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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED

Daily Quiz, July 15, 2026

15 July 2026



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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED ANSWER KEY

Daily Quiz, July 15, 2026

15 July 2026 · 16 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Question 1

of 16

 [Source →](#)

The India-UK CETA, which entered into force in July 2026, is best described as:

- ☐ A A double taxation avoidance agreement
- ☒ B A comprehensive free-trade agreement ✓
- ☐ C A defence-cooperation pact
- ☐ D A currency-swap arrangement

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 EXPLANATION

FACT: The India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) is a free-trade agreement that entered into force on July 15, 2026, giving India duty-free access on about 99 per cent of UK tariff lines. **ANALYSIS:** It is India's first free-trade agreement with a major developed economy in about a decade.

 CONCEPT NOTE

The CETA was signed in London on July 24, 2025, after negotiations concluded in May 2025.

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

GS2 international relations, GS3 economy.

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

free-trade agreement, market access, services mobility.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

confusing CETA with a taxation treaty.

**EXAM TIP**

India-UK CETA is a free-trade agreement (in force July 15, 2026).

**INTERVIEW**

FTAs with developed economies.

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 2

of 16

 [Source →](#)

The Double Contribution Convention (DCC) accompanying the India-UK CETA deals with which area?

- ☐ A Double taxation of companies
- ☒ B Social-security contributions of workers ✓
- ☐ C Dual pricing of pharmaceuticals
- ☐ D Duty drawback on exports

ANSWER & ANALYSIS **EXPLANATION**

FACT: The Double Contribution Convention (DCC) is a social-security agreement that exempts Indian professionals working temporarily in the UK from making social-security contributions there for up to five years. **ANALYSIS:** It benefits an estimated 75,000-plus workers and improves the cost competitiveness of Indian services.

 CONCEPT NOTE

The exemption period was raised from three years to five years under the DCC.

Q2
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS2 IR, GS3 economy/services.


MAINS KEYWORDS

totalisation agreement, services mobility, social security.


COMMON MISTAKE

confusing the DCC with a double-taxation treaty.


EXAM TIP

the DCC covers social-security contributions.


INTERVIEW

Services trade and worker mobility.


[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 3

of 16

[Source](#)

Section 356 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), invoked in July 2026, provides for:

- ☐ A Plea bargaining
- ☒ B Trial in absentia of a proclaimed offender ✓
- ☐ C Anticipatory bail
- ☐ D Community service as punishment

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: Section 356 of the BNSS allows a court to conduct a full trial, deliver judgment and pass sentence against a proclaimed offender who has absconded, that is, a trial in absentia. **ANALYSIS:** A Jammu NIA court invoked it against the Lashkar-e-Taiba chief Hafiz Saeed in the Pahalgam terror-attack case, the first major use of the provision.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

The BNSS replaced the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973 and came into force on July 1, 2024.

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

GS2 polity and criminal justice, GS3 internal security.

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

trial in absentia, fair trial, proclaimed offender.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

confusing Section 356 with plea bargaining.

**EXAM TIP**

BNSS Section 356 = trial in absentia.

**INTERVIEW**

Justice against absconding terror accused.

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 4

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[Source →](#)

Which of the following is a safeguard required before a trial in absentia under BNSS Section 356?

- ☐ A The accused must be a foreign national
- ☒ B Two arrest warrants and a 90-day wait after proclamation ✓
- ☐ C The consent of the victim
- ☐ D Approval of the Supreme Court

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: Before a trial in absentia, the offence must be punishable with at least ten years, life or death, two arrest warrants must have been issued, there must be a 90-day wait after the proclamation, a public notice, and a court-appointed defence counsel. **ANALYSIS:** These safeguards protect fair-trial principles even when the accused is absent.

📄 CONCEPT NOTE

A court-appointed lawyer defends the absconding accused to preserve the fairness of the trial.

Q4 **CONCEPT KIT****CROSS-PAPER**

GS2 polity and rights.

