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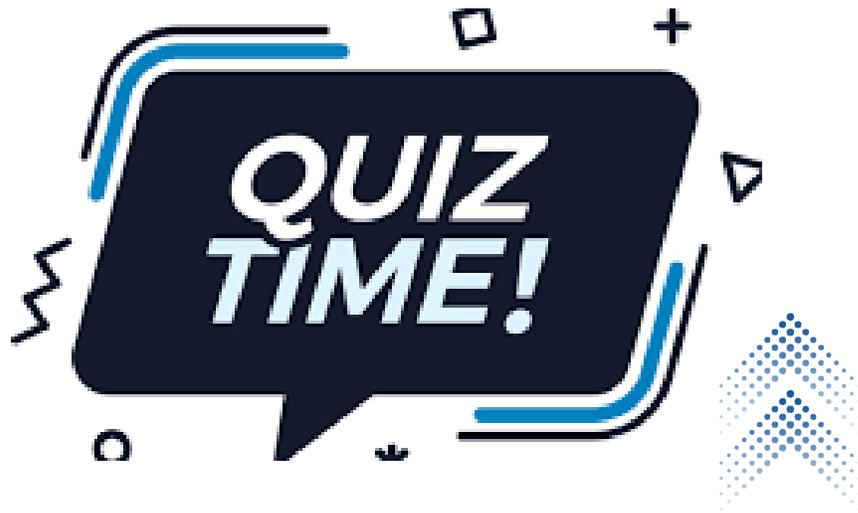
**VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY  
&  
STUDY CENTRE**

# DAILY MCQ'S

**FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION**

**DATE: 9/07/2025 (WEDNESDAY)**

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



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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

**Question 1:** Consider the following statements regarding the political developments in British India during the early 20th century:

1. The Ghadar Party primarily drew support from the Indian merchant diaspora in South Africa, aiming to overthrow British rule through violent means.
2. The Montagu Declaration of 1917 was the first official British statement promising self-governing institutions to Indians.

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:** Incorrect.  
The Ghadar Party was founded mainly by Punjabi Indians living in North America (USA and Canada), not South Africa. It aimed to incite a pan-Indian mutiny against the British through revolutionary violence, but its support base was largely among Punjabi farmers and workers abroad.
- **Statement 2:** Correct.  
The Montagu Declaration (also known as Montagu–Chelmsford Reforms) of August 1917 for the first time officially acknowledged the gradual development of self-governing institutions in India as an objective of British policy.

**Question 2:** Consider the following statements regarding the Ramsar Convention:

1. The Montreux Record is maintained as part of the Ramsar Convention to list sites where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur.
2. Designation as a Ramsar site automatically brings legal protection under national law in India.
3. Ramsar Convention is legally binding on member countries, but there is no penal mechanism for non-compliance.

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.  
The Montreux Record is indeed maintained to identify sites where adverse changes in ecological character are happening or expected.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect.  
Ramsar site designation does not automatically grant legal protection under national law; it depends on domestic legislation. In India, while these sites are often included under protected area frameworks, there is no automatic legal protection solely by virtue of Ramsar status.
- **Statement 3:** Correct.  
The convention is legally binding, but there is no specific punitive mechanism for countries that fail to uphold obligations.

**Question 3:** Consider the following statements about the concept of “crowding out” effect:

1. It refers to the situation where increased government borrowing leads to higher interest rates, thereby reducing private investment.
2. Crowding out is more prominent in economies operating at full employment.
3. In a liquidity trap situation, crowding out is considered significant due to high sensitivity of private sector to interest rate changes.

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: (a) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct.  
"Crowding out" describes the negative impact on private investment when government borrowing pushes up interest rates.
- **Statement 2:** Correct.  
When an economy is at or near full employment, government borrowing competes more strongly with private investment, intensifying the crowding out effect.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect.  
In a liquidity trap (when interest rates are near zero), crowding out is minimal or absent since increases in government spending do not push up interest rates significantly, and private sector demand is largely insensitive to rate changes.

**Question 4:** Consider the following statements regarding the constitutional provisions on the Interstate Council:

1. The Interstate Council was established under Article 263 of the Constitution.
2. The Council is a permanent constitutional body and meets at least once every year.



3. It is chaired by the President of India and includes Chief Ministers of all States and Union Territories with legislatures.
4. One of its main functions is to investigate and discuss subjects of common interest between the Union and the States or among States.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

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

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct.  
Article 263 provides for the establishment of an Interstate Council to improve coordination between states and the centre.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect.  
The Council is not a permanent body; its meetings are convened as needed, and there is no constitutional requirement for annual meetings.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect.  
The Council is chaired by the Prime Minister, not the President.
- **Statement 4:** Correct.  
One of its core functions is to investigate and discuss matters of common interest between the Centre and States.

