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

# DAILY MCQ'S

**FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION**

**DATE: 6/11/2025 (THURSDAY)**

- **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 *Civil Disobedience Movement*:

1. The Gandhi-Irwin Pact led to the immediate release of all political prisoners, including Bhagat Singh and his associates.
2. The Karachi Session of the Indian National Congress (1931) endorsed the outcome of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact and laid down the fundamental rights and economic policy of the Congress.

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:**

- Statement 1 is **incorrect**. The Gandhi-Irwin Pact (March 1931) led to the release of political prisoners *except those convicted of violence*, such as Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, and Rajguru, who were executed just before the Karachi Session.
- Statement 2 is **correct**. The Karachi Session (1931) did endorse the Gandhi-Irwin Pact and adopted resolutions on *Fundamental Rights* and *National Economic Programme*, reflecting the Congress's socio-economic vision for independent India.

**Q2.** With reference to *Climate Change*, which of the following best describes the term “**Global Stocktake**” mentioned in the Paris Agreement?

- (a) A mechanism to assess developed countries' financial contributions toward climate adaptation projects.
- (b) A periodic review of collective progress toward achieving the Paris Agreement's long-term goals.
- (c) A report by the IPCC quantifying the global carbon budget for each country.
- (d) A system of carbon credit exchange among developing countries under the UNFCCC framework.

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

The *Global Stocktake* (GST) is a process under the Paris Agreement that evaluates the world's collective progress toward achieving its climate goals — particularly limiting global warming to below 2°C (preferably 1.5°C). It occurs every five years, with the first GST concluded in 2023. It is not country-specific or financial in nature.

**Q3.** Consider the following statements about *India's Current Account*:

1. A rise in remittances from abroad improves the current account balance.
2. An increase in gold imports worsens the current account balance.
3. A surplus in the current account necessarily implies a capital account deficit.

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**: Remittances are part of *invisibles* (transfers) in the current account; higher remittances improve the current account balance.
- Statement 2 is **correct**: Gold imports increase the import bill, thereby worsening the current account balance.
- Statement 3 is **incorrect**: A current account surplus does *not necessarily* mean a capital account deficit; both can be in surplus or deficit depending on overall balance of payments (BoP) dynamics.

**Q4.** With reference to *Municipalities* in India, consider the following statements:

1. The 74th Constitutional Amendment provides for the reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in every Municipality in proportion to their population.
2. The State Election Commission is responsible for the conduct of municipal elections, but the State Legislature decides the tenure of a Municipality.
3. The office of Chairperson in every Municipality is reserved for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and women in rotation.
4. The Constitution provides for the composition of the Metropolitan Planning Committee to be determined entirely by the State Legislature.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (c)

**Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is **correct**: Article 243T mandates proportional reservation for SCs/STs in every Municipality.
- Statement 2 is **correct**: State Election Commission conducts elections (Article 243ZA), while tenure (five years) is determined under Article 243U by the State Legislature.
- Statement 3 is **correct**: Reservation for Chairperson posts for SCs, STs, and women is provided on a rotational basis.
- Statement 4 is **incorrect**: While the composition of the *Metropolitan Planning Committee* is determined by the State Legislature, the Constitution (Article 243ZE) mandates that *at least two-thirds of its members* must be elected from the Municipalities and Chairpersons of Panchayats in that area.



**Q5. Assertion – Reason type -**

Assertion (A):

The salinity of ocean water is generally higher in the subtropical regions than near the Equator.

Reason (R1):

Subtropical regions experience high evaporation and low precipitation.

Reason (R2):

Equatorial regions have abundant rainfall and frequent cloud cover, reducing salinity levels.

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

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

Salinity is influenced by evaporation and precipitation patterns. In subtropical high-pressure belts (~20°–40° latitudes), high temperatures and low rainfall lead to intense evaporation, increasing salinity. In contrast, equatorial zones receive heavy rainfall and have high humidity and cloud cover, diluting surface salinity. Hence, both R1 and R2 are correct and together explain the assertion effectively.

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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

**Q1.** Consider the following statements regarding the *8th Central Pay Commission (CPC)*:

1. It will revise pay and pension structures for Central Government employees.
2. It may introduce a performance-linked pay model instead of a uniform fitment factor.

