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Current Affairs Quiz — May 5, 2026

5 May 2026



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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED ANSWER KEY

Current Affairs Quiz — May 5, 2026

5 May 2026 · 15 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Question 1 of 15

Which of the following statements about the 2026 state assembly election results is CORRECT?

- ☐ A BJP won a majority in Tamil Nadu, ending the Dravidian duopoly
- ☐ B Pinarayi Vijayan won the Kerala election for LDF for a record third consecutive term
- ☒ C **BJP won West Bengal for the first time, ending over 50 years of Left and TMC dominance ✓**
- ☐ D AIUDF increased its seat share significantly in Assam

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

BJP won 206 of 294 seats in West Bengal — its first ever win in the state — ending more than 50 years of uninterrupted Left (1977–2011) and TMC (2011–2026) dominance. Mamata Banerjee lost the Bhabanipur constituency to Suwendu Adhikari.

Voter turnout was ~91.91–92.84% — the highest ever in West Bengal. Option A is wrong — Tamil Nadu had a hung assembly, with TVK (Vijay's party) as single largest at 107/234 seats, well short of the 118-seat majority.

Option B is wrong — Pinarayi Vijayan resigned after LDF's crushing defeat (LDF got only 35/140; UDF won 102).

Option D is wrong — AIUDF collapsed from 16 seats (2021) to just 2 seats in Assam 2026.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

West Bengal: 294 seats; majority 148; BJP 206; TMC ~80–87. Voter turnout: ~91.91–92.84% (highest ever).

Mamata lost Bhabanipur to Suwendu Adhikari. Kerala: UDF 102/140; LDF 35; Pinarayi resigned.

No Left govt in India for first time since 1977. Tamil Nadu: Hung — TVK 107 (single largest); DMK ~59–64; AIADMK ~47; MK Stalin lost Kolathur.

Assam: BJP 82 alone; NDA 102; Himanta Biswa Sarma hat-trick. Puducherry: NDA 18/30; N. Rangasamy (AINRC) wins.

Q1**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 2 of 15

The Kerala assembly election result 2026 is historically significant because it marks which of the following for the first time since 1977?

- ☐ A BJP winning a majority in a southern state for the first time
- ☒ B No Left-led government existing anywhere in India ✓
- ☐ C Kerala electing the same alliance to power for two consecutive terms
- ☐ D Congress winning over 100 seats in any state assembly

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

With UDF winning 102 of 140 seats in Kerala and LDF reduced to just 35 seats, Pinarayi Vijayan resigned — and for the first time since 1977, no Left-led government exists anywhere in India. In 1977, following the Emergency, Left parties were voted out across states.

Kerala had been a consistent stronghold of the Left (CPI-M-led LDF) or the Congress-led UDF alternating in power. This result collapses the Left's last major stronghold at state government level.

Option A is wrong — BJP won only 2–3 seats in Kerala; West Bengal is not a southern state. Option C is wrong — the 2021 LDF win was the second consecutive term (breaking the usual alternation), and 2026 reverses that.

Option D is factually incorrect as the "100+ seats" milestone for Congress UDF is accurate but that's not the historically unique event here.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

Kerala seats: 140; majority 71. UDF: 102 (Congress 63 + IUML 22 + others).

LDF: 35 (CPI-M 26 + others). BJP/NDA: 2–3.

Pinarayi Vijayan won his own Dharmadam seat (3rd consecutive personal win) despite party rout. Kerala has alternated LDF-UDF except 2021 when LDF broke the pattern with a 2nd consecutive win. 2026 reverses it sharply.

VD Satheesan (Congress), KC Venugopal, and Ramesh Chennithala are discussed as CM candidates.

