DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 11/11/2025 (TUESDAY)

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

QUIZ TIME!

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Q1. Consider the following statements related to the Home Rule Movement:

1. The Home Rule League led by Annie Besant primarily drew its support from educated middle-class women's organizations and was more dominant in South India.

2. The Home Rule League led by Bal Gangadhar Tilak focused on mobilizing students and local political associations and was more influential in Maharashtra and Karnataka region.

How many of the above statements are correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Both
(c) None
(d) Cannot be determined from the information provided

Answer: (b) Both

Explanation:
Annie Besant's Home Rule League found major support among educated women, Theosophists and urban middle class, and was more active in Madras, which made it influential in South India.
Tilak's League focused on wider decentralized mobilization through local bodies, students, and political activists, with the strongest base in Maharashtra, Karnataka and parts of Central Provinces.
Hence, both statements are correct.

Q2. Which of the following best describes the term "Blue Carbon"?
(a) Carbon sequestered in agricultural soils through zero-tillage farming
(b) Carbon captured by marine vegetation such as mangroves, seagrasses, and salt marshes
(c) Carbon released during the bleaching of corals due to warming oceans
(d) Mechanical carbon capture devices used in desalination plants

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
Blue Carbon refers to carbon sequestered in coastal and marine ecosystems such as mangroves, seagrasses and salt marshes. These ecosystems store carbon at rates far exceeding terrestrial forests and thus play a critical role in climate regulation.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding "Countercyclical Capital Buffer (CCyB)":

1. It aims to ensure that banking sector capital requirements increase during periods of excessive credit growth.

2. It is implemented automatically by banks without any regulatory guidance.

3. In India, the Reserve Bank of India has never activated the CCyB so far.

How many of the above statements are correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:
Statement 1 is correct: CCyB is designed to counteract excessive lending during economic booms.
Statement 2 is incorrect: CCyB is activated by the central banking regulator, not automatically by banks.
Statement 3 is correct: Although a framework exists, RBI has not activated CCyB so far.
Therefore, two statements are correct.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the office of the President of India:

1. The President can return a Constitutional Amendment Bill for reconsideration by the Parliament.

2. The President may exercise his power of pardon even before the convict has exhausted all judicial remedies.

3. The President's decision under Article 72 is subject to judicial review.

4. The President is bound by the advice of the Council of Ministers in all matters, without exception.

How many of the above statements are correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:
Statement 1 is incorrect: A Constitutional Amendment Bill must be assented to; it cannot be returned.
Statement 2 is correct: Pardoning power can be exercised at any stage.
Statement 3 is correct: Judicial review applies to the manner in which pardoning power is exercised.
Statement 4 is incorrect: The President may seek reconsideration once; though ultimately bound, not "without exception."
So, only two statements are correct.

Q5. Assertion – Reason type -

Assertion (A): The western margins of continents typically experience cold ocean currents.
Reason 1 (R1): These currents originate from the high latitudes and move toward the equator.
Reason 2 (R2): The rotation of the Earth and wind patterns drive the circulation of these currents.

Select the correct option:
(a) A is correct, and both R1 and R2 correctly explain A.
(b) A is correct, R1 is correct but does not explain A, while R2 correctly explains A.
(c) A is correct, R1 is incorrect, while R2 is correct.
(d) A is incorrect, but both R1 and R2 are correct.

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
Cold currents like the California, Benguela, and Peru currents form in high latitudes and move toward the equator (R1 correct).
However, the main explanation is the combined effect of Earth's rotation (Coriolis force) and prevailing winds that direct surface water circulation (R2 explains A).
Thus, A is correct; both reasons are correct, but only R2 explains A.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Marine Fisheries Census 2025:

1. The Census will be jointly conducted by the Department of Fisheries and the Indian Navy to integrate maritime surveillance data with fishery resource mapping.

2. For the first time, the Census will include data on inland aquaculture units and fishing households in landlocked states.

How many of the above statements are correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Both
(c) None
(d) Cannot be determined

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation:
The Marine Fisheries Census is conducted by the Department of Fisheries along with State Governments and CMFRI, not the Indian Navy. Hence, Statement 1 is incorrect.
Statement 2 is correct because the 2025 Census intends to integrate inland aquaculture and fish farming households across landlocked states, broadening its earlier coastal and marine focus.
Therefore, only one statement is correct.

