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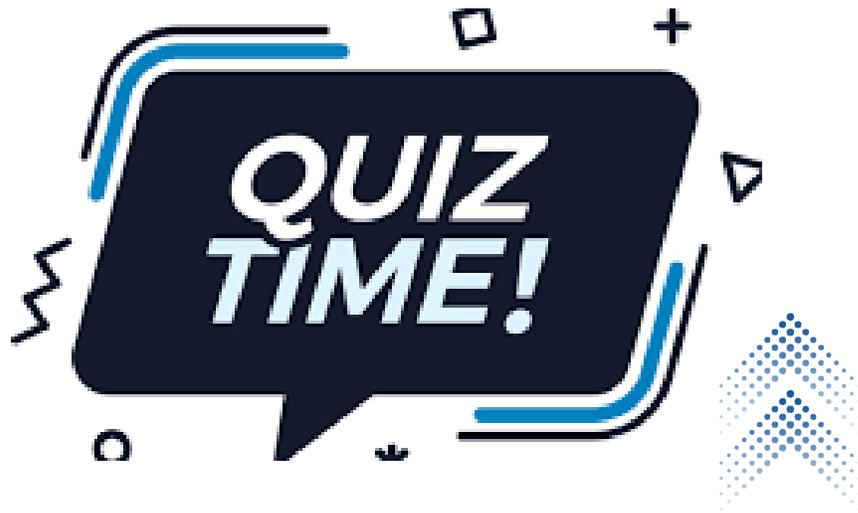
**VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY  
&  
STUDY CENTRE**

# DAILY MCQ'S

**FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION**

**DATE: 08/07/2025 (TUESDAY)**

- **Static mcq's**
- **Current Affairs mcq's**
- **Mains Practice Questions**



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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

**Q1. Consider the following statements regarding ancient Indian trade networks:**

1. The Periplus of the Erythraean Sea mentions Indian exports like tortoise shell, ivory and spices from ports on the eastern coast to Southeast Asia.
2. The Satavahanas primarily controlled maritime trade from Gujarat ports to the Roman Empire.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: (a) 1 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. The *Periplus of the Erythraean Sea* (1st century CE Greek text) documents Indian maritime trade, especially from eastern ports like Tamralipti and Kaveripattinam, exporting tortoise shell, ivory, pearls, and spices to Southeast Asia and beyond.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. The Satavahanas primarily controlled trade routes in the Deccan and had access to western ports like Sopara and Bharuch, but they did not dominate Gujarat ports entirely. The Gujarat ports were more under the control of Western Kshatrapas and other local powers at various times.

**Q2. Consider the following statements regarding ecological pyramids:**

1. In most terrestrial ecosystems, the pyramid of biomass is upright, while in some aquatic ecosystems, it may be inverted.
2. Pyramid of energy is always upright regardless of the type of ecosystem.
3. In an inverted pyramid of numbers, a single producer supports a large number of herbivores.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. In terrestrial ecosystems (e.g., forests), biomass of producers (trees) is highest, so the biomass pyramid is upright. In aquatic systems, phytoplankton (producers) have lesser biomass than zooplankton, leading to inverted biomass pyramids.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. Pyramid of energy always remains upright as there is continuous loss of energy (approx. 90%) at each trophic level.



- **Statement 3:** Incorrect. In an inverted pyramid of numbers, like a single tree supporting many insects, the producer is fewer and herbivores are more. So, it is the number of producers that is less, not a single producer supporting herbivores in a direct upright sense.

**Q3. Consider the following statements regarding inflation targeting in India:**

1. The target inflation rate set by the Government of India in consultation with RBI is 4%, with a tolerance band of  $\pm 2\%$ .
2. Core inflation includes food and fuel prices to reflect the underlying price trend.
3. A flexible inflation targeting framework gives RBI operational independence in deciding monetary policy tools but not the inflation target itself.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Under the Monetary Policy Framework Agreement (2016), India adopted a flexible inflation targeting approach with a target of 4% CPI inflation and a tolerance band of  $\pm 2\%$ .
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. Core inflation actually excludes food and fuel items because these are highly volatile and do not reflect the persistent price trend.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. RBI is given operational independence to achieve the target using tools like repo rate, but the target itself is decided by the Government in consultation with RBI.

**Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Inter-State Council in India:**

1. It is a constitutional body established under Article 263.
2. It was set up in 1990 following the recommendations of the Punchhi Commission.
3. The Council can make binding decisions on inter-state disputes.
4. The Prime Minister acts as the chairman of the Council.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 4 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 3 and 4 only

**Answer: (b) 1 and 4 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Article 263 of the Constitution provides for an Inter-State Council to improve center-state and inter-state coordination.



- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. The Council was set up in 1990 based on the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission (1988), not Punchhi Commission.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect. The Council is an advisory body; its decisions are not binding.
- **Statement 4:** Correct. The Prime Minister is the chairman of the Inter-State Council.

**Q5. Assertion-Reason type —**

**Assertion (A):** In western Rajasthan, rainfall decreases from east to west.

**Reason (R):** The monsoon winds lose moisture as they move inland from the Bay of Bengal branch.

**Codes:**

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true, but R is false.
- (d) A is false, but R is true.

**Answer: (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.**

**Explanation:**

- **Assertion:** True. Rainfall in western Rajasthan decreases sharply towards the west (e.g., from Jaipur region to Jaisalmer and Barmer), leading to arid conditions.
- **Reason:** True. The Bay of Bengal monsoon branch moves westward across the Indo-Gangetic plains and gradually loses moisture content before reaching western Rajasthan. This explains the progressive decline in rainfall.

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## **DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS PART**

**Q1.** Consider the following statements regarding the UAE's nomination-based Golden Visa scheme introduced in 2024:

1. The nomination-based Golden Visa allows only high-net-worth foreign investors to acquire permanent residency without employment restrictions.
2. Indian scientists, artists, and athletes have recently been nominated under this scheme, reflecting UAE's strategy to diversify its talent pool.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only



- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer:** (b) 2 only

**Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The nomination-based Golden Visa scheme is not restricted to investors alone; it also targets exceptional talents in science, culture, arts, sports, and humanitarian fields.
- Statement 2 is correct. The UAE has recently included prominent Indian scientists, artists, and sportspersons to attract global talent and diversify its economic and cultural ecosystem.

**Q2.** The primary objective of the National Overseas Scholarship Scheme is to:

- (a) Fund international sports training for Indian youth.
- (b) Provide financial assistance to SC, ST, and other marginalized students for higher studies abroad.
- (c) Facilitate export-oriented entrepreneurship training abroad.
- (d) Enable mid-career professionals to attend global policy fellowships.

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

The scheme aims to financially support students from SC, ST, landless agricultural laborers, and other marginalized groups to pursue Master's and Ph.D. programs abroad, enhancing their educational and socio-economic mobility.

**Q3.** Consider the following statements regarding the emerging Battery Passport Framework:

1. It aims to digitally track battery materials from mining to end-of-life recycling, ensuring supply chain transparency.
2. The European Union plans to make battery passports mandatory for all electric vehicle batteries from 2035 onwards.
3. India has formally signed the Global Battery Alliance agreement to implement battery passports domestically from 2025.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Answer:** (a) 1 and 2 only

**Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is correct. Battery passports provide information on raw material sourcing, carbon footprint, and recycling, enabling transparency and accountability.
- Statement 2 is correct. The EU plans mandatory battery passports initially from 2027 for certain batteries and a full requirement by 2030. The year 2035 is a distractor.



- Statement 3 is incorrect. India is currently exploring this concept but has not signed a formal implementation agreement with the Global Battery Alliance for a 2025 rollout.

**Q4.** Consider the following statements about the Vera C. Rubin Observatory in Chile:

1. It is designed primarily for deep-space gamma-ray burst observations using rapid-response telescopes.
2. The Observatory will conduct the 10-year Legacy Survey of Space and Time (LSST), expected to create a detailed time-lapse "movie" of the universe.
3. India is a contributing partner in its instrumentation and data analysis programs.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 2 only

**Answer:** (d) 2 only

**Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The Rubin Observatory focuses on wide-field optical surveys and transient sky events, not specialized gamma-ray burst studies.
- Statement 2 is correct. The LSST will generate a massive time-series database, essentially creating a "movie" of the dynamic universe over 10 years.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. India is not an official partner, although Indian scientists may collaborate informally.

**Q5.** Consider the following statements regarding the Dark Web:

1. It operates exclusively using specialized browsers such as Tor, which anonymize user identity.
2. All content on the Dark Web is inherently illegal and subject to international bans.
3. The Dark Web is sometimes used by whistleblowers and journalists for secure communications.
4. Cryptocurrency transactions on the Dark Web are fully anonymous and cannot be traced under any circumstances.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 2 and 4 only

**Answer:** (a) 1 and 3 only

**Explanation:**



- Statement 1 is correct. Specialized browsers like Tor are used to access the Dark Web and maintain anonymity.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. While much illegal activity does occur, there are also legitimate uses such as private research and secure communications.
- Statement 3 is correct. Journalists and whistleblowers use it for anonymous exchanges.
- Statement 4 is incorrect. Cryptocurrency transactions offer pseudo-anonymity but can be tracked through blockchain analysis.

