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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED

Current Affairs Quiz — April 26, 2026

26 April 2026



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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED ANSWER KEY

Current Affairs Quiz — April 26, 2026

26 April 2026 · 15 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Question 1 of 15

The Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) at Kalpakkam achieved first criticality on which date?

A January 15, 2026

B April 6, 2026 ✓

C April 26, 2026

D March 31, 2026

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

EXPLANATION

The PFBR at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu achieved first criticality on April 6, 2026 at 08:25 PM IST. PM Modi highlighted this as a 'historic milestone' in his Mann Ki Baat 133rd episode on April 26, 2026.

CONCEPT NOTE

First criticality means a self-sustaining chain reaction is achieved — not the same as grid connection or commercial power generation, which follow after safety testing.

Q1  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 2 of 15

The PFBR at Kalpakkam is designed and belongs to Stage 2 of India's three-stage nuclear programme. Which organisation designed the PFBR?

- A NPCIL (Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited)
- B BARC (Bhabha Atomic Research Centre)
- C IGCAR (Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research) ✓
- D BHAVINI (Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited)

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The PFBR was indigenously designed by IGCAR (Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research), a research and development centre of the Department of Atomic Energy. It was built and is operated by BHAVINI (Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited).

NPCIL operates Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (Stage 1).

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

IGCAR designs; BHAVINI builds and operates — two distinct DAE organisations. BARC handles basic nuclear research and fuel reprocessing.

Q2

 **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 3 of 15

The PFBR uses a coolant that is different from all of India's existing operational nuclear reactors. What is the coolant used in the PFBR?

A Heavy water (D₂O)

B Light water (H₂O)

C Liquid sodium ✓

D Helium gas

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The PFBR at Kalpakkam is a pool-type, sodium-cooled fast breeder reactor. It uses liquid sodium as coolant — not heavy water (used in PHWRs) or light water (used in BWRs like Tarapur).

Sodium enables the fast neutron spectrum necessary for breeding, as it does not slow (moderate) neutrons the way water does.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

Liquid sodium burns on contact with air and water — this is why sodium-cooled reactors require highly specialised engineering and were a major source of PFBR's construction delays.

Q3  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 4 of 15

According to the State of India's Environment 2026 report (CSE/Down to Earth), how many of the nine planetary boundaries have been breached?

A 5

B 6

C 7 ✓

D 9

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The SOE 2026 report confirms that 7 of the 9 planetary boundaries have now been breached. The 7th boundary newly identified as breached in the 2026 report is ocean acidification.

The two remaining safe boundaries are stratospheric ozone (recovering due to the Montreal Protocol) and atmospheric aerosols (uncertain, with regional violations).

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The 7 breached are — climate change, biosphere integrity, land system change, freshwater depletion, biogeochemical flows (nitrogen/phosphorus), novel entities (plastics/PFAS), and ocean acidification.

Q4  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 5 of 15

According to the State of India's Environment 2026 report, India experienced extreme weather on how many days out of 334 in 2025?

- A 221 days
- B 275 days
- C 311 days
- D 331 days ✓

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The SOE 2026 report found that India experienced extreme weather on 331 out of 334 days in 2025 — meaning approximately 99% of the year had at least one extreme weather event somewhere in the country. At least 4,419 people died and 17.4 million hectares of cropped land were affected.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The remaining 3 'normal' days in 2025 represent an astonishing data point — climate shocks are no longer discrete events but a near-continuous background condition across India's diverse geography.

Q5

 **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 6

of 15

Gujarat held local body elections on April 26, 2026. For the first time, how many District Panchayat President posts were reserved for OBC candidates?

A 3

B 5

C 7 ✓

D 10

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

For the first time in Gujarat's history, 7 out of 34 District Panchayat President posts were reserved for OBC candidates in the 2026 local body elections. This follows the Supreme Court's 'triple test' framework for OBC reservation in local bodies — requiring empirical inquiry, proportionality, and a 50% aggregate cap.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The Supreme Court's triple test for OBC reservation in local bodies requires states to conduct an empirical inquiry, determine proportional reservation, and ensure total reservation (SC+ST+OBC) does not exceed 50%.

Q6  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 7 of 15

The Tamil Nadu 2026 Assembly elections recorded a historic voter turnout. What was the approximate turnout percentage?

- A 72.4%
- B 78.9%
- C 85.15% ✓
- D 91.2%

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

Tamil Nadu recorded a historic voter turnout of 85.15% in the April 23, 2026 Assembly elections — the highest ever in a state assembly election in Tamil Nadu, up from approximately 74.3% in both 2016 and 2021. Karur district led all districts with 92.63% turnout.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

Higher turnout historically favours the incumbent in Tamil Nadu, but the +10 percentage points jump also signals strong opposition mobilisation. Results will be known on May 4, 2026.

Q7  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 8

of 15

TVK (Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam) contested the 2026 Tamil Nadu elections. Who is the founder of TVK?

- A Udhayanidhi Stalin
- B Vijay (Tamil film actor) ✓
- C Seeman
- D Kamal Haasan

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

TVK (Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam) was founded by Tamil film actor Vijay, who contested himself from Virugambakkam constituency in Chennai. TVK contested all 234 seats independently without any alliance — positioning itself as a third force between the ruling DMK-led SPA and the opposition AIADMK-led NDA.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

Tamil Nadu's political history includes another actor-turned-politician — Kamal Haasan (Makkal Needhi Maiam, founded 2018) — who preceded Vijay's entry. Both attempt to leverage mass film appeal for electoral politics.

