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**VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY**  
&  
**STUDY CENTRE**


# DAILY MCQ'S

**FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION**

**DATE: 05/06/2025 (THURSDAY)**

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



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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

### 1. With reference to the Vernacular Press Act of 1878, consider the following statements:

1. It was passed during the viceroyalty of Lord Ripon.
2. The Act empowered the government to confiscate printing presses producing seditious material in vernacular languages.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (b) 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Vernacular Press Act was enacted in **1878** during the tenure of **Lord Lytton**, not Lord Ripon. Lord Ripon came later and was known for liberal policies, including the repeal of this act.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Act indeed gave the colonial government the authority to **confiscate printing presses** that published material deemed seditious in vernacular (local) languages. It **excluded English publications**, showcasing its discriminatory nature.

### 2. Consider the following statements about the Speaker of the Lok Sabha:

1. The Speaker continues in office even after the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, until a new Speaker is elected.
2. The Speaker's decision in matters of anti-defection is subject to judicial review.
3. The Speaker is elected by a simple majority of the members present and voting in the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

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

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** As per **Article 94**, the Speaker continues in office until the first meeting of the new Lok Sabha.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Though initially considered final, the **Supreme Court in Kihoto Hollohan (1992)** ruled that the Speaker's decision on disqualification under the Tenth Schedule is subject to **judicial review**.



- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Speaker is elected by a **simple majority** of members **present and voting**, not an absolute or special majority.

**3. With reference to the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), consider the following statements:**

1. A positive IOD event leads to warmer waters near the east coast of Africa and cooler waters near Indonesia.
2. A negative IOD suppresses the Indian monsoon.
3. IOD events always coincide with El Niño events.

Which of the statements given above 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 is correct:** In a **positive IOD**, warm waters accumulate near the **west Indian Ocean** (east coast of Africa), and **cool waters** near **Indonesia**, enhancing monsoon conditions over India.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** A **negative IOD** causes the opposite pattern and is associated with **weakened monsoon** rainfall in India.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** **IOD and El Niño are independent phenomena**, although they can sometimes co-occur. IOD can even counteract the negative impacts of El Niño on Indian monsoon.

**4. With reference to Indian classical dance forms, consider the following statements:**

1. Kathakali originated in Tamil Nadu and is known for its solo female performances.
2. Bharatanatyam is performed in temples as a devotional offering.
3. Kuchipudi dancers often incorporate speech and singing into their performances.
4. Sattriya is a classical dance form from Assam with Vaishnavite roots.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

**Answer: (a) 2, 3 and 4 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** **Kathakali** is from **Kerala**, not Tamil Nadu. It is **traditionally performed by men** wearing elaborate costumes and facial makeup.



- **Statement 2 is correct: Bharatanatyam**, originating in Tamil Nadu, was historically performed in **temples** by devadasis as a form of **devotional expression**.
- **Statement 3 is correct: Kuchipudi** (from Andhra Pradesh) includes **dance, speech, and acting**, often with performers delivering **dialogues**.
- **Statement 4 is correct: Sattriya** originated in **Assam**, developed by the Vaishnavite saint **Srimanta Sankardev** for **religious storytelling in monasteries (sattras)**.

### 5. Assertion-Reason Type

**Assertion (A):** Mangrove forests are highly effective in mitigating the impact of tsunamis and cyclones.

**Reason (R):** Mangrove roots help in stabilizing the coastline and dissipating wave energy.

- (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:** Mangroves form a **natural barrier** against **coastal hazards** like tsunamis and cyclones. Their presence significantly reduces loss of life and property.
- **Reason is true:** The **dense root systems** trap sediments, prevent erosion, **stabilize shorelines**, and **absorb wave energy**, making them crucial in mitigating extreme events.
- The **Reason correctly explains** the Assertion.



## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS PART

### 1. Consider the following statements:

1. The CLNDA, 2010 allows both the operator and supplier of a nuclear facility to be held liable simultaneously for any nuclear damage.
2. The Act incorporates a provision of “right of recourse” allowing the operator to claim compensation from the supplier under specific conditions.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

**Answer: (b) 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The **primary liability under CLNDA lies with the operator** (usually a government-owned entity like NPCIL). The supplier is **not directly liable** to victims; rather, the operator can **exercise the right of recourse** against the supplier under certain conditions.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Section 17(b) of the Act allows the operator to **seek recourse** against the supplier **if such right is provided in the contract**. This was a point of contention in international nuclear agreements, especially with U.S. companies.