**Q6.** Namibia shares land borders with which of the following countries?

1. Angola
2. Zambia
3. Zimbabwe
4. Botswana
5. South Africa

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
- (b) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
- (c) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only

**Answer:** (a) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only

**Explanation:**

- Angola lies to the north of Namibia.
- Zambia touches Namibia at the northeastern Caprivi Strip.
- Zimbabwe does not directly border Namibia; there is a narrow strip of Botswana between them.
- Botswana lies to the east.
- South Africa lies to the south.

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## **SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS FOR DAILY PRACTICE**

**GS Paper 1:**

**Question 1:**

"Examine the impact of social media on traditional family structures in India. Do you think it is leading to a weakening of social cohesion? Discuss."



**Sample Answer:**

Social media has revolutionized interpersonal communication in India, bridging distances and enabling instant connectivity. However, it has significantly impacted traditional family structures and social cohesion.

• **Erosion of joint family systems:**

Social media promotes individualism, often leading young people to prioritize personal freedom over collective family responsibilities. The traditional joint family system, once a hallmark of Indian society, is gradually being replaced by nuclear families.

• **Changing dynamics of relationships:**

Constant exposure to external influences through social media may create unrealistic expectations within family relationships. It can sometimes lead to conflicts between generations over values, lifestyle choices, and career aspirations.

• **Reduced quality of face-to-face interactions:**

While virtual connectivity has increased, the time spent on in-person conversations within families has decreased. Family meals, festivals, and gatherings are often overshadowed by phone usage, weakening emotional bonds.

• **Cultural homogenization:**

Social media propagates global cultural trends, leading to dilution of local traditions and practices within families. Children and adolescents may adopt global lifestyles that clash with indigenous values, creating friction.

• **Strengthening distant connections:**

On the positive side, social media helps maintain ties with extended family members residing in different cities or countries, which might otherwise weaken.

**Conclusion:**

Social media has undoubtedly transformed Indian family structures, promoting individual-centric lifestyles and sometimes weakening social cohesion. To counterbalance this, families need to cultivate conscious digital literacy and promote offline bonding activities to preserve emotional unity.

**GS Paper 2:**

**Question 2:**

"Discuss the challenges and opportunities in implementing the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in India. What steps can be taken to ensure its smooth implementation?"

**Sample Answer:**

The Uniform Civil Code (UCC), enshrined in Article 44 of the Directive Principles of State Policy, envisions a common set of personal laws governing all citizens irrespective of religion, thereby promoting national integration and gender justice.

**Challenges:**

• **Religious sensitivities:** UCC is perceived as interfering with religious freedom guaranteed under Article 25. Communities fear erosion of personal laws integral to their religious identity.

• **Political reluctance:** Due to its sensitive nature, political parties often avoid supporting UCC, fearing backlash from vote banks.



- **Diversity in customs:** India's pluralistic society comprises varied customs and traditions, making it difficult to frame a code acceptable to all.
- **Gender inequalities within communities:** Certain sections may resist reforms as they challenge patriarchal privileges within personal laws.

**Opportunities:**

- **Gender justice:** UCC can ensure equal rights for women in marriage, inheritance, and adoption, ending discriminatory practices.
- **National integration:** A common civil code can foster a sense of unity among citizens beyond religious lines.
- **Simplification of legal framework:** A unified code can streamline complex personal laws and ensure uniformity in civil matters.

**Way forward:**

- **Gradual approach:** Begin with optional provisions and codify progressive elements of various personal laws to build consensus.
- **Extensive consultations:** Involve community leaders, religious scholars, and civil society organizations to address concerns and build trust.
- **Public awareness:** Sensitize people about the benefits of UCC through education and media outreach.
- **Learning from states:** Goa has a common civil code; its model can be analyzed and adapted nationally.

**Conclusion:**

UCC offers a path toward a more egalitarian society but requires cautious, inclusive, and phased implementation to uphold secularism and protect diversity.

**GS Paper 3:**

**Question 3:**

"Analyze the challenges posed by microplastics pollution in India. Suggest a multi-pronged strategy to mitigate its impact on environment and public health."

**Sample Answer:**

Microplastics — plastic fragments less than 5 mm in size — have emerged as a significant environmental and public health concern globally, including in India.

**Challenges:**

- **Ubiquitous presence:** Microplastics are found in rivers (e.g., Ganga, Yamuna), lakes, soil, and even in the air, contaminating ecosystems.
- **Human health risks:** Ingestion of microplastics through food and water may lead to endocrine disruption, organ damage, and potential carcinogenic effects.
- **Impact on marine life:** Aquatic organisms ingest microplastics, leading to bioaccumulation and affecting the entire food chain.
- **Inadequate waste management:** Poor segregation, open dumping, and inefficient recycling exacerbate plastic breakdown into microplastics.
- **Regulatory gaps:** Existing plastic waste management rules are poorly enforced, and there is limited focus on microplastics specifically.

