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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY
&
STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 13/10/2025 (MONDAY)

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



 **9972258970 & 9740702455**

**#317/A SKB Arcade, D. Subbaiah Road,
Ramaswamy Circle, Mysuru-570004**



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the *Nehru Report (1928)*:

1. It recommended *Dominion Status* for India within the British Commonwealth and rejected the idea of full independence at that stage.
2. It accepted the principle of *separate electorates* for minorities as a measure to ensure political representation and communal harmony.

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 *Nehru Report (1928)*, drafted by a committee chaired by *Motilal Nehru*, was the first major attempt by Indians to frame a constitutional proposal for self-government.
- It **recommended Dominion Status** for India within the British Commonwealth, not complete independence, thus statement 1 is **correct**.
- However, it **categorically rejected the separate electorates** introduced under earlier reforms (e.g., 1909 and 1919), instead advocating for joint electorates with reserved seats for minorities in certain cases. Hence, statement 2 is **incorrect**.
- The Muslim League, under Jinnah, opposed this provision, leading to the famous “Fourteen Points of Jinnah” in response.

Q2. Which of the following correctly describes the *Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve*?

- (a) It is the only biosphere reserve in India shared by three states—Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka—and includes parts of the Western Ghats as well as Eastern Ghats.
- (b) It contains India’s largest contiguous population of the Asiatic lion and forms part of the Gir–Nilgiri ecological corridor.
- (c) It was the first biosphere reserve in India and includes the Wayanad, Mudumalai, and Bandipur wildlife sanctuaries, forming a single ecological block.
- (d) It is a UNESCO-recognized reserve located entirely within Tamil Nadu and forms the headwaters of the Godavari river system.

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- The *Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve* was established in **1986**, making it **India’s first biosphere reserve**. Hence, (c) is correct.
- It spans parts of **Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka**, encompassing **Mudumalai (TN), Wayanad (Kerala), and Bandipur (Karnataka)**, among others.



- It is entirely part of the **Western Ghats**, not the Eastern Ghats, and certainly not home to Asiatic lions (which are found only in Gir, Gujarat).
- The reserve harbors significant biodiversity including tigers, elephants, lion-tailed macaques, and endemic flora like *Strobilanthes kunthiana* (Neelakurinji).

Q3. With reference to *Vote on Account* in the Union Budget, consider the following statements:

1. It is passed under Article 116 of the Constitution and allows the government to meet expenditure for a limited period until the Appropriation Act is passed.
2. It can be used only for meeting non-plan expenditure and not for any capital expenditure.
3. Unlike a full budget, it cannot alter tax rates or introduce new schemes of expenditure.

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: (c)

Explanation:

- A *Vote on Account* is provided under **Article 116** of the Constitution. It allows the government to **withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund of India** to meet essential expenditure, usually for **two months**, until the main Budget is enacted. Hence, statement 1 is **correct**.
- It does **not distinguish between plan and non-plan expenditure** (a distinction now abolished). Therefore, statement 2 is **incorrect**.
- It is meant purely for continuity of administration and **cannot introduce new expenditure, alter tax rates, or start new schemes**. Hence, statement 3 is **correct**.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding *Money Bills* and *Financial Bills* under the Indian Constitution:

1. Every Money Bill is a Financial Bill, but every Financial Bill is not a Money Bill.
2. A Money Bill can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha, while a Financial Bill can be introduced in either House of Parliament.
3. The Rajya Sabha has no power to reject or amend a Money Bill but can recommend changes; however, it can reject a Financial Bill.
4. The decision of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha on whether a Bill is a Money Bill is final and cannot be challenged in any court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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



Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is **correct**: A *Money Bill* (Article 110) is a specific subset of *Financial Bills*—thus, every Money Bill is a Financial Bill, but not vice versa.
- Statement 2 is **incorrect**: Both *Money Bills* and *Financial Bills (Category I)* can be introduced only in the **Lok Sabha**, not in the Rajya Sabha.
- Statement 3 is **correct**: The *Rajya Sabha* cannot reject or amend a Money Bill but may recommend changes. It can, however, reject or amend *Financial Bills*.
- Statement 4 is **correct**: The *Speaker's certification* of a Bill as a Money Bill is **final**, as per Article 110(3), though subject to limited judicial review under the *Kesavananda Bharati* doctrine.

Q5. Assertion – Reason type -

Assertion (A): The Pacific Ocean experiences the highest frequency and intensity of tropical cyclones compared to other oceans.

Reason (R): The Pacific Ocean has the widest longitudinal expanse and consistently high sea surface temperatures that favor strong convective activity.