### Q2. What is the primary objective of 'Operation Olivia' conducted annually by the Indian Coast Guard?

- (a) Countering illegal deep-sea fishing in India's EEZ
- (b) Tracking cyclonic weather patterns in the Bay of Bengal
- (c) Protecting Olive Ridley turtles during their mass nesting along the eastern coast
- (d) Preventing illegal arms trade through Indian Ocean maritime routes

**Answer: (c) Protecting Olive Ridley turtles during their mass nesting along the eastern coast**

**Explanation:**

- **Operation Olivia** is conducted by the **Indian Coast Guard** to protect **Olive Ridley turtles** during their **annual nesting season**, primarily along the **Odisha coast** at beaches like **Gahirmatha, Rushikulya, and Devi river mouth**.
- The operation involves surveillance to prevent **fishing activities** and ensure safe nesting without human interference.



**Q3. With reference to the Kandha tribe of India, consider the following statements:**

1. They are primarily found in the hilly forest regions of western Odisha and practice shifting cultivation.
2. Kandhas worship a female deity called Dharani Penu, who represents Mother Earth.
3. The PESA Act, 1996 does not apply to areas inhabited by the Kandha tribe as Odisha has not officially notified Scheduled Areas under the Fifth Schedule.

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: (a) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The **Kandhas** live in **Kandhamal, Kalahandi, and Koraput** districts and practice **Podu (shifting) cultivation**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** **Dharani Penu**, the **Earth goddess**, is a central figure in their animist religion, along with clan and village deities.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Odisha has **not implemented PESA**, but many **districts where Kandhas live are notified as Scheduled Areas**, so **PESA would apply** if implemented.

**Q4. Consider the following statements about recently developed super-fast charging sodium-ion batteries in India:**

1. These batteries utilize layered oxide materials and hard carbon as key components for storing charge.
2. They are considered more sustainable than lithium-ion batteries due to the abundance and lower cost of sodium.
3. Currently, sodium-ion batteries have surpassed lithium-ion batteries in terms of energy density for large-scale commercial applications.

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: (a) 1 and 2 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Sodium-ion batteries typically use **layered metal oxides** for cathodes and **hard carbon** anodes.



- **Statement 2 is correct:** Sodium is **more abundant and eco-friendly** than lithium, making it a **cost-effective and sustainable** option.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Sodium-ion batteries are still **inferior to lithium-ion** batteries in **energy density** and are currently in **pilot-scale testing**, not yet mainstream.

**Q5. With reference to High-Altitude Platform (HAP) systems, consider the following statements:**

1. HAPs operate in the stratosphere, typically between 18 to 30 kilometers above the Earth's surface.
2. HAPs can function as pseudo-satellites for extended durations to provide persistent surveillance or communication coverage.
3. India's first HAP prototype was successfully tested using helium-based balloon technology equipped with AI surveillance modules.
4. Unlike drones, HAPs require continuous radio control and are not suitable for autonomous operations.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

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

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct:** HAPs typically fly in the **stratosphere (18–30 km)** — higher than drones, but lower than satellites.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** They can function as **pseudo-satellites**, providing **broad-area communications, surveillance**, or meteorological services.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** India has begun **prototype testing**, involving **helium-based platforms** with AI and ISR payloads, often funded under DRDO/ISRO collaborations.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** Modern HAPs are designed for **autonomous or semi-autonomous operations**, often **powered by solar panels and AI navigation** — they do not require constant radio control like UAVs.

**Q6. Which of the following countries do not share a border with Austria?**

- (a) Slovakia and Hungary
- (b) Czech Republic and Slovenia
- (c) Poland and Italy
- (d) Germany and Switzerland

**Correct Answer: (c) Poland and Italy**

**Explanation:**

Austria shares its borders with **8 countries**:



- **Germany** (to the northwest)
- **Czech Republic** (to the north)
- **Slovakia** (to the northeast)
- **Hungary** (to the east)
- **Slovenia** (to the south)
- **Italy** (to the southwest)
- **Switzerland** (to the west)
- **Liechtenstein** (to the west)

**Poland**, however, does **not** share a border with Austria, even though it lies relatively close. Therefore, the correct pair that does **not** both share borders with Austria is **Poland and Italy** (since Italy **does**, but Poland **does not**).

