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Daily Quiz, July 30, 2026

30 July 2026



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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED ANSWER KEY

Daily Quiz, July 30, 2026

30 July 2026 · 8 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Question 1

of 8

[Source](#) →

In *Bijoe Emmanuel v. State of Kerala* (1986), the Supreme Court held that a student who stood respectfully but did not sing the National Anthem had not committed any punishable offence, protecting the student under which combination of constitutional provisions?

- ☐ A Article 51A(a) and Article 21
- ☒ B Article 19(1)(a) and Article 25 ✓
- ☐ C Article 14 and Article 15
- ☐ D Article 25 alone, with no free-speech dimension

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The Supreme Court in *Bijoe Emmanuel* held that compelling a student to sing the National Anthem against their religious conscience would violate freedom of conscience under Article 25 and freedom of expression under Article 19(1)(a), and that standing respectfully already discharged the constitutional expectation. **ANALYSIS:** This precedent is directly relevant to the newly passed Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026, since its drafters framed the new Vande Mataram offence around obstruction or insult to the singing, not around an individual's own non-participation, precisely to stay within this precedent's boundary.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

The Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026 was passed by the Rajya Sabha on 29 July 2026 and the Lok Sabha on 30 July 2026, extending the statutory protection the 1971 Act gives the National Anthem to Vande Mataram, the National Song. Vande Mataram was composed by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in 1875, published in *Anandamath* in 1882, and first sung at the 1896 Calcutta session of the Indian National Congress by Rabindranath Tagore. The Constituent Assembly, through President Dr Rajendra Prasad, declared it would be honoured equally with the National Anthem on 24 January 1950, but Article 51A(a) names only the Constitution, the National Flag and the National Anthem, not the National Song. The new offence carries imprisonment up to 3 years, or fine, or both, with a minimum of 1 year for a repeat conviction.

Q1 **CONCEPT KIT**

 CROSS-PAPER	GS2 Fundamental Rights and Fundamental Duties; GS1 the national movement.
 MAINS KEYWORDS	compelled patriotism, freedom of conscience, national symbols, statutory versus constitutional protection.
 COMMON MISTAKE	citing Article 51A(a) as the source of protection for the National Song; it protects only the Anthem, not the Song.
 EXAM TIP	Bijoe Emmanuel is the standard citation whenever a question tests compelled participation in a national-symbol ritual.
 INTERVIEW	does criminalising "insult" to a song risk subjective, inconsistent enforcement compared to protecting a tangible symbol like the Flag?

 [Read Full Article →](#)

Question 2

of 8

[Source](#) →

The Supreme Court, in quashing the 2021 MoEFCC Office Memorandum on ex-post-facto environmental clearances, held that an exception to the EIA Notification's prior-clearance mandate can only be created by which kind of instrument?

- ☐ A Any administrative circular issued by the concerned Ministry
- ☒ B A statutory notification, issued through the proper delegated-legislation route ✓
- ☐ C A Cabinet decision communicated informally to State governments
- ☐ D A press release from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The Court held that an Office Memorandum, an internal administrative instruction, cannot override the mandatory prior-clearance requirement under the EIA Notification, 2006; only a properly issued statutory notification, following the delegated-legislation procedure under the parent Act, can create such an exception, and even then only narrowly and time-bound. **ANALYSIS:** The ruling does not ban all regularisation, but it closes the door on using an OM to run a perpetual, open-ended amnesty scheme for projects that begin construction without prior clearance.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

The EIA Notification, 2006 was issued under Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and requires prior environmental clearance before specified categories of projects commence construction or operation. The struck-down 2021 Office Memorandum had let project proponents who started without clearance apply for retrospective clearance instead of facing closure, effectively making the prior-approval regime optional for anyone willing to risk starting first. The bench, led by CJI Surya Kant with Justices Joymalya Bagchi and Vipul Pancholi, invoked the precautionary principle (preventing harm before it occurs) and the polluter pays principle (the polluter bears the cost of harm, rather than normalising it through a compliance shortcut).

Q2
 **CONCEPT KIT**
 CROSS-PAPER

GS3 environmental impact assessment; GS2 delegated legislation and judicial review of executive action.

 MAINS KEYWORDS

prior clearance, precautionary principle, polluter pays, delegated legislation.

