DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 10/11/2025 (MONDAY)

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

QUIZ TIME!

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Sufi movement in Medieval India:

1. The Chishti order emphasized renunciation of worldly power and maintained a deliberate distance from rulers, while the Suhrawardi order comparatively showed greater acceptance of state patronage.

2. The concept of *Wahdat al-Wujud* (Unity of Being) was systematically articulated in India for the first time by Nizamuddin Auliya.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Both
(c) None
(d) Cannot be determined

Answer: (a)

Explanation:
Statement 1 is correct. The Chishti Sufis, especially in the Delhi Sultanate period, preferred to stay away from court politics and royal patronage. The Suhrawardi order, however, accepted state support and often interacted with political elites.
Statement 2 is incorrect. The doctrine of *Wahdat al-Wujud* was elaborated primarily by Ibn al-Arabi in the Islamic world. In India, the concept was further popularized by the Chishti saint Shaikh Muhibullah Allahabadi and later discussed by Dara Shikoh, not by Nizamuddin Auliya. Nizamuddin focused more on love, compassion, and moral teachings rather than metaphysical philosophy.

Q2. The **Lion-tailed macaque** is primarily found in:

(a) Eastern Himalayan broadleaf forests
(b) Western Ghats' tropical evergreen forests
(c) Semi-arid scrublands of Deccan Plateau
(d) Mangrove forests of the Sundarbans

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
Lion-tailed macaque (*Macaca silenus*) is an endemic and endangered primate species found mainly in the **tropical evergreen rainforests of the Western Ghats**, particularly in Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu. Due to habitat fragmentation, their populations are now isolated and declining.

Q3. With reference to the concept of **K-shaped recovery** in the economy, consider the following statements:

1. A K-shaped recovery indicates divergent recovery paths for different sectors or income groups within the same economy.

2. It typically reflects rising inequality, as some segments see growth while others stagnate or decline.

3. The phenomenon can result from uniformly distributed fiscal stimulus across all sectors.

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. A K-shaped recovery implies two diverging performance trends: one group improves rapidly, while another faces decline.
Statement 2 is correct. By nature, K-shaped recovery accentuates income and sectoral inequality.
Statement 3 is incorrect. K-shaped recovery usually emerges when fiscal or monetary measures benefit certain sectors disproportionately (e.g., capital markets and formal sectors) while informal sectors, MSMEs, and lower-income workers lag behind. Thus the fiscal stimulus is not uniformly distributed.

Q4. Under **Article 226** of the Indian Constitution relating to writ jurisdiction of High Courts, consider the following statements:

1. The High Court can issue writs not only for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights but also for any other legal right.

2. The territorial jurisdiction of the High Court under Article 226 is strictly limited to the physical boundaries of the State in which it is situated.

3. High Courts may issue writs to any authority located outside their territorial limits, if the cause of action arises, wholly or partly, within their jurisdiction.

4. The power under Article 226 is narrower in scope than the power of the Supreme Court under Article 32.

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 is correct. High Courts can enforce Fundamental Rights and also other legal rights.
Statement 2 is incorrect. Territorial jurisdiction depends on **cause of action**, not merely geographical boundaries.
Statement 3 is correct. The 42nd Constitutional Amendment and subsequent judicial interpretations affirm this.
Statement 4 is incorrect. Article 226 is **wider** than Article 32 because it includes enforcement of **other legal rights** in addition to Fundamental Rights.

Q5. Assertion – Reason type -

Assertion (A): The Himalayan rivers in India are considered perennial.
Reason (R1): These rivers receive water from rainfall during monsoon and also from snowmelt from glaciers.
Reason (R2): Their flow regime remains constant across all seasons without significant variation.

(a) A is true, R1 and R2 are true, and R1 is the correct explanation of A
(b) A is true, R1 is true, R2 is false
(c) A is true, R1 is false, R2 is true
(d) A is false, but R1 and R2 are true

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
Himalayan rivers are perennial because they are fed by both rainfall and **glacial meltwater**, which ensures year-round flow. This makes **R1 correct** and explains the Assertion.
However, **R2 is incorrect**. The flow of these rivers **does vary seasonally**, increasing greatly during monsoon and decreasing during winter and pre-monsoon months. Hence, the flow regime is not constant.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. *Consider the following statements with reference to **COP30 – UN Climate Summit 2025***:

1. COP30 is scheduled to be held in a country that is part of the Amazon rainforest region and has committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

2. At COP30, Parties are mandated to submit the **second round** of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) aligned with limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C under the Paris Agreement.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Both
(c) None
(d) Cannot be determined

Answer: (a)

Explanation:
Statement 1 is **correct**. COP30 (2025) will be hosted in **Belém, Brazil**, a region that lies near the Amazon rainforest. Brazil's net-zero target year is **2050**.
Statement 2 is **incorrect**. COP30 will mark the submission of **third round / updated NDCs** under the Paris Agreement, as updated NDCs are expected every 5 years. The first was in 2015, revised second cycles in 2021-2022, and the next (third) revision is expected in 2025.

