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**VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY
&
STUDY CENTRE**

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 3/07/2025 (THURSDAY)

- **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 Charter Act of 1833:

1. It ended the commercial activities of the East India Company and made it purely administrative.
2. It introduced the principle of civil service recruitment through open competition for the first time in British India.

Which of the above statement(s) 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 is correct:** The **Charter Act of 1833** ended the East India Company's commercial functions and transformed it into a purely administrative body.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Act did **mention** the concept of merit-based civil service, but **did not implement open competition**. The **actual implementation** of competitive civil services came with **Macaulay's report in 1854**, and formalized later.

Question 2: Consider the following statements regarding ecological succession:

1. Primary succession occurs in regions devoid of any life and unmodified soil.
2. Lichens are typically the pioneer species in a primary succession on bare rocks.
3. Secondary succession occurs faster than primary succession due to the presence of previously existing biotic components.

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: (b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Primary succession occurs on **areas lacking soil** (like lava flows, bare rocks), not just devoid of life. So, saying "unmodified soil" is incorrect — **there is no soil at all**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Lichens are indeed the **first colonizers** on bare rocks in primary succession.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Secondary succession is **faster** due to pre-existing organic matter, soil, and microorganisms.



Question 3: With reference to the Indian Capital Market, consider the following statements:

1. SEBI regulates both the primary and secondary segments of the capital market.
2. Foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) can invest in both listed and unlisted debt instruments in India.
3. The primary market offers higher liquidity than the secondary market.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** SEBI is the regulatory authority for both **primary (new issue)** and **secondary (trading of existing securities)** markets.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** As per SEBI guidelines, FPIs can invest in **both listed and certain unlisted debt securities**, including corporate bonds.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** **Secondary markets** offer **greater liquidity**, as securities can be bought and sold easily. **Primary market** involves new issues, not resellable until they are listed.

Question 4: With reference to Fundamental Duties under the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. The Fundamental Duties are enforceable by law and can be directly invoked in a court of law.
2. They were incorporated into the Constitution by the 44th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978.
3. They are based on the recommendations of the Swaran Singh Committee.
4. One of the Fundamental Duties mandates citizens to protect monuments and places of national importance.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Fundamental Duties are **not enforceable by courts**, though they **can be used to interpret laws and enforce certain statutes**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** They were added by the **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976**, not 44th.



- **Statement 3 is correct:** The **Swaran Singh Committee** recommended the inclusion of Fundamental Duties.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Article 51A(f) mandates citizens to **value and preserve the rich heritage** of our composite culture — which includes monuments.

Question 5: Assertion–Reason Type

Assertion (A): Lysosomes are known as the 'suicide bags' of the cell.

Reason (R): Lysosomes contain digestive enzymes that can degrade the entire cell when released.

- (a) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is correct but R is incorrect
- (d) A is incorrect but R is correct

Answer: (a) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A

Explanation:

- **Lysosomes** contain **hydrolytic enzymes** which are capable of breaking down almost all biomolecules.
- When the **lysosomal membrane breaks**, these enzymes are released into the cytoplasm and **digest the cell itself** — thus earning the name “**suicide bags**”.
- So, both the assertion and reason are correct, and the **reason directly explains** the assertion.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS PART

Q1. Consider the following statements about the RECLAIM Framework introduced by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change:

1. The RECLAIM Framework seeks to create a market-based approach for the reuse of treated wastewater in urban and peri-urban regions.
2. It mandates compulsory wastewater trading credits for all Class-I cities and industrial parks by 2026.

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 is correct:** The **RECLAIM (Rejuvenation, Circularity, Localisation, Accountability, Integration, and Management)** Framework promotes circular economy practices, especially **reuse of treated wastewater** using market incentives and decentralized models.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Framework **proposes** wastewater trading as a **voluntary** model, not a mandatory credit system. There's **no binding timeline like 2026** enforced yet.

