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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY
& STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 14/10/2025 (TUESDAY)

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

QUIZ TIME!

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DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the **Pratihara and Pala Empires** in early medieval India:

1. The Pratiharas, unlike the Palas, derived much of their power from maritime trade and control over western seaports.

2. Both the Pratiharas and the Palas patronized Mahayana Buddhism as their state religion.

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: (d)

Explanation:
The Pratiharas were primarily a Rajput dynasty based in western and northern India (Gujarat–Malwa–Kannauj region). Their power rested on land-based trade routes and military control over the Gangetic plains, **not maritime trade**. The **Palas of Bengal**, on the other hand, had relatively greater interaction with Southeast Asia through maritime routes. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.
As for religion, the **Palas were notable patrons of Mahayana and Vajrayana Buddhism**, evident from their support to Nalanda and Vikramashila universities. The **Pratiharas, however, were staunch Hindus**, particularly devoted to Vishnu and Shiva. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.
Therefore, both statements are incorrect.

Q2. In which one of the following **National Parks** are local communities officially allowed to engage in traditional fishing activities as part of co-management of resources?

(a) Kaziranga National Park
(b) Keoladeo National Park
(c) Periyar National Park
(d) Gir National Park

Answer: (c)

Explanation:
The **Periyar National Park** (Kerala) has adopted an innovative **eco-development and participatory management model** where local communities are involved in sustainable tourism and limited fishing rights under strict regulation. This approach ensures livelihood support while maintaining ecological balance.
In contrast, **Kaziranga** and **Gir** strictly prohibit extractive activities, and **Keoladeo**, being a Ramsar site, allows only controlled water management, not fishing.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding **GDP and Purchasing Power Parity (PPP)**:

1. GDP (nominal) measures the value of all goods and services produced within a country at prevailing market exchange rates.

2. GDP (PPP) adjusts for differences in cost of living and inflation rates across countries.

3. A country with a high nominal GDP will always have a higher GDP (PPP) ranking than countries with lower nominal GDP.

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)

Explanation:
Statement 1 is correct: **Nominal GDP** uses current market exchange rates for conversion into a common currency.
Statement 2 is correct: **PPP-adjusted GDP** reflects the relative domestic purchasing power of currencies by adjusting for local prices and inflation.
Statement 3 is incorrect: A country with high nominal GDP (like Japan or Germany) may rank lower in PPP terms than countries with lower nominal GDP but cheaper prices (like India or Indonesia). PPP thus often **boosts developing economies' rankings**.

Q4. With reference to the **Union and State Executives** under **Part V and Part VI** of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. The President holds office for a term of five years, whereas the Governor holds office during the pleasure of the President.

2. The President may seek re-election, but a Governor cannot be reappointed after completion of one term.

3. The manner of election of the President is mentioned in the Constitution, while the appointment of the Governor is made purely by convention.

4. Both the President and the Governor exercise powers on the aid and advice of their respective Councils of Ministers.

How many of the statements given above are **correct**?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:
Statement 1 is correct: The President's tenure is five years (Article 56), and the Governor holds office during the pleasure of the President (Article 156).
Statement 2 is incorrect: There is **no constitutional bar on reappointment** of a Governor. A Governor may serve multiple terms or even be transferred.
Statement 3 is incorrect: The **appointment of the Governor** is provided under **Article 155**, hence it is constitutional, not conventional.
Statement 4 is correct: Both the President (Article 74) and the Governor (Article 163) generally act on the **aid and advice of their Councils of Ministers**, except in certain discretionary matters for the Governor.
Hence, only **Statements 1 and 4 are correct**, i.e., **two statements**.

Q5. Assertion – Reason type -

Assertion (A): Warm ocean currents generally move from equatorial to polar regions, moderating the climate of nearby coastal areas.

Reason (R): Cold currents increase atmospheric instability, leading to frequent rainfall in the coastal regions they influence.

(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: (c)

Explanation:

Warm currents such as the **Gulf Stream** and **Kuroshio** transport heat poleward, **raising temperatures of adjacent coastal zones** and making them milder — hence the assertion is **true**.

