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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED

Current Affairs Quiz — May 2, 2026

2 May 2026



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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED ANSWER KEY

Current Affairs Quiz — May 2, 2026

2 May 2026 · 10 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Question 1 of 10

NDMA tested India's nationwide Cell Broadcast (CB) emergency alert system on May 2, 2026. What is the key advantage of CB technology over SMS-based alerts?

- A CB messages are encrypted while SMS is not
- B CB sends instant alerts to all phones in a cell tower's range without needing phone numbers or internet connectivity ✓
- C CB only works on smartphones with the latest Android or iOS
- D CB is free for users while SMS alerts incur charges

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

Cell Broadcast technology sends alerts simultaneously to every mobile phone in a designated cell tower's range — without needing individual phone numbers, an internet connection, or SMS infrastructure. This makes it ideal for emergency alerts during natural disasters (earthquakes, tsunamis, cyclones, floods) where SMS networks may be overloaded or down.

SMS alerts, by contrast, must be sent to specific phone numbers individually, which is slower and dependent on network capacity. Internationally, CB is used by Japan's J-Alert system, the US Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), and South Korea's emergency system.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

NDMA conducted the May 2, 2026 test in coordination with the Department of Telecommunications and mobile network operators (Airtel, Jio, Vi, BSNL). The test message goes to all phones in the test geography automatically — no opt-in required from users.

NDMA has been working with this technology since the 2018 tsunami warnings and the 2020 cyclone alerts.

Q1  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 2 of 10

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) was established under which Act, with whom as the ex-officio Chairperson?

- A National Calamity Management Act, 2002 — Home Minister as Chairperson
- B Disaster Management Act, 2005 — Prime Minister as ex-officio Chairperson ✓
- C Civil Defence Act, 1968 — President as Chairperson
- D National Emergency Powers Act, 2001 — Cabinet Secretary as Chairperson

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) was established under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, with the Prime Minister as the ex-officio Chairperson. The Act created a three-tier structure — NDMA at the Centre, State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) headed by Chief Ministers, and District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMAs) headed by District Magistrates.

The 2005 Act was passed in the wake of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, which exposed major gaps in India's disaster preparedness.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

Vice-Chairperson of NDMA is appointed by the PM. The NDRF (National Disaster Response Force) was constituted under the same Act. Other major disaster management bodies — National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) for training and research, and National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) for crisis response coordination.

Q2  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 3 of 10

IMD's heatwave alert for West Rajasthan (May 1-3, 2026) projected temperatures of 44-48°C. What is IMD's heatwave threshold definition for plains?

- A Maximum temperature $\geq 38^\circ\text{C}$
- B Maximum temperature $\geq 40^\circ\text{C}$ AND departure from normal $\geq 4.5^\circ\text{C}$ ✓
- C Maximum temperature $\geq 45^\circ\text{C}$
- D Maximum temperature 30°C above seasonal average

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

IMD declares a heatwave when maximum temperature reaches at least 40°C in plains AND the departure from normal is at least 4.5°C . A "severe heatwave" requires departure of 6.4°C or more. For coastal stations, the threshold is 37°C with similar departure criteria.

For hilly regions, the threshold is 30°C . The "departure from normal" criterion ensures that 40°C in already-hot regions like Rajasthan (where 40°C is normal in May) is treated differently from 40°C in cooler regions where it would be a genuine heatwave.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

For UPSC, distinguish — heatwave ($40^\circ\text{C}+$ plains, $4.5^\circ\text{C}+$ departure) vs severe heatwave ($40^\circ\text{C}+$ plains, $6.4^\circ\text{C}+$ departure) vs hot day (above-normal warm but not heatwave threshold). IMD's heatwave classification is used by NDMA's Heat Action Plans which mandate cooling centres, water distribution, and health advisories during heatwaves.

Q3  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 4 of 10

India's rupee depreciation comparisons to the "Fragile Five" refer to a 2013 grouping coined by Morgan Stanley. Which of the following was **NOT** one of the Fragile Five economies?

A India

B Brazil

C China ✓

D Turkey

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The Fragile Five was a 2013 grouping by Morgan Stanley analyst James Lord identifying five economies particularly vulnerable to capital flight during US Federal Reserve tightening — Brazil, Indonesia, South Africa, India, and Turkey. China was NOT part of this group; it had its own dynamic (currency manipulation, capital controls) that insulated it from the same vulnerabilities.

The Fragile Five economies all had high current account deficits, dependence on foreign capital, and rupee/currency depreciation pressure.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

India had its worst rupee crisis between July 2013 and August 2013, when the rupee fell from 53 to 68 against the USD in a few weeks. The crisis was driven by US Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke's "tapering" announcement, which led to massive capital outflows from emerging markets.

India's response included raising interest rates, restricting gold imports, and the RBI's NRI deposit window.

Q4  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 5

of 10

India's heavy rainfall warning for May 2-4, 2026 covered which region of India?

- A Western Ghats (Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala)
- B North-East India (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura) ✓
- C Indo-Gangetic Plain (UP, Bihar, West Bengal)
- D South Tamil Nadu (Tirunelveli, Kanyakumari)

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

IMD issued heavy rainfall warnings for India's North-East — Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, and Tripura — for May 2-4, 2026. Isolated "very heavy rainfall" was forecast specifically for Assam and Meghalaya during May 2-3.

The North-East's pre-monsoon (March-May) rainfall pattern is dominated by Bay of Bengal moisture interacting with the region's complex topography, producing intense convective storms. This rainfall pattern is distinct from the South-West Monsoon (June-September) which brings rainfall to most of India.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

India has two main monsoon systems — South-West Monsoon (June-September) bringing 75% of annual rainfall, and North-East Monsoon (October-December) bringing rainfall mainly to Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and parts of Andhra Pradesh. Pre-monsoon (March-May) is the transitional season with localised thunderstorms — particularly intense in NE India where they are called "Norwesters" (Kalbaisakhi).