Q2**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 3

of 15

Operation Sindoor (May 7, 2025) was a landmark in India's military history primarily because:

- ☐ A It was the first time India used nuclear weapons in a conflict
- ☒ B It was the first Indian military strike deep inside Pakistan Punjab since the 1971 war ✓
- ☐ C It deployed India's first hypersonic missile in combat
- ☐ D It was India's first joint Army-Navy operation against Pakistan

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

Operation Sindoor struck nine terror infrastructure sites including targets at Muridke (LeT headquarters) and Bahawalpur (JeM headquarters) — both deep inside Pakistan's Punjab province. This was the first time India conducted strikes deep inside Pakistan Punjab since the 1971 war — marking a decisive break from India's earlier doctrine of "strategic restraint." The operation used Rafale jets firing SCALP cruise missiles and AASM HAMMER precision bombs — entirely conventional weapons.

Nuclear weapons were not involved (Option A false). India does not yet have operational hypersonic missiles in combat (Option C false).

Option D is not what made the operation historically significant — it was the geographical reach into Pakistani Punjab.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

Operation Sindoor: Night May 6–7, 2025; ~25 minutes; nine sites struck. Trigger: Pahalgam attack (April 22, 2025; 26 civilians killed; TRF/LeT proxy claimed responsibility).

Key targets: Muridke (LeT HQ, Markaz Taiba), Bahawalpur (JeM HQ, Markaz Subhan Allah), Muzaffarabad, Kotli, Bhimber, Sialkot. Weapons: SCALP cruise missile (range ~250 km, Rafale) + AASM HAMMER (up to 70 km, jam-resistant).

Ceasefire: May 10, 2025, 5:00 PM IST (US-facilitated). IWT placed in abeyance: April 23, 2025 — still in abeyance (May 2026).

Q3**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 4

of 15

India placed the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) in "abeyance" on April 23, 2025. Which of the following best describes the legal and strategic significance of this action?

- ☐ A India formally withdrew from the IWT, nullifying it permanently under international law
- ☒ B India suspended treaty obligations, retaining leverage to resume if Pakistan credibly ends terror support — a coercive diplomatic tool without formal termination ✓
- ☐ C India transferred IWT jurisdiction from the World Bank to the UN Security Council
- ☐ D India increased water releases to Pakistan as a goodwill gesture under the ceasefire

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

Placing the IWT in "abeyance" (suspension) is a legally distinct act from withdrawal or termination. India has not formally exited the treaty — it has suspended its obligations, conditioning restoration on Pakistan taking "credible and irreversible steps to end support for terrorism." This preserves India's coercive leverage: Pakistan faces water uncertainty without India having committed to permanent termination.

The Permanent Court of Arbitration noted that the IWT contains no provision for unilateral abeyance, but India disputes that jurisdiction. The World Bank remains nominal administrator (Option C is wrong).

Option D is the opposite of what happened. Option A mischaracterizes abeyance as permanent withdrawal.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

IWT signed 1960; brokered by World Bank; divides Indus river system: Eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas, Sutlej) to India; Western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab) to Pakistan — with India getting limited use of western rivers. India placed IWT in abeyance April 23, 2025 (one day after Pahalgam).

Still in abeyance May 2026. India fast-tracked Ratle dam and other projects on western rivers.

Amit Shah: "No, it will never be restored."

Q4**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 5 of 15

GalaxEye's Mission Drishti (launched May 3, 2026) is described as the "world's first OptoSAR satellite." What does OptoSAR mean and why is it significant?

- ☐ A It uses optical telescopes to detect SAR signals from enemy satellites — a counter-space capability
- ☒ B It fuses a multispectral optical imager and a SAR radar on one platform, combining all-weather capability with spectral richness ✓
- ☐ C It is an AI satellite that processes optically captured SAR data using quantum computing
- ☐ D It uses optical fibre links instead of radio for satellite-to-ground communication

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

OptoSAR = Optical sensor + Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) fused on a single satellite platform. The optical sensor provides 7-band multispectral imagery (colour, spectral) but cannot see through clouds or at night. The SAR sensor emits microwave pulses and works day/night/all-weather, penetrating clouds and smoke. By combining both on one satellite (190 kg, India's largest private satellite), Mission Drishti delivers ~1.8 metre resolution fused imagery with up to 3× more actionable intelligence than single-sensor satellites. An NVIDIA Jetson Orin AI processor does real-time onboard fusion. It was incubated at IIT Madras and launched on SpaceX Falcon 9 from Vandenberg, California. The Drishti Constellation plans 10 such satellites by 2029.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

