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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED

Current Affairs Quiz — April 28, 2026

28 April 2026



CURATED & WRITTEN BY

Bharat Choudhary

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

linkedin.com/in/epicbharat

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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED ANSWER KEY

Current Affairs Quiz — April 28, 2026

28 April 2026 · 15 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Question 1 of 15

In Gujarat's April 28, 2026 local body election results, which municipal corporation recorded a BJP clean sweep of all 52 seats?

A Ahmedabad

B Surat

C Morbi ✓

D Vadodara

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

EXPLANATION

Morbi Municipal Corporation recorded a BJP clean sweep — all 52 of 52 seats won by BJP. Morbi was particularly significant because it was the site of the October 2022 suspension bridge collapse that killed 135 people, raising political questions about local administration. The clean sweep suggests full political recovery for BJP in the constituency.

Porbandar also recorded an all-seats sweep.

CONCEPT NOTE

Gujarat had 15 municipal corporations in the April 26, 2026 elections. Municipal corporation voter turnout was 55.1% — lower than district panchayats (66.64%) and taluka panchayats (67.26%), consistent with urban-rural participation patterns.

Q1  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 2 of 15

The Gujarat local body elections 2026 were the first to implement OBC reservation in District Panchayat President posts. How many of 34 District Panchayat President posts were reserved for OBCs?

- A 3 posts
- B 5 posts
- C 7 posts ✓
- D 10 posts

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

7 of 34 District Panchayat President posts were reserved for OBC candidates in Gujarat's 2026 local body elections — the first time the state fulfilled the Supreme Court's triple test before holding elections. The triple test requires empirical inquiry into OBC backwardness, proportional reservation, and an aggregate SC+ST+OBC cap not exceeding 50%.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The triple test for OBC reservation in local bodies was established by the Supreme Court in *Vikram Singh v. State of Uttar Pradesh* (2021). Gujarat conducted the required empirical survey and determined 7/34 posts (about 20.6%) were proportionally reservable for OBCs.

Q2  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 3 of 15

West Bengal's 2026 Assembly elections are being conducted in two phases. How many constituencies are voting in Phase 2 (April 29)?

- A 118 constituencies
- B 148 constituencies
- C 176 constituencies ✓
- D 200 constituencies

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

West Bengal Phase 2 covers 176 constituencies (out of 294 total). Phase 1 (April 23) covered 118 constituencies, primarily in North Bengal and tribal regions.

Phase 2 covers the more politically contested terrain of Kolkata suburbs, Howrah, Hooghly, Burdwan, and Birbhum — where the TMC-BJP contest is most intense. Results for all phases are declared together on May 4.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

West Bengal has 294 assembly constituencies with 68 reserved for SC and 16 for ST under Article 332. In 2021, TMC won 213 seats and BJP won 77.

The 2026 contest is between TMC (Mamata Banerjee — Bhawanipur), BJP (Suvendu Adhikari — Nandigram), and Left-Congress-ISF alliance.

Q3  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 4 of 15

The 2026 state assembly election results for Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala, Assam, and Puducherry will all be declared on the same day. Which date?

A April 30, 2026

B May 2, 2026

C May 4, 2026 ✓

D May 7, 2026

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

All 2026 state assembly election results will be declared on May 4, 2026 — a single unified counting day for five elections. Together they involve 824 legislative seats across Tamil Nadu (234), West Bengal (294), Kerala (140), Assam (126), and Puducherry (30 elected seats).

This is one of India's largest simultaneous election result days since the 2021 cycle.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The pattern of simultaneous state elections in the same cycle follows the Election Commission's scheduling of states whose terms expire around the same period. Kerala, Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, and Puducherry were all scheduled for the same election cycle in both 2016 and 2021.

Q4  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 5

of 15

PM Modi participated in the closing ceremony of Sikkim's 50th Year of Statehood at which stadium in Gangtok?

- A Nehru Stadium
- B Paljor Stadium ✓
- C Guru Nanak Stadium
- D Indira Gandhi Sports Complex

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

PM Modi participated in the closing ceremony of Sikkim's 50th Year of Statehood at Paljor Stadium in Gangtok on April 28, 2026. On the same day, he also visited the Orchidarium — a world-class Orchid Experience Centre — with Sikkim Governor Om Prakash Mathur and CM Prem Singh Tamang. Paljor Stadium is the principal stadium in Gangtok.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

Sikkim's 50th statehood marks the anniversary of the 36th Constitutional Amendment (April 26, 1975) — making it India's 22nd state. Sikkim has special constitutional protection under Article 371F. The state has 532 orchid species — highest in India.

Q5  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 6

of 15

MoSPI's proposed Index of Service Production (ISP) will use which database as its primary data source?

