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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 23/09/2025 (TUESDAY)

- **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:

1. The Iqta system under the Delhi Sultanate primarily aimed at revenue administration, but its military dimension often created centrifugal tendencies.
2. Unlike the Jagirdari system of the Mughals, the Iqta system did not involve frequent transfers of the holders, thereby strengthening hereditary claims.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) None
- (d) Cannot be determined from historical evidence

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- The Iqta system was essentially a land assignment given by the Sultan for revenue collection and maintenance of troops. It had both revenue and military functions. However, its misuse often led to fragmentation and local assertion → **Statement 1 is correct.**
 - Under the Delhi Sultanate, Iqtas were *frequently transferred* to prevent local entrenchment. It was the Mughal Jagirdari system that formalized transfer more systematically. Thus, claiming Iqta was hereditary is wrong → **Statement 2 is incorrect.**
- Hence, only one statement is correct.

Q2. The “Great Oxidation Event” in Earth’s history is most directly linked to which of the following consequences?

- (a) Rise of cyanobacteria and large-scale oxygen release leading to mass extinction of anaerobic life forms
- (b) Emergence of vascular plants causing rapid carbon sequestration and global cooling
- (c) Expansion of chemosynthetic ecosystems in deep-sea hydrothermal vents
- (d) Periodic reversal of Earth’s magnetic field enabling higher atmospheric ionization

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- Around 2.4 billion years ago, cyanobacteria began large-scale photosynthesis → leading to a massive release of oxygen into the atmosphere.
- This oxygenation wiped out most anaerobic organisms (who thrived without oxygen).
- It also set the stage for the evolution of aerobic life.
- Options (b), (c), and (d) relate to different events (Devonian carbon fixation, deep-sea ecosystems, geomagnetic reversals) but not the Great Oxidation Event.

Q3. Consider the following statements:

1. The “twin balance sheet” problem in India referred simultaneously to stressed corporate debt and weak balance sheets of banks.



2. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) was introduced primarily to address the demand-side weakness of investment in the economy.
3. High Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) in the banking sector are both a symptom and a cause of the twin balance sheet problem.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- The term “twin balance sheet problem” indeed referred to stressed corporate debt and weak bank balance sheets due to bad loans → **Statement 1 is correct.**
 - IBC was designed to resolve insolvency and speed up bad loan recovery, targeting supply-side credit flow rather than directly addressing demand weakness → **Statement 2 is incorrect.**
 - NPAs reduce banks’ lending ability and are also a consequence of corporate defaults → they are both symptom and cause → **Statement 3 is correct.**
- Hence, two statements are correct.

Q4. Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution permits establishment of Gram Nyayalayas under the 11th Schedule.
2. The 97th Constitutional Amendment dealt exclusively with strengthening cooperative societies.
3. The Governor’s discretionary powers in Sixth Schedule areas extend to law-making on tribal customary practices.
4. The Constitution explicitly mandates rotation of seats reserved for women in Panchayats after each election.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- Gram Nyayalayas are established under the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, not under the 11th Schedule → **Statement 1 is incorrect.**
- The 97th Amendment indeed related to cooperative societies, adding Part IXB and amending Article 19(1)(c) → **Statement 2 is correct.**



- In Sixth Schedule areas, the Governor has wide discretionary powers regarding tribal customs and laws → **Statement 3 is correct.**
- Constitution (Article 243D) provides reservation for women in Panchayats, but *rotation after each election* is not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution, it is left to state legislations → **Statement 4 is incorrect.**

Hence, only two statements are correct.

Q5. Assertion – Reason type -

Assertion (A): The western coast of India experiences heavier rainfall compared to the eastern coast during the southwest monsoon season.

Reason (R): The Western Ghats intercept moisture-laden winds, causing orographic rainfall, whereas the Eastern Ghats run almost parallel to the monsoon flow and offer little obstruction.

- (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:

- The Western Ghats are high, continuous, and close to the coast; they force monsoon winds to rise, causing heavy orographic rainfall → western coast gets intense rains.
- The Eastern Ghats are lower, more discontinuous, and parallel to the monsoon flow → they do not intercept moisture strongly.
- Thus, both Assertion and Reason are correct, and the Reason correctly explains the Assertion.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. Consider the following statements:

1. In the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2025, India retained its top position among low and middle-income countries in innovation inputs but slipped in innovation outputs.
2. The GII is published annually by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in collaboration with Cornell University and INSEAD.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) None
- (d) Cannot be determined



Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- India continues to perform strongly in GII, retaining leadership among middle-income nations in innovation inputs (institutions, human capital, R&D), while slipping marginally in outputs (patents, high-tech exports). → **Statement 1 is correct.**
 - The GII is indeed published by WIPO in partnership with Cornell University and INSEAD → **Statement 2 is correct.**
- Hence, both statements are correct.

Q2. The recently announced policy by the Trump administration to impose a **\$100,000 fee on H-1B visas** is most likely to:

- (a) Increase costs for Indian IT companies and reduce competitiveness in the US market
- (b) Enhance skilled worker migration from India due to better processing priority
- (c) Strengthen bilateral technology partnerships between India and the US
- (d) Facilitate easier pathways to US Green Cards for STEM graduates

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- The sharp hike in visa fees increases the burden on Indian IT and tech firms, making them less competitive in the US labor market.
- This move discourages outsourcing and is protectionist in nature.
- Options (b), (c), (d) are distractors and not supported by policy evidence.

Q3. Consider the following statements:

1. Aflatoxins are mycotoxins produced primarily by species of *Aspergillus* fungi, commonly contaminating maize, groundnuts, and milk.
2. Chronic exposure to aflatoxins has been classified as Group 1 carcinogen by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC).
3. Unlike most toxins, aflatoxins remain stable and are not destroyed by ordinary cooking or boiling processes.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- Aflatoxins are indeed fungal toxins, especially from *Aspergillus flavus* and *A. parasiticus*, contaminating staple crops and milk → **Statement 1 correct.**



- IARC has classified aflatoxins (especially aflatoxin B1) as **Group 1 carcinogens**, strongly linked with liver cancer → **Statement 2 correct**.
 - Aflatoxins are heat-stable, surviving cooking and boiling, making them highly dangerous → **Statement 3 correct**.
- Hence, all three statements are correct.

Q4. Consider the following statements:

1. The Universal Postal Union (UPU), established in 1874, is a specialized agency of the United Nations with headquarters in Geneva.
2. Its primary function includes coordinating international postal policies and promoting global connectivity, but it cannot issue binding regulations for member states.
3. India is a founding member of the UPU and has consistently served on the UPU Council of Administration.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- The UPU was established in **1874 in Bern, Switzerland**; it is indeed a UN specialized agency → **Statement 1 partially wrong (HQ is Bern, not Geneva)**.
- The UPU coordinates postal systems and ensures smooth global mail delivery. While influential, its regulations are binding only if accepted by member states → **Statement 2 is correct**.
- India joined UPU later (1876) but is not a founding member. It has been an active member and has served multiple times on governing councils, but not “consistently” → **Statement 3 is incorrect**.
Thus, only one statement (Statement 2) is correct.

Correct option → (a).

Q5. Consider the following statements:

1. INS Androth is part of the shallow water anti-submarine warfare corvettes being built under Project 28.
2. The ship derives its name from one of the largest inhabited islands of Lakshadweep.
3. It is designed with an indigenous integrated platform management system and stealth features to reduce acoustic signatures.
4. These corvettes are being constructed by the Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) under “Make in India” initiative.

How many of the above statements are correct?



- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- INS Androth is a part of the **ASW Shallow Water Craft project**, not Project 28 (Kamorta class) → **Statement 1 is incorrect.**
 - It is indeed named after **Androth Island** in Lakshadweep → **Statement 2 is correct.**
 - Incorporates stealth, acoustic signature reduction, and modern indigenous systems → **Statement 3 is correct.**
 - These are being constructed by **Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata**, not CSL → **Statement 4 is incorrect.**
- Hence, only two statements (2 and 3) are correct.

Correct option → (b).

Q6. Which of the following best describes the location and strategic relevance of **Chabahar Port**?

- a. Located on the Gulf of Oman in southeastern Iran, it provides India direct access to Afghanistan and Central Asia, bypassing Pakistan.
- b. Located on the Persian Gulf near Bandar Abbas, it is Iran's largest container port under Chinese management.
- c. Situated in Baluchistan province of Pakistan, it serves as the twin port to Gwadar under Iranian–Pakistani agreement.
- d. Located in northern Arabian Sea, jointly administered by India and Oman, serving as a naval base and trade hub.

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- Chabahar Port lies in **Sistan–Baluchestan province of Iran, on the Gulf of Oman.**
- It is developed with Indian investment (India Ports Global Limited) to provide connectivity to Afghanistan and Central Asia, circumventing Pakistan's land route.
- Options (b), (c), (d) are incorrect: Bandar Abbas is on Persian Gulf (not Chabahar), Gwadar is in Pakistan (China-backed), and Oman is unrelated to Chabahar.



