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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 11/08/2025 (MONDAY)

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



 **9972258970 & 9740702455**

**#317/A SKB Arcade, D. Subbaiah Road,
Ramaswamy Circle, Mysuru-570004**



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Q1. Consider the following statements:

1. The Gandhara School of Art primarily used schist as the medium for its sculptures, allowing for intricate detailing and a Greco-Roman style influence.
2. The Mathura School of Art was entirely independent of foreign influence and exclusively depicted Buddhist iconography.

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 – Correct:** Gandhara School flourished in present-day Pakistan and Afghanistan, using **grey schist** stone, enabling fine detailing and heavily influenced by **Greco-Roman (Hellenistic) art**.
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect:** The Mathura School, though indigenous in style and using red sandstone, was **not entirely independent** of foreign influence. It depicted **Buddhist, Hindu, and Jain themes**, not just Buddhist iconography. It absorbed certain stylistic traits from other schools.

Key Learning: UPSC often checks if you assume “entirely” or “exclusively” as true — such absolutes are red flags.

Q2. Consider the following statements:

1. The term “ecological succession” refers exclusively to the gradual replacement of one plant species by another in a given habitat.
2. Primary succession can begin on bare rock without any pre-existing soil.
3. Secondary succession generally takes longer to reach a climax community compared to primary succession.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect:** Ecological succession is **not exclusive to plants**; it involves **entire communities** of organisms (plants, animals, microbes) changing over time.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** Primary succession starts in lifeless areas such as bare rock (lava flows, glacial retreats) where **no soil** exists; pioneer species like lichens initiate soil formation.



- **Statement 3 – Incorrect:** Secondary succession occurs where soil and some organisms already exist (e.g., after forest fires) — hence it is **faster** than primary succession.

Trick: UPSC may frame the last statement in a reversed way to check conceptual clarity.

Q3. With reference to India's external sector, consider the following statements:

1. A persistent Current Account Deficit (CAD) necessarily leads to depreciation of the domestic currency in the short term.
2. An increase in net invisible receipts can help reduce the CAD.
3. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows are recorded under the capital account of the Balance of Payments (BOP).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect:** CAD may **not necessarily** cause immediate currency depreciation; capital inflows (FDI, FPI) can offset the CAD, stabilizing the currency.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** “Net invisible receipts” (services exports, remittances, software earnings) add to foreign exchange inflows, reducing CAD.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** FDI is recorded in the **capital account** as a long-term investment inflow.

UPSC Twist: The word “**necessarily**” in statement 1 makes it wrong — economy is dynamic and multi-variable.

Q4. Consider the following statements about the “Ordinance-making power of the President of India”:

1. The President can promulgate an Ordinance only when both Houses of Parliament are not in session.
2. An Ordinance has the same force and effect as an Act of Parliament but must be approved by both Houses within six weeks from the reassembly of Parliament.
3. The satisfaction of the President regarding the necessity of promulgating an Ordinance is subject to judicial review.
4. An Ordinance cannot be re-promulgated after its expiration under any circumstances.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) One only
- (b) Two only
- (c) Three only
- (d) All four



Answer: (c) Three only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** Article 123 permits ordinance-making only when **both Houses are not in session**.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** Ordinances have the same force as laws; they **must** be approved by both Houses within six weeks of reassembly.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** *D.C. Wadhwa vs. State of Bihar* — The Supreme Court held that President's satisfaction can be **examined by courts**.
- **Statement 4 – Incorrect:** While frequent re-promulgation is unconstitutional (SC verdict in *Krishna Kumar Singh v. State of Bihar*), certain exceptional circumstances **may** allow re-promulgation before Parliament meets.

Trick: Statement 4 appears as an absolute prohibition — absolutes in polity often fail due to constitutional exceptions.

Q5. Assertion–Reason Type Question

Assertion (A): The western coast of India experiences higher rainfall than the eastern coast during the Southwest Monsoon.

Reason (R): The Western Ghats intercept the Arabian Sea branch of the monsoon winds, causing orographic rainfall.

- (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:

- The **Western Coast** (Konkan, Malabar) gets heavy rainfall (200–400 cm) during the Southwest Monsoon due to **orographic uplift** of moisture-laden Arabian Sea branch by the **Western Ghats**.
- The **Eastern Coast** is in the rainshadow during this season, receiving less rainfall in SW Monsoon and more in the Northeast Monsoon.

UPSC Twist: The question tests if you know not just *what* happens but also *why*.



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. Consider the following statements:

1. The primary objective of the Kakori train robbery (9 August 1925) was to seize government treasury funds to purchase arms and finance revolutionary activity.
2. Chandrashekhara Azad was captured in the immediate aftermath of the Kakori action and was one of those hanged following the Kakori trial.

