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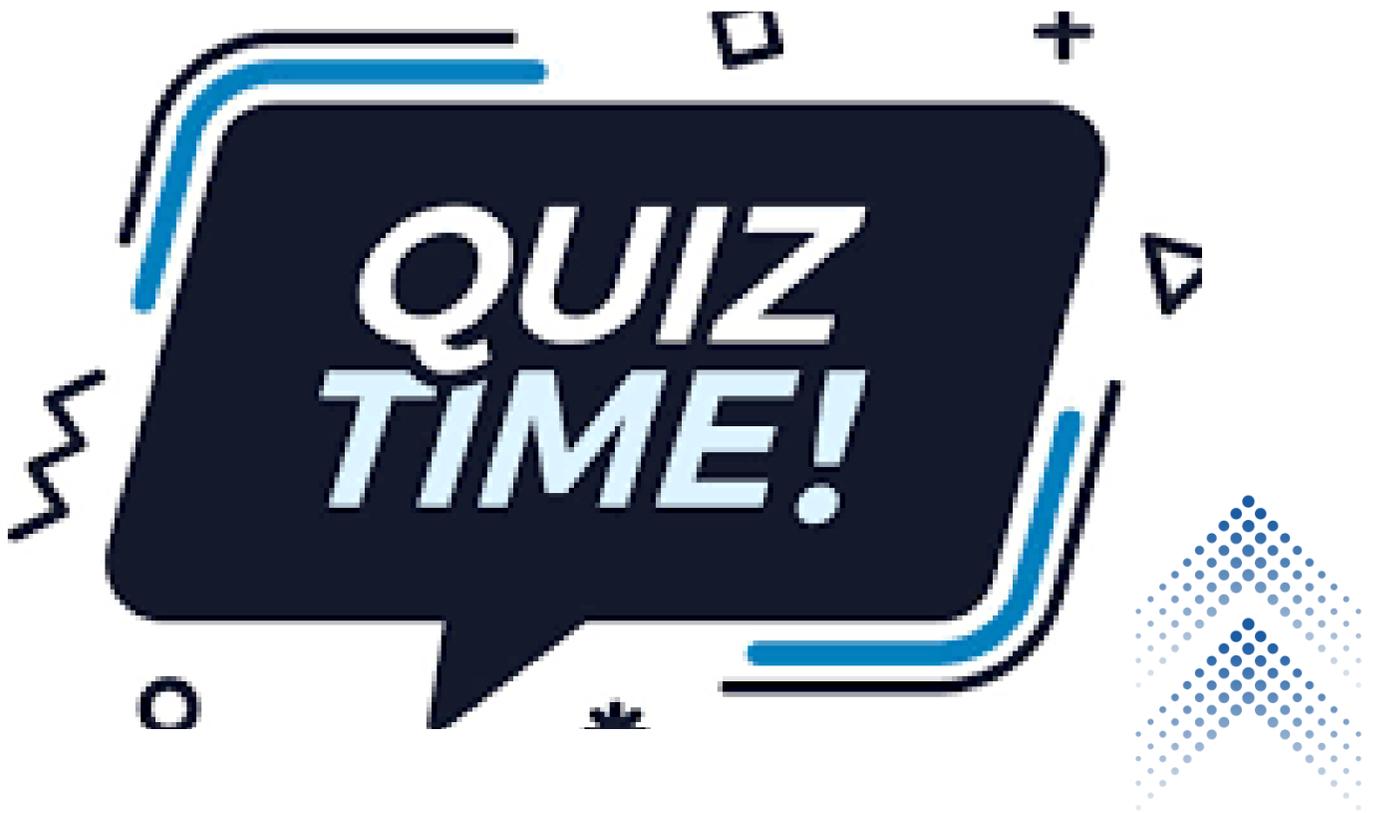
VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 11/07/2025 (FRIDAY)

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



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DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Question 1: With reference to the revolutionary movements in colonial India, consider the following statements:

1. The Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA) was founded with the goal of establishing a federal republic of India through constitutional methods.
2. The Ghadar Movement had no connection with the events of the First World War and focused primarily on socio-religious reform among Indians abroad.

