DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 28/07/2025 (MONDAY)

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

QUIZ TIME!

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the **Ilbert Bill Controversy (1883):**

1. The Bill aimed to allow Indian judges to try Europeans in criminal cases, thereby removing racial judicial inequality.

2. The controversy eventually strengthened the trust between Indian elites and the British government, leading to a major step towards Indian legislative participation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

Options:
(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 Ilbert Bill was introduced by Viceroy Ripon's government to allow Indian magistrates to try European British subjects in India. This was a direct attempt to end racial judicial privileges enjoyed by Europeans.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Bill faced massive protests from the European community in India, leading to a compromise that diluted its original intent. Instead of strengthening trust, it widened the gulf between Indians and the British, as Indians saw the compromise as proof of British racial arrogance.

- Thus, the Bill is remembered as a **landmark in exposing racial discrimination under colonial rule**, not as a trust-building measure.

Q2. With reference to **Mangroves in India**, consider the following statements:

1. The mangrove cover in India is highest along the western coast due to greater tidal amplitude and rainfall.

2. Mangroves act as a significant carbon sink, often referred to as "Blue Carbon" ecosystems.

3. The Forest Survey of India (FSI) reports show a continuous decline in India's mangrove cover over the last decade.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The maximum mangrove cover in India is found along the **eastern coast (especially Sundarbans in West Bengal)**, not the western coast. The east coast has deltas of large rivers (Ganga, Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Cauvery) that provide the ideal environment.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Mangroves sequester and store more carbon per unit area than most other tropical forests, hence are termed **Blue Carbon ecosystems**.

- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** As per the **India State of Forest Report (ISFR 2021)**, mangrove cover in India has **shown a slight increase**, not a continuous decline, owing to conservation efforts.

- Thus, only statement 2 is correct.

Q3. With reference to the **Balance of Payments (BoP) in India**, consider the following statements:

1. A persistent Current Account Deficit (CAD) necessarily leads to a fall in foreign exchange reserves of the country.

2. A capital account surplus can offset a current account deficit and still maintain stability in the Balance of Payments.

3. In India, remittances from abroad are recorded under the capital account of the BoP.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

Options:
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

Answer: (b) 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** A CAD does not *necessarily* lead to a fall in forex reserves. If the **capital account surplus (like FDI, FPI inflows, external borrowings)** covers the CAD, reserves can remain stable or even rise.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** A capital account surplus (FDI, portfolio inflows, external commercial borrowings, etc.) can offset CAD. India often maintains BoP stability this way.

- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Remittances from abroad (money sent by Indians working overseas) are **recorded in the Current Account (under invisible receipts)**, not the capital account.

- Hence, only statement 2 is correct.

Q4. With reference to the **Election Commission of India (ECI)**, consider the following statements:

1. The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) can be removed by the President on the recommendation of the Council of Ministers.

2. The conditions of service and tenure of Election Commissioners are determined by the Constitution of India.

3. The Election Commission is responsible for the delimitation of constituencies for Lok Sabha and State Assemblies.

4. The Election Commission has the power to decide on the recognition of political parties and the allotment of election symbols.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

Options:
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 2 and 4 only

Answer: (c) 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The CEC can only be removed in the same manner as a Supreme Court judge — by a special majority of Parliament, **not** on the recommendation of the Council of Ministers.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The **Constitution (Article 324)** provides for ECI but says conditions of service and tenure of Election Commissioners shall be determined by **Parliament by law**, not directly by the Constitution.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** The ECI is responsible for delimitation **only in cases where Parliament authorizes it by law**. Currently, the **Delimitation Commission Act** empowers a separate Delimitation Commission, though the ECI associates in the process.

- **Statement 4 is correct:** The ECI decides on recognition of political parties as National/State and allots symbols under the **Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968**.

Q5. Assertion-Reason Type –

Assertion (A): The **UNispace Nanosatellite Assembly & Training by ISRO (UNNATI)** program was launched to build capacity among developing nations in satellite technology.
Reason (R): It provides hands-on training to international participants to design, assemble, and test nano-satellites that can be launched by India's PSLV.

Options:
(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:

- The **UNNATI Program** (launched in 2019 during the 50th anniversary of the UN Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space) is an **ISRO initiative** for **capacity building** in nano-satellite assembly among developing nations.

