

Part 1: National & International News

Q1. With reference to the administrative status of Ladakh in April 2026, consider the following statements:

1. The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has rolled out a distinct Aadhaar identity system for Ladakh, completely removing the structural "Jammu and Kashmir" administrative tag.
2. The Union Territory of Ladakh was structurally carved out alongside Jammu and Kashmir on October 31, 2019.
3. Umling La, located in Ladakh, is globally recognized as the highest motorable mountain pass.

Which of the statements given above are correct? A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** In a major step toward administrative streamline and reinforcing structural governance, the UIDAI in April 2026 introduced a distinct Aadhaar identity system tailored explicitly for Ladakh. This modification isolates Ladakh's records cleanly from the legacy Jammu and Kashmir data arrays.
- **Analysis:** Statement 1 is accurate as it details the latest policy action by UIDAI to eliminate data tagging spillover. Statement 2 is historically accurate; the structural transformation took statutory effect via the J&K Reorganisation Act on October 31, 2019,

splitting the former state into two distinct UTs. Statement 3 is also correct; Umling La pass, constructed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) at an altitude of 19,024 feet, holds the official record. Therefore, all statements are technically sound.

Q2. In April 2026, geopolitical negotiations between the United States and Iran in which of the following South Asian cities collapsed after 21 hours of intense diplomatic deadlock?

A) New Delhi, India

B) Islamabad, Pakistan

C) Dhaka, Bangladesh

D) Colombo, Sri Lanka

Answer: B) Islamabad, Pakistan

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** High-stakes, back-channel diplomatic peace negotiations between delegation panels representing the United States and Iran concluded without an agreement in Islamabad, Pakistan.
- **Analysis:** The talks extended across a grueling 21-hour window but collapsed entirely due to rigid geopolitical friction points over maritime corridors and economic sanctions. This failure served as a precursor to subsequent naval containment adjustments in the Middle East, altering global fuel transit risk matrix assessments.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the "Nari Shakti Vandan Sammelan" organized in April 2026:

1. The conference was directly addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

2. The central legislative theme focused on the constitutional frameworks of the Constitution (106th Amendment) Act, 2023.
3. The amendment guarantees a 33 percent statutory reservation for women in the Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies, and the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Which of the statements given above are correct? A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 and 3 only

D) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** Ahead of a special sitting of Parliament to evaluate operational protocols for the implementation of women's seat reservation quotas, the Nari Shakti Vandan Sammelan was held on April 13, 2026.
- **Analysis:** Statement 1 is verified; the event occurred at Vigyan Bhawan with the Prime Minister detailing the path toward 2029 operationalization. Statement 2 and 3 are correct legal statements. The 106th Constitutional Amendment Act introduces a 33% reservation for women. It spans across the Lok Sabha, State Assemblies, and the Delhi Assembly, aiming to alter demographic presentation in legislative drafting bodies.

Q4. Under the newly introduced Electric Vehicle (EV) policy modifications by the Delhi Government in April 2026, what minimum percentage of student transport vehicles must schools transition to pure electric buses within a mandatory timeline of two years?

A) 5%

B) 10%

C) 20%

D) 25%

Answer: B) 10%

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** The Department of Transport, Government of NCT of Delhi, updated its green transport directive frameworks.
- **Analysis:** The newly deployed mandate requires all public and private schools running institutional transport grids to systematically replace or assign at least 10% of their operational fleet capacity to electric buses within a fixed two-year timeline. The policy seeks to cut down localized PM2.5 emissions around school zones.

Q5. To combat severe financial cybercrime and systemic "Digital Arrest" syndicates, a foundational Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on April 13, 2026, between which two apex institutional bodies?

A) Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)

B) Financial Intelligence Unit – India (FIU-IND) and Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)

C) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Investigation Agency (NIA)

D) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Data Security Council of India (DSCI)

Answer: B) Financial Intelligence Unit – India (FIU-IND) and Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** With the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) projecting that

total systemic financial losses due to cross-border cybercrimes could surpass ₹1.2 lakh crore if left unmitigated, an integrated operational layout became necessary.