**Question 5: Assertion-Reason Type**

**Assertion (A):** The Aakash surface-to-air missile system is highly effective against low-flying subsonic aerial targets.

**Reason (R):** It uses an active radar homing guidance system in its terminal phase.

Select the correct answer:

- (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: (c) A is true, but R is false.**

**Explanation:**

- **Assertion:** True.  
Aakash missile is designed to engage low-flying subsonic targets including aircraft and drones, with a high kill probability.
- **Reason:** False.  
The Aakash missile employs a command guidance system (with ground-based radar and data links),



not active radar homing in terminal phase. Active radar homing would involve an onboard seeker, which Aakash lacks.

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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS PART

**Question 1:** Consider the following statements regarding Kharai camels:

1. Kharai camels are unique as they can swim in seawater and graze on mangroves along the coastal regions of Gujarat.
2. The Kharai camel breed has been granted Geographical Indication (GI) status by the Government of India.

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 Kharai camel, found in Gujarat (mainly Kutch), is known for its ability to swim long distances in seawater to reach mangrove islands and feed on saline vegetation — a rare adaptation.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect.  
While there have been demands to grant GI status to the Kharai camel to protect its unique traits and promote conservation, it has **not yet been officially granted GI status**.

**Question 2:** Which of the following best describes the primary advantage of Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) dating over conventional radiocarbon dating?

- (a) AMS requires much larger sample sizes to achieve high accuracy.
- (b) AMS can directly count rare isotopes, thereby requiring very small sample sizes and providing higher precision.
- (c) AMS is used exclusively for dating metallic artifacts.
- (d) AMS is less sensitive to contamination compared to thermoluminescence dating.

**Answer: (b) AMS can directly count rare isotopes, thereby requiring very small sample sizes and providing higher precision.**

**Explanation:**



- AMS allows direct counting of rare isotopes like Carbon-14 instead of measuring decay indirectly, enabling dating with **milligram-level sample sizes**, higher precision, and older samples than conventional methods.

**Question 3:** Consider the following statements about Brazil's Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross:

- It is Brazil's highest civilian honor exclusively reserved for its own citizens who have rendered exceptional national service.
- The award has been conferred on several foreign heads of state as a symbol of diplomatic goodwill.
- The insignia of the award prominently features the Southern Cross constellation, symbolizing Brazil's national identity.

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: (b) 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- Statement 1:** Incorrect.  
The award is **exclusively for foreign nationals**, not Brazilian citizens. It is Brazil's highest decoration for foreigners.
- Statement 2:** Correct.  
It is often awarded to foreign heads of state, monarchs, and eminent international figures.
- Statement 3:** Correct.  
The design includes the constellation of the Southern Cross (Crux), a symbol widely associated with Brazil.

**Question 4:** Consider the following statements about Coartem Baby, recently approved for use:

- It is a fixed-dose artemisinin-based combination therapy (ACT) formulated specifically for infants under five months of age.
- The formulation aims to address challenges of under-dosing and compliance among pediatric malaria patients.
- Coartem Baby can be used for both severe and uncomplicated malaria cases.

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.  
Coartem Baby is an ACT formulation designed specifically for young infants, ensuring precise dosing.
- **Statement 2:** Correct.  
It improves compliance and correct dosing, which is critical for effective treatment.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect.  
Coartem Baby is recommended **only for uncomplicated malaria**, not severe cases, which require intravenous therapies.

**Question 5:** Consider the following statements regarding the Indigenous Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS):

1. ATAGS has the distinction of achieving a maximum range of over 45 km with specialized extended-range ammunition.
2. The system has been developed as a collaborative project between DRDO and private sector industries like Bharat Forge and Tata Advanced Systems.
3. It employs a fully automated magazine system, reducing manual intervention during loading and firing.
4. ATAGS is based on an imported barrel design from Israeli defence contractors, later modified for Indian conditions.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Correct.  
ATAGS has demonstrated a record firing range of around 48 km using extended-range ammunition.
- **Statement 2:** Correct.  
The system was co-developed by DRDO with private partners Bharat Forge and Tata Advanced Systems.
- **Statement 3:** Correct.  
It uses an automated ammunition handling system, enhancing efficiency.
- **Statement 4:** Incorrect.  
The barrel design is indigenous and not based on Israeli designs. It represents India's self-reliance in artillery technology.

**Question 6:** Which of the following statements regarding the Southern Alps mountain range is/are correct?



1. The Southern Alps extend across the entire length of New Zealand's North Island.
2. The range is the site of New Zealand's highest peak, Aoraki / Mount Cook.
3. The range plays a crucial role in causing heavy orographic rainfall on New Zealand's eastern coast.

