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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY
&
STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 4/11/2025 (TUESDAY)

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



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DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Q1. With reference to the teachings of Buddhism, consider the following statements:

1. The concept of *Anatta* emphasizes the permanent existence of the soul beyond physical death.
2. The *Pratityasamutpada* (Dependent Origination) explains that all phenomena arise due to specific causes and conditions, rejecting the idea of an unchanging essence.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- *Anatta* means “no-self” — it denies the existence of a permanent, eternal soul or self (*Atman*). Therefore, statement 1 is **incorrect**.
- *Pratityasamutpada* or “Dependent Origination” is a key doctrine in Buddhism that explains the interdependent nature of all existence — that things arise and cease due to causes and conditions. It denies any inherent, unchanging essence. Hence, statement 2 is **correct**.

Q2. The Kyoto Protocol is primarily concerned with:

- (a) Setting legally binding targets for developed countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- (b) Promoting global reforestation and biodiversity conservation through voluntary national commitments.
- (c) Financing adaptation projects in developing countries through the Global Environment Facility.
- (d) Regulating trade in endangered species of flora and fauna under a UN framework.

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- The **Kyoto Protocol (1997)** is a legally binding international agreement under the UNFCCC that commits developed (Annex I) countries to specific emission reduction targets for six greenhouse gases.
- It introduced market-based mechanisms like **Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)**, **Joint Implementation (JI)**, and **Emission Trading (ET)**.
- The other options describe unrelated or partially related frameworks such as CBD or CITES.

Q3. With reference to different types of bonds issued in India, consider the following statements:

1. *Masala Bonds* are rupee-denominated bonds issued abroad by Indian entities to raise funds.
2. *Sovereign Green Bonds* are issued by private companies to finance environmentally sustainable projects.
3. *Zero-Coupon Bonds* do not carry any periodic interest payments but are issued at a discount and redeemed at face value.



How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. *Masala Bonds* are indeed rupee-denominated bonds issued in offshore markets by Indian entities; investors bear the exchange rate risk.
 - **Statement 2:** Incorrect. *Sovereign Green Bonds* are issued by the **Government of India**, not private companies, to fund green infrastructure and climate projects.
 - **Statement 3:** Correct. *Zero-Coupon Bonds* are issued at a discount and redeemed at par, yielding a return equivalent to interest.
- Hence, **two statements (1 and 3)** are correct.

Q4. With reference to the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs) enshrined in the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution classifies DPSPs into Gandhian, Socialist, and Liberal-Intellectual categories.
2. The Directive Principles are non-justiciable but fundamental in the governance of the country.
3. The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act gave precedence to certain DPSPs over Fundamental Rights.
4. The principle of equal pay for equal work is included under the Socialist principles.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. This classification is conventional, not constitutional, but widely accepted by scholars.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. Article 37 states that DPSPs are non-justiciable but fundamental in governance.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. The 42nd Amendment (1976) gave primacy to certain DPSPs (e.g., Article 39(b) & (c)) over Fundamental Rights under Article 31C.
- **Statement 4:** Correct. The “equal pay for equal work” clause (Article 39(d)) is a **Socialist principle**. Actually, **all four** seem right by content, but since the question demands nuanced accuracy—Statement 1’s *classification* is not constitutional—it is only **three correct**.

**Q5. Assertion – Reason type -**

Assertion (A): The Tropic of Cancer passes through more countries than the Tropic of Capricorn.

Reason (R1): The landmass in the Northern Hemisphere is greater than in the Southern Hemisphere.

Reason (R2): The Earth's axial tilt causes the Tropic of Cancer to pass closer to the equator than the Tropic of Capricorn.

- (a) A is correct, and both R1 and R2 are correct explanations of A.
- (b) A is correct, and only R1 is the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is correct, but neither R1 nor R2 explains it correctly.
- (d) A is incorrect, but both R1 and R2 are correct.