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

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

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The **HSRA**, formed in 1928 (renamed from HRA), aimed to **overthrow British rule through armed revolution**, not through constitutional methods. Its vision included a socialist republic, but not through peaceful or constitutional means.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The **Ghadar Movement**, started by Indians in North America, was directly linked to the outbreak of the **First World War**. It aimed to incite revolt in India while the British were engaged in the war. It was **not focused on socio-religious reform**, but on armed insurrection.

Question 2: Consider the following statements about forest types and biodiversity in India:

1. Tropical moist deciduous forests are more extensive than tropical wet evergreen forests in India.
2. Shola forests are found exclusively in the Eastern Himalayas above 3000 m elevation.
3. Mangrove ecosystems can act as both carbon sinks and storm surge barriers.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Tropical **moist deciduous forests** cover a **larger area** in India compared to wet evergreen forests and are found in states like Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and parts of the Western Ghats.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** **Shola forests** are **montane stunted forests** found in **Western Ghats** (not the Eastern Himalayas), especially in Tamil Nadu and Kerala, between 1600–2300 m, not 3000 m.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** **Mangroves** are crucial for **carbon sequestration** and also protect **coastal areas from storms, cyclones, and tsunamis**.



Question 3: Consider the following statements regarding Fiscal Consolidation in India:

1. The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act mandates a fixed revenue deficit target of 0% to be achieved by the Union Government.
2. High revenue expenditure relative to capital expenditure negatively affects long-term growth potential.
3. Effective capital expenditure includes grants-in-aid given to states for asset creation.

Which of the above statements is/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 is incorrect:** The FRBM Act sets targets for fiscal deficit, and although revenue deficit reduction is a goal, it does not mandate 0% revenue deficit. Amendments and escape clauses also allow deviations.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** A high revenue expenditure means more spending on subsidies, salaries, etc., and less on infrastructure, hurting long-term growth.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** According to budget classifications, Effective Capital Expenditure includes both direct capital outlays and grants for capital asset creation, such as central assistance to states.

Question 4: With reference to atmospheric phenomena, consider the following statements:

1. The Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) shifts northward during the Indian summer monsoon.
2. Katabatic winds are caused due to adiabatic heating of descending air over valleys.
3. Chinook winds are dry and warm winds that descend on the windward side of mountain ranges.
4. Temperature inversion often leads to the trapping of pollutants near the surface.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** During Indian summer monsoon, the ITCZ shifts northward, drawing in moisture-laden winds from the oceans.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Katabatic winds are cold, dense downslope winds, not caused by adiabatic heating, but rather by cooling at high elevations.



- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Chinook winds descend on the **leeward side** (not windward) and are warm and dry due to **adiabatic heating**.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** **Temperature inversion** creates a **stable layer** that prevents vertical mixing, leading to **pollution trapping near the surface**.

Question 5: Assertion-Reason type –

Assertion (A): The Bhakti movement helped democratize religious practices in India.
Reason (R): Bhakti saints opposed the rigidities of caste and priesthood and emphasized devotion as the sole path to salvation.

In the context of the above, which one of the following is correct?

- (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 is true:** The **Bhakti movement** simplified religion and emphasized **personal devotion**, breaking the monopoly of Brahmins and Sanskrit scriptures.
- **Reason is also true:** Bhakti saints like **Kabir, Tukaram, Basavanna, Mirabai** rejected **caste barriers** and **ritualism**, promoting a more **inclusive** spiritual path.
- **R correctly explains A**, as this **ideological shift** led to **democratization of religious practices** in medieval India.

