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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 15TH JAN-2026 (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 with reference to Alauddin Khilji's market reforms:

1. Alauddin Khilji set up separate markets for different commodities and appointed market superintendents for strict price control.
2. He allowed free trade between merchants and buyers without any state interference.

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: A. 1 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Alauddin Khilji introduced significant market reforms to control prices and curb inflation. He established **separate markets** for food grains, cloth, horses, slaves, and other commodities. **Market superintendents (Shahana-i-Mandi)** were appointed to enforce price controls.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** Alauddin **restricted free trade**; merchants had to register, and hoarding was strictly prohibited. There was heavy **state control and regulation**, and the state fixed prices.

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding Algal Blooms:

1. Algal blooms occur only in freshwater bodies.
2. Harmful algal blooms (HABs) can produce toxins that affect aquatic life and human health.
3. Nutrient pollution from agriculture is a major cause of algal blooms.

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: B. 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** Algal blooms can occur in both **freshwater and marine ecosystems**. In marine environments, **red tides** are an example of algal blooms.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Some algae in blooms produce **neurotoxins** that harm fish, shellfish, and even humans if ingested or touched.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** **Nutrient pollution**, especially nitrogen and phosphorus from **agricultural runoff**, is a leading cause of algal bloom formation.

Q3. With reference to the powers and functions of the State Legislature in India, consider the following statements:

1. A Bill pending in the State Legislature shall not lapse due to prorogation of the House.
2. The Legislative Assembly of a State can pass a resolution to abolish the Legislative Council.
3. The State Governor is bound to give assent to a Bill reserved by him for the President's consideration.

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: A. 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** As per Article 196(3) of the Constitution, a Bill pending in the legislature does **not lapse by prorogation**.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Under Article 169, the **Legislative Assembly** may pass a resolution by special majority to **abolish the Legislative Council**, and Parliament may act on it.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** If a Bill is **reserved for the President**, the Governor cannot give assent; it is **entirely up to the President** to either assent, withhold assent, or return it (if not a money bill).

Q4. Consider the following reports published by the **World Economic Forum (WEF)**:

1. Global Competitiveness Report
2. Global Gender Gap Report
3. Travel and Tourism Development Index
4. Global Innovation Index

Which of the above reports is/are published by the **World Economic Forum**?

A. 1, 2 and 3 only

B. 1, 2 and 4 only

C. 2, 3 and 4 only

D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: A. 1, 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Global Competitiveness Report** – Published by **WEF**
- **Global Gender Gap Report** – Published by **WEF**
- **Travel and Tourism Development Index** – Published by **WEF**
- **Global Innovation Index** – Not by WEF. It is jointly released by **WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization)** along with **INSEAD** and other partners.

5. Assertion-Reason Type

Assertion (A): Tokamak reactors are considered a promising technology for future nuclear fusion-based energy production.

Reason (R): Tokamak reactors use magnetic confinement to sustain extremely high temperatures required for fusion reactions.

A. Both A and R are correct, and R is the correct explanation of A.

B. Both A and R are correct, but R is not the correct explanation of A.

C. A is correct, but R is incorrect.

D. A is incorrect, but R is correct.

Answer: A. Both A and R are correct, and R is the correct explanation of A.

Explanation:

- **Tokamak reactors** (like ITER) aim to replicate the process of **nuclear fusion**, the same that powers the Sun.
- **Magnetic confinement** is used to stabilize plasma at **extremely high temperatures (~100 million degrees Celsius)**, necessary for fusion.
- The **reason explains the assertion correctly**: achieving sustained nuclear fusion with net energy gain is the goal, and **magnetic confinement is the critical technology** in this effort.



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the **National Green Hydrogen Mission**:

1. The Mission includes the development of Green Hydrogen Hubs in states with existing natural gas pipeline infrastructure.
2. The mission proposes the establishment of a Strategic Hydrogen Storage Reserve on the lines of India's Strategic Petroleum Reserves.

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: A. 1 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The **Green Hydrogen Hubs** are part of the National Green Hydrogen Mission, targeting locations where **renewable energy and natural gas infrastructure** already exists to optimize integration.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** While the mission focuses on production, usage, and R&D, **there is no current proposal** for creating a **Strategic Hydrogen Reserve** akin to the petroleum reserves.

