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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY
&
STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 27/06/2025 (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 Harappan Civilization, consider the following statements:

1. The prevalence of fire altars and sacrificial pits at Kalibangan indicates the practice of Vedic rituals during the Harappan phase.
2. The absence of weapons of war in most Harappan sites suggests that it was a peaceful civilization with little or no conflict.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) Only 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Though Kalibangan had fire altars, they are not necessarily connected to Vedic rituals. Vedic culture is considered to have evolved later than the mature Harappan phase (around 1500 BCE), and linking both directly is not supported by archaeological chronology or textual evidence.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** One of the most intriguing features of the Harappan Civilization is the **lack of clear evidence of warfare or weapons**—there are few depictions of battles, fortifications suggest defensive planning but not frequent conflicts, and skeletons showing violent deaths are rare. This leads many scholars to believe that it was largely a **peaceful, urban civilization**.

Question 2: With reference to Ocean Currents, consider the following statements:

1. The Benguela Current is a cold ocean current that contributes to the aridity of the Namib Desert.
2. The Kuroshio Current, also known as the Japan Current, is a cold current flowing southward along the eastern coast of Japan.
3. The meeting of warm and cold ocean currents in regions like Newfoundland leads to rich fishing grounds due to upwelling of nutrients.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) Only 1 and 3

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The **Benguela Current**, a **cold current**, flows northward along the southwest coast of Africa and contributes to the **dry conditions of the Namib Desert**.



- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The **Kuroshio Current** is a **warm current**, not cold. It flows **northward** along the eastern coast of Taiwan and Japan, and contributes to Japan's mild winters.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The **Grand Banks** near Newfoundland are among the world's richest fishing grounds due to the convergence of the **Labrador Current (cold)** and the **Gulf Stream (warm)**, causing **nutrient upwelling**.

Question 3: With reference to the concept of 'monetary policy transmission' in India, consider the following statements:

1. The transmission of policy rate changes by the RBI is more effective in the bond market than in the banking sector.
2. Introduction of the External Benchmark Lending Rate (EBLR) aimed to improve the transparency and speed of monetary policy transmission.
3. The transmission is more effective in periods of rising interest rates than in periods of rate cuts.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) Only 1 and 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Bond markets, being more market-driven, respond more quickly to policy rate changes, unlike the **banking sector**, where **rigidities and risk assessments** slow the transmission.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** EBLR was introduced in 2019 to make loan pricing more **market-linked** (to benchmarks like repo, T-bills), enhancing **transparency and transmission efficiency**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Transmission is generally **slower during rate cuts**, as banks are reluctant to lower deposit rates quickly due to competition for savings, leading to **stickiness** in reducing lending rates.

Question 4: With reference to the powers and functions of the Election Commission of India (ECI), consider the following statements:

1. The ECI has the power to disqualify candidates for corrupt practices under the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
2. The ECI is not bound to follow the Model Code of Conduct in conducting elections.
3. The ECI can register political parties but does not have the power to deregister them.
4. The ECI can recommend the President to disqualify a sitting MP for violation of election rules.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only



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

Answer: (b) 1, 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Under **Section 8A of the RPA, 1951**, ECI has the power to disqualify candidates for **corrupt practices**, though final orders may be subject to judicial review.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The **Model Code of Conduct (MCC)** is **voluntary** in nature but the ECI enforces it strictly during elections. The Commission itself ensures adherence.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The ECI **can register** parties but, currently, **does not have the power to deregister** a political party (though there have been recommendations for such power).
- **Statement 4 is correct:** ECI can **recommend disqualification** to the President or Governor under Article 103 or 192 for **certain violations** of laws or rules.

Question 5: Assertion-Reason Type

Assertion (A): ISRO's Chandrayaan-3 mission used only the South Polar region of the Moon for its landing attempt.

Reason (R): The South Pole of the Moon has permanently shadowed regions that are likely to contain water ice deposits.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (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:** Chandrayaan-3 successfully targeted the **south polar region**, a first for any country, emphasizing the mission's uniqueness.
- **Reason is also true:** The **south pole** has regions of **eternal darkness**, where **sunlight never reaches**, making them excellent sites for **water ice preservation**.
- The reason **directly explains** the assertion — ISRO aimed for the south pole **because of the possibility of water ice**, which has implications for **future lunar habitation and resource utilization**.



