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Daily Quiz — May 31, 2026

31 May 2026



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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED ANSWER KEY

Daily Quiz — May 31, 2026

31 May 2026 · 14 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Question 1

of 14

 [Source](#) →

The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), often in the news around World No Tobacco Day, is best described as which of the following?

- ☐ A A non-binding set of guidelines issued by the World Health Assembly
- ☒ B The first international treaty negotiated under the WHO Constitution ✓
- ☐ C A protocol under the WTO governing the tobacco trade
- ☐ D A voluntary corporate code adopted by the tobacco industry

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The FCTC, adopted in 2003 and in force from February 2005, is the WHO's first treaty, negotiated under Article 19 of the WHO Constitution; India ratified it in 2004. **ANALYSIS:** It is legally binding on parties, distinguishing it from mere guidelines — its demand-reduction (taxation, advertising bans) and supply-reduction measures shape domestic laws like COTPA.

CONCEPT NOTE

The FCTC operationalises through the WHO MPOWER package (Monitor, Protect, Offer help, Warn, Enforce bans, Raise taxes). India's domestic anti-tobacco architecture includes COTPA 2003 (public-smoking and advertising bans, 85% pictorial warnings), the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act (PECA) 2019, and the National Tobacco Control Programme (2007-08).

World No Tobacco Day (May 31) was instituted by WHO in 1987 and first observed in 1988; the 2026 theme is "Unmasking the appeal — countering nicotine and tobacco addiction", focused on youth-targeting via e-cigarettes, nicotine pouches and synthetic nicotine.

Q1 **CONCEPT KIT****CROSS-PAPER**

GS2 (health governance, treaties), GS3 (public-health economics).

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

FCTC, MPOWER, tobacco taxation, new-age nicotine.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

confusing FCTC (WHO treaty) with a WTO instrument.

**EXAM TIP**

FCTC adopted 2003, India ratified 2004; e-cigarettes banned by PECA 2019.

**INTERVIEW**

Should synthetic nicotine be regulated by substance rather than by source?

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 2

of 14

[Source →](#)

Exercise PRAGATI 2026, recently concluded at Umroi, is associated with which of the following?

- ☐ A A trilateral naval exercise of the Quad members
- ☒ B India's maiden multilateral Army exercise involving 13 nations ✓
- ☐ C A bilateral air-combat exercise with France
- ☐ D A counter-piracy patrol under the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: PRAGATI 2026 was India's first-ever 13-nation Army multilateral exercise, held May 18-31 at Umroi, Meghalaya, with 400+ troops focused on counter-insurgency. **ANALYSIS:** It marks India's shift from bilateral Army drills to a multilateral security architecture, projecting India as a net security provider in the Indian Ocean Region.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

PRAGATI stands for "Partnership of Regional Armies for Growth and Transformation in the Indian Ocean Region". The 13 nations were India, Bhutan, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Seychelles, Sri Lanka and Vietnam — mapping onto Neighbourhood First, Act East and IOR outreach.

It complements India's doctrines: SAGAR (2015) and the expanded MAHASAGAR vision, and IOR institutions like IORA, IONS and the Colombo Security Conclave. Distinguish it from MILAN (Navy multilateral), Tarang Shakti (Air Force multilateral) and Malabar (Quad navies).

Q2 **CONCEPT KIT****CROSS-PAPER**

GS3 (defence cooperation), GS2 (Act East, IOR).

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

net security provider, SAGAR/MAHASAGAR, defence diplomacy.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

confusing PRAGATI (Army) with MILAN (Navy) or Tarang Shakti (Air Force).

**EXAM TIP**

PRAGATI = maiden 13-nation Army drill, Umroi, Meghalaya.

**INTERVIEW**

Does multilateral defence diplomacy risk entangling India in others' disputes?

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 3

of 14

[Source →](#)

The Central Empowered Committee (CEC), which features in the Supreme Court's Agasthyamalai order, was originally constituted in connection with which matter?

