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**VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY
&
STUDY CENTRE**

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 26/12/2025 (FRIDAY)

- **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 Vernacular Press Act, 1878:

1. It was introduced by Lord Ripon to restrict the freedom of the Indian vernacular press.
2. The Act allowed the government to seize the printing presses if the publication was deemed seditious.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Vernacular Press Act (1878) was introduced by **Lord Lytton**, not Lord Ripon. Lord Lytton sought to suppress the growing influence of the Indian vernacular press.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Act empowered the government to confiscate printing presses and materials if they published "seditious" content against the British Crown.

Q2. With reference to bioremediation, consider the following statements:

1. It uses microorganisms to remove or neutralize pollutants from contaminated sites.
2. Phytoremediation is a type of bioremediation that involves the use of plants.
3. Bioremediation can be applied to both organic and inorganic pollutants.

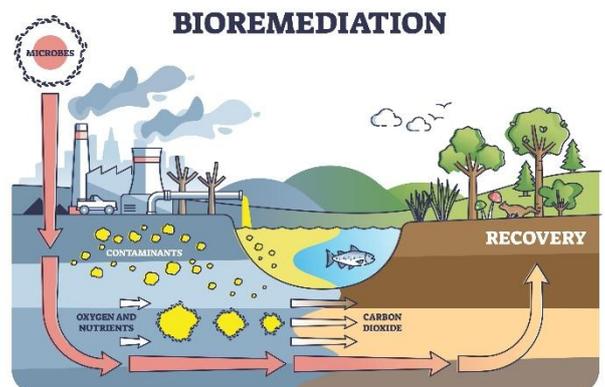
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d) 1, 2, and 3

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Bioremediation utilizes bacteria and fungi to degrade or transform contaminants.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** **Phytoremediation** is a specific subset that uses plants to absorb or contain contaminants.





- **Statement 3 is correct:** It targets organic pollutants (like oil spills) and certain inorganic pollutants (like heavy metals) through transformation or removal.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the President of India:

1. The President can seek the opinion of the Supreme Court under Article 143.
2. A person must be at least 30 years of age to be eligible for election as the President of India.
3. The President's rule under Article 356 can be imposed for a maximum period of three years.
4. The President can dissolve the Lok Sabha on the advice of the Council of Ministers.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 3, and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

Answer: (b) 1, 3, and 4 only

Explanation:

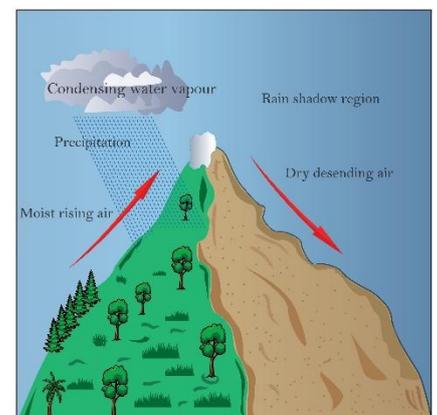
- **Statement 1 is correct:** Under Article 143 (Advisory Jurisdiction), the President can refer questions of law to the Supreme Court.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The minimum age required for the President is **35 years**.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Article 356 allows President's Rule for up to three years (approved in 6-month intervals).
- **Statement 4 is correct:** The President dissolves the Lok Sabha on the advice of the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers.

Q4. Read the following statements and select the correct code:

- **Assertion (A):** The eastern slopes of the Western Ghats receive less rainfall than the western slopes.
- **Reason (R):** The southwest monsoon winds lose most of their moisture by the time they reach the eastern slopes.

Codes:

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(c) A is true, but R is false.
(d) A is false, but R is true.



Answer: (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.



Explanation: The Western Ghats act as an **orographic barrier**. The western side (windward) receives heavy rain as clouds rise and cool; as the air descends on the eastern side (leeward/rain-shadow), it is dry, leading to significantly less rainfall.

Q5. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Nag Mk-2 Anti-Tank Guided Missile?

1. It is a fire-and-forget missile that uses an infrared seeker for target tracking.
2. The Nag Mk-2 missile is designed for both land and air-based platforms.
3. It has a maximum range of over 10 kilometers.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 & 2 are correct:** It is a fire-and-forget system used on the **NAMICA** (land) and helicopters (air).
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Nag Mk-2 typically has an operational range of **4–7 km**, not exceeding 10 km.

Q6. With reference to the PM-KISAN scheme, which of the following statements is correct?

