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

# DAILY MCQ'S

**FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION**

**DATE: 13/12/2025 (SATURDAY)**

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



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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

**Q1. With reference to major Harappan sites and their distinctive archaeological findings, match the following:**

**List I (Site)**

- A. Kalibangan
- B. Lothal
- C. Dholavira
- D. Rakhigarhi

**List II (Findings / Features)**

- 1. Unique water reservoir system and three-part settlement plan
- 2. Earliest ploughed field and evidence of fire altars
- 3. Largest Harappan settlement with evidence of multi-cultural layers
- 4. Dockyard with a warehouse complex

Select the correct matching combination using the code given below:

- (a) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3
- (b) A-4, B-1, C-3, D-2
- (c) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3
- (d) A-3, B-4, C-2, D-1

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Kalibangan** is noted for the **earliest ploughed field and fire altars** → 2.
- **Lothal** is known for its **dockyard and warehouse complex** → 4.
- **Dholavira** has a unique **water reservoir system** and a **three-part settlement (citadel–middle town–lower town)** → 1.
- **Rakhigarhi** is the **largest Harappan settlement** discovered so far with multiple cultural layers → 3.  
Thus, A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3.

**Q2. Which one of the following is correctly identified as a biodiversity hotspot and continues to satisfy the “biogeographical distinctiveness +  $\geq 70\%$  habitat loss” criteria in global assessments?**

- (a) Indo-Burma Region
- (b) Mongolian Steppe
- (c) Central Asian Deserts
- (d) Tibetan Plateau

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

The concept of **biodiversity hotspots** requires:

- 1. **High endemism**, and
- 2.  **$\geq 70\%$  habitat loss.**

Among the options, only the **Indo-Burma region** (covering Northeast India, Myanmar, parts of Bangladesh, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam) is internationally recognised as a biodiversity



hotspot. The others—Mongolian Steppe, Central Asian Deserts, Tibetan Plateau—do not qualify under the hotspot criteria.

**Q3. With reference to Kisan SAMPADA Yojana, consider the following statements:**

1. It is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare for strengthening the agricultural value chain.
2. It aims to reduce post-harvest losses through integrated cold-chain and infrastructure development.
3. It includes specific components for cluster-based food-processing industries and mega food park development.

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

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

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect:** Kisan SAMPADA Yojana is implemented by the **Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI)**, not Agriculture Ministry.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** Reducing **post-harvest losses** through cold chain, processing capacity and infrastructure is a core objective.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** The scheme includes **Mega Food Parks, Agro-Processing Clusters, Integrated Cold Chains**, etc.  
Hence, **two statements** are correct.

**Q4. With reference to the Golaknath Case (1967), consider the following statements:**

1. The Supreme Court held that Parliament has no power to amend any part of the Constitution, including Fundamental Rights.
2. The judgement strengthened Article 368 by explicitly defining amendment as a constituent power rather than legislative power.
3. It introduced the doctrine that Fundamental Rights are “transcendental” and cannot be abridged even for implementing Directive Principles.
4. The decision was effectively overruled by a later constitutional amendment and a subsequent Supreme Court judgement.

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 – Correct:** Golaknath held **Parliament cannot amend Fundamental Rights**.
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect:** The Court actually held that Article 368 **does not grant constituent power**, treating amendment as ordinary legislative power—hence restricting Parliament’s ability.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** The Court considered Fundamental Rights as “**transcendental and immutable**”, prioritising them even over DPSPs.
- **Statement 4 – Correct:** The judgment was neutralised by the **24th Constitutional Amendment (1971)** and later reconsidered in **Kesavananda Bharati (1973)**.

Thus, **three statements** are correct.

**Q5. Assertion (A):** The collision of the Indian Plate with the Eurasian Plate continues to uplift the Himalayas at a measurable rate.

**Reason (R1):** The Indian Plate is still moving northwards due to persistent mantle convection currents.

**Reason (R2):** Subduction of the Eurasian Plate beneath the Indian Plate generates slab pull contributing to uplift.

Which of the following is correct?