- ☐ A The Ganga pollution (M.C. Mehta) cases
- ☒ B The T.N. Godavarman forest conservation case ✓
- ☐ C The Vellore tanneries pollution case
- ☐ D The Narmada Bachao Andolan litigation

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The CEC was constituted by the Supreme Court in 2002 in the T.N. Godavarman forest case to monitor compliance with forest and environment orders; it was made a statutory body by MoEFCC notification in 2023.

ANALYSIS: The CEC is the SC's standing enforcement arm on forests — its reports drive eviction and protection orders like the Agasthyamalai directions.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

In *A. John Kennedy v. State of Tamil Nadu* (2026 INSC 605), the SC ordered a time-bound plan to evict 4,601 encroachers from 5,072.65 ha of the Agasthyamalai ecological landscape in the Western Ghats (across Tamil Nadu and Kerala), including closure of illegal resorts in Megamalai and FSI mapping of Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Srivilliputhur-Megamalai TR and Kanyakumari WLS. The Court invoked the public-trust doctrine (*M.C. Mehta v. Kamal Nath*, 1997). The matter is listed for September 1, 2026 with a CEC report due August 28.

Q3 **CONCEPT KIT** **CROSS-PAPER**

GS3 (forest/PA governance), GS2 (judiciary, public-trust doctrine).

 MAINS KEYWORDS

CEC, public-trust doctrine, Western Ghats, encroachment.

 COMMON MISTAKE

thinking CEC is a statutory body from inception — it was SC-created (2002), statutory only in 2023.

 EXAM TIP

Agasthyamalai = Western Ghats, TN+Kerala, KMTR.

 INTERVIEW

Is judicial enforcement a sustainable substitute for executive will in conservation?

 [Read Full Article →](#)

Question 4

of 14

[Source →](#)

The "urban mining" technique reported using hydrazine-functionalized rice paper is aimed at:

- ☐ A Extracting lithium from spent EV batteries
- ☒ B **Selectively recovering gold from electronic-waste leachate ✓**
- ☐ C Desalinating seawater using solar energy
- ☐ D Capturing atmospheric carbon dioxide

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: Researchers (PNAS, 2026) modified starch-based "rice paper" via hydrazination to selectively bind and reduce gold ions from e-waste leachate, yielding high-purity gold after calcination — a low-toxicity alternative to cyanide or aqua regia. **ANALYSIS:** "Urban mining" treats e-waste as ore; it advances critical-mineral security and the circular economy while cutting pollution from informal recycling.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

India is among the top-3 e-waste generators globally (after China and the USA), with ~90% handled by the informal sector using hazardous methods. The governing framework is the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022, which strengthened Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) with tradable certificates, administered by the CPCB. Indian R&D players include CSIR-NML Jamshedpur, C-MET Hyderabad and IIT Bombay; Attero Recycling does industrial-scale recovery. The challenge is scaling lab selectivity to industry and formalising collection.

Q4
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS3 (S&T, environment, critical minerals).


MAINS KEYWORDS

urban mining, EPR, circular economy, green chemistry.


COMMON MISTAKE

assuming e-waste recovery needs cyanide — the new route is low-toxicity.


EXAM TIP

E-Waste Rules 2022 + EPR; CPCB administers.


INTERVIEW

Can technology fix e-waste if 90% of the chain stays informal?


[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 5

of 14

[Source →](#)

The 11% duty that India temporarily suspended on cotton imports (June-October 2026) primarily comprises which components?

- ☐ A Integrated GST plus compensation cess
- ☒ B Basic Customs Duty plus Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess ✓
- ☐ C Anti-dumping duty plus safeguard duty
- ☐ D Countervailing duty plus special additional duty

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The ~11% effective duty on cotton is mainly ~10% Basic Customs Duty (BCD) plus a ~0.5-1% Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess (AIDC). The waiver runs June 1-end October 2026 to ease an 11-15% price surge hurting textile MSMEs.