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:** (c)

**Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is **correct**. Every Central Pay Commission, since 1947, has reviewed salaries, allowances, and pensions for Central Government employees and pensioners, taking into account inflation, living standards, and fiscal capacity. The upcoming 8th CPC will continue this role, revising pay matrices in line with economic conditions.
- Statement 2 is **correct**. Unlike earlier commissions that applied a *uniform fitment factor*, discussions suggest the 8th CPC may move towards a *Performance-Linked Pay (PLP)* model. This would align pay increments with efficiency, accountability, and measurable outcomes, in sync with the government's administrative reform goals and *Viksit Bharat 2047* vision.



- Thus, both statements are correct.

**Q2.** The *AmazonFACE* experiment is primarily designed to:

- (a) Study biodiversity loss due to rainfall variability in Amazon forests.
- (b) Measure the effects of elevated CO<sub>2</sub> on tropical rainforest ecosystems.
- (c) Track methane emissions from Amazon floodplains.
- (d) Examine deforestation-induced temperature changes.

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

The *AmazonFACE (Free-Air CO<sub>2</sub> Enrichment)* project, led by Brazil's National Institute for Amazonian Research, studies how rising atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> affects the Amazon rainforest's carbon cycle, growth, and resilience.

Unlike previous FACE experiments in temperate regions, this is the first in a *humid tropical forest*, providing vital data on whether the Amazon can continue to act as a *carbon sink* under higher CO<sub>2</sub> levels. Results will help refine global climate models and predict long-term impacts on carbon sequestration and ecosystem stability.

**Q3.** Consider the following statements about the *Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme*:

1. Subsidy rates are fixed per kilogram of N, P, K, and S nutrients.
2. Subsidy is transferred directly to farmers.
3. The scheme promotes customized and fortified fertilizers.

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**. The NBS Scheme, introduced in 2010, provides fixed per kilogram subsidies on nutrients—Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K), and Sulphur (S). These rates are notified periodically by the Department of Fertilizers.
- Statement 2 is **incorrect**. Although the scheme operates under *Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)*, the subsidy goes to *fertilizer companies*, not farmers. It is released after sale confirmation via PoS devices at retail outlets.
- Statement 3 is **correct**. The scheme encourages companies to produce *fortified and customized fertilizers*, promoting balanced nutrient application and addressing micronutrient deficiencies in soil. Hence, two statements are correct.

**Q4.** With reference to *Hurricane Melissa*, consider the following statements:

1. It intensified due to jet stream interaction in mid-latitudes.



2. Its name replaced a previously retired storm name.
3. It reflected links between Atlantic oscillations and Arctic warming.

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**. Hurricane Melissa (2024) underwent *post-tropical re-intensification* due to an unusual interaction between a low-pressure system and the polar jet stream. This hybrid behavior exemplifies changing storm dynamics linked to warming oceans.
- Statement 2 is **incorrect**. The name “Melissa” was not a replacement; it remained part of the regular six-year rotation of Atlantic storm names. Retired names are those causing extreme damage, which Melissa did not.
- Statement 3 is **correct**. The storm’s erratic path was attributed to anomalies in the *North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO)* and *Arctic amplification*, showing how climate change is altering storm trajectories and lifespan.  
Thus, two statements are correct.

**Q5.** Consider the following statements regarding *Cloud Seeding in Delhi*:

1. The project is conducted jointly by IITM Pune and IMD.
2. It aims to reduce air pollution by inducing artificial rain.
3. Silver iodide and sodium chloride are used as seeding agents.
4. It is financed under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP).

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (c)

**Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is **correct**. The *Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune* and the *India Meteorological Department (IMD)* jointly execute Delhi’s cloud-seeding trials, with support from the Delhi Government.
- Statement 2 is **correct**. The main goal is to temporarily reduce *PM<sub>2.5</sub>* and *PM<sub>10</sub>* levels during peak smog episodes by generating artificial rainfall that washes away pollutants.
- Statement 3 is **correct**. *Silver iodide* and *sodium chloride* are the primary condensation nuclei used for droplet formation in moisture-laden clouds.



- Statement 4 is **incorrect**. Funding comes from *special project allocations* under the Ministry of Earth Sciences and the Delhi Government, not from the NCAP budget.  
Hence, three statements are correct.

