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**VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY
&
STUDY CENTRE**

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 1/07/2025 (TUESDAY)

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



 **9972258970 & 9740702455**

**#317/A SKB Arcade, D. Subbaiah Road,
Ramaswamy Circle, Mysuru-570004**



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Question 1: Consider the following statements regarding the Chola Empire's administration and foreign policy:

1. The Cholas developed a naval power primarily to control domestic coastal trade and suppress piracy in the Bay of Bengal.
2. The Cholas established diplomatic relations with the Srivijaya empire and sent expeditions as far as Southeast Asia to assert maritime dominance.

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.** While coastal security was important, the Cholas built a strong navy not just for domestic purposes but primarily for **maritime expansion and international trade** dominance, especially toward Southeast Asia.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Rajendra Chola I led naval expeditions against the **Srivijaya empire (modern Indonesia/Malaysia)** in the 11th century to secure trade routes. They also maintained **diplomatic relations** and sent emissaries to **China** and **Southeast Asian polities**, indicating advanced maritime diplomacy.

Question 2: Consider the following statements about ecological succession and climax communities:

1. Primary succession begins in lifeless areas where there is no soil, such as lava flows and glacial retreats.
2. Climax communities are always composed of large trees and megafauna, representing high productivity ecosystems.
3. Secondary succession is faster than primary succession due to the presence of pre-existing soil and seed banks.

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: (c) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:



- **Statement 1 is correct. Primary succession** occurs in regions previously uninhabited, like after volcanic eruptions or glacial retreats where no soil exists.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** Climax communities **do not necessarily contain large trees or megafauna**. For instance, grasslands or tundra can also be climax communities depending on local conditions.
- **Statement 3 is correct. Secondary succession** happens in areas with disturbed vegetation but **retained soil and nutrients**, allowing faster regeneration compared to primary succession.

Question 3: Consider the following statements about the K6 Missile System being developed by India:

1. K6 is a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) under development by DRDO to strengthen India's second-strike capability.
2. It is planned to be deployed on the S5-class nuclear submarines which are currently under advanced stages of sea trials.
3. The K6 is expected to have a longer range and higher payload capacity than its predecessor, the K4 missile.

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: (c) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** K6 is indeed being developed as a **nuclear-capable SLBM**, with the goal of enhancing **second-strike capabilities** under India's nuclear doctrine.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The **S5-class submarines are still in the design or early development stage**, not in advanced sea trials. Hence, deployment is not imminent.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** K6 is expected to have a **range exceeding 6,000 km**, making it significantly more advanced than the **K4 missile (3,500 km range)**.

Question 4: Consider the following statements about the veto powers of the President of India:

1. The President can exercise a pocket veto only in case of ordinary bills, not constitutional amendment bills.
2. The President has the power to send a bill back to the Parliament more than once for reconsideration.
3. The President can withhold assent to a money bill.
4. The President can use the suspensive veto against a bill passed by both Houses under Article 368.



How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** **Pocket veto** is not defined in the Constitution but has been used (e.g., Postal Bill by President Zail Singh). It **applies only to ordinary bills**, not **constitutional amendments**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The President can **send a bill back only once** under the **suspensive veto** power. If passed again, he/she must assent.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The President **cannot withhold assent** to a **money bill**; he/she can **either assent or withhold assent on recommendation of the Cabinet**, but **cannot return or amend it**.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect.** The President **must give assent** to a bill under **Article 368** once it is passed; **no veto power** applies here.

Question 5: Assertion-Reason Based

Assertion (A): The ancient Indian art form of *Chola bronze sculpture* is considered a culmination of metallurgical, religious, and aesthetic excellence.

Reason (R): The Chola bronze tradition employed the lost-wax technique and often depicted dynamic postures of deities like Nataraja to reflect cosmic rhythm.

Which 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 Chola bronzes, especially during the 9th to 13th centuries, are masterpieces of **religious art**, representing **idealized human form**, grace, and spiritual symbolism.
- **Reason is also true.** The Cholas used the **lost-wax (cire perdue) technique** for casting bronze statues, particularly of **Nataraja (Shiva in cosmic dance)**, symbolizing the eternal rhythm of the universe.
- Hence, **R accurately explains A** — both the technique and the symbolism contributed to the artistic and spiritual excellence.



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS PART

Question 1: Consider the following statements regarding the Minimum Support Price (MSP) mechanism in India:

1. The MSP declared by the government is legally binding on private traders under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.
2. The CACP, while recommending MSP, considers factors like demand-supply, cost of production, and international prices but not the environmental implications.

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: (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** MSP in India is a **non-statutory price guarantee**, i.e., it is **not legally binding** on private traders. There is **no legal compulsion** for anyone to buy at or above MSP.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The **Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)** does **consider environmental factors** like groundwater depletion or fertilizer usage while recommending MSP, especially in recent years with a push for **sustainable cropping patterns**.