GalaxEye: IIT Madras-incubated; founded 2020; Chennai. SAR advantages: all-weather, night capability, detects through camouflage. Optical advantages: colour, spectral data, easy interpretation. Use cases: border surveillance, disaster response, agriculture, maritime. IN-SPACe (est. 2020) enabled this private space milestone. PM Modi: "Major achievement in our space journey." Pixxel + Sarvam AI Pathfinder (orbital AI data centre, ~200 kg) is a different satellite — India's first orbital AI data centre, targeted Q4 2026 launch.

Q5**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 6

of 15

Nepal objected to the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra via Lipulekh Pass in May 2026. India's MEA called the claim "untenable." What is the core basis of India's position?

- ☐ A India acquired Lipulekh through the 1950 Treaty of Peace and Friendship with Nepal
- ☒ B **The 1816 Sugauli Treaty placed Lipulekh inside British Indian territory, and India has continuously administered Kalapani since 1962 ✓**
- ☐ C UN arbitration in 2005 confirmed Indian sovereignty over Lipulekh
- ☐ D Lipulekh is part of Indian territory transferred from China under the 1954 Panchsheel agreement

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

India's position rests on two pillars: (1) The 1816 Sugauli Treaty defines Nepal's western boundary as the Kali River — India contends the river's source is further east, placing Lipulekh, Kalapani, and Limpiyadhura within India. (2) India has continuously administered Kalapani (including an ITBP post) since 1962 — long-standing effective administration. Nepal contends the Kali River begins at Limpiyadhura (northwest), which would make all three areas Nepali.

India inaugurated the Dharchula–Lipulekh road in May 2020 (Rajnath Singh), which triggered Nepal's formal map revision showing all three areas within Nepal. The 1950 Treaty, UN arbitration, and Panchsheel are not relevant to this specific dispute (Options A, C, D are wrong).

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

Key facts: Lipulekh altitude ~5,334 m; India-Nepal-China tri-junction. Disputed area: ~372 sq km (Lipulekh + Kalapani + Limpiyadhura).

India's Yatra via Lipulekh since 1954. Nepal released new official map in May 2020; constitutionally adopted June 18, 2020. MEA Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal called Nepal's claim "untenable" (May 3, 2026). 2026 Yatra scheduled July 4, 2026 — 1,000 pilgrims; 10 batches via Lipulekh, additional via Nathu La (Sikkim). GoI official position: Lipulekh, Kalapani, Limpiyadhura = Indian territory under India's administration.

Q6**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 7

of 15

Which of the following correctly describes the NITI Aayog's structural difference from the Planning Commission that it replaced?

- ☐ A NITI Aayog has more fund-allocation powers than the Planning Commission did
- ☐ B NITI Aayog has a constitutional basis under Article 263, while the Planning Commission did not
- ☒ C **NITI Aayog is advisory and has no fund allocation powers, unlike the Planning Commission which controlled Five-Year Plan grants ✓**
- ☐ D NITI Aayog is chaired by the Finance Minister, unlike the Planning Commission chaired by the PM

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

The Planning Commission (1950–2014) controlled the allocation of central funds to states through Five-Year Plans and block grants — giving it enormous leverage over state policies. NITI Aayog (established January 1, 2015) is purely advisory and strategic — it has no fund allocation powers.

States interact with NITI Aayog as genuine partners in a cooperative federalism model rather than as supplicants for plan funds. Both the Planning Commission and NITI Aayog are non-constitutional executive bodies (created by Cabinet resolution, not by Parliament or the Constitution) — Option B is wrong.

Both are chaired by the PM, not the Finance Minister — Option D is wrong. Option A is the opposite of the truth.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

NITI Aayog full name: National Institution for Transforming India. Established: January 1, 2015.

Chairperson: PM (ex officio). Vice Chairman: Suman K. Bery.

