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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 13/09/2025 (SATURDAY)

- **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 Maurya Empire:

1. Megasthenes, in his *Indica*, mentioned that Mauryan administration strictly prohibited the sale of commodities by the state and allowed only private traders.
2. Kautilya's *Arthashastra* emphasizes that state-controlled trading and regulation of prices were essential features of Mauryan economy.

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)

Explanation:

- Megasthenes did not state that Mauryan administration prohibited state trade; Mauryan state was actively involved in trade. Hence, Statement 1 is incorrect.
- *Arthashastra* highlights state monopoly over salt, mines, forests, liquor, etc., and strict price regulation. Hence, Statement 2 is correct.

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the National Green Tribunal (NGT):

1. The primary mandate of NGT is to provide expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) None
- (c) Both 1 and any related statutory function
- (d) Cannot be determined from the Act

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- NGT Act, 2010 created the Tribunal with the mandate of speedy disposal of environmental disputes involving forests, natural resources, and pollution.
- It does not draft policies or impose criminal penalties. Hence, only Statement 1 is correct.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Reverse Repo Rate in India:

1. Reverse Repo Rate is always kept higher than the Repo Rate by the RBI to discourage banks from parking funds with it.
2. An increase in Reverse Repo Rate generally reduces the liquidity in the banking system.
3. Reverse Repo transactions by RBI are part of the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) operations.



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: (b)

Explanation:

- Reverse Repo is always lower than Repo, to incentivize lending. Hence, Statement 1 is incorrect.
- Higher Reverse Repo attracts deposits with RBI and reduces liquidity. Hence, Statement 2 is correct.
- Reverse Repo is part of LAF operations. Hence, Statement 3 is correct.

Q4. Consider the following statements about the office of the Chief Justice of India (CJI):

1. The Constitution of India expressly mentions the tenure of the CJI as 5 years.
2. The President of India appoints the CJI after consultation with the Prime Minister.
3. The principle of seniority in appointing the CJI has been upheld by judicial convention, not by any constitutional mandate.
4. The CJI can resign by writing to the President of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- The Constitution does not prescribe a tenure; it only sets retirement age at 65. Hence, Statement 1 is incorrect.
- The President appoints the CJI, but conventionally based on seniority, not merely on PM's advice. Hence, Statement 2 is incorrect.
- Seniority principle is a judicial convention. Hence, Statement 3 is correct.
- CJI resigns by writing to the President. Hence, Statement 4 is correct.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Retreating Monsoon in India:

Assertion (A): Retreating Monsoon is marked by heavy rainfall on the Coromandel Coast of Tamil Nadu.

Reason (R): The North-East Monsoon winds, while crossing the Bay of Bengal, pick up moisture and cause rainfall in this region.

Which of the following is correct?



- (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)

Explanation:

- Retreating monsoon (October–December) is characterized by North-East Monsoon winds.
- Though blowing from land, they cross the Bay of Bengal, acquire moisture, and cause heavy rainfall on Tamil Nadu coast.
- Both A and R are correct, and R explains A.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2024:

1. SEEI evaluates Indian states solely on the basis of renewable energy adoption and solar capacity addition.
2. The index assesses states on both their energy efficiency performance and implementation of energy efficiency policies.

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)

Explanation:

- SEEI is a composite index that evaluates states not only on renewable energy adoption but also on **overall energy efficiency performance**, including policy implementation, sectoral measures, and energy savings.
- Statement 1 is incorrect because SEEI is not limited to renewable energy adoption.
- Statement 2 is correct.

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the Digital Connectivity Rating (DCR) 2024:

1. DCR measures the quality and affordability of internet services at the district level in India.
2. The rating also incorporates consumer satisfaction indices and digital literacy metrics.



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:

- DCR evaluates states and districts based on **availability, quality, and affordability** of digital connectivity.
- It does **not** directly factor consumer satisfaction or digital literacy. Hence, Statement 2 is incorrect.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO):

1. SCO is a permanent intergovernmental international organization aimed at enhancing cooperation in security, economic, and cultural fields among member states.
2. India and Pakistan became full members of SCO in 2017.
3. SCO headquarters is located in Beijing, China.

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: (d)

Explanation:

- SCO is indeed a permanent intergovernmental organization covering **security, economic, and cultural cooperation** (Statement 1 correct).
- India and Pakistan joined SCO as **full members in 2017** (Statement 2 correct).
- The headquarters is in **Beijing** is incorrect; SCO headquarters is in **Beijing**, but double-checking shows SCO HQ is actually in **Beijing** – yes, correct – so statement 3 is correct.
- SCO is a permanent organization for security, economic, and cultural cooperation.
- India and Pakistan became full members in 2017.
- SCO headquarters is in **Beijing, China**.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM):

1. JCM is a bilateral mechanism between India and Japan to promote low-carbon technologies and renewable energy.
2. It allows host countries to earn credits for emission reductions, which can be transferred to Japan to meet its mitigation targets.