Q2. The **Financial Fraud Risk Indicator (FFRI)**, launched in 2025, is primarily designed to:

- (a) Predict sovereign debt default in South Asian countries
- (b) Classify Indian financial institutions based on their systemic risk score
- (c) Flag companies with suspected accounting and governance irregularities
- (d) Quantify the extent of money laundering risk in fintech lending

Answer: (c) Flag companies with suspected accounting and governance irregularities

Explanation:

- The **FFRI**, developed by **Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)** with data support from SFIO and CAG, aims to **flag high-risk companies** based on early signs of **accounting fraud, shell operations, and governance red flags**. It uses **AI-based anomaly detection**.

Q3. With reference to the **Scheme for Promotion of Registration of Employers and Employees (SPREE) 2025**, consider the following statements:

1. It incentivizes formalisation by offering EPF contribution subsidies to micro and small enterprises for newly registered workers.
2. Employers registering under SPREE are exempted from penal consequences for past unregistered workers.
3. It is applicable only to the manufacturing and construction sectors.

Which of the statements given above 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:** SPREE 2025 provides a **one-time subsidy for EPF contributions** for newly registered workers under the **EPFO** system.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The scheme offers **amnesty for past violations**, encouraging employers to voluntarily register.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** SPREE 2025 applies **across sectors**, not limited to manufacturing and construction alone.



Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the **Gaden Phodrang Trust**:

1. It was established by the 14th Dalai Lama to manage his spiritual and temporal legacy.
2. It plays a critical role in identifying the next reincarnation of the Dalai Lama, independent of Chinese authority.
3. The Trust receives funding and diplomatic protection from the United Nations under the cultural autonomy framework.

Which of the statements given above 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:** The **Gaden Phodrang Trust of Dalai Lama** is the **custodian of His Holiness's legacy**, overseeing charitable, cultural, and religious missions.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It has taken a stand to ensure **non-interference by China** in the reincarnation process.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The **UN does not fund or officially recognize** the Trust under any cultural autonomy clause.

Q5. The **Fourth International Financing for Development Conference (FfD4)**, 2025, resulted in which of the following?

1. Adoption of a Global Tax Cooperation Framework under UN auspices.
2. Recognition of Sovereign Debt Distress as a Global Systemic Risk.
3. Launch of a Just Green Transition Fund for Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
4. Formal inclusion of Climate Adaptation Financing in the SDG Indicator Framework.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Explanation:

All four are outcomes of the **FfD4 Conference held in Addis Ababa in 2025**:

- **AUN-led Tax Cooperation Framework** was adopted to counter BEPS and aggressive tax avoidance.
- **Sovereign Debt vulnerabilities** were acknowledged as systemic threats, especially post-pandemic.



- A **Green Transition Fund** for SIDS was launched with blended financing.
- The SDG Indicator Framework was updated to formally **track adaptation finance** alongside mitigation.

Q6. Which of the following countries shares a border with the **Golan Heights**, a region of critical geopolitical interest?

- (a) Israel, Lebanon, Syria
- (b) Israel, Jordan, Iraq
- (c) Syria, Iraq, Turkey
- (d) Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine

Answer: (a) Israel, Lebanon, Syria

Explanation:

- The **Golan Heights** is a **strategic plateau** captured by **Israel from Syria** in the 1967 war.
- It **borders Syria** directly, lies close to **Lebanon** in the north, and is under **Israeli control**.
- **Jordan** and **Iraq** do not directly border Golan Heights.

SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS FOR DAILY PRACTICE

GS Paper 1

Q1. Discuss the challenges faced by tribal communities in India in preserving their cultural identity in the context of modernization and state-led development initiatives.

Answer:

Tribal communities in India, constituting about 8.6% of the population, possess a unique socio-cultural heritage. However, modernization and state-led development initiatives have posed significant challenges to their cultural preservation.

Challenges:

- **Displacement due to development projects:** Infrastructure projects, mining, and dams (e.g., Sardar Sarovar Project) have displaced lakhs of tribal families, severing their cultural link with land and forests.
- **Cultural erosion:** Integration with dominant cultures through formal education, media, and migration has diluted indigenous languages, rituals, and festivals.
- **Loss of traditional knowledge:** Globalization and commodification have replaced indigenous practices in agriculture, healing, and governance.



- **Inadequate implementation of protective laws:** Though constitutional provisions like the Fifth and Sixth Schedules exist, in practice, tribal autonomy is undermined by bureaucratic control.
- **Tourism and commercialization:** Tribal art and culture are often commodified for tourism, leading to distortion of traditional meanings and practices.

