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

# DAILY MCQ'S

**FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION**

**DATE: 19/02/2026 (THURSDAY)**

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



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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

**Question 1: Consider the following statements regarding the Non-Cooperation Movement (1920–22):**

1. It marked the first time that the Indian National Congress officially adopted the goal of complete independence (Purna Swaraj).
2. The movement led to the establishment of parallel governments in some provinces, challenging colonial authority at the local level.

**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 incorrect:** The Indian National Congress adopted *Purna Swaraj* as its official goal at the **Lahore Session (1929)**, not during the Non-Cooperation Movement.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Although parallel governments became prominent during the Quit India Movement (1942), early experiments in local self-rule (national schools, arbitration courts, boycott of colonial institutions) emerged during the Non-Cooperation Movement.

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

**Question 2: With reference to the term “Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR)” often seen in ecological restoration, which one of the following best describes it?**

- (a) Planting fast-growing exotic species to accelerate biomass recovery in degraded forests
- (b) Protecting and managing degraded forestland to enable natural seed banks and rootstock to regenerate vegetation
- (c) Introducing genetically modified saplings to restore ecological balance in monoculture plantations
- (d) Allowing degraded ecosystems to recover without any human intervention

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) is a restoration approach that focuses on:

- Protecting degraded sites from disturbances (grazing, fire, logging)
- Managing competing vegetation
- Allowing regeneration from existing seeds, roots, and soil seed banks

It differs from:

- **Active afforestation** (Option a)



- **Passive natural recovery** (Option d), because ANR involves **minimal but targeted human facilitation**

**Question 3: Consider the following statements regarding the Monetary Policy Framework in India:**

1. The inflation target of  $4 \pm 2$  percent is set jointly by the Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India under statutory provisions.
2. Failure to achieve the inflation target for three consecutive quarters legally obliges the RBI to submit a public explanation and remedial plan to the Government.
3. The Monetary Policy Committee includes members nominated solely by the Reserve Bank of India.

**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:** The inflation target is notified by the Government of India in consultation with the RBI under the RBI Act (amended in 2016).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** If inflation remains outside the 2–6% band for three consecutive quarters, RBI must report to the Government explaining causes and remedial measures.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The MPC has **six members** — three from RBI and three appointed by the Government of India.

**Thus, only two statements are correct.**

**Question 4: Consider the following statements about the legislative process of Money Bills in India:**

1. The decision of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha on whether a Bill is a Money Bill is subject to judicial review by the Supreme Court.
2. A Money Bill can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha but may originate from either a Minister or a Private Member.
3. The Rajya Sabha can recommend amendments to a Money Bill but cannot reject or amend it.
4. If the Rajya Sabha does not return a Money Bill within fourteen days, it is deemed to have been passed by both Houses.

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

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



**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Article 110(3) declares the Speaker's decision final; in prelims convention it is treated as **not subject to judicial review**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** A Money Bill can be introduced **only by a Minister**, not a Private Member.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Rajya Sabha can only recommend amendments; it cannot reject or amend a Money Bill.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** If Rajya Sabha does not return the Bill within **14 days**, it is deemed passed.

**Therefore, only two statements are correct.**

**Question 5 (Assertion–Reason)**

**Assertion (A):** Tropical cyclones rarely form over the South Atlantic Ocean.

**Reasons (R):**

1. Sea surface temperatures in the South Atlantic are generally lower than the threshold required for cyclogenesis.
2. Vertical wind shear over the South Atlantic tends to be high, inhibiting organized cyclone development.

**Select the correct answer using the code below:**

- (a) A is correct and both R1 and R2 are correct, and both explain A
- (b) A is correct but only one of R1 or R2 explains A
- (c) A is correct but neither R1 nor R2 explains A
- (d) A is incorrect but at least one of R1 or R2 is correct

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

The South Atlantic is one of the few ocean basins with almost no tropical cyclones because:

- Cyclogenesis typically requires  $SST \geq 26-27^{\circ}C$
- The region generally has cooler waters (due to upwelling and currents)
- Vertical wind shear is relatively strong

Both factors directly inhibit cyclone formation.