Select the correct answer:

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

**Answer: (b) 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1:** Incorrect.  
The Southern Alps are located on the **South Island**, not the North Island.
- **Statement 2:** Correct.  
Aoraki / Mount Cook (3,724 m) is the highest peak in New Zealand, located within the Southern Alps.
- **Statement 3:** Incorrect.  
The Southern Alps block moist westerlies, causing heavy rainfall on the **western** coast and creating a rain shadow on the eastern side.

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## **SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS FOR DAILY PRACTICE**

**GS Paper 1:**

**Question 1:**

"Urbanisation has led to the emergence of new forms of social exclusion and marginalisation in Indian cities. Discuss."

**Sample Answer:**

Urbanisation in India has been seen as a driver of economic growth and modernisation. However, it has also resulted in new forms of social exclusion and marginalisation, challenging the inclusiveness of cities.

- **Rise of informal settlements:**
  - Massive rural-urban migration has led to proliferation of slums and informal settlements lacking basic services.
  - Over 65 million people live in slums, often denied formal property rights and state support.
- **Economic marginalisation:**



- The urban labour market largely favours skilled, formal workers. Migrant workers, domestic helpers, and construction labourers face wage exploitation and job insecurity.
- Lack of social security further exacerbates vulnerabilities.
- **Spatial segregation:**
  - Gated communities and elite residential zones have reinforced spatial inequality.
  - Marginalised groups are pushed to city peripheries with poor transport connectivity and minimal civic amenities.
- **Gender exclusion:**
  - Urban public spaces remain unsafe for women, limiting their mobility and access to economic opportunities.
  - Lack of gender-sensitive infrastructure like public toilets and well-lit streets deepens this exclusion.
- **Cultural and caste-based discrimination:**
  - Caste hierarchies persist even in cities, affecting housing, job opportunities, and social mobility.
  - Minority communities often face ghettoisation, as seen in cities like Mumbai and Delhi.
- **Digital divide:**
  - Smart city initiatives risk excluding economically weaker sections who lack digital literacy or access to technology.

**Conclusion:**

While urbanisation offers significant prospects for growth, the emergence of new forms of social exclusion underscores the need for inclusive urban planning. Policies must focus on affordable housing, social security, gender-sensitive infrastructure, and equitable access to services to create truly inclusive cities.

**GS Paper 2 :**

**Question 2:**

"Discuss the significance of cooperative federalism in India, especially in the context of recent challenges posed by fiscal centralisation."

**Sample Answer:**

Cooperative federalism refers to a flexible relationship between the Centre and States, emphasising collaboration and mutual support. In India, it is a constitutional vision aimed at balancing unity with diversity.

- **Constitutional basis:**
  - Though India has a strong centralising tendency (e.g., Article 356), several provisions promote cooperation, such as Inter-State Council (Article 263), GST Council, and NITI Aayog mechanisms.



- **Fiscal federalism and challenges:**
  - Recent years have seen a trend towards fiscal centralisation, e.g., higher central share in tax revenues, conditionality in centrally sponsored schemes.
  - The 15th Finance Commission's recommendations on vertical devolution and reduction in grants have raised concerns among states.
- **COVID-19 context:**
  - The pandemic highlighted states' dependence on central resources, particularly for health infrastructure and welfare schemes.
  - States demanded greater flexibility in borrowing limits and spending autonomy.
- **GST and cooperative spirit:**
  - GST Council is a unique example of fiscal cooperative federalism but recent disputes (e.g., compensation cess) have tested this cooperation.
- **Centrally sponsored schemes:**
  - States argue that increasing conditions on funds restrict local priorities, undermining the federal spirit.
- **Way forward:**
  - Strengthening the Inter-State Council and empowering Zonal Councils to resolve regional issues.
  - Enhancing unconditional transfers to states to enable localised policy making.
  - Reconsidering the design of centrally sponsored schemes to give more flexibility.

**Conclusion:**

Cooperative federalism is essential to India's pluralistic democracy and developmental aspirations. Sustaining this model requires respect for state autonomy, fair fiscal transfers, and institutional mechanisms for dialogue and negotiation.

**GS Paper 3:**

**Question 3:**

"Discuss the potential and challenges of using Artificial Intelligence (AI) in improving agricultural productivity in India."

**Sample Answer:**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a transformative tool for various sectors, and agriculture is no exception. In India, AI holds immense potential to address persistent challenges in the farm sector.

- **Potential benefits:**
  - **Precision farming:** AI-enabled sensors and drones can provide real-time data on soil health, pest infestations, and crop conditions, enabling targeted interventions.



