual-use missile technology and materials. India is also a founding member of the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation.

**Q 7**

International Humanitarian Law (IHL) — also called the laws of war — primarily seeks to achieve which objective?

- A Preventing armed conflicts from starting between nations
- B Limiting the effects of armed conflict by protecting civilians and regulating the means and methods of warfare ✓**
- C Prosecuting political leaders who order military operations
- D Ensuring economic reparations to war victims

**EXPLANATION**

International Humanitarian Law (IHL) does not prevent wars from occurring (that is the domain of the UN Charter and collective security) but limits their effects — specifically protecting those who are not participating in hostilities (civilians, wounded soldiers, prisoners of war) and restricting means (weapons) and methods (tactics) of warfare. The key IHL instruments are the four Geneva Conventions (1949) and their Additional Protocols.

**CONCEPT**

Four Geneva Conventions (1949): GC-I (wounded and sick soldiers on land), GC-II (wounded, sick, and shipwrecked at sea), GC-III (prisoners of war), GC-IV (civilians under occupation). Additional Protocol I (1977) — international conflicts; Protocol II — non-international conflicts. India has ratified all four GCs. The ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) is the primary custodian of IHL.

**Q 8**

Electrolysis — the process central to green hydrogen production — uses electricity to split water into which components?

- A Carbon dioxide and oxygen
- B Hydrogen and oxygen ✓
- C Nitrogen and water vapour
- D Helium and ozone

**EXPLANATION**

Electrolysis splits water (H<sub>2</sub>O) into hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>) and oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) using electrical current. When the electricity comes from renewable sources (solar, wind), the resulting hydrogen is called 'green hydrogen' — with no carbon emissions in the production process. Producing 1 kg of green hydrogen requires approximately 55 kWh of electricity and 9 litres of water.

**CONCEPT**

Green hydrogen colour codes: Green H<sub>2</sub> = renewable electrolysis; Blue H<sub>2</sub> = steam methane reforming (from natural gas) with carbon capture; Grey H<sub>2</sub> = steam methane reforming without carbon capture; Pink H<sub>2</sub> = nuclear electrolysis; Turquoise H<sub>2</sub> = methane pyrolysis. India currently produces mostly grey hydrogen for fertiliser and refining. The transition to green is central to India's decarbonisation strategy and its 2070 net-zero target.

**Q 9**

India's UPI (Unified Payments Interface) has become a key component of its digital public infrastructure. UPI is operated by which body?

- A Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- B National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) ✓
- C Ministry of Finance directly
- D State Bank of India

**EXPLANATION**

UPI is operated by NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India) — an umbrella organisation for retail payment systems, set up under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, promoted by RBI and IBA. NPCI also operates IMPS, RuPay, Bharat Bill Payment System, FASTag, and NACH. UPI had over 13 billion transactions per month in 2025.

**CONCEPT**

India has been exporting UPI infrastructure to other countries — UPI is live in UAE, Singapore, France (Eiffel Tower), UK, and over 10 other countries. NPCI International handles this expansion. This is a key example of India's DPI becoming a soft power and diplomatic tool. At G20 2023, India advocated for DPI as a global development framework.

**Q 10**

Which of the following correctly describes a 'hard-to-abate' sector in the context of climate change and industrial decarbonisation?

- A Sectors that are politically resistant to environmental regulation
- B Industries like steel, cement, shipping, and aviation where direct electrification is technically or economically very difficult ✓**
- C Sectors with high carbon taxes that cannot afford decarbonisation
- D Agricultural sectors that produce methane from livestock

**EXPLANATION**

Hard-to-abate sectors are industries where reducing greenhouse gas emissions is technically very difficult or economically prohibitive with current technologies: steel (requires very high temperatures), cement (CO<sub>2</sub> is chemically released from limestone during production), shipping (long distances require energy-dense fuels), and aviation (weight constraints limit battery viability). These sectors require alternative low-carbon fuels (green hydrogen, green ammonia, SAF) rather than electrification.

**CONCEPT**

India's hard-to-abate sector challenges: Steel (India is 2nd largest steel producer globally, heavily coal-dependent); Cement (India is 2nd largest cement producer); Shipping (India has the world's 2nd-largest merchant naval fleet by manpower). Green steel (using green hydrogen direct reduction) and green cement (clinker substitution with fly ash, slag) are India's decarbonisation pathways for these sectors, aligned with the National Green Hydrogen Mission.

---

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

## **Bharat Choudhary**

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

 [linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)

---

Published on [ujyari.com](https://ujyari.com) · Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs