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# **VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE**

## **DAILY MCQ'S**

**FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION**

**DATE: 08/10/2025 (WEDNESDAY)**

- **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 *Battle of Buxar (1764)*:

1. The combined forces of Shuja-ud-Daula, Mir Qasim, and Shah Alam II fought against the British East India Company under Major Hector Munro.
2. The Treaty of Allahabad, signed after the battle, granted the British the Diwani rights of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa directly from the Nawab of Bengal.

Which of the above statement(s) 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 Battle of Buxar (22 October 1764) was fought between the British East India Company (led by Major Hector Munro) and the combined forces of Mir Qasim (Nawab of Bengal), Shuja-ud-Daula (Nawab of Awadh), and Shah Alam II (Mughal Emperor).

Statement 2 is **incorrect**. The Treaty of Allahabad (1765) granted the *Diwani* (revenue collection rights) of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa *directly from the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II*, not from the Nawab of Bengal. This treaty formalized British control over Bengal and laid the foundation of British revenue administration in India.

**Q2.** Under the *Environment (Protection) Act, 1986*, which of the following statements correctly describes the power of the Central Government?

- (a) It can declare an area as an ecologically sensitive zone without consulting the State Government.
- (b) It can impose criminal penalties on individuals and corporations found guilty of violating environmental standards.
- (c) It can regulate only air and water pollution but not soil contamination.
- (d) It is empowered only to coordinate with State Boards but not to issue directions to them.

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

Under *Section 15* of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Central Government has the power to prescribe standards and penalize violations, including *imprisonment up to 5 years or fine up to ₹1 lakh*, or both.

Option (a) is **incorrect** because declaring an area as ecologically sensitive involves consultation with the concerned State Government and other stakeholders.

Option (c) is **incorrect** because the Act covers *all environmental media*—air, water, and soil.

Option (d) is **incorrect** because under *Section 5*, the Central Government can issue binding directions to any person, officer, or authority, including State Boards.

**Q3.** Consider the following statements regarding *GDP and GVA*:

1. GDP measures the total value of goods and services produced within a country's borders, while GVA measures the value added by all producers after subtracting intermediate consumption.



2. GDP and GVA are always numerically equal because both represent national output from different perspectives.
3. In India, GVA at basic prices is used to calculate GDP at market prices by adding net indirect taxes.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (c)

**Explanation:**

Statement 1 is **correct**.  $GDP \text{ (Gross Domestic Product)} = GVA \text{ (Gross Value Added)} + \text{Taxes on Products} - \text{Subsidies on Products}$ .

Statement 2 is **incorrect**. GDP and GVA are *conceptually linked but not numerically equal* because of the inclusion/exclusion of net indirect taxes.

Statement 3 is **correct**. In India, GVA is estimated at *basic prices* and to arrive at GDP at *market prices*, net indirect taxes (taxes minus subsidies) are added.

Thus, **GVA represents supply-side output**, while **GDP reflects expenditure-side valuation**.

**Q4.** With reference to the *Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India*, consider the following statements:

1. The CAG holds office for a term of six years or until the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.
2. The CAG's salary and service conditions cannot be varied to his disadvantage after appointment.
3. The CAG audits the accounts of only the Union and State Governments but not public corporations.
4. The reports of the CAG are laid before the Parliament and the State Legislatures.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

Statement 1 is **incorrect**. The CAG holds office for *a term of six years or until the age of 65 years*, whichever is earlier — this is true, but as per the *CAG (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971*, this provision was modified in practice through Article 148 where tenure and removal provisions are constitutionally protected; however, “term of six years” is statutory, not constitutional — still accepted, but only statements fully correct are 2 and 4.

Statement 2 is **correct**. The salary and conditions of service cannot be varied to the disadvantage of the CAG after appointment (Article 148(3)).

Statement 3 is **incorrect**. The CAG also audits accounts of government companies and corporations established under Acts of Parliament or State Legislatures.



Statement 4 is **correct**. CAG reports are submitted to the President or Governor, who cause them to be laid before Parliament or State Legislatures respectively.

**Q5. Assertion – Reason type -**

**Assertion (A):** The highest tides occur when the Sun, Moon, and Earth are in a straight line.

**Reason (R):** The gravitational forces of the Sun and Moon act in the same direction during such alignment, leading to constructive interference of tidal forces.

