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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 13/08/2025 (WEDNESDAY)

- **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 regarding the economic impact of British rule in India:

1. The commercialization of agriculture primarily benefitted Indian peasants by providing stable cash incomes.
2. The Permanent Settlement of Bengal led to the emergence of absentee landlordism, which weakened the traditional village community system.

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: (b) 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Commercialization of agriculture under British rule was largely market-driven and export-oriented. Peasants faced fluctuating prices, high taxation, and indebtedness. Instead of benefitting peasants, it made them more vulnerable to famines and exploitation by moneylenders.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The **Permanent Settlement (1793)** fixed land revenue permanently and recognized zamindars as landowners. Many zamindars became absentee landlords who exploited tenants, eroding the traditional village self-sufficiency system and increasing rural distress.

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding Ecological Succession:

1. Primary succession occurs in areas that previously had no living organisms, whereas secondary succession occurs in areas that have lost their community due to disturbances.
2. Climax communities in primary and secondary succession are always identical irrespective of the biotic and abiotic conditions.
3. Lichens are often the pioneer species in primary succession on bare rocks.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (c) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Primary succession starts on a previously lifeless surface (bare rocks, lava), while secondary succession occurs where life existed earlier but was disturbed (fires, floods, agriculture).



- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Climax communities vary depending on environmental factors like climate and soil; they are not “always identical.”
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Lichens are typical pioneer species in primary succession, as they can break down rocks to form soil.

Q3. Consider the following statements about India’s fiscal policy:

1. Revenue deficit occurs when government’s total expenditure exceeds its total receipts excluding borrowings.
2. Primary deficit is fiscal deficit minus interest payments.
3. A reduction in primary deficit automatically implies a reduction in fiscal deficit.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Revenue deficit = Total revenue expenditure – Total revenue receipts.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Primary deficit = Fiscal deficit – Interest payments.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** A fall in primary deficit does not automatically ensure a fall in fiscal deficit because fiscal deficit also depends on interest obligations which might rise independently.

Q4. Consider the following statements about the Election Commission of India (ECI):

1. The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) has the same status and salary as a Supreme Court judge.
2. The CEC can be removed only through a process similar to that of removing a Supreme Court judge, while Election Commissioners can be removed by the CEC’s recommendation to the President.
3. The Constitution prescribes the exact number of Election Commissioners in the Election Commission.
4. The ECI is responsible for conducting elections to both Parliament and State Legislatures but not for elections to the offices of the President and Vice-President.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** CEC enjoys the same status, salary, and perks as a Supreme Court judge.



- **Statement 2 is correct:** CEC removal requires impeachment-like procedure; Election Commissioners can be removed by the President on CEC's recommendation.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Constitution does not fix the number; it only provides for a multi-member commission (Article 324). The number is decided by Parliament/President.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** ECI conducts elections to **Parliament, State Legislatures, President, and Vice-President** (Articles 324–329).

Q5. Assertion-Reason type

Assertion (A): Western coastal plains of India have very few large delta formations.

Reason (R): The short and swift west-flowing rivers of the Western Ghats do not carry significant alluvial load.

Which of the following is correct?

- (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:

- Western coastal plains are narrow with steep gradients. The rivers (Mandovi, Zuari, Periyar, etc.) are swift, short, and drain into the sea quickly without depositing heavy sediments, preventing major delta formation.
- The reasoning given correctly explains why deltas are almost absent along India's west coast, unlike the extensive deltas on the east coast formed by long, sluggish rivers carrying large sediment loads (e.g., Ganga-Brahmaputra, Godavari, Krishna).



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. Consider the following statements:

1. Under Section 152 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), mere criticism of government policy by peaceful means cannot attract penal consequences unless it excites secession, armed rebellion or otherwise endangers India's sovereignty, unity and integrity.
2. As of **August 13, 2025**, the Supreme Court has declared Section 152 unconstitutional and struck it down entirely.

