DAILY GENERAL AWARENESS QUIZ

www.gyanshilaias.com gyanshilaiasindia@gmail.com
DIRECTOR SHRI MATI SANGAM SINGH | MANAGING DIRECTOR SRI ADITYA SINGH GAUTAM

Wednesday, 02 September 2026

1. Hockey India Awards Rs 50 Lakh To Women's Hockey Team. In conttext to the same tell us, which country is the most successful national team in the history of the FIH Women's Hockey World Cup, having won nine titles?
(A) Australia **(B)** Argentina
(C) Germany **(D)** Netherlands

2. FSSAI Proposes Red Hexagonal Warning Labels For HFSS Packaged Foods. In context to the same tell us, what does the regulatory acronym "HFSS" stand for in food safety standards?
(A) High Fiber, Soluble Sugar
(B) High Fat, Sugar, and Salt
(C) Healthy Food Safety Standards
(D) Highly Formulated Sodium Substitute

3. Prime Minister Narendra Modi conducted a state visit to Uzbekistan in August, 2026. In context to the same tell us, In which Uzbek city did Indian Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri passed away in January 1966?
(A) Samarkand **(B)** Bukhara
(C) Tashkent **(D)** Fergana

4. India Records 80% Decline in Malaria Cases and Deaths. In context to the same tell us, After an infected female Anopheles mosquito bites a human, which organ does the Plasmodium parasite first infect before entering red blood cells?
(A) Kidneys **(B)** Lungs
(C) Liver **(D)** Spleen

5. India And China Agree To 8-Point Consensus On Boundary Talks. In context to the same tell us, In which year did the tense 73-day Doklam standoff occurred?
(A) 2014 **(B)** 2017
(C) 2020 **(D)** 2022

6. Govt Notifies Legal Metrology Rules 2026: Indian Standard Time Made Mandatory Single Reference Across India.
Consider the following statements regarding the regulatory and institutional framework of time dissemination in India:
(1) The standard meridian line of Indian Standard Time (82.5 degrees East) passes through the southern state of Telangana.
(2) CSIR-NPL maintains the Primary Frequency Standard using Atomic Clocks to deliver time synchronization with nanosecond accuracy.
(3) Implementation of the Legal Metrology (Indian Standard Time) Rules, 2026 is overseen by the Department of Consumer Affairs.
Which of the above is/are correct?
(A) Only (1) and (3) **(B)** Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (2) and (3) **(D)** None of the above

7. Iran Fires Ballistic Missiles at US Bases in Jordan in Retaliation for Larak Island Strike.
Consider the following statements regarding Larak Island:
(1) Larak Island is a strategically located Iranian island situated in the Strait of Hormuz.
(2) It lies to the south of Hormuz Island and southeast of Qeshm Island.
(3) Larak Island forms the narrowest land mass border between the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.
Which of the above is/are correct?
(A) Only (1) and (3) **(B)** Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (2) and (3) **(D)** None of the above

8. Nature Study Identifies 219 Hanging Glaciers in Garhwal Himalayas' Alaknanda Basin.
Consider the following statements regarding the characteristics and formation of hanging glaciers:
(1) Hanging glaciers are body masses of ice perched on steep mountain slopes that are prone to detaching and triggering massive avalanches.
(2) They form when a major valley glacier system retreats and thins, leaving tributary glaciers positioned high above the shrunken central glacier.
(3) When an entire glacier system melts and disappears completely, the resulting elevated empty valleys are referred to as hanging valleys.
Which of the above is/are correct?
(A) Only (1) and (3) **(B)** Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (2) and (3) **(D)** All of the above

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DAILY GENERAL STUDIES QUIZ

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DIRECTOR SHRI MATI SANGAM SINGH | MANAGING DIRECTOR SRI ADITYA SINGH GAUTAM

Wednesday, 02 September 2026

HISTORY

1. Why were permanent agricultural settlements absent during the Paleolithic Age?
(A) Soil was infertile
(B) Humans were mobile
(C) Rainfall was absent
(D) Rivers were absent

2. Bhimbetka is particularly famous for:
(A) Rock shelters
(B) Stupas
(C) Temples
(D) Harbours

3. Which resource was most important for Paleolithic survival?
(A) Natural food
(B) Currency
(C) Metal
(D) Written laws

4. Which development became more prominent after the Paleolithic Age?
(A) Agriculture
(B) Hunting
(C) Stone tools
(D) Food gathering

