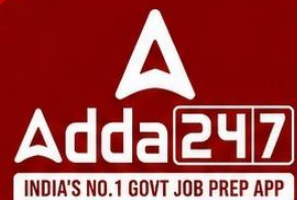


Daily Current Affairs

26 June 2025

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Daily Current Affairs Quiz 26 June 2026

Q1. What is the proposed height of the statue of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee to be erected in Kolkata?

- (a) 100 feet
- (b) 150 feet
- (c) 125 feet
- (d) 108 feet

Ans.(c)

Sol. The correct answer is (C) 125 feet

Explanation:

- The state government of West Bengal has officially finalized the proposed height of the upcoming monument of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee to be exactly 125 feet to match a highly significant milestone.
- The specific height of 125 feet has been chosen to mark the grand celebration of his 125th birth anniversary year in 2026, creating a permanent architectural homage to his historical legacy.
- The monument will be crafted using high-grade materials and is designed to eclipse previous installations, establishing itself as the tallest statue of the legendary statesman in the entire world.
- This structural endeavor forms the core of a massive regional heritage revival campaign designed to highlight his stellar leadership during the tumultuous partition period of 1947, ensuring that West Bengal remained an integral part of India.

Information Booster:

- The foundation stone of this majestic 125-foot statue is set to be laid on July 5, 2026, precisely on the eve of his birth anniversary, kicking off a series of year-long national and regional celebrations.
- Prior to this 2026 declaration, the tallest existing statue of Dr. Mookerjee was the 65-foot bronze structure designed by celebrated sculptors Ram Sutar and Mantu Ram in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- This project is funded via a dedicated 200 crore rupees allocation by the State Treasury, which also covers the establishment of associated public parks, digital archives, and nationalist memorial sites across the state.

Additional Knowledge:

- 100 feet (Option A): A common benchmark height used for several iconic flags and regional statues across India, but it does not correspond to the symbolic 125th-anniversary figure designated for this project.
- 150 feet (Option B): Although considered for various larger-than-life national projects across different Indian states, this height was not selected as it lacked the direct chronological alignment with the 125-year milestone.
- 108 feet (Option D): A height frequently utilized for statues carrying deep spiritual and traditional significance in India, such as the Statue of Prosperity in Bengaluru, but it was not chosen for this specific political and historical monument.

Q2. West Bengal has declared a state holiday on which date to honour Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee's birth anniversary?

- (a) June 23
- (b) July 6
- (c) August 15
- (d) January 23

Ans.(b)

Sol. The correct answer is (B) July 6

Explanation:

- In an extraordinary legislative and cultural decision, the government of West Bengal has declared July 6 as a full state public holiday across all administrative departments to honor the memory of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee.
- July 6 marks the birth anniversary of Dr. Mookerjee, who was born on this date in the year 1901 in Calcutta, and this new holiday serves as a profound recognition of his role as the architect of modern West Bengal.
- This decision was formalized in June 2026 by the state administration, fulfilling a long-standing demand of nationalist historians to institutionalize his legacy in the official state calendar.
- The declaration was accompanied by the announcement of a massive state-sponsored commemorative program running through the entire year to educate young citizens about his resistance against the undivided allocation of Bengal to Pakistan.

Information Booster:

- Dr. Mookerjee was an exceptionally multi-faceted figure, serving with great distinction as an eminent barrister, an educationalist, a prominent Hindutva activist, and India's first Minister for Industry and Supply under the Jawaharlal Nehru cabinet.
- He later resigned from the Union Cabinet in 1950 in fierce protest against the controversial Nehru-Liaquat Pact, which he firmly believed failed to protect the fundamental rights and lives of minority Hindus in East Pakistan.
- The Central Government has also launched multi-year national commemorations for his 125th birth anniversary, which include releasing specialized commemorative stamps, circulation coins, and academic fellowships across premier universities.

Additional Knowledge:

- June 23 (Option A): The solemn death anniversary of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, who passed away in 1953 under highly mysterious conditions while in custody in Srinagar, and is officially observed across the country as Martyrdom Day or Balidan Diwas.
- August 15 (Option C): Celebrated nationwide as India's Independence Day, marking the end of British colonial rule in 1947, a monumental day during which Dr. Mookerjee took charge as a key minister in the first independent cabinet.
- January 23 (Option D): Observed nationally as Parakram Diwas to honor the birth anniversary of another legendary son of Bengal, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, celebrating his unmatched courage and military contribution to the freedom struggle.

Q3. In which city will the 125-foot statue of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee be erected?

- (a) Siliguri
- (b) Kolkata
- (c) Durgapur
- (d) Asansol

Ans.(b)

Sol. The correct answer is (B) Kolkata

Explanation:

- In June 2026, the newly formed state government in West Bengal announced a landmark decision to construct a massive 125-foot statue of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee in the capital city of Kolkata.
- This major cultural project was announced by Chief Minister Suvenud Adhikari during the grand celebration of the state's official Paschimbanga Divas, signaling a significant ideological shift and honoring the leader who championed the creation of West Bengal in 1947.

- Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee was born in Kolkata, and his family roots run deep in the city, making it the most historically relevant location to immortalize his monumental contributions to the integration of the Indian nation.
- The grand monument is intended to stand as a symbol of cultural nationalism and national integrity, with the foundation stone scheduled to be laid on July 5, just ahead of his birth anniversary.