Q2. The **EPIC Number**, as used by the Election Commission of India, is:

- A. An encrypted identification code used for secure online voting
- B. A unique alphanumeric code printed on the Voter ID card
- C. A biometric key for linking Aadhaar with voter rolls
- D. A one-time password system for election duty authentication

Answer: B. A unique alphanumeric code printed on the Voter ID card

Explanation:

- The **EPIC (Electors Photo Identity Card) Number** is a **10-character alphanumeric identifier** issued by the **Election Commission of India**.
- It helps in **voter verification, de-duplication, and ensuring the accuracy of the electoral rolls**. It has no OTP or biometric function as suggested in options A, C, or D.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding recent **dolphin surveys** in India:

1. The first synchronized dolphin survey across the Ganga Basin was conducted jointly by the Wildlife Institute of India and State Forest Departments.
2. The survey covered all major dolphin species, including the Gangetic River Dolphin, Indus River Dolphin, and Irrawaddy Dolphin.
3. The methodology used included both visual sighting and passive acoustic monitoring.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B. 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** In 2023–24, a **synchronized dolphin census** was conducted in **11 states** of the Ganga Basin, led by **WII and various forest departments**.



- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The focus was **primarily on the Gangetic River Dolphin (Platanista gangetica)**. The Indus Dolphin is mostly in Pakistan, and the Irrawaddy Dolphin was not part of this specific inland river survey.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Both **visual and acoustic methods** were used to enhance detection, especially in turbid waters.

Q4. With reference to **Bose Metal**, recently in news, consider the following statements:

1. Bose Metal exhibits both superconducting and metallic properties simultaneously at low temperatures.
2. It defies Ohm's Law due to the presence of zero resistance at finite current levels.
3. Bose Metal was first theoretically proposed and experimentally confirmed by Indian physicists in the early 2020s.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 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 is correct.** A **Bose Metal** is a **quantum phase** where **Cooper pairs** exist (as in superconductors), but **no superconductivity is observed**—yet it is **metallic** in nature.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Since Bose Metals do not conform to traditional superconductivity or resistivity, **Ohm's Law** fails to describe their current-voltage characteristics.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** Theoretical predictions date back to **early 2000s**, and recent experimental confirmations were led by researchers **outside India**, particularly in **Yale University** and other US-based labs.

Q5. Consider the following statements about the **National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)**:

1. It is a statutory body constituted under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
2. The Prime Minister of India is the chairperson of NBWL.
3. NBWL has the power to approve developmental activities inside protected areas.
4. The Standing Committee of NBWL includes representatives from both civil society and state governments.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1, 3 and 4 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** NBWL is a **statutory body** established under **Section 5A** of the **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The **Prime Minister** of India is the **ex-officio Chairperson** of the NBWL.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** NBWL, especially through its **Standing Committee**, **approves or rejects projects** within national parks and sanctuaries.
- **Statement 4 is correct.** The Standing Committee includes **non-official members**, including **NGO representatives and experts**, as well as **state representatives**.



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS Paper 1

Q1. Examine the nature and impact of Arab invasions on India during the 8th century. How did these invasions influence Indian society and polity? (250 words)

Answer:

Introduction:

The Arab invasion of Sindh under Muhammad bin Qasim in 712 AD marks the beginning of Arab incursions into India. While earlier confined to trade, this marked a shift towards military and political ambitions.

Body:

Nature of Invasion:

- Primarily military conquest led by Muhammad bin Qasim under the Umayyad Caliphate.
- Aimed at expanding Islamic territory and controlling trade routes in the Indian Ocean.
- Limited territorial success — restricted largely to Sindh and Multan.

Immediate Impact:

- Establishment of Arab rule in Sindh, though short-lived.
- Introduction of Arabic language, coinage, and some administrative practices.
- Initial cultural assimilation — coexistence with local Hindu and Buddhist communities.

Long-term Influence:

- Opened the door for later Islamic invasions from Central Asia.
- Initiated Indo-Arab trade and cultural exchanges.
- Arabic works on medicine, astronomy, and mathematics began influencing Indian scholars.
- Religious and cultural dialogue — limited Islamic missionary work started.

Impact on Indian Polity:

- Exposed vulnerabilities of fragmented regional kingdoms like the Brahman dynasty.
- Triggered defensive responses from nearby states (e.g., Gurjara-Pratiharas).

Conclusion: Though geographically limited, the Arab invasion had symbolic and cultural significance in the subcontinent, serving as a precursor to later Islamic conquests.

GS Paper 2

Q2. Critically examine the role of the Governor in India's federal structure. Should the office of Governor be reformed or abolished? (250 words)

Answer:

Introduction:

The Governor, under Article 153 of the Constitution, serves as the constitutional head of a state. However, their role in India's quasi-federal structure has sparked repeated controversies.

Body:

Constitutional Role:

- Acts on aid and advice of the Council of Ministers (Art 163).
- Exercises discretionary powers in certain circumstances — appointment of CM, reservation of bills, etc.

Issues in Federal Structure:

- **Alleged Bias:** Often accused of acting as an "agent of the Centre".



- **Misuse of Discretion:** In arbitrary dismissal of state governments or delaying assent to bills.
- **Political Appointments:** Retired bureaucrats or politicians often occupy the post.

Judicial Interpretations:

- *SR Bommai Case (1994)* – restricted misuse of Article 356.
- *Nabam Rebia Case (2016)* – curtailed discretionary power in summoning assemblies.