5. The principal purpose of Paleolithic tools was:
(A) Subsistence activities
(B) Religious ceremonies
(C) Writing
(D) Administration

6. Which prehistoric site is especially famous for rock paintings?
(A) Bhimbetka
(B) Pataliputra
(C) Taxila
(D) Vaishali

7. Paleolithic humans obtained food mainly through:
(A) Farming
(B) Hunting and gathering
(C) Trade
(D) Taxation

8. Paleolithic social organization was probably based mainly on:
(A) Small groups
(B) Large empires
(C) City-states
(D) Centralized states

9. Which was a major technological achievement of Paleolithic humans?
(A) Stone shaping
(B) Iron smelting
(C) Printing
(D) Paper-making

10. Animals were primarily used by Paleolithic humans as:
(A) Food
(B) Agricultural labour
(C) Transportation
(D) Currency

1-{B}-2-{A}-3-{A}-4-{A}-5-{A}-6-{A}-7-{B}-8-{A}-9-{A}-10-{A}

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DAILY STATIC GK ONE-LINERS

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DIRECTOR SHRI MATI SANGAM SINGH | MANAGING DIRECTOR SRI ADITYA SINGH GAUTAM

Wednesday, 02 September 2026

1. INTRODUCTION

CORAL REEFS (Coral Reefs)

- Coral Reef is a hard structure of calcium carbonate (Calcium Carbonate - $CaCO_3$) built by tiny marine organisms called coral polyps.
- Corals belong to the phylum Cnidaria and class Anthozoa.
- They are called the "Rainforests of the Sea" because they have extremely high biodiversity.
- Though they cover only about 0.1% of the total marine area of the world, they provide habitat to around 25% of all marine species.

2. ESSENTIAL CONDITIONS FOR FORMATION

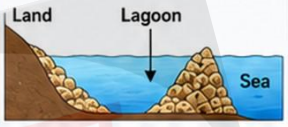
- Sea temperature between 20°C to 30°C.
- Sea water should be clean, clear and less turbid.
- Salinity between 27–40 PSU (Practical Salinity Unit).
- Water depth generally less than 50 meters so that sufficient sunlight is available.
- Adequate oxygen and low level of pollution.

3. MAJOR TYPES OF CORAL REEFS (According to Charles Darwin)

(a) FRINGING REEF (Fringing Reef)

- Attached directly to the shore.
- Most common type.
- Example: Red Sea, some coastal areas of Andaman and Nicobar.

(b) BARRIER REEF (Barrier Reef)



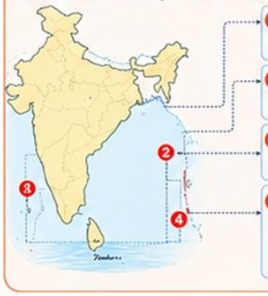
- Located some distance away from the shore and a lagoon occurs between.
- Example: Great Barrier Reef, Australia (the world's largest coral reef).

(c) ATOLL (Atoll)

- Circular or horseshoe-shaped structure with a lagoon in the middle.
- Example: Lakshadweep Islands.

4. DISTRIBUTION OF CORAL REEFS IN INDIA

India has four major coral reef regions—



1. Lakshadweep – Atoll type.
2. Andaman & Nicobar Islands – Mainly fringing type.
3. Gulf of Mannar (Tamil Nadu) – Fringing coral reef.
4. Gulf of Kutch (Gujarat) – Fringing coral reef; developed despite high salinity and tidal influence.

5. IMPORTANCE OF CORAL REEFS

- Major habitat for marine biodiversity.
- Basis for fisheries and marine food resources.
- Natural protection from storms and coastal erosion.
- Promotes tourism and local economy.
- Useful in medicinal research and biotechnology.
- Helps in carbon cycle and maintains marine ecological balance.

6. MAJOR THREATS

- Climate change and rise in sea temperature.
- Coral Bleaching – high temperature causes expulsion of symbiotic algae (Zooxanthellae), turning corals white.
- Marine pollution and plastic waste.
- Overfishing and destructive fishing practices.
- Coastal development, dredging and mining.
- Ocean Acidification.

7. CONSERVATION MEASURES

- Development of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Marine National Parks.
- Effective implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).
- Pollution control and sustainable fisheries management.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate climate change.
- Coral restoration and development of artificial reefs.
- Involvement of local communities and increasing awareness.