CEO: B.V.R. Subrahmanyam (IAS). New full-time members (May 2, 2026): Dr. Joram Aniya (first from Arunachal Pradesh; first Nyishi woman PhD) and Dr. R. Balasubramaniam (Harvard Kennedy School; architect of Mission Karmayogi Karmayogi Competency Framework).

Key NITI initiatives: Aspirational Districts Programme, AIM (Atal Innovation Mission), SDG India Index, SAMAVESH.

Q7**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 8 of 15

The NGT South Zone Bench (Chennai) directed six southern states on NCAP compliance. Which of the following CORRECTLY identifies what the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) is?

- ☐ A A judicial directive of the Supreme Court for industrial emission standards, launched in 2022
- ☒ B A government programme launched in 2019 targeting 40% PM10 reduction in 131 non-attainment cities by 2025-26, monitored via the PRANA portal ✓
- ☐ C A UN-funded clean air initiative covering all 4,000 Indian cities under UNEP's Clean Air Coalition
- ☐ D An international agreement India signed under the Paris Accord for vehicular emission reduction

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

The National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) was launched by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) in January 2019. Its revised target is a 40% reduction in PM10 concentrations (or achievement of the national standard of 60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) by 2025–26, from a 2017 baseline.

It covers 131 "non-attainment cities" — cities that exceeded National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for five or more consecutive years. Implementation is tracked through the PRANA portal (Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment cities).

The NGT found southern states spent 86% of NCAP funds on road dust, only 6.6% on vehicular emissions — defeating the programme's purpose. Bengaluru used only 13% of its ₹541.1 crore NCAP allocation by October 2024.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

NCAP launched: January 2019. Ministry: MoEFCC. Coverage: 131 non-attainment cities across 24 states.
 Target: 40% PM10 reduction or 60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ by 2025-26. PRANA portal: monitors implementation.
 NGT: National Green Tribunal, established 2010 under NGT Act 2010. South Zone Bench: Chennai.
 India NAAQS: PM2.5 = 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$; PM10 = 60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ — both far higher than WHO guidelines (PM2.5: 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$; PM10: 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). Non-attainment city = city exceeding NAAQS for 5+ consecutive years.

Q8**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 9 of 15

Colombia's invasive hippo population descended from Pablo Escobar's imported animals is ecologically significant because hippos function as what type of species in their native Africa — and why is this harmful when translocated?

- A** A keystone predator — their absence in Colombia removes top-down ecological control
- B** An ecosystem engineer — their nutrient cycling between land and water disrupts freshwater chemistry in non-native ecosystems ✓
- C** A flagship species — their charisma attracts tourism but competes with Colombia's native megafauna
- D** An umbrella species — protecting hippos also protects a wide range of Colombian river species

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

Hippos are "ecosystem engineers" — species that physically modify their environment. In Africa, their dung transfers massive amounts of carbon and nutrients (up to 750 kg per hippo annually) from grasslands into rivers, fertilising aquatic food webs in a way native ecosystems are adapted to.

When translocated to Colombia's Magdalena River (which evolved without hippos), this nutrient loading disrupts water chemistry, depletes dissolved oxygen (killing fish), creates sediment-filled channels that destroy nursery habitats, and threatens native species like the Amazon river dolphin and West Indian manatee. There are no hippo predators in South America — the population has grown from 4 (1981) to ~160–200 (2026) at ~9.6%/year. Colombia announced a cull of ~80 hippos (April 2026); Vantara (Anant Ambani, Jamnagar, Gujarat) offered to relocate all 80.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

Vantara: Jamnagar, Gujarat; 150,000+ animals, 2,000+ species; privately run by Anant Ambani (Reliance heir). Cull: announced April 13, 2026; ₹ equivalent ~7.2 billion Colombian pesos; Environment Minister Irene Vélez.

CBD Article 8(h): States must prevent introduction of alien species that threaten ecosystems. Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Target 6: Reduce IAS introduction by 50%.