Question 2: Under the Modified Interest Subvention Scheme (MISS), short-term crop loans up to ₹3 lakh are provided to farmers at what effective rate of interest after subvention?

- (a) 9%
- (b) 7%
- (c) 4%
- (d) 3%

Answer: (c) 4%

Explanation:

- Under **MISS**, farmers receive **short-term crop loans up to ₹3 lakh at 7% interest**.
- If they **repay on time**, they are given an **additional 3% subvention**, making the **effective rate 4%**.
- The scheme ensures **timely and affordable credit** and incentivizes responsible repayment.

Question 3: Consider the following statements about the Quality Council of India (QCI):

1. QCI is a statutory body established under an Act of Parliament to monitor quality standards across sectors.



2. It is governed by a public-private partnership model with the industry having a substantial say in its functioning.
3. One of its recent initiatives includes 'Gunvatta Sankalp' aimed at improving quality consciousness among citizens.

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: (b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** QCI is **not a statutory body**. It was set up in **1997 as an autonomous organization** jointly by the **government and Indian industry**.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** It functions on a **PPP model**, with **industry representatives playing a key role**, especially through bodies like **FICCI, CII, and ASSOCHAM**.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The '**Gunvatta Sankalp**' initiative by QCI is aimed at **spreading quality consciousness and creating a Jan Andolan for quality**.

Question 4: With reference to the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950, consider the following statements:

1. The Act prohibits the use of national symbols and names for professional or commercial purposes.
2. The Act empowers the Election Commission of India to grant exemptions for political symbols during elections.
3. Misuse under this Act is treated as a cognizable and non-bailable offence.

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 is correct.** The Act restricts the **commercial or professional misuse of national emblems, names, or insignia** such as Ashoka Chakra, Tricolour, Mahatma Gandhi's name, etc.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The **Election Commission has no role** under this Act. Permissions or exemptions (if any) are handled by the **Central Government**.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Violations of the Act are punishable and may lead to **fine or imprisonment**, and offences can be **cognizable** depending on the nature of misuse.



Question 5: Consider the following statements regarding INTERPOL Notices:

1. The Silver Notice is issued to alert member countries about serious cybercrime-related infrastructure.
2. INTERPOL's Red Notice can lead to direct arrest of the person in any member country.
3. The issuance of a Silver Notice requires approval from the UN Security Council.
4. Silver Notice is a newly launched notice type aimed at locating, identifying, or warning about criminal modus operandi and devices.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The Silver Notice is **not cyber-specific**; it is broader and can apply to **objects, devices, procedures, or techniques used in crimes**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** A Red Notice is **not an arrest warrant**. It only serves as a **request to locate and provisionally arrest**, subject to local law.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** INTERPOL Notices are issued by INTERPOL Secretariat, **not by the UN**. No UNSC involvement.
- **Statement 4 is correct.** The Silver Notice, introduced in 2024, is intended to **identify methods, devices, or techniques** used by criminals — especially those used in cross-border crimes or terrorism.

Hence, only **Statement 4** is correct.

Question 6: Which of the following statements correctly describe the location and features of Mount Kanchenjunga?

- (a) It lies in the Zaskar range, north of the Great Himalayan range and forms the highest peak in Jammu & Kashmir.
- (b) It lies on the Nepal-Sikkim border and is the third highest peak in the world.
- (c) It lies in Arunachal Pradesh and is part of the Mishmi Hills and Namcha Barwa arc.
- (d) It lies in Bhutan and marks the easternmost extent of the Great Himalayan Range.

Answer: (b) It lies on the Nepal-Sikkim border and is the third highest peak in the world.

Explanation:

- **Mount Kanchenjunga (8,586 m)** is the **third highest mountain in the world**, after Everest and K2.
- It is located on the **border between Nepal and Sikkim (India)**.
- It is part of the **Great Himalayan Range**, and culturally significant in both Hindu and Buddhist traditions.
- **It is the highest mountain in India** (Everest lies entirely in Nepal/China border).



SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS FOR DAILY PRACTICE

GS-1:

Q1. Examine how gender-based taboos continue to impact menstrual health and awareness among adolescent girls in India. How can education and community engagement break these taboos?

Sample Answer:

Menstrual health remains a deeply stigmatized issue in India, with entrenched social taboos affecting access to knowledge, sanitation, and dignity for adolescent girls. Despite government schemes like **Rashtriya Kishor SwasthyaKaryakram** and **Menstrual Hygiene Scheme**, challenges persist, particularly in rural and semi-urban regions.

