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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED

Daily Quiz — March 23, 2026

23 March 2026

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23 March 2026 · 10 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Q 1 Bura Chapori Wildlife Sanctuary is located on the bank of which river?

A Manas River

B Brahmaputra River ✓

C Barak River

D Subansiri River

EXPLANATION

Bura Chapori Wildlife Sanctuary (44.06 sq km) is located on the south bank of the Brahmaputra River in Sonitpur district, Assam. It was declared a Reserved Forest in 1974 and upgraded to a Wildlife Sanctuary in 1995.

CONCEPT

Assam has several important protected areas along the Brahmaputra floodplain including Kaziranga NP, Orang NP, Manas NP, and Bura Chapori WLS. These form critical habitats for the Indian one-horned rhinoceros.

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Q 2 The District Mineral Foundation (DMF) was established under which section of the MMDR Amendment Act 2015?

A Section 4A

B Section 9B ✓

C Section 12

D Section 15A

EXPLANATION

The District Mineral Foundation (DMF) was established under Section 9B of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015. Mining lease holders contribute 10% (post-2015 leases) or 30% (pre-2015 leases) of royalty to DMF.

CONCEPT

The PMKKKY (Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana), launched September 2015, is the implementation framework for DMF funds. At least 70% must be spent on high-priority sectors like health, water, education, and environment.

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Q 3

Which photocatalytic material is being studied in the Delhi-IIT Madras pilot project for smog-eating road coatings?

A Zinc Oxide (ZnO)

B Silicon Dioxide (SiO₂)

C Titanium Dioxide (TiO₂) ✓

D Aluminium Oxide (Al₂O₃)

EXPLANATION

The Delhi-IIT Madras MoU focuses on Titanium Dioxide (TiO₂) as the primary photocatalytic material. TiO₂ activates under sunlight to generate hydroxyl radicals that oxidise NO₂ and VOCs into harmless compounds.

CONCEPT

Photocatalysis uses light energy to activate a catalyst that speeds up chemical reactions. TiO₂ is preferred because it is non-toxic, chemically stable, abundant, and effective under UV light from sunlight.

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Q 4

The Gurmukhi script, used for writing the Punjabi language, was standardised by which Sikh Guru?

A Guru Nanak Dev Ji

B Guru Angad Dev Ji ✓

C Guru Amar Das Ji

D Guru Arjan Dev Ji

EXPLANATION

Guru Angad Dev Ji, the second Sikh Guru (1504-1552), standardised and popularised the Gurmukhi script. He established schools at Khadur Sahib to teach the script and used it to transcribe the hymns of Guru Nanak.

CONCEPT

The ten Sikh Gurus each made distinct contributions: Guru Nanak (founder), Guru Angad (Gurmukhi script), Guru Amar Das (Manji system), Guru Ram Das (Amritsar), Guru Arjan Dev (Adi Granth), Guru Hargobind (Miri-Piri), and Guru Gobind Singh (Khalsa).

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Q 5

The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), which identified the new crab species *Chhagarus ngankeeae*, is headquartered in which city?

A New Delhi

B Chennai

C Kolkata ✓

D Pune

EXPLANATION

The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) was founded on July 1, 1916 and is headquartered in Kolkata. It operates 16 regional centres across India and functions under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

CONCEPT

ZSI handles faunal survey and documentation while the Botanical Survey of India (BSI, est. 1890, HQ Kolkata) handles flora. Both are under MoEFCC. The Geological Survey of India (GSI, est. 1851, HQ Kolkata) surveys mineral resources under the Ministry of Mines.

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Q 6

In the OPU-IVF-ET technology used for Sahiwal cattle breeding, what does OPU stand for?

A Ovarian Production Unit

B Ovum Pick-Up ✓

C Oocyte Processing Utility

D Ova Purification Unit

EXPLANATION

OPU stands for Ovum Pick-Up — an ultrasound-guided technique to aspirate immature oocytes (eggs) from the ovaries of a live donor cow. ICAR-IVRI achieved an average recovery rate of 13.14 oocytes per session in Sahiwal cattle.

CONCEPT

OPU-IVF-ET allows a single elite cow to produce 50-100 calves per year (vs one calf naturally). This is critical for rapidly multiplying indigenous breeds like Sahiwal, Gir, and Tharparkar without crossbreeding with exotic breeds.

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Q 7

The Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve, where monarch butterflies overwinter, is located in which country?

A United States

B Canada

C Mexico ✓

D Costa Rica

EXPLANATION

The Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve (56,259 hectares) is located in the states of Michoacan and the State of Mexico in central Mexico. It was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2008.

CONCEPT

The eastern monarch butterfly migrates up to 4,800 km from southern Canada and northern US to Mexico. The overwintering forests are at 2,400-3,600 metres altitude in the Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt. The Convention on Migratory Species (CMS/Bonn Convention) covers such transboundary species.

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Q 8

Under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act (CAMPA) 2016, what percentage of collected funds is allocated to State CAMPA?

A 70%

B 80%

C 90% ✓

D 100%

EXPLANATION

Under the CAMPA Act 2016, 90% of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund goes to the respective State CAMPA and 10% is retained by the National CAMPA. These funds are used for afforestation, forest ecosystem regeneration, and wildlife protection.

CONCEPT

CAMPA was enacted in 2016 to manage funds collected when forest land is diverted for non-forest purposes. Before this Act, an ad hoc body managed the funds. The total CAMPA corpus exceeds Rs 70,000 crore accumulated since 2004.

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Q 9

The Indiramma Family Life Insurance Scheme announced by Telangana provides what amount of life insurance coverage per family?

- A Rs 2 lakh
- B Rs 3 lakh
- C Rs 5 lakh ✓**
- D Rs 10 lakh

EXPLANATION

The Indiramma Family Life Insurance Scheme provides Rs 5 lakh life insurance to approximately 1.15 crore families irrespective of income category. It was announced in the Telangana Budget 2026-27 with an allocation of Rs 4,000 crore.

CONCEPT

For comparison, the Central Government PMJJBY (Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana) provides Rs 2 lakh life cover at Rs 436/year premium, while PMSBY provides Rs 2 lakh accidental cover at Rs 20/year. Ayushman Bharat provides Rs 5 lakh health (not life) insurance.

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Q 10

The National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), under which the photocatalytic coating pilot falls, targets what percentage reduction in PM10 concentration by 2025-26?

- A 20%
- B 30%
- C 40% ✓**
- D 50%

EXPLANATION

NCAP targets up to 40% reduction in PM10 concentrations by 2025-26 compared to the 2017 base year. The programme covers 131 non-attainment cities and is implemented through CPCB and State Pollution Control Boards.

CONCEPT

NCAP was launched in January 2019 as a time-bound national strategy. The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), a statutory body under CAQM Act 2021, specifically manages air quality in Delhi-NCR. It replaced the earlier EPCA.

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