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

# DAILY MCQ'S

**FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION**

**DATE: 19/01/2026 (MONDAY)**

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



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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

**Q1. With reference to an Indian classical dance form, consider the following statements:**

1. The dance form is traditionally performed by both male and female dancers, and its repertoire includes a narrative component closely linked to Vaishnava Bhakti traditions.
2. The codification of its technique and aesthetics in the modern period owes significantly to temple rituals that remained uninterrupted during medieval invasions.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Both
- (c) Neither
- (d) Cannot be determined

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

The description broadly fits **Manipuri** classical dance. Statement 1 is correct because Manipuri is deeply associated with Vaishnava Bhakti, especially Ras Lila, and is performed by both genders. Statement 2 is incorrect because Manipuri traditions survived largely due to geographical isolation and royal patronage, not because temple rituals remained uninterrupted during medieval invasions across India. Hence, only one statement is correct.

**Q2. Which one of the following best explains why peatlands are considered disproportionately important in global climate regulation despite covering a relatively small area of the Earth's surface?**

- (a) They have the highest rate of primary productivity among all terrestrial ecosystems
- (b) They store carbon accumulated over millennia under waterlogged and anaerobic conditions
- (c) They reflect a large proportion of incoming solar radiation due to high albedo
- (d) They rapidly sequester atmospheric carbon through annual biomass turnover

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

Peatlands accumulate partially decomposed organic matter under waterlogged, anaerobic conditions, leading to long-term carbon storage over thousands of years. Their climate importance lies in *stock*, not *flow*, of carbon. They are not highly productive annually (eliminating a), do not have particularly high albedo (c), and do not rely on rapid annual biomass turnover (d).

**Q3. With reference to India's external sector, consider the following statements:**

1. A persistent current account deficit necessarily implies that a country is experiencing a net capital outflow.
2. An improvement in terms of trade can, under certain conditions, worsen the current account balance.
3. Remittances from abroad are recorded under the capital account of the Balance of Payments.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one



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

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

Statement 1 is incorrect: a current account deficit is typically financed by *net capital inflows*, not outflows. Statement 2 is correct due to the *Laursen–Metzler effect*, where improved terms of trade may raise consumption and imports more than exports.

Statement 3 is incorrect because remittances are part of the *current account* (secondary income), not the capital account.

Thus, only one statement is correct.

**Q4. With reference to constitutional provisions and practices in India, consider the following statements:**

1. The Constitution mandates that the advice tendered by the Council of Ministers to the President shall be binding in all circumstances.
2. The discretionary powers of the Governor are explicitly enumerated in the Constitution.
3. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha continues in office even after dissolution of the House until a new Speaker is elected.
4. The Tenth Schedule applies to both Parliament and State Legislatures but not to local bodies.

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 is correct: after the 42nd and 44th Amendments, presidential discretion is severely limited, making ministerial advice binding.

Statement 2 is incorrect: discretionary powers of the Governor are implied and evolved through conventions and judicial interpretation, not exhaustively listed.

Statement 3 is correct: the Speaker remains in office until a newly elected Speaker assumes charge.

Statement 4 is correct: the Tenth Schedule applies only to Parliament and State Legislatures.

Hence, three statements are correct.

**Q5. Assertion – Reason type -**

**Assertion (A):**

The frequency and intensity of urban flooding in Indian cities have increased even in years of normal monsoon rainfall.



**Reason I (R1):**

Rapid expansion of impervious surfaces has significantly reduced natural infiltration and groundwater recharge.

**Reason II (R2):**

Urban areas receive higher absolute rainfall than surrounding rural regions due to the urban heat island effect.

- (a) A is correct; R1 is correct and explains A; R2 is correct but does not explain A
- (b) A is correct; R1 is incorrect; R2 is correct and explains A
- (c) A is correct; both R1 and R2 are correct and explain A
- (d) A is incorrect

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

The assertion is correct: urban flooding has increased due to structural and planning factors. R1 is correct and directly explains the assertion—impervious surfaces prevent infiltration, causing rapid runoff. R2 is only partially valid; while urban heat islands can influence convection, increased rainfall over cities is not the primary or consistent cause of flooding. Thus, R1 explains A, but R2 does not.