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:** Correct — the action was carried out to fund revolutionary activities and procure arms.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect — Azad escaped arrest after Kakori and continued underground work until his death in 1931; those hanged included Bismil, Ashfaqullah Khan, Rajendra Nath Lahiri, and Roshan Singh.

Q2. Which of the following is NOT a stated objective of India's first State-of-the-Art Animal Stem Cell Biobank and Laboratory inaugurated at NIAB (Hyderabad)?

- (a) Preserve and characterise indigenous animal stem cell lines for livestock improvement.
- (b) Support regenerative veterinary medicine, research and breed-improvement programmes.
- (c) Replace all conventional veterinary vaccines with stem-cell derived immunogens within five years of inauguration.
- (d) Reduce dependence on imported animal-biotech resources and build domestic capacity.

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Options (a), (b), and (d) are part of the stated objectives. Option (c) is over-ambitious and not a declared goal — no such absolute timeline has been announced.

Q3. With reference to the PM E-DRIVE scheme, consider the following statements:

1. PM E-DRIVE provides upfront demand incentives to buyers and has earmarked funds (including for e-ambulances and e-trucks) to promote electric vehicle uptake.
2. The government's extension of PM E-DRIVE to March 2028 continues identical subsidy support for electric two-wheelers and three-wheelers as originally notified.
3. The PM E-DRIVE portal lists a demand-incentive of ₹2,500 per kWh applicable to certain e-2W and e-3W vehicles registered on/after 1 April 2025.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one



- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct — includes multiple vehicle segments.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect — subsidies are not identical; later changes reduced and altered eligibility.
- **Statement 3:** Correct — the portal specifies this incentive rate for select vehicles from April 2025.

Q4. Consider the following statements about ASMITA (Achieving Sports Milestone by Inspiring Women) under Khelo India:

1. ASMITA organises women-only leagues across multiple age groups as a national talent-identification and competition pathway integrated with Khelo India's structures.
2. ASMITA selects national-level participants exclusively through a single central trial and excludes state and zonal league outcomes from selection.
3. ASMITA explicitly targets scaling women's participation (including special emphasis on North-East states) and has seen large expansion in leagues and participation in recent seasons.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct — it works within the Khelo India framework to build a competition pathway.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect — it uses decentralised leagues feeding into nationals.
- **Statement 3:** Correct — it focuses on scaling participation with emphasis on the North-East.

Q5. Consider the following statements about the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP):

1. KLIP's design aimed to utilise roughly 240 TMC of water, of which around 169 TMC was earmarked for irrigation.
2. The project was executed only after obtaining every statutory environmental clearance and was cleared as fully compliant by the National Green Tribunal (NGT).
3. The pumps and lift system for KLIP were planned to require an installed power order of magnitude near 5,900 MW.
4. The Justice P. C. Ghose Commission report described only minor procedural lapses and recommended no administrative or legal action against individuals involved in the project.



How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) One only
- (b) Two only
- (c) Three only
- (d) All four

Answer: (b) Two only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct — water allocation figures match the design documents.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect — environmental clearance and compliance were disputed in courts.
- **Statement 3:** Correct — the project's massive lift required thousands of MW capacity.
- **Statement 4:** Incorrect — the Commission flagged serious procedural and financial issues.

Q6. A location lies at approximately **65°N, 147°W**. Which of the following is it most likely to be?

- (a) Alaska
- (b) Sweden
- (c) New Zealand
- (d) China

Answer: (b) Alaska

Explanation:

- **Alaska (Fairbanks):** $\approx 64.84^{\circ}\text{N}, 147.72^{\circ}\text{W}$ — almost exactly matches the coordinates.

**DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE****GS Paper 1**

Q1. *Critically examine the significance of the Kakori Conspiracy Case (1925) in shaping the trajectory of India's freedom movement. How did it impact revolutionary activities in the subsequent decade?*

Answer:

The Kakori Conspiracy Case of 1925 was a landmark revolutionary action during the Indian freedom struggle, orchestrated by members of the Hindustan Republican Association (HRA), including Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaqullah Khan, Rajendra Lahiri, and others. Its primary objective was to fund revolutionary activities by looting a government train carrying British treasury money.

Significance in the Freedom Movement:

- **Assertion of Revolutionary Spirit:** The incident signalled a shift from moderate and Gandhian methods to more militant approaches in response to the suspension of the Non-Cooperation Movement (1922) after the Chauri Chaura incident.
- **Symbol of Courage:** The disciplined execution of the plan and the revolutionary's refusal to seek mercy made them icons of fearless patriotism.
- **Public Awareness:** Widespread media coverage brought revolutionary ideology to the forefront of public discourse, inspiring youth across India.