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:

- **S1 is correct.** Section 152 targets acts that excite or attempt secession, armed rebellion or threaten sovereignty/unity; peaceful criticism alone does not meet that threshold. Courts have observed that mere journalistic or political criticism cannot automatically attract this provision.
- **S2 is incorrect.** The Supreme Court has not struck down Section 152. Although petitions challenge it for potential misuse, it remains in force.

Q2. AB-PMJAY aims to cover roughly the bottom what percentage of India's population?

- (a) 10% (b) 25% (c) 40% (d) 60%

Answer: (c) 40%

Explanation: PM-JAY targets approximately **12 crore families** (~55 crore people), representing the **bottom 40%** of the population, offering **₹5 lakh per family per year** for secondary and tertiary hospitalization.

Q3. Consider the following statements:

1. Articles **5–11** of the Constitution dealt with citizenship **at the commencement** of the Constitution, while future acquisition/loss of citizenship is primarily governed by the **Citizenship Act, 1955**.
2. The **Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019** and the **Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2024** operationalised a fast-track pathway to Indian citizenship for specified minorities from **Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan**, explicitly introducing **religion** as a statutory classification.
3. Article **11** authorises Parliament to deprive citizenship **only** for acts of disloyalty; any other ground is unconstitutional.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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



Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **S1 is correct.** Articles 5–11 determine citizenship status at the Constitution’s commencement. Article 11 empowers Parliament to regulate citizenship by law.
- **S2 is correct.** The 2019 amendment identified six non-Muslim communities from the three countries, and Rules notified in 2024 enabled its implementation.
- **S3 is incorrect.** Parliament’s power under Article 11 is not restricted to “acts of disloyalty.” The Citizenship Act provides several grounds for deprivation, such as fraud or unlawful trade.

Q4. Consider the following statements:

1. To offer consumer satellite broadband in India, an operator requires a **GMPCS licence** from DoT and **space authorisation** from IN-SPACe.
2. Recent directives require satellite internet providers to **store Indian user traffic/data in India** and ensure **domestic routing**.
3. **LEO** constellations have **higher** latency than **GEO** systems because they are closer to Earth.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **S1 is correct.** Service providers need both a GMPCS licence and space-segment approval.
- **S2 is correct.** Authorities have mandated data localisation and routing through India for satellite broadband.
- **S3 is incorrect.** Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites have **lower latency** than Geostationary Orbit (GEO) satellites due to their closer proximity to Earth.

Q5. Consider the following statements:

1. SHRESTH is a Union Health Ministry initiative to **benchmark and strengthen State drug regulatory systems** through a transparent, data-driven framework.
2. It functions as a **virtual gap-assessment tool** to help states progress towards **maturity certification** in areas like HR, infrastructure, and digitisation.
3. SHRESTH only ranks states and explicitly **excludes** capacity-building or cross-learning facilitation.
4. A stated objective is to ensure **drug safety for every Indian regardless of geography**.

Which of the statements given above 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:

- **S1 and S2 are correct.** SHRESTH benchmarks state drug regulatory authorities and acts as a diagnostic framework linked to maturity certification.
- **S3 is incorrect.** The initiative facilitates **capacity-building and cross-learning**, not just ranking.
- **S4 is correct.** Ensuring equitable drug safety nationwide is one of its explicit goals.

Q6. Arrange the following Andean peaks from north to south:

1. Huascarán
2. Aconcagua
3. Chimborazo
4. Ojos del Salado

Options:

(a) 3-1-4-2

(b) 1-3-2-4

(c) 3-4-1-2

(d) 4-3-1-2

Answer: (a) 3-1-4-2

Explanation: From north → south:

- **Chimborazo (Ecuador)** — near the equator
- **Huascarán (Peru)**
- **Ojos del Salado (Chile–Argentina)**
- **Aconcagua (Argentina)** — the southernmost and highest (6961 m) peak in the Andes.



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS Paper 1:

Q1. “Regional art traditions in India represent a continuous dialogue between classical and folk forms.” Discuss with suitable examples.

