

Current Affairs & GK — March 2026 • 28 Questions • Total: 28 • Negative: -0.25 • Answer distribution: A = 7, B = 7, C = 7, D = 7

QUICK REFERENCE

Q1. A	Q8. A	Q15. A	Q22. B
Q2. C	Q9. B	Q16. A	Q23. D
Q3. D	Q10. B	Q17. B	Q24. D
Q4. C	Q11. D	Q18. D	Q25. B
Q5. C	Q12. C	Q19. D	Q26. B
Q6. A	Q13. C	Q20. C	Q27. B
Q7. C	Q14. A	Q21. A	Q28. D

DETAILED EXPLANATIONS

Passage 1 — Transgender Amendment

- 1. **A** — NALSA's core holding was the right to self-identification; the 2026 Amendment's central shift is replacing self-ID with medical certification — direct clash with the NALSA ratio.
- 2. **C** — Puttaswamy (2017) recognised privacy as a fundamental right under Article 21. Mandatory hospital reporting of sex-reassignment procedures implicates both informational and bodily privacy.
- 3. **D** — The passage frames the govt defence around preventing misuse and targeting 'genuine beneficiaries' — a precision-of-definition argument for welfare targeting.
- 4. **C** — The passage expressly narrows the definition to hijra, kinner and intersex persons — EXCLUDING gender-fluid and non-binary identities.
- 5. **C** — NALSA (2014) read self-identification into Arts 14/19/21. Puttaswamy = privacy; Navtej = decriminalised s.377. Only option C is correctly matched.
- 6. **A** — Mandatory medical exam for gender change on Aadhaar = closest analogue to the Puttaswamy-privacy + Art 21 dignity/autonomy challenge advanced in the passage.

Passage 2 — Ladakh & Federalism

- 7. **C** — The passage lists only four demands: statehood, Sixth Schedule, job reservation, land/language/culture protection. A dedicated High Court is NOT among them.
- 8. **A** — Passage ties 'democratic deficit' to the UT-without-legislature status + only one MP representing the region.
- 9. **B** — Sixth Schedule (Arts 244(2) & 275(1)) applies to tribal areas of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram.
- 10. **B** — Passage expressly locates the right to protest in Arts 19(1)(a) and 19(1)(b) — speech and peaceful assembly. A blanket 30-day ban is vulnerable under these.
- 11. **D** — Asymmetric federalism = differentiated constitutional arrangements (Sixth Schedule, Art 371 series). Not uniform powers.
- 12. **C** — Passage explicitly: Centre is 'reluctant to grant full statehood or Sixth Schedule status, offering instead alternatives such as expanded regional councils.'

Passage 3 — SC Status & Conversion

- 13. **C** — Art 341(1) empowers the PRESIDENT to specify SCs by public notification. Parliament may later include/exclude under 341(2).
- 14. **A** — 1950 Order: Hindus originally; Sikhs added 1956; Buddhists added 1990. Christians & Muslims are currently EXCLUDED.
- 15. **A** — K.P. Manu allowed restoration of SC status upon reconversion to Hinduism, subject to community acceptance.
- 16. **A** — Art 341(2) expressly empowers Parliament by law to include or exclude communities from the Scheduled Caste list.
- 17. **B** — Soosai required the petitioner to prove that caste-based social disabilities persisted after conversion; absent such proof, benefits were denied.
- 18. **D** — The 'against' argument LEAST relies on Art 14 demanding identical treatment — that argument actually supports INCLUSION via substantive equality.

Passage 4 — Forex Reserves

19. **D** — Passage expressly identifies FOREIGN CURRENCY ASSETS as the largest share of India's forex reserves.
20. **C** — FEMA 1999 regulates forex transactions; RBI Act 1934 governs the central bank. The passage names FEMA explicitly.
21. **A** — Selling dollars from reserves directly reduces reserves — this is how intervention works.
22. **B** — SDRs are an international reserve asset created by the IMF, allocated to member countries; value linked to a 5-currency basket.
23. **D** — Passage lists FOUR causes: RBI intervention + strong USD + global uncertainty + trade deficit (aggravated by oil imports).

Passage 5 — March Round-up

24. **D** — INCORRECT statement: the passage clearly states India is 'still below Pakistan and Nepal.' India is NOT ranked above Pakistan.
25. **B** — Passage: PM2.5 is the key indicator; WHO safe limit = $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (annual average).
26. **B** — Cantril Ladder (0-10 self-assessment) + six factors: GDP, social support, healthy life expectancy, freedom, generosity, corruption perception.
27. **B** — Jnanpith 2025 → Vinod Kumar Shukla (Hindi) — correctly matched. Best Director was Paul Thomas Anderson; Ryan Coogler won Best Original Screenplay. World TB Day is 24 March. WHR is Oxford/Gallup/UN SDSN.
28. **D** — Art 21 (clean environment via right to life) + Art 48A (DPSP to protect environment) + Art 51A(g) (fundamental duty) = established constitutional triad for environmental petitions.