ANALYSIS: Customs-duty tweaks reveal the structural mills-vs-farmers tension — cheaper imports aid spinners and exporters but can depress farmers' realisations.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

This is the second waiver in 12 months — the duty was reimposed on January 1, 2026 after an earlier August-December 2025 suspension. Industry bodies CITI (Confederation of Indian Textile Industry) and AEPC (Apparel Export Promotion Council) welcomed it.

India's textile exporters compete with Bangladesh, Vietnam and China, which access cotton duty-free. Cotton is under the MSP regime, procured by the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI); supportive policies include PM MITRA mega textile parks and the textiles PLI. India still imports extra-long-staple (ELS) cotton.

Q5
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS3 (trade policy, MSME, agriculture-industry linkage).


MAINS KEYWORDS

BCD, AIDC, mills-vs-farmers, ELS cotton, PM MITRA.


COMMON MISTAKE

treating cotton duty as GST — it is customs (BCD+AIDC).


EXAM TIP

CCI procures cotton under MSP; PLI + PM MITRA support textiles.


INTERVIEW

How can policy protect both spinners and cotton farmers simultaneously?


[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 6

of 14

[Source →](#)

India's rejection of third-party mediation with Pakistan is most directly anchored in which agreement?

- ☐ A The Tashkent Declaration, 1966
- ☒ B The Simla Agreement, 1972 ✓
- ☐ C The Indus Waters Treaty, 1960
- ☐ D The Karachi Agreement, 1949

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The Simla Agreement (1972), signed after the 1971 war, commits India and Pakistan to settle differences bilaterally and peacefully, without third-party involvement — the basis on which India rejected US claims of brokering the recent ceasefire. **ANALYSIS:** India holds that the cessation of hostilities was reached at the DGMO level bilaterally, protecting its strategic autonomy and resisting the "internationalisation" of Kashmir.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

At the 2026 IISS Shangri-La Dialogue (Singapore), US War Secretary Pete Hegseth backed President Trump's "brokered peace" claim; EAM S. Jaishankar reiterated the bilateral, DGMO-level understanding. The backdrop is the Pahalgam terror attack (April 2025, 26 killed) and India's Operation Sindoor; two rounds of DGMO talks followed Pakistan's DGMO initiating contact.

India's doctrine — reinforced by the Lahore Declaration (1999) — is "talks and terror don't go together", and that J&K and PoK are integral parts of India. Foreign affairs is a Union List subject.

Q6
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS2 (India-Pakistan and India-US relations, bilateralism).


MAINS KEYWORDS

Simla Agreement, strategic autonomy, DGMO, bilateralism.


COMMON MISTAKE

crediting Tashkent (1966) — the bilateralism doctrine is Simla (1972).


EXAM TIP

Simla 1972 → no third-party mediation; Shangri-La hosted by IISS, Singapore.


INTERVIEW

Does insisting on bilateralism limit India's options against an intransigent neighbour?


[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 7

of 14

[Source →](#)

The BrahMos missile, recently the subject of an export deal with Vietnam, is a joint venture between India and which country?

- ☐ A France
- ☐ B Israel
- ☒ C Russia ✓
- ☐ D United States

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: BrahMos is an India-Russia joint venture (BrahMos Aerospace, 1998); its name combines the Brahmaputra and Moskva rivers. It is a supersonic cruise missile (~Mach 2.8-3) with a "fire-and-forget" profile.

ANALYSIS: The ~\$629 million Vietnam deal, after the Philippines (2022, first export buyer), marks India's rise as a credible arms exporter under Aatmanirbhar Bharat, with South China Sea strategic signalling.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

BrahMos can be launched from land, sea, air and submarine platforms; range has been progressively extended (from ~290 km to 450+ km in newer variants). The Philippines became the first export customer in 2022; Indonesia negotiations are advanced.

Defence exports align with the Aatmanirbhar Bharat target of scaling indigenous production and exports. The deal was confirmed around the Shangri-La Dialogue.

Note BrahMos complements, but is distinct from, indigenous programmes like Akash, Nirbhay (subsonic) and Pralay (ballistic).