3. JCM credits are tradable under the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism.

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)

Explanation:

- JCM is a **bilateral crediting mechanism** between India and Japan for promoting low-carbon technologies (Statement 1 correct).
- Host countries earn credits for emission reductions, which Japan can use (Statement 2 correct).
- Statement 3 is incorrect: JCM is separate from the **Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism**; credits are not traded under CDM.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the UN General Assembly (UNGA):

1. UNGA has the power to impose binding resolutions on member states regarding climate action.
2. All 193 member states have equal voting rights in UNGA.
3. The UNGA appoints the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

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: (b)

Explanation:

- UNGA **cannot impose binding resolutions**; its resolutions are recommendatory (Statement 1 incorrect).
- All 193 members have **equal voting rights**, one vote per member (Statement 2 correct).
- UNGA appoints the **Secretary-General**, based on Security Council recommendation (Statement 3 correct).

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding Kamchatka region:

1. Kamchatka Peninsula is located in the Russian Far East between the Pacific Ocean and the Sea of Okhotsk.
2. It is part of the Ring of Fire and is known for high volcanic activity.

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: (c)

Explanation:

- Kamchatka Peninsula lies in the **Russian Far East**, bounded by Pacific Ocean and Sea of Okhotsk (Statement 1 correct).
- It is **part of the Ring of Fire**, with numerous active volcanoes and geothermal activity (Statement 2 correct).

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS-1:

Question: Discuss the significance of the retreating monsoon in India's climatic and agricultural context. What are its socio-economic implications?

Sample Answer:

The **retreating monsoon**, also known as the **northeast monsoon**, occurs from **October to December** and primarily affects the southeastern coast of India, including Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and parts of Karnataka. This phase follows the withdrawal of the southwest monsoon and is characterized by dry conditions in most of the country except the southeast coast which receives rainfall.

Significance in climate:

- The retreating monsoon marks the transition from the wet southwest monsoon to the dry winter season.
- It leads to the development of cool, dry northeast winds over most of India, which significantly reduces humidity in northern and central regions.
- Coastal regions, especially the **Coromandel Coast**, receive substantial rainfall, critical for replenishing reservoirs.

Impact on agriculture:

- The rainfall from retreating monsoon supports **rabi crops**, particularly paddy in southern states.
- Helps in water conservation and groundwater recharge in dry regions.
- Farmers in Tamil Nadu rely heavily on this monsoon due to insufficient southwest monsoon rainfall.

Socio-economic implications:



- Adequate rainfall ensures food security and supports the livelihoods of millions engaged in agriculture.
- Shortfall in rainfall can cause water scarcity, crop failure, and increase dependence on irrigation.
- It influences hydropower generation and inland navigation in southeastern rivers.

Conclusion:

The retreating monsoon plays a **crucial role in India's climate and agriculture**, affecting water resources, cropping patterns, and rural livelihoods. Its variability due to climate change underscores the need for **efficient water management and crop planning** to mitigate adverse socio-economic impacts.

GS-2:

Question: India recently voted in favour of the UNGA Resolution on the recognition of Palestine as a non-member observer state. Examine India's stance on the Israel-Palestine conflict and its diplomatic balancing act.

Sample Answer:

India has traditionally supported a **two-state solution** in the Israel-Palestine conflict, advocating for the legitimate rights of Palestinians while maintaining growing bilateral relations with Israel. India's vote in favour of the UNGA resolution granting **Palestine the status of a non-member observer state** reflects this balanced approach.

Historical and diplomatic context:

- India was one of the first non-Arab states to recognize Palestine in 1988 and has consistently supported its aspirations in international forums.
- Simultaneously, India has developed strong strategic and defence ties with Israel since 1992, particularly in **agriculture, defence, and technology sectors**.

Significance of India's vote:

- Reaffirms India's commitment to **multilateralism** and support for **self-determination**.
- Enhances India's image as a principled actor in global diplomacy.
- Balances its strategic partnership with Israel while maintaining solidarity with Palestine, especially within the **Non-Aligned Movement and OIC** countries.

Challenges:

- India must navigate pressures from both Arab countries and Israel.
- Growing domestic Indian support for Israel necessitates careful diplomatic messaging.

Conclusion:

India's vote underscores a **nuanced foreign policy**, combining ethical considerations with strategic interests. It reflects India's ability to **maintain strategic autonomy**, support international law, and pursue a pragmatic approach to complex global conflicts.



GS-3:

Question: Critically analyze the environmental challenges arising due to rapid urbanization in India. Suggest sustainable urban development strategies.

Sample Answer:

India is undergoing **rapid urbanization**, with over 40% of its population projected to live in cities by 2030. This transformation poses multiple environmental challenges.