Coral Restoration

Artificial Reef

Awareness Program

8. IMPORTANT FACTS

- Largest coral reef: Great Barrier Reef (Australia)
- India's atoll coral area: Lakshadweep
- Main cause of coral bleaching: Rise in sea temperature
- Phylum of coral: Cnidaria
- Coral skeleton: Calcium Carbonate ($CaCO_3$)
- About 25% of the world's marine species depend on coral reefs.

Coral reefs are invaluable treasures of the sea; their conservation is our responsibility for the future.

Wednesday, 02 September 2026

Biopolymer

Why in News?

The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh announced the establishment of the **country's first biopolymer plant** in **Kumbhi**, promoting **green technology** and **sustainable development**.

Expository: -

Definition – What is a Biopolymer?-

- Biopolymers are polymers that are obtained from **natural/biological sources** or are found in biological systems.
- Major examples include **cellulose, starch, proteins, DNA, and RNA**.
- Some synthetically produced biopolymers, such as **Polylactic Acid (PLA)**, have been developed as environmentally friendly alternatives to plastics.

Types of Biopolymers--

- **Polysaccharides** – Complex carbohydrates such as cellulose and starch.
- **Proteins** – Polymers of amino acids; these include enzymes and collagen.
- **Nucleic Acids** – DNA and RNA, which are responsible for genetic information.
- **Synthetic Biopolymers** – Example: Polylactic Acid (PLA), which has been designed as an environmentally friendly alternative to plastics.

Sources of Biopolymers-

- **Plant Sources** – Vegetable oils, sugars, starch, and cellulose.
- **Animal/Biological Sources** – Proteins, collagen, and shells of marine organisms.
- **Other Biological Sources** – Fats and resins.
- Various types of natural and bio-based polymers are obtained from these sources.

Properties / Characteristics-

- The structure of biopolymers can be more complex compared to synthetic polymers.
- They are **biodegradable**.
- They can be easily decomposed by bacteria in the soil environment.
- Their decomposition can occur through **oxidation**, **hydrolysis**, or by certain **enzymes**.
- They can regulate the life processes of living organisms.
- They are generally **environmentally friendly**.
- Biopolymers such as **PLA, Polyglycolate, and Poly-3-hydroxybutyrate (PHB)** can exhibit plastic-like properties.

Production / Manufacturing Process-

- Biopolymers are produced using raw materials obtained from biological sources.
- Sources include **fats, vegetable oils, sugars, resins, proteins, starch, and cellulose**.
- Synthetic biopolymers such as **PLA** can be prepared from bio-based raw materials.

Applications / Uses-

- **PLA** – Used in biodegradable plastics and single-use products.
- **Chitosan** – Used in water purification and wound healing.
- **Gelatin** – Widely used in pharmaceuticals and food products.
- **Cellulose** – A major structural component of plant cell walls.
- Biopolymers are used in **medicine, pharmaceuticals, the food industry, packaging, and environmentally friendly materials**.

Benefits-

- Being **biodegradable**, they impose a lower long-term burden on the environment.
- They can be relatively easily decomposed by bacteria in soil.
- They can contribute to **reducing carbon emissions**.
- They can help **reduce the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere**.
- The CO_2 released through biodegradation can be reabsorbed by crops grown in their place.

Biopolymers in India – Initiatives-

- In India, biopolymers have the potential to be promoted for **sustainable development, environmentally friendly materials, and alternatives to plastics**.
- **Research and Development** related to biopolymers plays an important role in universities and research institutions.
- **Bio-based polymers such as PLA** are important as environmentally friendly alternatives to plastics.

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MAP OF THE DAY BHARAT

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Wednesday, 02 September 2026

PARICHHA DAM

A HERITAGE OF BUNDELKHAND, A SOURCE OF LIFE

A 140-YEAR-OLD MARVEL OF ENGINEERING ON BETWA RIVER

ICID • CIID

QUICK FACTS

River	Betwa River (Tributary of Yamuna)
Location	Parichha, Jhansi District, Uttar Pradesh
Length	1174.69 metres
Construction Material	Lime–Surkhi Mortar
Age	Around 140 years (Built in 19th century)
Recognized as	ICID WHIS Award – 2026
Announcement Date	13 August 2026
Award Ceremony	14 October 2026 (Marseille, France)

1 LOCATION & INTRODUCTION

- Located on the **Betwa River** at **Parichha** town in **Jhansi district, Uttar Pradesh.**
- About **25 km** from **Jhansi,** on Jhansi–Kanpur National **Highway No. 25.**
- Jhansi is known as **"Gateway of Bundelkhand".**
- Length of the dam is approximately **1174.69 metres.**

2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Captain Strechi

- The idea of developing a canal system for Bundelkhand was first proposed by **Captain Strechi** after a detailed survey in **1855.**
- According to Irrigation Department records, the survey of Betwa river flow was first started in **1855.**
- The dam was constructed using **lime-surkhi mortar** – a traditional engineering technique of that time.
- The dam is around **140 years** old and is a symbol of excellent 19th century engineering.