Q2. The recently launched "Aadhaar Vision 2032 Framework" primarily aims to:
(a) Replace Aadhaar with a new decentralized biometric ID system
(b) Enhance Aadhaar-linked service delivery using AI-driven authentication and privacy-by-design features
(c) Halt private-sector use of Aadhaar-based e-KYC
(d) Create separate Aadhaar systems for each state

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
Aadhaar Vision 2032 focuses on future-ready digital identity services, secure authentication, fraud prevention, and improved digital public infrastructure using privacy-by-design and advanced analytics. It does not replace Aadhaar or limit private use but enhances its secure access environment.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak:

1. It is awarded annually to Central and State Police personnel for exceptional performance in training and capacity-building.

2. It seeks to incentivize professional excellence in instructional roles within Police Academies and Training Schools.

3. The award is administered by the Ministry of Home Affairs through the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D).

How many of the above statements are correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two

(c) All three
(d) None

Answer: (c) All three

Explanation:
The Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak specifically recognizes excellence in training and instructional roles, promoting improved policing standards. It is administered by the Ministry of Home Affairs via BPR&D. All three statements are correct.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding Exercise MILAN 2026:

1. It is expected to be hosted at the Andaman & Nicobar Command, emphasizing interoperability in Indo-Pacific maritime coordination.

2. MILAN is a multilateral naval exercise originally initiated by India in the early 1990s.

3. MILAN traditionally involves both shore-phase professional exchanges and sea-phase tactical drills.

How many of the above statements are correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

Answer: (c) All three

Explanation:
MILAN began in 1995, hosted initially in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, and has grown into a major multilateral naval exercise. It includes both harbor-phase (seminars, planning) and sea-phase drills focusing on tactical engagement. For 2026, plans again highlight an Indo-Pacific strategic focus centered around A&N Command.
Thus, all three statements are correct.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Framework for the U.S.–India Major Defence Partnership:

1. It recognizes India as a "Major Defence Partner," allowing India access to U.S. defense technologies at a level comparable to America's closest allies.

2. The framework mandates joint development of aircraft carriers and nuclear submarines under technology-transfer protocols.

3. It aligns with foundational agreements such as COMCASA, BECA, and LEMOA to enhance interoperability.

4. It explicitly places India within the U.S.-led collective defense alliance architecture.

How many of the above statements are correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:
Statement 1 is correct: India receives elevated access to advanced defense technologies.
Statement 2 is incorrect: There is no mandatory clause requiring joint aircraft carrier or nuclear submarine construction.
Statement 3 is correct: The partnership works in complement with foundational interoperability agreements.
Statement 4 is incorrect: India is not part of any formal alliance system; the partnership is non-aligned and strategic.

Q6. *Identify the following location on the map:*
A naval exercise location lies near a strategic chokepoint between the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea, involving multilateral maritime forces, and is often linked with Indian naval outreach.

Which of the following maritime regions does this most likely refer to?
(a) Lombok Strait
(b) Strait of Malacca
(c) Sunda Strait
(d) Ombai-Wetar Strait

Answer: (b) Strait of Malacca

Explanation:
The Strait of Malacca is the primary strategic chokepoint linking the Indian Ocean to the South China Sea. It is central in Indo-Pacific naval cooperation, and MILAN as well as broader maritime engagement strategies emphasize operational familiarity and secure trade navigation in this region. The other straits are important but play relatively secondary roles in Indian naval consensus-building.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS-1 (History & Culture)

Q1. *"Indian temple architecture represents a synthesis of regional artistic traditions and shared civilizational ethos." Discuss with suitable examples.*

Sample Answer :
Indian temple architecture is a remarkable cultural expression reflecting both regional artistic diversity and the shared spiritual foundations of Indian civilization. Though stylistic patterns varied across regions, certain unifying cultural elements such as the concept of sacred space, ritual axis mundi, symbolism of mountain-like shikhara, and intricate iconography of deities maintained a deep civilizational coherence.

The broad typology of Nagara (North Indian), Dravida (South Indian), and Vesara (hybrid) architectural styles illustrates this synthesis. The Nagara temples of Khajuraho, for instance, are characterized by curvilinear shikharas, intricately carved erotic and divine sculptures, and a sanctum (garbhagriha) designed as a cosmic womb. Despite stylistic uniqueness, the philosophical idea of the temple as a microcosm of the universe remains consistent.

In the South, the Dravidian temples such as the Brihadeeswarar Temple and Meenakshi Temple demonstrate large gopurams, axial mandapas, and enclosure walls reflecting the political power of Chola, Pandya, and Nayaka rulers. Yet, like their northern counterparts, these temples retain the cosmic symbolism of the garbhagriha and ritual circumambulation (pradakshina).