- **Analysis:** The MoU integrates the real-time financial tracking algorithms of FIU-IND with the cybersecurity networks of I4C. This structural linkage allows immediate freeze protocols on mule accounts used by fraud cartels operating out of Southeast Asian hubs, cutting down the latency between fraud detection and asset freezing.

Part 2: Economics & Banking

Q6. The Asian Development Bank (ADB), in its updated Asian Development Outlook released in April 2026, raised India's economic growth forecast for the current financial year to which of the following metrics?

- A) 6.2%
- B) 6.5%
- C) 6.9%
- D) 7.2%

Answer: C) 6.9%

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** While broad parts of the Asia-Pacific region witnessed slight growth deceleration down to an average of 5.1% due to ongoing conflicts in West Asia, India's domestic macroeconomic setup demonstrated resilience.
- **Analysis:** The ADB upgraded India's GDP growth projection from its previous assessment of 6.5% up to 6.9% for the current fiscal cycle. This revision was driven by robust domestic capital expenditures, easing rural inflation metrics, and steady public infrastructure investments.

Q7. According to the draft regulatory guidelines proposed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on April 13, 2026, what is the new proposed asset threshold for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) to be classified under the tightly supervised "Upper Layer" (NBFC-UL)?

- A) ₹25,000 crore
- B) ₹50,000 crore
- C) ₹75,000 crore
- D) ₹1,000 crore

Answer: D) ₹1,000 crore (Note: Written as ₹1 Lakh Crore in standard financial reporting)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** The RBI rolled out a major regulatory update modifying the Scale-Based Regulation (SBR) framework for the NBFC sector.
- **Analysis:** The draft guidelines specify that NBFCs holding an asset size of ₹1 lakh crore (₹1,000 billion / ₹1,00,000 crore) and above based on their latest audited balance sheets will be categorized into the "Upper Layer" (NBFC-UL). Crucially, the rule eliminates past regulatory loopholes by mandating including large Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) NBFCs like PFC, REC, and IRFC under the strict asset-classification radar.

Q8. The Unified Payments Interface (UPI), developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), hit a massive institutional milestone on April 11-13, 2026. How many years of operational existence did it complete?

- A) 5 Years
- B) 8 Years
- C) 10 Years
- D) 12 Years

Answer: C) 10 Years

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** UPI was officially launched as a pilot program by Dr. Raghuram Rajan (then RBI Governor) in Mumbai on April 11, 2016, and transactions commenced at scale shortly after.
- **Analysis:** In April 2026, the retail payment network marked exactly 10 years of operations. Over the decade, UPI transformed from an experimental peer-to-peer (P2P) protocol into a global real-time digital payment benchmark, processing over 13-15 billion transactions monthly.

Q9. Due to escalating geopolitical volatility in the West Asian transit corridors, the Government of India in April 2026 increased the export duties on which of the following commodities to insulate domestic reserves?

- A) Iron Ore and Steel
- B) Diesel and Jet Fuel
- C) Basmati Rice and Wheat
- D) Organic Cotton and Khadi

Answer: B) Diesel and Jet Fuel

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** To counter systemic distortions caused by the US Navy moving toward blockade positions around Iranian naval exit vectors, India altered its fuel export rules.
- **Analysis:** The Ministry of Finance scaled up export duties and windfall tax structures on Diesel and Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF/Jet Fuel). This regulatory barrier discourages domestic private refiners from prioritizing international shipments over domestic supply mandates during a global maritime bottleneck.

