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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY
&
STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

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- **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 Revolt of 1857:

1. The revolt was sparked by immediate grievances over the Enfield rifle cartridges but deeper causes included resentment over annexation policies such as the Doctrine of Lapse.
2. While the revolt spread widely across North and Central India, it found strong participation among the Madras and Bombay Presidency armies as well.

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:

- The Revolt of 1857 indeed had immediate causes such as the greased cartridges issue, but deeper structural grievances included land annexations, loss of privileges of rulers and zamindars, and discontent of soldiers. Hence, Statement 1 is correct.
- However, the revolt was geographically limited. It remained largely confined to North and Central India (Delhi, Awadh, Kanpur, Jhansi, Bareilly, etc.). Armies of Madras and Bombay Presidencies did not participate significantly; they remained largely loyal to the British. Hence, Statement 2 is incorrect.

Q2. Which one of the following best reflects India's commitment under the Paris Agreement?

- (a) Reduction of net greenhouse gas emissions by 50% below 2005 levels by 2030.
- (b) Achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 with binding legal commitments.
- (c) Reducing the emissions intensity of GDP by 45% from 2005 levels by 2030.
- (d) Phasing out coal-based power generation completely by 2030.

Answer: (c) Reducing the emissions intensity of GDP by 45% from 2005 levels by 2030.

Explanation:

- India's updated NDC (2022) under the Paris Agreement commits to reducing the emissions intensity of its GDP by 45% from 2005 levels by 2030 and achieving about 50% cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based resources by 2030.
- Net-zero by 2050 (option b) is not India's target; India has pledged net-zero by 2070.
- Complete coal phase-out by 2030 (option d) is unrealistic and not part of commitments.
- Hence, the correct answer is (c).

Q3. Consider the following statements about Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Wholesale Price Index (WPI) in India:

1. CPI is the main measure of inflation used by the Reserve Bank of India for its monetary policy framework.



2. WPI excludes services, while CPI includes both goods and services.
3. Base year for both CPI and WPI is the same, i.e., 2011-12.

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:

- CPI is indeed the official inflation measure for RBI's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). Hence, Statement 1 is correct.
- WPI covers only goods (manufactured products, primary articles, fuel & power), excluding services. CPI covers both goods and services. Hence, Statement 2 is correct.
- The base year for WPI is 2011-12, but for CPI it is 2012. Hence, Statement 3 is incorrect.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Basic Structure Doctrine of the Indian Constitution:

1. It was first propounded in the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973).
2. The doctrine restricts Parliament from amending any part of the Constitution.
3. Judicial review has been held as part of the basic structure.
4. The doctrine has been explicitly mentioned in Article 368 of the Constitution.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The doctrine was indeed laid down in the landmark Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala (1973) case. Hence, Statement 1 is correct.
- Parliament can amend most parts of the Constitution but cannot alter its "basic structure." Thus, it is not correct to say that Parliament cannot amend *any* part. Hence, Statement 2 is incorrect.
- Judicial review has been recognized as part of the basic structure in subsequent cases (Indira Gandhi v. Raj Narain, Minerva Mills case, etc.). Hence, Statement 3 is correct.
- The doctrine is a judicial innovation and is **not mentioned** in Article 368 or anywhere in the Constitution. Hence, Statement 4 is incorrect.

Q5. Assertion (A): The Indian monsoon is primarily driven by the differential heating of land and sea.



Reason (R): The Tibetan Plateau and the presence of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) both play a crucial role in intensifying monsoonal circulation.

- (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:

- Monsoon winds are caused by differential heating of land and sea, creating pressure gradients. Thus, Assertion is true.
- The Tibetan Plateau heats up intensely in summer, creating a thermal low, and the northward shift of the ITCZ provides a zone of convergence, enhancing the inflow of moist winds. Thus, Reason is also true.
- Since the factors in R explain why the differential heating leads to strong seasonal winds, R is the correct explanation of A.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q.1 Consider the following statements:

1. The National Statistical Office (NSO) under MoSPI has scheduled AIDIS and the SAS of Agricultural Households to be conducted during July 2026–June 2027.
2. The Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households is an exercise of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and is administered by state agriculture departments.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c) Only 1

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct – NSO has scheduled AIDIS and SAS for July 2026–June 2027.
- Statement 2 is incorrect – SAS is conducted by NSO under MoSPI, not by the Agriculture Ministry directly.