- (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:**

When the Earth, Moon, and Sun are aligned (during *new moon* and *full moon*), their combined gravitational pull creates *spring tides*, which are the highest tides.

Here, **A** is true — alignment causes highest tides.

**R** is also true — because both celestial bodies exert gravitational forces in the same line, resulting in constructive interference.

Hence, **R correctly explains A**.

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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

**Q.1** Consider the following statements regarding the *newly defined “Pandemic Emergency”* under the recent amendments to global health rules:

1. A “Pandemic Emergency” refers to a communicable disease that has, or is at high risk of having, wide geographical spread to and within multiple States, exceeds or is at high risk of exceeding health-system capacities in those States, causes or is at high risk of causing substantial social and economic disruption, and requires rapid, equitable, and coordinated international action.
2. Once a “Pandemic Emergency” is declared under the amended International Health Regulations, the World Health Organization (WHO) is empowered to automatically requisition vaccines and therapeutics from national stockpiles for equitable distribution.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

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

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

The new definition under the International Health Regulations (IHR) focuses on cross-border spread, overwhelmed health systems, socio-economic disruption, and the need for global coordination.



However, WHO is **not** empowered to directly requisition national stockpiles; countries retain sovereignty over medical countermeasures.

**Q.2** Which one of the following correctly describes the role of **Environmental (Wastewater) Surveillance** in public health monitoring?

- (a) It can determine the exact number of infected individuals in a population based on viral concentration in sewage.
- (b) It serves as an early-warning and trend-monitoring tool but cannot provide precise infection counts due to variability in shedding and dilution.
- (c) It replaces clinical and hospital-based surveillance once a sewage-sampling network is established.
- (d) It is effective only in cities with fully piped sewer systems.

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

Environmental surveillance detects pathogens excreted by infected individuals into wastewater and provides early indications of outbreaks.

However, dilution, environmental decay, and irregular sewage coverage prevent accurate individual-case quantification.

**Q.3** With reference to **DigiLocker** in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. Documents fetched directly from a registered issuer into a user's DigiLocker account are legally equivalent to the original physical documents.
- 2. Aadhaar-based authentication is generally required for fetching many issued documents.
- 3. Self-uploaded scanned copies in the "Uploaded Documents" section have the same legal validity as issuer-fetched documents.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

Digitally issued documents pulled directly from registered issuers through DigiLocker are legally recognized as authentic.

Aadhaar authentication facilitates secure document retrieval.

Self-uploaded copies, however, do not carry the same legal status and serve only as personal storage.

**Q.4** Consider the following statements about the **National Pulses Mission (Mission for Aatmanirbharta in Pulses)**:

- 1. The Union Cabinet approved a six-year Mission (2025-26 to 2030-31) with a financial outlay of about ₹11,440 crore to achieve self-sufficiency in pulses.
- 2. The Mission guarantees that all pulses produced by farmers will be compulsorily procured at Minimum Support Price (MSP).





3. The Mission provides for distribution of about 88 lakh free seed kits and aims to benefit nearly two crore farmers through seed improvement, post-harvest facilities, and procurement support.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (c)

**Explanation:**

The Mission spans six years with an outlay of ₹11,440 crore to strengthen domestic pulse production and reduce imports.

While it promotes assured procurement mechanisms, it does **not** mandate 100% MSP procurement of all output.

Seed distribution and infrastructure support are key features.

**Q.5** With reference to **Typhoon Bualoi**, consider the following statements:

- 1. The storm affected parts of the Philippines before making landfall in northern-central Vietnam in 2025, bringing torrential rainfall and flooding.
- 2. It attained Category-5 intensity just before landfall in Vietnam.
- 3. Scientists attributed its intensity partly to unusually high sea-surface temperatures.
- 4. Initial official damage assessments exceeded USD 1 billion within a few days of landfall.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (c)

**Explanation:**

Typhoon Bualoi impacted the Philippines and Vietnam with heavy rainfall and severe flooding. It did not reach Category-5 intensity at landfall.

Experts noted that warmer seas likely increased rainfall potential.

Initial damage estimates were below USD 1 billion.

**Q.6** *Sir Creek* forms part of the boundary between India and Pakistan.

Which of the following correctly describes its geographical location?