Recommendations for Reform:

- **Sarkaria Commission:** Emphasized impartiality; suggested consulting CM before appointment.
- **Punchhi Commission:** Proposed fixed tenure and limits on discretion.

Arguments for Retaining the Office:

- Acts as a vital constitutional link between Centre and State.
- Can play stabilizing role in political crises.

Conclusion:

Rather than abolishing, the office of Governor must be reformed for transparency, neutrality, and constitutional integrity in line with cooperative federalism.

GS Paper 3

Q3. Terror attacks have often disrupted the tourism industry in India. Analyze the implications of recurring terror incidents in Jammu & Kashmir on its tourism-based economy. Suggest measures to mitigate these effects. (250 words)

Answer:

Introduction:

Tourism is a critical pillar of J&K's economy, employing lakhs and contributing significantly to its GDP. However, recurring terror attacks have posed serious threats to this sector.

Body:

Impact of Terrorism on Tourism:

- **Decline in Tourist Arrivals:** Attacks in tourist hotspots lead to global travel advisories and cancellations.
- **Revenue Loss:** Hospitality, transport, handicraft, and local businesses suffer.
- **Investment Aversion:** Private sector wary of long-term investments in the sector.
- **Psychological Impact:** Negative media portrayal affects public perception.

Data Insight:

- Tourist arrivals in J&K dropped significantly post Pulwama (2019) and abrogation of Article 370 (2019), although recent years have seen some recovery due to security measures.

Mitigation Strategies:

- **Security Modernization:** Technology-enabled surveillance and quick response systems.
- **Tourism Corridors:** Develop secure zones with heavy patrolling and emergency protocols.
- **Image Building:** Strategic communication, film shoots, and influencer tourism to improve perception.
- **Alternative Tourism:** Promote offbeat destinations in lesser-affected areas (e.g., Jammu, Ladakh).
- **Local Involvement:** Engage local communities in tourism planning for inclusive peace.

Conclusion:

J&K's tourism revival hinges on sustained peace and coordinated Centre-State action. A safe and welcoming environment is imperative for sustainable economic growth in the region.



GS Paper 4

Q4. “Ethical governance requires the will to do right even when it is inconvenient.” Discuss this statement in light of public administration and provide examples. (250 words)

Answer:

Introduction:

Ethical governance involves upholding integrity, transparency, and accountability in public service, even under challenging circumstances.

Body:

Meaning of the Quote:

- Ethical behavior is tested not during convenience but adversity.
- Moral courage involves choosing right over expedient, legal over populist.

Importance in Public Administration:

- **Trust Building:** Citizens’ faith rests on consistent ethical conduct.
- **Rule of Law:** Ensures decisions are based on justice, not favoritism.
- **Accountability:** Upholds moral responsibility despite political pressure.

Examples:

- **E. Sreedharan (Delhi Metro):** Resisted political interference for timely completion of projects.
- **Ashok Khemka (IAS):** Known for exposing land scams despite repeated transfers.
- **Manjunath Shanmugam (IOCL):** Martyred while acting against fuel adulteration.

Challenges:

- Political pressure, lack of protection, corrupt ecosystem.
- Absence of institutional safeguards (e.g., Whistleblower Protection Act still not fully operational).

Conclusion:

True ethical governance demands both individual integrity and systemic reform. A culture that rewards such integrity must be nurtured through laws, leadership, and public vigilance.

Current Affairs

Q5. The launch of India’s first Human Milk Bank Network – ‘Payodhi’ – marks a significant step in child healthcare. Discuss the significance of this initiative in the context of maternal and infant health. (250 words)

Answer:

Introduction:

Launched in 2024, *Payodhi* is India’s first national-level Human Milk Bank Network, established by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to promote breastfeeding and infant nutrition.

Body:

Significance of Payodhi:

- **Addresses Neonatal Mortality:** Breast milk is essential for immunity and nutrition in the first 6 months.
- **Reduces Malnutrition:** Prevents stunting and wasting by ensuring nutrition to infants whose mothers are unable to lactate.
- **Supports Preterm and Sick Babies:** Ensures access to pasteurized donor milk in NICUs.
- **Promotes Women’s Health:** Encourages lactation support and maternal care.

Public Health Impact:

- Complements **POSHAN Abhiyaan** and **Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan**.
- Helps India move towards **SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being)**.

Challenges:

- Social stigma and lack of awareness about milk donation.



- Need for adequate cold chain infrastructure.
- Trained staff and standardization in milk processing.

Way Forward:

- Launch mass awareness campaigns involving ASHAs and ANMs.
- Integrate with PMJAY and other health insurance schemes.
- Include Payodhi centers under Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission.

Conclusion:

Payodhi represents a progressive step towards holistic infant care. With the right support, it can significantly reduce infant mortality and bolster maternal health in India.



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