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

# DAILY MCQ'S

**FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION**

**DATE: 02/03/2026 (MONDAY)**

- **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 socio-economic features of early Vedic society:**

1. The term “*Bali*” in early Vedic texts denoted a voluntary offering to tribal chiefs rather than a regular tax.
2. The *Sabha* functioned exclusively as a judicial body, while the *Samiti* dealt only with military affairs.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (a) Only one

**Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is correct: In early Vedic society, *Bali* was a voluntary tribute/gift to the *rajan* or chief, not an institutionalized tax system (which emerged later).
- Statement 2 is incorrect: *Sabha* and *Samiti* were popular tribal assemblies with overlapping functions—political deliberation, decision-making, and possibly judicial roles. They were not functionally exclusive institutions.  
Hence only one statement is correct.

**Q2. With reference to ecological succession in terrestrial ecosystems, which one of the following sequences correctly represents the typical progression from bare rock to climax forest?**

- (a) Lichens → Mosses → Herbs → Shrubs → Trees
- (b) Mosses → Lichens → Herbs → Shrubs → Trees
- (c) Lichens → Herbs → Mosses → Shrubs → Trees
- (d) Lichens → Mosses → Shrubs → Herbs → Trees

**Answer:** (a)

**Explanation:**

Primary succession on bare rock begins with pioneer species (lichens) that weather rock and form soil. Mosses follow, then herbaceous plants, then shrubs, and finally climax forest trees. This orderly progression reflects increasing soil depth and organic matter. Other sequences violate ecological succession principles (e.g., mosses before lichens or shrubs before herbs).

**Q3. Consider the following statements regarding monetary policy transmission in India:**

1. A reduction in the policy repo rate necessarily lowers lending rates across all scheduled commercial banks in the short run.
2. The external benchmark–linked lending rate (EBLR) system enhances the speed of monetary transmission compared to the earlier MCLR system.
3. High small-savings interest rates can weaken monetary transmission by creating a floor under deposit rates.



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: Repo cuts do not *necessarily* lower lending rates immediately due to factors like bank balance-sheet stress, deposit costs, and risk perception.
- Statement 2 is correct: EBLR links loans to external benchmarks (repo, T-bill), enabling faster pass-through than MCLR.
- Statement 3 is correct: When administered small-savings rates remain high, banks must keep deposit rates elevated to compete, weakening transmission.  
Hence two statements are correct.

**Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the constitutional position of the Governor in India:**

1. The Governor is bound by the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers in all matters except those where the Constitution expressly provides discretion.
2. The Constitution explicitly defines the discretionary powers of the Governor in an exhaustive list.
3. The Governor can reserve any Bill for the consideration of the President irrespective of the advice of the State Council of Ministers.
4. The Governor's ordinance-making power is co-extensive with the legislative power of the State Legislature.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (b) Only two

**Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is correct: Governor normally acts on aid and advice except in discretionary spheres.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: The Constitution does not give an exhaustive list; discretion has evolved via conventions and judicial interpretation.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Reservation of Bills is generally exercised on ministerial advice except in limited constitutional situations (e.g., derogation from High Court powers).
- Statement 4 is correct: Ordinance power (Art. 213) is co-extensive with state legislative competence.  
Thus two statements are correct.



**Q5. Assertion (A): Western coastal plains of India are narrower than the eastern coastal plains.**

Reason (R1): The Western Ghats run almost parallel and close to the Arabian Sea coast.

Reason (R2): Major peninsular rivers flowing westwards form large deltas along the western coast.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) A is correct, R1 is correct, R2 is correct, and both R1 and R2 explain A
- (b) A is correct, R1 is correct, R2 is incorrect, and R1 explains A
- (c) A is correct, R1 is incorrect, R2 is correct, and R2 explains A
- (d) A is incorrect, R1 is correct, R2 is correct

**Answer:** (b)

**Explanation:**

- Assertion is correct: Western coastal plains are narrow (often 10–25 km), whereas eastern plains are broad.
- R1 is correct and explains A: Western Ghats lie close to the coast, leaving little space for coastal plains.
- R2 is incorrect: West-flowing rivers are short and form estuaries, not large deltas (deltas are characteristic of east-flowing rivers like Godavari, Krishna, Mahanadi). Therefore option (b) is correct.

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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

**Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*):**

1. They are listed as *Vulnerable* on the IUCN Red List and are included in Appendix I of CITES.
2. In the Indian Ocean region, incidental capture in longline fisheries is considered a major threat to their population.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (b) Only two

**Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is correct: Loggerhead turtles are globally assessed as *Vulnerable* by IUCN and listed in CITES Appendix I, prohibiting international commercial trade.
- Statement 2 is correct: Bycatch in pelagic longline fisheries is a significant threat in the Indian Ocean and elsewhere.  
Hence both statements are correct.