Indian IAS examples: Water hyacinth (Dal Lake), Lantana camara (forests), Parthenium (croplands), African catfish.

Q9**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 10 of 15

India's RBI MPC unanimously maintained the repo rate at 5.25% with a neutral stance. What does a "neutral" monetary policy stance mean in the RBI's framework?

- ☐ A The RBI will maintain the rate unchanged indefinitely regardless of data
- ☐ B The MPC is evenly split and could not reach a majority decision
- ☒ C **The MPC is data-dependent with no pre-commitment to cut or hike — balanced readiness to move in either direction ✓**
- ☐ D The RBI has temporarily handed monetary policy decisions to the Finance Ministry

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

EXPLANATION

In RBI's Flexible Inflation Targeting (FIT) framework, the "stance" communicates the MPC's forward bias. A "neutral" stance means the committee is balanced — it neither signals an upcoming cut (as "accommodative" would) nor an upcoming hike.

It is purely data-dependent: if growth slows or inflation falls, it could cut; if inflation picks up, it could hold or hike. The neutral stance replaced the "withdrawal of accommodation" stance as the rate-cut cycle began in February 2025. The MPC currently projects CPI inflation at 4.6% (within the 2–6% target band, near the 4% midpoint) and real GDP growth at 6.9% for FY 2026–27. The 5.25% repo represents 125 bps of cumulative easing from the cycle peak of 6.50% (reached February 2023).

Note: The April 2026 MPC (April 6–8) took this decision — there is no May MPC meeting (MPC meets bi-monthly).

CONCEPT NOTE

RBI MPC rates (April 2026): Repo 5.25%; SDF (Standing Deposit Facility) 5.00%; MSF (Marginal Standing Facility)/Bank Rate 5.50%. Monetary stances in RBI framework: Accommodative = biased toward cuts; Withdrawal of accommodation = tightening direction (used 2022–early 2025); Neutral = balanced/data-dependent; Restrictive = explicit rate increase bias. MPC composition: 6 members — RBI Governor + 2 Deputy Governors (internal) + 3 external members (appointed by Centre). RBI Governor: Sanjay Malhotra (since December 2024). MPC meets bi-monthly (6 times a year) — NOT in May 2026; next meeting June 2026.

Q10**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 11 of 15

As per IRENA Renewable Energy Statistics 2026, India ranks 3rd globally in non-fossil fuel installed capacity at 283.46 GW. What is the largest component of this capacity?

- ☐ A Wind energy at 150.26 GW
- ☐ B Large hydro at 51.41 GW
- ☒ C Solar energy at 150.26 GW ✓
- ☐ D Nuclear energy at 51.41 GW

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

India's 283.46 GW non-fossil capacity (as of March 31, 2026) breaks down as: Solar 150.26 GW (largest, ~53%); Wind 56.09 GW; Large Hydro 51.41 GW; Bio Energy 11.75 GW; Small Hydro 5.17 GW; Nuclear 8.78 GW. Solar is by far the largest component — India crossed 100 GW solar for the first time in FY 2024–25 and reached 150 GW in FY 2025–26. India added a record 55.3 GW of non-fossil capacity in FY 2025–26 — the highest ever single-year addition.

India ranks 3rd globally, behind China (1st) and USA (2nd), having surpassed Brazil. India's NDC target: 500 GW non-fossil capacity by 2030 — currently at ~57% of target.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

IRENA: International Renewable Energy Agency; HQ Abu Dhabi, UAE; founded 2009; India is a founding member. India renewable capacity breakdown (March 31, 2026): Solar 150.26 GW; Wind 56.09 GW; Large Hydro 51.41 GW; Bio Energy 11.75 GW; Small Hydro 5.17 GW; Nuclear 8.78 GW; Total 283.46 GW. Record additions FY26: 55.3 GW non-fossil (overall); 6.05 GW wind (highest ever).

PM Surya Ghar (rooftop solar) contributes to the solar surge. NDC: 500 GW non-fossil by 2030.

Q11**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 12 of 15

The SOE 2026 report states that 7 of 9 planetary boundaries have been breached. The 7th boundary — ocean acidification — is driven primarily by which mechanism?