**Q6.** Cyprus shares its maritime boundaries with which of the following countries?

- (a) Greece, Lebanon, and Israel
- (b) Turkey, Syria, and Egypt
- (c) Jordan, Lebanon, and Egypt
- (d) Greece, Turkey, and Jordan

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

Cyprus lies in the *Eastern Mediterranean Sea*, south of Turkey, west of Syria and Lebanon, northwest of Israel, and north of Egypt. It shares *Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)* boundaries with **Turkey, Syria, and Egypt**, and is central to current *energy exploration and maritime disputes* in the region.

Cyprus's offshore gas reserves (Aphrodite field) have made it geopolitically significant, with tensions involving Turkey over overlapping EEZ claims.

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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

### GS Paper 1

**Q1.** “The spatial distribution and growth of industries in India are primarily governed by the interplay of resource availability, infrastructure, and policy framework.” Discuss with examples from both mining and manufacturing sectors.

**Answer:**

The industrial landscape of India reflects a dynamic interaction between **physical, economic, and policy factors**. The location and growth of both mining and manufacturing industries are deeply shaped by resource endowment, infrastructure accessibility, and government policies over time.

In the **mining sector**, resource availability is the most decisive factor. Coalfields of Jharkhand, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh have given rise to clusters like **Bokaro-Dhanbad industrial belt**, while the iron ore deposits of Odisha and Karnataka have encouraged steel industries in **Rourkela and Bellary-Hospet**. Accessibility to raw materials reduces transport costs, influencing spatial clustering. However, **environmental regulations** and **forest clearances** also determine mining operations, shifting the focus towards sustainable extraction and beneficiation technologies.

In the **manufacturing sector**, location decisions depend on a broader mix of factors — **raw materials, labour, market, power supply, and transport connectivity**. The textile industries of Maharashtra and Gujarat evolved around ports and cotton-growing areas, whereas automobile hubs like **Chennai, Pune, and Gurugram** emerged due to proximity to markets, skilled workforce, and state incentives.

Government policies such as the **Industrial Policy of 1991, Make in India**, and **Production Linked Incentive (PLI)** scheme have promoted diversification and regional dispersion of industries beyond



traditional cores. The **Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC)** and **Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor** further integrate industrial growth with infrastructure expansion.

Thus, the evolution of India's industrial geography demonstrates a gradual transition from **resource-based to infrastructure and policy-driven industrialization**. Balancing economic efficiency with environmental sustainability remains the key to equitable regional development in future.

## GS Paper 2

**Q2.** *Critically examine whether affirmative action and reservation policies in India have succeeded in achieving social empowerment and equality.*

**Answer:**

Affirmative action and reservation policies were envisaged by the framers of the Constitution as instruments to achieve **social justice and equality of opportunity**, particularly for historically marginalized groups — **Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and Other Backward Classes (OBCs)**.

These policies have produced mixed outcomes. On the positive side, reservations in **education, public employment, and legislatures** have led to greater **representation and visibility** of marginalized communities. Institutions like **IITs, UPSC, and State Services** have seen improved participation, contributing to the rise of a new *Dalit and OBC middle class*. Legislative reservations ensured the political empowerment of these groups, especially at the panchayat level under the **73rd and 74th Amendments**.

However, challenges persist. **Economic inequalities within castes**, limited access to quality education, and **social discrimination** continue to hinder empowerment. The policy's focus on quotas rather than capacity-building has sometimes reinforced **identity politics** instead of promoting integration. Moreover, **creamy layer exclusions** in OBCs and the recent introduction of **EWS reservation** reflect evolving debates about *merit versus equity*.

Administrative inefficiencies and judicial interventions have also shaped outcomes — for instance, the Supreme Court's *Indra Sawhney (1992)* judgment upheld reservations but capped them at 50%, emphasizing balance between equality and efficiency.

For affirmative action to truly empower, it must go beyond numerical representation. **Targeted skill development, education reform, and anti-discrimination enforcement** are needed to ensure substantive equality. Social empowerment is a continuous process; reservation is only one step towards a more inclusive and cohesive India.

## GS Paper 3

**Q3.** *Discuss the role of disinvestment and privatization in improving the efficiency of India's public sector enterprises. What are the associated risks and policy challenges?*

**Answer:**

Disinvestment and privatization represent crucial economic reforms intended to enhance **efficiency, fiscal discipline, and competitiveness** in India's public sector. Beginning with the **Industrial Policy of 1991**, the government recognized that state monopolies often led to inefficiency, low productivity, and fiscal burden.