**Q2. With reference to the Government's "AI-Preneurs of India" initiative, which one of the following best describes its primary objective?**

- (a) Providing venture capital funding to AI start-ups through sovereign wealth funds
- (b) Creating a national registry of AI patents filed by Indian innovators
- (c) Nurturing grassroots AI innovators and start-ups through mentorship, incubation and market access
- (d) Mandating AI adoption targets for MSMEs across priority sectors

**Answer:** (c)

**Explanation:**

AI-Preneurs of India focuses on promoting AI entrepreneurship by identifying innovators, supporting incubation, mentorship, and connecting them with industry and investors. It is not a sovereign fund (a), nor merely a patent registry (b), nor a regulatory mandate (d).

**Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Government initiatives SAHI and BODH:**

1. SAHI aims to create a digital public infrastructure for skilling and apprenticeship matching across sectors.
2. BODH focuses on capacity-building of school teachers through blended learning and competency-based pedagogy modules.
3. Both SAHI and BODH are implemented by the Ministry of Education under the National Education Policy framework.

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: SAHI has been conceptualized as a skilling/apprenticeship digital matching platform aligned with workforce readiness.
- Statement 2 is correct: BODH is oriented toward teacher training and competency-based pedagogy.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: SAHI is linked more closely with the skill development/employment ecosystem rather than being solely under the Ministry of Education; hence both are not under the same ministry framework.

Thus two statements are correct.

**Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Bharat-VISTAAR programme:**

1. It aims to scale up Indian digital public infrastructure solutions for deployment in partner developing countries.
2. It is anchored institutionally in India's development cooperation architecture and supports capacity-building abroad.
3. It exclusively targets BIMSTEC member states for technology transfer and digital connectivity projects.



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: Bharat-VISTAAR is conceived to extend India's DPI stack (payments, identity, etc.) globally.
- Statement 2 is correct: It aligns with India's development partnership and technical assistance outreach.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: It is not restricted only to BIMSTEC; scope is broader across Global South partners.  
Hence two statements are correct.

**Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the PM-RAHAT scheme:**

1. It provides targeted financial relief and rehabilitation support to citizens affected by major disasters through a centralized digital platform.
2. The scheme integrates geospatial damage assessment with direct benefit transfer mechanisms.
3. It replaces the existing National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) architecture for disaster assistance.
4. It is implemented jointly by the Ministries of Home Affairs and Electronics & IT.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

**Answer:** (b) Only two

**Explanation:**

- Statement 1 is correct: PM-RAHAT is envisaged as a technology-enabled relief and rehabilitation support framework.
- Statement 2 is correct: Integration of geospatial assessment and DBT-based relief transfer is a key design feature.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: It complements rather than replaces NDRF/SDRF institutional funding structures.
- Statement 4 is incorrect: Implementation is primarily within disaster-management governance (MHA); MeitY support may exist but it is not a formal joint implementation ministry.  
Thus two statements are correct.



**Q6. With reference to the Great Nicobar Island project recently cleared by the National Green Tribunal (NGT), consider the following statements:**

1. The proposed transshipment port is located at Galathea Bay on the southeastern coast of Great Nicobar Island.
2. The project area lies within the notified Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve and overlaps habitat of the Nicobar megapode.
3. Great Nicobar Island lies north of Little Andaman and is separated from Sumatra by the Ten Degree Channel.

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: The mega transshipment port is planned at Galathea Bay (SE coast).
- Statement 2 is correct: The island forms part of the Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve and hosts endemic fauna including Nicobar megapode.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Great Nicobar lies **south** of Little Andaman; it is separated from Sumatra by the **Six Degree Channel**, not Ten Degree Channel.  
Hence two statements are correct.

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## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

(GS-1: Indian Society & Geography)

**Q1. Examine how physiographic diversity has influenced the spatial patterns of settlement, occupation and cultural landscapes in India. Illustrate with suitable examples.**

**Answer:**

India's physiographic diversity—comprising the Himalayas, plains, plateau, deserts and coastal regions—has profoundly shaped settlement patterns, occupations and cultural landscapes. Geography has historically determined resource availability, accessibility, security and livelihoods, thereby influencing societal organization.

**1. Mountains (Himalayas):**

The rugged terrain, seismicity and climatic constraints have led to **dispersed settlements**, terrace agriculture and pastoralism. Villages are located on south-facing slopes for sunlight (e.g., Uttarakhand). Cultural





landscapes emphasize wood-stone architecture and sacred groves. Transhumance (Gaddis, Bakarwals) reflects adaptation to altitudinal ecology.

