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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED

Daily Quiz, August 22, 2026

22 August 2026

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DAILY QUIZ — SOLVED ANSWER KEY

Daily Quiz, August 22, 2026

22 August 2026 · 10 Questions · Answers & Explanations Included

Question 1 of 10 Source →

The Health Ministry's notification S.O. 4595(E) mandates a warning against use in children below four years for which cold-combination drug?

A Paracetamol + Ibuprofen

B Chlorpheniramine Maleate + Phenylephrine Hydrochloride ✓

C Amoxicillin + Clavulanic Acid

D Cetirizine + Ambroxol

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

EXPLANATION

FACT: The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, via gazette notification S.O. 4595(E) (issued August 18, 2026), made it mandatory for all manufacturers of Fixed Dose Combinations containing Chlorpheniramine Maleate + Phenylephrine Hydrochloride to carry a warning that the combination shall not be used in children below four years of age, extending a narrower restriction first imposed on April 15, 2025 to all formulations of the combination.
ANALYSIS: The restriction was examined by the Drugs Technical Advisory Board at its February 16, 2026 meeting before being formalised roughly six months later, illustrating the gap between technical recommendation and eventual gazette notification in India's drug-regulation process.

CONCEPT NOTE

Section 26A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 empowers the Central Government to prohibit the manufacture, sale or distribution of any drug in the public interest, the legal basis for this restriction. The Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB), constituted under Section 5 of the same Act, is India's highest statutory technical body advising the Centre and states on drug-related matters.
This tightening follows continuing scrutiny of paediatric drug safety in India since earlier controversies over cough-syrup-linked child deaths, part of a broader pattern of strengthening pharmacovigilance for medicines used in young children specifically. Chlorpheniramine Maleate is an antihistamine used to relieve allergy and cold symptoms, while Phenylephrine Hydrochloride is a decongestant; combined in a fixed-dose formulation, they are widely sold over the counter for common cold and cough relief, making the scale of potential exposure among young children a genuine public-health consideration behind this restriction.

Q1 🎯 CONCEPT KIT

🔗 **CROSS-PAPER**	GS2 (health governance, statutory bodies); GS3 (pharmacovigilance, drug safety).
✍️ **MAINS KEYWORDS**	DTAB, Section 26A, paediatric drug safety.
⚠️ **COMMON MISTAKE**	assuming this is an entirely new restriction; it extends an existing narrower restriction from April 2025 to all formulations.
📌 **EXAM TIP**	anchor "S.O. 4595(E), Aug 18 2026, extends April 2025 restriction" as this notification's fixed fact set.
🎤 **INTERVIEW**	are labelling mandates alone sufficient without pharmacy-level point-of-sale enforcement?

📰 Read Full Article →

Question 2 of 10

Source →

Karnataka's one-year ban on "analogue paneer" was issued despite lab tests showing what?

A **No actual adulteration in tested paneer samples ✓**

B Severe adulteration in most samples tested

C Bacterial contamination exceeding safety limits

D Illegal use of banned preservatives

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

EXPLANATION

FACT: Karnataka's Food Safety and Drug Administration prohibited the manufacture, storage, distribution and sale of "analogue paneer" (where milk fat and solids are wholly or partly replaced with vegetable oil or fat) when sold or labelled as paneer, effective August 17, 2026 for one year, despite Karnataka lab tests finding no actual adulteration in tested paneer samples, meaning the ban is precautionary and labelling-driven rather than a response to detected contamination. ANALYSIS: The ban reflects a regulatory gap where states are stepping in with ad hoc, time-bound restrictions in areas FSSAI has not yet framed binding national standards for, creating a state-by-state patchwork.

CONCEPT NOTE

FSSAI-standardised dairy-analogue products, such as Frozen Dessert, Processed Cheese, and Mixed Fat Spread, remain excluded from Karnataka's ban since they already carry recognised national standards, unlike "analogue paneer" itself. FSSAI West Region separately issued a public notice on April 22, 2026 regarding correct labelling of "cheese analogues," indicating the central regulator is aware of the broader dairy-analogue labelling gap but has not yet issued a uniform national standard specifically for analogue paneer.

