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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY
&
STUDY CENTRE


DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 31th & 02th June-2025

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



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DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Q1. Consider the following statements:

1. Harshavardhana was a follower of Mahayana Buddhism and maintained diplomatic relations with the Chinese Buddhist monk Xuanzang.
2. During Harsha's reign, the Nalanda University was destroyed by invaders from Central Asia.

Which of the statements given above 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.** Harshavardhana was initially a Shaiva but later became a patron of Mahayana Buddhism. He invited the Chinese traveler Xuanzang to his court, who wrote extensively about Harsha's administration, religion, and society.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** Nalanda University flourished during Harsha's time and was patronized by him. Its destruction happened much later, in the 12th century, by Bakhtiyar Khilji, a Turkic invader.

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the functions and properties of ecosystems:

1. Energy flow in an ecosystem is always unidirectional, from producers to top consumers.
2. Nutrient cycling in an ecosystem is a closed system where elements are recycled between biotic and abiotic components.
3. Primary productivity is always highest in terrestrial ecosystems such as deserts due to high solar exposure.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Energy flow is always unidirectional—starting from autotrophs (producers) to herbivores and then to carnivores.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Nutrient cycling involves the movement of elements like nitrogen and phosphorus within an ecosystem, making it a closed system in terms of matter.



- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** Deserts have high solar energy but low moisture and organic matter, which limits productivity. Tropical rainforests have the highest primary productivity among terrestrial ecosystems.

Q3. Consider the following statements about the Lorenz Curve:

1. The Lorenz Curve represents income distribution within an economy.
2. A perfectly equal income distribution is represented by a straight diagonal line in the Lorenz Curve diagram.
3. The more the Lorenz Curve bends away from the line of equality, the lower the income inequality.

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 Lorenz Curve graphically shows the distribution of income or wealth within a population.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The 45-degree line (diagonal) represents perfect equality in income distribution.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** A greater bend or deviation from the equality line indicates **greater** income inequality, not lesser.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding emergencies under the Indian Constitution:

1. National Emergency can be declared on the grounds of war, external aggression, or armed rebellion.
2. President's Rule can be imposed when there is a failure of constitutional machinery in a state.
3. Financial Emergency has been declared twice in India since independence.
4. During President's Rule, the President can assume the powers of the State Legislature.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation:



- **Statement 1 is correct.** National Emergency can be proclaimed under Article 352 in case of war, external aggression, or armed rebellion.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** President's Rule (Article 356) is invoked when the constitutional machinery of a state fails.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** Financial Emergency (Article 360) has **never** been declared in India.
- **Statement 4 is correct.** During President's Rule, the President assumes the functions of the State Legislature and can delegate powers to the Parliament.

Q5. Assertion-Reason Type

Assertion (A): India has a large number of cultural heritage sites inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Reason (R): UNESCO recognizes only tangible monuments such as forts, temples, and caves as cultural heritage.

- (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: (c) A is correct, but R is incorrect.

Explanation:

- **Assertion is correct.** India has over 40 sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List, with a majority being **cultural** sites, including forts (Red Fort), temples (Khajuraho), and ancient cities (Jaipur).
- **Reason is incorrect.** UNESCO also recognizes **cultural landscapes** and **intangible cultural heritage**, not just tangible monuments. Examples include living traditions, rituals, and even city planning patterns. Thus, R does not fully explain A and is factually inaccurate.

Q6. Consider the following statements:

1. The Quit India Movement was launched in response to the failure of the Cripps Mission.
2. The movement witnessed immediate mass upsurge and the formation of parallel governments in some parts of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The Quit India Movement was launched in August 1942 after the failure of the Cripps Mission to secure Indian cooperation for World War II.



- **Statement 2 is correct.** The movement spread rapidly, with mass protests, strikes, and establishment of short-lived **parallel governments**, such as the one in Ballia (U.P.).