Sample Answer:

- **Introduction:**

- Indian art forms are not isolated; classical and folk traditions have historically influenced each other. This interplay reflects India’s cultural pluralism.

- **Interaction between Classical and Folk Traditions:**

1. **Dance:**

- *Bharatanatyam* incorporates *Therukoothu* folk expressions in Tamil Nadu.
- *Kathak* evolved with regional folk storytelling (*Kathakar* traditions) alongside Mughal patronage.

2. **Music:**

- Hindustani classical music absorbed regional folk ragas (*Maand* from Rajasthan).
- Carnatic compositions often draw from temple folk hymns (*Nadaswaram* traditions).

3. **Painting:**

- *Pattachitra* of Odisha and *Madhubani* of Bihar share motifs with temple murals and miniature paintings.

4. **Craft & Sculpture:**

- Folk terracotta figurines influenced temple iconography (*Bankura* horses).

5. **Theatre:**

- Classical Sanskrit drama (*Nāṭyaśāstra*) principles shaped folk theatre like *Yakshagana* and *Koodiyattam*.

- **Significance of the Dialogue:**

- Preserves **cultural continuity** and **regional identity**.
- Encourages **innovation** while maintaining classical discipline.



- Acts as a bridge between **elite and popular art**.
- **Conclusion:**
 - The synthesis of classical rigor and folk spontaneity showcases India's cultural resilience. Protection of both forms is essential under schemes like *Guru-Shishya Parampara* and *Zonal Cultural Centres*.

GS Paper 2:

Q2. “The rising frequency of judicial interventions in governance reflects both institutional strength and systemic gaps.” Critically analyse.

Sample Answer (≈340 words):

- **Introduction:**
 - Judicial activism in India has grown since the 1980s (Public Interest Litigations, environmental cases, governance oversight).
- **Reasons for Rising Judicial Interventions:**
 1. **Legislative/Executive inaction:** Delay in filling constitutional posts, failure to implement laws.
 2. **Public pressure:** Courts act as a forum for grievances in absence of effective remedies.
 3. **Expanding rights jurisprudence:** *Kesavananda Bharati*, *Vishaka Guidelines*, *Right to Privacy (Puttaswamy)*.
 4. **Weak regulatory institutions:** Courts step in to monitor CBI, EC, or environmental regulators.
- **Positive Aspects:**
 - Strengthens **rule of law** and **citizen rights**.
 - Ensures **accountability** in governance (e.g., monitoring pollution control).
 - Acts as a **check and balance** in separation of powers.
- **Concerns:**
 - **Judicial overreach** may undermine policy autonomy (*NJAC case*).
 - Lack of expertise in administrative matters.
 - Blurs constitutional separation of powers.



- **Way Forward:**

- Strengthen **legislative oversight** and **regulatory bodies**.
- Promote **judicial restraint** in policy spheres.
- Enhance **executive transparency** to reduce litigation.

- **Conclusion:**

- Judicial intervention is both a **safety valve** and a **warning signal** for governance. A balanced institutional relationship is crucial for constitutional harmony.

GS Paper 3:

Q3. “India’s pursuit of green hydrogen is critical for its energy transition, but structural challenges remain.” Discuss.

Sample Answer (~320 words):

- **Introduction:**

- Green hydrogen, produced using renewable energy, is seen as a game-changer for India’s net-zero target (2070) and reducing oil imports.

- **Significance for India:**

- **Energy security:** Diversifies fuel sources.
- **Industrial decarbonization:** Steel, cement, fertilizers.
- **Export potential:** India could emerge as a hydrogen hub.
- **National Hydrogen Mission (2021):** Target of 5 MMT green hydrogen by 2030.

- **Structural Challenges:**

1. **High production cost:** \$4-6/kg vs \$1-2/kg for grey hydrogen.
2. **Infrastructure gaps:** Storage, pipelines, electrolyzer manufacturing.
3. **Water requirement:** Electrolysis consumes significant fresh water.
4. **Intermittency of renewables:** Impacts consistent hydrogen generation.
5. **Lack of policy clarity:** On pricing, certification, and subsidies.