## 2. Indo-Gangetic Plains:

Fertile alluvial soils and perennial rivers enabled **dense nucleated settlements** and intensive agriculture. The region supported urbanization since the Harappan and Gangetic civilizations. Occupational specialization and caste-based village systems evolved due to agrarian surplus. Cultural landscapes include canal irrigation networks and temple-town clusters (Varanasi).

## 3. Peninsular Plateau:

Hard rock terrain and mineral resources fostered mining-industrial settlements (Chota Nagpur). Tribal hamlets are dispersed due to shifting cultivation and forest dependence. Megalithic and sacred hill traditions illustrate landscape-culture links.

## 4. Desert (Thar):

Water scarcity led to clustered settlements near oases and tanks (Jaisalmer). Occupations include pastoralism, handicrafts and trade. Architectural forms—thick mud walls, courtyards—reflect climatic adaptation.

## 5. Coastal Plains & Islands:

Fishing villages, port towns and plantation agriculture dominate. Backwater settlements in Kerala show linear habitation along waterways. Maritime trade shaped cosmopolitan cultures (Kochi, Goa).

## Conclusion:

Physiography acts as a foundational determinant of settlement ecology in India. Despite modernization and mobility reducing geographic constraints, regional cultural landscapes continue to mirror environmental adaptation. Sustainable planning must respect these geo-cultural linkages.

## (GS-2: Governance & Polity)

**Q2. Discuss the evolving role of Governors in India's federal framework in light of recent controversies. Do judicial pronouncements sufficiently clarify the boundaries of gubernatorial discretion?**



## Answer:

The Governor, envisaged as a constitutional head and federal link, has increasingly become a focal point of Centre-State tensions. Recent disputes over assent to Bills, government formation and university appointments highlight ambiguities in gubernatorial discretion.



### **Constitutional Position:**

Articles 153–162 place the Governor as nominal executive acting on aid and advice (Art. 163), except in discretionary matters. However, the Constitution does not exhaustively define such discretion, enabling interpretative latitude.

### **Areas of Controversy:**

1. **Delay or withholding assent to Bills:** Governors in some states have reserved or delayed Bills, raising concerns of “pocket veto.”
2. **Government formation:** Decisions on inviting parties or calling floor tests have triggered accusations of partisan conduct.
3. **Chancellorship & appointments:** Conflict with elected governments over university governance.
4. **Public political commentary:** Seen as undermining neutrality.

### **Judicial Clarification:**

Supreme Court judgments (e.g., *Shamsher Singh*, *Nabam Rebia*) established that Governors must generally follow ministerial advice and cannot exercise personal discretion arbitrarily. Courts emphasized constitutional morality and federal balance. Yet, litigation-based correction is episodic and reactive.

### **Limitations of Judicial Approach:**

- Courts intervene post-facto; political damage may already occur.
- Some discretion (e.g., reserving Bills) remains undefined.
- Enforcement depends on conventions rather than codified rules.

### **Need for Reform:**

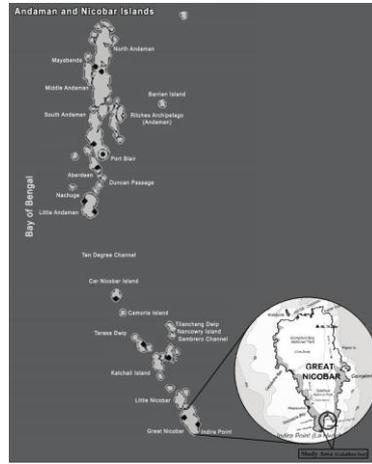
- Codified timelines for assent decisions.
- Consultation mechanisms between Centre and State.
- Sarkaria and Punchhi Commission recommendations—non-partisan appointments, fixed tenure security.

### **Conclusion:**

Judicial pronouncements have constrained misuse but not eliminated ambiguity. Strengthening conventions, transparency and cooperative federal norms is essential to restore the Governor’s constitutional neutrality.

### (GS-3: Environment & Economy)

**Q3. Evaluate the ecological and economic implications of large-scale infrastructure projects in ecologically fragile island ecosystems of India, with special reference to the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.**



#### Answer:

Island ecosystems like the Andaman & Nicobar Islands combine high biodiversity, endemism and ecological sensitivity with strategic and economic importance. Large-scale projects (ports, airports, townships) promise connectivity and growth but pose significant ecological risks.

#### Ecological Implications:

- Habitat Loss & Fragmentation:** Infrastructure may destroy rainforests and coastal habitats of endemic species (Nicobar megapode, leatherback turtle).
- Coral Reef & Coastal Damage:** Dredging and shipping traffic increase sedimentation and pollution affecting reefs.
- Disaster Vulnerability:** Islands lie in seismic zones; deforestation heightens tsunami and cyclone risks.
- Indigenous Communities:** Traditional lifestyles of Nicobarese and Shompen are vulnerable to ecological disruption.