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- The **Tropic of Cancer** passes through **17 countries**, while the **Tropic of Capricorn** passes through **10 countries** — hence, the assertion is **correct**.
- **R1 is correct and explains A**, as the Northern Hemisphere has more landmass, allowing the Tropic of Cancer to intersect more nations.
- **R2 is incorrect**, as both Tropics are equally distant (23.5°) from the equator due to Earth's axial tilt — not “closer.”
Hence, only **R1** correctly explains the assertion.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. With respect to the MAHA MedTech Mission, consider the following statements:

1. The mission explicitly targets development of “high-cost imported medical technologies” for indigenisation and aims to support their commercialisation in low-resource settings.
2. The mission has a declared minimum shelf-life funding horizon of 10 years and mandates maintenance of full returns on investment before domestic deployment of technologies.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) None
- (d) Both

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: the mission indeed focuses on supporting indigenous development of high-priority, high-cost imported medical technologies for adaptation to Indian low-resource settings.
- Statement 2 is **incorrect**: while funding support and commercialisation pathways are part of the mission, there is no publicly stated requirement that full ROI be realised (before domestic



deployment) nor a fixed minimum horizon of 10 years as part of the publicly released call for proposals. Hence only one statement is correct.

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding the concept of ‘Due Process of Law’ in the Indian context:

1. The phrase ‘Due Process of Law’ is explicitly mentioned in the Constitution of India.
2. The Supreme Court introduced the concept of ‘Substantive Due Process’ while interpreting Article 21.
3. ‘Due Process of Law’ ensures that not only the procedure established by law is followed, but also that the law itself is fair, just, and reasonable.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- The phrase “**Due Process of Law**” is **not explicitly mentioned** in the Indian Constitution. Instead, **Article 21** mentions “*procedure established by law.*”
- However, in the **Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India (1978)** case, the Supreme Court expanded the interpretation of Article 21 to include “**substantive due process**”, ensuring that laws must be **just, fair, and reasonable**.
- Thus, India effectively follows the **spirit of due process**, even though the exact phrase is absent.

Q3. Regarding the military communications satellite GSAT-7R of India, which of the following statements are correct?

1. GSAT-7R is designed as a dedicated communication satellite for the Indian Navy, to replace GSAT-7, and includes multi-band payloads (UHF, S-, C- and Ku-bands).
2. The satellite is scheduled to be launched using a GSLV Mk III (LVM-3) rocket from the second launch pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, by end of 2025.
3. GSAT-7R will provide global constellation coverage including polar regions beyond the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) for strategic communications.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:



- Statement 1 is correct: GSAT-7R is indeed a dedicated Indian Navy communication satellite with multi-band payloads (UHF, S, C, Ku) meant to replace GSAT-7.
- Statement 2 is correct: Articles confirm launch via LVM-3 (GSLV Mk III) from Satish Dhawan Space Centre second launch pad; planned for 2025.
- Statement 3 is **incorrect**: The available information emphasises coverage over the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) and Indian land mass; global/polar region constellation coverage is not publicly specified. For example, GSAT-7's footprint is Indian Ocean region.
Hence, only two statements are correct.

Q4. Concerning the nationwide commemoration of “Vande Mataram – 150 Years”, evaluate the following statements:

1. The Indian Union Cabinet approved a nationwide celebration of the 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram in October 2025.
2. The song was composed by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in the 1870s, and first publicly sung by Rabindranath Tagore at the 1896 session of the Indian National Congress.
3. The Constitution of India explicitly mentions Vande Mataram as a “national symbol” on par with the National Anthem.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: The Cabinet approved a nationwide celebration of the 150-year anniversary of Vande Mataram.
- Statement 2 is correct: The song was composed by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in the 1870s/1880s and first sung by Rabindranath Tagore at the 1896 Congress session.
- Statement 3 is **incorrect**: While Vande Mataram has been accorded equal honour with the National Anthem in an affidavit and public statements, the Constitution does *not* explicitly mention it as a national symbol or on par with the National Anthem.
Thus, two statements are correct.

Q5. With reference to the livestock-breeding innovation CRYODIL, consider the following statements:

1. CRYODIL is India's first ready-to-use, egg-yolk-free semen extender developed for buffaloes.
2. It has a shelf life of 18 months or more under refrigeration, which is higher than traditional egg-yolk-based extenders.
3. The innovation was developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research-National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology, Bengaluru (ICAR-NIANP).



4. CRYODIL is targeted exclusively for cattle (*Bos taurus*) semen preservation and not applicable for buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*) breeding.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- Statement 1: Correct – CRYODIL is India's first egg-yolk-free extender ready to use for buffalo semen.
- Statement 2: Correct – it has a shelf life of 18 months under refrigeration, superior to traditional extenders.
- Statement 3: Correct – it was developed by ICAR-NIANP, Bengaluru.
- Statement 4: Incorrect – the product is specifically for buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*) semen preservation; cattle only (*Bos taurus*) is false.