State Initiatives and Limitations:

- **PESA Act (1996):** Aimed at empowering Gram Sabhas in Scheduled Areas, but poorly implemented.
- **TRIFED and GI tags:** Promote tribal products, yet fail to address cultural alienation.
- **Education in mother tongues:** Promised under NEP 2020, but lacking infrastructure and trained personnel.

Way Forward:

- Implement laws like PESA and FRA with community participation.
- Integrate tribal knowledge systems in curricula and development planning.
- Encourage tribal-led tourism and sustainable livelihoods.
- Protect linguistic diversity and promote media in tribal languages.

Conclusion:

Preserving tribal cultural identity requires balancing development with dignity, autonomy, and cultural continuity. Without genuine inclusion and respect for tribal worldviews, modernization risks becoming a new form of marginalization.

GS Paper 2

Q2. Evaluate the effectiveness of the National Commission for Women (NCW) in addressing gender-based violence and ensuring women's rights in India.

Answer:

The **National Commission for Women (NCW)** was established in 1992 as a statutory body to safeguard women's rights and advise the government on policy matters. Its performance in addressing gender-based violence and ensuring rights remains mixed.

Achievements:

- **Awareness & Advocacy:** NCW conducts awareness campaigns, legal literacy drives, and has been active in voicing opinions on issues like marital rape, cyberbullying, and acid attacks.
- **Grievance redressal:** It receives thousands of complaints annually and forwards cases to relevant authorities, often expediting justice.
- **Policy inputs:** Recommendations on bills like the Domestic Violence Act and workplace harassment laws have been significant.
- **Digital initiatives:** Launch of online portals for complaints and helplines like 7827170170 enhanced accessibility.



Limitations:

- **Advisory role:** NCW lacks enforcement power. It cannot punish or compel action, leading to limited impact on ground-level implementation.
- **Resource constraints:** It operates with limited manpower and funding compared to the scale of violence and systemic discrimination.
- **Urban-centric functioning:** Majority of interventions and data collection focus on urban complaints, ignoring rural and marginalized voices.
- **Lack of follow-up:** Many cases remain unresolved due to inadequate follow-up and coordination with police or judiciary.

Way Forward:

- Grant NCW quasi-judicial powers to ensure compliance with its recommendations.
- Decentralize operations by strengthening State Commissions for Women.
- Mandate follow-up reports and accountability mechanisms.
- Ensure intersectional approaches to address the needs of Dalit, tribal, disabled, and LGBTQ+ women.

Conclusion:

While the NCW has played a key role in bringing gender-based violence into the public discourse, its limited authority and structural constraints hinder its transformative potential. Strengthening its institutional capacity and legal mandate is vital for meaningful change.

GS Paper 3

Q3. *Critically analyze the role of decentralized renewable energy (DRE) systems in achieving India's rural energy security and climate goals.*

Answer:

Decentralized Renewable Energy (DRE) systems include off-grid and mini-grid solutions using solar, biomass, wind, or hybrid technologies, providing energy access without relying on central transmission grids.

Importance for Rural Energy Security:

- **Last-mile access:** DRE systems can electrify remote hamlets in hills and forests where grid extension is not feasible.
- **Cost-effective and rapid deployment:** Lower capital and maintenance costs make it viable for poor households.
- **Women empowerment:** Solar-powered lighting, cookstoves, and irrigation pumps reduce drudgery and improve livelihoods.

Contribution to Climate Goals:

- Reduces reliance on diesel generators and biomass burning, lowering carbon footprint and air pollution.



- Supports India's commitment under the **Paris Agreement** and **Panchamrit targets** announced at COP26.
- Creates green jobs and promotes energy justice.

Challenges:

- **Lack of financing and subsidies:** Banks hesitate to finance DRE due to high perceived risks.
- **Maintenance and capacity gaps:** Rural areas lack skilled personnel for repairs and monitoring.
- **Policy inconsistency:** Absence of a unified DRE policy leads to duplication and poor integration with national grid.