However, cold currents like the **Peru** or **Canary Current** stabilize the atmosphere, **reducing rainfall** and often causing **arid conditions** (e.g., Atacama Desert). Therefore, the reason is **false**, as cold currents **suppress**, not enhance, convection and rainfall.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. Consider the following statements about the **2025 Nobel Prize in Chemistry** awarded for work on metal–organic frameworks (MOFs):

1. The 2025 Nobel laureates were recognized primarily for creating highly porous crystalline materials that can be tuned at the molecular level to trap gases, catalyse reactions and harvest water from air.

2. MOFs, as developed by the 2025 laureates, are inherently metallic conductors used mainly for high-temperature superconductivity applications.

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:

Statement 1 is correct — the 2025 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded to Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson and Omar M. Yaghi for the development of metal–organic frameworks (MOFs), highly porous and tuneable materials used for gas storage, catalysis and water harvesting.

Statement 2 is incorrect — MOFs are crystalline frameworks made of metal ions and organic linkers, known for their extreme porosity, not metallic conductivity or superconductivity.

Q2. With reference to the recent expansion of **e-NAM (National Agriculture Market)** in 2025, which one of the following is **correct**?

(a) The number of tradable commodities on e-NAM was reduced to focus solely on cereals and pulses.
(b) The e-NAM platform was discontinued and replaced by a new state-level portal in 2025.
(c) Nine additional commodities were added in October 2025, increasing the total tradable items to 247.
(d) e-NAM was restricted to intra-state trading only, disallowing inter-state transactions.

Answer: (c)

Explanation:
In October 2025, the Government of India expanded the e-NAM platform by adding nine new commodities, taking the total number of tradable items to 247. This expansion aimed to promote wider farmer participation and enhance transparency and competitiveness in agricultural markets.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the **Draft National Labour & Employment Policy – Shram Shakti Niti 2025**:

1. The draft proposes a statutory single-window digital interface (Digital Public Infrastructure) to integrate labour codes, social security and skill databases for portability of benefits.

2. It seeks to make universal social security conditional on continuous formal sector employment for a minimum of five years.

3. The draft emphasises green and gig economy jobs, and proposes incentives for enterprise-level transition to low-carbon work processes.

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:
Statement 1 is correct — the draft policy envisions a unified digital infrastructure linking labour codes, social security and skill data for portability of benefits.
Statement 2 is incorrect — the draft aims at **universalising** social security, not restricting it to those employed in the formal sector for a fixed duration.
Statement 3 is correct — it highlights skilling and incentives for green, digital and gig economy jobs, with a focus on sustainable and low-carbon employment generation.

Q4. Consider the following statements about the **AIM-120 AMRAAM (Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missile)** and its strategic implications:

1. AMRAAM uses active radar homing in the terminal phase and supports inertial mid-course guidance with datalink updates.

2. The most advanced operational variants (e.g., AIM-120D/C-8 family) have reported effective engagement ranges that can exceed 100–160 km depending on launch conditions and variant.

3. AMRAAM is exclusively compatible with US-origin fighter aircraft and cannot be integrated with legacy F-16 platforms operated by non-NATO users.

Which of the statements given above is/are **correct**?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
Statements 1 and 2 are correct — AMRAAM uses inertial mid-course guidance with datalink updates and an active radar seeker in the terminal phase. The advanced AIM-120D variants have an operational range that may exceed 100–160 km under optimal conditions.
Statement 3 is incorrect — AMRAAM has been integrated across various global fighter platforms, including non-NATO F-16s, making it widely compatible and exportable.

Q5. With reference to the **8th International Solar Alliance (ISA) Assembly** to be hosted by India in 2025, consider the following statements:

1. The ISA focuses exclusively on financing solar power projects and does not engage in technology collaboration or capacity building.

2. Hosting the ISA Assembly in New Delhi is expected to boost international cooperation on decentralised solar solutions, including mini-grids and rooftop solar for the Global South.

3. The ISA is an intergovernmental treaty-based international organisation whose membership is open to all UN member states, but participation is voluntary and concentrated among tropical and subtropical countries.

4. The ISA Assembly has no role in policy dialogue or mobilisation of concessional finance for solar projects; funding decisions are made solely by bilateral lenders.