Q10. Consider the following statements regarding India's logistics targets outlined within the National Rail Plan (2030), referenced in April 2026 infrastructure reports:

1. The framework aims to reduce India's structural logistics costs from the historical baseline down to 8-10% of the GDP.
2. The plan mandates scaling up the total rail freight modal share to 45% by the year 2030.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct? A) 1 only

- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C) Both 1 and 2

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** The progress reviews of Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs) like the Dankuni-Surat axis highlighted these core objectives on April 13, 2026.
- **Analysis:** Both statements are accurate policy targets. India's macro-policy framework seeks to drop total logistics overheads into single digits (8-10% of GDP) to align with global trade efficiencies. Achieving this requires reversing a 15-year decline in rail transport by using dedicated freight lines, aiming for a 45% cargo share by 2030.

Part 3: Sports, Awards & Honors

Q11. India concluded its campaign at the 2026 Asian Boxing Championships held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, with a total haul of 16 medals. Who among the following clinched the gold medal in the Men's 50-kilogram category,

securing India's first continental title in this specific division in five years?

- A) Sachin Siwach
- B) Vishvanath Suresh
- C) Amit Panghal
- D) Shiva Thapa

Answer: B) Vishvanath Suresh

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** The 2026 Asian Boxing Championships wrapped up in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, with India taking second place in the overall standings behind Kazakhstan.
- **Analysis:** Vishvanath Suresh won gold in the men's 50kg final by defeating Japan's Daichi Iwai with a 5-0 decision. Sachin Siwach secured a silver medal in the 60kg tier after a highly competitive final against Kazakhstan's Orazbek Assylkulov.

Q12. At the 2026 British Academy Film Awards (BAFTA), which Indian film made news by securing a historic win, bringing international recognition to cinematic storytelling from Northeast India?

- A) All We Imagine as Light
- B) Boong
- C) Haider
- D) The Elephant Whisperers

Answer: B) Boong

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** Indian cinema marked a significant milestone at the 2026 BAFTA awards ceremony.
- **Analysis:** The Manipuri-language film *Boong*, directed by Lakshmi Priya Devi, secured a global win. The film highlights

human-interest landscapes in Manipur, tracking the journey of a young boy against complex socioeconomic backdrops.

Q13. Legendary singer Asha Bhosle passed away on April 13, 2026, at the age of 92. Consider the following structural honors received by her during her career:

1. She was conferred with the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in the year 2000.
2. She received India's second-highest civilian honor, the Padma Vibhushan, in 2008.
3. She was officially recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records as the most recorded artist in music history.

Which of the honors listed above are correct? A)

- 1 and 2 only
- B) 2 and 3 only
- C) 1 and 3 only
- D) 1, 2, and 3

Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** The passing of Asha Bhosle on April 13, 2026, due to multi-organ failure brought an end to an eight-decade musical era, with thousands gathering at Mumbai's Shivaji Park for her final journey.
- **Analysis:** All three statements represent verified milestones. She received the apex cinematic honor (Dadasaheb Phalke) in 2000, followed by the Padma Vibhushan in 2008. Her extensive career across multiple languages earned her a place in the Guinness World Records for her total volume of studio recordings.

Q14. In international tennis track developments recorded in April 2026, which Indian athlete

achieved a notable milestone by breaking into the Top 50 of the ATP Singles Rankings?

- A) Sumit Nagal
- B) Yuki Bhambri
- C) Rohan Bopanna
- D) Ramkumar Ramanathan

Answer: A) Sumit Nagal

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** Indian singles tennis saw a significant rankings boost in early 2026.
- **Analysis:** Sumit Nagal secured crucial tournament points on clay and hardcourt circuits, elevating his ATP singles ranking into the Top 50. This represents a major achievement for Indian singles tennis, which has historically lacked consistent representation in top-tier ATP main draws.

Q15. The late music icon Asha Bhosle once engaged in a unique cross-cultural musical collaboration that blended international sports and entertainment. Which international cricketer was this collaboration with?

- A) Brett Lee
- B) Sachin Tendulkar
- C) Brian Lara
- D) Shane Warne

Answer: A) Brett Lee

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** Retrospective look-backs into the singer's versatile career emerged following her passing in April 2026.
- **Analysis:** Asha Bhosle collaborated with former Australian fast bowler Brett Lee on the hit duet track "You're the One for Me" in 2006. The track showcased her ongoing

interest in cross-cultural and genre-blending musical projects.