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS PART

Question 1: Consider the following statements about the International Potato Center (CIP):

1. The CIP is a specialized agency of the United Nations headquartered in Lima, Peru, with a primary focus on ensuring global food security through improved varieties of potato and sweet potato.
2. India has permanent observer status in the governing council of CIP but is not a member of the CGIAR consortium under which CIP operates.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) Only 1

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The **International Potato Center (CIP)** is headquartered in **Lima, Peru**, and is a key **CGIAR** research center focused on improving **potato and sweet potato** for food security and climate resilience.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** India is a **partner and member country** of the **CGIAR system** and actively collaborates with CIP in research programs, especially in regions like Bihar and Odisha. There's **no separate "observer status"** in the governing council in this context.

Question 2: Sagarmala Finance Corporation Limited (SFCL), recently in news, is primarily aimed at:

- (a) Providing micro-loans to inland water transport start-ups
- (b) Financing port infrastructure and allied logistics under the Sagarmala Programme
- (c) Acting as India's maritime insurance regulator
- (d) Facilitating sovereign maritime bonds issuance on behalf of coastal states

Answer: (b) Financing port infrastructure and allied logistics under the Sagarmala Programme

Explanation:

SFCL is a **non-banking financial company (NBFC)** under the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways**. It aims to fund **port modernization, coastal shipping, logistics parks, and connectivity projects**. It fills the critical financing gap under the **Sagarmala Programme** by mobilizing private and institutional capital.

Question 3: With reference to the "Special Intensive Revision of Electoral Rolls" announced by the Election Commission of India (ECI), consider the following statements:

1. It was primarily targeted at states with upcoming elections and high migrant populations, such as Maharashtra and Jharkhand.
2. The revision involves house-to-house verification and leverages the GARUDA App for real-time geotagging and monitoring.



3. The revision process includes automatic deletion of duplicate voters using Aadhaar seeding without any field verification.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) Only 1 and 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The **Special Intensive Revision** was targeted at states like **Maharashtra, Jharkhand, and Delhi**, where significant allegations of bogus voting and **migrant voter influx** were reported.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The revision uses the **GARUDA app**, which enables real-time **GPS-tagged verification** of voter data by Booth Level Officers (BLOs).
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Aadhaar linkage is **voluntary**, and **automatic deletion** of voters is **not permitted** under law without physical verification, due to concerns of disenfranchisement.

Question 4: Regarding the use and classification of Silica Gel Desiccants, consider the following statements:

1. Blue silica gel is considered hazardous due to the presence of cobalt chloride and is being phased out in India under BIS standards.
2. Silica gel packets used in food packaging are classified as food-grade under FSSAI and can be disposed of with organic waste.
3. Despite being porous, silica gel is chemically inert and hence used even in pharmaceutical packaging.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) Only 1 and 3

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** **Blue silica gel** contains **cobalt chloride**, a **carcinogen**, and many countries, including India under **BIS guidance**, are phasing it out for safer alternatives like orange-indicator gels.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Silica gel is **not classified as food-grade**. It is labeled "**Do Not Eat**", and must be **disposed of separately**, not with organic waste.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Due to its **chemically inert and moisture-absorbing properties**, silica gel is widely used in **pharmaceutical and electronics packaging**.



Question 5: With reference to the recently launched “Adamya” Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV), consider the following statements:

1. It is designed and built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) under the Make in India initiative.
2. The vessel is equipped with AI-enabled surveillance systems and hybrid propulsion.
3. It is intended primarily for deep-sea submarine tracking and anti-piracy operations beyond 200 nautical miles.
4. Adamya class vessels have speed capabilities exceeding 35 knots and are meant for coastal patrolling and rescue.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (c) 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** “Adamya” is built by **GRSE**, a leading Indian defense PSU, under the **Make in India** initiative.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It features **modern surveillance systems**, including **AI-integrated sensor suites**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** **Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs)** like Adamya are not built for **deep-sea submarine tracking**; they are for **coastal patrolling (within 200 NM)**, anti-smuggling, and search & rescue.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Adamya-class vessels have **high speed (≈35 knots)**, suitable for **quick response in coastal and EEZ zones**.

Question 6: The Male Mahadeshwara Hills Wildlife Sanctuary, recently proposed to be upgraded to a Tiger Reserve, is located in which of the following combinations?

- (a) Along the Eastern Ghats in Andhra Pradesh adjoining Nallamala Forest
- (b) In the Biligirirangan range forming a part of the Western Ghats–Eastern Ghats corridor in Karnataka
- (c) In the Aravalli Hills of Rajasthan near the Sariska Tiger Reserve
- (d) In the Himalayan foothills of Uttarakhand adjoining Corbett National Park

Answer: (b) In the Biligirirangan range forming a part of the Western Ghats–Eastern Ghats corridor in Karnataka

Explanation:

- **Male Mahadeshwara Hills Wildlife Sanctuary (MM Hills WLS)** is located in **Chamarajanagar district, Karnataka**, adjacent to the **Biligiri Ranganatha Temple (BRT) Tiger Reserve**.