This connects to India's Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, which empowers state Commissioners of Food Safety to prohibit specific food articles in the interest of public health. Genuine paneer is produced by acid-coagulating milk fat and solids together, giving it a distinct nutritional and textural profile compared with vegetable-fat-based substitutes, which is why labelling accuracy, not just food safety in the narrow contamination sense, is the central regulatory concern this ban addresses.

Q2 🎯 CONCEPT KIT

🔗 CROSS-PAPER	GS3 (food processing regulation); GS2 (Centre-state regulatory federalism).
✍️ MAINS KEYWORDS	analogue paneer, FSSAI, Food Safety and Standards Act 2006.
⚠️ COMMON MISTAKE	assuming the ban followed detected adulteration; Karnataka's own lab tests found none, making this a precautionary labelling measure.
📌 EXAM TIP	anchor "ban effective Aug 17 2026, 1 year, no adulteration found" as this topic's fixed fact set.
🎤 INTERVIEW	should FSSAI fast-track a uniform national standard for dairy-analogue products given rising demand for plant-based alternatives?

📰 Read Full Article →

Question 3 of 10

Source →

The Rs 600 crore fund announced by Japan's Yamanashi Prefecture at the UP-Japan Investment Meet 2026 supports investment in which sector?

- A Large public-sector enterprises
- B Government infrastructure projects only
- C **MSMEs ✓**
- D Foreign direct real estate investment

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

EXPLANATION

FACT: Kotaro Nagasaki, Governor of Japan's Yamanashi Prefecture, announced a Rs 600 crore fund to support Yamanashi-based MSME investment in Uttar Pradesh at the UP-Japan Investment Meet 2026 in Lucknow, alongside UP CM Yogi Adityanath's announcement of a dedicated "Yamanashi Desk" at Invest UP for investor coordination and a 90-day review mechanism for land allotment and investment issue resolution. ANALYSIS: This illustrates the growing trend of sub-national "paradiplomacy" in India's foreign economic engagement, with states directly courting foreign investment and institutionalising measurable investment-realisation tracking mechanisms rather than relying solely on Centre-routed diplomacy.

CONCEPT NOTE

Four MoUs were exchanged at the same investment meet, covering technical training, skill development, tourism, and Japanese Global Capability Centres in Noida and Greater Noida, reflecting a broader UP-Yamanashi partnership beyond just the MSME fund. This builds on an earlier UP-Yamanashi MoU signed in December 2024, showing a sustained bilateral sub-national relationship rather than a one-off announcement.

The 90-day review mechanism for land allotment and investment issue resolution is a notable institutional design feature, since a historical challenge with India-Japan (and broader FDI) MoUs has been slow, uncertain follow-through from signing to ground-level investment realisation. Invest UP is Uttar Pradesh's single-window investment-facilitation agency, and creating a prefecture-specific "desk" within it signals a deliberate institutional commitment to sustained relationship management rather than treating the investment meet as a one-time signing ceremony disconnected from subsequent implementation support.

Q3 🎯 CONCEPT KIT

🔗 **CROSS-PAPER**	GS2 (India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership, sub-national diplomacy); GS3 (MSME investment facilitation).
✍️ **MAINS KEYWORDS**	Yamanashi Desk, Invest UP, 90-day review mechanism.
⚠️ **COMMON MISTAKE**	confusing this MSME-specific fund with the broader UP-Yamanashi MoUs on tourism/education/green hydrogen signed the previous day; this is a distinct, later-announced investment commitment.
📌 **EXAM TIP**	anchor "Rs 600 crore, Yamanashi Governor Kotaro Nagasaki, 90-day review" as this topic's fixed fact set.
🎤 **INTERVIEW**	how can state-prefecture partnerships avoid the historical problem of signed MoUs not translating into ground-level investment?