 COMMON MISTAKE

assuming any government notification, regardless of form, can create a statutory exception; the OM-versus-statutory-notification distinction is the exact point the Court tested.

 EXAM TIP

remember that Office Memoranda are internal administrative instructions, not delegated legislation, and cannot override a statutory mandate.

 INTERVIEW

should India codify a narrow, one-time amnesty window through Parliament for genuine legacy cases, rather than leaving the question to repeated executive circulars?

 [Read Full Article →](#)

Question 3

of 8

[Source →](#)

Which constitutional amendment extended the freeze on Lok Sabha and State Assembly seat numbers to "the first Census taken after the year 2026"?

- ☐ A 42nd Amendment, 1976
- ☒ B 84th Amendment, 2001 ✓
- ☐ C 87th Amendment, 2003
- ☐ D 91st Amendment, 2003

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The 84th Constitutional Amendment, 2001, extended the seat-count freeze originally imposed by the 42nd Amendment (1976) to the first Census after 2026, while permitting redrawing of constituency boundaries based on 1991 population data without changing the total seat count. **ANALYSIS:** The freeze's expiry timeline is exactly why 2026 is the year the delimitation question has resurfaced, and the 850-seat figure under debate is the practical stake of that expiry.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

The 42nd Amendment (1976) first froze seat numbers at 1971 Census levels. The 87th Amendment (2003) is a related but distinct provision, allowing 2001 Census data (rather than 1991) to be used for redrawing constituency boundaries within the frozen totals.

The government's first attempt to legislate the post-freeze exercise, the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026, introduced 16 April 2026, was defeated on 17 April 2026, securing only 298 of the 352 votes needed for the required two-thirds majority, after which the companion Delimitation Bill, 2026 was withdrawn; a revival is reported for the Monsoon Session, 20 July to 13 August 2026. Concerns centre on southern and other lower-fertility States fearing reduced relative seat share despite meeting population-stabilisation goals, and on the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023 (women's reservation), whose rollout is itself contingent on this delimitation exercise.

Q3
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS2 Indian Constitution, amendments, federalism.


MAINS KEYWORDS

delimitation freeze, Article 82, population stabilisation, women's reservation linkage.


COMMON MISTAKE

confusing the 84th Amendment (freeze extension) with the 87th Amendment (Census data used for boundary redrawing); both matter but answer different questions.


EXAM TIP

build a timeline table of the 42nd/84th/87th Amendments before the exam; UPSC tests the exact sequence.


INTERVIEW

is an 850-seat Lok Sabha primarily a representation-fairness question or a federalism-trust question between north and south?


[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 4

of 8

[Source](#) →

Under Section 25 of the RBI Act, 1934, the design, form and material of banknotes is approved by whom?

- ☐ A The RBI Governor alone, without external approval
- ☒ B The Central Government, on the recommendation of the RBI Central Board ✓
- ☐ C The Ministry of Finance alone, without RBI input
- ☐ D A joint parliamentary committee constituted for each new note series

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: Section 25 of the RBI Act, 1934 provides that banknote design, form and material are approved by the Central Government on the recommendation of the RBI's Central Board, a deliberately shared power reflecting that currency is both a technical instrument and a matter of sovereign symbolism. **ANALYSIS:** This is why a large-scale material shift, such as the 2026 polymer trial for Rs 10 and Rs 20 notes, required Parliament to be formally informed and Central Government approval, rather than being purely an internal RBI decision.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

The 2026 trial covers 1 billion notes each of the Rs 10 and Rs 20 denominations; paper currency continues alongside during the trial. India ran an earlier, smaller polymer Rs 10 note trial in the mid-2010s in five cities, Kochi, Mysuru, Jaipur, Shimla and Bhubaneswar, chosen for varied climatic conditions, but it did not lead to nationwide rollout. Polymer notes are generally more durable and harder to counterfeit than paper notes, though they cost more to print initially; several countries including Australia, Canada, the UK and Singapore have already transitioned some or all circulating notes to polymer.

Q4

 CONCEPT KIT

CROSS-PAPER

GS3 currency and monetary management.


MAINS KEYWORDS

Section 25 RBI Act, note issuance, RBI-Government relationship, durability versus cost trade-off.