- (a) It provides an annual financial benefit of ₹4,000 to all landholding farmers.
- (b) It covers only marginal farmers owning less than 2 hectares of land.
- (c) It is a 100% centrally funded scheme for farmers registered in India.
- (d) The benefits are transferred in four equal installments directly to the farmers' bank accounts.

Answer: (c) It is a 100% centrally funded scheme for farmers registered in India.

Explanation:

- PM-KISAN provides **₹6,000** annually (not ₹4,000) in **three** installments of ₹2,000 (not four).
- While it initially targeted small/marginal farmers, it was expanded to cover **all landholding farmers**.
- It is indeed a **100% Central Sector Scheme**.



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS PART

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Tapanuli orangutans (*Pongo tapanuliensis*):

1. They are the most recently identified extant species of great ape and are found exclusively in the Batang Toru ecosystem of Sumatra.
2. Unlike other orangutan species, they exhibit a unique diet that includes coniferous cones and have a distinct long-call frequency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Discovered/described in 2017, they are the third species of orangutan (after Bornean and Sumatran) and live only in the Batang Toru forest.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** They are morphologically and behaviorally distinct. They have been observed eating caterpillars and cones, and their "long calls" differ in pitch and duration from their cousins. They are currently the most endangered great ape species.

Q2. The "CoalSETU" policy, recently in the news, primarily aims to address which of the following bottlenecks in the Indian power sector?

- (a) Providing a unified platform for the cross-border trading of thermal coal with ASEAN nations.
- (b) Facilitating the transfer of coal linkages from old, inefficient power plants to new, supercritical units.
- (c) Creating a decentralized blockchain-based registry for private captive coal mine allocations.
- (d) Mandating the 100% blending of imported coal with domestic coal for all DISCOMs.

Answer: (b) Facilitating the transfer of coal linkages from old, inefficient power plants to new, supercritical units.

Explanation:

The CoalSETU (Coal Linkage for Seamless, Efficient & Transparent Utilisation) policy is designed to optimize coal use. It allows for the transfer of coal linkages from older, less efficient plants to newer, more efficient "Supercritical" or "Ultra-Supercritical" units, thereby reducing carbon footprints and improving power generation efficiency.



Q3. With reference to the Geminid Meteor Shower, consider the following statements:

1. Unlike most meteor showers which originate from comets, the Geminids are associated with a "rock comet" known as 3200 Phaethon.
2. The meteors appear to radiate from the constellation Gemini, which is why they are only visible from the Northern Hemisphere.
3. The Geminids are characterized by their slow speed and deep yellow color compared to the Perseids.

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:** Most meteor showers come from icy comets, but Geminids come from the asteroid/rock-comet 3200 Phaethon.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** While the radiant is the constellation Gemini, the Geminids are visible from **both** the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, though the rate is lower in the South.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Geminids are known for being slower, brighter, and often tinted yellow or green, whereas Perseids are faster and usually white/blue.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the FDI policy in the Insurance Sector and the poem 'Sagara Pran Talamalala':

1. The Union Cabinet has recently permitted 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in insurance companies under the automatic route to boost capital inflow.
2. The poem 'Sagara Pran Talamalala' was composed by V.D. Savarkar while he was imprisoned in the Cellular Jail of Andaman.
3. The poem is an invocation to the ocean, expressing a deep yearning for the motherland and a critique of the British 'Black Water' (Kala Pani) policy.

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 incorrect:** While FDI in insurance was hiked to 74% earlier, and 100% FDI is allowed in **Insurance Intermediaries**, the limit for insurance *companies* remains 74%. (The Cabinet has discussed further liberalisation, but 100% for insurance companies is not yet the standard law under the automatic route for all insurers).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** V.D. Savarkar wrote this iconic poem.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It is a classic of Marathi literature, written at the coast of Brighton (some versions suggest early drafts or thoughts originated there before his arrest) and later immortalized during his exile, reflecting his longing for India.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Indian Insurance Sector and the legacy of V.D. Savarkar:

1. The Insurance Act, 1938 was the first comprehensive legislation to regulate both life and non-life insurance in India.
2. The poem 'Sagara Pran Talamalala' was famously set to music and sung by the Mangeshkar siblings.
3. Foreign investment in the insurance sector is subject to the "Indian Management and Control" clause as prescribed by the IRDAI.
4. Savarkar founded the Abhinav Bharat Society, which drew inspiration from Mazzini's 'Young Italy'.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (d) All four

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** It remains the bedrock of insurance law in India.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Hridaynath Mangeshkar composed it and Lata Mangeshkar sang it, making it a cultural anthem in Maharashtra.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Even with 74% FDI, the majority of directors and key management persons must be resident Indian citizens.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Abhinav Bharat was an insurgent secret society founded by Savarkar in 1904.