Q.2 Which one of the following correctly describes the principal vessel used in India's "Samudra Pradakshina" all-women tri-service circumnavigation expedition?

- (a) A foreign-built Class-40 racing yacht leased for the voyage
- (b) The indigenous Indian Army Sailing Vessel (IASV) *Triveni*, a 50-foot Class-A yacht built in Puducherry
- (c) An Indian Navy frigate named INS Triveni retrofitted for sailing
- (d) A Coast Guard research vessel converted for the expedition

Answer: (b) IASV *Triveni*

Explanation:

The expedition uses IASV *Triveni*, a 50-foot indigenous sailing vessel built in Puducherry, specifically designed for the circumnavigation.

Q.3 Consider the following statements:

1. BWHGs are envisaged as auxiliary battalions raised in border States to assist BSF and other border forces in surveillance and logistics.
2. Under proposed models, the Centre would share part of the costs, with enlistments for 3–4 years and per-day pay estimates around ₹800–900.
3. Once raised, BWHGs would enjoy the same statutory powers and status as BSF under a separate central Act.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) 1 and 2
- (c) 2 and 3
- (d) All three

Answer: (b) 1 and 2

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct – MHA has considered raising BWHGs for border assistance.
- Statement 2 is correct – proposals mention limited tenure, daily pay, and partial central support.
- Statement 3 is incorrect – BWHGs are auxiliaries, not statutory forces like BSF.

Q.4 Consider the following statements:

1. The Perseverance rover collected a sample "Sapphire Canyon" drilled from a rock named "Cheyava Falls," identified as a top biosignature candidate.
2. Minerals like vivianite and greigite, often associated with microbial processes, have been reported from the site.
3. NASA has declared these findings as definitive proof of ancient life on Mars.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 2 and 3



- (c) 1 and 3
- (d) All three

Answer: (a) 1 and 2

Explanation:

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct – the sample is a biosignature candidate with relevant minerals.
- Statement 3 is incorrect – NASA has only described them as *potential* biosignatures, not proof.

Q.5 Consider the following statements:

1. Results of AIDIS are used for household-sector estimates of assets/liabilities, feeding into national accounts and policy analysis.
2. SAS collects receipts and expenses of crop and non-crop activities, livestock holdings, and input access, to compute agricultural income.
3. Both AIDIS and SAS are complete household censuses and not subject to sampling errors.
4. The 2026–27 round will merge both surveys into a single census conducted in a three-month window across all States.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct – these are the standard uses of AIDIS and SAS.
- Statement 3 is incorrect – they are sample surveys, not universal censuses.
- Statement 4 is incorrect – both surveys are scheduled in the same year, but not merged into one census.

Q.6 On a map of the South China Sea, the Philippine toponym “**Pugad Island**” refers to which maritime feature?

- (a) Mischief Reef – occupied by China
- (b) Scarborough Shoal – Panatag Shoal
- (c) Southwest Cay – currently occupied by Vietnam
- (d) Thitu Island – Pag-asa, controlled by the Philippines

Answer: (c) Southwest Cay – occupied by Vietnam

Explanation:

Pugad Island is the Philippine name for **Southwest Cay** in the Spratly group, which is currently controlled by Vietnam though claimed by multiple parties.



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

Q.1 “Discuss the role of revolutionary nationalism in shaping the Indian freedom struggle during the early 20th century. How did it differ from the moderate and extremist strands of nationalism?”

Answer (Sample):

Introduction:

The early 20th century marked a new phase in India’s struggle for independence with the rise of revolutionary nationalism. Dissatisfied with the slow pace of constitutional methods and moderate petitions, revolutionaries turned to radical and armed methods.