**Hence, both reasons correctly explain the assertion.**



## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

**Question 1: Consider the following statements regarding the Moltbook Platform:**

1. It is a government-backed digital repository designed to integrate laboratory notebooks with AI-enabled research validation.
2. The platform primarily targets real-time monitoring of wildlife migration through satellite tagging.

**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:** Moltbook is a digital scientific documentation ecosystem aimed at improving research integrity and traceability through structured electronic lab records and AI tools.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The platform is not related to wildlife tracking; it focuses on research workflow digitization.

**Question 2: The recently launched 'CHAKRA' Centre of Excellence by SBI is primarily associated with:**

- (a) Quantum cybersecurity research and capacity building
- (b) Climate risk assessment for agricultural credit
- (c) Blockchain-based retail payment settlements
- (d) Advanced credit appraisal for MSMEs

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

CHAKRA (Centre for Hybrid and Advanced Knowledge in Risk and Analytics) focuses on cybersecurity and next-generation digital risk frameworks, particularly quantum-safe security preparedness and advanced analytics.

**Question 3: Consider the following statements regarding the proposed New Income Tax Act, 2025:**

1. It seeks to replace the Income Tax Act, 1961 with a simplified and technology-integrated framework.
2. The Act proposes to eliminate the concept of "previous year" and "assessment year" to reduce compliance complexity.
3. It introduces a fully optional direct tax regime with no mandatory tax structure remaining under the old system.



**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:** The new Act aims to modernize and simplify the six-decade-old law.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** One major reform under discussion is removal/merger of the previous year–assessment year distinction to simplify compliance.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The reform focuses on simplification and rationalization; it does not completely eliminate structured tax regimes.

**Question 4: Consider the following statements regarding the Biopharma Shakti Initiative:**

1. It aims to strengthen India’s end-to-end biopharmaceutical value chain, including discovery, manufacturing, and regulatory ecosystems.
2. The initiative is implemented exclusively through the Department of Pharmaceuticals without involvement of the biotechnology sector.
3. It seeks to promote indigenous development of complex biologics and biosimilars.

**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:** The initiative focuses on strengthening the full biopharma ecosystem.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It involves multi-institutional coordination, including biotechnology and pharmaceutical bodies.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** A key objective is boosting domestic capability in biologics and biosimilars.

**Question 5: Consider the following statements:**

1. Ramsar designation automatically converts a wetland into a legally notified protected area under Indian law.
2. India is one of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.



3. Inclusion in the Ramsar List obligates the country to maintain the ecological character of the wetland.
4. The Ramsar Convention is administered globally by UNESCO.

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

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

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Ramsar status does not automatically confer legal protection under Indian law.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** India is a Contracting Party to the Ramsar Convention.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Maintaining ecological character is a core obligation.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** The Convention is administered by the Ramsar Secretariat (not UNESCO).

**Question 6: With reference to the Pennaiyar River of peninsular India, consider the following statements:**

1. It originates in the Western Ghats of Kerala.
2. The river flows through Karnataka and Tamil Nadu before draining into the Bay of Bengal.
3. It is one of the major east-flowing rivers between the Krishna and the Cauvery basins.

**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 incorrect:** The Pennaiyar originates in the Nandi Hills region of Karnataka.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It flows through Karnataka and Tamil Nadu into the Bay of Bengal.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It is an important east-flowing river located between the Krishna and Cauvery systems.



# DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

## GS Paper 1 (Geography)

**Q1. Discuss the factors responsible for the uneven distribution of monsoon rainfall in India. How does this variability affect agriculture and regional development?**

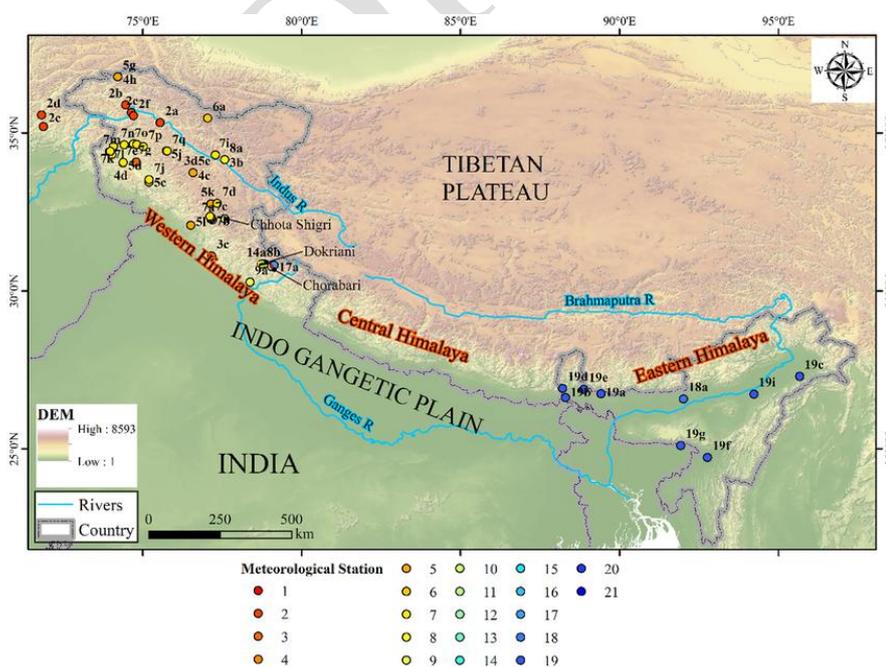
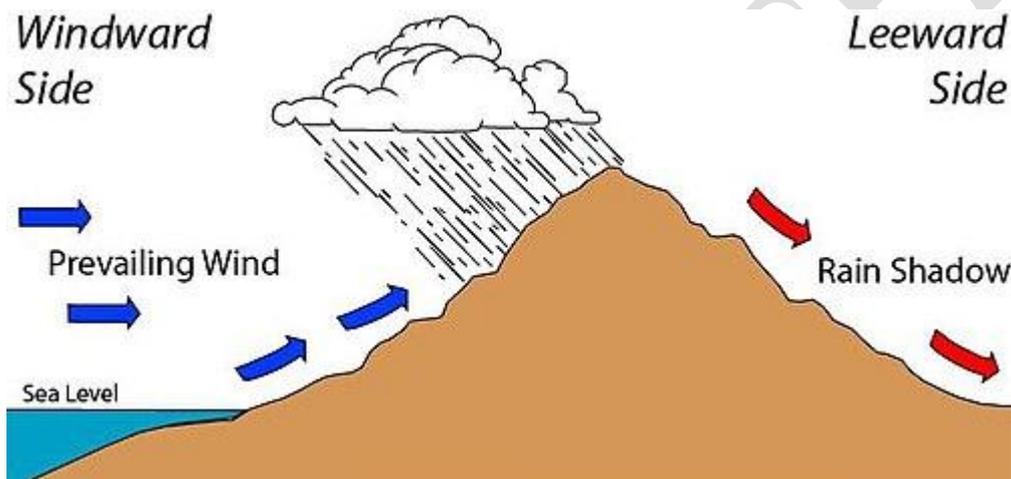
### Answer

India's monsoon rainfall exhibits marked spatial and temporal unevenness due to a complex interplay of geographical and atmospheric factors.

### Factors Responsible

#### 1. Relief and Orography

The Western Ghats and the Himalayas play a decisive role. The windward side of the Western Ghats receives heavy rainfall, while the leeward Deccan Plateau falls in the rain shadow region. Similarly, the Himalayas block the monsoon winds, causing heavy precipitation in the northeastern states.





## 2. Distance from the Sea (Continentality)

Coastal areas like Kerala and Konkan receive abundant rainfall, whereas interior regions such as Rajasthan receive scanty rainfall.

## 3. Monsoon Trough Position

The shifting of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) and monsoon trough causes year-to-year variability.

## 4. Cyclonic Disturbances and Depressions

Bay of Bengal depressions significantly influence rainfall over eastern and central India.

## 5. Climate Change and ENSO

El Niño events often weaken the monsoon, leading to droughts.

### Impact on Agriculture

- Rainfed agriculture (about 50% of net sown area) becomes highly vulnerable.
- Uneven rainfall causes crop failures in drought-prone regions like Bundelkhand and Marathwada.
- Flood-prone areas (Assam, Bihar) suffer crop damage and soil erosion.
- Cropping patterns and sowing cycles become uncertain.

### Impact on Regional Development

- Reinforces regional inequality.
- Water scarcity affects industry and urban growth in dry regions.
- Migration increases from drought-prone areas.
- Hydropower generation fluctuates.