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

fair trial, Article 21, procedural safeguards.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

thinking trial in absentia has no safeguards.

**EXAM TIP**

BNSS 356 needs two warrants and a 90-day wait.

**INTERVIEW**

Balancing rights and justice.

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 5

of 16

 Source →

The auction of critical mineral blocks was enabled by which law that delisted 24 minerals from the atomic-minerals list?

A The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2023 ✓

B The Atomic Energy Act, 1962

C The Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015

D The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 EXPLANATION

FACT: The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2023 delisted 24 critical minerals from the list of atomic minerals, enabling their auction to the private sector. **ANALYSIS:** The Centre launched the eighth tranche of critical and strategic mineral block auctions in July 2026, offering 20 blocks across nine states.

 CONCEPT NOTE

The National Critical Mineral Mission and KABIL support securing critical-mineral supplies.

Q5 **CONCEPT KIT****CROSS-PAPER**

GS3 economy and resource security.

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

critical minerals, supply-chain resilience, China de-risking.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

attributing the change to the Atomic Energy Act.

**EXAM TIP**

MMDR Amendment 2023 opened 24 critical minerals to auction.

**INTERVIEW**

Securing critical-mineral supplies.

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 6

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[Source](#)

Which of the following is **NOT** typically classified as a critical mineral offered in India's recent auctions?

- ☐ A Lithium
- ☐ B Rare earth elements
- ☒ C Coal ✓
- ☐ D Vanadium

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The eighth tranche covered minerals such as rare earth elements, lithium, vanadium, gallium, tungsten, graphite and titanium; coal is a bulk fossil fuel, not a critical mineral in this sense. ANALYSIS: Critical minerals are essential to clean energy, defence, electronics and fertilisers, and India seeks to reduce import dependence.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

India imports a large share of its critical minerals, and China dominates their processing.

Q6 **CONCEPT KIT****CROSS-PAPER**

GS3 economy and energy.

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

critical minerals, clean energy, strategic resources.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

counting coal among critical minerals.

**EXAM TIP**

critical minerals include lithium, REEs, cobalt, not coal.

**INTERVIEW**

Minerals for the energy transition.

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 7

of 16

[Source →](#)

A July 2026 study attributed the uplift of the Tibetan Plateau mainly to:

- ☐ A Volcanic activity in the plateau
- ☒ B The underthrusting of the Indian plate beneath Eurasia ✓
- ☐ C Glacial erosion over millions of years
- ☐ D Meteorite impacts

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The study, in Nature Geoscience, showed that the underthrusting (subduction) of the Indian plate beneath the Eurasian plate drove the uplift of the Tibetan Plateau and explains the contrast between western and central Tibet.

ANALYSIS: The India-Eurasia collision began about 50 million years ago.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

The Tibetan Plateau, averaging about 4,500 metres, is called the "Roof of the World" and influences the Indian monsoon.

Q7
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS1 geography and plate tectonics.


MAINS KEYWORDS

orogeny, India-Eurasia collision, monsoon.


COMMON MISTAKE

attributing the plateau to volcanism.


EXAM TIP

the Tibetan Plateau rose from Indian-plate underthrusting.


INTERVIEW

How mountains shape climate.


[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 8

of 16

 **Source** →

The India-Eurasia continental collision that built the Himalayas and the Tibetan Plateau began roughly how long ago?

- ☐ **A** 5 million years ago
- ☒ **B** 50 million years ago ✓
- ☐ **C** 250 million years ago
- ☐ **D** 500 million years ago

ANSWER & ANALYSIS **EXPLANATION**

FACT: The India-Eurasia continental collision began about 50 million years ago, and the resulting orogeny raised the Himalayas and the Tibetan Plateau. **ANALYSIS:** The plateau feeds major Asian rivers and strongly influences the Indian monsoon system.

 CONCEPT NOTE

The Himalayas are young fold mountains still rising as the plates converge.