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS-1: Socialist Movement in Russia

Q1. Critically examine the evolution of the socialist movement in Russia in the early 20th century and its impact on global political ideologies.

- **Sample Answer:**

The socialist movement in Russia evolved against the backdrop of autocratic Tsarist rule, socio-economic inequality, and rapid industrialization. The late 19th century saw the emergence of revolutionary ideologies inspired by Marxist thought, which argued that the working class (proletariat) should overthrow the bourgeoisie and establish a classless society. Russia's peculiar socio-economic structure, dominated by a feudal agrarian economy, made the movement distinct from Western Europe.

- The early socialist organizations, such as the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party (RSDLP), split into two major factions: the Bolsheviks, led by Lenin, advocating for a tightly-knit revolutionary party and immediate proletarian revolution; and the Mensheviks, who favored gradual reform and mass participation. This ideological schism underscored debates on strategy, organization, and the role of the state.
- The 1905 revolution, triggered by the Russo-Japanese War and economic crises, exposed the weaknesses of autocracy and demonstrated the mobilization potential of workers and peasants. Although it failed to overthrow the Tsarist regime, it laid the groundwork for the 1917 revolutions. The February Revolution led to the abdication of Tsar Nicholas II, and the subsequent October Revolution brought the Bolsheviks to power, establishing the first socialist state.
- Globally, the Russian socialist movement inspired anti-colonial and labor movements, influencing Marxist-Leninist parties worldwide. It demonstrated that revolutionary socialism could succeed outside advanced industrial nations, challenging Eurocentric narratives. However, the authoritarian consolidation under the Bolsheviks also sparked debates on the tension between socialist ideals and political pragmatism.
- In conclusion, the Russian socialist movement not only transformed Russia but also reshaped global political discourse, laying the foundation for 20th-century ideological conflicts, including the Cold War. Its lessons on organization, mass mobilization, and state-building remain critical for understanding modern revolutionary movements.



GS-2: Panchayati Raj –

Q2. Analyze the evolution of Panchayati Raj in India and assess its effectiveness in strengthening grassroots democracy in the current scenario.

- **Sample Answer:**

Panchayati Raj in India has its roots in ancient local self-governance systems, exemplified by village panchayats managing disputes and local development. The British colonial period disrupted traditional structures but introduced rudimentary local bodies through the 1882 Local Self-Government Act and subsequent reforms. Post-independence, the need for decentralized governance was recognized in the Balwantrai Mehta Committee (1957), which recommended a three-tier system to promote participatory democracy and local development.



- The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992, provided a statutory framework for Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), establishing Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis, and Zilla Parishads across India. It mandated regular elections, reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and women, and the devolution of powers and finances. This constitutional backing strengthened the legitimacy of PRIs and ensured inclusive participation.
- In the current scenario, PRIs have significantly contributed to rural development, social justice, and empowerment of marginalized groups. Programs like MGNREGA, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, and rural health initiatives have been implemented effectively through Panchayati Raj. Women's participation, facilitated by 33% reservations, has enhanced gender-sensitive planning and decision-making at the grassroots.
- However, challenges persist. Many PRIs lack adequate financial autonomy, and political interference undermines local governance. Capacity-building of elected representatives remains insufficient, and in some regions, patriarchal norms limit effective participation of women and marginalized communities. There is also a need to integrate technology and e-governance to improve transparency and accountability.
- In conclusion, Panchayati Raj has evolved as a vital instrument of grassroots democracy in India. While it has made significant strides in empowering communities and ensuring participatory governance, strengthening institutional capacity, financial devolution, and accountability mechanisms remain critical for achieving its full potential.



GS-3: Trade War and WTO

Q3. Examine the implications of ongoing global trade wars on the multilateral trading system and the role of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in resolving such conflicts.

- **Sample Answer:**
Global trade wars, particularly between major economies like the US and China, have significant implications for the multilateral trading system. Trade wars involve the imposition of tariffs, non-tariff barriers, and retaliatory measures, often motivated by protectionist policies. Such unilateral actions disrupt global supply chains, increase trade costs, and create uncertainty in markets, negatively affecting developing and export-dependent economies.
- The World Trade Organization (WTO) was established to provide a rules-based framework for international trade, aiming to reduce protectionism and resolve disputes through negotiation and arbitration. The WTO's Dispute Settlement Mechanism (DSM) has historically enabled member countries to challenge unfair trade practices, ensuring that trade conflicts are resolved multilaterally rather than unilaterally.
- However, ongoing trade wars expose weaknesses in the WTO framework. The organization struggles with delayed dispute resolutions and the erosion of consensus-based decision-making. For instance, the US has blocked appointments to the Appellate Body, undermining the DSM's effectiveness. Additionally, the WTO's rules are often criticized for not adequately addressing contemporary trade issues such as digital trade, intellectual property, and state subsidies.
- Trade wars exacerbate economic inequalities and disrupt development strategies of emerging economies. Countries like India face challenges in protecting domestic industries while adhering to





WTO obligations. At the same time, such conflicts create opportunities for regional trade agreements, as nations seek alternative mechanisms outside the WTO.