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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

**Q1. With reference to the Monroe Doctrine and its contemporary invocation by the United States, consider the following statements:**

1. Originally articulated as a principle against European colonial expansion in the Western Hemisphere, the Monroe Doctrine also guaranteed that the U.S. would not interfere in European wars or internal affairs.
2. The recent U.S. action in Venezuela was justified by American leadership as a strict return to the original 1823 principles of non-interference and mutual respect for sovereignty.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Both
- (c) Neither
- (d) Cannot be determined

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

Statement 1 is correct: the Monroe Doctrine (1823) warned European powers against new colonisation in the Americas and pledged U.S. non-involvement in European internal affairs.

Statement 2 is incorrect because recent U.S. action in Venezuela has been criticised as a **revival-and-reinterpretation of the Doctrine into a modern interventionist rationale**, not a return to the original non-interference spirit. Thus, **only one statement is correct**.



**Q2. Which one of the following best explains why BPAN (Battery Pack Aadhaar Number) has been introduced under India's EV ecosystem reforms?**

- (a) To uniquely identify battery packs and enable tracking for extended producer responsibility (EPR) and recycling targets
- (b) To enforce geofencing and speed limits on electric vehicles in urban areas
- (c) To provide each EV buyer with a decentralized digital wallet for battery swaps
- (d) To integrate battery packs with existing vehicle chassis numbers for insurance underwriting

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

BPAN (Battery Pack Aadhaar Number) is a unique identifier for battery packs in India's electric mobility ecosystem. It helps in **tracking battery life cycles, compliance with Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) norms, and incentivising recycling and safe disposal**, aligning with battery recycling and sustainability goals. The other options do not reflect the purpose of BPAN.

**Q3. With reference to India's status as the world's largest rice producer and implications for sustainable agriculture, consider the following statements:**

1. Rice cultivation in India contributes to significant groundwater depletion because the crop generally requires submerged conditions for optimum yield.
2. Expansion in rice production has had negligible effects on Indian agricultural greenhouse gas emissions relative to other cereals, due to methane mitigation interventions.
3. The predominance of rice in India's cropped area has triggered policy incentives to promote water-efficient cultivation practices like Direct Seeded Rice (DSR).

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: rice's water-intensive nature has contributed to **groundwater depletion** in major rice belts.

Statement 2 is incorrect: rice paddies are major emitters of **methane**, a potent greenhouse gas, and the effects are not negligible.

Statement 3 is correct: Indian policy is promoting **water-efficient practices such as DSR** to reduce water use. Hence, **two statements are correct**.

**Q4. With reference to the Olive Ridley sea turtle in the Indian context, consider the following statements:**

1. Olive Ridley turtles exhibit an arribada nesting behaviour wherein thousands of females simultaneously come ashore.



2. Their sex determination is independent of incubation temperature, unlike many other reptiles.
3. Major nesting sites in India include the coastal areas of Odisha and Tamil Nadu.

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: Olive Ridley turtles show **mass synchronized nesting (arribada)**.

Statement 2 is incorrect: like many sea turtles, their **sex determination is temperature-dependent** (warmer sand produces more females).

Statement 3 is correct: major nesting sites in India include **Odisha and also occur along Tamil Nadu and Andhra coasts**. Thus, **two statements are correct**.

**Q5. With reference to the Suryastra rocket system recently procured by the Indian Army, consider the following statements:**

1. Suryastra is a universal multi-calibre long-range rocket launcher system capable of firing rockets and missiles up to a range of 300 km.
2. It has been developed entirely indigenously without any foreign technology collaboration.
3. The system enhances stand-off firepower and precision strike capabilities for field formations.
4. Its acquisition was through emergency procurement under special powers for rapid induction.

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 is correct: Suryastra can launch various calibre rockets/missiles up to around **300 km** range.

Statement 2 is incorrect: it includes technology from **Israeli PULS adapted under collaboration**.

Statement 3 is correct: it **enhances deep-strike precision and stand-off firepower**.

Statement 4 is correct: it was inducted via **emergency procurement** to expedite fielding. Therefore, **three statements are correct**.

**Q6. Which one of the following is the major river system traversing Venezuela, one of the longest in South America and central to the country's ecology and economy?**

- (a) Amazon
- (b) Paraná



- (c) Orinoco
- (d) Magdalena

**Answer:** (c) Orinoco

**Explanation:**

The **Orinoco River System** is the principal drainage system of Venezuela, flowing through most of the country and shaping its ecology, economy, and settlements. It is one of **South America's longest rivers**, distinct from the Amazon, Paraná, or Magdalena systems.