- **Assertion is correct:** Its primary goal is to enhance satellite-building skills in emerging spacefaring nations.

- **Reason is correct:** Participants from various countries are provided practical exposure to satellite **design, assembly, integration, and testing (AIT)**, with the possibility of future launch support from PSLV.

- Hence, both A and R are true, and R correctly explains A.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS PART

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding **Sohrai Art**:

1. Sohrai painting, traditionally drawn during the harvest festival, uses natural colors derived from clay, charcoal, and plant extracts.

2. In 2024, Sohrai Art of Jharkhand received the **Geographical Indication (GI) tag**, becoming the first tribal art form of India to get such recognition.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

Options:
(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:** Sohrai art is a **mural painting tradition** practiced by tribal communities, mainly the **Santhals and Mundas** of Jharkhand, during the harvest festival. The art uses natural colors made from **red, black, white, and yellow clay, along with rice paste and charcoal.**

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Though Sohrai Art has been proposed for the GI tag, as of mid-2025, it has **not yet been granted**. Madhubani (Bihar) and Warli (Maharashtra) already have GI tags.

- Therefore, only statement 1 is correct.

Q2. Under the **Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013**, what is the minimum number of women members required in every **Internal Complaints Committee (ICC)**?

Options:
(a) One-third of total members
(b) Two, including the Presiding Officer
(c) At least two external experts
(d) At least half of the total members

Answer: (a) One-third of total members

Explanation:

- The **POSH Act, 2013** mandates that every ICC should have:

    o A **Presiding Officer (senior woman employee)**

    o At least **two members committed to women's cause or with legal knowledge**

    o One external member from an NGO/association

- Importantly, **at least one-third of its members must be women** to ensure representation and fairness.

Q3. With reference to the **Android Earthquake Alert System (AEA)** recently introduced in India, consider the following statements:

1. The system uses smartphone accelerometers as mini seismometers to detect early signs of earthquakes.

2. The alerts are generated locally on each device without relying on internet connectivity.

3. India is the first Asian country to adopt this system after the United States.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

Options:
(a) 1 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 Android Earthquake Alert System uses the **accelerometers** in Android smartphones as small seismometers. Data from millions of devices is processed to detect seismic waves.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The alerts require **internet connectivity** to share seismic data with Google's servers, which then process and send warnings. They are not purely device-based.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** India became the **first Asian country** to adopt this system, after its successful use in the **US, Greece, New Zealand and a few others.**

- Hence, 1 and 3 are correct.

Q4. With reference to **Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)**, consider the following statements:

1. FMD is a highly contagious viral disease affecting cattle, buffaloes, and pigs, but humans are not susceptible to this disease.

2. India has launched the **National Animal Disease Control Programme (NADCP)** with a goal of eradicating FMD and Brucellosis by 2030.

3. Vaccination under NADCP is fully funded by the Union Government, with states bearing no cost.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** FMD affects cloven-hoofed animals (cows, buffaloes, pigs, goats, sheep). **Humans are not naturally susceptible** though rare cases have been recorded with no serious impact.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The **NADCP**, launched in **2019**, aims to **eradicate FMD and Brucellosis by 2030** through nationwide vaccination.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** The scheme is **100% centrally funded** by the Union Government, including costs for vaccination, surveillance, and capacity building.

- Hence, all three statements are correct.

Q5. With reference to the **India-Singapore military exercise "Bold Kurukshetra 2025"**, consider the following statements:

1. It is a bilateral **naval exercise** focusing on anti-submarine warfare.

2. The exercise is conducted under the **Defence Cooperation Agreement (DCA)** between India and Singapore.

3. It involves participation of the **Armoured Regiments** of both nations.

4. The 2025 edition was conducted at **Babina Military Station** in Madhya Pradesh.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (d) 2, 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Bold Kurukshetra is an **army-to-army bilateral exercise**, not naval. It focuses on mechanised warfare, not anti-submarine warfare.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is conducted under the **India-Singapore Defence Cooperation Agreement (DCA)**.

- **Statement 3 is correct:** It involves **Armoured Regiments** (tank units) from both armies for combined mechanised operations.

- **Statement 4 is correct:** The 2025 edition took place at **Babina Field Firing Ranges, Madhya Pradesh**.