Information Booster:

- Alongside this gigantic 125-foot structure, the state government has announced a comprehensive 200 crore rupees package dedicated entirely to commemorative plans for Dr. Mookerjee's legacy.
- This historical initiative also includes the acquisition and meticulous restoration of his ancestral property, converting it into a state-of-the-art public museum and an advanced research library to inspire younger generations.
- Previously, the tallest statue dedicated to Dr. Mookerjee was a 65-foot bronze monument located at the Rashtra Prerna Sthal in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, which was unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Additional Knowledge:

- Siliguri (Option A): A vital strategic and commercial city located in North Bengal, serving as the gateway to Northeast India and neighboring international borders, but it is not the selected site for this mega statue project.
- Durgapur (Option C): Known as the industrial steel hub of West Bengal, developed during the mid-20th century as a planned city under Dr. B.C. Roy, but holds no direct connection to this specific cultural announcement.
- Asansol (Option D): The second-largest urban agglomeration in the state, celebrated primarily for its extensive coal mining and railway networks, and is not associated with the planned 125-foot monument.

Q4. Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee served as the Vice Chancellor of which university?

- (a) Jadavpur University
- (b) Presidency University
- (c) Visva-Bharati University
- (d) Calcutta University

Ans.(d)

Sol. The correct answer is (D) Calcutta University

Explanation:

- Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee achieved an extraordinary academic milestone by serving as the Vice Chancellor of the prestigious University of Calcutta, cementing his reputation as one of modern India's finest educational minds.
- Appointed to the esteemed post in the year 1934 at the remarkably young age of just 33, he made history by becoming the youngest individual ever to hold the office of Vice Chancellor at Calcutta University.
- During his illustrious and visionary tenure, which lasted from 1934 until 1938, he introduced revolutionary educational reforms that modernized the academic framework and significantly expanded research facilities.
- His leadership was marked by a deep commitment to Indian culture and heritage, ensuring that the university became a thriving hub for nationalist thought while sustaining elite academic standards during the colonial era.

Information Booster:

- Under his direct guidance, the legendary Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore was invited to deliver the prestigious University Convocation Address in the Bengali language for the first time in history, breaking the rigid colonial English tradition.
- Dr. Mookerjee was instrumental in introducing Indian vernacular languages as formal subjects for the highest examinations, thereby democratizing higher education for the local population.
- His father, the legendary Sir Asutosh Mookerjee, popularly known as the 'Tiger of Bengal', had also served as the illustrious Vice Chancellor of Calcutta University, making their family's contribution to Indian academia truly unparalleled.

Additional Knowledge:

- Jadavpur University (Option A): Formally established as a full-fledged university in 1955 out of the National Council of Education, it became a pioneering center for engineering and technology in West Bengal long after Dr. Mookerjee's academic administration period.
- Presidency University (Option B): Historically known as Hindu College (1817) and later Presidency College, where Dr. Mookerjee actually studied as a brilliant student, graduating first class in English before it was upgraded to a university in 2010.
- Visva-Bharati University (Option C): A unique central university founded by Rabindranath Tagore in Santiniketan in 1921, focused on rural reconstruction and cultural education, distinct from the administrative domain of Calcutta University.

Q5. The Bharatiya Jana Sangh later became the foundation of which present-day political party?

- (a) Janata Dal (United)
- (b) Aam Aadmi Party
- (c) Bharatiya Janata Party
- (d) Nationalist Congress Party

Ans.(c)

Sol. The correct answer is (C) Bharatiya Janata Party

Explanation:

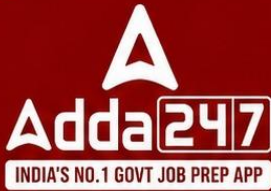
- The Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS), which was founded under the stalwart leadership of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, served as the direct ideological and organizational foundation for the contemporary Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).
- Dr. Mookerjee established the Bharatiya Jana Sangh on October 21, 1951, in Delhi, collaborating closely with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) to form a strong political alternative focused on cultural nationalism.
- Following the turbulent period of the National Emergency, the Jana Sangh merged with several other opposition political groups in 1977 to form the unified Janata Party to defeat the ruling Congress regime.
- However, due to internal ideological conflicts regarding dual membership with the RSS, the former Jana Sangh faction separated from the Janata Party and formally reconstituted themselves as the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on April 6, 1980.

Information Booster:

- The core foundational principles laid down by Dr. Mookerjee for the Jana Sangh, including 'Ek Desh, Ek Vidhan, Ek Nishan' (One Country, One Constitution, One Flag), continue to form the bedrock of the BJP's national policy manifesto.
- He vehemently opposed the special status granted to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370, asserting that it threatened national integration, a political stance that culminated in the full abrogation of the article by the BJP government in August 2019.
- The lotus symbol, the emphasis on cultural heritage, and the concept of integral humanism pioneered by subsequent leaders like Deendayal Upadhyaya trace their direct lineage back to the original framework of the Jana Sangh.

Additional Knowledge:

- Janata Dal (United) (Option A): A regional political party with its primary base in Bihar, formed through various splits and mergers of the original Janata Dal faction, entirely distinct from the right-wing Jana Sangh lineage.
- Aam Aadmi Party (Option B): A modern political entity founded in 2012 out of the anti-corruption movement led by Anna Hazare, focusing on populist governance models and having no historical or ideological connection to the post-independence BJS.
- Nationalist Congress Party (Option D): Formed in 1999 by Sharad Pawar, P.A. Sangma, and Tariq Anwar after breaking away from the Indian National Congress over foreign-origin leadership debates, operating completely separate from the BJS-BJP lineage.

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