Q7. Consider the following statements regarding ocean currents:

1. Cold ocean currents are generally found on the western coasts of continents in the tropical and subtropical zones.
2. The Kuroshio current is a cold current of the Pacific Ocean.
3. Ocean currents influence the climate of coastal areas significantly.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Cold currents like the California and Canary currents flow along western continental margins in subtropical latitudes.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The Kuroshio current is a **warm** ocean current flowing northward off the coast of Japan.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Warm currents warm the coast (e.g., Gulf Stream), while cold currents lower coastal temperatures and reduce rainfall.

Q8. Consider the following statements about Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) satellites:

1. IRS satellites are used primarily for telecommunication purposes.
2. The Cartosat series of satellites are part of the IRS programme.
3. Data from IRS satellites is useful in urban planning, agriculture, and disaster management.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** IRS satellites are mainly used for **earth observation**, not telecommunication (which is the domain of INSAT series).
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Cartosat satellites are high-resolution earth observation satellites under the IRS programme.



- **Statement 3 is correct.** IRS data supports various applications, including crop monitoring, flood mapping, and town planning.

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding inflation and monetary policy:

1. Repo rate is the rate at which RBI lends money to commercial banks.
2. Increase in CRR (Cash Reserve Ratio) leads to a reduction in the money supply in the economy.
3. Headline inflation excludes food and fuel prices.
4. Monetary policy can control cost-push inflation effectively in the long run.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Repo rate is the benchmark interest rate for short-term lending by RBI to banks.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Higher CRR means banks must keep more money with RBI, reducing money supply.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** Core inflation excludes food and fuel; headline inflation includes all items.
- **Statement 4 is correct.** Cost-push inflation, often caused by supply shocks, can be mitigated indirectly through demand management tools over the long term.

Q10. Assertion-Reason Type

Assertion (A): ISRO has developed its own navigation system called NavIC for regional use.

Reason (R): India's strategic and technological needs require independence from foreign navigation systems like GPS.

- (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:

- **Assertion is correct.** NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation) is India's independent regional satellite navigation system.



- **Reason is correct.** Dependence on foreign systems like the U.S. GPS may not be reliable in strategic scenarios, such as military operations, justifying the need for NavIC.
- **Hence, R correctly explains A.**

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS PART

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding Operation Atalanta:

1. Operation Atalanta is a counter-piracy military operation launched by NATO to protect commercial vessels in the Gulf of Guinea.
2. India is an official partner contributing naval assets under this operation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** Operation Atalanta is an **EU-led** (European Union Naval Force) military operation, **not NATO**, launched in **2008**, focusing on **counter-piracy off the coast of Somalia and the Western Indian Ocean**, not the Gulf of Guinea.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** India is **not a formal contributor** to Operation Atalanta, although the Indian Navy operates independently in the same region for anti-piracy and maritime security.

Q2. The term "Angstrom-scale chip", recently seen in news, refers to:

- (a) A chip with architecture based on the atomic structure of hydrogen
- (b) A chip with component features at sub-nanometer scale, below 1 nanometer
- (c) A graphene-based photonic processor chip
- (d) A chip exclusively designed for quantum computing at cryogenic temperatures

Answer: (b) A chip with component features at sub-nanometer scale, below 1 nanometer

Explanation:

- **Angstrom** is a unit of length equal to **0.1 nanometer** ($1 \text{ \AA} = 10^{-10} \text{ m}$).
- An **angstrom-scale chip** refers to **next-generation semiconductor devices** whose critical dimensions, such as gate length in transistors, are below **1 nanometer**, marking a breakthrough in chip miniaturization.
- This is seen as a post-3nm technology node advancement, especially by companies like TSMC and Intel in advanced chip design.



Q3. Consider the following statements about Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) technology:

1. V2G technology allows electric vehicles to discharge electricity back into the power grid.
2. It can only work when the vehicle is in motion and connected to high-voltage transmission lines.
3. V2G technology enables bidirectional energy flow and supports grid stability during peak demand.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** V2G allows EVs to act as energy storage devices that can supply electricity back to the grid when parked and connected.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** V2G operates **only when the vehicle is stationary and connected to the grid** (not in motion), typically through special V2G-compatible chargers.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** It provides **bidirectional energy transfer**, helping manage grid load, especially during **peak demand** or grid outages.

