



“ We help you reach for the star ”

VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 18/08/2025 (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 regarding Indian Classical Dance forms:

1. The "Sattriya" dance form of Assam originally evolved as a ritualistic performance within Vaishnavite monasteries established by Sankaradeva.
2. In the Kathakali tradition of Kerala, women performers historically held a central role, unlike in Bharatanatyam where men predominated in the early phase.

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)

Explanation:

- *Statement 1 is correct:* Sattriya, recognized as a classical dance in 2000, originated as a devotional performance art in Vaishnav monasteries (Sattras) of Assam under Sankaradeva's Neo-Vaishnavism.
- *Statement 2 is incorrect:* Kathakali was traditionally performed only by men (even female roles were enacted by men). In contrast, Bharatanatyam was performed by women Devadasis historically.

Q2. Consider the following statements:

1. Mangroves are exclusive to tropical regions and cannot survive in subtropical climates.
2. Rhizophora species in mangroves exhibit *stilt roots* that provide stability in tidal conditions.
3. Sundarbans mangroves act as a critical carbon sink and have been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

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: (b)

Explanation:

- *Statement 1 is incorrect:* Mangroves are found in tropical and subtropical regions (e.g., Florida, Japan).
- *Statement 2 is correct:* Rhizophora develops prop/stilt roots that anchor them in soft sediments and tidal zones.
- *Statement 3 is correct:* Sundarbans are UNESCO World Heritage Site (1987), act as important carbon sink and biodiversity hotspot.



Q3. Consider the following statements regarding 'Current Account Deficit (CAD)' in India:

1. A surge in gold imports directly widens the current account deficit.
2. A higher Current Account Deficit necessarily leads to a depreciation of the domestic currency.
3. In India, remittances from abroad contribute to reducing the Current Account Deficit.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- *Statement 1 is correct:* Gold imports increase merchandise imports, hence widening CAD.
- *Statement 2 is incorrect:* CAD may put pressure on currency, but depreciation is not automatic – depends on forex reserves, capital inflows, and RBI intervention.
- *Statement 3 is correct:* Remittances (invisibles) reduce CAD, since they bring foreign exchange into the country.

Q4. With reference to the powers of the Parliament under the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. Parliament can legislate on a matter in the State List if Rajya Sabha passes a resolution under Article 249.
2. During a national emergency, Parliament automatically gets the power to legislate on subjects in the State List.
3. If two or more states request, Parliament can legislate on a State subject under Article 252, but such a law applies only to consenting states unless others adopt it later.
4. Parliament can make laws for Union Territories on subjects from State List under Article 246.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- *Statement 1:* Correct – Rajya Sabha can empower Parliament to legislate on State List in national interest (Art. 249).
- *Statement 2:* Correct – During National Emergency (Art. 352), Parliament assumes power over State List.



- *Statement 3:* Correct – Article 252 allows Parliament to legislate for consenting states only. Other states can adopt later.
- *Statement 4:* Correct – For Union Territories, Parliament has power to legislate on all matters (including State List).

Q5. Assertion – Reason Type

Assertion (A): Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) is considered unbreakable compared to classical cryptographic methods.

Reason (R): In QKD, any attempt to measure or intercept the quantum state of photons disturbs the system, revealing the presence of eavesdroppers.

- (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)

Explanation:

- *Assertion (A):* True – QKD is theoretically unbreakable because it relies on laws of quantum mechanics, not computational assumptions.
- *Reason (R):* True – Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle ensures that measuring photon states alters them, making interception detectable.
- Hence, both A and R are true and R explains A.



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. Consider the following statements:

1. Mission 'Sudarshan Chakra', announced on 15 August 2025, envisages an indigenous, multi-layered national security shield under a broader 'Rashtriya Suraksha Kavach' to protect both strategic and civilian assets.
2. It is a notified tri-service combat operation launched in May 2025 to conduct punitive cross-border strikes.