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DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS PART

Question 1: With reference to the TALASH (Technology and Action for Lost Anthropological and Sacred Heritage) Initiative, consider the following statements:

1. TALASH is jointly launched by the Ministry of Culture and ISRO to use satellite imaging for detecting encroachments on notified ASI heritage sites.
2. The initiative is aimed solely at urban heritage monuments listed under UNESCO World Heritage List in India.

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

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

Answer: (b) 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The TALASH initiative is a collaborative effort of the ASI and ISRO to use remote sensing and satellite imagery for identifying encroachments and illegal constructions around protected monuments.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** TALASH is not limited to urban or UNESCO-listed heritage sites. It covers a wide range of ASI-notified monuments, many of which are not on the UNESCO list or located in urban areas.

Question 2: Which of the following best describes the purpose of India's recently launched AI-powered Machine Vision-Based Inspection Systems (MVIS)?

- (a) Detecting tax frauds using AI-powered audit trails in GST filings
- (b) Inspecting rolling stock components of railways through automated image analytics
- (c) Monitoring drone airspace violations in real-time
- (d) Using AI in electoral roll verification to reduce duplication

Answer: (b) Inspecting rolling stock components of railways through automated image analytics

Explanation:

- The MVIS is a cutting-edge AI-based system deployed by Indian Railways, aimed at performing automated inspection of train coaches and wagons (rolling stock).
- It uses machine vision, deep learning, and high-speed cameras to scan for faults like cracks, missing parts, and alignment issues without manual human intervention.



Question 3: Consider the following statements regarding INS Nistar, recently inducted into the Indian Navy:

1. It is designed primarily for nuclear submarine support and rescue operations.
2. It is equipped with a Deep Submergence Rescue Vessel (DSRV) capable of operating at depths beyond 1000 meters.
3. It is indigenously built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited under Project 75I.

Which of the above statements is/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:** INS Nistar is designed to **support submarines**, especially **rescue missions for distressed submarines**, including nuclear subs.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is equipped with **DSRV systems** capable of **deep-sea operations** beyond **1000 meters**, critical for submarine rescue.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** INS Nistar is **not built by Mazagon Dock**. It is **constructed by Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), Visakhapatnam**, under Atmanirbhar Bharat, and is not part of **Project 75I** (which deals with conventional submarines).

Question 4: Consider the following statements about the Agricultural Monitoring and Event Detection (AMED) API launched by ISRO:

1. It provides real-time crop loss alerts based on remote sensing data and weather triggers.
2. It is hosted on ISRO's Bhuvan portal and is publicly accessible without restrictions.
3. The system integrates multi-temporal satellite imagery and AI-based anomaly detection algorithms.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** AMED API is part of ISRO's digital initiative to monitor **agricultural anomalies like flood, drought, and crop loss** using satellite data and real-time alerts.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** While some data is visible on **Bhuvan**, **full API access is restricted** to authorized institutions like government departments, not the general public.



- **Statement 3 is correct:** The platform uses **multi-temporal remote sensing, NDVI changes, and machine learning** algorithms to detect anomalies in crop growth.

Question 5: With reference to India's deployment of the S-400 'Sudarshan Chakra' Air Defence System, consider the following statements:

1. It is a short-range, low-altitude surface-to-air missile system primarily used for urban combat scenarios.
2. It has the capability to engage aerial targets at distances up to 400 kilometers.
3. India has begun integrating the S-400 with its indigenous Akash air defense batteries.
4. The procurement was made under the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) with Russia.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The **S-400** is a **long-range** air defense system, **not short-range**. It can intercept targets like cruise missiles, aircraft, and ballistic missiles.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The system can engage multiple targets **up to 400 km**, making it one of the **most advanced missile shields** in the world.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** India has been working to create a **multi-layered air defense network**, integrating **S-400 with Akash**, albeit technically and operationally complex.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** **LEMOA** is a logistics support agreement signed **with the US, not Russia**, and is unrelated to the **S-400 procurement**, which is governed by a **bilateral defense deal** with Russia.