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

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Assertion (A) – Correct:** The Himalayas are still rising due to ongoing convergence between the **Indian and Eurasian plates**.
- **R1 – Correct:** The **Indian Plate continues moving north** because of **mantle convection**, driving continued compression → correctly explains uplift.
- **R2 – Incorrect:** The **Eurasian Plate does NOT subduct** beneath the Indian Plate; instead, the **denser Indian Plate subducts** under the Eurasian Plate. Hence **slab pull of the Eurasian Plate is not a factor**.

Therefore, **A and R1 are correct**, but **R2 is incorrect**, and explanation is primarily from R1.

## **DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS PART**

**Q1. With reference to recent Solar Flares and their terrestrial impact, consider the following statements:**

1. Intense X-class solar flares can cause a temporary reduction in the Earth’s total solar irradiance, leading to short-term cooling effects in the upper atmosphere.
2. Solar flares alone, without associated coronal mass ejections (CMEs), can disrupt satellite-based navigation systems by inducing ionospheric disturbances.



How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect:** Solar flares increase extreme ultraviolet (EUV) and X-ray radiation, which heats and expands the upper atmosphere. They do not reduce total solar irradiance or cause cooling.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** Even without CMEs, intense flare-generated X-rays and EUV radiation can ionize the D- and E-layers of the ionosphere, causing HF radio blackouts and GNSS signal degradation.

Hence, **only one statement is correct.**

**Q2. Which of the following best explains why INS Aridaman, though launched earlier, remained absent from operational listings for several years?**

- (a) It required extended sea-state trials due to its air-independent propulsion system
- (b) It was undergoing reactor-quietening and acoustic-signature suppression measures essential for its SSBN role
- (c) It faced delays due to the absence of a compatible long-range torpedo system
- (d) It awaited clearance from the Nuclear Suppliers Group for reactor core components

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

INS Aridaman is India's second SSBN, which requires extremely low acoustic detectability. Such submarines undergo prolonged processes including reactor quietening, noise masking, hull vibration minimization, and submerged endurance validation. SSBNs do not use AIP systems, and NSG clearance issues were not responsible for the delay.

**Q3. With reference to INS Taragiri, consider the following statements:**

1. It is part of a frigate class designed entirely under the Project-75 framework for enhancing anti-submarine warfare capabilities.
2. It incorporates a modular construction approach that allows weapon-system integration even after launch.
3. It uses an indigenously developed Combined Diesel And Gas (CODAG) propulsion system specifically optimized for littoral operations.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two



- (c) All three  
(d) None

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect:** INS Taragiri is a **Project-17A frigate**, not part of Project-75 (which is a submarine programme).
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** Project-17A ships employ modular construction, enabling post-launch integration of systems.
- **Statement 3 – Incorrect:** It uses **CODAD (Combined Diesel And Diesel)** propulsion, not CODAG, and is not specifically optimized for littoral combat.

Thus, **only one statement is correct.**

**Q4. With reference to Opium Poppy Cultivation in India, consider the following statements:**

1. Commercial cultivation of opium poppy is permitted only in districts notified jointly by the Department of Revenue and the Narcotics Control Bureau.
2. India remains the only country authorized by the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) to produce opium gum through the traditional lancing method.
3. Recent reforms allow farmers to choose between concentrated poppy straw (CPS) technology and traditional latex extraction within the same licensed area, subject to acreage ceilings.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect:** District notification is done by the **Central Bureau of Narcotics (CBN)** under the Department of Revenue; the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has no role in territorial notification.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** India is the only country legally permitted by the INCB to produce opium gum through traditional lancing.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** Recent reforms permit dual-mode cultivation (CPS and latex) on licensed farms, subject to regulation.

Thus, **two statements are correct.**



**Q5. With reference to the World Summit on Disaster Management (WSDM) 2025, consider the following statements:**

1. The summit emphasises a shift from hazard-centric to resilience-centric planning by integrating Sendai Framework indicators with Net-Zero commitments.
2. A major agenda includes the creation of a Global South-led Disaster Data Compact to harmonise real-time loss and damage reporting.
3. The summit proposes universal parametric insurance coverage for climate-vulnerable regions through a pooled premium model.
4. India is designated as the host and must submit a national “Resilience Accounting Budget” for peer review.

