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**VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY  
&  
STUDY CENTRE**

# DAILY MCQ'S

**FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION**

**DATE: 04/09/2025 (THURSDAY)**

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



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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Q.1 Consider the following statements:

1. The First Battle of Panipat led to the foundation of Mughal rule in India, whereas the Second Battle of Panipat decisively re-established Mughal supremacy after a temporary setback.
2. The Third Battle of Panipat resulted in the decline of Mughal power and the eventual rise of the Marathas as the paramount force in North 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: (a)

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct:
  - The **First Battle of Panipat (1526)** between Babur and Ibrahim Lodi established Mughal rule in India.
  - The **Second Battle of Panipat (1556)** saw Akbar's forces (under Bairam Khan) defeating Hemu, re-establishing Mughal authority.
- Statement 2 is incorrect:
  - The **Third Battle of Panipat (1761)** was fought between the Marathas and Ahmad Shah Abdali. It shattered Maratha power temporarily, but it did *not* strengthen the Mughals (who were already in decline). Instead, it created a power vacuum later filled by the British.

Q.2 Which of the following can be a direct consequence of "edge effects" in fragmented forest ecosystems?

- (a) Increased genetic diversity among interior forest species
- (b) Enhanced population of shade-tolerant vegetation at the forest periphery
- (c) Decline in survival of large carnivores due to shrinking core habitats
- (d) Reduced exposure of invasive species to disturbed forest boundaries

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

"Edge effects" occur at the boundary between two ecosystems (e.g., forest and cleared land). They create microclimatic changes, increase vulnerability to invasive species, and reduce viable habitats for species needing undisturbed interiors.

- Large carnivores, requiring extensive core areas, are highly affected, leading to their decline.
- (a) is incorrect: fragmentation *reduces* genetic diversity.
- (b) is incorrect: edge favors sun-tolerant, not shade-tolerant species.
- (d) is incorrect: invasive species often *exploit* edges.



**Q.3** Consider the following statements:

1. “Twin Deficit Hypothesis” in India refers to the simultaneous occurrence of fiscal deficit and current account deficit.
2. Fiscal deficit in India is always higher than revenue deficit, as the latter is subsumed within the former.
3. A rise in crude oil prices is more likely to worsen the fiscal deficit than the current account deficit in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is correct: Twin Deficit Hypothesis highlights correlation between fiscal deficit (excess expenditure over revenue) and current account deficit (imports > exports).
- Statement 2 is correct: Fiscal deficit = Revenue deficit + Capital expenditure component. Hence, fiscal deficit is always higher.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Higher crude prices worsen *current account deficit* due to import bill surge; fiscal deficit may rise only indirectly via subsidies.

**Q.4** Which of the following provisions are explicitly mentioned in the Constitution of India?

1. The Parliament may establish a common High Court for two or more States.
2. The President may provide that the same person shall act as Governor of two or more States.
3. Inter-State Council is to be established under Article 263 to investigate and discuss subjects of common interest between States.
4. The Constitution mandates the establishment of a separate Public Service Commission for each State.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer:** (c)

**Explanation:**

- Statement 1: Correct. Article 231 permits a common High Court.
- Statement 2: Correct. Article 153 allows one Governor for two or more States.



- Statement 3: Correct. Article 263 provides for Inter-State Council.
- Statement 4: Incorrect. Constitution *does not mandate* separate PSCs for each State; States may share a Joint PSC under Article 315.

**Q.5 Assertion – Reason type -**

Assertion (A): Genetically modified crops often display enhanced tolerance to abiotic stresses like salinity and drought.

Reason (R): Introduction of transgenes alters the host genome expression, leading to synthesis of stress-tolerant proteins and compatible solutes.

- (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 is true: GM crops such as drought-tolerant maize or salinity-tolerant rice are engineered to survive extreme abiotic stress.
- Reason is true: The transgenes regulate host expression, producing osmoprotectants (e.g., proline, glycine betaine) or stress-response proteins.
- R is the correct explanation of A.

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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

**Q.1**

Consider the following statements:

1. In 2025, the centenary of the Self-Respect Movement (launched in 1925) is being commemorated internationally; on 4 September 2025, a portrait of E.V. Ramasamy (Periyar) is slated to be unveiled at the University of Oxford.
2. The Self-Respect Movement rejected temple-entry agitations as “reformist distractions” and therefore did not push for legislative change on temple access.

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:**

— The movement was launched in 1925; 2025 marks its centenary. Celebrations abroad include Periyar’s portrait being unveiled at Oxford.