3 WORLD HERITAGE IRRIGATION STRUCTURE (WHIS) – MOST IMPORTANT CURRENT AFFAIRS POINT

ICID

13 Aug 2026

14 Oct 2026

2022

- Parichha Dam has been recognized as a **World Heritage Irrigation Structure (WHIS)** by the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID).
- The recognition was officially announced after the recommendation of the Central Water Commission on **13 August 2026.**
- WHIS recognition is given to irrigation structures that are **more than 100 years old** and are still functional.
- The **'WHIS Award–2026'** will be presented on **14 October 2026** during the 26th ICID International Congress and 77th International Executive Council Meeting in **Marseille, France.**
- In **2022, Sukwa–Dukwan Weir** of Jhansi was also included in ICID's heritage list. Thus, this is the second such structure from UP.

4 FUNCTIONAL IMPORTANCE

- **Irrigation:** Through a large canal network, the dam irrigates about **4.28 lakh hectares (4,28,360 hectares)** of land in 5 border districts of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
- **Drinking Water Supply:** Provides drinking water to thousands of villages in 5 districts of UP and MP.
- **Power Generation:** The reservoir water is used by **Parichha Thermal Power Station** for electricity generation.
- **Tourism / Water Sports:** The reservoir water extends up to Notghat Bridge (~34 km from Jhansi), which is a popular spot for water sports.

5 LINK WITH KEN–BETWA RIVER LINKING PROJECT

KEN–BETWA LINK PROJECT

- Parichha Dam plays an important role in the **Ken–Betwa River Linking Project,** India's first river linking project.
- Due to **structure aging out,** the Irrigation Department has proposed renovation/strengthening or construction of a new dam and sent the proposal to the government.

RELEVANCE IN EXAMS

A lifeline for drought-prone Bundelkhand. Helps in water conservation, agriculture, energy and regional development.

UPSC PERSPECTIVE – CONNECTING KEY THEMES

GEOGRAPHY
Betwa River – a tributary of Yamuna; located in the Bundelkhand region.

HISTORY
Colonial-era irrigation engineering; survey of Betwa river started in 1855.

CURRENT AFFAIRS
ICID WHIS Award 2026; ceremony in France (Marseille).

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES
Ken–Betwa River Linking Project; part of India's river linking initiative.

ENVIRONMENT / WATER RESOURCES
Water management in drought-prone Bundelkhand region.

ENERGY
Parichha Thermal Power Station uses reservoir water.

Parichha Dam is a remarkable example of India's rich irrigation heritage, sustainable water management and multipurpose use of water resources.

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DIRECTOR SHRI MATI SANGAM SINGH | MANAGING DIRECTOR SRI ADITYA SINGH GAUTAM

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BOSPORUS STRAIT (ISTANBUL STRAIT)

1. OVERVIEW

The Bosporus Strait, also known as the Istanbul Strait, is a natural strait located in the northwestern part of Turkey. It is a strategic waterway connecting the Black Sea to the Sea of Marmara. It separates Europe and Asia and has great importance for the two continents and the major powers of the world.

2. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

- It lies between the European (Thrace) and Asian (Anatolian) parts of Turkey.
- It is a tectonic structure generated by the North Anatolian Fault Zone.

4. PHYSICAL FEATURES

Feature	Description
Length	About 30–31 km
Width	Ranges from ~700 meters to ~3.7 km
Depth	Average depth 110 meters
Currents	Two-layered current system; surface flow from Black Sea to Sea of Marmara
Tides	Tides occur twice a day, but the difference between high and low tides is very small

5. STRATEGIC AND ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE

1. **Economic trade route:** Oil, coal, grain, wood, cement, fertilizers and other raw materials are transported through this route and have great importance for the world economy.
2. **Energy corridor:** It is a key route for the transportation of oil and natural gas and plays a vital role in the world energy supply.
3. **Security importance:** Control of the Black Sea region (particularly Russia and Ukraine) helps ensure the security of the region, which is directly linked to global security.