Features of Revolutionary Nationalism:

- **Ideological Roots:** Inspired by global movements like the Irish Revolution and Russian Nihilists.
- **Secret Societies:** Groups like Anushilan Samiti (Bengal), Abhinav Bharat (Savarkar, Maharashtra).
- **Methods Adopted:** Assassinations of colonial officials, bomb attacks, looting of arms, spreading of nationalist literature.
- **Youth Mobilisation:** Universities became hotbeds of radical thought.

Major Events:

- Alipore Conspiracy Case (1908) involving Aurobindo Ghosh and others.
- Ghadr Party activities (1913–1917).
- Hindustan Republican Association (HRA) and its transformation into HSRA under Bhagat Singh.

Comparison with Moderates and Extremists:

- **Moderates (Dadabhai Naoroji, Gokhale):** Relied on petitions, reforms, dialogue with British.
- **Extremists (Tilak, Lajpat Rai, Bipin Chandra Pal):** Advocated boycott, swadeshi, mass mobilisation, but still largely constitutional.
- **Revolutionaries:** Direct action through violence and underground movements, rejecting gradual reform.

Impact:

- Though limited in immediate success, revolutionary nationalism instilled courage, sacrifice, and inspired future generations.
- Shifted the freedom struggle’s psychological dimension from petitioning to self-assertion.
- Forced British to take Indian discontent more seriously.

Conclusion:

Revolutionary nationalism complemented the mainstream movement by radicalising the struggle, keeping the spirit of resistance alive. Though not mass-based, it laid the ideological foundation for assertive independence demands in the 1920s and 1930s.



Q.2 “Evaluate the role and effectiveness of Parliamentary Forums in India. How can they be strengthened to improve deliberative democracy?”

Answer (Sample):

Introduction:

Parliamentary Forums were set up in 2003 to provide a platform for Members of Parliament (MPs) to discuss specific issues of national concern such as water conservation, health, youth, and population.

Role of Parliamentary Forums:

- **Specialised Deliberation:** Provides MPs an avenue to gain expertise on technical matters.
- **Awareness Building:** Informs parliamentarians about challenges like climate change, energy security, and disaster management.
- **Bipartisan Dialogue:** Encourages cooperation across party lines beyond political divisions.
- **Policy Inputs:** Serves as a channel to advise the government on critical issues.

Effectiveness So Far:

- Limited meetings and poor attendance have reduced their impact.
- Often overshadowed by standing committees and departmentally related committees.
- Lack of binding recommendations weakens follow-up action.
- Inadequate institutional support and data access restrict substantive discussions.

Challenges:

- MPs’ time constraints due to parliamentary and constituency duties.
- Lack of public visibility or accountability mechanisms.
- Forums remain advisory with no power to enforce policy action.

Way Forward:

- Ensure regular meetings with mandatory participation of MPs.
- Integrate forum discussions with Standing Committees for follow-up.
- Provide research and secretariat support.
- Enhance transparency by making discussions public.
- Involve experts, civil society, and academia for evidence-based policy deliberations.

Conclusion:

Parliamentary Forums are an under-utilised instrument of deliberative democracy. Strengthening them through institutional reforms can deepen parliamentary engagement, enhance policymaking, and contribute to a more informed democratic process.

Q.3 “Discuss the nature and effectiveness of India’s monetary policy during the pre-reform era (1948–1991). How did it shape the Indian economy?”

Answer (Sample):



Introduction:

Between 1948 and 1991, India's monetary policy was closely tied to the planning framework, with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) functioning as an instrument of state-led development.

Nature of Monetary Policy:

- **Controlled & Directive:** Heavily regulated interest rates, credit allocation, and investment flows.
- **Credit Rationing:** Priority lending to agriculture, industry, and small enterprises.
- **Monetisation of Deficits:** Large fiscal deficits financed by RBI through ad-hoc treasury bills.
- **Administered Rates:** Artificially fixed interest rates with little link to market conditions.