Q7 **CONCEPT KIT****CROSS-PAPER**

GS3 (defence production/exports), GS2 (Act East, IR).

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

BrahMos, defence exports, Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

thinking BrahMos is fully indigenous — it is an India-Russia JV.

**EXAM TIP**

Name from Brahmaputra+Moskva; first export buyer Philippines (2022).

**INTERVIEW**

Should India export advanced strategic weapons to contested regions?

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 8

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[Source →](#)

The National Family Health Survey (NFHS), whose sixth round (NFHS-6) data was in the news, is conducted by which body?

- ☐ A The National Statistical Office (NSO)
- ☐ B The Registrar General of India
- ☒ C The International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai ✓
- ☐ D The National Sample Survey Office

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: NFHS is conducted by the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai, under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare; NFHS-6 is the sixth round. **ANALYSIS:** NFHS-6 reveals an epidemiological transition — gains in child nutrition and healthcare access alongside rising obesity, diabetes and C-sections (a "double burden of disease").

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

NFHS provides district-level data on population, health, nutrition, family planning and women's empowerment, and is a key source for policy and SDG tracking. NFHS-6 findings flag rising non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and persistent gaps in women's asset ownership and financial autonomy despite better digital access and schooling (access does not equal agency).

Distinguish NFHS (IIPS/MoHFW) from the Census (Registrar General of India) and from NSO/NSSO surveys (MoSPI). The Registrar General handles the Census and the Sample Registration System (SRS).

Q8
 **CONCEPT KIT**
CROSS-PAPER

GS2 (health/social sector, women empowerment), GS3 (NCD economics).

MAINS KEYWORDS

NFHS, double burden, epidemiological transition, NCDs.

COMMON MISTAKE

attributing NFHS to the Census/RGI or NSSO — it is IIPS under MoHFW.

EXAM TIP

NFHS by IIPS Mumbai; Census by RGI.

INTERVIEW

Why does improved access to services not automatically translate into women's agency?

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Question 9

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[Source →](#)

In ecology, a "keystone species" — illustrated by a recent study on elephants and dung beetles — is best defined as a species that:

- ☐ A Is the most abundant organism in its ecosystem
- ☒ B Has a disproportionately large effect on its ecosystem relative to its abundance ✓
- ☐ C Sits at the base of the food chain as a primary producer
- ☐ D Can survive only within a narrow range of environmental conditions

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: A keystone species exerts an ecological impact far larger than its numerical abundance would suggest; the concept was introduced by Robert Paine (1969). A 15-year study (Science) found excluding elephants cut dung-beetle species richness by 23% and biomass by 51%.

ANALYSIS: It shows megafauna underpin ecosystem services (nutrient cycling, seed dispersal), so their loss triggers cascades — a case for habitat and corridor protection.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

Keystone species differ from "dominant" (most abundant) and "foundation/ecosystem-engineer" species (e.g., corals). In India, the concept underpins megafauna conservation: Project Elephant (1992), and the elephant's designation as the National Heritage Animal (2010).

Related conservation tools include elephant corridors and Eco-Sensitive Zones. The study reinforces that conserving large herbivores has cascading benefits for smaller taxa and overall ecosystem functioning.

Q9
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS3 (biodiversity, ecology).


MAINS KEYWORDS

keystone species, trophic cascade, ecosystem services, megafauna.


COMMON MISTAKE

equating keystone (impact) with dominant (abundance).


EXAM TIP

Keystone concept — Robert Paine (1969); elephant = National Heritage Animal (2010).


INTERVIEW

Should conservation prioritise charismatic megafauna or whole-ecosystem function?


[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 10

of 14

[Source →](#)

CBSE's "On-Screen Marking (OSM)", recently in the news, refers to which of the following?