Impact of Gender-Based Taboos:

- **Social Isolation:** Girls are often barred from religious activities, kitchens, or schools during menstruation.
- **Educational Disruption:** UNESCO estimates that 23% of girls drop out of school after reaching puberty.
- **Health Consequences:** Fear and stigma lead to unsafe practices like using cloth or hay, causing **UTIs and reproductive infections**.
- **Psychological Impact:** Shame and lack of dialogue contribute to anxiety, low self-esteem, and misinformation.

Barriers to Change:

- **Cultural Conditioning:** Menstruation is seen as 'impure' in many Indian communities.
- **Lack of Teacher Training:** Teachers often skip chapters on reproductive health due to discomfort.
- **Gender Norms:** Boys are excluded from awareness programmes, reinforcing the shame-silence cycle.

Role of Education and Community Engagement:

- **Curriculum Integration:** Menstrual health must be taught **scientifically and sensitively** in middle school.
- **Training of Teachers:** Orientation to handle sensitive topics through **safe spaces and inclusive pedagogy**.
- **Involving Men and Boys:** Community workshops and peer-led campaigns involving boys can normalize menstruation discourse.
- **Role of Self-Help Groups and ASHAs:** Women-led community health education fosters trust and localized solutions.
- **Mass Media Campaigns:** Shows like "Pad Man" or ads by government agencies can reduce stigma.



Conclusion:

Menstrual health is not just a women's issue—it is a societal issue. A **rights-based, community-driven, and education-centred approach** is essential to achieve menstrual dignity and gender equality in India.

GS-2:

Q2. The gap between law and practice remains a critical challenge in delivering welfare entitlements to marginalised sections. Illustrate with examples and suggest strategies to bridge this gap.

Sample Answer:

India's welfare architecture is robust on paper, supported by constitutional guarantees (Articles 14, 15, 21, 39) and statutory schemes such as **PDS, MGNREGA, PM-KISAN**, and **Ayushman Bharat**. However, in practice, the **delivery of welfare** remains uneven, particularly for **marginalised communities** like SCs, STs, women, and migrant workers.

Challenges in Implementation:

- **Identity Gaps:** Many citizens lack documents like Aadhaar-linked ration cards, affecting access to food, pensions, etc.
- **Leakages and Corruption:** Ghost beneficiaries, bribes, and diversion of resources plague schemes like PDS and MGNREGA.
- **Caste and Gender Discrimination:** In several states, Dalits are excluded from social security schemes by local elites.
- **Digital Divide:** Digital platforms often exclude women, elderly, or the disabled who are not tech-savvy.

Illustrative Examples:

- **COVID-19 lockdown** exposed the lack of portability in PDS for migrants, despite the National Food Security Act.
- **Manual scavengers** remain undercounted and under-compensated, despite the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers Act, 2013.
- In rural areas, **pregnant women are denied benefits under PMMVY** due to lack of awareness and administrative hurdles.

Strategies to Bridge the Gap:

- **Social Audits and Grievance Redressal:** Mandatory third-party audits and district-level ombudsmen can enhance accountability.
- **Last-Mile Human Interface:** ASHAs, Anganwadi workers, and panchayats should be capacitated to assist the most vulnerable.
- **Technology with Inclusivity:** Ensure platforms are multilingual, voice-assisted, and include offline options.
- **Legal Awareness Campaigns:** Mobile legal clinics and legal literacy drives can empower communities.



- **Data Transparency:** Real-time dashboards like that used in **Jal Jeevan Mission** promote public monitoring.

Conclusion:

True empowerment lies not just in legal entitlements but in **effective delivery**, especially for the last person in the queue. Bridging the implementation gap is central to India's journey towards **inclusive governance**.

GS-3:

Q3. Inclusive growth is not just about poverty alleviation but about equal access to opportunity and participation. Discuss with reference to recent government initiatives.

Sample Answer:

Inclusive growth is growth that creates **equity, opportunity, and protection** for all sections of society. It extends beyond income generation to include access to education, healthcare, digital services, and financial inclusion. India, as a lower-middle-income country with wide disparities, faces a dual challenge of **accelerating GDP** while ensuring **broad-based development**.

Key Features of Inclusive Growth:

- Equitable distribution of wealth and assets
- Access to basic services for all
- Participation of disadvantaged groups in economic processes
- Gender-sensitive and regionally balanced policies

Recent Initiatives for Inclusiveness:

1. **Aspirational Districts Programme:** Targets low-performing districts in health, education, and infrastructure.
2. **Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI):** Platforms like **Aadhaar, UPI, and CoWIN** ensure last-mile delivery and financial inclusion.
3. **PM Vishwakarma Scheme:** Formalizes and supports traditional artisans and craftspeople.
4. **Stand-Up India, Mudra Yojana:** Enables credit access for SC/ST and women entrepreneurs.
5. **Jal Jeevan Mission:** Ensures water access in rural households—a critical determinant of health and gender equity.