📰 Read Full Article →

Question 4 of 10 Source →

The National Teachers' Awards 2026, whose list of 48 teachers was announced, will be conferred on which date?

A August 22, 2026

B October 2, 2026

C November 14, 2026

D **September 5, 2026 ✓**

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

EXPLANATION

FACT: The Ministry of Education announced the National Teachers' Awards 2026 list of 48 teachers, selected from 27 states, 7 Union Territories, and 6 central government organisations including KVS, NVS and EMRS, with the award ceremony scheduled for September 5, 2026 (Teachers' Day) at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, to be conferred by President Droupadi Murmu. ANALYSIS: The National Teachers' Awards, instituted in 1958, use a three-stage selection process (district, state, national) via online self-nomination, reinforcing teacher recognition as a policy lever within India's broader education-quality improvement efforts.

CONCEPT NOTE

Teachers' Day, observed on September 5 each year, commemorates the birth anniversary of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, born September 5, 1888, who served as India's first Vice-President and second President and was himself a distinguished philosopher and educator before entering public life. The 2026 awardee composition, 26 male and 22 female teachers, drew nominations from a window running June 15 to July 20, 2026, via the Ministry of Education's National Teachers Awards portal.

National Teachers' Awards recognise outstanding contributions to school education specifically, distinguishing them from higher-education-focused recognition programmes. The three-stage selection process, district, state, then national-level screening, ensures a broad initial pool is progressively narrowed by increasingly rigorous committees, a design intended to surface genuinely outstanding teaching practice from across India's vast and diverse school system rather than relying on centralised nomination alone.

Q4 🎯 CONCEPT KIT

🔗 **CROSS-PAPER**	GS2 (education policy, government recognition schemes).
✍️ **MAINS KEYWORDS**	National Teachers' Awards, Teachers' Day, Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan.
⚠️ **COMMON MISTAKE**	confusing National Teachers' Awards (school education, instituted 1958) with other education-recognition schemes; this is specifically a school-education honour.
📌 **EXAM TIP**	anchor "48 teachers, Sept 5 ceremony, Vigyan Bhawan" as this topic's fixed fact set.
🎤 **INTERVIEW**	should national teacher-recognition programmes be more directly linked to systemic teacher-training reform rather than remaining symbolic annual honours?

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Question 5 of 10

Source →

A Hindu editorial drawing on the UDISE+ 2025-26 report highlights which specific enrolment disparity?

A Urban enrolment at 90% versus rural enrolment at 60%

B Male enrolment at 55% versus female enrolment at 45%

C **OBC enrolment at 49% versus ST enrolment at 10% ✓**

D Private-school enrolment exceeding government-school enrolment

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

EXPLANATION

FACT: The Hindu, drawing on the UDISE+ 2025-26 report (1.47 million schools, 240 million students, 10.2 million teachers), argues India's school system has scaled impressively in aggregate but masks sharp regional, social, and infrastructural inequities, specifically OBC enrolment at 49% against ST enrolment at just 10%, calling for a shift from "access" to "equity" through targeted teacher deployment, conditional cash transfers, and expanded residential schooling for marginalised girls. ANALYSIS: The editorial's key move is distinguishing aggregate system growth from proportionate improvement across specific social categories, since infrastructure and resource gaps tend to concentrate in already disadvantaged regions, compounding rather than offsetting pre-existing disadvantage.

CONCEPT NOTE

UDISE+ (Unified District Information System for Education Plus) is maintained by the Ministry of Education and is India's primary comprehensive school-education data system, enabling disaggregated analysis by social category and region beyond simple national enrolment totals. The editorial's proposed remedies target distinct access barriers: teacher deployment calibration addresses geographic resource gaps, conditional cash transfers address household-level economic barriers to sustained enrolment, and expanded residential schooling specifically addresses access barriers facing marginalised girls, who may face distinct mobility and safety constraints beyond those affecting other underserved groups.

