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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY
&
STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 11/03/2026 (WEDNESDAY)

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

QUIZ TIME!

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DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the events during the Indian Freedom Struggle:

1. The 'Hunter Committee' was appointed to investigate the disturbances in Bombay Presidency after the Quit India Movement.

2. The 'Crawling Order' was issued in the aftermath of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is incorrect: The Hunter Committee (Disorders Inquiry Committee) was set up in 1919 to investigate the Jallianwala Bagh massacre and related disturbances in Punjab, not for the Quit India Movement of 1942.

- Statement 2 is correct: The "Crawling Order" (also called the "Crawling Lane Order") was imposed by General Dyer after the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, forcing Indians to crawl on their bellies on the street where an Englishwoman, Miss Marcella Sherwood, had been assaulted.

Q2. Which of the following best explains the ecological role of "Keystone Species"?

(a) They are the most abundant species in a habitat and determine energy flow.
(b) Their removal drastically alters the structure and function of an ecosystem.
(c) They are always top predators and maintain herbivore populations.
(d) They are the first colonisers in a primary succession process.

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
Keystone species are not necessarily the most abundant or dominant but play a critical role in maintaining the ecological balance. Their removal results in disproportionate changes, often leading to ecosystem collapse. Example: Sea otters controlling sea urchin populations.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Indian economy in recent decades:

1. The "twin balance sheet problem" refers to the stressed balance sheets of banks as well as large corporates.

2. The "twin deficits hypothesis" highlights the link between fiscal deficit and current account deficit.

3. The term "crowding out" in fiscal policy refers to the situation where public sector borrowing reduces private sector investment.

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)

Explanation:

- Statement 1: Correct. The twin balance sheet problem was coined in the Economic Survey 2016-17 highlighting stress in corporate and banking sectors simultaneously.

- Statement 2: Correct. The twin deficit hypothesis establishes the correlation between higher fiscal deficit leading to higher current account deficit.

- Statement 3: Correct. Crowding out occurs when government borrowing increases interest rates, thereby reducing funds available for private investment.

Q4. Consider the following statements about the office of the Governor in India:

1. The Governor can recommend President's Rule under Article 356, but such recommendation is not justiciable in courts.

2. The Governor is bound to reserve certain types of bills for the consideration of the President.

3. The Governor's discretion in giving assent to a Bill is identical to that of the President of India.

4. The Governor is appointed for a fixed term of five years and cannot be removed before the expiry of the term.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- Statement 1: Correct. The Governor may recommend imposition of President's Rule, and the validity of the Governor's report itself is not justiciable (as held in S.R. Bommai case), though the proclamation can be reviewed.

- Statement 2: Correct. Bills affecting High Court powers, or which the Governor deems as unconstitutional, must be reserved for the President.

- Statement 3: Incorrect. The President has no discretion in giving assent, but the Governor may exercise discretion in reserving bills.

- Statement 4: Incorrect. Though appointed for five years, the Governor holds office at the pleasure of the President and can be removed earlier.

Q5. Assertion – Reason type -
Assertion (A): The western coastal plains of India are narrower and more dissected compared to the eastern coastal plains.

Reason (R): The Western Ghats run almost parallel to the western coast, leaving little room for extensive alluvial deposits.

(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)

Explanation:
The western coastal plains are narrow (50–100 km wide) and uneven due to the presence of the Western Ghats close to the coast, restricting the formation of broad alluvial plains. In contrast, the eastern coastal plains are wider and smoother as major rivers like Godavari, Krishna, and Kaveri deposit large amounts of sediments. Hence both A and R are correct, and R explains A.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. With reference to the recently unveiled 'Vikram' 32-bit processor, consider the following statements:

1. It has been developed by ISRO's Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL), with its initial application targeted at launch-vehicle avionics.

2. It was showcased at Semicon India 2025 and is intended for high-reliability space use rather than consumer electronics.

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)

Explanation:
ISRO's SCL has developed the indigenous 32-bit 'Vikram' processor for use in the avionics of launch vehicles. It was unveiled at Semicon India 2025, and it is designed as a high-reliability space-grade processor rather than for mass consumer electronics.