- ☐ A Thermal expansion of oceans due to rising sea surface temperatures
- ☒ B Absorption of atmospheric CO₂ by oceans, forming carbonic acid and reducing pH ✓
- ☐ C Industrial discharge of acidic effluents directly into the ocean
- ☐ D Stratospheric ozone depletion allowing more UV radiation to acidify the ocean surface

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

Ocean acidification is caused by the ocean's absorption of excess atmospheric CO₂ from fossil fuel burning and deforestation. When CO₂ dissolves in seawater, it reacts to form carbonic acid (H₂CO₃), which dissociates to release hydrogen ions (H⁺), reducing the ocean's pH. Since industrialisation, ocean pH has dropped ~0.1 units (from 8.2 to ~8.1) — a seemingly small change, but because pH is logarithmic, this represents a 26–30% increase in acidity (some sources use "30–40%" accounting for future projections).

This threatens: coral reefs (CaCO₃ shells dissolve in acid), shellfish, pteropods (tiny sea snails that form the base of polar food chains), and marine biodiversity broadly. The CSE SOE 2026 report noted ocean acidification became the 7th planetary boundary to be breached.

The 99% extreme weather figure in the report covers January–November 2025 (331 of 334 days), not the full calendar year.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

Planetary Boundaries concept: Johan Rockström et al. (Stockholm Resilience Centre), 2009. 9 boundaries: Climate change; Biosphere integrity; Land-system change; Freshwater change; Biogeochemical flows (N/P); Novel entities (plastics); Ocean acidification; Atmospheric aerosol loading; Stratospheric ozone depletion. Breached (7): first 7 in list. Safe (2): Atmospheric aerosol loading; Stratospheric ozone (recovering). SOE 2026: CSE + Down To Earth; published annually; Sunita Narain (CSE DG).

Extreme weather 2025: 4,419 deaths; 17.41 million hectares cropland affected.

Q12**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 13

of 15

SACHET — India's cell broadcast emergency alert system — is based on the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP). What is the core technical advantage of cell broadcast over traditional SMS for emergency alerts?

- ☐ A Cell broadcast reaches only subscribers who have opted in, ensuring privacy
- ☒ B Cell broadcast uses a one-to-many broadcast channel, reaching all active devices in a geographic area simultaneously regardless of network congestion ✓
- ☐ C Cell broadcast requires an internet connection and works only on smartphones
- ☐ D Cell broadcast encrypts messages with military-grade encryption, making it immune to spoofing

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

Cell broadcast technology sends a single message simultaneously to all mobile devices active in a defined geographic cell area — it does not require individual addressing (unlike SMS, which sends to each number separately). Crucially, cell broadcast uses a dedicated broadcast channel in the mobile network that is separate from the voice/SMS traffic channels, so it remains operational even when networks are congested during emergencies. This is the core advantage over SMS: SMS networks get jammed during disasters precisely when alerts are most needed. SACHET was developed by C-DOT (Centre for Development of Telematics, est. 1984) under DoT, in partnership with NDMA and MHA. It is operational across all 36 States and UTs and uses the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) — an ITU-recommended open XML standard for emergency alerts. Nationwide test: May 2, 2026.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

C-DOT: Centre for Development of Telematics; founded 1984; HQ New Delhi; under DoT; India's premier telecom R&D body. ITU: International Telecommunication Union; founded 1865 (oldest UN specialised agency); HQ Geneva; manages global spectrum + CAP standard.

CAP: Common Alerting Protocol — open XML standard; ITU-recommended; enables any hazard, any system to share alerts in standardised format. Analogues: USA — WEA (Wireless Emergency Alerts); Japan — J-Alert.

SACHET does NOT require internet or opt-in — it works on any active mobile device including basic 2G phones. NDMA: National Disaster Management Authority — under Disaster Management Act 2005; chaired by PM.