#### Economic & Strategic Benefits:

- Transshipment & Trade:** Ports reduce dependence on foreign hubs, boosting maritime economy.
- Strategic Presence:** Enhances surveillance in the Indo-Pacific and Malacca Strait vicinity.
- Tourism & Employment:** Infrastructure enables eco-tourism and local livelihoods.
- Regional Development:** Reduces isolation and improves logistics.

#### Balancing Sustainability:

- Carrying-capacity based planning.
- Phased development and ecological offsets.



- Indigenous rights and FPIC (Free Prior Informed Consent).
- Nature-based coastal protection.
- Strict environmental monitoring.

**Conclusion:**

Island development must follow a “strategic-ecological equilibrium.” Long-term economic resilience depends on preserving fragile ecosystems that underpin island livelihoods and disaster protection.

**(GS-4: Ethics)**

**Q. A civil servant posted in a disaster-prone district faces pressure from political leaders to divert relief funds toward visible infrastructure projects before elections. Discuss the ethical dilemmas involved and suggest a course of action consistent with civil service values.**



**Answer:**

The scenario presents a conflict between **political expediency** and **ethical public service delivery**. The civil servant must navigate competing values of loyalty, integrity and public welfare.

**Ethical Dilemmas:**

1. **Public Interest vs Political Pressure:** Relief funds are meant for vulnerable victims; diversion undermines justice and equity.
2. **Integrity vs Obedience:** Following unlawful directives violates honesty and rule of law.
3. **Short-term Visibility vs Long-term Welfare:** Infrastructure may not address urgent survival needs.
4. **Accountability:** Misuse risks audit objections and erosion of trust.

**Relevant Ethical Principles:**

- **Integrity:** Refusal to misuse funds.
- **Compassion:** Prioritize victims’ suffering.
- **Impartiality:** Equal relief irrespective of political gain.
- **Courage of Conviction:** Ethical resistance to pressure.
- **Responsibility:** Stewardship of public resources.

**Course of Action:**

1. **Clarify Legal Mandate:** Cite disaster relief guidelines and financial rules.



2. **Document Directions:** Seek written orders to ensure accountability.
3. **Advise Alternatives:** Suggest legitimate infrastructure funding sources.
4. **Stakeholder Transparency:** Public disclosure of relief allocation norms.
5. **Escalation:** Inform higher administrative authorities if pressure persists.
6. **Ensure Relief Delivery:** Prioritize essential aid distribution.

**Conclusion:**

Ethical administration requires balancing democratic responsiveness with constitutional morality. Upholding legality and compassion preserves both institutional credibility and citizens’ trust during crises.

**(Current Affairs: UNEP FI Impact Centre)**

**Q5. The UNEP Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) Impact & SDG Alignment Centre reflects a shift toward impact-oriented finance. Analyze its significance for aligning global financial systems with sustainable development goals.**



**Answer:**

The UNEP FI Impact & SDG Alignment Centre represents a paradigm shift from risk-based sustainability to **impact-based finance**, aiming to align financial flows with the SDGs and Paris Agreement.

**Conceptual Significance:**

Traditional ESG finance focuses on managing environmental risks to investments. Impact finance goes further—assessing whether investments generate measurable positive social and environmental outcomes. The Centre provides methodologies, metrics and tools to operationalize this shift.

**Key Functions:**

1. **Impact Measurement Frameworks:** Standardized indicators linking portfolios to SDGs.
2. **SDG Alignment Tools:** Guidance for banks and investors to align lending and investment strategies.
3. **Capacity Building:** Training financial institutions in impact analysis.
4. **Policy Interface:** Supporting regulators in sustainable finance taxonomy.

**Global Importance:**

- Bridges the SDG financing gap (estimated trillions annually).





- Enhances credibility of green finance by reducing “greenwashing.”
- Promotes capital flows to developing countries and climate-vulnerable sectors.
- Integrates climate, biodiversity and social goals.

**Relevance for India:**

- Supports green infrastructure and climate transition financing.
- Aligns with India’s sustainable finance taxonomy initiatives.
- Encourages banks to assess development impact of lending (MSMEs, renewables).
- Facilitates global capital access for SDG projects.

**Challenges:**

- Data gaps and impact attribution complexity.
- Trade-offs between financial returns and impact.
- Need for regulatory harmonization.

**Conclusion:**

The UNEP FI Impact Centre advances a systemic transformation of finance—from “do no harm” to “do good.” Aligning capital with SDGs is essential for inclusive and climate-resilient global development.

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