- (a) It lies in the marshy area between the Rann of Kutch (Gujarat) and the Indus Delta (Sindh).
- (b) It is a freshwater channel formed by the Sutlej River near its confluence with the Chenab.
- (c) It separates the Thar Desert of Rajasthan from the Indus plain.
- (d) It is an inland saline lake located in western Rajasthan.

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

Sir Creek is a tidal estuary in the marshy Rann of Kutch region, separating Gujarat's Kutch from Pakistan's Sindh province.

It opens into the Arabian Sea and is disputed over boundary demarcation along the creek's mid-channel.

## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

### GS Paper – 1: Indian Society

**Q1.** *“The intersection of caste and gender continues to determine the nature of inequality in India.”*

Examine with suitable examples.

**Answer:****Introduction:**

Despite constitutional safeguards, caste and gender remain two deeply embedded axes of social stratification in India. When these two intersect, they create layered forms of discrimination, particularly against Dalit and Adivasi women.

**Body:**

Caste-based hierarchy historically defined access to land, education, and dignity. Gender bias, on the other hand, restricted mobility, autonomy, and participation. When combined, this intersection magnifies inequality.

- **Economic Inequality:**

Dalit women are overrepresented in the most exploitative occupations — manual scavenging, domestic work, or agricultural labour. According to NSSO data, they earn almost 40% less than upper-caste women.

- **Social Violence and Discrimination:**

Crimes against Dalit women — such as those in Hathras and Unnao — reveal how caste-based patriarchy operates. Justice mechanisms too reflect this bias, often denying credibility to victims from marginalized castes.

- **Political Representation:**

Reservation in Panchayati Raj Institutions has empowered women, yet caste hierarchies restrict their autonomy. Many Dalit women sarpanchs act as proxies under pressure from dominant castes.

- **Education and Mobility:**

Dalit girls face triple discrimination — gender, caste, and poverty — resulting in high dropout rates.

**Conclusion:**

True social justice requires intersectional reform. Gender empowerment without caste equality remains incomplete. The way forward lies in enforcing caste-sensitive gender policies, inclusive education, and affirmative action that recognizes the dual burden of caste and gender.



## GS Paper – 2: Polity and Governance

**Q2.** *Judicial activism has often filled the vacuum created by legislative or executive inaction. Critically analyze this trend with examples.*

**Answer:**

### **Introduction:**

Judicial activism refers to the proactive role played by the judiciary in interpreting laws and protecting fundamental rights, especially when other organs fail to act.

### **Body:**

- **Positive Aspects:**

- *Upholding Fundamental Rights:* In **Kesavananda Bharati (1973)**, the Supreme Court safeguarded the Basic Structure of the Constitution.
- *Public Interest Litigations (PILs):* From the right to education (Unnikrishnan case) to environmental protection (MC Mehta cases), judicial activism expanded the scope of rights.
- *Social Justice:* Landmark judgments on LGBTQ+ rights (Navtej Singh Johar) and privacy (Puttaswamy) show judicial sensitivity to emerging rights.

- **Criticisms:**

- *Encroachment on Legislative Domain:* Directions on policy matters such as banning diesel vehicles or framing guidelines on firecrackers often overlap with executive powers.
- *Accountability Concerns:* Judges are unelected and their overreach can undermine democratic balance.
- *Judicial Overload:* Increasing activism diverts attention from regular adjudication.

- **Case Studies:**

- *Vishaka Guidelines (1997):* A positive intervention in absence of sexual harassment law.
- *Judicial Directions on Firecracker Ban:* Seen as overstepping into executive policy-making.

### **Conclusion:**

Judicial activism must balance innovation with restraint. It is justified when it protects rights or fills policy gaps but problematic when it substitutes legislative wisdom. Strengthening institutional coordination and legislative responsiveness can restore equilibrium among the three organs of governance.

## GS Paper – 3: Economy & Environment

**Q3.** *Discuss how the circular economy model can help India address its twin challenges of waste management and resource scarcity.*

**Answer:**

### **Introduction:**

The **circular economy** aims to design out waste, reuse materials, and regenerate natural systems — in contrast to the traditional “take-make-dispose” linear model. For a resource-constrained nation like India, it offers both ecological and economic dividends.



**Body:**

- **India's Waste Problem:**

India generates about 62 million tonnes of solid waste annually, of which only 70% is collected and 20% processed. E-waste and plastic waste are growing exponentially.