Q2. *Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh 2025 marks:*

(a) Completion of 100 years of Birsa Munda's Ulgulan movement
(b) Nationwide year-long observance to recognize contributions of tribal freedom fighters and indigenous cultural heritage
(c) A UN-recognized year for global Indigenous Peoples awareness
(d) A state-led initiative limited to Scheduled Areas in Central India

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
The Government of India has designated **2025** as *Janjatiya Gaurav Varsh* to **honor tribal freedom fighters, their cultural heritage, and indigenous knowledge systems** across India. It is **national in scope**, not limited to any region and not a UN initiative.

Q3. *With reference to **Exercise Malabar 2025**, consider the following statements:*

1. Japan initially joined Exercise Malabar as a permanent member following the revival of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue.

2. The Exercise primarily focuses on Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), maritime interdiction operations, and air surveillance drills.

3. The Exercise is conducted exclusively in the Indian Ocean region to counter Indo-Pacific maritime threats.

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**. Japan became a **permanent member in 2015**, closely linked to strengthening the QUAD framework.
Statement 2 is **correct**. Malabar focuses on **ASW**, carrier strike operations, maritime surveillance, and interoperability.
Statement 3 is **incorrect**. The exercise rotates regions; recent editions have been held in the **Philippine Sea, Western Pacific, and South China Sea**, not only the Indian Ocean.

Q4. *With reference to **Odd Radio Circles (ORCs)**, consider the following statements:*

1. ORCs are large, faint circular radio emissions observed primarily outside the Milky Way galaxy.

2. Their exact source remains uncertain, but one hypothesis suggests they may arise from shockwaves produced by massive energetic events in distant galaxies.

3. ORCs have been observed mostly using ground-based optical telescopes with deep field imaging.

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**. ORCs are vast, diffuse circular radio structures **far outside our galaxy**.
Statement 2 is **correct**. Leading hypotheses point to **shockwaves from galaxy-scale energetic events** like

black hole activity.

Statement 3 is **incorrect**. ORCs are detected via **radio telescopes**, particularly **ASKAP (Australia)** and **MeerKAT (South Africa)**, not optical telescopes.

Q5. *With reference to the **Rules for Sustainable Harnessing of Fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of India**, consider the following statements:*

1. The Rules require all foreign fishing vessels to obtain authorization from the Government of India for any fishing activity within India's EEZ.

2. The Rules promote a vessel monitoring system and logbook-based catch reporting to ensure traceability of marine catch.

3. The Rules prohibit Indian fishing vessels from deep-sea fishing beyond 12 nautical miles.

4. The Rules emphasize the sustainable exploitation of pelagic species while restricting the targeted exploitation of demersal species.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:
Statement 1 is **correct**. Any foreign vessel requires **authorization** for fishing within the EEZ.
Statement 2 is **correct**, as monitoring and traceability are key sustainability features.
Statement 3 is **incorrect**. Beyond 12 nautical miles is exactly where **deep-sea fishing** by Indian vessels is *allowed* under regulation.
Statement 4 is **incorrect**. The Rules do not create a pelagic-over-demersal preference; sustainability applies across categories.

Q6. Keoladeo National Park is located near the confluence of which of the following rivers?

(a) Chambal and Yamuna
(b) Banas and Banganga
(c) Luni and Sukri
(d) Mahi and Som

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
Keoladeo National Park (Bharatpur), Rajasthan lies near the **confluence of the Banas and Banganga rivers**. The wetland ecosystem depends greatly on seasonal inflows from these river systems and the Ajan Dam canals.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

Q1. Indian classical dance forms represent the integration of regional traditions with pan-Indian aesthetic philosophy. Discuss with suitable examples.

Sample Answer:

Indian classical dance forms are a unique synthesis of regional cultures and the underlying pan-Indian aesthetic philosophy rooted in the **Natyashastra** of Bharata Muni. The Natyashastra provides a common theoretical framework in terms of **rasa (emotive expression)**, **bhava (mood)**, **mudras (hand gestures)**, and **abhinaya (acting technique)**. Yet, these forms evolved in diverse geographical-cultural milieus, giving each a distinct identity.