Q4. Consider the following statements about Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology:

1. ANPR uses optical character recognition to read vehicle license plates from images.
2. In India, ANPR is being integrated with FASTag data to track vehicle movement across toll plazas.
3. ANPR requires real-time satellite transmission for every vehicle scan to function effectively.

Which of the above statements 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.** ANPR (also known as ALPR) uses cameras and OCR algorithms to detect and read vehicle number plates.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The Indian government has announced efforts to **link ANPR with FASTag** to automate vehicle tracking, tolling, and law enforcement.



- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** ANPR systems use **local servers or cloud connectivity**, not **satellite-based transmission** for every scan. Data is often transmitted via terrestrial internet networks.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the first commercial sea shipment of Indian Bhagwa Pomegranates:

1. The shipment was sent from India to the United Kingdom via refrigerated sea containers.
2. Bhagwa is a variety of pomegranate known for its thick rind and poor juice quality.
3. This initiative is part of India's efforts under the Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme.
4. The export marks a milestone for India in the category of perishable agri-exports by sea route.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1, 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The first shipment was sent to the **UK via sea route using refrigerated containers**, aimed at reducing export costs.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** **Bhagwa** is a popular pomegranate variety in India, known for its **bright red skin, high juice content**, and extended shelf life — ideal for exports.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The export initiative is aligned with India's **MAI Scheme** to promote agri-exports through support for logistics and market access.
- **Statement 4 is correct.** Traditionally, perishable goods like pomegranates are air-shipped. This marks a **cost-effective milestone for cold-chain sea-based exports**.

Q6. Consider the following statements about the Indigenous Satellite Nozzle Divergent (SND) developed for the PSLV:

1. The nozzle is manufactured using additive manufacturing techniques to reduce weight and improve heat resistance.
2. It is designed specifically for the fourth stage of the PSLV to improve altitude steering during re-entry operations.

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.** ISRO has developed an **Indigenous Satellite Nozzle Divergent (SND)** using **additive manufacturing (3D printing)** with advanced metal alloys to reduce **component weight**, manufacturing time, and **improve thermal resistance**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The SND is used in the upper stages of PSLV for improved **thrust vectoring**, **not** for re-entry steering, as PSLV's fourth stage **does not re-enter** Earth's atmosphere in most missions.

Q7. The HEALD initiative, recently seen in the news, is related to:

- (a) Deployment of AI-based diagnostics for non-communicable diseases in remote regions
- (b) Establishing a collaborative platform for health and environmental linkages under UNEP
- (c) Launching a digital mental health awareness drive for adolescents in India
- (d) Promoting decentralized vaccine cold chain systems for tribal areas

Answer: (b) Establishing a collaborative platform for health and environmental linkages under UNEP

Explanation:

- **HEALD** stands for **Health and Environment Linkages Database**.
- It is a **UNEP-backed initiative** aimed at highlighting how environmental factors like **climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss** influence public health, and at enabling **policy-level integration** for climate and health.

Q8. Consider the following statements about the Kokborok language:

1. Kokborok is a Tibeto-Burman language predominantly spoken in the state of Tripura.
2. It is recognized as an official language in Tripura, but not included in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution.
3. Kokborok uses only the Devanagari script for all educational and administrative purposes.

Which of the above statements 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.** Kokborok is indeed a **Tibeto-Burman language**, spoken largely by the **Tripuri people** of Tripura.



- **Statement 2 is correct.** While Kokborok is an **official language in Tripura**, it is **not included** in the **Eighth Schedule**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** There is **script controversy**—both **Bengali and Roman scripts** are used. Devanagari is **not standard** for Kokborok.