How many of the statements given above are **correct**?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
Statements 2 and 3 are correct — the 8th ISA Assembly hosted by India focuses on strengthening cooperation for decentralised solar solutions and inclusivity among sun-belt nations.
Statements 1 and 4 are incorrect — ISA's scope extends beyond financing, including capacity building, innovation exchange and policy advocacy, and the Assembly plays an active role in dialogue and mobilisation of concessional finance.

Q6. The **Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve** (core area: Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks) falls within which one of the following combinations of districts in Uttarakhand?

(a) Chamoli, Rudraprayag and Tehri Garhwal
(b) Chamoli, Bageshwar and Pithoragarh
(c) Pithoragarh, Almora and Nainital
(d) Chamoli, Uttarkashi and Champawat

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
The Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve lies in the western Himalaya within the districts of **Chamoli, Bageshwar and Pithoragarh** in Uttarakhand. Its core area includes the Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks, with buffer zones extending across these districts.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS Paper 1 –

Q1. "While the French Revolution proclaimed liberty and equality, its legacy shaped modern nationalism and the rise of authoritarianism in Europe." Examine.

Answer:
The **French Revolution (1789)** marked a turning point in world history, dismantling feudalism and monarchy while spreading the ideals of **liberty, equality, and fraternity**. Yet, its outcomes were paradoxical—both liberating and authoritarian in nature.

The Revolution introduced the concept of the **sovereign nation-state**, where power emanated from the people rather than divine authority. The **Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen** laid the foundation for constitutionalism and civic nationalism. These principles inspired global movements — from the **Haitian Revolution** to the **Revolutions of 1848** — shaping democratic aspirations worldwide.

However, the Revolution also unleashed **radicalism and militarism**. The Reign of Terror under Robespierre reflected how ideals of liberty could be subverted by ideological zeal. The subsequent **rise of Napoleon Bonaparte** embodied authoritarian centralization cloaked in revolutionary rhetoric. His conquests exported revolutionary laws but simultaneously imposed imperial domination.

In the 19th century, the revolutionary legacy evolved into **mass nationalism**, which united nations like Germany and Italy but also sowed seeds for **ultra-nationalism** and later totalitarian regimes. Thus, the Revolution's dual legacy — of enlightenment and excess — continued to define European politics for over a century.

Conclusion:
The French Revolution remains a historical paradox — a **torchbearer of modern democracy** and simultaneously the **breeder of political absolutism**. It taught humanity that liberty without order breeds chaos, and equality without justice breeds tyranny.

GS Paper 2 –

Q2. "Good Governance is not merely about efficiency in administration but about ethical legitimacy, citizen participation, and rule of law." Discuss with reference to recent initiatives in India.

Answer:
Good governance transcends bureaucratic efficiency; it is about the **quality of relationship between the state and its citizens**. According to the UNDP, good governance rests on eight pillars — accountability, transparency, participation, consensus orientation, responsiveness, equity, effectiveness, and rule of law.

In India, this vision is being operationalized through various reforms:

- **Digital Governance:** Platforms like *DigiLocker, UMANG, and e-Samarth* improve transparency and citizen interface.

- **Participatory Mechanisms:** *Gram Sabhas*, *Jan Sunwais*, and *MyGov* embody people-centric decision-making.

- **Administrative Reforms:** *Mission Karmayogi* seeks to build ethical and citizen-centric civil servants.

- **Legal and Institutional Strengthening:** The *Right to Information Act* and *Lokpal* ensure accountability.

- **Service Delivery Innovation:** Schemes like *e-Kranti* and *Jan Dhan–Aadhaar–Mobile (JAM)* architecture exemplify inclusive governance.

However, challenges persist — bureaucratic inertia, corruption, and digital divides often erode trust. Ethical legitimacy remains central: efficiency without moral grounding can degenerate into technocracy. Therefore, initiatives like *citizen charters*, *social audits*, and *open data platforms* are crucial in rebuilding credibility.

Conclusion:
Good governance is both a **process and a principle** — it must combine *moral authority with administrative capacity*. India's governance future depends not only on smart systems but on **ethical, accountable institutions that place citizens at the core of governance**.

GS Paper 3 –

Q3. "Cybersecurity today is not just about protecting data; it is about safeguarding national sovereignty and public trust." Examine the statement in light of India's recent policy developments.