Key challenges:

- **Air pollution:** Vehicular emissions, industrial activities, and construction dust contribute to severe urban air pollution. Cities like Delhi and Kanpur rank among the most polluted globally.
- **Water stress:** Groundwater depletion, over-extraction, and pollution of rivers such as the Yamuna reduce water availability.
- **Waste management:** Municipal solid waste generation exceeds 150,000 tonnes per day; inadequate infrastructure leads to landfills and urban contamination.
- **Loss of green cover:** Encroachment on wetlands and forests reduces urban biodiversity and exacerbates urban heat islands.
- **Climate vulnerability:** Coastal and low-lying cities face flooding risks due to climate change-induced sea-level rise.

Sustainable strategies:

- **Smart cities with green infrastructure:** Integrating parks, urban forests, and sustainable transport to reduce emissions.
- **Water-sensitive urban planning:** Rainwater harvesting, wastewater recycling, and efficient distribution.
- **Solid waste management:** Segregation at source, recycling, and promoting circular economy models.
- **Policy interventions:** Enforcement of **National Urban Policy Framework** and compliance with **environmental clearance norms**.
- **Public participation:** Community-led urban greening and awareness campaigns to promote eco-friendly behavior.

Conclusion:

Sustainable urbanization requires **holistic planning, innovative technology, and active governance**. Without effective measures, urban environmental challenges could compromise public health, economic productivity, and overall quality of life.

GS-4: Ethics

Question: Examine the ethical dilemmas posed by the adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in governance and public services. Suggest measures to address these dilemmas.

Sample Answer:



Artificial Intelligence (AI) has revolutionized governance, health, education, and public services. However, it raises **critical ethical dilemmas** concerning fairness, transparency, accountability, and human rights.

Ethical dilemmas:

- **Bias and discrimination:** AI algorithms may inadvertently perpetuate social biases, affecting hiring, policing, or welfare distribution.
- **Transparency and accountability:** Decision-making processes in AI are often opaque, raising questions of accountability in case of errors or misuse.
- **Privacy concerns:** Collection of massive citizen data for AI-driven public services may violate privacy norms.
- **Dependence on technology:** Over-reliance on AI could reduce human judgment, empathy, and ethical reasoning in governance.
- **Security risks:** AI systems are vulnerable to cyber threats, which can have catastrophic consequences if deployed in critical services.

Measures to address dilemmas:

- **Ethical frameworks:** Adoption of **AI ethics guidelines** ensuring fairness, transparency, and inclusivity.
- **Human oversight:** Critical decisions should involve human review to prevent automated injustices.
- **Data protection:** Strengthening **Personal Data Protection Bill** compliance to safeguard citizen data.
- **Capacity building:** Training government officials in ethical AI use and digital literacy.
- **Periodic audits:** Independent auditing of AI systems for bias, accuracy, and ethical compliance.

Conclusion:

While AI offers efficiency and innovation, ethical dilemmas demand a **balanced approach**, combining regulation, human oversight, and ethical design principles to ensure public trust, fairness, and justice.

Current Affairs –

Question: Discuss the concept of the Blue Economy and its relevance to India. How can India sustainably harness its maritime resources?

Sample Answer:

The **Blue Economy** refers to the sustainable use of ocean resources for **economic growth, improved livelihoods, and ecosystem health**. It encompasses sectors like fisheries, shipping, renewable energy, marine biotechnology, and tourism.

Relevance to India:

- India has a **7,500 km long coastline** and an exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of 2.3 million km².
- Fisheries contribute over **₹1 lakh crore annually** to the economy and employ millions in coastal regions.



- Coastal shipping, port development, and offshore energy exploration can boost GDP while reducing carbon footprints.
- Marine biodiversity provides opportunities for **pharmaceutical and biotech research**.

Challenges in harnessing Blue Economy:

- Overfishing, pollution, and coastal degradation threaten marine ecosystems.
- Climate change leads to rising sea levels, coral bleaching, and altered fish migration.
- Regulatory gaps and inadequate monitoring hinder sustainable utilization.

Strategies for sustainability:

- **Integrated coastal zone management:** Ensures balance between development and conservation.
- **Marine spatial planning:** Efficient allocation of ocean resources for multiple uses.
- **Technological innovations:** Satellite-based fisheries monitoring, offshore wind, and tidal energy.
- **Policy initiatives:** Strengthening **National Maritime Policy 2015** and implementing international obligations like **UNCLOS**.
- **Community participation:** Empowering fisherfolk and coastal communities in resource management.

Conclusion:

The Blue Economy offers India **strategic, economic, and ecological advantages**. Sustainable policies, technological adoption, and community-driven approaches can ensure long-term maritime prosperity and resilience against environmental challenges.