Question 6: Which of the following features correctly locate and describe the Dholera Special Investment Region (DSIR) on the map of India?

- (a) It is located in the Saurashtra region of Gujarat, near Kandla Port, and is part of the Delhi–Mumbai Industrial Corridor.
- (b) It is located in south Gujarat near Surat, and is focused on textile and diamond industries.
- (c) It is situated southwest of Ahmedabad, part of the Delhi–Mumbai Industrial Corridor, and is being developed as a smart industrial city with greenfield airport and EV cluster.
- (d) It is located near the Rann of Kutch and is developed jointly by Gujarat and Rajasthan governments as a solar-wind hybrid zone.

Answer: (c) It is situated southwest of Ahmedabad, part of the Delhi–Mumbai Industrial Corridor, and is being developed as a smart industrial city with greenfield airport and EV cluster.



Explanation:

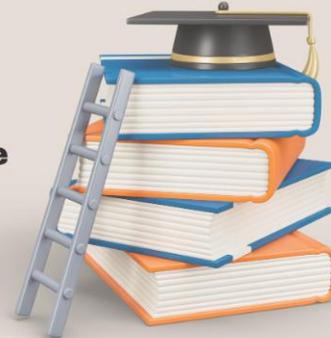
- The **Dholera SIR** is located in **southwestern Gujarat**, about **100 km from Ahmedabad**, and is part of the **DMIC project**.
- It is envisioned as **India's first Platinum-rated greenfield smart city**, with focus on **infrastructure, robotics, electronics, and EV manufacturing**.
- A **greenfield international airport** and high-speed **Ahmedabad–Dholera expressway** are key features.
- It is **not near Surat or Kandla**, and is **not a solar-wind hybrid zone** per se.

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SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS FOR DAILY PRACTICE

GS Paper 1

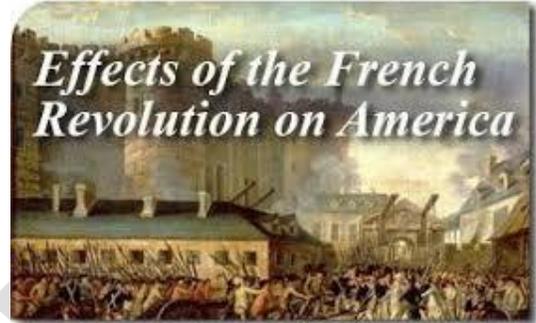
Q1. Analyze how the American Revolution influenced the French Revolution. Highlight the ideological, economic, and political linkages between the two events.

Answer:

The American Revolution (1775–1783) served as a significant precursor and inspiration for the French Revolution (1789). Though separated by geography, both revolutions were driven by Enlightenment ideals, opposition to autocratic rule, and a demand for popular sovereignty.

Ideological Influence:

The American Revolution was deeply influenced by Enlightenment thinkers like Locke and Rousseau, emphasizing natural rights, liberty, and representative government. These same philosophies found resonance in France. French soldiers, including the Marquis de Lafayette, who fought in America, returned with radical republican ideals. The success of a colonial population defeating a monarchy invigorated the French intelligentsia and commoners alike.



Economic Linkages:

France's support for the American Revolution exacerbated its already critical fiscal deficit. The war cost France over 1.3 billion livres, worsening the burden of debt and leading to increased taxation on commoners, fuelling resentment. The financial crisis forced Louis XVI to convene the Estates-General, inadvertently triggering revolutionary momentum.

Political Impact:

The American example showcased that it was possible to resist an imperial monarchy and frame a democratic constitution. The Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution served as templates for the French Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen (1789). American federalism and separation of powers also influenced French political discourse.

Conclusion:

Though rooted in different social structures, the American Revolution offered a live demonstration of Enlightenment ideals in practice. The transatlantic exchange of ideas, people, and experiences linked the two revolutions. The French Revolution radicalized the Enlightenment legacy and pursued equality, liberty, and fraternity with greater intensity and violence, partly inspired by the American example.