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding the new Green Water-Based Method to Recycle Toxic Perovskite Solar Cells:

1. This method enables recovery of lead from used solar cells, reducing environmental contamination.
2. It entirely eliminates the use of organic solvents in the recycling process.
3. Perovskite solar cells are less efficient than silicon cells, which is why they are not widely researched.

Which of the above statements is/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.** Lead-based perovskite cells pose environmental risks. The new **green method allows safe recovery of lead** using water as the solvent.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The **entire process is water-based**, making it more **eco-friendly** compared to conventional recycling using **toxic organic solvents**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** Perovskite cells are **highly efficient** and have reached over 25% lab efficiency. They are actively researched for next-gen solar tech.

Q10. Consider the following statements about the Comprehensive Remote Sensing Observation on Crop Progress (CROP) system:

1. CROP system is jointly implemented by ISRO and the Ministry of Agriculture.
2. It integrates satellite imagery and field data to monitor cropping patterns and crop health in real time.
3. The system has been operationalized only in select districts of Maharashtra and Punjab as a pilot.
4. CROP is part of the broader Digital Agriculture Mission initiated by the Government of India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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



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

Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The **CROP system** is developed by **ISRO** in collaboration with the **Ministry of Agriculture** for satellite-based agricultural monitoring.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** It combines **remote sensing data with ground truthing** to assess **crop area, health, and stage**.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** CROP has been extended **nationwide**, and **not limited** to just Maharashtra and Punjab.
- **Statement 4 is correct.** It is a key component of the **Digital Agriculture Mission**, enhancing transparency in schemes like PMFBY and MSP procurement.

SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS FOR DAILY PRACTICE

GS Paper 1

Q1. What are tides? Explain the different types of tides and analyse their importance for coastal regions.

Answer:

Tides are the **periodic rise and fall of sea levels** caused primarily by the gravitational pull of the **moon and the sun** on Earth's oceans. They follow a regular pattern and play a vital role in coastal and marine dynamics.

Types of Tides:

1. **High Tide and Low Tide** – Occur daily; high tide when water level is highest, low tide when it is lowest.
2. **Spring Tide** – Occurs during full moon and new moon; sun, moon, and Earth are aligned, producing higher high tides.
3. **Neap Tide** – Occurs during quarter moons; sun and moon are at right angles, resulting in lower tidal range.
4. **Perigean & Apogean Tides** – Linked to moon's distance; stronger at perigee (closest) and weaker at apogee (farthest).

Importance:

- **Navigation & Port Operations** – Tides facilitate movement of ships.
- **Fishing Industry** – Marine life activity is influenced by tides.
- **Tidal Energy** – Harnessed in locations like the Gulf of Khambhat.
- **Coastal Erosion and Deposition** – Tides shape coastlines.



Thus, tides are essential for maritime economy, coastal ecology, and disaster preparedness.

GS Paper 2

Q2. What are pressure groups? Discuss their types and evaluate their role in strengthening democracy in India.

Answer:

Pressure groups are **organized interest-based groups** that seek to influence public policy and decision-making **without seeking formal political power**.

Types:

1. **Business Groups** – FICCI, CII
2. **Trade Unions** – INTUC, AITUC
3. **Agricultural Groups** – Bharatiya Kisan Union
4. **Student Organisations** – NSUI, ABVP
5. **Caste & Religious Groups** – Dalit Panthers, RSS
6. **Cause-based NGOs** – Greenpeace, MKSS

Significance in Indian Democracy:

- **Policy Influence** – Highlight sector-specific demands (e.g., farmer protests).
- **Bridge between Government and Citizens** – Represent collective interests.
- **Checks and Balances** – Prevent authoritarian tendencies.
- **Public Awareness** – Promote democratic participation.
- **Mobilization of Marginalized Voices** – Empower vulnerable communities.

However, undue influence by elite groups and lack of transparency can undermine democratic ideals. A balanced, regulated role for pressure groups ensures participatory governance.

GS Paper 3

Q3. Enumerate the major factors contributing to climate change. Examine the impacts of climate change and suggest key mitigation strategies.