For instance, **Bharatanatyam** from Tamil Nadu reflects temple traditions where devadasis performed dances as offerings to deities. The dance emphasizes geometric postures and sculpturesque poses, demonstrating a strong connection to Dravidian temple architecture. **Kathak** of North India, in contrast, evolved from the tradition of wandering storytellers (Kathakars) and later absorbed Persian influences under Mughal patronage. Its emphasis on intricate footwork and rhythmic spins reflects a blend of Hindu and Indo-Persian aesthetics.

Similarly, **Odissi**, rooted in the Jagannath cult of Odisha, is characterized by tribhanga postures and fluid torso movements inspired by medieval temple sculptures. **Kuchipudi** from Andhra Pradesh originated in Brahmin Bhagavata communities performing dance-dramas; it emphasizes narrative drama with brisk movements and expressive singing.

In Eastern India, **Manipuri** dance from Manipur draws heavily from Vaishnavism, focusing on devotional grace, particularly in *Raslila* themes, with minimal emphasis on facial expressions and strong emphasis on gentle torso movements. **Kathakali** of Kerala emerged from martial art traditions and temple ritual dramas, using elaborate costumes and facial expressions to depict epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata.

Thus, while the **philosophical foundation** of classical dance across India is shared, **regional histories, religious traditions, linguistic identity, and patronage systems** have shaped their stylistic diversity. Together, they embody India's cultural pluralism and civilizational continuity, representing unity in aesthetic diversity.

Q2. India-Afghanistan relations have historically been influenced by cultural linkages and geopolitical shifts. In the context of recent developments, critically analyze the challenges and opportunities for India in engaging with Afghanistan.

Sample Answer:

India and Afghanistan share civilizational ties dating back to the Kushan period and Silk Route trade networks. In the modern era, India has been a major development partner, building infrastructure such as the **Zaranj-Delaram highway**, **Afghan Parliament building**, and **Salma Dam**, while providing scholarships and medical support. However, the **Taliban's return to power in 2021** has significantly altered the strategic landscape.

Challenges:

First, the absence of a democratically elected government complicates India's diplomatic engagement, as New Delhi has historically supported the Republic-based political framework. Second, the Taliban's proximity to **Pakistan's security establishment** raises concerns over cross-border terrorism and the potential resurgence of anti-India groups such as Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed. Third, India's

investments worth billions of dollars risk erosion in the absence of stable governance. Additionally, humanitarian crisis under severe sanctions has rendered direct economic cooperation difficult.

Opportunities:

Despite concerns, India can adopt realistic engagement. The Taliban leadership seeks **legitimacy and development assistance**, where India's soft power and medical support can be strategic advantages. India's humanitarian aid through UN agencies, reopening of the Indian technical mission in Kabul (2022), and food-grain and vaccine supplies build goodwill among Afghan citizens. Moreover, stability in Afghanistan is essential for India's **connectivity projects** such as the **International North-South Transport Corridor** and **Chabahar port**, which reduce dependency on Pakistan routes.

India may also leverage regional forums such as SCO, Moscow Format, and UN-led dialogues to advocate for inclusive Afghan governance and protection of women's rights, aligning moral posture with strategic interests.

In conclusion, India needs a **balanced, pragmatic** approach that safeguards security interests while maintaining historical goodwill. Constructive engagement without formal recognition appears the most viable pathway in current geopolitical circumstances.

Q3. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming economic structures worldwide, raising concerns about its impact on employment. Examine the challenges and suggest a balanced policy approach for India.

Sample Answer:

AI technologies such as machine learning, automation, and natural language processing are reshaping global production systems. In India, the impact of AI on employment is complex, given the large labor force engaged in low-skilled and informal sectors.

Challenges:

AI-driven automation threatens routine manual and clerical jobs, particularly in sectors like manufacturing, retail logistics, and BPO services. This may deepen inequality as high-skilled workers gain and low-skilled labor becomes vulnerable. India's workforce skilling capacity remains limited, with only around 4% formally skilled, complicating transition to AI-compatible roles. Additionally, algorithmic bias, data privacy concerns, and job displacement pose ethical and social risks.

Benefits and Opportunities:

AI offers significant potential for job creation in technology-driven sectors such as healthcare diagnostics, agricultural advisory, precision manufacturing, fintech, and public service delivery. For instance, AI-driven crop advisory tools can increase farmer productivity. The gig economy and platform-based jobs can absorb displaced labor, provided adequate regulatory frameworks exist.