Part 4: Appointments, MoUs & Government Schemes

Q16. Which prominent Indian academician and AI researcher was appointed to a prestigious United Nations Artificial Intelligence Advisory Panel in early 2026?

- A) Professor B. Ravindran
- B) Dr. Vinton Cerf
- C) Professor Amitabh Mattoo
- D) Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar

Answer: A) Professor B. Ravindran

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** Global AI governance underwent restructuring in early 2026, with multilateral organizations seeking deep representation from global south tech nodes.
- **Analysis:** Professor B. Ravindran, the head of the Robert Bosch Centre for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (RBCDSAI) at IIT Madras, was selected to join the UN AI Advisory Panel. His appointment brings critical technical expertise to the design of international regulatory frameworks for ethical artificial intelligence systems.

Q17. With reference to the "Banglar Yuva Sathi Scheme 2026", which state government launched this socio-economic initiative to extend structured financial assistance to unemployed youth?

- A) Odisha
- B) West Bengal
- C) Tripura

D) Assam

Answer: B) West Bengal

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** State current affairs updates from early 2026 highlighted new social safety net frameworks.
- **Analysis:** The Government of West Bengal deployed the *Banglar Yuva Sathi Scheme 2026*. The initiative provides structured monthly stipends alongside targeted skill-development training to registered unemployed youths across the state, working to bridge the gap toward sustainable employment opportunities.

Q18. The "Meri Rasoi Yojana", a subsidized nutrition and community kitchen initiative which gained prominent current affairs coverage in early 2026, was implemented by which state administration?

- A) Haryana
- B) Punjab
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Madhya Pradesh

Answer: B) Punjab

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** Public welfare allocations in early 2026 placed a strong focus on urban food security grids.
- **Analysis:** The *Meri Rasoi Yojana* is a flag-bearer social welfare scheme introduced by the Punjab state government. It aims to provide hygienic, highly subsidized meals to low-income laborers and migratory workforces across industrial hubs, operating on a decentralized community kitchen model.

Q19. In the judicial domain, consider the following statements regarding the developments involving the Allahabad High Court on April 12–13, 2026:

1. Justice Yashwant Varma submitted his formal resignation to President Droupadi Murmu amid ongoing inquiry and removal proceedings.
2. Under Article 217 and 218 of the Indian Constitution, a High Court judge can be removed only by an order of the President passed after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a special majority.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct? A) 1 only

- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C) Both 1 and 2

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** A notable constitutional development took place when High Court Justice Yashwant Varma resigned following the discovery of unaccounted financial assets at his residence.
- **Analysis:** Both statements are legally and factually sound. Statement 1 captures the specific news event involving the judge's resignation addressed to the President. Statement 2 accurately describes the constitutional mechanism for judicial removal. The process requires a special majority in both chambers of Parliament, operating under the structural guidelines of the Judges Inquiry Act, 1968.

Q20. In April 2026, India sent vital medical relief supplies to which Middle Eastern nation via institutional channels, highlighting sustained



humanitarian cooperation despite intense regional geopolitical tensions?

- A) Yemen
- B) Iran
- C) Syria
- D) Lebanon

Answer: B) Iran

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** Amidst escalating geopolitical blockades in the Strait of Hormuz, India maintained its humanitarian policy lines.
- **Analysis:** The Iranian Embassy processed medical supply consignments purchased through specialized Indian donation channels and institutional relief programs. This action highlights India's ongoing diplomatic strategy of decoupling essential medical and humanitarian assistance from broader regional geopolitical standoffs.

Part 5: Defense, Science & Space News

Q21. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully conducted the "Integrated Air Drop Test-2 (IAD Test-2)" on April 12-13, 2026. This test forms a crucial safety validation phase for which of the following flagship space programs?