- **Circular Economy Benefits:**

1. **Resource Efficiency:** Recycling materials like metals and plastics reduces import dependency and conserves resources.
2. **Economic Opportunity:** According to NITI Aayog, a circular economy could create 1.5 million new jobs by 2030.
3. **Sustainability:** Reduces pressure on landfills, mitigates pollution, and lowers carbon footprint.
4. **Industrial Innovation:** Sectors like cement, steel, and textiles are moving towards reuse and extended producer responsibility (EPR).

- **Policy Initiatives:**

- Extended Producer Responsibility under Plastic Waste Management Rules (2016).
- Battery Waste Management and e-Waste Rules (2022).
- NITI Aayog's strategy for circular economy in 10 key sectors (2022).

- **Challenges:**

Weak enforcement, informal waste sector exclusion, lack of awareness, and limited recycling infrastructure.

**Conclusion:**

Transitioning to a circular economy requires regulatory clarity, fiscal incentives, and integration of informal recyclers. Public-private partnerships and behavioral change campaigns can make circularity the foundation of India's sustainable growth trajectory.

## GS Paper – 4: Ethics, Integrity & Aptitude

**Q4.** *"Ethics is knowing the difference between what you have the right to do and what is right to do."* — Potter Stewart.

Examine this statement in the context of ethical governance.

**Answer:****Introduction:**

Ethical governance goes beyond legal compliance; it demands moral judgment rooted in fairness, transparency, and public welfare. Potter Stewart's quote captures this distinction between legality and morality.

**Body:**

- **Legal vs Ethical Action:**

- A public official may legally allocate funds to a politically beneficial project, but ethically, it may divert resources from critical needs.



- Similarly, tax avoidance is legal but unethical when used to exploit loopholes.
- **Importance in Governance:**
  - **Public Trust:** Ethical conduct strengthens legitimacy of institutions.
  - **Accountability:** Upholding moral responsibility prevents corruption and misuse of authority.
  - **Leadership Example:** Ethical leaders inspire subordinates to act with integrity.
- **Examples:**
  - Civil servants like T.N. Seshan upheld electoral ethics beyond mere legal compliance.
  - Contrastingly, “ethical fading” in bureaucracies often leads to justifying wrong actions within procedural cover.
- **Ethical Decision-making Framework:**

Applying principles such as Kantian duty ethics (do the right thing because it’s right) and utilitarianism (maximize welfare) helps bridge this gap.

### Conclusion:

Governance based merely on legality breeds mediocrity; ethical governance breeds trust and excellence. True public service lies not just in following the rulebook but in doing what promotes justice and welfare, even when it demands moral courage.

## Current Affairs

**Q5.** “*The Cost of Convenience: Health Hazards of Digital Tools.*”

**Answer:**

### Introduction:

Digital tools have revolutionized communication, learning, and commerce. Yet, their overuse has quietly imposed a new “cost of convenience” — physical, mental, and societal health hazards.

**Body:**

#### 1. Physical Health Impacts:

- **Sedentary Lifestyle:** Prolonged screen time leads to obesity, posture-related disorders, and sleep deprivation.
- **Digital Eye Strain:** Common among youth due to continuous exposure to blue light.
- **Electromagnetic Exposure:** Though evidence is evolving, excessive proximity to devices raises concerns about long-term effects.

#### 2. Mental Health Concerns:

- **Addiction and Dopamine Loops:** Social media platforms exploit human psychology to trigger reward-seeking behavior.
- **Anxiety and Depression:** Studies link heavy smartphone use with loneliness, FOMO (fear of missing out), and poor self-esteem.



- **Attention Deficit:** Constant notifications fragment cognitive focus and reduce deep work capacity.

### 3. Social and Behavioral Effects:

- **Digital Overload:** Families spend more time online than in real human connection.
- **Cyberbullying and Misinformation:** Emotional trauma and stress have become routine consequences of the digital age.

### 4. Way Forward:

- **Digital Hygiene:** Limiting screen time, using night modes, and scheduling “device-free” hours.
- **Policy Measures:** WHO’s guidelines on digital well-being; awareness campaigns in schools and workplaces.
- **Tech Accountability:** Ethical design norms that prioritize user health over engagement metrics.

### Conclusion:

The digital era’s promise of convenience must not come at the expense of human health. Balancing connectivity with consciousness — through self-discipline, education, and ethical tech governance — will ensure that digital tools serve humanity, not the other way around.