Q5 🎯 CONCEPT KIT

🔗 **CROSS-PAPER**	GS2 (education policy, social justice, welfare-scheme targeting).
✍️ **MAINS KEYWORDS**	UDISE+, access versus equity, compounding disadvantage.
⚠️ **COMMON MISTAKE**	treating the OBC-ST gap as the only relevant equity metric; the editorial frames it as illustrative of a broader pattern of regional and infrastructural inequity.
📌 **EXAM TIP**	anchor "UDISE+ 2025-26, 1.47M schools, OBC 49% vs ST 10%" as this topic's fixed fact set.
🎤 **INTERVIEW**	does the state owe a heightened obligation to correct historical educational disadvantage for specific social categories?

📰 Read Full Article →

Question 6 of 10

Source →

A Hindu editorial on IPMDA argues that transparency functions as deterrence primarily by countering which type of maritime threat?

A **Grey-zone activity relying on ambiguity and deniability ✓**

B Open conventional naval conflict

C Large-scale piracy operations

D Territorial water boundary disputes

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

EXPLANATION

FACT: The Hindu argues that with $7 trillion in annual Indo-Pacific trade exposed to growing grey-zone threats, scaling up the Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA), anchored by India's Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR), is essential to deter coercive activity, framing transparency itself as a form of deterrence since grey-zone activity, actions below the threshold of open conflict, specifically relies on ambiguity and plausible deniability that shared, real-time maritime-domain data directly undermines. ANALYSIS: IPMDA's deterrent value scales with the breadth of its participating coalition, since a wider network of states sharing the same data both improves coverage and raises the diplomatic cost of exposed coercive activity, though transparency alone has genuine limits against determined state actors willing to accept reputational costs.

CONCEPT NOTE

IFC-IOR (Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region), based in Gurugram, serves as India's regional maritime-security information-sharing hub and provides institutional infrastructure that IPMDA's regional expansion can build upon rather than replicate from scratch. Grey-zone maritime activities include ambiguous unmarked vessel presence, fishing-fleet activity used as surveillance cover, and coercive but not overtly militarised coast guard actions, all specifically difficult to counter through conventional naval deterrence since they are deliberately designed to avoid triggering a clear military response.

The editorial's proposed path forward involves deeper India-U.S. cooperation alongside expanded ASEAN and Pacific Island state participation to broaden the initiative's coverage and deterrent effect.

Q6 🎯 CONCEPT KIT

🔗 CROSS-PAPER	GS2 (Indo-Pacific groupings, India's maritime diplomacy); GS3 (maritime security, grey-zone threats).
✍️ MAINS KEYWORDS	IPMDA, IFC-IOR, grey-zone activity.
⚠️ COMMON MISTAKE	confusing IPMDA with the Quad grouping itself; IPMDA is a specific maritime-domain-awareness initiative associated with the Quad, not its entire security agenda.
📌 EXAM TIP	anchor "IFC-IOR Gurugram, $7 trillion Indo-Pacific trade" as this topic's fixed fact set.
🎤 INTERVIEW	can transparency-based deterrence meaningfully constrain a state actor willing to accept reputational costs?

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Question 7 of 10

Source →

An Indian Express editorial on UPI proposes funding its infrastructure through which alternative to a Merchant Discount Rate?

- A Direct government budgetary allocation only
- **B Redirecting systemic savings like reduced cash-handling costs ✓**
- C A flat annual subscription fee for all UPI users
- D International development-bank loans

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

EXPLANATION

FACT: Indian Express argues against imposing a Merchant Discount Rate on UPI transactions above Rs 2,000, warning even a 0.3% charge could cost the retail economy roughly Rs 27,000 crore annually and risk pushing merchants and consumers back to cash, instead proposing the state fund UPI's infrastructure from the systemic savings digital payments already generate, such as reduced currency-printing costs for the RBI and lower cash-handling costs for banks. ANALYSIS: This reframing treats UPI's infrastructure cost not as a burden requiring new user charges, but as an investment already substantially offset by savings elsewhere in the financial system that have not yet been explicitly channelled back to sustain the infrastructure generating them.