- A) Chandrayaan-4
- B) Gaganyaan Mission
- C) Shukrayaan-1
- D) Aditya-L1 Extended Phase

Answer: B) Gaganyaan Mission

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** India's push toward crewed orbital spaceflight advanced with the successful completion of the IAD Test-2.
- **Analysis:** The Integrated Air Drop Test evaluated the parachute recovery systems for the *Gaganyaan Mission*, which aims to launch three astronauts into a 400-kilometer Low Earth Orbit (LEO) for a three-day deployment. In this test, an Indian Air Force helicopter dropped a 5-ton dummy crew module from an altitude of nearly 4 kilometers, validating that the automated parachute sequence could successfully slow the module down to a safe landing speed of 8 meters per second before splashdown.

Q22. "Exercise DUSTLIK 2026", conducted in April 2026, is a prominent annual joint military counter-terrorism training exercise executed between the army contingents of India and which of the following nations?

- A) Kazakhstan
- B) Uzbekistan
- C) Kyrgyzstan
- D) Tajikistan

Answer: B) Uzbekistan

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** Bilateral defense diplomacy in Central Asia saw the continuation of long-term training frameworks.
- **Analysis:** Exercise DUSTLIK is the annual joint military exercise conducted between India and Uzbekistan. Initiated in 2019, the 2026 iteration focused heavily on real-time counter-terrorism operations, tactical urban combat scenarios, and joint command integration in mountainous or semi-urban environments.



Q23. The Indian Navy hosted its foundational "Naval Commanders' Conference 2026" on April 13, 2026, in New Delhi to address emerging security challenges. Who is the current Chief of the Naval Staff leading these strategic sessions?

- A) Admiral R. Hari Kumar
- B) Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi
- C) Admiral Karambir Singh
- D) Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh

Answer: B) Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** The apex leadership of the Indian Navy assembled in New Delhi to review maritime security frameworks, focusing on anti-drone operations and anti-piracy missions across the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- **Analysis:** The conference was led by Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi, the Chief of the Naval Staff. The strategic sessions assessed ready-state weapon configurations alongside structural ship deployments, with President Droupadi Murmu serving as the supreme commander overseeing the broad security evaluations.

Q24. In defense and border policing developments, which country's border was the focus of a specialized "Reptile Deterrence Proposal" draft in April 2026 to enhance tactical surveillance security?

- A) India-Pakistan Border
- B) India-Bangladesh Border
- C) India-China LAC
- D) India-Myanmar Border

Answer: B) India-Bangladesh Border

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** Border management strategies under review on April 13, 2026, featured unique security and ecological mitigation proposals.
- **Analysis:** The Reptile Deterrence Proposal was drafted for sections of the India-Bangladesh border. It combines physical fencing alterations with specific ecological deterrents to address unique swamp and riverine border patches, working to curb illegal crossings while minimizing disruption to local wildlife patterns.

Q25. Which Indian naval frontline stealth frigate was highlighted in April 2026 defense briefs for its deployment in the Western Indian Ocean to strengthen maritime partnership exercises (PASSEX)?

- A) INS Vikrant
- B) INS Trikand
- C) INS Visakhapatnam
- D) INS Mormugao

Answer: B) INS Trikand

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** The Indian Navy extended its mission-ready footprint across strategic sea lines of communication.
- **Analysis:** INS Trikand was deployed for maritime security operations and bilateral cooperative exercises. The frigate's presence in the western maritime theatre helps secure commercial shipping lanes against emerging non-traditional threats and deepens cooperation with friendly regional navies.

Part 6: Environment, Art, Culture & Important Days

Q26. April 13, 2026, marks exactly 107 years since the tragic Jallianwala Bagh Massacre took place in Amritsar. Which repressive British legislation were the crowds peacefully protesting against when General Reginald Dyer ordered his troops to open fire?