- (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 *Pacific Ocean*, particularly the **Northwest and Northeast Pacific basins**, witnesses the **highest frequency and intensity of tropical cyclones (typhoons)** globally. Hence, the assertion (A) is **correct**.
- This is primarily due to its **vast longitudinal extent**, providing a long uninterrupted stretch of warm waters ($>26^{\circ}\text{C}$), and **favorable atmospheric conditions** such as low vertical wind shear and strong Coriolis force—hence, the reason (R) is also **correct and explains A**.
- The Pacific Ocean's **Warm Pool Region** near the equator is the planet's most active convective zone, making it the cradle of most tropical cyclones.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. Consider the following statements about India's **Trade Watch Quarterly** findings for FY24–25:

1. India's total trade in FY25 was approximately **\$1.73 trillion** with a merchandise trade deficit of about **\$85 billion**.



- Services exports in FY25 reached a record level of around **\$387.5 billion**, contributing to a services surplus.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct — the Trade Watch Quarterly report indicates India's total trade was around \$1.73 trillion, with a trade deficit close to \$85 billion.

Statement 2 is also correct — services exports reached a record \$387.5 billion, generating a significant surplus.

Together, these figures highlight India's increasing reliance on services exports to balance merchandise trade deficits.

Q2. Which one of the following best describes the **Tigers Outside Tiger Reserves (TOTR)** project?

- A state-level incentive scheme to promote eco-tourism around tiger reserves, funded entirely by individual states.
- A national initiative by MoEFCC and NTCA (2025–28) with central outlay to protect, monitor, and manage tiger populations living outside notified tiger reserves, reduce human-tiger conflict, and strengthen landscape-level conservation.
- A captive-breeding programme in zoos to augment tiger numbers inside reserves.
- A bilateral India–Russia tiger conservation treaty focused on transboundary tiger reintroductions.

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The TOTR is a **national initiative** launched by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

It aims to protect and monitor **tigers living outside reserves**, address **conflict mitigation**, and ensure **habitat connectivity** across landscapes.

It is implemented with a **central funding component** and promotes **community participation** to reduce retaliatory killings and strengthen coexistence.

Q3. With reference to the **Nobel Prize in Physics 2025**, consider the following statements:

- It was awarded jointly to scientists for discoveries related to **macroscopic quantum mechanical tunnelling and energy quantisation in electrical circuits**.
- All laureates were affiliated to institutions in Scandinavia at the time of the award.
- The discoveries recognised are foundational to **superconducting quantum circuits**, which underpin quantum computing technologies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?



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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct — the award was given for discoveries related to **macroscopic quantum tunnelling in superconducting circuits**, establishing quantum coherence at macroscopic scales.

Statement 2 is incorrect — the laureates were affiliated with universities in the U.S. and Western Europe, not exclusively in Scandinavia.

Statement 3 is correct — their work laid the foundation for **superconducting quantum processors**, a core technology in modern quantum computing.

Q4. With reference to the **PM-SETU Scheme**, consider the following statements:

1. PM-SETU is a flagship programme with an estimated outlay of around ₹60,000 crore to modernise about **1,000 government ITIs** into industry-aligned, outcome-oriented training hubs.
2. The scheme guarantees direct placement for every trainee upon completion of courses.
3. PM-SETU operates on a **hub-and-spoke model**, linking training institutions with industries through SPVs and modern curricula.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct — PM-SETU focuses on modernising and upgrading Industrial Training Institutes with significant central investment.

Statement 2 is incorrect — while it promotes employability through industry collaboration, it does **not** assure guaranteed placement.

Statement 3 is correct — the scheme follows a **hub-and-spoke model**, integrating industries and skill institutes to enhance relevance and efficiency in vocational training.

Q5. Consider the following statements about the **Indian Radio Software Architecture (IRSA) Standard 1.0**:

1. IRSA 1.0 is a national software architecture framework designed to enable **interoperable, modular software-defined radios (SDRs)** for India's defence communications.
2. It mandates the exclusive use of Indian cryptographic algorithms for all radio communications.
3. The standard emphasises modularity, secure interfaces, and lifecycle upgradability, ensuring flexible integration between hardware and waveform software.
4. IRSA 1.0 has been issued by the Department of Telecommunications for civilian 5G systems.



Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct — IRSA 1.0 is a **defence communications standard** developed to standardise SDR software architectures for interoperability across India's tri-services.

Statement 2 is incorrect — it promotes secure communications but does not publicly enforce exclusive algorithm use.

Statement 3 is correct — modularity, secure APIs, and upgradability are key design principles.

Statement 4 is incorrect — the standard is a **defence-focused**, not civilian telecom, framework.