- Thus, 2, 3, and 4 are correct.

Q6. Which of the following countries does the **Nile River** flow through **before emptying into the Mediterranean Sea**?

Options:
(a) Uganda – South Sudan – Sudan – Egypt
(b) Ethiopia – Eritrea – Sudan – Egypt
(c) Rwanda – Uganda – Sudan – Libya – Egypt
(d) Burundi – Tanzania – Kenya – Sudan – Egypt

Answer: (a) Uganda – South Sudan – Sudan – Egypt

Explanation:

- The **Nile River**, world's longest, has two main tributaries: **White Nile** (from Lake Victoria, Uganda) and **Blue Nile** (from Lake Tana, Ethiopia).

- For the **White Nile route**, it flows **from Uganda → South Sudan → Sudan → Egypt → Mediterranean Sea**.

- **Option (b) is incorrect** because Eritrea is not on the Nile's course.

- **Option (c) is incorrect** because the Nile does not pass through Libya.

- **Option (d) is incorrect** because the Nile does not flow through Kenya or Tanzania directly into Sudan.

- Therefore, the correct sequence is **Uganda – South Sudan – Sudan – Egypt**.

SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS FOR DAILY PRACTICE

GS Paper 1 –

Question:
Discuss the role of reformist movements in 19th century India in shaping social consciousness. How did they balance tradition and modernity?

Sample Answer :
The 19th century in India was marked by profound social transformation under the twin impact of colonial modernity and the Indian response through reformist movements. These movements played a pivotal role in awakening social consciousness and laying the foundation of modern India.

One of the major reformist groups, the **Brahmo Samaj**, founded by Raja Ram Mohan Roy, campaigned against **sati, child marriage, and caste discrimination**, while promoting widow remarriage, women's education, and monotheism. Roy sought to reinterpret Hindu scriptures rationally, balancing tradition with Enlightenment ideals.

Similarly, the **Prarthana Samaj** in Western India and the **Arya Samaj** under Dayanand Saraswati emphasized Vedic values while denouncing idolatry and social evils like untouchability. The Arya Samaj particularly propagated the concept of "back to the Vedas" to blend cultural pride with rationalism.

Islamic reform movements, such as the Aligarh Movement led by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, highlighted modern scientific education through the Aligarh Muslim University, reconciling Islamic values with Western rationality.
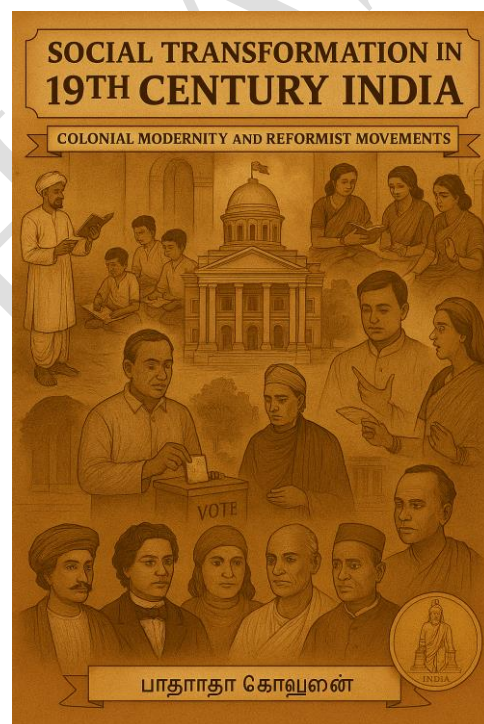
In South India, Narayana Guru and Jyotiba Phule challenged caste orthodoxy and championed education for the marginalized, giving rise to a new consciousness of equality.

These reformists balanced tradition and modernity by:

- **Using religious texts**: Reformers reinterpreted scriptures to justify progressive changes.

- **Adopting modern tools**: Print media, newspapers, and pamphlets were widely used to spread reformist ideas.

- **Promoting education**: Institutions were established to blend traditional and modern learning.

While some conservative backlash did occur, these reformist movements fundamentally transformed Indian society by challenging orthodoxy and creating the intellectual foundation for India's national movement. They ensured that India's path to modernity was neither a blind imitation of the West nor a rejection of indigenous traditions, but a synthesis of the two.