- A Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) data
- B GST Network (GSTN) data ✓
- C National Sample Survey (NSS) data
- D Reserve Bank of India banking statistics

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The ISP will rely primarily on the GST Network (GSTN) — which contains monthly e-filing data on sales, purchases, and turnover for approximately 14 crore registered businesses. GSTN is the most comprehensive real-time dataset on India's formal economy and allows the ISP to be compiled with a 6-8 week lag comparable to the IIP's turnaround time.

This is a methodological advance over survey-based approaches.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The ISP is being designed by MoSPI with base year 2024-25. It will cover approximately 67% of services GVA (formal sector only — excluding informal services and GST-exempt sectors like health and education).

The PMI Services index (by S&P Global) currently serves as the best monthly proxy for services activity but is a private survey.

Q6  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 7 of 15

The Index of Service Production (ISP) is analogous to which existing index that measures manufacturing output?

- A Wholesale Price Index (WPI)
- B Consumer Price Index (CPI)
- C Index of Industrial Production (IIP) ✓
- D Purchasing Managers Index (PMI)

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The ISP is designed to be the services sector equivalent of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) — which measures monthly output in manufacturing, mining, and electricity. Just as the IIP tracks short-term movements in industrial output, the ISP will track short-term movements in the formal services sector, filling a critical gap since services contribute over 50% of India's GDP but currently lack any high-frequency monthly output index.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

IIP is published by MoSPI with a 6-week lag; current base year is 2011-12. The ISP will use base year 2024-25. PMI Services (Purchasing Managers' Index) is a private monthly survey by S&P Global — widely used but not an official government index. GDP services data is available only quarterly through GVA estimates.

Q7  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 8

of 15

India's SBS-3 (Space-Based Surveillance Phase 3) programme was fast-tracked following which event?

A The Galwan Valley clash with China (June 2020)

B Operation Sindoor (May 2025) ✓

C The Pahalgam terrorist attack (April 2025)

D India's exit from RCEP (2019)

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The SBS-3 programme was fast-tracked following Operation Sindoor (May 7-10, 2025) — India's precision strike on 9 terrorist camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. Operation Sindoor exposed that India's real-time satellite surveillance of Pakistan's interior partly depended on allied satellites and commercial imagery providers. The SBS-3 constellation of 52 military satellites by 2029 aims to achieve indigenous, persistent surveillance capability.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

Distinguish between the Pahalgam attack (April 22, 2025 — the trigger for Operation Sindoor) and Operation Sindoor itself (May 7-10, 2025 — the military response). The SBS-3 programme acceleration came as a policy response to lessons learned from the operation, not directly from Pahalgam.

Q8  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 9 of 15

The SBS-3 satellite programme aims to deploy how many military surveillance satellites by 2029?

A 28 satellites

B 36 satellites

C 44 satellites

D 52 satellites ✓

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

India's SBS-3 programme targets deployment of 52 military surveillance satellites by 2029 at an estimated cost of approximately \$3 billion (around ₹25,000 crore). The satellites include electro-optical (EO), Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR — all-weather), and SIGINT (signals intelligence) types in Low Earth Orbit and Medium Earth Orbit, targeting a revisit time of under 30 minutes for any border region.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

SAR (Synthetic Aperture Radar) satellites are critical because they can image through clouds, rain, and at night — unlike optical satellites. India's existing RISAT series provides limited SAR capability.

The SBS-3 constellation would provide the persistent, all-weather surveillance capability that was partially missing during Operation Sindoor's targeting phase.

Q9  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 10 of 15

Which THREE private Indian companies have been engaged to fast-track the SBS-3 spy satellite programme?

- A HAL, BEL, and Bharat Forge
- B ISRO, DRDO, and BEML
- C **Ananth Technologies, Centum Electronics, and Alpha Design Technologies** ✓
- D L&T Defence, Tata Advanced Systems, and Godrej Aerospace

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

Three private Indian defence-tech companies — Ananth Technologies, Centum Electronics, and Alpha Design Technologies — have been engaged to fast-track SBS-3 satellite development. Their timelines have been compressed from the standard 4 years to 12-18 months per satellite.

Ananth Technologies is an ISRO sub-systems supplier; Centum Electronics specialises in satellite subsystems and avionics; Alpha Design Technologies specialises in electronic warfare systems and defence communications.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The inclusion of private companies in military satellite development marks a significant policy shift from India's traditional ISRO/DRDO-dominated space defence model. This follows the liberalisation of India's space sector since 2020 under the Space Activities Act framework, which enabled private companies to build and launch satellites.

Q10  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 11 of 15

The Index of Service Production (ISP) will **NOT** cover which of the following sectors?