Q6. On the map of the Red Sea region, four locations/features are marked:

- (A) **Gulf of Suez**
- (B) **Gulf of Aqaba**
- (C) **Bab-el-Mandeb Strait**
- (D) **Port of Aden**

Arrange them from **north to south** along the Red Sea.

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

The **Gulf of Suez** lies at the **northwestern end** of the Red Sea, connecting to the **Suez Canal**.

The **Gulf of Aqaba** is slightly southeast of it, also at the Red Sea's northern tip.

At the southern end, the **Bab-el-Mandeb Strait** connects the Red Sea to the **Gulf of Aden**, and further south lies the **Port of Aden** in Yemen.

Hence, the correct north-to-south sequence is **Gulf of Suez → Gulf of Aqaba → Bab-el-Mandeb → Port of Aden**.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS Paper 1



Q1. “The Revolt of 1857 was not merely a sepoy mutiny, but a manifestation of India’s first struggle for independence.” Examine this statement in light of the diverse participation and ideological underpinnings of the uprising.

Answer:

The Revolt of 1857, often termed the “First War of Indian Independence,” marked a watershed in India’s colonial history. While British historians like John Seeley dismissed it as a “sepoy mutiny,” Indian nationalists viewed it as a broad-based resistance against imperial domination.

At its core, the revolt was sparked by immediate military grievances—the introduction of the Enfield rifle cartridges greased with cow and pig fat offended both Hindu and Muslim soldiers. However, its spread across north and central India reflected deep political, economic, and cultural discontent. The annexation of princely states under the *Doctrine of Lapse*, heavy taxation, and land confiscations alienated rulers and peasants alike.

The leadership of figures such as **Rani Lakshmibai, Tantia Tope, Nana Saheb, Kunwar Singh,** and **Bahadur Shah Zafar** transformed a military mutiny into a larger nationalist assertion. The unification of different social groups—peasants, artisans, zamindars, and religious leaders—illustrated a pan-Indian aspiration to reclaim autonomy.

However, limitations persisted: lack of centralized leadership, poor coordination, and regional variations hindered sustained unity. Southern and eastern India remained largely passive. Despite its failure, the revolt fostered a nascent sense of **national consciousness** that later inspired organized political movements like the Indian National Congress (1885).

In conclusion, while the Revolt of 1857 began as a sepoy uprising, its ideological evolution and social spread make it India’s first collective resistance against colonial subjugation—a precursor to the modern freedom struggle that followed.

GS Paper 2

Q2. Discuss how the doctrine of separation of powers operates within the Indian constitutional framework. Does the recent trend of judicial activism blur the distinction between the three organs of government?

Answer:

The doctrine of separation of powers, first propounded by **Montesquieu**, is a cornerstone of constitutional democracy. It advocates the division of governmental authority among the **legislature, executive, and judiciary** to prevent concentration of power.

In India, the Constitution does not rigidly separate these powers but ensures a **functional overlap with mutual checks and balances**. Articles 50, 121–122, and 211–212, along with judicial precedents, underscore the principle. The **legislature** makes laws, the **executive** enforces them, and the **judiciary** interprets them. Yet, they interact dynamically—for instance, the President (executive head) exercises legislative power via ordinances, and the judiciary reviews executive and legislative actions through **judicial review (Articles 13, 32, 226)**.

However, **judicial activism**—epitomized by the *Kesavananda Bharati* (1973) and *Maneka Gandhi* (1978) cases—has expanded judicial authority. The evolution of **Public Interest Litigation (PIL)** empowered courts to intervene in executive inaction and legislative omissions. This has ensured accountability but also raised concerns of **judicial overreach**, as seen in directions on policy issues (e.g., environmental bans, police reforms, etc.).



While such activism often arises from governance deficits, it risks upsetting institutional balance. The Supreme Court itself has acknowledged restraint in *Divisional Manager, Aravali Golf Club v. Chander Hass (2007)*, emphasizing judicial self-discipline.

In conclusion, the Indian model embraces a “**cooperative separation of powers**”, balancing flexibility with accountability. Judicial activism, when guided by constitutional morality, strengthens democracy; when excessive, it encroaches upon legislative and executive autonomy. The challenge lies in maintaining this equilibrium through institutional respect and dialogue.

GS Paper 3

Q3. *India's focus on green growth underlines the tension between developmental aspirations and environmental sustainability. Critically examine India's strategy for achieving its net-zero targets by 2070.*

Answer:

India's commitment to achieve **net-zero carbon emissions by 2070**, announced at COP26, reflects an ambitious balance between environmental responsibility and developmental needs. With nearly **18% of the world's population but only 4% of global emissions**, India's strategy embodies the principle of “*common but differentiated responsibilities*.”