CONCEPT NOTE

UPI (Unified Payments Interface), operated by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) since its 2016 launch, has become India's dominant digital-payments rail, with its zero-Merchant-Discount-Rate structure widely credited for driving mass adoption among small merchants and low-income consumers who are particularly price-sensitive to even modest transaction charges. The editorial's proposed alternative funding model does not dispute that UPI infrastructure requires sustainable funding, only that user-facing charges are the wrong mechanism given the demonstrated adoption risk; however, quantifying and redirecting diffuse systemic savings into a dedicated funding stream represents a genuinely harder administrative challenge than simply collecting a straightforward transaction-based fee.

Q7 🎯 CONCEPT KIT

🔗 **CROSS-PAPER**	GS3 (digital economy, Digital Public Infrastructure, financial inclusion).
✍️ **MAINS KEYWORDS**	Merchant Discount Rate, zero-MDR structure, systemic savings funding.
⚠️ **COMMON MISTAKE**	assuming the editorial opposes UPI infrastructure funding generally; it explicitly proposes an alternative funding mechanism rather than opposing funding itself.
📌 **EXAM TIP**	anchor "MDR above Rs 2,000, ~Rs 27,000 crore annual cost estimate" as this topic's fixed fact set.
🎤 **INTERVIEW**	should digital public infrastructure serving financial-inclusion goals be funded through user charges or through systemic savings it generates?

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Question 8 of 10

Source →

The paediatric cold-drug restriction was examined by the Drugs Technical Advisory Board before formalisation roughly six months later. On what date did DTAB examine it?

A January 26, 2026

B **February 16, 2026 ✓**

C March 8, 2026

D December 1, 2025

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

EXPLANATION

FACT: The restriction on Chlorpheniramine Maleate + Phenylephrine Hydrochloride combinations for children below four years was examined by the Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) at its meeting on February 16, 2026, before being formalised as gazette notification S.O. 4595(E) roughly six months later, on August 18, 2026. ANALYSIS: This roughly six-month gap between DTAB's technical recommendation and the eventual gazette notification illustrates a recurring pattern in India's drug-regulation process, where technical advisory review precedes formal notification by a substantial administrative lag.

CONCEPT NOTE

DTAB, constituted under Section 5 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, is India's highest statutory technical body advising the Central and State Governments on technical matters relating to drugs, distinct from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), which handles day-to-day regulatory administration and licensing. The roughly six-month gap between DTAB's February review and the August notification reflects the multi-stage process typical of Indian drug regulation, technical review, inter-ministerial consultation, and legal drafting, before a recommendation becomes a binding gazette notification.

Such lags are a recurring point of policy criticism, since delayed formalisation of a technically sound safety recommendation means continued market availability of products without the eventual mandated warning label during the intervening period.

Q8 🎯 CONCEPT KIT

🔗 CROSS-PAPER	GS2 (statutory advisory bodies, health governance); GS3 (drug regulation process).
✍️ MAINS KEYWORDS	DTAB, Section 5, CDSCO.
⚠️ COMMON MISTAKE	confusing DTAB (a technical advisory body) with CDSCO (the regulatory implementation body); DTAB advises, CDSCO administers.
📌 EXAM TIP	anchor "DTAB meeting Feb 16 2026, notification Aug 18 2026" as this timeline's fixed fact set.
🎤 INTERVIEW	should India's drug-regulation process build in faster turnaround from technical recommendation to binding notification?

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Question 9 of 10

Source →

FSSAI West Region's April 2026 public notice on correct labelling addressed which category of dairy-analogue product?