Answer:

Factors Contributing to Climate Change:

1. **Greenhouse Gas Emissions** – CO₂, CH₄ from fossil fuels, agriculture.
2. **Deforestation** – Reduces carbon sinks.
3. **Industrialization** – High carbon footprint.



4. **Urbanization and Transportation** – Increase energy demand.
5. **Unsustainable Agriculture** – Methane from rice fields, livestock.

Impacts:

- **Extreme Weather** – Heatwaves, floods, cyclones.
- **Sea Level Rise** – Coastal inundation (e.g., Sundarbans).
- **Agricultural Stress** – Reduced yields, food insecurity.
- **Biodiversity Loss** – Coral bleaching, habitat destruction.
- **Health Issues** – Vector-borne diseases rise.

Mitigation Strategies:

- **Renewable Energy Transition** – Solar, wind, hydrogen.
- **Afforestation and Reforestation**
- **Climate-smart Agriculture**
- **Carbon Pricing & Green Taxes**
- **International Agreements** – Paris Agreement, COP summits.

Addressing climate change needs **integrated policies, technological innovation, and global cooperation.**

GS Paper 4

Q4. Ethical leadership is crucial for good governance. Explain the qualities of ethical leadership with examples from public service.

Answer:

Ethical leadership involves decision-making based on **integrity, fairness, accountability, and empathy**, aiming for the **greater public good**.

Qualities of Ethical Leaders:

1. **Integrity** – Honest and transparent actions. *E.g., T.N. Seshan's electoral reforms.*
2. **Empathy** – Understanding stakeholder needs. *E.g., E. Sreedharan's metro projects with public convenience focus.*
3. **Accountability** – Owning up to mistakes and correcting them.
4. **Impartiality** – Treating all citizens equally, free from bias.
5. **Courage** – Standing against unethical practices.

In public administration, ethical leadership inspires **trust**, ensures **efficient service delivery**, and promotes **inclusive governance**. Without ethics, leadership can become authoritarian or corrupt, eroding democratic values.

Thus, nurturing ethical leaders is vital for transforming governance into a citizen-centric enterprise.



Current Affairs

Q5. Traditional bamboo bins (Mora) have been reintroduced in some Indian states for solid waste management. Discuss their environmental and social significance.

Answer:

The **Mora** is a **traditional bamboo waste bin**, reintroduced under **Mission LiFE** to promote **eco-friendly solid waste disposal**, especially in northeastern and eastern states.

Environmental Significance:

- **Biodegradable Alternative** – Replaces plastic bins.
- **Low Carbon Footprint** – Handmade with renewable bamboo.
- **Promotes Circular Economy** – Supports composting and natural waste segregation.

Social and Economic Benefits:

- **Livelihood Generation** – Empowers tribal and local bamboo artisans.
- **Cultural Revival** – Reinforces indigenous knowledge systems.
- **Women's Empowerment** – Many artisans involved are rural women.

By blending tradition with sustainability, the Mora represents a **model for grassroots-level climate action**, resonating with the UN SDGs and India's **Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE)** vision.

GS Paper 1

Q6. Discuss the contributions of Jyotirao Phule to social reform in 19th-century India.

Answer:

Jyotirao Phule was a pioneering **social reformer from Maharashtra**, whose work laid the foundation for the **anti-caste and women's emancipation movements** in 19th-century India.

Key Contributions:

- **Education for All:** He and his wife Savitribai Phule opened India's first school for girls in 1848 and later for Dalits, challenging caste-based restrictions.
- **Abolition of Untouchability:** Phule attacked Brahmanical orthodoxy and advocated the rights of oppressed castes through writings like *Gulamgiri*.
- **Satyashodhak Samaj (1873):** Promoted social equality, inter-caste marriage, and rejected priestly dominance in religious rituals.
- **Women's Rights:** He supported widow remarriage and opposed child marriage.