6. MONTREUX CONVENTION, 1936

- **Signed:** 20 July 1936, Montreux (Switzerland); Came into force: 9 November 1936
- **Signatories:** Turkey, France, UK, Soviet Union (USSR), Yugoslavia, Romania, Japan, Bulgaria, Greece and other countries (signed in 1923 and later)
- **Main provisions:**

Rights of Turkey
Turkey was granted full sovereignty and control over the strait. Article 2 of the Convention (1923) was revised in favor of Turkish interests.

In Times of Peace
Merchant ships of all countries (coastal and non-coastal states) have the right to free passage.

In Times of War
If Turkey is not at war, all countries' warships have the right to free passage, but if Turkey is at war, it can take full control of the strait.

In Case of Threat
If the security of the Black Sea coastal countries is threatened, Turkey has the right to take necessary measures or close the strait.

7. ISTANBUL CANAL PROJECT

- Proposed by the Turkish government to reduce pressure on the Bosporus Strait, about 45 km long.
- It would run parallel to the Bosporus, connecting the Black Sea to the Sea of Marmara.
- **Objective:** To reduce the risk of accidents and pollution in the Bosporus Strait and to strengthen Turkey's strategic and economic position (announced in 1979 but still under discussion).
- **Dispute:** Environmentalists, legal experts and some countries oppose it. The government claims it will benefit Turkey economically and strategically.

9. CONNECTING MAJOR WATER BODIES

Water Body	Connects	Importance
Black Sea	Black Sea ↔ Sea of Marmara	Key gateway from the Black Sea to the world
Sea of Marmara	Black Sea ↔ Aegean Sea	Connects the Black Sea and Aegean Sea
Aegean Sea	Aegean Sea ↔ Mediterranean Sea	Important for tourism and international trade
Mediterranean Sea	Mediterranean Sea ↔ Indian Ocean	Main route for global trade

Fact: The Bosporus Strait is a natural bridge between Europe and Asia, playing a vital role in global trade and geopolitics.

Location: Istanbul (Turkey)

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DIRECTOR SHRI MATI SANGAM SINGH | MANAGING DIRECTOR SRI ADITYA SINGH GAUTAM

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1. Researchers have recently used data from which Indian space mission to investigate the processes preceding solar flares?
(A) Mangalyaan **(B)** XPoSat
(C) Aditya-L1 **(D)** Astrosat

2. In the context of India's recently notified Semicon 2.0 scheme, what does the term OSAT refer to in the semiconductor value chain?
(A) Overseas Semiconductor Assembly Technology
(B) Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test
(C) Optical Semiconductor Assembly and Technology
(D) Original Semiconductor Analysis and Testing

3. The "Mission Rangeen Machhli 2031" Strategic Action Plan is related to the development of which sector?
(A) Ornamental fisheries
(B) Inland aquaculture
(C) Deep-sea mining
(D) Marine tourism

4. Which Indian state recently announced the establishment of a women-only university?
(A) Jharkhand **(B)** Odisha
(C) West Bengal **(D)** Bihar

5. Which Indian state has unveiled its first drinking water treatment project using ozone gas?
(A) Uttarakhand **(B)** Himachal Pradesh
(C) Sikkim **(D)** Jammu and Kashmir

6. Which space agency launched the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope in August 2026?
(A) ESA **(B)** ISRO
(C) JAXA **(D)** NASA

7. Which two states have signed a water-sharing agreement for the Sone River, resolving a 25-year-old dispute?
(A) Bihar and Jharkhand
(B) Bihar and Uttar Pradesh
(C) Jharkhand and Odisha
(D) Madhya Pradesh and Bihar

8. Which country has declared a nationwide emergency due to the El Niño phenomenon in August 2026?
(A) Peru **(B)** Egypt
(C) Ecuador **(D)** Honduras

9. Who among the following has been named a recipient of the 2026 Ramon Magsaysay Award for his contributions to international diplomacy and law?
(A) Tommy Koh **(B)** Runa Khan
(C) Bo Kyi **(D)** Shaahina Ali

10. Lionel Messi has announced his retirement from which national team in August 2026?
(A) Brazil **(B)** Spain
(C) Argentina **(D)** Portugal

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