Hence, three of the four statements are correct.

Q6. Study the map of India (attached separately in test series) showing a severe cyclonic storm track making landfall on the east coast. Which of the following options correctly identifies the landfall region of the track corresponding to Cyclone Montha?

- (a) Between Bhavnagar and Porbandar on the Gujarat coast (Arabian Sea)
- (b) Between Machilipatnam and Kalingapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) on the Bay of Bengal coast
- (c) East of Visakhapatnam moving towards the Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- (d) North of Puri near Chandbali in Odisha

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The correct landfall region for Cyclone Montha is between Machilipatnam and Kalingapatnam (near Kakinada) on the Andhra Pradesh coast.

Option (a) is on the west coast so incorrect, (c) is east of the coast and mis-represents the path, (d) is north of actual landfall zone.

Hence option (b) is the correct identification.



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS Paper 1 –

Q1. Critically evaluate how India's Five-Year Plans laid the foundation for economic growth, and how the post-1991 liberalisation transformed that planning approach.

Answer:

India's Five-Year Plans (1951–2017) were the cornerstone of its planned economic development model. Conceived under Nehru's vision of a mixed economy, they aimed to balance growth, social justice, and self-reliance through state-led industrialisation and resource allocation.

Early Phase (1951–1980):

The first three plans focused on building the industrial base, agriculture, and infrastructure. The **Second Plan (1956–61)**, inspired by the Mahalanobis model, emphasized heavy industries and import substitution. However, excessive focus on the public sector and bureaucratic controls led to inefficiencies and stagnation — often referred to as the “**Hindu rate of growth.**”

Shift in the 1980s:

From the Sixth Plan onwards, moderate liberalisation measures were introduced to encourage private participation, improve exports, and reduce fiscal deficits. Yet, protectionism and state control persisted, leading to the 1991 balance of payments crisis.

Post-1991 Liberalisation Era:

The 1991 reforms, under PM Narasimha Rao and Finance Minister Manmohan Singh, marked a paradigmatic shift. India transitioned from a state-driven model to a **market-oriented economy** with policies emphasizing deregulation, privatisation, and global integration. Planning became **indicative** rather than **directive**.

Impact and Continuity:

Liberalisation unleashed high growth rates, technological advances, and private entrepreneurship, but also widened inequality and regional imbalances. The Planning Commission's role diminished, and in 2015, it was replaced by **NITI Aayog**, emphasizing cooperative federalism and outcome-based governance.

Conclusion:

Five-Year Plans built the economic base and institutions, while liberalisation reoriented India towards efficiency and competitiveness. Together, they mark a continuum — from **state-led development to market-enabled growth** — reflecting India's adaptive economic strategy.

GS Paper 2 – State Executive

Q2. Examine the constitutional role and political significance of the Governor in India's federal structure.

Answer:

The **Governor**, under Articles 153–162 of the Constitution, serves as the **constitutional head of the state**, representing the Union in the states. The role is designed to balance **autonomy of states** with the **unity of the nation**.



Constitutional Role:

The Governor performs **executive, legislative, and discretionary** functions.

- He appoints the Chief Minister and other ministers (Art. 164).
- Summons, prorogues, and dissolves the Legislative Assembly.
- Gives assent to bills, reserves them for the President's consideration (Art. 200).
- Acts as a link between the **Centre and the State**.

Discretionary Powers and Controversies:

While expected to act on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers, the Governor enjoys discretion in certain cases — such as recommending President's Rule (Art. 356), or choosing a CM in a hung assembly. However, this discretion often becomes **politicised**, as seen in instances of **arbitrary dismissal of governments** or **delay in bill assent**, undermining federal norms.

Reforms Suggested:

Commissions such as **Sarkaria (1988)** and **Punchhi (2010)** recommended:

- Governors should be non-partisan, eminent persons.
- Their tenure should be secure.
- Discretionary powers should be clearly defined.
- Prior consultation with the Chief Minister before appointment.

Conclusion:

The Governor is pivotal for maintaining constitutional balance. Yet, frequent political misuse has strained Centre–State relations. Strengthening conventions and ensuring neutrality is essential to preserve the **federal spirit and cooperative governance** envisaged in the Constitution.

GS Paper 3 –

Q3. Discuss the effectiveness of major environmental legislation in India, such as the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, and the Environment Protection Act, 1986, in addressing pollution challenges.

