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Daily Quiz, August 21, 2026

21 August 2026



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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED ANSWER KEY

Daily Quiz, August 21, 2026

21 August 2026 · 11 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Question 1

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INS Mangrol, delivered by Cochin Shipyard Limited to the Navy on August 21, 2026, is the third of eight vessels in which category?

A Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft ✓

B Kolkata-class guided-missile destroyers

C Offshore Patrol Vessels

D Landing Platform Docks

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: Cochin Shipyard Limited delivered INS Mangrol, the third of eight indigenously designed Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW-SWC), to the Indian Navy on August 21, 2026, built with over 80% indigenous content and designed for underwater surveillance, coastal ASW operations, Low-Intensity Maritime Operations, and a mine-warfare role. **ANALYSIS:** Shallow-water ASW capability addresses a specific coastal-security gap distinct from blue-water naval capability, reflecting a deliberate, phased approach to strengthening India's full-spectrum maritime defence under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat push.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

Mangrol is propelled by waterjets and fitted with torpedoes, anti-submarine rockets, and modern sonars and radars, distinguishing this class from larger blue-water vessels like the Kolkata-class destroyers. The vessel is named after Mangrol, a fishing harbour town in Junagadh district, Gujarat, following the Navy's convention of naming smaller coastal vessels after Indian ports and harbour towns.

Cochin Shipyard Limited, headquartered in Kochi, Kerala, is India's largest public-sector shipyard and has built a range of vessels for both the Navy and Coast Guard as part of India's indigenous shipbuilding capacity expansion. The remaining five ASW-SWC vessels in this eight-craft series are expected to be delivered in phases over the coming years, reflecting the Navy's broader effort to systematically address coastal and shallow-water surveillance gaps alongside its larger blue-water fleet modernisation programmes, both funded under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat defence-manufacturing framework.

Q1
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS3 (defence indigenisation, Aatmanirbhar Bharat, coastal security).


MAINS KEYWORDS

ASW Shallow Water Craft, Cochin Shipyard, indigenous naval shipbuilding.


COMMON MISTAKE

confusing ASW-SWC vessels with larger blue-water destroyers like the Kolkata-class; these serve distinct coastal versus open-ocean roles.


EXAM TIP

anchor "INS Mangrol, 3rd of 8 ASW-SWC, 80%+ indigenous, delivered Aug 21 2026" as this vessel's fixed fact set.


INTERVIEW

how does building shallow-water naval capability complement India's blue-water naval ambitions?


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Question 2

of 11

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In *State of Uttar Pradesh v. Jai Bir Singh* (2026 INSC 897), the Supreme Court's 9-judge Bench held that the Bangalore Water Supply "triple test" continues to govern which specific determination?

- A** The definition of "industry" under Section 2(j) of the repealed Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, for pending disputes ✓
- B** The definition of "industry" under Section 2(p) of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020
- C** The scope of "public sector undertaking" under company law
- D** The classification of "essential services" under labour codes

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: A 9-judge Constitution Bench, by a 5:4 majority, held that the "triple test" from *Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board v. A. Rajappa* (1978) continues to govern "industry" under Section 2(j) of the repealed Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, for disputes pending under that Act, applied prospectively, while the definition under Section 2(p) of the Industrial Relations Code, 2020 (in force since November 21, 2025) must be construed independently on its own statutory text. **ANALYSIS:** This distinction preserves legal continuity for existing litigation under the old Act while respecting Parliament's intent in enacting a fresh, codified definition for the new labour code, rather than automatically importing decades-old judicial interpretation into new legislation.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

The Bangalore Water Supply ruling (1978) was itself a 7-judge Bench decision establishing a broad, multi-factor "triple test" for determining what constitutes an "industry" under labour law, a test that expanded the scope of entities covered by industrial-dispute protections considerably. Article 145(3) of the Constitution mandates a minimum 5-judge Bench for cases involving substantial questions of constitutional law interpretation, and a 9-judge Bench here reflects the scale of precedent revisitation involved in reconsidering a foundational 1978 ruling.

India's labour-law codification effort has consolidated 29 central labour laws into four labour codes, of which the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, is one, covering trade unions, industrial disputes and standing orders.

Q2
 **CONCEPT KIT**
 CROSS-PAPER

GS2 (judiciary, Constitution Bench composition, Article 145(3)); labour law codification.

 MAINS KEYWORDS

Bangalore Water Supply triple test, Industrial Relations Code 2020, Constitution Bench.