Q8**CONCEPT KIT****CROSS-PAPER**

GS1 physical geography.

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

plate tectonics, Himalayan orogeny, seismicity.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

overstating the age of the collision.

**EXAM TIP**

India-Eurasia collision began about 50 million years ago.

**INTERVIEW**

Himalayan seismic risk.

**Read Full Article →**

Question 9

of 16

[Source →](#)

Parrot Bornavirus 4 (PaBV-4), detected in India for the first time in 2026, is the main cause of which disease?

A Avian influenza

B Proventricular Dilatation Disease ✓

C Newcastle disease

D Ranikhet disease

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ **EXPLANATION**

FACT: Parrot Bornavirus 4 (PaBV-4) is the primary cause of Proventricular Dilatation Disease (PDD), a fatal condition in parrots that damages the nervous and digestive systems. **ANALYSIS:** Indian scientists reported its first detection and genetic characterisation in India, across captive psittacine birds.

 CONCEPT NOTE

PaBV-4 is a single-stranded RNA virus; the finding raises biosecurity concerns linked to the exotic-bird trade.

Q9
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS3 environment, biosecurity and health.


MAINS KEYWORDS

wildlife disease, exotic-pet trade, biosecurity.


COMMON MISTAKE

confusing PDD with avian influenza.


EXAM TIP

PaBV-4 causes Proventricular Dilatation Disease in parrots.


INTERVIEW

Disease risks of the pet trade.


[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 10

of 16

 [Source](#) →

The draft National Health Research Policy 2026 updates a policy from which year?

A 2002

B 2011 ✓

C 2017

D 2020

ANSWER & ANALYSIS **EXPLANATION**

FACT: The draft National Health Research Policy 2026, released for public consultation, updates the earlier National Health Research Policy of 2011. **ANALYSIS:** It aims to strengthen the health-research ecosystem, coordinate research, promote ethics and encourage indigenous innovation.

 CONCEPT NOTE

The Department of Health Research and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) lead health research; the National Health Policy 2017 is the overarching framework.

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

GS2 health and governance.

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

health research, ICMR, self-reliance in health technology.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

confusing it with the National Health Policy 2017.

**EXAM TIP**

the draft updates the National Health Research Policy of 2011.

**INTERVIEW**

Research for a stronger health system.

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 11

of 16

[Source →](#)

The Department of Health Research, which leads the health-research effort, functions under which ministry?

- ☐ A Ministry of Science and Technology
- ☒ B Ministry of Health and Family Welfare ✓
- ☐ C Ministry of Education
- ☐ D Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The Department of Health Research (DHR) functions under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is its scientific and technical arm. **ANALYSIS:** The draft National Health Research Policy 2026 is intended to coordinate and strengthen research across institutions.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

India's public spending on health research is low as a share of GDP.

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

GS2 governance and health.

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

DHR, ICMR, research funding.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

placing the DHR under the science ministry.

**EXAM TIP**

DHR is under the Health Ministry; ICMR is its research arm.

**INTERVIEW**

Funding medical research.

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 12

of 16

 [Source](#) →

World Youth Skills Day is observed on which date?

- ☐ A July 11
- ☒ B July 15 ✓
- ☐ C August 12
- ☐ D September 8

ANSWER & ANALYSIS **EXPLANATION**

FACT: World Youth Skills Day is observed on July 15, a United Nations observance since 2014, highlighting the importance of skilling young people for employment and entrepreneurship. **ANALYSIS:** The government marked it with skilling measures including a proposed Skills Outcomes Fund.

 CONCEPT NOTE

It aligns with the Skill India Mission and SDG 4 (quality education) and SDG 8 (decent work).

Q12
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS2 skilling and social sector, GS3 employment.


MAINS KEYWORDS

skilling, demographic dividend, employability.


COMMON MISTAKE

confusing it with International Youth Day (August 12).


EXAM TIP

World Youth Skills Day is July 15.


INTERVIEW

Skilling for jobs.