GS Paper 2

Q2. Discuss the role of the Election Commission of India (ECI) in ensuring free and fair elections in the country. How can the autonomy and effectiveness of ECI be further strengthened?

Answer:

The Election Commission of India (ECI) is the constitutional authority tasked with administering elections to the Parliament, State Legislatures, and offices of the President and Vice-President. Under Article 324, the ECI ensures that elections are conducted in a free, fair, and impartial manner.

Key Roles of ECI:

- **Conduct of Elections:** Organizes and monitors elections, including delimitation, preparation of electoral rolls, and deployment of personnel.
- **Model Code of Conduct (MCC):** Enforces the MCC to maintain the level playing field.
- **Electoral Reforms:** Implements technological tools such as VVPAT, EVMs, and cVIGIL app.
- **Monitoring Malpractice:** Regulates campaign finance, curbs hate speech, and takes action against voter inducement.

Challenges to ECI's Autonomy:

- **Appointment Process:** Currently, the executive has primacy in appointments, raising concerns about neutrality.
- **Lack of Enforcement Power:** MCC violations often go unpunished due to limited statutory backing.
- **Post-Retirement Appointments:** Raises apprehensions of potential bias.
- **Use of Social Media and Deepfakes:** Pose new regulatory hurdles.

**Strengthening the ECI:**

- **Collegium System:** Recent Supreme Court judgment (Anoop Baranwal Case, 2023) mandated a panel involving the PM, LoP, and CJI for appointments. Institutionalizing this would enhance independence.
- **Statutory Backing for MCC:** Legal codification would provide stronger enforcement.
- **Election Expenditure Transparency:** Cap on party expenditure and real-time audit of donations via Electoral Bonds must be reformed.
- **Tech-Enabled Vigilance:** Use of AI to detect misinformation, and blockchain for voter databases, can improve oversight.

Conclusion:

While the ECI has historically upheld democratic values, recent developments demand robust reforms to safeguard its independence and authority. A legally and institutionally empowered ECI is essential for the integrity of Indian democracy.

GS Paper 3

Q3. Examine the significance of critical minerals for India's economy and national security. What steps has India taken to secure these resources amid global competition?

Answer:

Critical minerals are essential for high-tech, green, and defense applications but are vulnerable to supply disruptions. These include lithium, cobalt, nickel, rare earth elements (REEs), and graphite, which are indispensable for electric vehicles (EVs), semiconductors, solar panels, and defense technologies.

Strategic Importance:

- **Green Economy Transition:** Minerals like lithium and cobalt are key for battery storage in EVs and renewable energy.
- **Digital Infrastructure:** Rare earths are critical for smartphones, fiber optics, and AI hardware.
- **National Security:** REEs are vital for missile guidance systems, satellites, and radar equipment.
- **Supply Dependence:** India imports 90%+ of its REEs and 100% of lithium, making it geopolitically vulnerable, especially given China's dominance.

Steps Taken by India:

- **Critical Mineral List (2023):** India identified 30 critical minerals under the Mines Ministry for strategic focus.
- **KABIL (Khanij Bidesh India Ltd):** A JV formed to acquire overseas mineral assets in Argentina, Australia, and Africa.
- **Deep Ocean Mission:** Exploration of polymetallic nodules and REEs in India's Exclusive Economic Zone.
- **PLI Scheme:** For battery manufacturing and solar PV modules to reduce import dependence.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** India has signed MoUs with Australia, Chile, and Argentina to develop supply chains.

Challenges:

- **Environmental & Social Risks:** Mining in tribal and forested areas faces resistance.
- **Technological Bottlenecks:** India lacks domestic refining and recycling capacity.
- **Geopolitical Uncertainty:** Rising global demand has led to resource nationalism.