 COMMON MISTAKE

assuming the ruling extends the 1978 triple test to the new Industrial Relations Code; the Court explicitly held the new Code's definition must be construed independently.

 EXAM TIP

anchor "9-judge Bench, 5:4, Aug 20 2026, distinguishes 1947 Act from IR Code 2020" as this ruling's fixed fact set.

 INTERVIEW

how should courts balance legal continuity for pending litigation against giving full effect to a legislature's fresh codified framework?

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Question 3

of 11

[Source →](#)

The 12th BRICS Communications Ministers' Meeting, held in Pune on August 21, 2026, concluded a five-day ICT Track under which theme?

A Innovate, Cooperate and Transform (ICT) for a Resilient Future ✓

B Digital Sovereignty for the Global South

C Building Trust in Emerging Technologies

D Connect, Compute, Cooperate

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: India hosted the 12th BRICS Communications Ministers' Meeting in Pune on August 21, 2026, chaired by Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, concluding a five-day BRICS ICT Track (August 17-21) under the theme "Innovate, Cooperate and Transform (ICT) for a Resilient Future," focused on sustainable ICT ecosystems, cybersecurity, digital skilling, and startups/innovation. **ANALYSIS:** The meeting reflects India's positioning as an exporter of Digital Public Infrastructure models within BRICS' South-South digital cooperation framework, while navigating differing data-sovereignty positions among member states.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

The meeting concluded with ministers adopting future cooperation priorities and visiting the Digital BRICS Forum Expo, which showcased Indian telecom technology to visiting delegations. This ICT Track ran alongside a parallel BRICS Tourism Ministers' track that concluded the same week with the Jaipur Declaration, both reflecting India's use of its 2026 BRICS Chairship to convene sector-specific working groups across multiple domains.

India's DPI model, built around foundational systems like Aadhaar and UPI, has increasingly become a template India promotes for adoption or adaptation by other developing economies through multilateral platforms like BRICS. The four priority areas discussed, sustainable ICT ecosystems, cybersecurity and trustworthy ICT, digital skilling, and startups and innovation, mirror themes India has also pushed at G20 and other multilateral forums, positioning digital cooperation as a recurring pillar of India's broader international-outreach strategy across groupings, not a one-off initiative specific to BRICS.

Q3
 **CONCEPT KIT**
 CROSS-PAPER

GS2 (India's BRICS Chairship, multilateral groupings); GS3 (digital infrastructure, cybersecurity policy).

 MAINS KEYWORDS

BRICS ICT Track, Digital Public Infrastructure, Jyotiraditya Scindia.

 COMMON MISTAKE

confusing the Communications Ministers' Meeting (Pune, digital/ICT focus) with the Tourism Ministers' Meeting (Jaipur, tourism focus); both concluded around the same date under India's 2026 chairship but cover distinct sectors.

 EXAM TIP

anchor "12th edition, Pune, Aug 21 2026, chaired by Scindia" as this meeting's fixed fact set.

 INTERVIEW

how can India leverage its domestic DPI success to shape multilateral digital-cooperation norms among developing economies?

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Question 4

of 11

[Source](#)

The Jaipur Declaration, adopted by BRICS Tourism Ministers on August 21, 2026, rests on how many priority pillars?

A Three

B Five

C Four ✓

D Six

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: BRICS Tourism Ministers, meeting in Jaipur under India's 2026 BRICS Chairship and chaired by Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, adopted the "BRICS Tourism Ministers' Communique 2026" (the Jaipur Declaration) on August 21, 2026, under the theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability," resting on four priority pillars: AI in tourism, sustainable and responsible tourism, tourism skilling and capacity building, and seamless travel facilitation. **ANALYSIS:** Tourism diplomacy functions as a soft-power tool for India's BRICS Chairship, though divergent visa regimes and infrastructure gaps among member states remain implementation challenges for the seamless-travel-facilitation goal.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

The Jaipur Declaration followed BRICS Tourism Working Group sessions held in Jaipur on August 19-20, 2026, with the full ministerial meeting running August 21-22. Delegations from all BRICS member states, including newer members like Iran, UAE, Ethiopia and Indonesia alongside founding members Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa, participated in the discussions.

Rajasthan's state leadership, including CM Bhajan Lal Sharma and Deputy CM Diya Kumari, played a hosting role given Jaipur's selection as the venue, reflecting how India's BRICS Chairship has distributed sector-specific meetings across different Indian states and cities. This distributed-hosting model, spreading BRICS sectoral meetings across Pune, Jaipur and other Indian cities, allows India to showcase a wider range of its states' infrastructure and cultural offerings to visiting international delegations over the course of its chairship year, rather than concentrating all events in a single national capital.