Challenges:

- **Jobless growth:** Formal job creation is not keeping pace with GDP growth.
- **Regional disparities:** Eastern states lag in per capita income and HDI.
- **Digital divide:** Rural women, elderly, and SC/ST communities face tech exclusion.
- **Structural inequality:** Landless labourers, informal workers, and tribals remain marginalized despite schemes.



Way Forward:

- Skilling aligned with Industry 4.0
- Revamping school education and digital literacy
- Participatory governance and better Gram Sabha involvement
- Gender budgeting and disaggregated data use

Conclusion:

India's inclusive growth must transcend welfare delivery and aim at building **capability, dignity, and self-reliance**. As Dr. Amartya Sen argues, development is not just about income but about **freedoms and choices**.

GS-4 (Ethics):

Q4. "Moral leadership is not about being perfect but about being principled." In the context of public administration, elaborate the qualities of moral leadership with examples.

Sample Answer:

In public administration, **moral leadership** entails making decisions rooted in ethical values like **integrity, fairness, empathy, and courage**, rather than personal or political gain. It does not demand perfection, but consistency in upholding principles in the face of competing interests.

Qualities of Moral Leadership:

1. **Integrity:** Upholding ethical conduct even when under pressure.
Example: E. Sreedharan, the "Metro Man", ensured projects were completed with minimal cost overruns by prioritizing transparency.
2. **Courage:** Taking a stand in the face of adversity.
Example: IAS officer Ashok Khemka cancelled illegal land deals despite political backlash.
3. **Empathy:** Understanding and prioritizing the needs of the weakest.
Example: An administrative officer arranging for water tankers in drought-hit villages rather than focusing on data reporting.
4. **Accountability:** Owning up to mistakes and learning from them.
Example: A District Magistrate apologizing for a wrongful arrest during lockdown, and initiating SOP reform.
5. **Rule of Law with Justice:** Balancing procedural correctness with humanitarian concerns.
Example: An SP who de-escalates a mob situation using dialogue instead of lathi-charge.

Challenges:

- Pressure from political executives
- Fear of transfers or suspension
- Lack of support for whistleblowers



Cultivating Moral Leadership:

- Ethics training during probation
- Institutional support for ethical conduct
- Recognition for moral courage (e.g., awards by civil society)

Conclusion:

In a democracy, the legitimacy of governance rests not just on laws, but on the **moral fibre of its leaders**. Moral leadership inspires trust and fosters a culture where **doing right becomes the norm**, not the exception.

Current Affairs :

Q5. The Menstrual Hygiene Survey 2025 reveals persisting gaps in access, awareness, and dignity. Discuss the multidimensional nature of menstrual health and suggest a policy roadmap for a menstrual-friendly India.

Sample Answer:

The **Menstrual Hygiene Survey 2025**, conducted jointly by MoHFW and NITI Aayog, highlights serious gaps: over **38% of adolescent girls** still use unsafe menstrual practices, and **around 21% lack access to functional toilets** in schools. This points to a larger failure in integrating **health, education, infrastructure, and dignity** into menstrual hygiene management (MHM).

Multidimensional Nature of Menstrual Health:

1. **Health and Hygiene:** Poor practices lead to **RTIs, anemia, reproductive health issues**.
2. **Education:** Dropouts increase post-menarche due to shame, lack of toilets, and menstrual poverty.
3. **Mental Well-being:** Silence and stigma affect adolescent self-worth.
4. **Gender Equality:** Exclusion from daily activities and taboo reinforce **patriarchal norms**.
5. **Economic Impact:** Productivity loss among women workers due to lack of workplace facilities.

Current Schemes:

- **Menstrual Hygiene Scheme (MHS):** Focuses on rural girls aged 10–19.
- **Suvidha Scheme:** Offers biodegradable sanitary pads via Jan Aushadhi stores at ₹1.
- **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan:** Emphasizes school and Anganwadi toilet construction.

Gaps Identified:

- **Supply chain issues** in pad distribution
- **Lack of awareness** among boys and men
- **No workplace policy** on menstrual leave or access
- **No uniformity across states** in implementation



Policy Roadmap:

- **Comprehensive MHM Policy** at national level integrating education, health, WASH, and labour sectors
- **School Curriculum Reforms** to include menstrual literacy from Class 6 onward
- **Workplace Inclusion:** Mandatory MHM facilities in industries and offices
- **Community-led Pad Banks** via SHGs and panchayats
- **Digital Dashboards** to track state-wise progress

Conclusion:

Menstrual health is a **human rights and development issue**, not a personal problem. A **menstrual-friendly India** is essential for achieving the **SDG goals of gender equality, health, and education**.