Q2. According to the Global Peace Index (GPI) 2025, India's overall rank is:

(a) 107
(b) 118
(c) 129
(d) 138

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
The Global Peace Index 2025 places India at rank 118, reflecting its position among the least peaceful countries globally, with internal and regional conflicts contributing to its score.

Q3. With reference to land subsidence, consider the following statements:

1. Compaction of aquifer systems caused by groundwater withdrawal can result in a largely irreversible loss of aquifer storage.

2. "Hydrocompaction" denotes the densification of collapsible, unsaturated soils upon wetting and commonly produces subsidence.

3. Sinkholes in karst terrains can occur naturally and constitute a form of subsidence independent of human activity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation:
Aquifer-system compaction due to groundwater withdrawal often leads to permanent loss of storage. Hydrocompaction occurs when collapsible soils densify after wetting. Sinkholes are natural subsidence features in karst areas, and they may form even without human interference.

Q4. Consider the following statements about the BHARATI initiative in agri-exports:

1. "BHARATI" stands for Bharat's Hub for Agritech, Resilience, Advancement and Incubation for Export Enablement.

2. It is an APEDA (Dept. of Commerce) programme to hand-hold a pilot cohort of 100 agri-food/agri-tech start-ups from idea-to-export, with tools like a national registry and an export-compliance sandbox.

3. It explicitly targets start-ups working on AI-based quality control, blockchain traceability, IoT-enabled cold chains and agri-fintech to embed export-readiness into product design.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Explanation:
BHARATI is APEDA's flagship initiative for enabling agri-tech start-ups in exports. It supports ~100 start-ups via a portal/registry, export-compliance sandbox, and mentoring. It encourages advanced technologies like AI, blockchain, IoT, and agri-fintech to integrate global standards into the design of products and services.

Q5. With reference to Foreigners Tribunals (FTs), consider the following statements:

1. Under Section 9 of the Foreigners Act, 1946, the burden of proof in FT proceedings lies on the person alleged to be a foreigner.

2. Under the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964, a Tribunal enjoys certain powers of a civil court, including summoning witnesses and receiving evidence on affidavit.

3. The 2019 amendments enabled not only the Central Government but also State Governments, Union territory administrations and District Magistrates to refer questions of nationality to a Tribunal.

4. An FT's order is strictly final and the Tribunal has no power to review it even on discovery of new evidence within a prescribed period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
The Foreigners Act places the burden of proof on the person under question. FTs possess powers similar to civil courts for summoning and affidavit-based evidence. After the 2019 amendment, references can be made not only by the Centre but also by State/UT administrations and District Magistrates. Contrary to statement 4, limited review of FT orders is permitted.

Q6. On a physical map of Seychelles, arrange the following islands/atolls from north to south:

1. Bird Island (Île aux Vaches)

2. Mahé (Victoria)

3. Aldabra Atoll

4. Farquhar Atoll

Select the correct sequence using the code given below:

(a) 1-2-3-4
(b) 1-3-2-4
(c) 2-1-3-4
(d) 2-1-4-3

Answer: (a)

Explanation:
Bird Island (~3°43′S) is the northernmost. Mahé, where Victoria is located, lies near ~4°38′S. Aldabra is further south (~9°25′S), followed by Farquhar (~10°10′S). Thus, the north-to-south order is 1 → 2 → 3 → 4.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS-1:

Q1. "Land subsidence is increasingly emerging as a hidden hazard in India's urban as well as rural landscapes." Analyze the causes, consequences, and suggest a framework for sustainable management of this phenomenon.

Answer:
Land subsidence refers to the gradual settling or sinking of the Earth's surface due to natural or anthropogenic factors. While long recognized globally, in India it has recently gained prominence due to cases such as Joshimath (Uttarakhand) and parts of Delhi, Haryana, and Bihar.

Causes:

- **Natural factors:** Tectonic activity, seismic faulting, dissolution of underground rocks (karst topography).