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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

### GS Paper I (Indian Society / Culture)

**Q1. Indian society is witnessing a simultaneous rise of cultural homogenisation and cultural assertion in the age of globalisation. Examine this paradox with suitable examples.**

**Sample Answer:**

Globalisation has intensified cultural interactions across borders through technology, migration, media, and markets. In India, this has produced a paradoxical phenomenon where **cultural homogenisation** and **cultural assertion** coexist and often reinforce each other.

On one hand, cultural homogenisation is visible in the growing dominance of global lifestyles. Western modes of consumption, fast fashion, fast food, English language usage, and digital entertainment platforms have created a shared urban cultural space. Festivals like Valentine's Day, consumer-centric celebrations, and global work culture reflect a convergence of values, especially among urban youth. This has led to concerns over erosion of indigenous traditions, languages, and folk practices.

On the other hand, globalisation has simultaneously strengthened **cultural assertion**. Increased connectivity has enabled communities to rediscover, document, and promote their distinct identities. Regional languages, traditional cuisines, local art forms, and indigenous knowledge systems are being revived and showcased globally. For instance, classical dances, yoga, Ayurveda, handloom traditions, and tribal art have gained international recognition. Diaspora networks have further reinforced cultural pride and transnational identity.

The paradox arises because exposure to global culture often generates a **counter-reaction**. As cultures appear threatened, communities assert their uniqueness more strongly. Identity-based movements around language, ethnicity, religion, and regional heritage have gained momentum. Digital platforms, while global in nature, are also used to amplify local narratives and traditions.

Moreover, state policies such as cultural heritage conservation, GI tagging of traditional products, and promotion of local crafts reflect institutional support for cultural assertion in a globalised economy.

In essence, globalisation has not led to cultural uniformity alone; rather, it has created a **dynamic interplay between global influence and local resilience**. Indian society demonstrates that cultural identities are not



passive victims of globalisation but active agents shaping and redefining themselves. Managing this balance remains crucial to preserve diversity while engaging with the global world.

### GS Paper II (Polity & Governance / International Relations)

**Q2. *The effectiveness of international institutions is increasingly questioned in a multipolar world. Discuss the challenges faced by global governance institutions and suggest reforms.***

#### Sample Answer:

International institutions such as the UN, WTO, IMF, and World Bank were created in the aftermath of World War II to ensure stability, cooperation, and collective security. However, in a rapidly evolving **multipolar world**, their effectiveness is under increasing scrutiny.

One major challenge is the **democratic deficit**. Decision-making power remains concentrated in a few developed countries, reflecting outdated geopolitical realities. For example, the UN Security Council's permanent membership does not represent emerging powers from Asia, Africa, or Latin America, undermining its legitimacy.

Second, **geopolitical rivalries** have paralysed institutions. Veto politics in the UNSC, trade disputes in the WTO, and bloc-based voting in global forums have weakened collective responses to crises such as armed conflicts, pandemics, and climate change.

Third, there is a growing **trust deficit**. Developing countries often perceive global institutions as instruments of Western dominance, particularly due to conditionalities attached to financial assistance and unequal rule-making. This has led to the rise of alternative platforms and minilateral groupings.

Fourth, international institutions struggle to respond effectively to **new global challenges** such as cyber threats, climate migration, artificial intelligence, and global health emergencies, which require faster, more inclusive, and cooperative governance mechanisms.

Reforms are essential. Representation must be broadened to reflect contemporary power realities, particularly by giving greater voice to the Global South. Decision-making processes should become more transparent and consensus-oriented. Institutions must also adapt their mandates and expertise to emerging transnational challenges.

India has consistently advocated reforms based on equity, inclusiveness, and respect for sovereignty. A reformed multilateral system is critical not only for global stability but also for addressing shared challenges that no nation can tackle alone.

### GS Paper III (Economy / Environment / Security)

**Q3. *India's pursuit of rapid economic growth poses complex environmental challenges. Analyse how sustainable development can be achieved without compromising developmental aspirations.***

#### Sample Answer:

India's development trajectory is shaped by the twin imperatives of **economic growth and environmental sustainability**. Rapid industrialisation, urbanisation, and infrastructure expansion have contributed significantly to GDP growth but have also intensified environmental degradation.



Key challenges include air and water pollution, deforestation, biodiversity loss, groundwater depletion, and climate vulnerability. These issues disproportionately affect the poor, undermining inclusive growth. For instance, environmental degradation increases health costs, reduces agricultural productivity, and heightens disaster risks.