- A) The Vernacular Press Act
- B) The Rowlatt Act
- C) The Ilbert Bill
- D) The Regulating Act

Answer: B) The Rowlatt Act

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** On April 13, 1919, British colonial troops opened fire without warning on thousands of unarmed men, women, and children gathered at Jallianwala Bagh. April 13, 2026, marks the 107th anniversary of this historic tragedy.
- **Analysis:** The public gathering was held on the festival of Baisakhi to protest the arrest of nationalist leaders Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew and Dr. Satyapal under the Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act of 1919, popularly known as the *Rowlatt Act*. This law allowed the colonial government to detain political activists for up to two years without trial, sparking widespread public protests across India.

Q27. In environmental news, the wildlife census updates from Kuno National Park in April 2026 confirmed that the cheetah named "Gamini" gave birth to four healthy cubs. This development raised the total cheetah population under Project Cheetah to what current figure?

- A) 32
- B) 45
- C) 57
- D) 64

Answer: C) 57

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** India's species reintroduction program reached an encouraging milestone on April 13, 2026.
- **Analysis:** The birth of four new cubs to Gamini—the second Indian-born cheetah to successfully reproduce in the wild—raised the country's total cheetah population at Kuno National Park to 57 individuals. This progress helps validate the long-term viability of the translocation and breeding protocols implemented under Project Cheetah.

Q28. Recent environmental and tribal rights conflicts in April 2026 within the state of Odisha highlighted the "Development vs. Displacement" debate. Which specific mineral resource, vital for global aluminum production, is at the center of mining disputes across the Panchpatmali and Niyamgiri hills?

- A) Iron Ore
- B) Bauxite
- C) Manganese
- D) Chromite

Answer: B) Bauxite

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** Local tribal communities in Odisha raised concerns regarding mandatory clearances from Gram Sabhas under the PESA Act (Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas Act), 1996.

- **Analysis:** The protests center on *Bauxite* mining projects. Odisha holds roughly 41% of India's total bauxite reserves and accounts for nearly 70% of national production. Major operational zones like Panchpatmali, Sijimali, and the Niyamgiri hills are critical to the aluminum supply chain, but require careful management to balance economic output with tribal land rights and ecological conservation.

Q29. Celebrated across various regions of India around April 13–14, 2026, the traditional festivals of "Vaisakhi", "Vishu", and "Bihu" fundamentally share which primary cultural significance?

- A) Monsoon Welcoming Rituals
- B) Post-Winter Solstice Bonfires
- C) Regional New Year and Harvest Festivals
- D) Epic Victory Triumphs over Demonic Entities

Answer: C) Regional New Year and Harvest Festivals

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** The mid-April period marks a major cultural transition across the Indian subcontinent.
- **Analysis:** Vaisakhi (Punjab), Vishu (Kerala), and Bohag Bihu (Assam) serve as traditional solar New Year celebrations and major harvest festivals. These festivals mark the entry of the Sun into the Mesha (Aries) rashi, indicating the start of the traditional agricultural cycle and the harvesting of rabi crops.

Q30. In April 2026, environmental biology journals highlighted the importance of "Sentinel Species" in monitoring habitat degradation. Which of the following best defines a sentinel species?

- A) An invasive exotic species that completely displaces native flora and fauna.
- B) A highly sensitive organism used to detect environmental hazards and provide early warnings of ecological threats.
- C) A top-tier apex predator that regulates the population of herbivores.
- D) A species that has completely gone extinct in the wild but survives in captivity.

Answer: B) A highly sensitive organism used to detect environmental hazards and provide early warnings of ecological threats.

Detailed Explanation:

- **Context:** Ecological monitoring updates from protected areas like the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve highlighted sentinel species assessments on April 13, 2026.
- **Analysis:** Sentinel species act as biological early-warning systems. Because they are often more susceptible to environmental shifts or chemical hazards than other organisms, observing changes in their health, behavior, or population dynamics allows conservationists to identify emerging ecological threats before they cause widespread damage to the broader ecosystem.