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)

Explanation:

Mission 'Sudarshan Chakra' is designed as a research-led, indigenous defensive shield for national security, not as a combat operation. The May 2025 combat operations were related to another mission, not Sudarshan Chakra.

Q2. The 2025-reported "new type" of supernova was distinctive primarily because:

- (a) it showed an antimatter-dominated ejecta with zero neutrino flux.
- (b) a compact companion (likely a black hole) triggered the explosion by tidally shredding the star, producing unusual outflows and radio signatures.
- (c) it proved all Type Ia events are core-collapse supernovae.
- (d) it occurred in a globular cluster at redshift > 5 .

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The discovery showed a supernova caused by a companion black hole tidally disrupting the star. This produced unusual energy patterns and outflows, distinct from normal Type Ia or core-collapse models.

Q3. Consider the following statements:

1. In 1906–07, Sri Aurobindo edited the nationalist daily *Bande Mataram* from Calcutta and argued for passive resistance including boycotts.
2. He founded the Sri Aurobindo Ashram immediately upon reaching Pondicherry in 1910.
3. *The Life Divine* first appeared as serial essays in *Arya* and articulates his Integral Yoga and evolutionary philosophy.

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: (c)

Explanation:

Sri Aurobindo edited *Bande Mataram* and advocated boycotts as part of passive resistance. The Ashram was not created immediately in 1910 but gradually formed and was recognized in 1926. *The Life Divine* was serialized in *Arya* and explains his Integral Yoga philosophy.

Q4. Consider the following statements with reference to the “next-generation GST reforms” announced in August 2025:

1. The reform blueprint aims to compress slabs largely to two principal rates with limited special rates, alongside compliance simplification.
2. The government has already brought petrol and diesel fully under GST, effective October 2025.
3. Analysts attribute a short-term demand boost and positive equity-market sentiment to the expected rate rationalisation and tax relief.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The reforms include moving to two main slabs with limited exceptions and compliance easing. Petrol and diesel are still outside GST and not brought under from October 2025. Market response has been optimistic due to expectations of rate rationalisation and demand stimulus.

Q5. Consider the following statements:

1. The Sarvottam Yudh Seva Medal (SYSM) is India’s highest wartime distinguished service decoration and was instituted in 1980.
2. It is regarded as the wartime equivalent of the Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM).
3. It can be awarded to civilians for distinguished service during war/hostilities.
4. In 2025, SYSMs were conferred for leadership during Operation Sindoor, marking a rare contemporary conferment of this medal.

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)



Explanation:

The SYSM, instituted in 1980, is the highest wartime distinguished service medal and is the wartime counterpart of the PVSM. It is awarded only to armed forces personnel, not civilians. In 2025, it was conferred for leadership during Operation Sindoor.

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding the Arctic region:

1. Among the Nordic countries, Norway and Denmark (via Greenland) have coastlines on the Arctic Ocean, whereas Sweden and Finland do not.
2. Iceland, because it straddles the Arctic Circle, is an Arctic littoral state with direct coastline on the Arctic Ocean.
3. The Northwest Passage links Baffin Bay to the Beaufort Sea through Canada's Arctic Archipelago, while the Northern Sea Route tracks Russia's Arctic coast between the Kara Sea and the Bering region.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Norway and Denmark (via Greenland) have Arctic Ocean coasts; Sweden and Finland do not. Iceland, though near the Arctic Circle, does not have an Arctic Ocean coastline, so it is not an Arctic littoral state. The Northwest Passage connects Baffin Bay and Beaufort Sea, while the Northern Sea Route follows Russia's Arctic coast from the Kara Sea to the Bering region.



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS Paper 1:

Q1. Examine the role of militant nationalists in India's freedom struggle and explain how their methods differed from the moderates.

Answer (Sample):

Introduction:

The Indian national movement evolved in phases. While early nationalists (moderates) relied on constitutional agitation, petitions, and dialogues with the British, militant nationalists (extremists) emerged in the late 19th and early 20th century, advocating more assertive methods to achieve swaraj.