His reforms were **far ahead of his time**, fostering a **rational, egalitarian ethos** that influenced later movements led by Ambedkar and others.



Phule's legacy lies in his **vision of a just and inclusive society** built on education, dignity, and social justice.

GS Paper 2

Q7. What is e-governance? Examine its role in enhancing transparency and accountability in public service delivery in India.

Answer:

E-governance refers to the application of **information and communication technology (ICT)** for delivering government services to citizens efficiently and transparently.

Role in Transparency and Accountability:

- **Digital Portals (e.g., RTI Online, e-Sampark):** Reduce bureaucratic opacity and empower citizens to access information.
- **Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT):** Eliminate middlemen and leakages in subsidy delivery.
- **Online Grievance Redressal (CPGRAMS, UMANG):** Enhance responsiveness and monitoring of service delivery.
- **E-Tendering and Procurement (GeM):** Prevent corruption in public contracts.
- **Digitized Land Records (DILRMP):** Ensure clear land ownership, reducing disputes and fraud.

Challenges remain in digital literacy, last-mile connectivity, and data privacy, but e-governance has transformed public administration into a more **inclusive, accountable, and transparent system**.

GS Paper 3

Q8. What are Non-Performing Assets (NPAs)? Discuss their implications for the Indian banking sector and recent measures taken to address them.

Answer:

Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) are loans or advances where interest or principal payments are overdue for **more than 90 days**. They reflect the **poor financial health** of the borrower and are a major concern for banks.

Implications:

- **Reduced Lending Capacity** – Erodes bank profits and capital.
- **Low Investor Confidence** – Affects financial market stability.
- **Higher Provisioning Requirements** – Burdens banks' balance sheets.
- **Economic Slowdown** – Limits credit flow to productive sectors.

Recent Measures:

- **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC):** Enables time-bound resolution of bad loans.
- **Asset Reconstruction Companies (e.g., NARCL):** Focus on bad debt recovery.



- **Prompt Corrective Action (PCA):** Regulatory oversight for weak banks.
- **EASE Reforms:** Encourage digitization and governance reforms in public sector banks.

Addressing NPAs is critical to ensuring **banking sector resilience, financial inclusion, and economic growth.**

GS Paper 4

Q9. Explain the concept of "conflict of interest" in public administration with suitable examples. How can it be effectively managed?

Answer:

A **conflict of interest** arises when a public official's **personal interests interfere** with their **professional duties**, leading to **bias or unethical decisions.**

Examples:

- A bureaucrat awarding a contract to a company owned by a relative.
- A minister pushing a policy that benefits their own business.
- A regulator holding shares in the entity they regulate.

Management Strategies:

- **Code of Conduct and Ethics:** Clear guidelines on acceptable behavior.
- **Disclosure Norms:** Mandatory declaration of assets and interests.
- **Recusal Mechanism:** Officials abstaining from decisions involving personal stakes.
- **Vigilance Mechanisms:** Internal and external oversight bodies.
- **Whistleblower Protection:** Encouraging reporting of ethical breaches.

Effective management of conflict of interest ensures **public trust, institutional credibility, and integrity in governance.**

Current Affairs – International Relations

Q10. India's participation in the "India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)" was seen as a strategic shift. Analyse its geopolitical and economic significance.

Answer:

The **India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC)**, announced during the G20 Summit 2023, aims to connect **India with Europe** through the **UAE, Saudi Arabia, and the Mediterranean** via a multimodal transport and energy corridor.

Geopolitical Significance:

- Counters China's **Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)** by offering an alternative trade route.



- Strengthens India's ties with **Gulf countries** and **Western allies**.
- Enhances strategic influence in West Asia and the Indo-European theatre.

Economic Significance:

- Boosts trade and energy connectivity with Europe.
- Reduces time and cost for goods movement.
- Promotes infrastructure investment, logistics, and green energy cooperation.

IMEC reflects **India's growing role in global supply chains** and its ambition to shape a **rules-based, multipolar world order** while securing long-term economic interests.