### Conclusion

Addressing monsoon variability requires micro-irrigation, watershed management, climate-resilient crops, and improved forecasting. Long-term resilience lies in integrated water resource management and climate-adaptive planning.

## GS Paper 2 (Polity & Governance)

**Q2. Examine the significance of cooperative federalism in India. Evaluate the role of the GST Council in strengthening fiscal federalism.**

### Answer

Cooperative federalism refers to a collaborative relationship between the Union and the States aimed at achieving common national goals. In India's quasi-federal structure, it has gained prominence in the post-1991 reform era.

### Significance of Cooperative Federalism

#### 1. Constitutional Basis

The Constitution distributes powers through Union, State, and Concurrent Lists while encouraging coordination through institutions like the Inter-State Council.



## 2. Policy Implementation

Many flagship schemes (e.g., health, education, agriculture) require Centre–State cooperation.

## 3. Competitive yet Cooperative Model

Institutions like NITI Aayog promote both competition and collaboration among states.

### Role of GST Council

The GST Council, established under Article 279A, is often cited as the most successful example of fiscal federalism.

### Key Contributions

- **Joint decision-making:** Union and States jointly decide tax rates.
- **Subsumed multiple taxes:** Created a unified national market.
- **Consensus-based functioning:** Most decisions taken unanimously.
- **Revenue sharing:** Compensation mechanism protected states initially.



### Challenges

- Compensation cess disputes.
- Voting structure still gives the Union significant weight.
- States' fiscal autonomy concerns.
- Rate rationalization disagreements.

### Way Forward

- Strengthen dispute resolution mechanisms.
- Ensure timely compensation and trust-building.
- Increase transparency in rate-setting.
- Move toward GST 2.0 with fewer slabs.

### Conclusion

The GST Council has deepened cooperative fiscal federalism, but sustaining trust between Centre and States is crucial for its long-term success.

### GS Paper 3 (Economy/Environment)

**Q3. India's energy transition is crucial for achieving its climate commitments. Discuss the challenges in scaling up renewable energy and suggest policy measures.**

#### Answer

India has committed to achieving 500 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030 and net-zero by 2070. Renewable energy is central to this transition, yet significant hurdles remain.



## Major Challenges

### 1. Intermittency and Grid Stability

Solar and wind are variable, creating balancing challenges for the grid.

### 2. Land Acquisition Issues

Large solar parks face land conflicts and ecological concerns.

### 3. Financial Stress of DISCOMs

Delayed payments discourage private investment.

### 4. Storage Constraints

Battery storage remains expensive.

### 5. Import Dependence

Heavy reliance on imported solar modules and critical minerals.



## Policy Measures

- **Strengthen Green Hydrogen Mission.**
- **Promote domestic manufacturing (PLI schemes).**
- **Invest in battery storage and pumped hydro.**
- **Reform DISCOM finances (RDSS scheme).**
- **Develop smart grids and forecasting tools.**
- **Encourage rooftop solar and decentralized energy.**

## Strategic Importance

Energy transition reduces import bills, improves air quality, and enhances energy security.

## Conclusion

India's renewable push must be supported by grid modernization, storage expansion, and financial reforms. A balanced transition ensuring affordability, reliability, and sustainability is essential.

## GS Paper 4 (Ethics)

**Q4.. A district magistrate faces pressure from influential groups to dilute environmental norms for a large investment project that promises employment. Discuss the ethical issues involved and suggest a course of action.**

### Answer

This case reflects a classic dilemma between development and environmental ethics, testing the integrity and moral courage of a civil servant.

### Ethical Issues Involved



### 1. Conflict between Development and Sustainability

While the project promises jobs, environmental dilution may cause long-term ecological harm.

### 2. Integrity vs External Pressure

Yielding to influential groups would violate the principles of impartiality and rule of law.

### 3. Public Interest vs Short-Term Gains

Environmental degradation disproportionately affects vulnerable communities.

### 4. Constitutional Morality

The magistrate must uphold Article 21 (right to life) which includes environmental protection.

### Course of Action

#### Step 1: Follow Due Process

Ensure Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) norms are strictly followed.

#### Step 2: Evidence-Based Decision

Seek expert appraisal and public consultation.

#### Step 3: Transparency

Document all communications to maintain accountability.