Effectiveness:

- **Positive Outcomes:**
 - Directed credit enabled industrialisation in core sectors.
 - Facilitated Green Revolution via rural credit schemes.
 - Supported employment generation and self-reliance goals.
- **Negative Consequences:**
 - Repressed financial sector with low profitability of banks.
 - Rising inflation due to deficit monetisation.
 - Crowding out of private investment.
 - Limited flexibility in responding to external shocks.

Impact on Economy:

- Achieved planned development goals but at the cost of inefficiency.
- Built a strong public sector but discouraged private entrepreneurship.
- By late 1980s, high fiscal deficit, external debt crisis, and inflation exposed weaknesses.

Conclusion:

Pre-reform monetary policy served the needs of a state-led developmental economy but created structural rigidities. The 1991 reforms marked a paradigm shift towards liberalisation, market-determined rates, and inflation targeting, making policy more responsive and transparent.

Q.4 "Integrity is doing the right thing even when no one is watching. Discuss this statement in the context of public service with relevant examples."

Answer (Sample):

Introduction:

Integrity is a foundational value of public service. It denotes consistency between words, actions, and moral principles, irrespective of supervision or external pressures.

Ethical Dimension of Integrity:

- **Inner Moral Compass:** Ensures honesty in action without fear or favour.



- **Accountability to Self:** Goes beyond legal compliance towards moral responsibility.
- **Trust Building:** Citizens expect public servants to act ethically even without monitoring.

Relevance in Public Service:

- **Decision-Making:** An officer showing integrity will avoid misuse of discretionary power even if loopholes exist.
- **Financial Management:** Proper use of public funds without misappropriation.
- **Service Delivery:** Fair allocation of welfare benefits, avoiding nepotism.
- **Crisis Situations:** Acting in public interest during emergencies without exploiting the situation.

Examples:

- A district magistrate refusing bribes in land allocation despite absence of oversight.
- Honest tax officers ensuring compliance without harassment.
- Whistleblowers acting with integrity despite personal risk (e.g., exposing scams).

Challenges:

- Systemic corruption and political pressure.
- Lack of effective protection for officers acting with integrity.
- Temptations of personal gain.

Conclusion:

Integrity is the invisible anchor of ethical governance. Laws and surveillance can deter corruption, but true reform rests on cultivating integrity, where public servants uphold values of honesty and fairness even when unobserved.

Q.5 “Critically examine the Great Nicobar Island (GNI) Development Project. Discuss its strategic importance, ecological challenges, and implications for sustainable development.”

Answer (Sample):

Introduction:

The Great Nicobar Island Project is a ₹72,000 crore initiative involving an international trans-shipment terminal, airport, township, and power plant. It seeks to leverage the island’s geostrategic location near the Malacca Strait.

Strategic Importance:

- Enhances India’s maritime connectivity and logistics hub potential.
- Counters China’s growing presence in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).
- Strengthens Andaman & Nicobar Command’s strategic infrastructure.
- Facilitates global trade routes via trans-shipment, reducing reliance on Colombo/Singapore ports.

Ecological and Social Concerns:

- Diversion of 130+ sq km of forest land, including prime tropical rainforest.



- Threats to endemic species (Nicobar megapode, leatherback turtles).
- Displacement of indigenous Shompen and Nicobarese tribes.
- Coastal regulation and seismic vulnerability risks in a high-risk earthquake/tsunami zone.

Sustainable Development Challenges:

- Balancing national security with ecological preservation.
- Need for comprehensive Environment Impact Assessments (EIA).
- Limited disaster-resilient infrastructure designs.
- Ensuring tribal rights under **Forest Rights Act (2006)** and constitutional protections.

Way Forward:

- Adopt “strategic eco-development” with minimal ecological footprint.
- Strengthen compensatory afforestation and biodiversity monitoring.
- Inclusive decision-making with tribal participation.
- Explore green energy and low-carbon infrastructure options.

Conclusion:

The Great Nicobar Project is a test case for India’s ability to reconcile strategic imperatives with environmental ethics. A balanced approach is essential to ensure development does not come at the cost of fragile ecology and tribal livelihoods.