- In conclusion, global trade wars challenge the efficacy of the multilateral trading system. While the WTO remains a critical institution for maintaining trade order, reforms are necessary to address modern trade dynamics, ensure timely dispute resolution, and safeguard the interests of smaller economies. Strengthening the WTO's mandate and improving multilateral cooperation are essential to sustaining global economic stability.

GS-4: Ethics, Integrity, and Aptitude

Q4. Discuss the ethical dilemmas faced by public administrators in implementing welfare schemes and suggest ways to resolve them.

- **Sample Answer:**

Public administrators often encounter ethical dilemmas when implementing welfare schemes due to conflicting obligations, scarce resources, and diverse stakeholder expectations. One common dilemma arises between adhering to procedural rules and addressing urgent social needs. For instance, rigid eligibility criteria may exclude deserving beneficiaries, challenging administrators to balance legal compliance with moral responsibility.

- Corruption and favoritism present another ethical challenge. Administrators may face pressure from political actors, local elites, or influential groups to allocate resources unfairly. Such pressures compromise transparency and equity, undermining public trust. Additionally, administrators must navigate dilemmas arising from competing priorities, such as balancing efficiency against inclusivity, or short-term impact against long-term sustainability.
- Resolving these ethical dilemmas requires a combination of individual integrity, institutional mechanisms, and participatory governance. First, adherence to ethical principles such as impartiality, fairness, and accountability is paramount. Administrators should adopt a rights-based approach, prioritizing the welfare of the most vulnerable sections.
- Second, institutional reforms can provide ethical guidance. Mechanisms like social audits, grievance redressal systems, and citizen charters enhance transparency and reduce discretionary misuse. Capacity-building through ethics training, workshops, and peer support networks equips administrators to handle dilemmas with prudence.
- Third, participatory governance fosters ethical implementation. Engaging local communities in planning and monitoring welfare schemes ensures accountability, reduces corruption, and aligns programs with actual needs. Technology-driven solutions, such as direct benefit transfers and e-governance platforms, further strengthen ethical compliance.
- In conclusion, ethical dilemmas in welfare administration are inevitable due to complex social realities. However, adherence to ethical principles, strengthened institutional frameworks, and participatory approaches can mitigate conflicts, ensuring that welfare schemes serve their intended purpose equitably and efficiently.

Current Affairs:

Q5. Evaluate Surajpur's initiative in eradicating child marriage and its significance as a model for social reform in India.

- **Sample Answer:**

Surajpur district in Chhattisgarh has emerged as a notable example of community-led efforts to eradicate child marriage. The initiative combines government policies, local governance



mechanisms, and grassroots mobilization to address socio-cultural norms perpetuating child marriage. Child marriage in India violates constitutional rights under Articles 14, 15, and 21 and hampers education, health, and overall socio-economic development.

- Surajpur's approach involves multiple strategies. Awareness campaigns led by local panchayats, women's self-help groups, and NGOs emphasize the legal consequences of child marriage under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, and highlight the benefits of education and delayed marriage. Community monitoring committees and school-level interventions act as early warning systems to prevent impending child marriages.
- The initiative also incorporates incentive-based programs. Families are provided support for continuing the education of adolescent girls and are recognized publicly for compliance, creating positive social reinforcement. Collaboration with local authorities ensures strict enforcement of legal provisions, while sensitization programs with religious and community leaders help in shifting traditional mindsets.
- Surajpur's success lies in its holistic, community-driven model, integrating legal enforcement, awareness, incentives, and participation. This model demonstrates that sustainable social change requires the active engagement of stakeholders at every level, rather than relying solely on punitive measures.
- The significance of this model extends beyond Surajpur. It offers a replicable blueprint for other districts and states facing similar challenges. By aligning local governance, community engagement, and legal frameworks, Surajpur exemplifies how grassroots interventions can achieve measurable social reform and promote gender justice.
- In conclusion, Surajpur's initiative underscores the importance of integrated strategies in combating social evils like child marriage. Its replicable model reinforces the idea that effective social reform emerges from the synergy of legal frameworks, community participation, and education-driven awareness campaigns.