Answer:
In the 21st century, cyberspace has become the new domain of power projection and vulnerability. Cybersecurity now transcends individual privacy — it anchors **national security, critical infrastructure, and democratic integrity**.

India faces multifaceted threats:

- **State-sponsored cyber espionage**, particularly targeting defence, energy, and space sectors.

- **Ransomware and phishing attacks** affecting financial institutions and citizens.

- **Disinformation campaigns** threatening electoral integrity and public trust.

Recent policy measures demonstrate India's strategic awareness:

- The **National Cyber Security Policy (NCSP) 2024 (draft)** seeks to strengthen digital infrastructure, capacity building, and cyber deterrence.

- The **Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In)** coordinates national-level incident response.

- The **Data Protection Act, 2023** introduces accountability for data fiduciaries and individual consent.
- The **National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC)** safeguards essential digital networks.

However, challenges remain — shortage of skilled professionals, fragmented jurisdiction, and the lack of a unified cyber doctrine. Public–private cooperation, AI-based threat detection, and international collaboration (e.g., through QUAD Cyber Initiatives) are essential.

Conclusion:
Cybersecurity is the new frontier of sovereignty. In protecting cyberspace, India protects its **economy, democracy, and citizens' faith in governance**. The goal must be to create a secure, trusted, and resilient digital India aligned with its national interests.

GS Paper 4 – Ethics, Integrity & Aptitude

Q4. "Public service must be guided not only by legality but by moral courage." Discuss the statement with suitable illustrations.

Answer:
Public service, at its core, is an ethical enterprise. While laws define the limits of conduct, **moral courage defines the spirit of service**. Legality provides structure; morality provides soul.

Moral courage is the willingness to act ethically despite risk, fear, or institutional resistance. In the public domain, it means **upholding integrity, transparency, and justice even under pressure**.
Examples abound:

- **E. Sreedharan** resigned from service when ethical interference occurred, embodying moral conviction.
- **Ashok Khemka's** insistence on administrative probity shows moral courage amidst systemic inertia.
- Historical figures like **Vinoba Bhave** and **Lal Bahadur Shastri** exemplified decision-making rooted in ethical conviction over expediency.

A civil servant often faces dilemmas where legal norms permit certain actions, but ethical values counsel restraint — for instance, misuse of discretionary powers or manipulation of statistics. In such cases, moral courage ensures **accountability to conscience rather than convenience**.

Conclusion:
Legality ensures compliance; morality ensures conscience. Public administration that is lawful but not ethical risks becoming soulless. True governance requires officials who not only *know the law* but also *stand up for what is right*, even when it is inconvenient.

GS Paper – Current Affairs

Q5. "Gender-Affirming Care (GAC) represents a human rights approach to healthcare but faces social, legal, and ethical challenges in India." Discuss.

Answer:
Gender-Affirming Care (GAC) refers to medical, psychological, and social interventions that support individuals in aligning their physical and emotional identity with their gender experience. It includes counselling, hormone therapy, surgery, and social recognition measures.

From a **human rights perspective**, GAC is rooted in the principles of **autonomy, dignity, and non-discrimination**. The Supreme Court's **NALSA v. Union of India (2014)** judgment recognized the right to self-identify gender as part of Article 21 — the right to life with dignity. Further, the **Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019** mandates non-discrimination in healthcare.

However, challenges persist:

- **Legal ambiguity:** Medical guidelines on GAC remain non-standardized across institutions.

- **Social stigma:** Transgender and non-binary persons face prejudice from families and healthcare providers.

- **Economic barriers:** GAC procedures are expensive and often excluded from public insurance schemes.

- **Ethical dilemmas:** Consent and capacity in minors, potential over-medicalization, and balancing parental vs. individual rights pose ethical complexity.

Recently, some states and the **National Medical Commission (NMC)** have begun developing clinical guidelines for gender-affirming interventions. Civil society movements advocate for **inclusive curricula in medical education** and coverage under **Ayushman Bharat**.

Conclusion:
Gender-Affirming Care is not cosmetic; it is a **right to live authentically**. India's journey from legal recognition to social acceptance requires sensitization, regulation, and compassion. Upholding GAC ensures that healthcare becomes a **vehicle of dignity rather than conformity**.