[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 13

of 16

[Source →](#)

The Codex Alimentarius Commission, which adopted India-led food standards in 2026, is a joint body of:

- ☐ A The WTO and UNCTAD
- ☒ B The FAO and the WHO ✓
- ☐ C The World Bank and the IMF
- ☐ D UNEP and the UNDP

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The Codex Alimentarius Commission is the joint food-standards body of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO), established in 1963. **ANALYSIS:** At its 49th session, India-led standards for dried coriander seeds and fresh curry leaves were adopted.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

Codex standards guide food safety and international food trade, and are referenced under the WTO SPS Agreement.

Q13
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS2 international institutions, GS3 food safety.


MAINS KEYWORDS

Codex, food standards, SPS measures.


COMMON MISTAKE

attributing Codex to the WTO.


EXAM TIP

Codex = FAO plus WHO (1963).


INTERVIEW

Standards and agri-exports.


[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 14

of 16

[Source →](#)

The Thukkachi Abathsahayeswarar Temple, in the news in July 2026, received recognition under which awards?

A The UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation ✓

B The Aga Khan Award for Architecture

C The Pritzker Prize

D The Pulitzer Prize

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The Thukkachi Abathsahayeswarar Temple, a 12th-century temple in the Thanjavur region of Tamil Nadu, received recognition under the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. **ANALYSIS:** The awards honour efforts to restore and conserve heritage structures.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

Tamil Nadu's temples reflect Chola-era architecture and living-heritage traditions.

Q14 **CONCEPT KIT****CROSS-PAPER**

GS1 art and culture.

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

heritage conservation, Chola architecture, living heritage.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

confusing the UNESCO Asia-Pacific awards with World Heritage inscription.

**EXAM TIP**

Thukkachi temple won a UNESCO Asia-Pacific heritage award.

**INTERVIEW**

Community-led heritage conservation.

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 15

of 16

 **Source** →

The India-UK CETA offers India immediate duty-free access on roughly what share of UK tariff lines?

- ☐ **A** About 50 per cent
- ☐ **B** About 75 per cent
- ☒ **C** About 99 per cent ✓
- ☐ **D** 100 per cent

ANSWER & ANALYSIS **EXPLANATION**

FACT: Under the CETA, India gains immediate duty-free access on about 99 per cent of UK tariff lines, with tariffs going to zero on categories such as marine products, textiles, leather, engineering goods and chemicals. **ANALYSIS:** This is expected to benefit labour-intensive export sectors.

 CONCEPT NOTE

India retains sensitivities in areas such as agriculture and dairy.

Q15 **CONCEPT KIT****CROSS-PAPER**

GS3 economy and trade.

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

tariff liberalisation, export competitiveness, FTA.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

assuming 100 per cent coverage.

**EXAM TIP**

CETA gives India duty-free access on about 99 per cent of UK tariff lines.

**INTERVIEW**

Winning export sectors from the UK deal.

[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 16

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 [Source](#) →

The eighth tranche of critical mineral block auctions launched in July 2026 was conducted by which ministry?

- ☐ A Ministry of Coal
- ☒ B Ministry of Mines ✓
- ☐ C Ministry of Steel
- ☐ D Ministry of Earth Sciences

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

 EXPLANATION

FACT: The Ministry of Mines launched the eighth tranche of critical and strategic mineral block auctions, offering 20 blocks across nine states. **ANALYSIS:** The auctions are part of India's effort to secure critical minerals for clean energy, defence and electronics.

 CONCEPT NOTE

About 88 blocks have been launched and about 56 auctioned since these auctions began.

Q16 **CONCEPT KIT****CROSS-PAPER**

GS3 economy and mining.

**MAINS KEYWORDS**

critical minerals, auctions, resource security.

**COMMON MISTAKE**

attributing the auction to the Coal Ministry.

**EXAM TIP**

the Ministry of Mines runs the critical-mineral auctions.

**INTERVIEW**

Building a critical-mineral supply base.

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