India's roadmap rests on five key “Panchamrit” commitments:

1. Achieving **500 GW of non-fossil energy capacity by 2030**.
2. Meeting **50% of energy requirements from renewables**.
3. Reducing total projected emissions by 1 billion tonnes.
4. Cutting emission intensity of GDP by 45%.
5. Achieving **net-zero by 2070**.

To realize this, India has launched flagship initiatives:

- **National Green Hydrogen Mission** (target: 5 MMT by 2030) to decarbonize industries.
- **PM-KUSUM and Rooftop Solar Programme** to expand decentralized renewable energy.
- **Ethanol Blending Programme, FAME-II, and EV manufacturing incentives** to cut transport emissions.
- **National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and CAMPA** for carbon sequestration.

Challenges persist—coal dependence (~70% power generation), financing deficits (~\$10 trillion needed till 2070), and technology gaps in carbon capture and storage (CCS). Further, balancing **energy access and equity** remains complex for a developing economy.

To overcome this, India must leverage **green finance, international partnerships (e.g., ISA, LiFE movement)**, and a **robust carbon market** framework.

In conclusion, India's path to net-zero is both a moral and strategic imperative. Its success depends on technological innovation, fiscal support, and behavioural transformation—turning sustainability from obligation into opportunity.



GS Paper 4

Q4. *“Ethical governance is not merely about compliance, but about conscience.” Discuss this statement in the context of public administration in India.*

Answer:

Ethical governance transcends legal compliance; it embodies a moral framework rooted in **integrity, transparency, and public accountability**. Compliance ensures adherence to laws, but conscience-driven governance aligns decision-making with moral reasoning and the public good.

In Indian administration, ethical governance derives from both constitutional and moral foundations. The **Preamble, Fundamental Duties (Article 51A), and Directive Principles (Article 38)** emphasize justice, equality, and service orientation. Yet, mere adherence to rules cannot ensure ethical conduct unless guided by conscience—the internalized sense of right and wrong.

Instances like **e-Governance reforms, RTI Act (2005), and Lokpal and Lokayukta** institutions exemplify ethical intent. However, corruption scandals, bureaucratic apathy, and red-tapism reveal the limitations of rule-based compliance. Conscience-driven officers—such as **T.N. Seshan (electoral reforms)** or **Kiran Bedi (prison reforms)**—demonstrate that ethical governance requires **moral courage and empathy**, not just adherence to procedure.

Ethical governance also demands **values-based leadership, public participation, and transparency mechanisms** that encourage moral decision-making. Tools like **Citizen Charters, social audits, and ethical codes of conduct** bridge the gap between legality and morality.

In conclusion, while compliance ensures order, conscience ensures justice. Ethical governance must blend both—laws provide structure, but conscience gives soul. Only when public servants act with integrity and moral vision can governance truly serve the people it represents.

Current Affairs

Q5. *“India and the Multipolar West: Challenges and Opportunities.” Discuss how the evolving global order provides strategic space for India to redefine its role amid fragmented Western alliances.*

Answer:

The post-Cold War unipolar moment has given way to a **multipolar world**, marked by strategic fluidity within the Western bloc itself. The so-called “Multipolar West” — where the U.S., Europe, and middle powers like the U.K., France, and Japan pursue diverging priorities — presents India both challenges and opportunities.

Opportunities:

First, the **fragmentation of Western unity** opens space for **India’s strategic autonomy**. Amid U.S.-China rivalry and European energy dependence, India can deepen selective partnerships — e.g., **India–France in defence, India–U.S. in technology, and India–EU in trade and climate diplomacy**.

Second, India’s **civilizational identity and democratic model** enable it to act as a **bridge between the Global North and South** — evident in India’s leadership during **G20 (2023)** and advocacy for **Global South reform in multilateral institutions**.

Third, as Western economies seek **supply chain diversification** away from China, India emerges as a **trusted manufacturing and innovation hub**, aligning with frameworks like **IPEF, QUAD, and EU’s Global Gateway**.



Challenges:

However, India must navigate the **strategic contradictions within the West** — e.g., differing views on Russia, protectionist trade policies, and occasional human rights criticisms. Balancing deepening defence ties with the U.S. while maintaining historical ties with Russia tests India’s diplomatic dexterity. Moreover, Western economic slowdown and domestic populism may reduce long-term coherence of global commitments toward climate finance or trade openness—areas where India seeks equity.

Conclusion:

The multipolar West reflects an era of “**multi-alignment**”, not “non-alignment.” For India, the key lies in converting global fragmentation into leverage — strengthening **strategic autonomy**, enhancing **economic resilience**, and shaping a **new, inclusive multilateralism**. India’s role, therefore, is not to choose sides but to build bridges — defining the “middle path” for an age of uncertainty.