Thus, the reformist movements of the 19th century were crucial in shaping India's socio-cultural renaissance and preparing the ground for freedom and democracy.

GS Paper 2 –

Question:
Critically analyze the challenges faced in the implementation of the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009. Suggest reforms to strengthen its outcomes.

Sample Answer:
The **Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009** marked a historic step in India's commitment to universalizing elementary education by making it a fundamental right for children aged 6–14 years. Despite its progressive vision, its implementation has faced multiple challenges.

Challenges in Implementation:

1. **Infrastructure Deficit:** Many schools lack basic facilities such as toilets, libraries, and playgrounds, especially in rural areas.

2. **Teacher Shortages and Quality Issues:** Vacant teaching positions, lack of trained teachers, and absenteeism compromise learning outcomes.

3. **Learning Outcomes vs. Enrollment:** While enrollment has improved, the **ASER reports** consistently highlight poor reading and arithmetic skills among students.

4. **Ineffective Monitoring:** Weak accountability mechanisms and poor utilization of funds limit impact.

5. **Private School Concerns:** The 25% reservation for economically weaker sections faces resistance from private institutions due to delayed reimbursement and administrative hurdles.

6. **Dropouts among Girls and Marginalized Groups:** Socio-economic constraints, early marriage, and gender bias continue to undermine retention rates.

Suggested Reforms:

- **Focus on Quality, not just Quantity:** Revamp curriculum and pedagogy with experiential and activity-based learning, ensuring competence in basic skills.

- **Teacher Training & Accountability:** Strengthen teacher education institutes and implement biometric attendance to curb absenteeism.

- **Digital Infrastructure:** Expand digital classrooms and e-learning platforms, especially in rural and tribal areas.

- **Community Participation:** Strengthen School Management Committees for greater accountability and local involvement.

- **Better Financial Mechanisms:** Ensure timely reimbursement to private schools under the EWS quota and simplify application procedures.

- **Holistic Child Development:** Integrate nutrition (via mid-day meals), health, and counseling to reduce dropouts.

Conclusion:
The RTE Act remains a landmark legislation, but its success hinges on moving beyond enrollment to **quality, equity, and inclusivity**. Strengthening governance, teacher accountability, and community participation is essential for achieving the vision of an educated and empowered India.

GS Paper 3 -

Question:
Analyze the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on India's employment landscape. How can India ensure inclusive growth in the era of automation?

Sample Answer (≈350 words):
Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming economies worldwide, and India, with its large workforce and IT sector dominance, stands at a crossroads. While AI offers immense opportunities for growth and efficiency, it poses significant challenges for employment.

Impact on Employment:

- **Job Displacement:** Routine, repetitive tasks in sectors like manufacturing, retail, and banking are increasingly being automated. For instance, chatbots are replacing customer service representatives.

- **Job Creation:** Simultaneously, AI is creating new roles in data science, cybersecurity, robotics, and machine learning.

- **Shift in Skill Demand:** Demand for cognitive, analytical, and digital skills is rising, whereas low-skilled jobs are shrinking.

- **Informal Sector Risks:** India's large informal sector, including drivers, clerks, and delivery agents, is particularly vulnerable to automation.

- **Productivity Gains:** AI enhances productivity, which could indirectly generate more jobs in high-growth sectors if supported by policies.

Ensuring Inclusive Growth:

1. **Skill Development & Reskilling:** Massive investment in upskilling programs, digital literacy, and STEM education is critical. The **Skill India Mission** must integrate AI-based learning.

2. **Promoting Human-AI Collaboration:** Encourage industries to adopt AI as a tool for augmenting, not replacing, human labor.

3. **Policy Frameworks:** Draft national policies for responsible AI use, ensuring ethical standards, transparency, and job security.

4. **Support for Informal Workers:** Provide safety nets like unemployment insurance, retraining subsidies, and social security.

5. **Encouraging Startups:** India's AI startups can drive innovation and generate employment if provided with funding and incubators.

6. **Sectoral Focus:** Healthcare, agriculture, and education can benefit from AI without massive job losses if technology is tailored to assist workers.

Conclusion:

The impact of AI on India's employment is not a zero-sum game. While some jobs will vanish, many new opportunities will emerge. The challenge lies in equipping India's workforce to adapt swiftly. A balanced approach—combining **human capital development, regulatory frameworks, and inclusive policies**—is vital to harness AI for equitable growth.