— The movement did not reject temple-entry reforms; it supported legislative change culminating in the Madras Temple Entry Authorization Act, 1939. Hence statement 2 is incorrect.

**Q.2** Which of the following best describes **Majorana particles** in theoretical and experimental physics?

- (a) Particles that are their own antiparticles
- (b) Particles that exist only at superluminal speeds
- (c) Hypothetical bosons carrying fractional electric charge
- (d) Composite particles formed by quarks and gluons

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

— Ettore Majorana proposed in 1937 the existence of fermions that are their own antiparticles.

— These are neutral particles, unlike charged fermions which must have distinct antiparticles.

— Neutrinos are prime candidates under study, and condensed-matter systems mimic “Majorana zero modes.”

**Q.3** With reference to the GST Council’s approval of a two-slab structure in 2025, consider the following statements:

1. Most goods and services shift to two principal rates—5% and 18%—while a **higher** rate applies to specified sin/luxury goods along with Compensation Cess.
2. All zero-rated or exempt items are eliminated from 22 September 2025 to “widen the base.”
3. The concessional rate on precious metals (e.g., gold) is retained separately from these two slabs.

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:**

— Consolidation into two core slabs (5% and 18%) has been approved, with higher rates on sin goods and cess continuing.

— Zero-rated and exempt categories are not fully eliminated; essential exemptions remain.

— Precious metals continue to be taxed at a separate concessional rate (3%).

**Q.4** Consider the following statements about Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary:

1. It lies in western Odisha abutting the backwaters of the Hirakud Reservoir on the Mahanadi.
2. In 2025, NTCA granted approval to proceed with notifying Debrigarh as Odisha’s **third** Tiger Reserve, with an area of about 804 km<sup>2</sup> (core plus buffer).
3. The adjoining Hirakud Reservoir is a designated Ramsar Site.



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:** (d)

**Explanation:**

- Debrigarh lies in Bargarh district, Odisha, along the Hirakud Reservoir.
- NTCA approved its notification as the state's third Tiger Reserve in 2025.
- Hirakud Reservoir is recognized as a Ramsar Site.

**Q.5** Concerning the India–EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA), consider the following statements:

1. EFTA comprises Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein—**none** of which are in the EU Customs Union.
2. TEPA was signed on 10 March 2024 and uniquely links an **investment-promotion commitment** (USD 100 billion over 15 years with a 1 million jobs target) with market-access schedules.
3. The agreement includes chapters on services, government procurement and intellectual property, among others.
4. As per official announcements, TEPA implementation is slated to begin on 1 October 2025.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (d)

**Explanation:**

- EFTA's four countries are outside the EU Customs Union.
- TEPA, signed in March 2024, carries an unprecedented jobs-linked investment pledge.
- The text includes provisions on services, procurement, and IP.
- Implementation has been officially slated for October 2025.

**Q.6** Arrange the following places from **north to south** as they occur on the map of Sudan:

- A. Wadi Halfa
- B. Atbara
- C. Khartoum
- D. Nyala

- (a) A → B → C → D
- (b) A → C → B → D
- (c) B → A → C → D
- (d) A → B → D → C



**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

- Wadi Halfa lies at the extreme north near the Egyptian border (~22°N).
  - Atbara lies further south (~17.7°N).
  - Khartoum is further down (~15.5°N).
  - Nyala in South Darfur is (~12°N).
- Hence the order is A → B → C → D.

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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

### GS-1:

**Q.1** Discuss the role of reform movements in the 19th century in challenging caste hierarchy in Indian society. How did these movements pave the way for socio-political transformation in the colonial period?

**Sample Answer (≈ 320 words):**

The 19th century witnessed intense social churn in India, shaped by colonial modernity, print culture, and exposure to liberal ideals. Reform movements across the country sought to dismantle entrenched caste structures that perpetuated inequality.

The **Brahmo Samaj** under Raja Ram Mohan Roy emphasized monotheism and rejected caste distinctions, advocating for equality before God. **Prarthana Samaj** and **Arya Samaj** attacked caste rigidities by promoting social reform through education and religious reinterpretation. **Satyashodhak Samaj**, founded by Jyotiba Phule, directly confronted Brahmanical dominance, focusing on the plight of lower castes and women.