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 – Correct:** WSDM-2025 focuses on resilience metrics linked with climate-transition goals.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** A Global South-led Disaster Data Compact is proposed to standardize loss-and-damage reporting.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** Parametric insurance models are discussed, with proposals for wide-scale adoption.
- **Statement 4 – Incorrect:** India is neither designated as the host nor mandated to submit a Resilience Accounting Budget.

Thus, **three statements are correct.**

**Q6. Bitra Island, sometimes seen in the news, is located in which of the following?**

- (a) At the southern tip of the Minicoy–Maliku Ridge
- (b) On the peripheral ring of the Lakshadweep atoll chain
- (c) As an inhabited island positioned between Agatti and Amini
- (d) As the northernmost island of the Laccadive subgroup

**Answer:** (d)

**Explanation:**

Bitra Island is the **northernmost inhabited island of the Lakshadweep (Laccadive subgroup)**. It lies north of Amini and is one of the smallest inhabited islands of India.



## SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS FOR DAILY PRACTICE

### Q1. (GS–1: World History)

**"The Russian Revolution fundamentally altered not only Russia's political landscape but also global ideological movements of the 20th century." Discuss. (300+ words)**

#### Sample Answer

The Russian Revolution of 1917 stands as one of the most transformative events in modern world history. It not only dismantled centuries of Tsarist autocracy but also introduced a new ideological framework—Marxism-Leninism—that reshaped global politics, economic models, and revolutionary movements throughout the 20th century.

Within Russia, the Revolution marked a decisive break from feudalistic and aristocratic systems by establishing the world's first socialist state premised on notions of class struggle, collectivization, and centralized planning. It reorganized property relations, nationalized industries, and replaced the monarchy with a Communist Party-led one-party system. This transition influenced governance, culture, education, and foreign policy for decades, including the emergence of the Soviet Union as a major global power.

Globally, its impact was even more far-reaching. The ideological triumph of Bolshevism offered an alternative to capitalism, inspiring anti-colonial struggles and Leftist movements across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Leaders such as Mao Zedong, Ho Chi Minh, and Fidel Castro drew ideological and strategic inspiration from the Russian Revolution. The rise of communist parties in Europe, especially after World War II, further reflected this influence.

On the geopolitical front, the Revolution contributed to the ideological polarization that defined the 20th century—the Cold War. The capitalist–communist divide shaped alliances (NATO vs. Warsaw Pact), arms races, proxy wars, and global diplomatic alignments. Economic models too were influenced; many post-colonial states experimented with planning systems, state-led industrialization, and socialist welfare frameworks.

However, the Revolution's impacts were not unidimensional. Critics highlight authoritarianism, purges, suppression of dissent, and economic inefficiencies that eventually contributed to the USSR's collapse in 1991. Yet its historical role in challenging imperialism, promoting workers' rights, and catalyzing social reforms worldwide remains significant.

Thus, the Russian Revolution transformed Russia's internal political architecture and acted as a catalyst for global ideological contestation, revolutionary movements, and alternative development paradigms, making it a cornerstone of 20th-century world history.

### Q2. (GS–2: Governance)

**"Good Governance goes beyond administrative efficiency; it involves fostering trust, transparency, and citizen-centric service delivery." Examine. (300+ words)**

#### Sample Answer

Good Governance has emerged as a comprehensive concept that transcends traditional notions of administrative efficiency. It is increasingly understood as a framework for ensuring that state institutions operate with integrity, responsiveness, inclusion, and accountability to citizens.



While administrative efficiency—timely service delivery, process simplification, and rule-based functioning—is essential, it alone cannot build a governance ecosystem capable of addressing contemporary societal expectations. A more holistic understanding places emphasis on **trust-building**, transparency, and citizen engagement.