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

## SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS FOR DAILY PRACTICE

### GS-1

**Q1. Examine the impact of digital technology on traditional Indian family structures.**

**Sample Answer:**

The Indian family system, traditionally joint and collectivist in nature, has been undergoing transformation due to various socio-economic changes. One of the recent and profound influences has been that of **digital technology**, including smartphones, social media, remote work tools, and streaming services.

**Impact on family dynamics:**

1. **Individualization of experience:**  
Family members increasingly consume content and engage online in silos. Unlike earlier shared TV time or communal conversations, personalized screens promote individualism, reducing collective bonding moments.
2. **Weakening of intergenerational bonds:**  
Digital tools have contributed to the generational digital divide. While younger members are tech-savvy, elders often feel excluded. This erodes intergenerational communication and weakens traditional knowledge transmission.
3. **Changing parenting roles:**  
Parents now often rely on digital content to keep children occupied, replacing traditional parenting time. While ed-tech tools support learning, excessive screen exposure alters childhood development and family engagement.





4. **Virtual migration:**

Even when physically present, individuals are often absorbed in digital spaces. Emotional presence is declining, which challenges the emotional fabric of families.

5. **Remote work and hybrid families:**

On a positive note, remote working technologies have allowed families to stay together geographically. Working parents may now spend more time at home, potentially improving work-life balance.

**Resilience and adaptation:**

Despite these shifts, Indian families have shown adaptive capacities. Virtual celebrations, online caregiving, and digital support networks during crises like COVID-19 reflect the flexible adoption of technology.

**Conclusion:**

Digital technology is transforming Indian family structures from shared collectivism to semi-individualized units. The key lies in balancing technological integration with human connection, ensuring that digital convenience does not erode traditional familial warmth and interdependence.

**GS-2**

**Q2. Discuss the constitutional provisions and practical challenges associated with the anti-defection law in India.**

**Sample Answer:**

The **Anti-Defection Law**, enacted through the **52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985**, inserted the **Tenth Schedule** to the Constitution. It aims to curb political defections by legislators, which erode democratic values.

**Constitutional provisions:**

1. **Grounds for disqualification:**

- Voluntarily giving up party membership.
- Voting or abstaining contrary to party direction without prior permission.

2. **Exceptions:**

- Merger of a party with another (if 2/3rd members agree).
- Speaker/Chairman decides on disqualification.

3. **Role of the Presiding Officer:**

- Final authority to decide disqualification; however, subject to judicial review (KihotoHollohan, 1992).

**Practical challenges:**

1. **Speaker's impartiality:**

Since the Speaker is usually from the ruling party, delays or biased decisions compromise neutrality.



2. **Encouragement of party dictatorship:**

Restriction on dissent within the party affects freedom of speech and reduces representative independence.

3. **Loopholes in mergers:**

Political parties have exploited the merger clause to justify mass defections (e.g., Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh).

4. **Delay in adjudication:**

Decisions often take months or years, allowing defecting members to continue in office and even become ministers.

**Way forward:**

- Shifting decision-making power from Speaker to an independent tribunal or the Election Commission.
- Time-bound disqualification decisions (as recommended by SC in *Keisham Meghachandra Singh v. Speaker*, 2020).
- Reforms to prevent post-election coalition betrayals.

**Conclusion:**

While the Anti-Defection Law seeks to maintain legislative stability, its implementation suffers due to political and procedural weaknesses. Strengthening institutional mechanisms is essential for preserving democratic integrity.

**GS-3**

**Q3. How do informal employment and the gig economy impact India's economic growth and social security landscape?**

**Sample Answer:**

India's labour market is dominated by informal employment, with around **90%** of workers outside formal social security coverage. In recent years, the **gig economy**—platform-based work (e.g., Uber, Swiggy, Urban Company)—has rapidly grown, altering employment patterns.

**Economic impact:**

1. **Flexibility and innovation:**

Gig platforms allow on-demand employment, reduce transaction costs, and improve service delivery across urban and semi-urban areas.