A Cheese analogues ✓

B Butter substitutes

C Milk powder blends

D Yogurt alternatives

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

EXPLANATION

FACT: FSSAI West Region separately issued a public notice on April 22, 2026, regarding correct labelling of "cheese analogues," indicating the central regulator is aware of the broader dairy-analogue labelling gap even though it has not yet issued a uniform national standard specifically for analogue paneer, the product Karnataka's state-level ban addresses. ANALYSIS: This reveals a governance pattern where the central regulator has begun addressing dairy-analogue labelling issues sector by sector rather than through a single comprehensive standard, leaving gaps like analogue paneer to be addressed by individual states in the interim.

CONCEPT NOTE

FSSAI-standardised dairy-analogue products, including Frozen Dessert, Processed Cheese, and Mixed Fat Spread, already carry recognised national composition and labelling standards, distinguishing them from non-standardised products like analogue paneer, which remain a regulatory grey area addressed only through ad hoc state-level action. The cheese-analogues notice reflects FSSAI's piecemeal approach to dairy-analogue regulation, addressing specific product categories as labelling concerns arise rather than through a single comprehensive framework covering all non-standardised dairy-analogue products at once.

This fragmented pattern is precisely what the Karnataka analogue-paneer editorial critique implicitly calls attention to, urging a more systematic national approach.

Q9 🎯 CONCEPT KIT

🔗 **CROSS-PAPER**	GS3 (food safety regulation, FSSAI standards); GS2 (regulatory federalism).
✍️ **MAINS KEYWORDS**	FSSAI West Region, cheese analogues, dairy-analogue standards.
⚠️ **COMMON MISTAKE**	assuming FSSAI has no involvement in dairy-analogue regulation; it has addressed specific categories like cheese analogues, just not analogue paneer specifically.
📌 **EXAM TIP**	anchor "FSSAI West Region notice, April 22 2026, cheese analogues" as this topic's fixed fact set.
🎤 **INTERVIEW**	should FSSAI move toward a single comprehensive dairy-analogue standard rather than addressing categories piecemeal?

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Question 10 of 10

Source →

The National Teachers' Awards 2026 list of 48 teachers drew representation from how many central government organisations, including KVS, NVS and EMRS?

- A 3
- B 10
- C 6 ✓
- D 15

ANSWER & ANALYSIS

EXPLANATION

FACT: The National Teachers' Awards 2026 list of 48 teachers drew representation from 27 states, 7 Union Territories, and 6 central government organisations, including Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS), and Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS), with the awardee composition split 26 male and 22 female. ANALYSIS: Drawing representation across states, Union Territories, and distinct central-government school networks ensures the awards recognise excellence across India's full range of school-governance structures, not just state-run schools.

CONCEPT NOTE

Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) operates central schools primarily for children of transferable central government employees, including defence and paramilitary personnel, while Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) runs Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas, residential schools identifying and nurturing talented rural students, and Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) serve tribal students in PVTG and other Scheduled Tribe-dominated areas. Each of these central school networks operates under a distinct administrative and pedagogical mandate, meaning representation across all of them in a single national teachers' recognition list reflects a deliberate effort to honour excellence across India's full diversity of school-governance models, not just mainstream state-run schools.

Q10 🎯 CONCEPT KIT

🔗 **CROSS-PAPER**	GS2 (education policy, central school networks).
✍️ **MAINS KEYWORDS**	KVS, NVS, EMRS, National Teachers' Awards.
⚠️ **COMMON MISTAKE**	assuming all central-government-organisation awardees come from a single school network; the 6 organisations span KVS, NVS, EMRS and others with distinct mandates.
📌 **EXAM TIP**	anchor "27 states, 7 UTs, 6 central orgs, 48 teachers" as this award's fixed fact set.
🎤 **INTERVIEW**	does representation across diverse school-governance models strengthen or dilute the symbolic value of a national teacher-recognition award?

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"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."

— Aristotle