In South India, **Sri Narayana Guru** propagated “One caste, one religion, one God for mankind,” while the **Self-Respect Movement** later institutionalized anti-caste politics. These reform movements emphasized **inter-caste dining, temple-entry, widow remarriage, and education for oppressed communities.**

Their contributions were multi-layered:

- **Cultural transformation:** Challenging the sacred legitimacy of caste by reinterpreting scriptures.
- **Political mobilization:** Providing a vocabulary for equality that influenced nationalist leaders and later Dalit movements under Ambedkar.
- **Institutional reforms:** Legislative interventions such as Widow Remarriage Act (1856) and Temple Entry Authorization Act (1939) found inspiration in reformist demands.



While limitations existed — many remained confined to urban elites and often retained patriarchal biases — the ideological groundwork they laid was crucial. They linked **social emancipation with nationalism**, making freedom meaningful for marginalized sections.

Thus, reform movements of the 19th century did not merely contest caste hierarchy but provided a blueprint for modern democratic values that informed both the freedom struggle and the constitutional framework of post-independent India.

## GS–2:

**Q.2** *The rising frequency of Governor–State tussles in India reflects deeper structural issues in Centre–State relations. Critically examine the constitutional provisions, judicial interventions, and possible reforms to resolve such conflicts.*

### Sample Answer (≈ 330 words):

The office of the Governor, envisaged in Part VI of the Constitution, was meant to be a neutral link between the Union and the States. However, recent confrontations — in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Punjab, and West Bengal — reveal persistent friction.

**Constitutional provisions:** Article 153 mandates a Governor for each state; Article 163 requires the Governor to act on the advice of the Council of Ministers except in discretionary functions. Article 200 empowers the Governor to reserve bills for the President’s consideration. Ambiguity in “discretion” often fuels conflict.

### Judicial stance:

- *Shamsher Singh vs State of Punjab (1974)* held that Governor must act on ministerial advice.
- *Nabam Rebia (2016)* curtailed arbitrary exercise of discretionary power in summoning assemblies.
- *Rameshwar Prasad (2006)* limited scope of misuse in recommending President’s Rule.

Despite these, political appointments and partisan conduct undermine neutrality. Prolonged delays in assenting to bills, refusal to convene sessions, and politically charged public remarks have escalated the crisis.

### Structural issues:

- Lack of clarity in discretionary powers.
- Governors often act as “agents of the Centre” rather than impartial constitutional heads.
- Federal tensions heightened in opposition-ruled states.

### Reforms:

- Sarkaria and Punchhi Commissions suggested Governor should be an eminent person, not involved in active politics for at least five years.
- Fixing a timeline (say 3–6 months) for assenting to bills.
- Establishing a code of conduct, parliamentary scrutiny of appointments, and judicial review for delays.



In conclusion, the Governor–State tussle is not a mere personality clash but a **symptom of asymmetric federalism**. Institutionalizing reforms, clarifying ambiguities, and respecting the federal spirit are essential to restore the dignity of the office and cooperative governance.

## GS–3:

**Q.3** *India's pursuit of renewable energy transition is laudable, yet structural bottlenecks remain. Analyze the challenges and suggest measures to achieve the target of 500 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030.*

**Sample Answer (≈ 340 words):**

India has pledged under its updated NDCs (2021) to achieve 500 GW non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030, a key step toward net-zero by 2070. Currently, renewable capacity stands at ~190 GW, dominated by solar and wind. Despite progress, multiple challenges hinder the path.

### Challenges:

1. **Financial viability:** DISCOMs' poor health causes payment delays, discouraging private investment.
2. **Land acquisition issues:** Large-scale solar/wind parks face resistance due to displacement and ecological concerns.
3. **Grid integration:** Intermittency of renewables strains transmission infrastructure; storage solutions remain expensive.
4. **Policy uncertainty:** Frequent tariff revisions, delayed auctions, and lack of stable long-term policies disincentivize investors.
5. **Technology gap:** India lags in battery storage, offshore wind, and green hydrogen technology.
6. **Social-environmental conflicts:** Concerns of pastoral communities (wind farms in Rajasthan, Gujarat) and biodiversity risks (Great Indian Bustard habitat) create friction.

### Way Forward:

- **Strengthening DISCOMs:** Implementing reforms under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme, ensuring timely subsidy disbursements.
- **Grid modernization:** Investments in smart grids, decentralized solar, and storage solutions like pumped hydro.
- **Stable policies:** Long-term tariff clarity, viability gap funding, and incentives for domestic manufacturing (PLI for solar modules, electrolyzers).
- **Diversification:** Developing offshore wind, rooftop solar, biomass, and green hydrogen corridors.
- **Community integration:** Compensation frameworks, local employment, and ecological assessments to mitigate conflicts.
- **International cooperation:** Leveraging ISA and partnerships for technology transfer and climate finance.