GS Paper 4 –

Question:
"Public office is a public trust." Discuss this statement in the context of ethical governance, citing relevant examples.

Sample Answer :
The maxim **"Public office is a public trust"** emphasizes that those in authority hold their positions not for personal gain but as custodians of the people's trust. Ethical governance demands that public servants exercise their power with integrity, accountability, and transparency.

Ethical Dimensions:

- **Integrity:** A public official must resist corruption, nepotism, and misuse of authority. For example, Lal Bahadur Shastri's simplicity and incorruptibility exemplified integrity in public service.

- **Accountability:** Public officials are answerable for their actions and decisions. Mechanisms like the **RTI Act, 2005** and parliamentary oversight embody accountability.

- **Impartiality & Fairness:** Decisions must serve the common good, not sectional interests. For instance, impartial implementation of welfare schemes ensures justice for marginalized groups.

- **Transparency:** Citizens must have access to information. Digital governance initiatives such as **e-procurement systems** reduce scope for corruption.

Illustrative Examples:

- The **2010 Commonwealth Games Scam** highlighted how deviation from the principle of public trust leads to massive misuse of funds.

- Conversely, the **Right to Food Act implementation in Chhattisgarh**, through transparent PDS reforms, demonstrated how ethical governance can directly improve citizens' welfare.

Challenges:

- Conflicts of interest, red-tapism, and political interference often weaken ethical governance.

- Lack of whistle-blower protection dissuades reporting of corruption.

Way Forward:

- Strengthen codes of ethics and conduct for civil servants.

- Institutionalize citizen charters and performance audits.

- Promote values-based training in administrative academies.

- Use technology to reduce discretion and improve transparency.

Conclusion:
Public office as a public trust implies that **power is delegated by the people and must be exercised for their welfare**. Only when governance is rooted in integrity, accountability, and transparency can democracy truly serve its citizens.

Current Affairs –

Question:
Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) have emerged as a major climate-induced hazard in the Himalayas. Examine the causes, consequences, and mitigation strategies for GLOFs in India.

Sample Answer (≈350 words):
Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) are sudden releases of water from glacial lakes, typically triggered by the failure of natural dams formed of ice or moraine. In the Indian Himalayas, increasing GLOFs highlight the intersection of climate change and fragile ecosystems.

Causes:

- **Climate Change & Glacial Retreat:** Rising temperatures accelerate glacial melting, enlarging lakes and increasing their vulnerability.

- **Seismic Activity & Landslides:** The Himalayan region, being tectonically active, often experiences landslides or avalanches that can breach glacial lake dams.

- **Anthropogenic Factors:** Unregulated construction of roads, hydropower projects, and tourism in fragile zones exacerbate risks.

- **Extreme Weather Events:** Cloudbursts and heavy rainfall add stress to glacial lakes.

Consequences:

- **Loss of Life & Infrastructure:** The Chamoli disaster (2021) highlighted the catastrophic damage from sudden floods, killing over 200 people.

- **Damage to Hydropower Projects:** Many Himalayan rivers host major dams vulnerable to GLOF impacts.

- **Displacement & Livelihood Loss:** Communities depending on agriculture and tourism face long-term disruption.

- **Environmental Impact:** Floods lead to sediment deposition, river course changes, and loss of biodiversity.

Mitigation Strategies:

- **Early Warning Systems:** Installation of remote sensing, GPS, and real-time monitoring of glacial lakes.

- **Risk Mapping:** The **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)** has recommended vulnerability mapping of Himalayan glacial lakes.

- **Engineering Solutions:** Controlled drainage and strengthening of moraine dams to reduce risk.

- **Community Preparedness:** Training locals in disaster response, establishing safe shelters, and conducting mock drills.

- **Regulated Development:** Avoiding large-scale hydropower and infrastructure projects in ecologically sensitive zones.

- **Regional Cooperation:** Since rivers and glaciers transcend boundaries, collaboration with Nepal, Bhutan, and China is crucial.

Conclusion:

GLOFs represent the **climate vulnerability of the Himalayas**, threatening both lives and development gains. A blend of technological solutions, sustainable planning, and community-centric strategies is essential for building resilience against this growing hazard.