

DAILY MCQs COMPILATION
with
EXPLANATIONS

APRIL, 2026

NEXT IAS

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- They are uniquely adapted to turbid river environments, the Gangetic dolphin lacks a crystalline eye lens rendering it functionally blind. It navigates and hunts entirely through a highly developed **echolocation system, emitting ultrasonic sounds to locate prey.**

21. (a)**Context**

- Two of India's waste landfills are among the top 25 global emitters of methane in the waste sector, according to a study by the University of California, Los Angeles.

Why Landfills Emit Methane?

- Landfills release methane when organic waste decomposes in the absence of oxygen (anaerobic conditions), making unmanaged dumpsites major emission hotspots.

About Methane

- Methane is a potent greenhouse gas, responsible for nearly **30% of global warming** since the Industrial Revolution.
- Over a 20-year period, it is about **86 times more effective** at trapping heat than carbon dioxide.
- It remains in the atmosphere for a shorter duration (~12 years), but has a **high short-term warming impact.**

22. (b)

Statement 1 is not correct: E100 refers to fuel **with 100% ethanol content** or near-100%, since small quantities of water improve combustion.

Statement 2 is correct: Flex-fuel vehicles are designed to **run on any mixture of ethanol and petrol**, from pure petrol to E100, with onboard sensors adjusting engine parameters accordingly.

23. (b)

In News : Recently ,The Tamil Nadu Forest Department has commenced the third synchronised survey of the Nilgiri Tahr, covering the species' entire range across the State.

Statements 1 and 2 are correct : Nilgiri tahr is the only mountain ungulate in southern India among the country's 12 such species and is the state animal of Tamil Nadu.

- There are multiple references to Nilgiri Tahr in the Sangam Tamil literature.
 - Two epics — Silappathikaram and Sivakasindamani — mention descriptions of the Nilgiri Tahr and its habitat.
- The Nilgiri tahr is found at high elevations on cliffs, grass-covered hills, and open terrain.
 - Nilgiri Tahr is now largely confined to isolated patches of suitable habitat in the states of Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
 - The Eravikulam National Park in Anamalai hills, Kerala, is home to the largest population of the Nilgiri tahr

Statement 3 is not correct : **Nilgiri Tahr** is classified as Endangered on the IUCN Red List and is protected under Schedule I of India's Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

24. (d)

In News : Recently ,World Tapir Day was observed globally to raise awareness about tapirs, unique herbivorous mammals

Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect : Tapirs are large herbivorous mammals .

- Tapirs inhabit jungle and forest regions of **South America, Central America, and Southeast Asia.**

Types and IUCN Red List status

- Lowland Tapir (*Tapirus terrestris*) - Vulnerable
- Mountain Tapir (*Tapirus pinchaque*) - Endangered
- **Malay Tapir (*Tapirus indicus*) - Endangered**
- Baird's Tapir (*Tapirus bairdii*) -Endangered



22. (a)

Statement 1 is correct: The conflict is driven by identity, land ownership, and competing political aspirations. These factors shape inter-ethnic tensions in the region.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Kuki–Naga conflict emerged strongly in the early 1990s, much before the Kuki–Meitei conflict of 2023.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Colonial “divide and rule” policies institutionalised ethnic divisions. This contributed to long-term tensions between communities.

23. (b)

In News: Recently, Chinese People’s Liberation Army (PLA) launched its **new Atlas drone swarm system (atelasi)**.

“Atlas” (or Atelasi) drone swarm system

- It is a Chinese PLA mobile platform designed to launch and control large numbers of drones in coordinated operations from a single operator interface.
- It is a truck-based swarm warfare unit made up of three vehicles: a launch vehicle (Swarm-2), a command/control vehicle, and a support vehicle.
 - Together, they function as a compact, mobile “drone battlefield node.”
- Compared to systems like the US “Perdix” and DARPA’s “Offset,” which focus mainly on the number of drones deployed, the Atlas system is presented as more advanced due to its emphasis on coordinated intelligence rather than scale alone.

24. (a)

In News: Barbary macaques in Gibraltar have been found to eat soil (geophagy) more often than other populations.

Geophagy is the widespread behavior of eating soil, clay, or earth substances like chalk or kaolin.

- It is observed across many animal groups and also among some human populations, especially in tropical regions.
- It is found in many cultures worldwide but especially common in parts of Africa, among pregnant women, children, and rural populations.

25. (b)

Ru-Soam engineering refers to the traditional practice of constructing footbridges using bamboo and cane by the Lepcha community of Sikkim. These bridges are made entirely from locally available, renewable materials and reflect sustainable indigenous knowledge, particularly in regions like the Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserven.