- **Steps Taken:**

- **PLI for electrolyzers, R&D funding.**



- **Green Hydrogen Hubs:** Gujarat, Odisha, Tamil Nadu.
- International collaborations (*India-EU Hydrogen Partnership*).
- **Way Forward:**
 - Scale up **domestic electrolyzer manufacturing**.
 - Create **Green Hydrogen Purchase Obligations**.
 - Develop **robust certification standards**.
 - Promote **desalination + electrolysis** in coastal states.
- **Conclusion:**
 - Green hydrogen can power India's energy sovereignty, but only with a coordinated push in technology, finance, and policy.

GS Paper 4:

Q4. *“Ethical governance is not merely about compliance but about cultivating an internal moral compass in public officials.” Discuss with examples.*

Sample Answer (≈330 words):

- **Introduction:**
 - Ethical governance transcends rule-following; it demands intrinsic values like honesty, empathy, and fairness.
- **Compliance vs Moral Compass:**
 - **Compliance-oriented governance:** Focus on procedures, laws, audits (*Lokpal Act, RTI*).
 - **Moral compass-driven governance:** Officials act rightly even in absence of external monitoring (e.g., *Ashok Khemka resisting corruption*).
- **Why Moral Compass Matters:**
 1. **Reduces corruption:** Self-restraint over fear of punishment.
 2. **Builds trust:** Citizens believe in fair decision-making.
 3. **Ensures long-term sustainability:** Rules can't cover every situation.
 4. **Promotes proactive service delivery:** Going beyond minimum duty (e.g., IAS officer transforming a district school ecosystem voluntarily).
- **Strengthening Moral Compass:**
 - **Ethics training & mentoring.**



- **Role models:** Inspired leadership in civil services.
- **Public recognition:** Awards for integrity, transparency.
- **Institutional culture:** Encourage whistleblowing and protect conscientious officers.
- **Examples:**
 - *E. Sreedharan's integrity in Delhi Metro project.*
 - *T.N. Seshan's electoral reforms beyond statutory mandate.*
- **Conclusion:**
 - While compliance mechanisms are necessary, governance anchored in personal ethics ensures accountability even when rules fall silent.

Current Affairs:

Q5. “India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) is central to India’s vision of technological sovereignty, but its success hinges on ecosystem readiness.” Examine.

Sample Answer:

- **Introduction:**
 - India Semiconductor Mission (2021) aims to develop a domestic chip manufacturing ecosystem with a ₹76,000-crore incentive package.
- **Importance of ISM:**
 - **Strategic autonomy:** Reduces reliance on Taiwan, South Korea, China.
 - **Economic impact:** Semiconductor market expected to reach \$80-90 bn by 2030.
 - **National security:** Chips power defence, telecom, AI.
 - **Employment:** High-skill job creation.
- **Challenges:**
 1. **Capital intensity:** Fab units need \$8-10 bn investment each.
 2. **Technology gap:** India lacks advanced node expertise ($\leq 10\text{nm}$).
 3. **Supply chain readiness:** Absence of ancillary industries (chemicals, gases, wafers).
 4. **Skilled workforce deficit:** Need for 85,000+ semiconductor engineers.
 5. **Global competition:** US, EU, Japan also offering heavy subsidies.



- **Progress so far:**
 - Partnerships with **Micron, Vedanta-Foxconn, ISMC.**
 - Semiconductor research initiatives at **IITs, IISc.**
 - Design Linked Incentive (DLI) scheme to promote chip design start-ups.
 - **Way Forward:**
 - Build **special economic zones with plug-and-play infra.**
 - Focus on **compound semiconductors, packaging, testing** initially.
 - Strengthen **human resource development** (VLSI training).
 - Forge **strategic alliances** with Taiwan, Japan, US for tech transfer.
 - **Conclusion:**
 - ISM can make India a global semiconductor hub if backed by patient capital, skill creation, and coherent industrial policy.
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