Q8  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 9 of 15

India's Census 2027 introduces a self-enumeration feature for the first time. The self-enumeration portal is available in how many languages?

- A 8 languages
- B 12 languages
- C 16 languages ✓
- D 22 languages

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The Census 2027 self-enumeration portal (se.census.gov.in) is available in 16 languages. Citizens can fill in household census data online before the enumerator's visit, generating a unique Self-Enumeration ID that the enumerator verifies.

Census 2027 is India's first fully digital census, using mobile apps for enumerators and the CMMS portal for real-time monitoring.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The 22 figure relates to India's Eighth Schedule languages — all officially recognised — but the census portal covers 16 languages. Not all Eighth Schedule languages have equal digital infrastructure.

Q9  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 10 of 15

Census 2027 holds constitutional significance for which of the following?

- A Implementing the 73rd Amendment's ward delimitation provisions
- B Triggering the implementation of women's reservation under the 106th Constitutional Amendment ✓
- C Revising the Directive Principles under Article 44
- D Calculating the Finance Commission's devolution formula for the next 10 years

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The 106th Constitutional Amendment (2023) reserves 33% of seats for women in Lok Sabha and State Assemblies, but the operative provision is linked to post-delimitation census data — making Census 2027 the trigger for implementing women's reservation. Until Census 2027 data is available and delimitation is carried out using it, the reservation cannot formally kick in.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The Finance Commission uses census data but is not constitutionally linked to a specific census cycle. The Delimitation Act 2026 and Census 2027 together form the legal architecture for both women's reservation and revised constituency boundaries.

Q10  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 11 of 15

Thrissur Pooram 2026 was held without fireworks following the Mundathikode explosion. PESO, which regulates explosives licensing, functions under which Ministry?

- A Ministry of Home Affairs
- B Ministry of Commerce and Industry ✓
- C Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- D Ministry of Labour and Employment

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO) functions under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry. PESO administers the Explosives Act, 1884 and issues licences for manufacture, storage, transport, and use of explosives.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The Explosives Act, 1884 carries a maximum penalty of only ₹5,000 — widely criticised as having no deterrent value given modern industrial disaster risks. This was highlighted after the Mundathikode explosion killed 15 people.

Q11  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 12 of 15

Mann Ki Baat's 133rd episode was broadcast on April 26, 2026. Which upcoming event did PM Modi extend advance greetings for in this episode?

- A Eid al-Adha
- B Baisakhi
- C Buddha Purnima ✓
- D Guru Purnima

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

PM Modi extended advance greetings for Buddha Purnima in his Mann Ki Baat 133rd episode on April 26, 2026. Buddha Purnima 2026 falls on May 1. He also highlighted the Kalpakkam PFBR first criticality as a historic milestone and urged citizens to participate in Census 2027 self-enumeration.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

Buddha Purnima commemorates the birth, enlightenment (Bodhi), and death (Parinirvana) of Gautama Buddha — all believed to have occurred on the same lunar date (Vaishakha Purnima). It is a gazetted public holiday in India.

Q12  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 13 of 15

The 133rd episode of Mann Ki Baat highlighted the first criticality of the PFBR. What does the PFBR's first criticality specifically mean in Stage 2 of India's nuclear programme?

- A The reactor has started supplying electricity to the national grid
- B The reactor has achieved a self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction for the first time ✓
- C The reactor has completed 100 days of continuous operation
- D The reactor has been cleared for commercial operation by AERB

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

First criticality means that the nuclear fission chain reaction in the PFBR has become self-sustaining for the first time — each fission event produces enough neutrons to trigger at least one more. This is a milestone in commissioning, but grid connection and commercial operation require further safety testing, power ascension, and AERB approval.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The PFBR was originally planned to be commissioned by 2010. Achieving first criticality in April 2026 marks 15+ years of delay — primarily due to sodium handling complexity, MOX fuel supply chain, and post-Fukushima safety reviews.

Q13  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 14 of 15

India's Brent crude import bill is highly sensitive to global price movements. As of April 25, 2026, Brent crude was trading at approximately what level?

- A \$78/barrel
- B \$89/barrel
- C \$106/barrel ✓
- D \$125/barrel

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

As of April 25, 2026, Brent crude was trading at approximately \$106.20/barrel — up ~17% week-on-week due to Middle East conflict disruptions and OPEC+ production discipline. India imports approximately 85% of its crude oil, making every \$10/barrel rise equivalent to an additional \$15–20 billion annually to India's import bill.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

Brent crude at \$106/barrel directly pressures the Indian rupee (increased USD demand for oil imports) and widens the Current Account Deficit — the twin mechanisms through which oil price spikes transmit into India's macroeconomic headwinds.

Q14  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 15 of 15

The 'triple test' for OBC reservation in local bodies was established by the Supreme Court. Which of the following is **NOT** part of the triple test?

- A Conducting an empirical inquiry into OBC backwardness at the local body level
- B Ensuring total reservation (SC + ST + OBC) does not exceed 50%
- C Obtaining Central Government approval before implementing OBC reservation ✓
- D Determining proportional reservation based on OBC population and representation data

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The Supreme Court's triple test for OBC reservation in local bodies (Vikram Singh and related cases) requires — (1) empirical inquiry into OBC backwardness at local body level, (2) proportionality based on population data, and (3) aggregate reservation not exceeding 50%. Central Government approval is not a component of the triple test — it is a state-level process administered by State Election Commissions and state governments.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The triple test replaced the earlier practice of states directly notifying OBC reservation without data backing. States like Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat have been required to conduct fresh surveys to meet this standard.

Q15  **CONCEPT KIT**



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