Thus, India's renewable energy ambition is bold yet achievable, provided systemic reforms align financial, technological, and social dimensions. Achieving 500 GW is not only a climate imperative but also a strategic step toward **energy security, green jobs, and global leadership** in sustainability.



## GS-4:

**Q.4** “True integrity is doing the right thing even when no one is watching.” Discuss this statement in the context of ethical challenges faced by public servants. Suggest mechanisms to strengthen integrity in governance.

**Sample Answer (≈ 310 words):**

Integrity is the cornerstone of ethical conduct, implying consistency of thought, word, and action. The statement emphasizes that ethical behavior is intrinsic, not contingent upon external oversight. For public servants, integrity ensures public trust, efficient governance, and moral legitimacy.

**Ethical challenges:**

- **Conflict of interest:** Pressure from political executives or corporate lobbyists.
- **Corruption and rent-seeking:** Bribes, nepotism, and favoritism erode fairness.
- **Secrecy vs transparency:** Withholding information may protect vested interests but undermine accountability.
- **Resource allocation dilemmas:** Balancing equity and efficiency in schemes like PDS or disaster relief.

**Relevance of “doing right when unseen”:**

Many decisions of public servants occur outside public gaze — e.g., drafting procurement contracts, approving clearances, handling citizen grievances. Even without surveillance, integrity ensures decisions align with law and conscience, not personal gain.

**Mechanisms to strengthen integrity:**

1. **Values-based training:** Incorporating case studies on ethical dilemmas in civil services training.
2. **Institutional safeguards:** Lokpal, CVC, and internal vigilance mechanisms to check corruption.
3. **Transparency tools:** RTI, e-governance, and digital footprints reduce scope for discretion.
4. **Incentivizing ethical conduct:** Recognition of whistleblowers, awards for integrity.
5. **Ethical leadership:** Senior officers must lead by example, cultivating organizational culture of honesty.
6. **Social accountability:** Citizen charters, participatory audits, and community oversight.

In essence, integrity is not enforced merely through rules but internalized as a personal virtue. A public servant imbued with integrity ensures that governance remains **just, fair, and citizen-centric**, regardless of surveillance.

## Current Affairs:

**Q.5** Growing challenges on India’s export front threaten its economic aspirations. Identify these challenges and suggest policy measures for sustaining export-led growth in the coming decade.

**Sample Answer (≈ 335 words):**

India aspires to become a \$5 trillion economy and an integral part of global value chains (GVCs). Exports, contributing ~21% of GDP, are crucial. Yet, multiple headwinds in 2024–25 indicate rising challenges.



### Challenges:

1. **Global slowdown:** Demand compression in US/EU due to inflation and monetary tightening affects India's key markets.
2. **Geopolitical uncertainties:** Russia–Ukraine war, Red Sea shipping disruptions, and US–China trade tensions increase costs.
3. **Structural dependence:** High reliance on petroleum, gems-jewelry, and low value-added exports; weak performance in electronics and high-tech.
4. **FTA competition:** Rivals like Vietnam and Bangladesh exploit preferential access in textiles and electronics.
5. **Logistics bottlenecks:** High freight costs, port congestion, and weak cold-chain infrastructure.
6. **Domestic constraints:** High cost of credit, GST compliance burdens for MSMEs, and slow adoption of Industry 4.0.
7. **Protectionism & Green barriers:** EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), US subsidy regimes, and rising non-tariff measures.

### Way Forward:

- **Diversification:** Expand to Africa, Latin America, and ASEAN beyond traditional markets.
- **Upgrading value chains:** Boost electronics, semiconductors, and green technologies through PLI schemes.
- **Logistics reforms:** Implement PM Gati Shakti for multimodal connectivity; promote coastal shipping.
- **Trade agreements:** Fast-track CEPA/FTA negotiations with UK, EU, and GCC for wider access.
- **Export finance:** Expand EXIM Bank credit lines, reduce working capital cost for MSMEs.
- **Green compliance:** Adopt CBAM-compliant production, incentivize renewable energy adoption in industry.
- **Skill development:** Training in advanced manufacturing, digital trade, and services exports.

In conclusion, sustaining export-led growth requires aligning domestic competitiveness with global shifts. India must move from **commodity-driven exports to technology-driven, diversified trade**, while building resilience against geopolitical and environmental shocks.