Q4
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS2 (India's BRICS Chairship, multilateral tourism cooperation).


MAINS KEYWORDS

Jaipur Declaration, BRICS Tourism Ministers, seamless travel facilitation.


COMMON MISTAKE

confusing the Jaipur Declaration's four pillars with the BRICS Environment Ministers' separate set of priorities from an earlier meeting; each BRICS sectoral track has its own distinct priority framework.


EXAM TIP

anchor "four pillars: AI, sustainability, skilling, seamless travel" as this declaration's fixed fact set.


INTERVIEW

can standardised travel-facilitation commitments meaningfully increase intra-BRICS tourist flows given underlying infrastructure and visa-policy disparities?


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Question 5

of 11

[Source](#) →

The Ministry of Rural Development's National Campaign on Entrepreneurship-II, launched August 21, 2026, targets formalisation of how many enterprises over its three-month run?

- ☐ A 25,000
- ☐ B 1,00,000
- ☐ C 75,000
- ☒ D 50,000 ✓

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The Ministry of Rural Development launched the National Campaign on Entrepreneurship-II under DAY-NRLM on August 21, 2026, coinciding with World Entrepreneurs' Day, running through November 21, 2026, targeting entrepreneurship training for 5 lakh SHG women, formalisation of 50,000 enterprises, orientation of 50,000 community cadres, and onboarding 25,000 SHG members to e-commerce platforms including ONDC and GeM.

ANALYSIS: The campaign reflects a policy shift from subsistence-level SHG livelihoods toward scalable enterprise formalisation with genuine market linkages, aligned with the national goal of 6 crore Lakhpati Didis, rather than skilling in isolation without market access.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

DAY-NRLM (Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission) is India's flagship rural livelihoods programme, organising rural women into Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to build savings, credit access and livelihood capacity. The campaign's explicit e-commerce onboarding target, connecting 25,000 SHG members to the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) and Government e-Marketplace (GeM), reflects a deliberate strategy of pairing skilling with digital market-access infrastructure, addressing a common critique that livelihood-training programmes without market linkages produce limited income impact.

The campaign's timing, coinciding with World Entrepreneurs' Day, situates it within a broader push toward the national goal of 6 crore "Lakhpati Didis," SHG women earning over Rs 1 lakh annually.

Q5
 **CONCEPT KIT**
 CROSS-PAPER

GS3 (rural development, inclusive growth); GS2 (government schemes for women's economic empowerment).

 MAINS KEYWORDS

DAY-NRLM, Lakhpati Didi, ONDC/GeM market linkage.

 COMMON MISTAKE

confusing the campaign's enterprise-formalisation target (50,000) with its SHG-women-trained target (5 lakh); these are distinct metrics in the same campaign.

 EXAM TIP

anchor "50,000 enterprises, 5 lakh women trained, Aug 21-Nov 21 2026" as this campaign's fixed fact set.

 INTERVIEW

why is market-linkage infrastructure like ONDC essential for converting SHG-based skilling into sustainable rural enterprise?

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Question 6

of 11

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A Hindu editorial on the Centre's 2026-27 fiscal outlook argues the fiscal deficit can stay near target primarily because of what?

- ☐ A A reduction in overall government spending
- ☒ B Strong non-tax revenue and front-loaded capital expenditure ✓
- ☐ C A one-time windfall from disinvestment
- ☐ D Higher-than-budgeted GST collections

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The Hindu, drawing on analysis by C. Rangarajan and D.K. Srivastava, argues that weak Personal Income Tax and GST collections combined with West Asian crisis-driven oil-price volatility are straining central revenues in 2026-27, but that the fiscal deficit can still stay near the 4.6% target because strong non-tax revenue, principally RBI dividends, and front-loaded capital expenditure are offsetting the shortfall. **ANALYSIS:** The editorial's key insight is that headline fiscal-deficit target achievement should not be read as evidence of resolved structural revenue weakness, since RBI dividend transfers are variable and cannot be assumed to recur at the same scale in future years.