Q13**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 14

of 15

The ADB's \$70 billion initiative announced at Samarkand includes the Pan-Asia Power Grid (\$50 bn). India's OSOWOG initiative aligns with this. What does OSOWOG stand for and who proposed it?

- A** One Sun One World One Grid — proposed by India at COP26 (2021), jointly with the UK and ISA ✓
- B** One Solar One World One Grid — proposed by World Bank at G20 New Delhi Summit (2023)
- C** One Sun One World One Grid — proposed by India as part of the BRI alternative infrastructure plan
- D** One Sun One World One Green — India's 2022 climate pledge under the Paris Agreement

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

OSOWOG stands for "One Sun One World One Grid" — India's ambitious proposal to interconnect global solar energy grids so that as the sun moves across time zones, countries in daylight can supply solar power to those in darkness or cloudy conditions, effectively using the globe as one giant solar grid. It was launched by PM Modi at the inaugural session of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in October 2018, and was jointly announced by India and the UK at the COP26 climate conference in Glasgow in November 2021, through the Green Grids Initiative—One Sun One World One Grid (GGI-OSOWOG).

ADB's Pan-Asia Power Grid (\$50 billion for cross-border renewable energy transmission in Asia-Pacific) directly complements this vision for regional interconnection. ADB has 69 members (Israel joined September 27, 2024 as 69th member); India's shareholding is ~6.3% (4th largest; Japan and USA each ~15.6%, China ~6.4%).

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

ADB: Founded 1966; HQ Mandaluyong City, Manila, Philippines; 69 members (50 regional + 19 non-regional; Israel joined Sept 27, 2024 as 69th member). ADB President: Masato Kanda (Japan).

India shareholding: ~6.3% (4th largest; China ~6.4% is 3rd; Japan + USA each ~15.6%). ADB Annual Meeting 2026: Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

ISA: International Solar Alliance; HQ Gurugram, India; founded 2015 (COP21); 120+ member countries. GGI-OSOWOG: launched COP26 (Glasgow, 2021) by India + UK under ISA framework.

Pan-Asia Power Grid: \$50 bn cross-border renewable connectivity. Asia-Pacific Digital Highway: \$20 bn for fibre/satellite/data centres.

Q14**CONCEPT KIT**

Question 15

of 15

The BRICS India 2026 Presidency theme spells out "BRICS" as an acronym. Which of the following is CORRECT about BRICS membership and India's 2026 Presidency?

- A** BRICS has 11 members as of 2026; Saudi Arabia joined in July 2025 as the 11th member; the 18th BRICS Summit is scheduled for September 12-13, 2026 in New Delhi ✓
- B** BRICS has 12 members; both Saudi Arabia and Turkey joined in 2025
- C** BRICS has 9 members after Indonesia's application was rejected in early 2025
- D** India's BRICS 2026 theme stands for "Bold, Resilient, Integrated, Cooperative, Sustainable"

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

BRICS has 11 full members as of 2026. The expansion history: Original BRIC (2006) → South Africa joined 2010 (became BRICS) → Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, UAE joined January 2024 → Indonesia joined January 6, 2025 (10th member) → Saudi Arabia joined July 2025 (11th member).

The 18th BRICS Summit is scheduled for September 12–13, 2026 in New Delhi under India's presidency. India's theme is "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability" — with B-R-I-C-S spelled out by the key words.

Option D gives the wrong theme expansion. The BRICS New Development Bank (NDB), established 2014 and headquartered in Shanghai, provides development finance to member and non-member countries.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

BRICS expansion: BRIC 2006; South Africa 2010; Egypt+Ethiopia+Iran+UAE Jan 2024; Indonesia Jan 6, 2025 (10th); Saudi Arabia July 2025 (11th). Total as of 2026: 11 members.

Previous presidencies: South Africa 2023, Russia 2024, Brazil 2025, India 2026. India's first BRICS presidency: 2012 (New Delhi).

NDB: HQ Shanghai; India's K.V. Kamath was first President. BRICS theme 2026: "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability." 18th Summit: Sept 12–13, 2026, New Delhi.

Q15**CONCEPT KIT**



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