**Multi-pronged strategy:**

- **Strengthening legislation:** Amend Plastic Waste Management Rules to include strict monitoring of



microplastics and ban single-use plastics comprehensively.

- **Improved waste infrastructure:** Enhance waste collection, segregation, and recycling capacity at local levels to prevent plastic leakage.
- **Technological interventions:** Promote research on filters for microplastics in wastewater treatment plants and stormwater drains.
- **Behavioral change campaigns:** Launch nationwide awareness programs to reduce plastic consumption and promote alternatives like cloth and jute bags.
- **Monitoring and research:** Develop nationwide monitoring systems to study microplastic contamination in various ecosystems.
- **Extended producer responsibility (EPR):** Enforce stricter accountability on plastic producers for lifecycle management of products.

#### **Conclusion:**

Addressing microplastics pollution requires a holistic strategy involving policy, technology, behavioral change, and stakeholder participation. Urgent and coordinated action can safeguard both environmental and human health.

#### **GS Paper 4:**

##### **Question 4:**

"Explain the importance of emotional intelligence for civil servants in contemporary governance. Illustrate with examples."

##### **Sample Answer:**

Emotional intelligence (EI) refers to the ability to recognize, understand, and manage one's own emotions and those of others. It is a vital trait for civil servants engaged in complex administrative responsibilities.

##### **Importance:**

- **Enhanced interpersonal relations:** Civil servants must interact with diverse stakeholders — colleagues, politicians, and the public. EI fosters empathy, active listening, and conflict resolution.
- **Effective decision-making:** By regulating emotions, civil servants can take balanced, rational decisions even under stress.
- **Crisis management:** During emergencies (e.g., natural disasters), EI enables administrators to remain calm and motivate teams effectively.
- **Public trust:** Empathetic behavior strengthens public trust and enhances legitimacy of governance.
- **Team leadership:** High EI helps leaders inspire and unite teams, fostering collective commitment towards public service goals.

##### **Examples:**

- **Flood relief operations:** A District Magistrate effectively coordinating evacuation efforts by understanding community fears and maintaining composure under pressure.
- **Policy implementation:** A civil servant introducing unpopular reforms by empathizing with affected groups, conducting consultations, and gradually building consensus.
- **Workplace ethics:** Addressing grievances of subordinate staff fairly and supportively, ensuring a healthy work environment.

##### **Conclusion:**

Emotional intelligence complements technical skills and ethical values in governance. It enables civil



servants to address administrative challenges humanely and efficiently, thereby improving public service delivery and upholding democratic values.

### Current Affairs:

#### Question 5:

"India has significantly reduced maternal mortality over the past decades, yet challenges persist. Analyze the factors behind this trend and suggest measures to achieve further reductions."

#### Sample Answer:

India's Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has declined from 556 per 1 lakh live births in 1990 to 97 in 2020, as per WHO estimates — a remarkable public health achievement.

#### Factors contributing to decline:

- **Improved institutional deliveries:** Schemes like Janani Suraksha Yojana incentivize hospital births, reducing delivery-related complications.
- **Expanded antenatal care:** Strengthened network of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) and Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) have improved early detection of high-risk pregnancies.
- **Nutrition and health programs:** Initiatives like Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana provide financial support and nutrition supplements to pregnant women.
- **Better transport facilities:** Ambulance services like 108 have facilitated timely referrals and emergency care.

#### Persisting challenges:

- **Regional disparities:** States like Assam and Uttar Pradesh still have high MMR compared to southern states.
- **Socio-cultural barriers:** Early marriages, low female literacy, and inadequate awareness hinder timely healthcare-seeking behavior.
- **Inadequate infrastructure:** Shortage of skilled birth attendants, lack of blood banks, and poor rural healthcare facilities remain issues.
- **Quality of care:** Even where services are available, quality and respectful maternity care are lacking.

#### Suggested measures:

- **Strengthen primary healthcare:** Upgrade rural health centers with sufficient skilled personnel and essential supplies.
- **Community awareness:** Promote behavioral change regarding maternal health, nutrition, and delayed marriage through targeted IEC campaigns.
- **Address anemia and malnutrition:** Intensify interventions to reduce anemia among women of reproductive age.
- **Data-driven policies:** Regular monitoring and disaggregated data analysis to target high-burden districts.
- **Private sector engagement:** Collaborate with private hospitals to expand quality maternal healthcare coverage.

#### Conclusion:

Sustaining and accelerating progress requires an integrated approach involving healthcare system strengthening, social empowerment, and community participation. Reducing MMR is not only a public health goal but also a marker of social justice and gender equality.