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

India pursues a multi-year fiscal-consolidation glide path with annual fiscal-deficit targets, and the government has responded to 2026-27's revenue pressure through targeted new levies, including a Health/National Security Cess, rather than broad-based tax increases. The RBI transfers its annual surplus to the government as a dividend, a process governed by the framework established under the Bimal Jalan Committee's Economic Capital Framework (2019), which determines how much of the RBI's reserves can be transferred without compromising its own financial stability. Relying on this variable non-tax revenue source to offset a structural tax-collection shortfall, while effective this year, is not necessarily a sustainable long-term fiscal strategy.

Q6
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS3 (fiscal policy, government budgeting, taxation).


MAINS KEYWORDS

fiscal deficit, RBI dividend, Bimal Jalan Committee.


COMMON MISTAKE

treating fiscal-deficit target achievement as evidence that underlying revenue collection is healthy; the editorial explicitly distinguishes headline target achievement from structural weakness being masked by non-tax revenue.


EXAM TIP

anchor "4.6% fiscal deficit target, RBI dividends as cushion" as this topic's fixed fact set.


INTERVIEW

is relying on RBI dividends to hold the fiscal deficit line a sustainable long-term strategy, or a one-off cushion?


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Question 7

of 11

[Source](#) →

A Hindu editorial on the Vanashakti verdict characterises the Supreme Court's ruling as balanced because it avoided which two extremes?

- ☐ A Nationalisation of polluting industries and complete deregulation
- ☐ B Blanket ex-post facto regularisation and blanket closure of all violating units
- ☒ C **Criminal prosecution of all violators and full amnesty for all violators ✓**
- ☐ D Central takeover of state environmental agencies and total decentralisation

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The Hindu argues the Supreme Court's ruling in *Vanashakti v. Union of India* (decided July 29, 2026) reaffirms that prior Environmental Clearance is mandatory and rejects any general practice of "violate first, regularize later," while leaving Parliament room to craft a fresh, tightly conditioned statutory scheme addressing genuine legacy violations, avoiding both blanket ex-post facto regularisation (which would reward violation) and blanket closure of every violating unit regardless of context (which would cause disproportionate economic disruption). **ANALYSIS:** The ruling's ultimate effectiveness depends on Parliament designing a genuinely narrow, stringently conditioned legislative scheme rather than one that could be diluted over time into a routine escape valve for future violations.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

The requirement for prior Environmental Clearance is a foundational principle of Indian environmental law grounded in the precautionary principle, requiring environmental impact assessment before, not after, potentially damaging activity begins. Vanashakti is an environmental NGO that has been party to several significant Indian environmental litigation matters, and this ruling addresses a long-standing pattern of project proponents commencing operations without prior clearance and later seeking regularisation.

By leaving the legislative design of any legacy-violation scheme to Parliament rather than crafting a judicial remedy itself, the Court respected the separation of powers while still firmly constraining what such a scheme could permissibly look like.

Q7
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS3 (Environmental Clearance, precautionary principle); GS2 (judiciary, legislative-judicial balance).


MAINS KEYWORDS

Vanashakti v. Union of India, ex-post facto regularisation, prior Environmental Clearance.


COMMON MISTAKE

reading this ruling as permitting ex-post facto regularisation generally; the Court explicitly rejected that as a general practice while leaving room only for a narrow future legislative scheme.


EXAM TIP

anchor "Vanashakti v. Union of India, decided July 29 2026" as this case's fixed fact set.


INTERVIEW

what specific conditions should Parliament attach to any legacy-violation regularisation scheme to avoid it becoming a backdoor amnesty?


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Question 8

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[Source →](#)

A Hindu editorial on free public AI-driven coaching platforms concludes their most realistic contribution lies in what?

- ☐ A Complete disruption of the private coaching industry
- ☐ B Replacing human mentorship entirely with AI systems
- ☒ C Access expansion for aspirants currently priced out of any coaching ✓
- ☐ D Eliminating the need for competitive entrance examinations

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: The Hindu examines the government's proposed free, AI-driven public coaching platform for competitive exams like JEE and NEET, weighing its potential to cut costs and widen access against structural barriers like connectivity gaps and the loss of in-person mentoring private coaching provides, concluding that complete disruption of the private coaching ecosystem is unlikely and that the platform's most realistic and meaningful contribution is access expansion for aspirants who currently cannot afford any structured coaching at all. **ANALYSIS:** The editorial's key distinction is between access expansion (a realistic, valuable goal) and quality-parity with high-end private coaching (a much harder bar current AI systems have not yet cleared).