The Vesara style seen in the Hoysaleswara and Chennakesava temples blends northern curvilinear towers with southern vimana characteristics, demonstrating dynamic interaction between artistic traditions through trade, royal patronage, and traveling guilds of sculptors.

Buddhist, Jain, and Sikh sacred architectures also reflect similar integrative processes. Jain temples of Mount Abu exhibit precise marble carving yet share cosmic mandala-based spatial planning. The Golden Temple in Amritsar incorporates a sanctum in the middle of a water tank, symbolizing both humility and divine presence—continuing shared Indic metaphysical motifs.

Thus, Indian temple architecture is not merely regional variance in style, but a unified expression of spirituality, cosmology, and artistic imagination that evolved through dialogue, patronage, and cultural exchange across centuries.

GS-2 (Governance & Social Justice)

Q2. *Critically examine the challenges in implementing Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) in India, with reference to Aadhaar, UPI, and Account Aggregator Framework.*

Sample Answer :
India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) model, which includes Aadhaar for digital identity, UPI for payments, and the Account Aggregator framework for data-sharing, is globally recognized as a transformative governance innovation. However, its implementation faces structural, technological, and socio-economic challenges.

Aadhaar has enabled targeted welfare delivery and efficient authentication in schemes like DBT, PDS, and healthcare. Yet, concerns around data privacy, biometric authentication failures, and exclusion of vulnerable groups remain. In tribal and remote regions, unreliable connectivity and fingerprint mismatch among elderly or manual labor populations result in denial of entitlements, highlighting the need for multi-modal authentication.

UPI has revolutionized digital payments through low-cost interoperable systems, increasing financial inclusion. However, issues such as cyber frauds, phishing attacks, and digital illiteracy hinder safe usage. The dominance of a few apps risks monopolization and systemic vulnerability. Strengthening consumer protection, cybersecurity standards, and financial literacy is essential for sustaining trust.

The Account Aggregator Framework is pioneering consent-based financial data sharing to enhance credit access. However, the ecosystem is still nascent, with low adoption by banks and limited public awareness. There is also the challenge of designing transparent consent systems that are easily understood by users, especially the digitally inexperienced.

Institutionally, India lacks a comprehensive personal data protection law, despite ongoing legal efforts. Absence of clear accountability mechanisms and data minimization standards risks privacy erosion. The digital divide persists, with disparities in device ownership, English-based interfaces, and gendered access.

To overcome these issues, India must focus on:

1. Strengthening data protection legislation and independent oversight bodies.

2. Ensuring multi-language, accessible citizen interfaces.

3. Investing in robust cybersecurity frameworks and awareness campaigns.

4. Developing redundancy and offline operational modes to reduce exclusion.

In conclusion, while DPI has immense transformative potential, its success depends on building trust, ensuring inclusion, and embedding strong privacy safeguards.

GS-3 (Economy)

Q3. *Discuss the significance of the Blue Economy for India's economic future. Examine the policy gaps and steps required to unlock its full potential.*

Sample Answer :
The Blue Economy refers to sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, livelihood improvement, and ecological health. With a coastline of over 7,500 km, 12 major ports, and access to the Indian Ocean, India possesses immense maritime economic potential. The Blue Economy encompasses fisheries, shipping, offshore renewable energy, seabed mining, coastal tourism, biotechnology, and marine services.

Fisheries provide livelihood to over 4 million people, yet India's marine catch remains under-optimized due to traditional fishing methods, climate change impact, and lack of cold-chain infrastructure. Coastal tourism, if sustainably managed, could become a high-value employment generator. Offshore wind and tidal energy offer long-term green energy prospects. Deep-sea polymetallic nodule exploration in the Central Indian Ocean Basin provides strategic mineral resources needed for electronics and renewable technologies.

However, significant policy gaps persist. India lacks integrated coastal and ocean resource governance, with fragmented responsibilities across ministries such as Fisheries, Shipping, Environment, and Defense. Marine pollution from untreated sewage, microplastics, and oil spills threatens biodiversity. Coastal erosion and sea-level rise are intensifying vulnerabilities in states like Odisha and Tamil Nadu. Infrastructure inefficiencies in ports increase logistics costs and reduce competitiveness.