Sustainable development offers a pathway to reconcile growth with ecological protection. First, integrating **environmental costs into economic decision-making** is crucial. Tools such as carbon pricing, pollution taxes, and green accounting can internalise externalities and promote responsible production.

Second, transitioning to **clean and renewable energy** is central. India's push towards solar, wind, green hydrogen, and electric mobility demonstrates how growth and sustainability can reinforce each other while reducing import dependence.

Third, sustainable agriculture practices such as micro-irrigation, crop diversification, organic farming, and climate-resilient seeds can enhance farmer incomes while conserving resources.

Fourth, urban planning must prioritise sustainability through public transport, green buildings, waste recycling, and nature-based solutions. Smart growth, rather than unchecked expansion, is key to livable cities.

Finally, technological innovation, behavioural change, and community participation are essential. Environmental governance should move beyond regulation to include incentives, awareness, and local stewardship.

India's constitutional commitment under Article 48A and Article 51A(g) reinforces the duty to protect the environment. Sustainable development is not a constraint on growth but a **precondition for long-term economic and social stability**.

#### GS Paper IV (Ethics, Integrity & Aptitude)

**Q4. Ethical governance requires balancing compassion with rule-based decision-making. Discuss this statement with examples from public administration.**

#### Sample Answer:

Ethical governance rests on adherence to laws, fairness, and accountability, while also recognising the human dimension of public service. Balancing **compassion and rule-based decision-making** is a central ethical challenge for administrators.

Rules ensure predictability, equality before law, and protection against arbitrariness. They uphold constitutional values such as justice and non-discrimination. However, rigid application of rules without sensitivity to context can result in injustice, especially for vulnerable sections.

Compassion, on the other hand, reflects empathy, humanity, and concern for public welfare. Administrators often encounter situations where strict compliance may aggravate hardship—such as disaster relief, welfare delivery, or rehabilitation cases.

Ethical governance lies not in choosing one over the other but in **harmonising both**. Discretion, when exercised within the legal framework, allows officials to respond to exceptional circumstances without undermining rule of law. For example, during natural disasters or pandemics, temporary relaxation of procedural norms enables timely assistance while still maintaining accountability.



However, compassion must not become a pretext for favouritism or corruption. Ethical administrators justify compassionate decisions through transparency, documentation, and consistency with constitutional values.

The principle of “*maximum good for maximum people*” guides such balance. Training in ethics, emotional intelligence, and constitutional morality equips civil servants to navigate moral dilemmas effectively.

Ultimately, ethical governance humanises the law while preserving its authority, ensuring that administration remains both **just and humane**.

## **Current Affairs (International Relations)**

**Q5.** *China's proposal of the Global Governance Initiative (GGI) reflects its evolving approach to international order. Critically examine the objectives, implications, and challenges of this initiative.*

### **Sample Answer:**

China's Global Governance Initiative (GGI) represents an attempt to shape global discourse on international cooperation, development, and multilateralism in line with its strategic worldview. The initiative emphasises principles such as respect for sovereignty, non-interference, multilateral cooperation, and reform of global governance institutions.

At the core of GGI is China's critique of the existing international order, which it views as dominated by Western powers and outdated institutions. The initiative seeks to promote a more “inclusive” governance architecture that accommodates diverse political systems and development paths. It also aligns with China's broader diplomatic narratives such as win-win cooperation and development-centric globalisation.

From a strategic perspective, GGI complements China's economic and geopolitical outreach by offering an ideological framework to legitimise its expanding global role. It attempts to position China as a responsible global leader, especially in the Global South, by advocating reforms in global institutions and greater representation for developing countries.

However, the initiative faces significant challenges. Critics argue that China's emphasis on sovereignty and non-interference may dilute global norms related to human rights, democratic accountability, and rule-based order. There are concerns that GGI could enable selective multilateralism, where norms are applied inconsistently.

Further, China's unilateral actions in certain regions and its approach to international disputes raise questions about the coherence between rhetoric and practice. Trust deficits, geopolitical rivalries, and competing visions of global order limit the initiative's universal acceptance.

For countries like India, GGI underscores the importance of engaging with emerging governance ideas while safeguarding core principles such as transparency, rule of law, and strategic autonomy. The future of global governance will depend on reconciling competing visions through genuine multilateral cooperation rather than dominance by any single power.