Q5  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 6 of 10

The Maharashtra and Gujarat state formation took place under the Bombay Reorganisation Act, 1960. The Mahagujarat Movement and Samyukta Maharashtra Movement together produced these states. Who led the Mahagujarat Movement?

A Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

B Indulal Yagnik ✓

C Morarji Desai

D K.M. Munshi

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The Mahagujarat Movement (1956-1960) for separate Gujarati-speaking statehood was led principally by Indulal Yagnik (1892-1972). Yagnik was a freedom fighter, journalist, and political leader who had been agitating for Gujarati linguistic identity since the 1920s.

His Mahagujarat Janata Parishad mobilised mass support after the 1956 States Reorganisation Act retained Bombay as a bilingual state. Sardar Patel had died in 1950 (before the movement); Morarji Desai was a Gujarat leader but his role in the linguistic movement was secondary.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The parallel Samyukta Maharashtra Movement (for separate Marathi statehood) was led by Senapati Bapat, S.M. Joshi, P.K. Atre, and Acharya Atre. The two movements together produced the Bombay Reorganisation Act 1960. Bombay city was awarded to Maharashtra — a major political victory for the Marathi linguistic identity.

Q6  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 7 of 10

How many seats will be counted on May 4, 2026 across the five state assembly elections (Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala, Assam, Puducherry)?

- A 618 seats
- B 720 seats
- C 824 seats ✓
- D 950 seats

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

824 assembly seats will be counted on May 4, 2026 — Tamil Nadu (234) + West Bengal (294) + Kerala (140) + Assam (126) + Puducherry (30 elected) = 824 seats. May 4 is one of India's largest single-day election counting events, comparable to general election counting days.

Counting begins at 8 AM with postal ballots, EVM counting starts at approximately 8:30 AM, trends are usually clear by 11 AM-12 noon, and final results by evening.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

Puducherry has 33 total assembly seats — 30 directly elected and 3 nominated by the Central Government (Puducherry is a Union Territory with a legislature). The 30 elected seats are what go to the polls and are counted on May 4.

Exit polls (released April 29) project BJP majority in Bengal, DMK retention in TN, UDF return in Kerala, BJP third term in Assam, and NDA-AINRC in Puducherry.

Q7  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 8

of 10

India is the world's third-largest oil consumer and imports approximately what percentage of its crude oil?

A 50%

B 65%

C 75%

D 85% ✓

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

India imports approximately 85% of its crude oil — making it acutely vulnerable to global oil price shocks and supply disruptions. India's domestic crude production (around 30 million tonnes per year) covers only about 15% of the country's total demand of approximately 230 million tonnes annually.

The rest comes from the Middle East (Saudi Arabia, Iraq, UAE), Russia, Africa (Nigeria, Angola), and the US. India is the world's third-largest oil consumer after China and the US.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

India's oil import dependence has not significantly decreased over the past decade despite the renewable energy push. Every \$10/barrel increase in crude oil adds approximately \$15-20 billion to India's annual import bill.

India's strategic petroleum reserves (SPRs) at Vishakhapatnam, Mangalore, and Padur cover only about 10 days of consumption, well short of the IEA's recommended 90-day reserve.

Q8  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 9 of 10

The Disaster Management Act, 2005 was passed in the wake of which major disaster that exposed gaps in India's emergency response?

- A 1999 Odisha Super Cyclone
- B 2001 Bhuj Earthquake (Gujarat)
- C 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami ✓
- D 2008 Kosi River floods (Bihar)

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

The Disaster Management Act, 2005 was passed primarily in response to the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami (December 26, 2004) — which killed over 230,000 people across 14 countries, including approximately 12,000 in India. The disaster exposed major gaps in India's early warning systems, multi-state coordination, and emergency response capabilities.

The Act created NDMA, the NDRF, and the SDMA-DDMA structure. Earlier disasters (1999 Odisha Super Cyclone, 2001 Bhuj earthquake) had also highlighted the need for institutional reform, but the 2004 tsunami's scale and the inadequacy of India's response was the immediate trigger for the 2005 Act.

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

The 2004 tsunami was caused by a 9.1 magnitude earthquake off the coast of Sumatra. India's worst-affected areas were Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Post-tsunami, India established the Indian Tsunami Early Warning System (ITEWS) at INCOIS Hyderabad in 2007. NDMA's establishment under the 2005 Act was directly informed by lessons from this disaster.

Q9  **CONCEPT KIT**

Question 10 of 10

India's strategic petroleum reserves are located at three sites — Vishakhapatnam, Mangalore, and which third location?

A Mumbai, Maharashtra

B Padur, Karnataka ✓

C Chennai, Tamil Nadu

D Kandla, Gujarat

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 **EXPLANATION**

India's three Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPRs) are located at Vishakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Mangalore (Karnataka), and Padur (Karnataka). Together they have a combined capacity of approximately 5.33 million metric tonnes (MMT), equivalent to about 10 days of India's total oil consumption.

These are managed by the Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Oil Industry Development Board (OIDB) under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. India is constructing additional SPR phase-2 reserves at Chandikhol (Odisha) and Padur (expansion).

 **CONCEPT NOTE**

India's SPR capacity covers only about 10 days of consumption, well short of the IEA's recommended 90-day reserve for member countries. India is not an IEA member but participates as an "Association" country.

India's SPR strategy is meant to provide buffer against supply disruptions during geopolitical crises (e.g., West Asia conflicts, OPEC supply shocks).

Q10  **CONCEPT KIT**



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— Albert Einstein