Q6. Siliserh Lake, recently mentioned in the context of eco-tourism and water conservation, is located in which of the following regions?

- (a) The foothills of the Shivaliks in Haryana.



- (b) The Aravalli Range in Alwar, Rajasthan.
- (c) The Kaimur Hills in Madhya Pradesh.
- (d) The Eastern Ghats in Andhra Pradesh.

Answer: (b) The Aravalli Range in Alwar, Rajasthan.

Explanation:

Siliserh Lake is an artificial lake located in the Alwar district of Rajasthan. It was built by Maharaja Vinay Singh in 1845 to supply water to the city of Alwar and features a palace that has now been converted into a heritage hotel. It is a vital catchment area in the arid Aravalli landscape.

SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS FOR DAILY PRACTICE

General Studies Paper 1 (GS - 1): History

Question: Discuss the role of women in the Indian freedom struggle. How did their participation shape the course of the independence movement? (250 words)

Sample Answer:

Introduction

Women played a pivotal role in India's struggle for independence, contributing in capacities that transcended traditional domestic roles.¹ Their involvement turned the nationalist cause into a truly mass movement.

Role of Women in the Struggle

- **Leadership and Mobilization:** Figures like **Annie Besant** and **Sarojini Naidu** (the first Indian woman President of the INC) provided intellectual leadership and mobilized the masses through powerful oratory.
- **The Gandhian Phase:** During the **Non-Cooperation Movement** and the **Salt March**, women participated in record numbers, picketing liquor shops and spinning khadi.² **Kamala Nehru** and **Kasturba Gandhi** were instrumental during this phase.
- **Revolutionary Activities:** Women like **Bhikaji Cama** (who hoisted the first Indian flag abroad) and **Kalpana Datta** (associated with the Chittagong Armoury Raid) challenged the British through armed resistance.³
- **Underground Movements:** During the Quit India Movement, **Aruna Asaf Ali** hoisted the flag at Gowalia Tank Maidan, while **Usha Mehta** operated a secret radio station to sustain the movement.⁴

Impact on the Independence Movement

- **Broadened Social Base:** Their participation ensured that the movement reached every household, making it difficult for the British to dismiss it as a fringe activity.
- **Challenging Societal Norms:** It paved the way for social reform, advocating for gender equality and the end of the *purdah* system.
- **Global Moral High Ground:** The sight of non-violent women protesters being met with colonial violence gained India immense international sympathy.



Conclusion

In essence, women's participation was not just instrumental but transformative. It reshaped the freedom struggle from a political demand into a socio-political revolution for equality and dignity.

General Studies Paper 2 (GS - 2): Polity & Governance

Question: Critically analyze the role of the Supreme Court in upholding constitutional values with reference to recent landmark judgments. (250 words)

Sample Answer:

Introduction

The Supreme Court (SC) of India acts as the Custodian of the Constitution.⁵ Through judicial review and activism, it ensures the balance of power and protects the fundamental rights of citizens.

Proactive Role and Landmark Judgments

- **Right to Privacy:** In the **Puttaswamy case**, the SC declared privacy a fundamental right under Article 21, expanding the scope of individual liberty in the digital age.⁶
- **Gender Justice:** The **Sabarimala case** and the decriminalization of adultery (Joseph Shine case) highlight the court's role in prioritizing constitutional morality over discriminatory social norms.
- **Decriminalization of Identity:** The **Navtej Singh Johar case** struck down Section 377, upholding the rights of the LGBTQ+ community.
- **Public Interest Litigation (PIL):** The court has frequently intervened in environmental protection and electoral reforms (e.g., mandating the disclosure of criminal antecedents of candidates).⁷

Critical Analysis (Challenges)

- **Judicial Overreach:** Critics argue that the court sometimes enters the domain of the executive and legislature, potentially upsetting the **Separation of Powers**.
- **Pendency and Delays:** With millions of cases pending, "justice delayed is justice denied" remains a significant hurdle.
- **Inconsistency:** Some judgments involving high-stakes political ramifications have faced criticism for perceived inconsistency or delays in constitution bench formations.