- It lies in a crucial **wildlife corridor** connecting **Western and Eastern Ghats**, supporting tiger and elephant movement.
- The sanctuary's **ecological significance and contiguity with Cauvery and Satyamangalam WLS** has led to proposals for its **upgrade into a Tiger Reserve**.

SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS FOR DAILY PRACTICE

GS Paper 1 –

Q1. Despite constitutional provisions for gender equality, deep-rooted patriarchy continues to hinder women's empowerment in India. Critically examine.

Answer:

The Constitution of India guarantees equality before the law (Article 14), prohibits discrimination on grounds of sex (Article 15), and ensures equal opportunities (Article 16). However, patriarchy continues to shape socio-economic realities for women in India.

Deep-Rooted Patriarchal Norms:

Patriarchy in India is reinforced through traditional gender roles that assign women subordinate status in both private and public spheres. This manifests in **female foeticide**, **early marriage**, **honour killings**, and the **gender pay gap**. Despite increasing literacy, women's labour force participation remains under 25% (PLFS 2022–23), reflecting social norms that restrict economic agency.

Political Underrepresentation:

Although 33% reservation exists in local bodies, women remain underrepresented in Parliament (approx. 15%). The long-pending **Women's Reservation Bill**, now enacted as the **Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam**, highlights both systemic delay and political tokenism.

Legal and Institutional Gaps:

Laws such as **Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act**, **Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act**, and **MTP Act** exist, but poor implementation, lack of awareness, and societal stigma undermine their efficacy.

Positive Developments:

Government schemes like **Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao**, **Ujjwala Yojana**, and **SHG-based economic initiatives** (NRLM) are aimed at bridging gender gaps. However, a transformative impact requires attitudinal change, not just policy intervention.

Conclusion:

True empowerment demands dismantling patriarchal structures, not merely creating enabling frameworks. Education, gender sensitization, legal literacy, and economic independence must go hand in hand to achieve gender justice. Constitutional guarantees are necessary but not sufficient unless social mindsets evolve.



GS Paper 2 –

Q2. The 73rd Constitutional Amendment has empowered rural local governance, but challenges in devolution of powers and resources persist. Examine.

Answer:

The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (1992)** provided constitutional status to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and introduced the 3-tier system of governance. It was a landmark in decentralization, empowering rural citizens to participate in local governance.

Achievements:

- Statutory status to PRIs and mandatory elections every five years.
- **Reservation** for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and women.
- Empowerment of local bodies to prepare plans and implement schemes.
- Over 2.5 lakh PRIs with more than 30 lakh elected representatives, over 40% women.

Persistent Challenges:

1. **Functional Devolution:** The 11th Schedule lists 29 subjects for devolution, but in practice, most states retain control over key sectors like health, education, and sanitation.
2. **Financial Dependence:** PRIs lack fiscal autonomy. Grants from the Union and State governments are delayed or conditional. Own-source revenue is minimal.
3. **Capacity Deficit:** Panchayat members, especially in backward regions, lack training in planning, budgeting, and implementation.
4. **Political Interference:** State governments often override panchayat decisions. Bureaucracy dominates, undermining elected representatives.

Reform Measures Needed:

- Actual transfer of functions, funds, and functionaries (3Fs).
- Strengthening the State Finance Commissions for predictable fund flow.
- Building administrative capacity at the grassroots.
- Leveraging digital governance tools like e-GramSwaraj for transparency.

Conclusion:

While the 73rd Amendment created an institutional framework for grassroots democracy, its spirit remains partially realized. Effective devolution and capacity-building are essential for PRIs to become engines of inclusive and participatory development.

GS Paper 3 –

Q3. India's urban transport systems are undergoing a digital and infrastructural transformation. Discuss the opportunities and challenges associated with this shift.



Answer:

India's urban transport is at a critical inflection point, with rising population, congestion, pollution, and technological interventions driving policy focus toward smart, integrated, and sustainable systems.