**Conclusion:**

Securing critical minerals is not just an economic priority but a strategic imperative. A mix of domestic exploration, international partnerships, and circular economy frameworks is key to India's sustainable and secure mineral future.

GS Paper 4

Q4. Public service demands ethical leadership that balances integrity, impartiality, and compassion. Explain this statement using suitable examples from public life.

Answer:

Public service is the cornerstone of governance in a democracy. Ethical leadership in public service involves decision-making that aligns with values such as **integrity, impartiality, compassion, and accountability.**

Integrity ensures that public officials act in accordance with moral principles and legal standards, even under pressure. An example is **E. Sreedharan**, who maintained absolute probity while executing complex infrastructure projects like the Delhi Metro without cost or time overruns.

Impartiality ensures that decisions are free from bias, favoritism, or political pressure. The legacy of **T.N. Seshan**, former Chief Election Commissioner, is illustrative. He applied electoral laws without discrimination, instilling fear among violators and restoring public trust.

Compassion brings the human element into governance. An officer who goes beyond duty to help disaster victims, or ensures welfare schemes reach marginalized communities, shows ethical sensitivity. For instance, **IAS officer Armstrong Pame**, who mobilized public contributions to build a road in a remote village in Manipur, exemplified compassionate leadership.

However, ethical dilemmas are frequent. A civil servant may be pressured to favor a particular contractor or overlook a procedural lapse for political reasons. The ability to stand by ethical norms, guided by conscience and public interest, reflects true leadership.

The **Code of Ethics and Conduct** recommended by the 2nd ARC also emphasizes these virtues. The principles of **public interest over private interest, transparency, and duty to the Constitution** form the ethical compass for public functionaries.

Conclusion:

Ethical leadership in public service ensures that governance is fair, responsive, and inclusive. Balancing integrity, impartiality, and compassion is essential not just for personal virtue, but for public trust and democratic legitimacy.



Current Affairs –

Q5. Evaluate the potential and challenges of India's fisheries sector in achieving Blue Economy goals. What recent policy measures have been taken to promote sustainable fisheries?

Answer:

India's fisheries sector is a vital component of the Blue Economy, contributing over **1% to GDP** and offering livelihoods to more than **16 million fishers**. As the **third-largest fish-producing country**, it holds immense potential for economic growth, nutrition, and export earnings.

Potential:

- **Export Growth:** Marine exports reached \$8 billion in 2022–23, driven by shrimp and tuna.
- **Aquaculture Expansion:** Inland fisheries and cage culture are expanding rapidly.
- **Employment Generation:** Coastal and inland fishing communities are socio-economically dependent on fisheries.
- **Sustainable Livelihoods:** Integrated farming and women-led SHGs in aquaculture promote inclusive growth.



Key Challenges:

- **Overfishing and Depleting Stocks:** Unsustainable trawling affects marine biodiversity.
- **Pollution and Climate Change:** Ocean acidification, plastic waste, and warming seas disrupt habitats.
- **Lack of Infrastructure:** Poor cold chain, processing units, and port connectivity.
- **Regulatory Gaps:** Absence of uniform marine fisheries law across coastal states.
- **Global NTBs:** Stringent sanitary regulations and sustainability standards from importing countries.

Recent Initiatives:

- **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY):** ₹20,000+ crore outlay to enhance productivity, cold chains, and export competitiveness.
- **Sagar Parikrama Yatra:** Engagement with fishermen to understand ground-level issues.
- **Marine Fisheries Bill (2021):** Seeks to regulate high seas fishing and vessel registration.
- **Blue Economy Policy Framework:** Draft released by NITI Aayog focusing on coastal community development, marine spatial planning, and sustainable practices.

Conclusion:

With its long coastline and vast EEZ, India's fisheries sector can become a global leader in sustainable blue growth. However, achieving this requires a synergy between environmental sustainability, technological innovation, and community welfare.