- **Yield prediction and risk mitigation:** Machine learning models can forecast yields and detect risks from weather anomalies, allowing farmers to make informed decisions.
- **Market linkages and price forecasting:** AI can analyse market trends and help farmers determine the best time to sell, improving incomes.
- **Resource optimisation:** AI can assist in efficient water use through smart irrigation systems and reduce fertiliser and pesticide use.
- **Challenges:**
  - **Digital divide:** Low digital literacy among small and marginal farmers hinders the adoption of AI technologies.
  - **Infrastructure gaps:** Limited internet connectivity and inadequate rural power supply restrict deployment.
  - **High costs:** Initial investment in AI tools and data infrastructure remains prohibitive for many farmers.
  - **Data privacy concerns:** Unregulated data collection can lead to misuse, affecting farmers' autonomy.
  - **Fragmented landholdings:** Makes standardisation of AI-based solutions difficult.
- **Government initiatives:**
  - The National e-Governance Plan in Agriculture and pilot AI projects with private firms are positive steps.
  - Promotion of startups under Digital India for agri-tech solutions.

**Conclusion:**

AI offers immense scope to revolutionise Indian agriculture, improve productivity, and enhance farmers' incomes. However, ensuring accessibility, affordability, and inclusive capacity building are critical to realise its full potential.

**GS Paper 4:**

**Question 4:**

"Discuss how emotional intelligence can help civil servants navigate ethical dilemmas and improve public service delivery."

**Sample Answer:**

Emotional intelligence (EI) refers to the ability to understand, manage, and effectively express one's own emotions, as well as engage and navigate successfully with the emotions of others. For civil servants, EI is crucial for ethical decision-making and effective governance.

- **Managing ethical dilemmas:**
  - Civil servants often face situations where they must balance legality, fairness, and compassion (e.g., enforcing eviction drives vs rehabilitation concerns).



- EI enables awareness of public sentiments and empathy towards affected communities, helping arrive at balanced, humane decisions.
- **Conflict resolution:**
  - High EI aids in defusing tense situations, listening to multiple stakeholders, and fostering trust.
  - For example, during protests or law-and-order situations, emotionally intelligent officers can engage with protesters calmly, avoiding escalation.
- **Enhancing accountability and integrity:**
  - By fostering self-awareness and self-regulation, EI helps officers resist temptations and avoid unethical shortcuts.
- **Improving team dynamics:**
  - Leaders with EI can motivate subordinates, manage workplace stress, and cultivate a service-oriented culture.
  - They can handle criticism constructively and provide support during crises.
- **Citizen-centric service delivery:**
  - Officers with empathy understand ground realities better, ensuring policies are designed and implemented keeping people's real needs in mind.
- **Case example:**
  - The conduct of an IAS officer during a pandemic lockdown, showing compassion towards migrant workers while enforcing rules, highlights EI in action.

**Conclusion:**

EI is not merely a soft skill but a critical competency for ethical governance and effective service delivery. Integrating EI training in civil service curriculum and continuous sensitisation workshops can greatly enhance the quality of administration.

**Current Affairs :**

**Question 5:**

"The semicircular classroom design initiative in Kerala reflects a new approach to educational inclusivity and pedagogy. Critically examine."

**Sample Answer:**

The semicircular classroom design initiative in Kerala represents an innovative shift from conventional teacher-centric classroom models to student-centric learning environments.

- **Context and rationale:**
  - Traditional rectangular classrooms often reinforce hierarchies, placing the teacher at the focal point and limiting peer interactions.



- Kerala's semicircular design aims to make classrooms more democratic, participatory, and inclusive.
- **Pedagogical benefits:**
  - **Enhanced interaction:** Semicircular seating fosters eye contact and group discussion, encouraging critical thinking and active participation.
  - **Student empowerment:** Reduces psychological barriers between students and teachers, promoting a collaborative learning culture.
  - **Inclusive learning:** Supports students with different learning paces and abilities by creating a more engaging and less intimidating environment.
- **Social implications:**
  - Helps break down socio-economic hierarchies often reflected in classroom dynamics.
  - Encourages empathy and teamwork among students, aligning with NEP 2020's emphasis on holistic development.
- **Infrastructure challenges:**
  - Implementing such designs requires space reallocation, which may not be feasible in overcrowded schools.
  - Additional financial resources needed for remodeling existing classrooms.
- **Scalability and equity concerns:**
  - While promising, such innovations might initially benefit better-resourced schools, potentially widening the rural-urban education gap if not implemented equitably.
- **Way forward:**
  - Need for comprehensive teacher training to adapt to participatory pedagogies.
  - State support for scaling the model across underprivileged schools to ensure universal benefit.

**Conclusion:**

Kerala's semicircular classroom initiative embodies progressive educational reform, aiming to nurture democratic, inclusive, and interactive learning. While it showcases potential for transformative change, careful attention to infrastructure and equity is essential to realise its full promise nationwide.

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