- A Banking and financial services
- B Hotels and restaurants
- C Healthcare and education (GST-exempt) ✓
- D Wholesale and retail trade

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The ISP will exclude healthcare and education from its formal services coverage because these sectors are largely GST-exempt — meaning they do not generate GSTN data, which is the ISP's primary data source. The ISP will cover approximately 67% of services GVA (formal sector), including wholesale/retail trade, transport, banking, insurance, hotels/restaurants, real estate, professional services, and communications — but not the GST-exempt segments.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

GST exemptions in healthcare and education are by design — the government chose not to tax essential services. But this creates a data gap for the ISP. In practice, the excluded sectors are also highly informal, which further limits measurability through administrative data sources.

Q11  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 12 of 15

As of 2026, West Bengal is governed by which Chief Minister from the Trinamool Congress party?

A M.K. Stalin

B Pinarayi Vijayan

C Mamata Banerjee ✓

D Hemant Soren

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

West Bengal is governed by Mamata Banerjee of the Trinamool Congress (TMC) party — serving her third consecutive term after the 2021 election victory. She is contesting from the Bhawanipur constituency in the 2026 election.

Her primary opponent is Suwendu Adhikari (BJP), who defeated her in Nandigram in 2021 and is contesting from the same constituency in 2026.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

M.K. Stalin is Tamil Nadu's CM (DMK); Pinarayi Vijayan is Kerala's CM (CPI-M); Hemant Soren is Jharkhand's CM (JMM). All five states in the 2026 election cycle — Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala, Assam, Puducherry — have different incumbents and political dynamics.

Q12  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 13 of 15

Which Supreme Court case established the "triple test" that Gujarat had to comply with before implementing OBC reservation in local body elections?

- A Indra Sawhney v. Union of India (1992)
- B **Vikram Singh v. State of Uttar Pradesh (2021)** ✓
- C M. Nagaraj v. Union of India (2006)
- D K. Krishna Murthy v. Union of India (2010)

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The triple test for OBC reservation in Panchayati Raj Institutions and urban local bodies was established by the Supreme Court in *Vikram Singh v. State of Uttar Pradesh (2021)* and related cases. The three conditions — empirical inquiry into OBC backwardness at the local body level; proportionality based on OBC population data; and aggregate SC+ST+OBC reservation not exceeding 50%.

States that failed this test — including Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, UP, and Gujarat — had their OBC reservation notifications struck down.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

Indra Sawhney (1992) established the 50% cap on reservations overall and upheld OBC reservation at the national level. *M. Nagaraj (2006)* dealt with SC/ST promotion reservation.

K. Krishna Murthy (2010) earlier addressed OBC reservation in local bodies but the triple test was formalized/hardened in *Vikram Singh (2021)*.

Q13  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 14 of 15

SAR (Synthetic Aperture Radar) satellites used in India's SBS-3 programme have which key advantage over conventional optical surveillance satellites?

- A Higher resolution images in daylight conditions
- B All-weather imaging including through clouds and at night ✓
- C Lower launch cost compared to optical satellites
- D Longer operational lifespan than optical sensors

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) satellites transmit microwave pulses and measure the return signal — allowing them to image the ground in all weather conditions (through clouds, rain, smoke) and at night. This makes them operationally superior to electro-optical (EO/optical) satellites along India's border areas where cloud cover (especially during monsoon), night operations, and smoke can render optical systems ineffective. SAR was critical in monitoring China's border infrastructure in Depsang and Aksai Chin during the Galwan standoff period.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

SAR (Synthetic Aperture Radar) vs EO (Electro-Optical) is a standard technology distinction for UPSC. India's RISAT-1 and RISAT-2 satellites are SAR-based. Cartosat series is EO-based. Both types are in India's current surveillance arsenal; SBS-3 will expand both, with a focus on SAR for persistent all-weather coverage.

Q14  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 15 of 15

The Index of Service Production (ISP) proposed by MoSPI will use which base year?

- A 2011-12
- B 2017-18
- C 2022-23
- D 2024-25 ✓

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

The ISP will use 2024-25 as its base year — consistent with MoSPI's recent shift to more current base years (MoSPI revised the GDP base year to 2022-23 in a separate exercise). The 2024-25 base year reflects the current structure of India's formal services economy after the post-COVID stabilisation and the GST-era formalisation of services. Stakeholder comments on the approach paper are invited until May 5, 2026.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

Different Indian statistical indices use different base years — IIP uses 2011-12, WPI uses 2011-12, CPI uses 2012. The ISP at 2024-25 base year will be the most current of all Indian output indices.

This matters for UPSC because the base year determines which economic activities are given structural weight in the index.

Q15  **CONCEPT KIT**



CURATED & WRITTEN BY

Bharat Choudhary

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

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— Walter Elliot

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