Body:

1. Methods of Moderates:

- Led by Dadabhai Naoroji, Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Pherozeshah Mehta.
- Relied on speeches, pamphlets, press, and prayer-petition-protest method.
- Focused on reforms like expansion of legislative councils, reduction in military expenditure, and promotion of Indian industries.
- Successes: created political consciousness, introduced economic critique of colonialism (e.g., drain theory).

2. Methods of Militant Nationalists:

- Leaders: Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, Lala Lajpat Rai (Lal-Bal-Pal), later Aurobindo Ghosh.
- Advocated swaraj as the ultimate goal, not incremental reforms.
- Tools: Boycott of foreign goods, swadeshi industries, national education, passive resistance, and political assertiveness.
- Examples: Partition of Bengal (1905) sparked swadeshi movement; Tilak's Ganapati and Shivaji festivals mobilized masses.

3. Key Differences:

- *Approach:* Moderates sought reforms within Empire, militants aimed at independence.
- *Methods:* Moderates used dialogue; militants used boycott, mass agitation.
- *Mass Base:* Moderates confined largely to educated elite; militants reached artisans, peasants, students.

Conclusion:

Both moderates and militants were complementary—moderates laid intellectual groundwork, while militants infused mass energy and assertiveness. Their combined legacy prepared ground for Gandhi's mass-based non-violent struggle, making independence inevitable.



GS Paper 2:

Q2. Discuss the relevance of the Sevottam Model in enhancing public service delivery in India. Highlight its challenges and prospects.

Answer (Sample):

Introduction:

Good governance depends on efficient service delivery. The **Sevottam Model**, introduced by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), is a framework to improve service quality through citizen-centric mechanisms.

Body:

1. Key Features of Sevottam Model:

- *Citizen Charter*: Defines service standards and expectations.
- *Public Grievance Redressal*: Ensures timely response and accountability.
- *Service Delivery Enablers*: Training, infrastructure, ICT, and process reforms.

2. Impact:

- Encouraged transparency and standardization.
- ICT-based portals (e.g., Passport Seva Kendra, MCA21 project) improved efficiency.
- Created accountability by measuring performance against declared standards.

3. Challenges:

- *Implementation gaps*: Many charters are generic, not enforceable.
- *Awareness deficit*: Citizens often unaware of service rights.
- *Institutional resistance*: Bureaucratic inertia, lack of monitoring.
- *Capacity issues*: Shortage of trained staff and weak grievance systems.

4. Way Forward:

- Making Citizen Charters legally binding.
- Strengthening grievance redressal via Lokpal, CPGRAMS.
- Leveraging AI, big data for real-time monitoring.
- Training civil servants in ethics and empathy.

Conclusion:

The Sevottam Model is a significant step toward citizen-centric governance. With proper implementation, digital integration, and accountability mechanisms, it can transform service delivery and bridge the trust deficit between citizens and the state.

GS Paper 3:

Q3. Examine the significance of the Blue Economy for India. How can it contribute to sustainable growth?



Answer (Sample):

Introduction:

The **Blue Economy** refers to sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and environmental health. With a 7,500 km coastline, India has immense potential to integrate oceans into its development model.

Body:

1. Components of Blue Economy:

- Fisheries & aquaculture.
- Marine biotechnology & pharmaceuticals.
- Shipping & port infrastructure.
- Offshore energy (wind, tidal, hydrocarbons).
- Tourism & cultural heritage.

2. Significance for India:

- *Economic:* Contributes ~4% to GDP; fisheries sustain 14 million livelihoods.
- *Strategic:* Enhances India's Indo-Pacific vision & SAGAR policy.
- *Energy security:* Potential for offshore wind and tidal energy.
- *Climate resilience:* Coastal ecosystem services like mangroves mitigate climate change.