📌 CONCEPT NOTE

India's private coaching industry for competitive examinations has grown into a substantial financial burden for aspirant families, often requiring relocation to specialised coaching hub cities and significant recurring fees, creating a documented equity barrier correlated with family income. The proposed platform is built on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) principles similar to successful initiatives like Aadhaar and UPI, aiming to deliver adaptive, personalised learning content at essentially zero cost.

However, connectivity gaps in underserved regions risk undermining access precisely for the population the platform aims to serve most, and current AI systems have not yet fully replicated the structured peer environments and real-time mentorship feedback that higher-end private coaching provides.

Q8
 **CONCEPT KIT**

CROSS-PAPER

GS2 (education policy, equity in access to education).


MAINS KEYWORDS

Digital Public Infrastructure, adaptive learning, JEE/NEET coaching access.


COMMON MISTAKE

evaluating this initiative against complete private-coaching-industry disruption; the editorial explicitly argues this is the wrong success metric, favouring access expansion instead.


EXAM TIP

anchor "DPI-based platform, connectivity gaps, mentorship-quality limitation" as this topic's fixed fact set.


INTERVIEW

what specific design features would a public platform need to replicate the feedback loop good mentoring offers?


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Question 9

of 11

[Source →](#)

A Down to Earth editorial on India's data centre boom identifies which specific regulatory gap regarding water consumption?

- ☐ A Excessive water tariffs discouraging data centre investment
- ☐ B No major state policy mandates water-consumption disclosure or stress assessment
- ☐ C A ban on data centres in all water-stressed cities
- ☒ D **Mandatory but unenforced recycling of cooling water ✓**

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: Down to Earth argues India's AI-driven data centre boom is generating significant water demand in already water-stressed cities, but no major state data-centre policy currently mandates disclosure of water consumption through centralised reporting or requires a formal water-stress assessment before facility approval, calling for embedding these requirements now before infrastructure and cooling-technology choices lock in water-consumption patterns for the multi-decade operational lifespan of these facilities. **ANALYSIS:** Because site-selection and cooling-technology decisions made at construction time effectively lock in water-consumption patterns, the editorial argues early regulatory intervention is far more cost-effective than attempting to retrofit efficiency standards onto an already-built infrastructure base.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

Data centres, particularly those supporting AI computing workloads, rely heavily on water-based cooling systems whose consumption scales directly with computing capacity, and facilities are typically sited based on power-grid access, fibre connectivity and land availability rather than local water-resource conditions. This means data centres can be built in already water-scarce Indian cities without any regulatory requirement to assess or disclose the resulting water impact. Cooling-technology choices at construction time, such as water-intensive evaporative cooling versus more water-efficient closed-loop or air-cooling alternatives, represent exactly the kind of infrastructure decision the editorial argues effectively locks in a facility's water-consumption profile for decades. Similar water-disclosure and stress-assessment mandates already exist for other water-intensive industries in India, such as thermal power plants and certain categories of manufacturing units, making the editorial's call less a demand for an unprecedented regulatory category and more an argument for extending an existing governance principle to a rapidly growing new sector.

Q9

 CONCEPT KIT

CROSS-PAPER

GS3 (water security, environmental regulation, technology-environment intersection).


MAINS KEYWORDS

data centre water consumption, water-stress assessment, cooling-technology lock-in.


COMMON MISTAKE

assuming this is purely a technology-sector regulation issue; the editorial explicitly frames it as a water-security and environmental-governance gap requiring the same rigour applied to other water-intensive industries.


EXAM TIP

anchor "no mandatory water-disclosure policy, infrastructure lock-in argument" as this topic's fixed fact set.


INTERVIEW

what specific regulatory body should own the mandate for water-consumption disclosure, and what enforcement mechanism would give it teeth?


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Question 10

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[Source →](#)

A Down to Earth editorial on India's EV transition argues that vehicle electrification primarily does what to emissions, rather than eliminate them?

- ☐ A Doubles them through battery production alone
- ☒ B Relocates them from vehicle tailpipes to power-plant smokestacks ✓
- ☐ C Eliminates them completely regardless of grid composition
- ☐ D Shifts them entirely to the manufacturing sector

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: Down to Earth questions whether India's EV push under schemes like PM E-DRIVE genuinely cuts pollution or merely relocates it upstream to the electricity grid, arguing that electric vehicles shift emissions from vehicle tailpipes to power-plant smokestacks, meaning the net emissions-reduction benefit depends substantially on the grid's carbon intensity, which remains significantly coal-dependent in India. **ANALYSIS:** The editorial acknowledges centralised power generation offers a genuine long-term decarbonisation advantage since it is easier to progressively clean a finite number of power plants than millions of individual internal combustion vehicles, but argues vehicle subsidies alone, without complementary grid, charging-infrastructure and battery-recycling investment, overstate the current genuine climate benefit.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