To unlock potential, India must adopt a multi-dimensional strategy:
• Establish a unified Ocean Governance Authority for coordinated planning.
• Invest in modern fishing fleets, processing centers, and global export chains.
• Expand Blue Flag certified beaches to promote eco-friendly tourism.
• Accelerate offshore renewable energy auctions and marine spatial planning.
• Strengthen coastal ecosystem restoration through mangrove and coral rehabilitation.
• Enhance maritime domain awareness and security cooperation in the Indian Ocean.

India's Maritime Vision 2030 and Deep Ocean Mission offer a policy foundation, but successful execution requires integrating sustainability, technology, and community participation. Thus, the Blue Economy can be a cornerstone of India's future growth, balancing economic development with ecological stewardship.

GS-4 (Ethics)

Q4. *How can ethical leadership and integrity-driven governance strengthen public trust in democratic institutions? Illustrate with examples.*

Sample Answer :
Ethical leadership refers to decision-making guided by transparency, fairness, accountability, and public welfare. In democratic institutions, ethical governance is essential for maintaining citizens' trust, political legitimacy, and social cohesion. When leaders demonstrate integrity, they signal that authority is exercised for the common good rather than personal or partisan gains.

Corruption, nepotism, and opacity weaken institutional credibility. For instance, misuse of discretionary funds or opaque contract allocations erode faith in government outcomes. In contrast, ethical leaders prioritize procedural justice and public accountability. The Lal Bahadur Shastri model of simplicity and moral leadership demonstrated how personal integrity influences institutional culture. Likewise, E. Sreedharan's ethical work ethos during the Delhi Metro project established efficiency standards in public execution.

Public trust strengthens when institutions operate with responsiveness and fairness. Mechanisms such as time-bound service delivery acts, proactive disclosure under RTI, social audits, and digital public platforms reduce discretion and enhance transparency. Integrity-driven governance empowers citizens, improving state legitimacy.

Ethical leadership also involves moral courage. Whistleblowers revealing corruption in systems like illegal mining or procurement scams exemplify this, although they often face retaliation. Hence, strong legal protection for whistleblowers and independent vigilance bodies is necessary.

Training bureaucrats in ethical reasoning, emotional intelligence, and public service values under the Capacity Building Mission can institutionalize ethical behavior. Ethical governance must move beyond compliance to moral responsibility.

In conclusion, ethical leadership nurtures trust by demonstrating that institutions serve societal welfare rather than private interest. This trust is foundational to democratic resilience, long-term policy acceptance, and social harmony.

Current Affairs

Q5. Bengaluru's "Unique Garbage Dumping Festival" sparked public debate on waste management, urban behavior, and governance responsibility. Analyze its social and administrative implications.

Sample Answer :
The "Unique Garbage Dumping Festival" held in Bengaluru emerged as a form of protest against inadequate waste management, unscientific landfill operations, and unequal garbage disposal burden faced by certain neighborhoods. Residents symbolically dumped garbage outside municipal offices and public spaces to draw attention to the civic apathy and administrative gaps in handling urban waste.

The event highlights the growing crisis in Indian metropolitan waste management systems. Bengaluru generates over 6,000 tons of waste daily, but segregation at source remains inconsistent. Landfills like Mandur, Mavallipura, and Bellahalli have reached exhaustion, causing foul odor, groundwater contamination, and respiratory health hazards in surrounding communities. Residents living near dump yards bear disproportionate environmental and health burdens, raising questions of environmental justice.

Socially, the festival served as a collective assertion of the "Right to Live with Dignity." It also revealed behavioral challenges: many citizens do not segregate waste, contributing to landfill pressures. The protest, therefore, holds both the city administration and citizens accountable.

Administratively, the festival exposes governance deficiencies in the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). Despite policies on decentralized waste processing, composting units, and dry waste centers, implementation remains weak due to contractor lobbies, inadequate monitoring, and lack of long-term planning. Ward-level waste management committees exist on paper but seldom function effectively.

The broader implication is that sustainable urban waste management requires:
• Mandatory segregation at source supported by clear penalties.
• Expansion of decentralized composting and recycling facilities.

• Promotion of Extended Producer Responsibility for plastic and packaging.
• Strengthening municipal accountability through citizen oversight platforms.
• Behavioral change campaigns involving schools, resident welfare associations, and community leadership.

In conclusion, the Garbage Dumping Festival is not merely a symbolic protest but a reminder that urban governance must shift from landfill dependency to decentralized, participatory waste management systems. It underscores that sustainable cities cannot exist without cooperative civic behavior and responsive administration.