Conclusion

Despite these challenges, the Supreme Court remains the cornerstone of Indian democracy. Through a "living document" approach, it continues to bridge legislative gaps and advance social justice.

General Studies Paper 3 (GS - 3): Economy & Tech

Question: Examine the significance of the digital economy in India's growth trajectory. What are the challenges and opportunities associated with its expansion? (250 words)

Sample Answer:

Introduction



The digital economy has emerged as a primary driver of India's "Amrit Kaal," shifting the nation toward a formal, transparent, and innovation-led growth model.

Opportunities and Significance

- **Financial Inclusion:** The **JAM Trinity** (Jan Dhan, Aadhaar, Mobile) and **UPI** have revolutionized banking, enabling Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT) and reducing leakages.⁸
- **Entrepreneurship:** Initiatives like **Startup India** have leveraged the digital boom to create one of the world's largest unicorn ecosystems.
- **Service Delivery:** **Digital India** has enhanced G2C (Government to Citizen) services, improving ease of living in both rural and urban sectors.⁹

Associated Challenges

- **Digital Divide:** Disparities in internet penetration and digital literacy between urban and rural areas threaten equitable growth.¹⁰
- **Cybersecurity:** As the economy digitizes, the risk of data breaches, financial fraud, and state-sponsored cyber-attacks increases.¹¹
- **Regulatory Hurdles:** Navigating data privacy laws (DPDP Act) and regulating emerging techs like AI and Blockchain requires a delicate balance between innovation and safety.

Conclusion

While the digital economy promises transformative benefits, its sustainability depends on robust infrastructure and inclusive policy frameworks. India must invest in "human capital" alongside "digital capital" to achieve its \$5 trillion economy goal.

General Studies Paper 4 (GS - 4): Ethics

Question: Ethical dilemmas often arise in public administration. Discuss with examples how ethical principles can guide decision-making in governance. (250 words)

Sample Answer:

Introduction

Ethical dilemmas in public administration occur when a civil servant faces a conflict between competing values, such as professional duty versus personal conscience or efficiency versus equity.¹²

Guiding Ethical Principles

- **Accountability and Transparency:** Upholding these ensures public trust. **Example:** Former CAG **Vinod Rai** emphasized fiscal transparency through rigorous audits of public expenditures.
- **Compassion and Empathy:** Essential in disaster management and welfare delivery. An ethical administrator prioritizes the most vulnerable in resource allocation during crises.
- **Integrity:** Maintaining high moral standards even under political pressure. **Example:** Officials who blow the whistle on corruption prioritize the "Public Interest" over personal safety or career growth.



- **Objectivity:** Decisions must be based on merit and evidence, especially in recruitment and procurement, to avoid nepotism.

Consequences of Ethical Lapses

Corruption scandals and bureaucratic inertia not only drain the exchequer but also lead to a "crisis of legitimacy," where citizens lose faith in democratic institutions.¹³

Conclusion

Fostering a culture of ethical awareness and adherence to Constitutional Morality is imperative. Ethical governance is not just about following the law, but about doing the right thing for the right reasons.

Current Affairs: Environment

Question: Discuss the implications of the COP26 agreement on global climate action and its significance for developing countries like India. (250 words)

Sample Answer:

Introduction

The COP26 summit in Glasgow was a turning point in global climate governance, emphasizing the shift from "intent" to "action" in the race toward net-zero emissions.

Significance for India

- **Panchamrit Targets:** India's bold commitment to achieve **Net Zero by 2070** and to install 500GW of non-fossil energy capacity by 2030 underscores its role as a responsible global actor.¹⁴
- **Climate Finance:** India led the call for "Climate Justice," demanding that developed nations provide \$1 trillion in climate finance to support the transition of the Global South.
- **Lifestyle Changes:** The introduction of **Mission LiFE** (Lifestyle for Environment) at COP26 highlighted the role of individual behavior in climate mitigation.¹⁵

Global Implications and Challenges

- **Phase Down of Coal:** The agreement shifted the focus toward "phasing down" unabated coal power, which poses a significant challenge for India's energy security.
- **Technology Transfer:** The success of the agreement hinges on whether developed nations share green technologies (like Green Hydrogen or Carbon Capture) with developing states.

Conclusion

COP26 set a precedent for multilateral cooperation. For India, the path ahead involves balancing rapid industrialization with its environmental pledges, necessitating a "Just Transition" that protects the livelihoods of the poor.