**Trust** forms the foundation of democratic legitimacy. Citizens trust the state when policies are predictable, institutions are fair, and grievances are promptly addressed. Mechanisms such as social audits, independent oversight bodies, and grievance redress platforms enhance trust. The success of platforms like the RTI Act and CPGRAMS indicates that citizens rely on systems guaranteeing answerability.

**Transparency** ensures that governmental decisions are open to scrutiny. Digital governance tools—such as the Open Government Data Platform, e-tendering systems, and blockchain-based record keeping—reduce discretion and corruption by making procedures visible. Transparency enables participatory governance by empowering citizens with information.

**Citizen-centric service delivery** redefines the role of government from regulator to facilitator. Initiatives like Seva Kendras, Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile (JAM) trinity, Direct Benefit Transfers, and e-governance portals simplify access and reduce leakages. Data-driven governance enhances personalized service delivery, especially in welfare schemes.

Furthermore, good governance relies on **inclusiveness**, ensuring marginalised groups—women, persons with disabilities, tribal communities—receive equitable access. Initiatives like accessible digital services and community-based planning enhance inclusiveness.

However, challenges persist: bureaucratic resistance to reform, technological divides, data privacy issues, and limited decentralization may compromise governance outcomes. Strengthening institutional ethics, capacity-building, and cooperative federalism remain crucial.

Thus, good governance is an evolving paradigm. It blends efficiency with democratic values, trust, transparency, participation, equity, and responsiveness. By embracing citizen-centricity, governments can enhance legitimacy and ensure sustainable, inclusive development.

### Q3. (GS–3: Economy & Technology)

**"Artificial Intelligence (AI) is often seen as a threat to employment, yet it simultaneously creates new opportunities in emerging sectors." Analyse. (300+ words)**

#### Sample Answer (

The rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence has triggered widespread apprehensions about job losses, especially in routine-based and repetitive tasks. Automation powered by AI undeniably disrupts traditional employment models across manufacturing, services, and administrative sectors. However, this narrative is incomplete without recognizing AI's simultaneous potential to generate new categories of employment and stimulate economic transformation.

AI-led automation disproportionately affects **low-skill, predictable tasks**—data entry, assembly-line work, customer call handling, and basic accounting. Studies indicate that as algorithms become more capable, mid-skill cognitive roles may also face displacement. This raises legitimate concerns regarding employment security and inequality.



Yet, AI also serves as a catalyst for **new job creation** across multiple domains. Emerging fields such as data science, machine learning engineering, AI ethics, algorithm auditing, cybersecurity, robotics maintenance, and cloud computing are expanding rapidly. These require high-skill labour, creating demand for specialized professionals. Moreover, the rise of the AI economy fosters opportunities in digital marketing, content moderation, AI-enabled agriculture, precision healthcare, automated logistics, and fintech.

AI transforms industries rather than merely replacing roles. For example, in healthcare, AI enables diagnostics, telemedicine, and personalized treatment, creating roles for health data analysts and AI-augmented medical professionals. In agriculture, precision farming tools create demand for drone operators, agri-tech advisors, and remote-sensing analysts.

Importantly, AI enhances **productivity**, leading to economic growth, which historically generates net positive employment in the long run. The challenge lies in skill mismatches. Without robust skilling frameworks—like the National Education Policy 2020 focus on digital literacy and skilling missions—AI risks exacerbating inequalities.

Policymakers must therefore strike a balance: encourage innovation, support workers through reskilling, promote ethical AI governance, and ensure inclusive digital access. Social protection systems and labour market reforms must adapt to new realities, including gig work and hybrid employment.

Thus, AI is not simply a threat; it is a transformative force reshaping economies. While displacement is inevitable in some sectors, opportunities in high-skill and hybrid roles can offset losses, provided proactive policy interventions and a future-ready workforce ecosystem are ensured.

#### Q4. (GS-4: Ethics)

**"Ethical governance requires integrating values such as integrity, empathy, and fairness into everyday administrative decision-making." Elaborate. (300+ words)**

#### Sample Answer

Ethical governance goes beyond compliance with rules; it demands that administrators exercise judgment grounded in moral values such as integrity, empathy, fairness, transparency, and accountability. Public administration involves complex decision-making, often under conditions of ambiguity where legal provisions alone may not suffice. In such scenarios, ethical values guide actions and ensure just outcomes.