- ☐ A Conducting board examinations entirely on computers
- ☒ B Digital evaluation of scanned, anonymised answer scripts on a secure portal ✓
- ☐ C AI-based automatic grading of student answers without human evaluators
- ☐ D Online proctoring of students during examinations

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: Under OSM, exams are written on paper as usual, but answer scripts are scanned to high-resolution images and evaluated digitally by teachers on a secure portal, with marks auto-totalled. **ANALYSIS:** It aims to cut totalling errors and speed up results, but a rushed, un-piloted rollout and the scrapping of post-result verification raised transparency concerns.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

CBSE introduced OSM for Class 12 (2026), while Class 10 evaluation remained physical. CBSE functions under the Ministry of Education.

The controversy mirrors wider concerns about the credibility of high-stakes digital assessment (e.g., NTA/CUET glitches): digitisation should be preceded by piloting and must preserve grievance-redress rights such as re-evaluation. The episode is a governance case study in technology adoption — efficiency gains cannot come at the cost of transparency and student rights.

Q10 **CONCEPT KIT****CROSS-PAPER**

GS2 (education governance, e-governance).

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

OSM, assessment integrity, grievance redress, digital governance.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

thinking OSM means computer-based exams or AI grading — it is digital evaluation by human teachers.

**EXAM TIP**

OSM = CBSE Class 12 (2026); Class 10 stays physical; CBSE under Ministry of Education.

**INTERVIEW**

How should regulators balance speed and transparency in digitising exams?

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 11

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[Source →](#)

India's target of "500 GW of non-fossil capacity by 2030" — relevant to a study on pollution reducing solar output — is part of which commitment?

A India's Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement ✓

B The Kyoto Protocol's second commitment period

C The Montreal Protocol's phase-down schedule

D The Convention on Biological Diversity targets

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The 500 GW non-fossil capacity by 2030 goal is part of India's climate commitments linked to its updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement (and the Panchamrit pledges). **ANALYSIS:** A study finding that air pollution cut India's solar generation by ~9.6% in 2023 ("solar dimming") shows clean-air and renewable-energy policy are complementary — reducing aerosols directly raises solar yield.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

India's Panchamrit (COP26) goals include 500 GW non-fossil capacity by 2030, meeting 50% of energy needs from renewables, and net-zero by 2070. The National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), launched in 2019, targets reductions in particulate pollution across cities.

Aerosols and particulate matter scatter and absorb sunlight and soil PV panels, reducing irradiance — so NCAP investments yield an energy co-benefit. Distinguish the Paris Agreement (UNFCCC, climate) from the Montreal Protocol (ozone) and the CBD (biodiversity).

Q11 **CONCEPT KIT****CROSS-PAPER**

GS3 (renewable energy, air pollution, climate).

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

NDC, Panchamrit, solar dimming, NCAP, co-benefits.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

linking 500 GW to Kyoto/Montreal rather than Paris/NDCs.

**EXAM TIP**

Panchamrit — 500 GW by 2030, net-zero by 2070; NCAP launched 2019.

**INTERVIEW**

Should clean-air and clean-energy programmes be jointly budgeted given their co-benefits?

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 12

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[Source →](#)

The Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act (PECA), 2019 — relevant to new-age nicotine products — does which of the following?

- ☐ A Regulates e-cigarettes by imposing high taxes and health warnings
- ☒ B Bans the production, import, sale and advertisement of e-cigarettes ✓
- ☐ C Permits e-cigarettes only for registered adult smokers
- ☐ D Brings e-cigarettes under the ambit of COTPA, 2003

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: PECA, 2019 prohibits the production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and advertisement of e-cigarettes / Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) in India. **ANALYSIS:** It is a complete ban, not a regulate-and-tax regime — reflecting a precautionary stance on youth uptake, but enforcement is challenged by online and grey-market availability.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

The 2026 World No Tobacco Day theme highlights how the industry targets youth via e-cigarettes, nicotine pouches and synthetic nicotine. A key regulatory gap: laws written for "tobacco-derived" nicotine may not cover synthetic (lab-made) nicotine or tobacco-leaf-free pouches, so substance-based regulation is recommended.