PM E-DRIVE (Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement) is a Ministry of Heavy Industries scheme supporting India's EV adoption push through purchase incentives and infrastructure support. Beyond grid carbon intensity, the editorial extends its analysis to the full EV value chain, noting that battery production requires resource-intensive mineral extraction and that inadequate end-of-life battery-recycling infrastructure carries its own environmental risk, meaning a genuinely sustainable transition requires coordinated investment across charging infrastructure, public-transit electrification, battery recycling and grid decarbonisation, not vehicle-purchase subsidies as a standalone policy lever. India's parallel push to expand renewable energy capacity under its broader National Electricity Plan targets is directly relevant here, since the pace at which the grid itself decarbonises will determine how quickly the emissions-relocation problem the editorial identifies resolves itself, making EV policy and power-sector policy effectively two halves of the same climate strategy.

Q10 **CONCEPT KIT**

 CROSS-PAPER	GS3 (climate policy, energy transition, sustainable transport).
 MAINS KEYWORDS	PM E-DRIVE, grid carbon intensity, battery lifecycle management.
 COMMON MISTAKE	reading this editorial as opposing EV adoption; it explicitly argues EVs offer a genuine long-term advantage due to centralised decarbonisation potential, while cautioning against treating subsidies alone as a complete solution.
 EXAM TIP	anchor "emissions relocation, grid carbon intensity, battery lifecycle" as this topic's fixed fact set.
 INTERVIEW	what sequencing between EV adoption incentives and grid-cleanup investment would minimise net emissions during the transition?

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Question 11

of 11

[Source →](#)

A Down to Earth editorial on Odisha's flood response identifies which populations as most frequently excluded from standard post-disaster recovery aid?

- ☐ A Urban middle-class households
- ☐ B Government employees and pensioners
- ☒ C **Persons with disabilities, single women, the elderly, and landless workers ✓**
- ☐ D Large landowning farmers

ANSWER & ANALYSIS
✓ EXPLANATION

FACT: Down to Earth argues humanitarian response to Odisha's floods cannot stop at rescue, and that genuine recovery requires restoring livelihoods and dignity for the most vulnerable, persons with disabilities, single women, the elderly, and landless agricultural workers, who are often excluded from post-disaster aid due to lacking the documentation, mobility, or institutional visibility that standard relief mechanisms assume, noting the government's Rs 1,000 crore relief package as a necessary but insufficient foundation for genuine recovery. **ANALYSIS:** The editorial distinguishes disaster-response phases, rescue, relief, and recovery, arguing vulnerability-sensitive targeting mechanisms should be built into recovery planning from the outset rather than treated as a reactive, later-phase concern.

📖 CONCEPT NOTE

Landless agricultural workers occupy a particular blind spot in compensation frameworks, since land-based agricultural loss compensation schemes structurally exclude workers without land titles despite their livelihood loss being just as direct and severe as landowning farmers. Odisha has developed relatively strong disaster-management institutional capacity following major historical cyclone-response experience, meaning this editorial's critique is specifically about the recovery-phase vulnerability gap rather than a broader critique of the state's overall disaster-response capability.

Disaster management in India operates under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, with the National Disaster Management Authority as the apex coordinating body, supported by State Disaster Management Authorities and District Disaster Management Authorities at successive tiers. A useful comparative benchmark is the National Disaster Management Plan's explicit recognition of differential vulnerability among disaster-affected populations, meaning the institutional framework already acknowledges the principle this editorial argues has been inconsistently implemented in practice during Odisha's current flood-recovery phase.

Q11 **CONCEPT KIT**
 CROSS-PAPER

GS1 (disaster management, geography); GS3 (institutional disaster-response frameworks); social justice for vulnerable sections.

 MAINS KEYWORDS

disaster-response phases, structural exclusion, livelihood restoration.

 COMMON MISTAKE

reading this editorial as criticising the adequacy of rescue and immediate relief efforts; its critique is specifically about the recovery phase and vulnerability-sensitive targeting, not the emergency response itself.

 EXAM TIP

anchor "Rs 1,000 crore relief package, recovery-phase vulnerability gap" as this topic's fixed fact set.

 INTERVIEW

what specific institutional mechanisms would ensure post-disaster livelihood-restoration reaches structurally excluded populations?

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