**Integrity** is central to ethical governance. It ensures consistency between personal values and professional conduct. An officer with integrity resists corruption, maintains objectivity, and upholds public trust. It enables impartial evaluation of evidence and prevents misuse of authority.

**Empathy** allows administrators to understand the lived experiences of citizens. Welfare delivery, disaster relief, policing, and public health interventions require sensitivity to people's vulnerabilities. Empathy strengthens citizen-administration relationships and enhances responsiveness.

**Fairness** ensures decisions are equitable, non-discriminatory, and reflect procedural justice. When distributing resources or selecting beneficiaries, fairness avoids bias and reinforces legitimacy. This is vital in schemes like housing allotments, licensing, or public procurement.

Ethical governance also incorporates **transparency**, enabling citizens to scrutinize decisions. This not only deters misconduct but also builds trust. Mechanisms like social audits, RTI, e-governance, and proactive disclosure support transparency.



**Accountability** ensures answerability for actions. Institutional frameworks—vigilance bodies, Lokayuktas, parliamentary committees—reinforce accountability, but internal ethical commitment is equally crucial.

Challenges include political pressures, bureaucratic rigidity, conflicts of interest, and ethical dilemmas where values collide. For example, maintaining confidentiality may conflict with public interest disclosure. Ethical decision-making models—like utilitarianism, Kantian duty ethics, and the APSC's code of conduct—help navigate such dilemmas.

Training in emotional intelligence, moral reasoning, and value-oriented leadership is essential for cultivating ethical governance.

Ultimately, ethical governance is the bedrock of democratic legitimacy. Administrators who internalize ethics ensure justice, uphold rights, reduce corruption, and deliver services effectively, thereby strengthening the social contract between the state and citizens.

### Q5. (Current Affairs: Child Marriage Hotspots)

**"Recent studies indicate the emergence of new child-marriage hotspots in India, driven by socio-economic vulnerabilities and shifting demographic patterns. Critically analyse." (300+ words)**

#### Sample Answer

Child marriage persists as a critical socio-economic and human rights challenge in India. While long-term data indicated gradual decline, recent studies point to **new hotspots** emerging across regions such as parts of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Assam, and pockets of urban slums. These trends reflect evolving socio-economic pressures, migration patterns, and systemic deficits that undermine legal safeguards.

First, **economic distress** remains a major driver. Pandemic-induced livelihood shocks pushed many households into insecurity, leading families to view early marriage as a coping mechanism to reduce financial burdens. Girls from marginalised communities are especially vulnerable.

Second, regions with poor educational access, gender norms, and limited digital connectivity saw increases in early marriages. School closures and disruptions in community monitoring systems weakened protective mechanisms, enabling unreported child marriages.

Third, **migration patterns**—particularly seasonal and distress migration—have created new hotspots in peri-urban and industrial clusters. Migrant communities often lack social networks, institutional support, and access to welfare schemes, heightening vulnerabilities.

Fourth, weak enforcement of laws like the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA) continues to hinder progress. Local authorities frequently lack training, resources, or willingness to intervene, particularly in areas where child marriage is socially sanctioned.

Additionally, early marriages have been linked to trafficking risks, unsafe labour practices, and adverse health outcomes, particularly maternal mortality and malnutrition. These create intergenerational cycles of poverty.

However, progress has also been visible: community-led interventions, digital tracking systems, ASHA and Anganwadi worker involvement, and initiatives like **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao**, **child helplines**, and **U-WIN vaccination platforms** have helped identify risk clusters early.



To address emerging hotspots, a multi-pronged approach is required: strengthening economic support for vulnerable families, integrating school-retention incentives for girls, enforcing PCMA effectively, enhancing community surveillance, and using real-time data systems for hotspot mapping.

Thus, the rise of new child marriage hotspots highlights unresolved structural issues—poverty, gender discrimination, weak enforcement—and underscores the need for targeted, data-driven, community-based interventions to protect children’s rights and promote gender-equitable development.

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