India's broader framework includes COTPA 2003 (conventional tobacco), the National Tobacco Control Programme, 85% pictorial warnings, and the WHO FCTC (ratified 2004). WHO recommends tobacco taxes at ≥75% of retail price; India's tobacco taxation has stagnated post-GST.

Q12 **CONCEPT KIT**

 CROSS-PAPER	GS2 (health regulation), GS3 (public-health policy).
 MAINS KEYWORDS	PECA 2019, ENDS, precautionary principle, regulatory gaps.
 COMMON MISTAKE	assuming e-cigarettes are taxed/regulated under COTPA — they are banned under PECA 2019.
 EXAM TIP	PECA 2019 = full ban on e-cigarettes/ENDS.
 INTERVIEW	Is a complete ban or strict regulation more effective against youth vaping?

 [Read Full Article →](#)

Question 13

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[Source →](#)

The Agasthyamalai landscape, subject of the recent Supreme Court order, forms part of which of the following?

- ☐ A The Eastern Ghats biodiversity zone
- ☒ B **The Western Ghats — a UNESCO World Heritage Site and biodiversity hotspot ✓**
- ☐ C The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in the central Western Ghats
- ☐ D The Shola grasslands of the Anaimalai Hills only

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The Agasthyamalai landscape lies in the southern Western Ghats, spanning Tamil Nadu and Kerala; the Western Ghats are a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the world's eight "hottest" biodiversity hotspots.

ANALYSIS: Its protection is critical because it hosts the Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve and acts as a water tower for peninsular rivers like the Tamiraparani.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

The Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve (UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves, 2016) includes the Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Srivilliputhur-Megamalai Tiger Reserve and Kanyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary, with Neyyar, Peppara and Shendurney sanctuaries on the Kerala side. Peak: Agastya Mala (~1,868 m).

The Western Ghats face conservation pressures addressed by the Gadgil and Kasturirangan reports and Eco-Sensitive Area notifications. Don't confuse Agasthyamalai (southern Ghats) with the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (tri-junction of TN-Kerala-Karnataka).

Q13 **CONCEPT KIT**

 CROSS-PAPER	GS3 (biodiversity, protected areas), GS1 (physical geography).
 MAINS KEYWORDS	Western Ghats, biodiversity hotspot, biosphere reserve, ESA.
 COMMON MISTAKE	placing Agasthyamalai in the Eastern Ghats or Nilgiris.
 EXAM TIP	Agasthyamalai = southern Western Ghats, TN+Kerala, hosts KMTR.
 INTERVIEW	How should India balance forest-dweller rights with strict protected-area enforcement?

 [Read Full Article →](#)

Question 14

of 14

[Source →](#)

The Shangri-La Dialogue, where the India-US mediation exchange took place, is an annual security summit organised by which body?

- ☐ A The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat
- ☒ B The International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) ✓
- ☐ C The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
- ☐ D The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The Shangri-La Dialogue is Asia's premier inter-governmental security summit, organised annually in Singapore by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS). **ANALYSIS:** It is a venue where Indo-Pacific defence postures are aired — here India publicly reaffirmed its bilateralism doctrine and rejected third-party mediation with Pakistan.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

At the 2026 edition, US War Secretary Pete Hegseth backed President Trump's claim of brokering the India-Pakistan ceasefire; EAM S. Jaishankar reiterated that the understanding was reached bilaterally at DGMO level. India's stand rests on the Simla Agreement (1972) and the principle that J&K and PoK are integral parts of India. Distinguish the Shangri-La Dialogue (IISS, Track-1 security) from ASEAN-led forums (ADMM-Plus, East Asia Summit) and the SCO. The summit takes its name from the Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore where it is held.

Q14
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS2 (IR, multilateral security forums).


MAINS KEYWORDS

Shangri-La Dialogue, IISS, Indo-Pacific, strategic autonomy.


COMMON MISTAKE

attributing it to ASEAN or the UN — it is organised by IISS.


EXAM TIP

Shangri-La Dialogue = IISS, Singapore, annual.


INTERVIEW

How useful are Track-1 security dialogues in actually reducing regional tensions?


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