3. Challenges:

- Overfishing, marine pollution, plastic waste.
- Climate change-induced sea-level rise.
- Weak regulation of marine biodiversity and coastal development.
- Limited R&D in marine sciences.

4. Policy Measures:

- Draft National Policy on Blue Economy (2021).
- Deep Ocean Mission for resource exploration.
- Sagarmala Project for port-led growth.
- International cooperation in IORA and UNCLOS framework.

Conclusion:

The Blue Economy, if pursued with sustainability, can be a growth multiplier for India by combining economic gains with ecological balance. Integrating technology, regulation, and community participation is key for realizing this potential.

GS Paper 4:

Q4. "Ethical leadership is not about popularity but about doing what is right." Examine this statement with examples from public life.



Answer (Sample):

Introduction:

Ethical leadership is defined as leadership guided by moral principles, integrity, and accountability. Unlike populism, which seeks short-term approval, ethical leadership prioritizes justice, fairness, and long-term public good.

Body:

1. Difference between Popular and Ethical Leadership:

- *Popular Leadership:* Driven by immediate public approval, often compromising on principles.
- *Ethical Leadership:* Anchored in values such as honesty, justice, transparency, and compassion.

2. Examples in Public Life:

- *Abraham Lincoln:* Persisted with anti-slavery despite strong opposition.
- *Mahatma Gandhi:* Advocated non-violence even when violent means seemed quicker.
- *S. Radhakrishnan:* Emphasized education and integrity over populist politics.
- *Modern example:* Supreme Court judgments upholding constitutional morality (e.g., decriminalization of Section 377) even when unpopular with majority opinion.

3. Importance of Ethical Leadership:

- Builds trust in institutions.
- Encourages fairness in governance.
- Provides stability in crisis by prioritizing long-term benefits.

4. Challenges:

- Electoral populism pressures leaders to compromise ethics.
- Media-driven narratives sometimes reward short-term popularity.

Conclusion:

True leadership requires the courage to do what is right, not what is popular. In a democracy, ethical leadership nurtures trust and justice, ensuring that policies serve the larger good, even if unpopular in the short term.

Current Affairs:

Q5. Critically analyze the need for reforming India's regulatory framework. Suggest measures to make regulators more transparent, accountable, and efficient.

Answer (Sample):

Introduction:

India's regulatory framework spans sectors like finance (SEBI, RBI), competition (CCI), environment



(NGT), and telecom (TRAI). While these regulators ensure fair play, protect consumers, and promote stability, they face challenges of overlapping jurisdiction, inefficiency, and lack of accountability.

Body:

1. Need for Reform:

- *Overlapping functions:* RBI-SEBI in fintech, TRAI vs. DoT in telecom policy.
- *Regulatory capture:* Risk of undue influence by powerful corporates.
- *Lack of transparency:* Ad-hoc decision-making, limited public consultation.
- *Fragmentation:* Multiple regulators without coordination leads to policy uncertainty.
- *International Competitiveness:* India's ease of doing business depends on streamlined regulation.

2. Consequences of Weak Regulation:

- Financial crises due to poor oversight (e.g., NBFC collapse).
- Stalled infrastructure projects from regulatory delays.
- Loss of investor confidence.

3. Suggested Reforms:

- Establish **Unified Regulatory Coordination Council** to resolve overlaps.
- Introduce **sunset clauses** for regulatory guidelines, ensuring periodic review.
- Strengthen **parliamentary oversight** through standing committees.
- Enhance **transparency** via mandatory public consultations before rules.
- Professionalize regulators with domain experts, AI-based monitoring.

4. Global Best Practices:

- UK's Financial Conduct Authority uses transparent consultation mechanisms.
- US Federal Reserve maintains strict disclosure requirements.

Conclusion:

Reforming India's regulatory framework is essential for promoting innovation, protecting public interest, and ensuring ease of business. Stronger accountability, transparency, and coordination can transform regulators into enablers of growth rather than bottlenecks.