Impact on Subsequent Revolutionary Activities:

- **Organisational Evolution:** After the execution and imprisonment of key leaders, the HRA was reorganised into the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA) in 1928, with an explicit socialist agenda.
- **Ideological Shift:** Revolutionaries like Bhagat Singh moved from purely armed struggle towards a combination of propaganda, political education, and targeted revolutionary acts.
- **Inspiration for Youth Movements:** Students in Punjab, Bengal, and Uttar Pradesh were drawn into revolutionary networks, strengthening underground cells.

Limitations:

- The British crackdown after Kakori was severe, leading to the decimation of HRA's original leadership.
- It failed to garner mass participation, unlike Gandhian mass movements.

Conclusion:

While the Kakori Conspiracy did not directly weaken British rule, it played a critical role in



sustaining the revolutionary flame during a politically dormant phase. Its legacy lies in its ability to inspire future generations to challenge colonialism through both armed and ideological struggle.

UPSC Relevance:

This question tests understanding of **freedom movement phases**, revolutionary vs. Gandhian strategies, and the socio-political climate of the 1920s.

GS Paper 2

Q2. *Evaluate the evolving nature of India–Maldives relations in the context of recent political developments in the Maldives. What strategies should India adopt to safeguard its strategic and security interests in the Indian Ocean Region?*

Answer:

India–Maldives relations have historically been marked by geographical proximity, cultural affinity, and security cooperation. However, recent political changes in the Maldives, including the rise of leaders advocating “India Out” campaigns, have tested bilateral ties.

Strategic Importance of Maldives:

- **Geopolitical Location:** Situated at a critical point in the Indian Ocean’s Sea Lanes of Communication (SLOCs).
- **Security Cooperation:** India has been a first responder for disaster relief and maritime security (e.g., 1988 Operation Cactus).
- **Economic and Development Partnership:** India has invested in infrastructure, tourism, and health initiatives.

Recent Challenges:

- **China’s Increasing Footprint:** Infrastructure projects under the Belt and Road Initiative have raised concerns about debt dependency and strategic encirclement of India.
- **Political Polarisation:** Shifts in Maldivian domestic politics have alternated between pro-India and pro-China stances.
- **Maritime Disputes:** Potential friction over fishing rights and EEZ cooperation.

India’s Strategy Forward:

1. **Multi-Level Engagement:** Maintain ties with both government and opposition to insulate relations from domestic political changes.
2. **Economic Diplomacy:** Prioritise soft loans, grants, and high-impact community projects to build goodwill.



3. **Security Collaboration:** Strengthen joint patrols, radar network integration, and anti-piracy operations.
4. **Cultural Diplomacy:** Promote people-to-people exchanges, scholarships, and tourism cooperation.
5. **Balanced China Engagement:** Avoid zero-sum narratives; instead, offer viable, sustainable alternatives to Chinese projects.

Conclusion:

India–Maldives relations are a litmus test for India’s **Neighbourhood First** and **SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region)** policies. Sustained engagement, patient diplomacy, and strategic economic partnerships are crucial for maintaining India’s influence in the Indian Ocean Region.

UPSC Relevance:

This topic integrates **foreign policy analysis, maritime security, and regional diplomacy**, essential for GS-2 answers.

GS Paper 3

Q3. *The Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP) has been hailed as an engineering marvel but criticised for environmental and financial concerns. Critically assess the project’s impact on Telangana’s water security and fiscal health.*

Answer:

The **Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP)**, inaugurated in 2019, is among the world’s largest multi-stage lift irrigation projects, designed to harness water from the Godavari River to irrigate over 18 lakh acres in Telangana.

Engineering Significance:

- **Multi-stage Lifting:** Lifts water up to 618 meters through a series of pump houses.
- **Scale & Capacity:** Can pump 2 TMC of water per day, with massive reservoirs like Kondapochamma and Mallanna Sagar.

Positive Impacts:

- **Irrigation Expansion:** Enhances agricultural productivity in drought-prone districts like Karimnagar, Warangal, and Nalgonda.
- **Drinking Water Supply:** Secures water for Hyderabad and surrounding industrial areas.
- **Employment Generation:** Created construction and maintenance jobs.

Concerns & Criticisms:



- **Environmental Impact:** Submergence of forests and displacement of local communities; risk to aquatic ecosystems.
- **High Power Costs:** Continuous pumping consumes vast electricity, burdening state finances.
- **Debt Burden:** Project cost escalated from ₹38,500 crore to over ₹1 lakh crore, increasing fiscal stress.
- **Underutilisation:** Dependent on Godavari's water availability; in drought years, capacity is underused.