Disinvestment involves the sale of government equity in public enterprises, while privatization denotes transfer of ownership and management control to private hands. The rationale lies in **reducing the government's role in commercial activities**, mobilizing resources, and encouraging market discipline. Successful examples include **Maruti Udyog**, where privatization led to technological modernization and



global competitiveness, and **VSNL's sale to Tata Group**, which revitalized the telecom sector. Recent disinvestments like **Air India** show the government's shift from "controller" to "facilitator."

However, several challenges persist. Political resistance, valuation disputes, and **labour opposition** delay strategic sales. Privatization may lead to **job insecurity**, **asset undervaluation**, and **regional imbalances** if not transparently executed. Moreover, the private sector's profit motive may conflict with public welfare in strategic sectors such as defence or energy.

The **National Monetization Pipeline (NMP)** and **National Investment Fund (NIF)** aim to recycle capital from asset sales into infrastructure, but implementation has been inconsistent.

For sustainable results, privatization must be accompanied by **strong regulatory frameworks**, **competition laws**, and **social safety nets**. The goal should not be mere revenue generation, but transformation of PSUs into efficient, innovation-driven, and accountable institutions aligned with India's long-term development vision.

## GS Paper 4 (Ethics)

**Q4.** "Ethical governance requires a balance between efficiency and accountability." Examine this statement with suitable examples from public administration.

### Answer:

Ethical governance is founded on the principles of **integrity, transparency, responsibility, and fairness**. It implies that decision-making should not only be efficient but also morally defensible and accountable to citizens.

**Efficiency** refers to achieving results with minimal waste and maximum output. **Accountability**, however, ensures that every action is answerable to law and public interest. Striking a balance between these two is crucial for good governance. Excessive emphasis on efficiency may breed *technocratic arrogance* or procedural shortcuts, while over-bureaucratization in the name of accountability can lead to *red-tapism and inertia*.

For instance, the **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)** scheme enhanced efficiency in welfare delivery but also raised concerns over **data privacy** and **exclusion errors**. Similarly, **environmental clearances** for projects must balance economic expediency with ecological accountability.

The ethical dimension emerges when administrators apply values like **objectivity, compassion, and public service** while maintaining procedural propriety. Frameworks like **Code of Conduct for Civil Servants**, **Right to Information (RTI) Act**, and **Social Audit Mechanisms** institutionalize this balance.

Philosophically, it reflects *Kantian ethics* — doing the right thing through rightful means — combined with *Utilitarian efficiency*. The civil servant, as per the Nolan Committee principles, must ensure that public resources are used judiciously without compromising moral responsibility.

Hence, ethical governance demands not just competent administration but also **moral courage** to uphold transparency, even when it slows decision-making. Only when efficiency is rooted in accountability can governance truly serve the public good.



## Current Affairs -

**Q5.** *India's ageing population poses both challenges and opportunities for governance and society. Discuss.*

### **Answer:**

India, traditionally viewed as a *young nation*, is now experiencing a demographic transition towards an ageing population. As per **Census projections and the Longitudinal Ageing Study of India (LASI)**, nearly **20% of Indians will be above 60 years of age by 2050**. This shift brings complex socio-economic and healthcare challenges.

### **Challenges:**

The foremost challenge is the **economic dependency ratio** — a shrinking workforce supporting a growing elderly population. Many elderly lack **pension coverage**, especially in the unorganized sector. The erosion of joint family systems, migration of youth, and urbanization have intensified **loneliness and neglect**. Health issues such as **non-communicable diseases, dementia, and mobility disabilities** require specialized geriatric care, which India's healthcare system is ill-equipped to handle. Institutional frameworks like the **Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act (2007)** and **National Policy for Senior Citizens (2011)** exist but lack effective implementation and funding.

### **Opportunities:**

An ageing population also represents a *reservoir of wisdom, skills, and experience*. The concept of "**Silver Economy**"—promoting industries catering to elderly needs (healthcare, housing, assistive technology)—can generate new growth avenues. Community-based models like **Kerala's Vayomithram** or digital literacy initiatives for seniors reflect inclusive approaches.

### **Way Forward:**

India needs a multi-pronged strategy—universal **social security coverage**, investment in **geriatric health infrastructure**, and **inter-generational bonding** programs. Policies must shift from welfare to *empowerment*, ensuring that ageing is viewed not as a burden but as a stage of dignified participation.

In conclusion, ageing in India is both a developmental and moral test. How the nation treats its elderly will reflect the maturity of its social contract and governance ethos.