Opportunities:

1. **Digital Ticketing & UPI Integration:** Cities like Delhi and Mumbai are adopting digital fare payment systems via QR codes and apps, reducing leakages and wait times.
2. **Metro Expansion:** Over 800 km of metro rail is operational across India, and more is under construction, promoting low-emission mass transport.
3. **Electric Mobility:** EVs, e-buses, and charging infrastructure under FAME-II and state policies reduce dependence on fossil fuels.
4. **Data-Driven Urban Planning:** Smart Cities Mission promotes GIS mapping, IoT-based surveillance, and integrated traffic management.

Challenges:

- **Last-Mile Connectivity:** Absence of reliable feeder systems undermines public transport usage.
- **Funding Constraints:** High capital investment with slow cost recovery limits expansion in Tier-II cities.
- **Coordination Deficit:** Multiple agencies with overlapping mandates hamper execution and maintenance.
- **Digital Divide:** App-based and tech-intensive models may exclude the elderly and digitally illiterate.

Way Forward:

- Adopt an integrated urban mobility framework with multimodal connectivity.
- Encourage PPP models for e-mobility and metro expansion.
- Promote walkable, transit-oriented development.
- Ensure inclusivity in digital services.

Conclusion:

Urban transport reform in India offers a chance to leapfrog into sustainable development. Success depends on convergence of infrastructure, innovation, and inclusivity.

GS Paper 4 –

Q4. Public servants often face ethical dilemmas where legal actions may not align with moral responsibility. Discuss with examples how such dilemmas can be resolved.

Answer:

An ethical dilemma arises when a public servant is torn between two conflicting principles—typically **what is legal** and **what is morally right**. The challenge lies in balancing **rule compliance** with **ethical reasoning**.

Example 1: Implementation of Eviction Orders

A district magistrate is directed to demolish unauthorized slums. Legally justified, but it displaces hundreds



without rehabilitation. The moral duty to uphold **human dignity** and **Right to Shelter (Article 21)** clashes with legality.

Resolution:

- Opt for **Stakeholder Consultation**, explore alternate housing, and delay demolition until basic relocation arrangements are made.
- Uphold **Compassion, Justice, and Empathy**, aligning with Gandhian ethics of welfare over legalism.

Example 2: Whistleblowing in Corrupt Departments

A junior officer uncovers corruption in senior ranks. Legal channels exist but fear of retribution is real. Moral obligation demands action, but personal security is at stake.

Resolution:

- Use mechanisms under **Whistleblower Protection Act**.
- Seek guidance from internal ethics committees.
- Maintain personal integrity and document evidence before escalating.

Tools for Ethical Decision-Making:

- **Code of Conduct**
- **Professional Neutrality**
- **Utilitarian vs Deontological Reasoning**
- **Probity and Public Interest Test**

Conclusion:

Legal frameworks provide structure, but **ethical discernment** gives them soul. Ethical dilemmas are not just challenges—they are opportunities for public servants to embody **integrity, compassion, and courage**, the hallmarks of good governance.

Current Affairs –

Q5. The Election Commission of India (ECI) recently delisted 345 Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs). Discuss the rationale, legal basis, and broader implications of this step for electoral integrity.

Answer:

In June 2025, the **Election Commission of India (ECI)** initiated the delisting of 345 **Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs)** for being **non-functional, non-contesting**, and **physically untraceable** since 2019. This is part of a larger **cleansing operation** to ensure transparency in the electoral system.

Rationale:

- Many RUPPs are suspected of being **shell entities** for **money laundering and tax evasion**, availing tax exemptions under Section 13A of the Income Tax Act.



- Absence of contesting candidates and office bearers despite registration indicates abuse of electoral provisions.
- Strengthens public faith in ECI's vigilance and integrity.

Legal Basis:

- Though the **Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1951** does not provide for deregistration, the **ECI derives regulatory powers** under Article 324 of the Constitution.
- The ECI had previously written to the **Law Ministry** recommending legal empowerment for **deregistration**—currently a legal vacuum exists in this domain.

Broader Implications:

- Helps in **de-cluttering the electoral landscape**, allowing fairer competition among genuine parties.
- Enables better **resource management** and more efficient use of **Election Commission oversight**.
- However, the **lack of a statutory process for deregistration** creates a grey zone, leading to questions of due process and natural justice.

Way Forward:

- Amend RPA to include **transparent and legally binding criteria for deregistration**.
- Establish time-bound review mechanisms for party activity.
- Increase transparency in **donation disclosures** and **audit compliance** for RUPPs.

Conclusion:

The ECI's move is a step toward restoring **public trust** and **institutional credibility** in elections. However, electoral reforms must be grounded in **clear legal frameworks** to ensure fairness, transparency, and democratic accountability.