COMMON MISTAKE

assuming the RBI alone decides note material; the Central Government's approval, on the RBI's recommendation, is a statutory requirement.


EXAM TIP

remember the mid-2010s trial cities as a distinct Prelims fact from the 2026 trial's scale.


INTERVIEW

what lessons from the abandoned mid-2010s trial should inform whether the 2026 attempt succeeds in reaching nationwide rollout?


[Read Full Article →](#)

Question 5

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[Source →](#)

INS Nipun, delivered to the Indian Navy on 30 July 2026, is best classified as which of the following?

- ☐ A A Deep Submergence Rescue Vessel (DSRV), the rescue submersible itself
- ☒ B A Diving Support Vessel, providing the surface platform for diving, ROV and salvage operations ✓
- ☐ C An aircraft carrier escort destroyer
- ☐ D A hospital ship for naval medical support

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: INS Nipun is the second Nistar-class Diving Support Vessel, a surface platform built by Hindustan Shipyard Limited to support deep-sea saturation diving, Remotely Operated Vehicles and dynamic-positioning-enabled salvage and rescue operations, distinct from a Deep Submergence Rescue Vessel, which is the submersible that actually descends to a stricken submarine. **ANALYSIS:** The two capabilities are complementary layers of India's submarine rescue architecture, the DSV providing surface support and the DSRV providing the actual rescue submersible, and confusing them is a common error since both relate to underwater rescue.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

INS Nipun follows the lead ship INS Nistar and was delivered on 30 July 2026 at Visakhapatnam, with specifications of about 118 metres length, over 8,560 tonnes displacement, and roughly 75-80 per cent indigenous content. It is fitted with deep-sea saturation diving systems, which let divers work at depth for extended periods without repeated decompression, Remotely Operated Vehicles for inspection and salvage support beyond safe diver range, and a dynamic positioning system that holds the vessel precisely over a target using thrusters and satellite positioning without anchoring. Hindustan Shipyard Limited is a Ministry of Defence public-sector shipyard at Visakhapatnam with a specific niche in submarine and diving-support vessel construction.

Q5
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS3 security forces, indigenisation of defence technology.


MAINS KEYWORDS

submarine rescue, saturation diving, dynamic positioning, Atmanirbhar Bharat in shipbuilding.


COMMON MISTAKE

treating "DSV" and "DSRV" as interchangeable; a DSV is a surface support ship, a DSRV is the actual rescue submersible.


EXAM TIP

pair INS Nipun/Nistar (DSV, surface support) with India's DSRV programme (the rescue submersible layer) as two distinct facts.


INTERVIEW

how does organic submarine rescue capability reduce India's operational dependence on allied nations during a crisis?


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Question 6

of 8

[Source →](#)

The 2026 theme for the UN's World Day against Trafficking in Persons, "Trapped Behind the Scam," specifically highlights which form of exploitation?

- ☐ A Bonded labour in brick kilns and agriculture
- ☒ B **Forced criminality, where victims are trafficked and coerced into running online scam operations ✓**
- ☐ C Child labour in the informal manufacturing sector
- ☐ D Organ trafficking networks

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The 2026 theme highlights trafficking for forced criminality, in which victims are lured through fake job offers, held in guarded compounds, and coerced through debt bondage, threats or violence into operating online financial-fraud scam centres targeting victims worldwide. **ANALYSIS:** This form of trafficking is distinct from, and in addition to, more familiar categories like forced labour or sexual exploitation, and it complicates the usual victim-offender distinction, since trafficked persons are made to actively commit the underlying fraud against others.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

World Day against Trafficking in Persons is observed on 30 July, a UN General Assembly designation since 2013, sharing the date with the International Day of Friendship, observed since 2011. IOM data shows that between 2022 and 2025, the agency assisted over 3,500 victims of trafficking for forced criminality across Southeast Asia, drawn from 39 countries, with India among the top source countries alongside Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, Kenya and Bangladesh.

In India, Article 23 of the Constitution prohibits trafficking in human beings and forced labour as a Fundamental Right, the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 remains the principal anti-trafficking statute, and the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C), reachable through the 1930 helpline, coordinates the national response where trafficking and cybercrime intersect.