Balanced Policy Approach:

A phased and inclusive strategy is essential.
• **Skill Transformation:** National programs like Skill India must shift from generic training to **AI, robotics, data literacy, and digital management skills**.
• **Education Reform:** Curriculum revision to emphasize STEM, analytical reasoning, and vocational integration is needed.
• **Social Safety Nets:** Wage insurance, reskilling allowances, and employment-linked loan support can cushion disruptions.
• **MSME & Startup Incentives:** Encouraging AI adoption in MSMEs through tax credits and innovation grants can ensure inclusive growth.
• **Ethical Guidelines:** India should develop transparent AI governance systems to prevent data misuse and algorithmic discrimination.

In essence, AI should not be viewed as a job destroyer but as a **job transformer**. A proactive policy framework can enable India to harness technological progress while ensuring workforce resilience and equitable growth.

Q4. Discuss the significance of emotional intelligence (EI) in public service. How can civil servants cultivate and apply EI for effective governance?

Sample Answer:
Emotional Intelligence refers to the ability to perceive, understand, manage, and respond to emotions in oneself and others. In governance, EI is key to ensuring sensitivity, empathy, persuasion, conflict resolution, and ethical decision-making. Public service places administrators in complex situations involving public grievances, resource constraints, and diverse stakeholder demands. Here, EI complements rational-legal authority by facilitating humane and responsive administration.

A civil servant with high EI can better engage with citizens, manage crises, negotiate with political actors, and motivate subordinates. For instance, during disaster relief operations, empathy and calm communication build trust among affected communities. EI also reduces stress and prevents burnout, enabling officers to maintain composure and professional objectivity.

Cultivating EI:
Civil servants can enhance EI through:
• **Self-awareness practices** like reflective journaling and mindfulness habits, which help recognize emotional triggers.
• **Active listening** and non-judgmental communication to understand stakeholder perspectives.
• **Feedback-seeking behavior** to identify interpersonal strengths and weaknesses.
• **Training in conflict resolution and behavioral psychology** through institutional modules in LBSNAA and state ATIs.

Application in Governance:
EI should guide public dealings, policy interpretation, and field-level interactions. For instance, during enforcement of regulations (e.g., eviction drives, land acquisition), sensitivity towards vulnerable groups helps officers adopt rehabilitation-first approaches. In internal administration, EI promotes workplace harmony by resolving personnel disputes and fostering a culture of respect.

In summary, EI enhances administrative effectiveness by bridging the gap between legal authority and moral legitimacy. A civil servant who combines competence with emotional maturity contributes to a governance system that is humane, responsive, and ethically grounded.

Q5. Despite increasing representation, a significant gender gap persists in the Civil Services in India. Discuss the reasons for this gap and suggest measures to bridge it.

Sample Answer:
Women's representation in the civil services has improved, with recent UPSC batches recording around 30-35% female selection. However, the overall presence of women in higher administrative ranks remains limited, particularly in leadership positions such as Chief Secretaries and Director Generals.

Reasons:
• **Socio-cultural Constraints:** Gender norms often discourage women from pursuing demanding administrative careers involving mobility, fieldwork, and unpredictable working hours.
• **Career Breaks & Glass Ceiling:** Women frequently face career interruptions due to childcare responsibilities, affecting promotion pathways. Performance evaluations often undervalue administrative

work outside field postings.

• **Structural Barriers:** Safety concerns, limited posting flexibility, and inadequate workplace childcare support deter participation.

• **Pipeline Gap in Competitive Exams:** Fewer women appear for UPSC from rural and socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds due to educational access disparities.

Measures to Bridge the Gap:

1. **Institutional Support Systems:** Establish childcare centers, safe official accommodation for women officers, and flexible working arrangements without compromising career advancement.

2. **Transparent Posting Policies:** Provide non-discriminatory transfer/posting mechanisms ensuring women get leadership-level field experience essential for promotion.

3. **Mentorship & Leadership Training:** Senior women officers can mentor young officers to build confidence and leadership preparedness.

4. **Education & Awareness:** Encouraging girls' higher education, scholarship support, and coaching accessibility in rural regions helps widen the aspirant base.

5. **Gender Sensitization:** Training for all civil servants to eliminate subconscious bias in team environments and performance review systems.

Bridging the gender gap in civil services is not merely a matter of numerical representation; it enhances governance quality. Women officers often bring collaborative leadership styles, empathy, community-oriented governance, and innovation in social sector delivery. Ensuring their equitable participation strengthens administrative legitimacy and supports inclusive nation-building.