#### Step 4: Explore Middle Path

Encourage green compliance, mitigation measures, or project redesign.

#### Step 5: Moral Courage

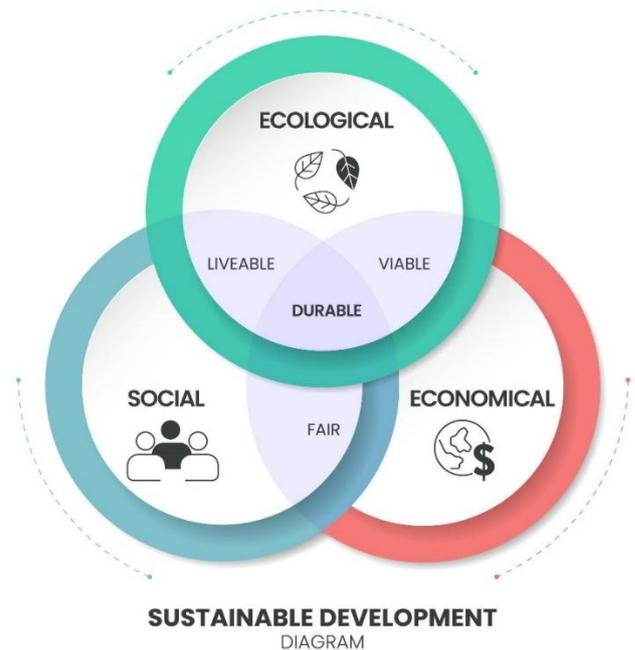
If violations persist, refuse clearance despite pressure.

### Values to be Upheld

- Integrity
- Objectivity
- Accountability
- Commitment to sustainable development
- Courage of conviction

### Conclusion

Ethical governance requires balancing growth with ecological responsibility. A principled, transparent, and law-bound approach best serves long-term public interest.





## Current Affairs

**Q5. Wetlands are increasingly being viewed as a national public good in India. Examine their ecological and economic significance and suggest measures for their effective conservation.**

### Answer

Wetlands—marshes, lakes, mangroves, and floodplains—provide ecosystem services that are non-excludable and non-rivalrous, justifying their treatment as a national public good.

### Ecological Significance

#### 1. Biodiversity Hotspots

Wetlands support migratory birds, fish, and endemic species.

#### 2. Flood Regulation

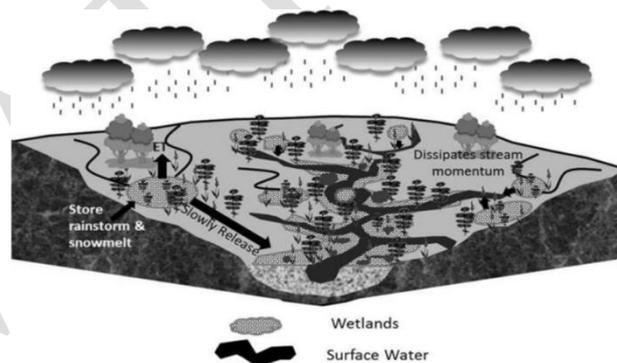
They act as natural sponges, reducing flood peaks.

#### 3. Carbon Sequestration

Coastal wetlands like mangroves are major blue carbon sinks.

#### 4. Groundwater Recharge

They maintain hydrological balance.



### Economic Significance

- Support fisheries and livelihoods.
- Promote eco-tourism (e.g., bird sanctuaries).
- Provide water purification services.
- Reduce disaster management costs.

### Major Threats

- Urban encroachment
- Pollution and eutrophication
- Invasive species
- Climate change and sea-level rise
- Weak enforcement of Wetlands Rules, 2017



## Policy Measures

### 1. Strengthen Wetland Inventory and Mapping

Use remote sensing and GIS.

### 2. Community-Based Management

Involve local stakeholders and Panchayats.

### 3. Integrate Wetlands in Urban Planning

Adopt sponge city concepts.

### 4. Enhance Ramsar Site Protection

Provide dedicated funding.

### 5. Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)

Incentivize conservation.

## Conclusion

Recognizing wetlands as national public goods shifts policy from exploitation to stewardship. A science-based, community-driven conservation strategy is essential for India's ecological security and climate resilience.

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