2. **Boost to entrepreneurship:**

Platforms have enabled self-employment, especially for youth, reducing rural-urban migration and promoting local job creation.

3. **Data-driven productivity:**

Use of digital tools in logistics, delivery, and freelancing enhances productivity and economic dynamism.

**Social security concerns:**



1. **Lack of safety net:**

Gig workers do not receive benefits like paid leave, health insurance, or pension. This increases vulnerability, especially during emergencies (e.g., COVID-19 lockdowns).

2. **Precarious work conditions:**

Workers face uncertain incomes, long hours, and algorithmic control without collective bargaining rights.

3. **Gendered inequalities:**

Female gig workers face safety concerns, digital literacy gaps, and income disparities.

**Recent policy measures:**

- **Code on Social Security, 2020** provides a framework to include gig and platform workers in social schemes (e.g., maternity, accident insurance).
- **e-Shram portal** aims to create a database for unorganized workers to streamline benefit delivery.

**Conclusion:**

While the gig economy offers opportunities for inclusive growth, it must be matched with robust labour reforms to ensure fair wages, skill development, and social security. Sustainable growth requires balancing economic flexibility with worker dignity.

**GS-4**

**Q4. "Transparency without accountability is incomplete governance." Discuss with examples.**

**Sample Answer:**

Transparency and accountability are twin pillars of ethical governance. **Transparency** refers to openness in government functioning, while **accountability** ensures responsibility for actions.

**Need for both:**

1. **Transparency enables informed citizens:**

Example: RTI Act (2005) empowers people to access government data, promoting openness.

2. **But without accountability, transparency is toothless:**

Merely publishing data doesn't guarantee action unless there are mechanisms to penalize corruption, inefficiency, or delay.

**Case examples:**

- **Election affidavits:**

Politicians disclose criminal cases and assets. However, lack of disqualification rules means even serious offenders continue in public office, reflecting transparency without effective accountability.

- **Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) Reports:**

These highlight misuse of funds. But unless followed by strict administrative and legal action, they remain symbolic.

- **COVID-19 management:**

Real-time data dashboards were published, but poor accountability for oxygen shortages or vaccine inequity led to public distress.



### Importance of accountability:

- Ensures that officials are answerable to the public and institutions.
- Prevents misuse of information, deters unethical behaviour.
- Builds trust in governance systems.

### Conclusion:

Transparency creates visibility, but only accountability enforces consequences. Together, they create an ecosystem of ethical and efficient governance. Strengthening citizen oversight, institutional checks, and grievance redressal is key to holistic reform.

### Current Affairs

**Q5. Discuss India's initiatives for land restoration and drought resilience in light of World Environment Day 2025 theme. How can community-based models enhance the effectiveness of these initiatives?**

#### Sample Answer:

The theme of **World Environment Day 2025**—"Land Restoration, Desertification and Drought Resilience"—resonates deeply with India, where **30% of total land** is degraded and millions are affected by drought annually.

#### Government Initiatives:

1. **Bonn Challenge Commitment:**  
India pledged to restore 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030.
2. **National Afforestation Programme (NAP):**  
Supports community-based afforestation and eco-restoration.
3. **Desert Development Programme (DDP):**  
Aims to combat desertification in arid zones, especially in Rajasthan and Gujarat.
4. **Soil Health Card Scheme:**  
Encourages sustainable agriculture by providing tailored nutrient recommendations.
5. **PM Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY):**  
Promotes micro-irrigation and water-use efficiency to fight drought impacts.

#### Community-based models:

1. **Watershed development projects:**  
NGOs and local self-governments, like in **Hiware Bazar (Maharashtra)**, have shown how participatory watershed development can revive groundwater and increase crop productivity.
2. **Joint Forest Management (JFM):**  
Involves forest-dependent communities in protection and regeneration efforts.
3. **Women-led initiatives:**  
SHGs play a vital role in afforestation, seed preservation, and water harvesting.



**Benefits of community participation:**

- Local knowledge enhances success.
- Ensures accountability and maintenance.
- Strengthens climate resilience and livelihoods.

**Conclusion:**

India's land restoration efforts are ambitious but must be deepened with decentralized, community-led models for enduring impact. The 2025 WED theme is a reminder that sustainable development must be rooted in ecological balance and local empowerment.