Way Forward:

- **Efficiency Measures:** Invest in solar-powered pumps to reduce operational costs.
- **Environmental Safeguards:** Implement compensatory afforestation and community rehabilitation.
- **Integrated Water Management:** Promote micro-irrigation alongside large-scale infrastructure to optimise water use.

Conclusion:

KLIP represents both the promise and pitfalls of mega-infrastructure projects. While it addresses water scarcity in Telangana, its long-term success will depend on **financial sustainability, environmental responsibility, and adaptive management**.

UPSC Relevance:

The project links **water management, federal fiscal policy, and environmental sustainability**, making it a cross-cutting GS-3 topic.

GS Paper 4

Q4. *Discuss the ethical dilemmas faced by public servants when implementing projects with high socio-economic benefits but significant environmental costs. Suggest a framework for decision-making that balances development and sustainability.*

Answer:

Public servants often face **ethical dilemmas** when projects promise economic growth and public welfare but impose long-term environmental costs. Such scenarios challenge the principles of **sustainable development, intergenerational equity, and duty to public interest**.

Nature of the Dilemma:

- **Short-term Benefit vs. Long-term Harm:** Example—large dams provide irrigation but displace communities and disrupt ecosystems.



- **Economic Imperatives vs. Ethical Responsibility:** Political pressure to deliver quick results may overshadow environmental concerns.
- **Stakeholder Conflict:** Farmers, industrialists, and environmental activists may have opposing priorities.

Ethical Principles Involved:

1. **Utilitarianism:** Maximising benefits for the greatest number.
2. **Justice & Fairness:** Ensuring affected communities are compensated and rehabilitated.
3. **Stewardship:** Protecting natural resources for future generations.
4. **Transparency:** Open communication about risks and trade-offs.

Proposed Decision-Making Framework:

1. **Stakeholder Consultation:** Involve all affected parties early in planning.
2. **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA):** Ensure scientific and independent evaluation.
3. **Cost–Benefit Analysis with Ethics Filter:** Include social and environmental values, not just monetary metrics.
4. **Mitigation Measures:** Incorporate eco-friendly technologies and rehabilitation plans.
5. **Independent Oversight:** Ensure accountability through environmental tribunals or parliamentary committees.

Conclusion:

Public servants must act as **custodians of both development and nature**. Ethical decision-making requires balancing immediate needs with the **moral duty of ecological preservation**, ensuring policies align with both constitutional mandates and global sustainability goals.

UPSC Relevance:

Tests the ability to integrate **ethical theory with real-world policy challenges**.

Current Affairs

Q5. *India's first State-of-the-Art Animal Stem Cell BioBank and Laboratory has been established at NIAB, Hyderabad. Examine its potential in advancing veterinary science, animal welfare, and biotechnology in India.*

Answer:

The **National Institute of Animal Biotechnology (NIAB), Hyderabad** recently launched



India's first advanced **Animal Stem Cell BioBank and Laboratory**, marking a milestone in veterinary science and biotechnology.

Key Features:

- **Stem Cell Preservation:** Stores pluripotent and multipotent stem cells from various animal species.
- **Research Infrastructure:** Enables studies on regenerative medicine, genetic disorders, and livestock productivity.
- **Biosafety Standards:** Equipped with advanced containment and cryopreservation facilities.

Potential Benefits:

1. Veterinary Healthcare:

- Development of cell-based therapies for injuries, organ damage, and degenerative diseases in animals.
- Faster recovery and reduced mortality rates in livestock.

2. Livestock Productivity:

- Genetic improvements through stem cell applications in breeding programs.
- Disease resistance research to strengthen food security.

3. Biodiversity Conservation:

- Preservation of genetic material from endangered species for potential cloning or regeneration.

4. Biotechnology Industry:

- Boosts India's capability in producing animal-derived bio-products, vaccines, and pharmaceuticals.

Challenges & Considerations:

- **Ethical Concerns:** Need for clear regulations on animal experimentation.
- **Cost & Accessibility:** High operational costs may limit large-scale application in rural areas.
- **Skill Development:** Requires trained personnel in advanced cell biology and biotechnology.

Way Forward:

- Strengthen public-private partnerships for funding and technology transfer.



- Establish clear guidelines under the **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)** and **CPCSEA** for ethical compliance.
- Integrate with **National Livestock Mission** for field-level applications.

Conclusion:

The establishment of the Animal Stem Cell BioBank positions India at the forefront of **veterinary regenerative medicine and conservation biotechnology**. If coupled with strong ethical oversight and farmer outreach, it can revolutionise animal healthcare and rural livelihoods.

UPSC Relevance:

Links **current affairs, science policy, biotechnology, and rural development**, making it a high-potential Prelims + Mains topic.