Q6
 **CONCEPT KIT**
 CROSS-PAPER

GS1 social issues; GS2 constitutional protections and international cooperation; GS3 cybercrime and internal security.

 MAINS KEYWORDS

forced criminality, victim versus offender, transnational organised crime, cybercrime coordination.

 COMMON MISTAKE

assuming all trafficking is for labour or sexual exploitation; forced criminality is a distinct, fast-growing category IOM data now tracks separately.

 EXAM TIP

pair Article 23 (constitutional prohibition) with the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (the operative statute) whenever a trafficking question appears.

 INTERVIEW

how should Indian law treat a trafficked person coerced into committing fraud, as a victim, an offender, or both?

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Question 7

of 8

[Source →](#)

Kerala's SAMPATH platform, cleared by the State Cabinet on 29 July 2026 as part of a five-point governance reform package, is best described as which of the following?

A A centralised digital registry of all government-owned assets ✓

B A grievance-redressal helpline for citizens

C A single-window portal for new business registrations

D A land-titling verification system for private property transactions

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: SAMPATH, the Special Asset Management Platform for Administration, Tracking and Harmonisation, is a centralised digital registry covering all government-owned assets, land, buildings, heritage structures, roads, dams, bridges, vehicles and machinery, cleared alongside PlanSpace 2.0, a GIS-enabled registry tracking capital and infrastructure projects across departments. **ANALYSIS:** Digital asset registries of this kind directly address the information asymmetry that CAG audit reports have repeatedly flagged as a driver of project cost and time overruns in State administration, by making it harder for an asset's existence, location or usage status to simply go unrecorded.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

The reform package was approved by the Kerala Cabinet on 29 July 2026 under Chief Minister V.D. Satheesan, framed as improving decision-making speed and business-friendliness by cutting bureaucratic delays and revenue leakages. SAMPATH and PlanSpace 2.0 together represent a shift from paper-based, department-siloed asset and project records toward a unified digital layer, a model other States have also pursued in varying forms as part of broader e-governance and Second Administrative Reforms Commission-aligned reform agendas.

Q7
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS2 e-governance, transparency, administrative reform.


MAINS KEYWORDS

asset registry, information asymmetry, project cost overruns, digital governance.


COMMON MISTAKE

confusing an asset-tracking registry (SAMPATH) with a citizen-facing service portal; SAMPATH is an internal government asset-management tool, not a public grievance or registration system.


EXAM TIP

remember the pairing, SAMPATH for assets, PlanSpace 2.0 for projects, as two distinct but complementary registries.


INTERVIEW

can a digital asset registry alone fix accountability gaps, or does it also require enforcement consequences when discrepancies are found?


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Question 8

of 8

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Under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), what share of first-instalment funds must a State utilise to become eligible for the second instalment, as Maharashtra demonstrated by becoming the first State to qualify in 2026?

A 50 per cent

B 60 per cent

C 75 per cent ✓

D 90 per cent

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: Maharashtra became the first State to qualify for RKVY's second instalment after utilising over 75 per cent of its Rs 335 crore first-instalment funds, unlocking a further Rs 335 crore tranche, reported 27 July 2026. **ANALYSIS:** RKVY's utilisation-linked disbursement design is a deliberate Centrally Sponsored Scheme feature meant to enforce State-level spending accountability, releasing further funding only once a State demonstrates it can effectively absorb and use the prior tranche, rather than releasing funds on a fixed calendar regardless of utilisation.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

The review was chaired by Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan. RKVY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme supporting State-specific agricultural development priorities, structured to give States flexibility in choosing projects within the scheme's broad agricultural and allied-sector focus, while tying continued central funding to demonstrated utilisation of earlier tranches.

Q8
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS3 agriculture schemes, cooperative fiscal federalism.


MAINS KEYWORDS

utilisation-linked disbursement, Centrally Sponsored Scheme design, State accountability.


COMMON MISTAKE

assuming all CSS funds are released on a fixed schedule regardless of spending; RKVY's explicit utilisation threshold is the examinable design feature here.


EXAM TIP

remember the 75 per cent utilisation benchmark as the specific trigger for RKVY's second instalment eligibility.


INTERVIEW

does utilisation-linked disbursement reward efficient States, or does it risk penalising States with genuine capacity constraints rather than mismanagement?


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— Walter Elliot

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