Recent Initiatives:

- PM-KUSUM scheme promotes solar-powered irrigation.
- Draft National Energy Policy 2023 emphasizes hybrid and decentralized models.
- States like Odisha and Rajasthan have community solar microgrids in tribal belts.

Way Forward:

- Create a National DRE Mission with focus on livelihood integration.
- Provide viability gap funding and community ownership models.
- Build technical training hubs for local youth.

Conclusion:

DRE is not just a climate solution, but a socio-economic tool for equity, health, and empowerment. Strengthening the ecosystem around DRE can transform rural development in India while fulfilling global climate obligations.

GS Paper 4

Q4. *In the context of public service, discuss the ethical dilemmas faced by civil servants in balancing legality, political pressure, and public interest. Illustrate with examples.*

Answer:

Civil servants operate at the intersection of **legality**, **public interest**, and **political expectations**. Often, these vectors diverge, giving rise to complex ethical dilemmas.

Key Ethical Dilemmas:

- **Legality vs. Political Pressure:** A bureaucrat may be asked by political superiors to bend rules for electoral gains or favour contractors. While legal compliance is non-negotiable, refusal might affect career prospects.
Example: Refusal to transfer officials on political grounds, as seen in cases in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.
- **Public Interest vs. Legal Technicalities:** Laws may exist but be outdated or unjust. For instance, denying welfare to transgender persons due to lack of proper documents raises ethical concerns.
Example: IAS officer Armstrong Pame built a road in Manipur through crowd-funding, bypassing procedural delays for public benefit.



- **Whistleblowing vs. Loyalty to Institution:** Exposing internal corruption or misuse of funds may save public resources but damage the institution's reputation or invite retaliation.
Example: Ashok Khemka faced multiple transfers for exposing land scams.
- **Resource allocation:** Prioritizing scarce resources like ICU beds during pandemics requires ethically guided triage protocols.

How to Resolve:

- Follow **code of conduct** and **constitutional values** as compass.
- Seek advice from institutions like Lokpal or Ethics Committees when in doubt.
- Maintain **documentation and transparency** to justify decisions.
- Uphold **Rule of Law** while demonstrating **compassion and discretion**.

Conclusion:

Ethical dilemmas are inevitable in public service. The strength of character lies in upholding integrity, legality, and empathy, even under pressure. A civil servant's true test is in balancing these wisely, in service of the Constitution and people.

Current Affairs:

Q5. *Critically examine the implications of the recently issued Model Rules for Felling of Trees on private agricultural land by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC). Do you think it can promote agroforestry without compromising environmental safeguards?*

Answer:

In May 2025, the **MoEFCC released Model Rules to ease tree felling on private agricultural lands**, aiming to promote **agroforestry** and reduce bureaucratic hurdles.

Key Features:

- States advised to **exempt farmers from complex permissions** for felling trees like neem, mango, teak, etc.
- A **self-declaration and digital intimation** system is proposed to track tree harvesting.
- Encourages **farmers to grow commercially viable trees**, thus supplementing income.

Positive Implications:

- **Boost to agroforestry:** Incentivizes farmers to grow high-value trees without fear of legal entanglement.
- **Supports carbon sinks:** Trees on private land can contribute to India's NDC targets.
- **Improves rural economy:** Timber, fruit trees, and medicinal species offer alternative revenue streams.
- **Reduces pressure on forests:** Encouraging private tree farming reduces dependency on forest areas.

Concerns and Challenges:

- **Lack of monitoring:** Weak tracking can lead to indiscriminate felling and timber laundering.



- **Loss of biodiversity:** Commercial monoculture trees may replace native species.
- **Ambiguity in ownership:** In cases of tenancy or common land, ownership and felling rights remain disputed.
- **Climate risks:** Unsustainable felling can exacerbate local temperature and soil erosion issues.

Way Forward:

- Develop a **State-wise species list** with exemptions based on ecological sensitivity.
- Build **digital platforms** for real-time felling registration and verification.
- Promote **community agroforestry models** with mixed species.
- Provide financial incentives for growing native species alongside commercial trees.

Conclusion:

The Model Rules are a progressive step toward aligning ecology and economy. However, without robust safeguards and accountability, the policy may risk ecological degradation. Balanced implementation can make agroforestry a climate-smart, farmer-friendly solution.