Answer:

India's environmental legislation evolved in response to rising industrialisation and ecological degradation. Key among them are the **Water Act (1974)**, **Air Act (1981)**, and the **Environment Protection Act (1986)**, each addressing specific dimensions of pollution.

Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981:

It was the first comprehensive legislation to regulate industrial emissions. It established **Pollution Control Boards (CPCB and SPCBs)** empowered to monitor air quality, set emission standards, and penalize violations. Despite this, implementation has been weak due to inadequate manpower, poor data, and political interference.

Environment Protection Act (EPA), 1986:

Enacted after the **Bhopal Gas Tragedy**, the EPA serves as an umbrella legislation. It empowers the central government to take measures for environmental protection, issue notifications (like EIA 2006), and regulate hazardous substances.



Effectiveness and Challenges:

While these Acts have created an institutional framework, **implementation gaps persist:**

- Overlapping jurisdictions lead to inefficiency.
- Penalties are often too small to deter polluters.
- Air quality in cities like Delhi remains hazardous, reflecting enforcement failures.
- EIA processes are criticized for being procedural and not preventive.

Recent Measures:

The **National Green Tribunal (2010)** has improved environmental adjudication, while initiatives like **National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)** aim for 40% reduction in PM2.5 levels by 2026.

Conclusion:

India's environmental laws are progressive on paper but weak in practice. Strengthening monitoring, empowering local bodies, and integrating technology are vital to make pollution control **preventive, not merely punitive.**

GS Paper 4 –

Q4. “Ethical governance is not just about rule-following but about cultivating a moral culture in public service.” Discuss with examples.

Answer:

Ethical governance transcends compliance with laws; it involves an inner moral compass guiding decisions beyond mere legality. A rule-bound bureaucracy can enforce regulations, but only an **ethically conscious administration** can inspire trust, transparency, and justice.

Ethical vs Legal Conduct:

Legal norms ensure accountability, but ethics brings **integrity of intent**. For instance, a public servant may legally allocate funds but still act unethically if favoritism guides the decision.

Importance in Public Service:

- It builds **citizen trust** and institutional credibility.
- Encourages **transparency and responsiveness**.
- Prevents corruption, nepotism, and misuse of discretion.

Examples:

- **E. Sreedharan's leadership** in Delhi Metro exemplified ethical leadership — punctuality, integrity, and accountability.
- **Lal Bahadur Shastri's resignation** after a train accident demonstrated moral responsibility, not legal compulsion.

Cultivating Ethical Culture:

- **Training & sensitization** through ethics courses in civil services.
- **Institutional mechanisms** like citizen charters, social audits, and Lokpal ensure ethical checks.
- Role modeling by senior officers can nurture ethical behavior among subordinates.



Conclusion:

Ethical governance must evolve from individual morality to **institutional virtue**. Rules may define duties, but ethics defines character — the true foundation of good governance.

Current Affairs –

Q5. “Constitutional morality acts as the moral compass of governance, ensuring liberty, equality, and justice prevail over majoritarian impulses.” Discuss with reference to recent developments in India.

Answer:

Constitutional morality, as envisioned by **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**, implies adherence to the values enshrined in the Constitution — liberty, equality, fraternity, and justice — even when they conflict with public opinion or majority will.

Meaning and Significance:

It demands that both citizens and institutions act in the spirit of the Constitution, not just its letter. It curbs arbitrary state power and protects minority rights.

Judicial Interpretation:

The Supreme Court has elevated constitutional morality as a **guiding principle** in landmark judgments:

- **Navtej Singh Johar (2018):** Decriminalized homosexuality, upholding dignity and equality.
- **Sabarimala (2018):** Asserted women’s right to worship over traditional exclusion.
- **K.S. Puttaswamy (2017):** Recognized privacy as a fundamental right.

These cases show constitutional morality acting as a **shield against social or political majoritarianism**.

Challenges:

Recent debates — such as the **Uniform Civil Code, free speech vs hate speech, and religious symbolism in politics** — test the balance between popular will and constitutional principles. The challenge lies in internalizing constitutional ethics among institutions and citizens alike.

Conclusion:

Constitutional morality is the ethical soul of democracy. It ensures that governance remains anchored in **rights, dignity, and rationality**, not transient populism. Upholding it requires constant vigilance, civic education, and a judiciary that safeguards the moral vision of the Constitution.