- **Anthropogenic factors:**

    o   Over-extraction of groundwater for agriculture and urban needs (notable in Punjab, Haryana, Delhi).

    o   Unplanned urban expansion leading to excessive construction loads.

    o   Mining activities (coalfields of Jharkhand, Raniganj, etc.).

    o   Infrastructure development in fragile Himalayan terrains.

Consequences:

- **Human displacement:** Joshimath's cracks displaced hundreds of families.

- **Infrastructure loss:** Roads, pipelines, and buildings face structural failure.

- **Agricultural damage:** Uneven ground makes cultivation difficult.

- **Environmental risks:** Increased vulnerability to landslides, floods, and soil erosion.

- **Economic costs:** Rehabilitation, rebuilding, and compensation strain public finances.

Framework for sustainable management:

1. **Scientific mapping:** Use satellite imagery (ISRO's NRSC studies) and LiDAR to identify subsidence hotspots.

2. **Groundwater regulation:** Enforce groundwater recharge and restrict extraction in overexploited zones.

3. **Urban planning:** Implement zoning laws and construction norms in vulnerable areas.

4. **Early warning systems:** Integrate subsidence risk into disaster management frameworks.

5. **Community participation:** Local awareness campaigns to regulate water use and prevent unsafe construction.

6. **Policy approach:** A dedicated "National Land Subsidence Mitigation Mission" aligning with Sendai Framework for DRR.

Conclusion:

Land subsidence, though silent, is a severe hazard threatening sustainability and human security. A multidisciplinary strategy combining science, governance, and community participation is crucial for mitigating its impact in India.

GS-2:

Q2. Critically examine the role of Foreigners Tribunals in India. How do they balance between safeguarding national security and protecting individual rights?

Answer:

Foreigners Tribunals (FTs) are quasi-judicial bodies established under the **Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964** to determine the nationality of individuals suspected to be illegal migrants. Their role has gained importance in Assam, particularly during the preparation of the **National Register of Citizens (NRC)**.

Positive role in governance:

- **National security:** By identifying illegal migrants, FTs protect demographic stability, border integrity, and socio-political balance.

- **Legal recourse:** They provide a platform for individuals to prove citizenship, unlike arbitrary administrative action.

- **Rule of law:** Their judicial structure ensures evidence-based adjudication.

Challenges and criticisms:

1. **Due process concerns:** Allegations of hurried proceedings, lack of legal aid, and inconsistent standards of proof.

2. **Human rights violations:** Declaring individuals as "foreigners" without sufficient safeguards leads to statelessness, detention, and denial of basic rights.

3. **Institutional weaknesses:** FTs face shortage of qualified members, political pressures, and case backlogs.

4. **Ambiguity of burden of proof:** Citizenship law often shifts the burden onto individuals, contrary to principles of natural justice.

Balancing act required:

- **Procedural fairness:** Ensure adequate time, representation, and access to documents for accused individuals.

- **Judicial review:** High Courts and the Supreme Court must rigorously oversee FT decisions.

- **Humanitarian approach:** Protect fundamental rights (Art. 21 – Right to Life, Art. 14 – Equality) while enforcing immigration laws.

- **Reforms:** Standardized training of FT members, digitization of records, and stronger legal aid mechanisms.

Conclusion:

While FTs are vital to address the complex issue of migration, their credibility rests on impartiality,

transparency, and protection of individual dignity. A humane, rights-based approach is essential to balance sovereignty with constitutional morality.

GS-3:

Q3. "India's pursuit of indigenous processors like Vikram-32 reflects both technological ambition and strategic necessity." Discuss the significance, challenges, and way forward for India's semiconductor ecosystem.

Answer:
India has launched the **Vikram-32 RISC-V based processor**, a 32-bit indigenous chip designed by C-DAC, marking a milestone in its quest for self-reliance in semiconductors.

Significance:

- **Strategic autonomy:** Reduces dependence on imports from Taiwan, South Korea, or China amid supply chain vulnerabilities.

- **National security:** Prevents backdoors in defense and critical infrastructure systems.

- **Economic benefits:** Supports "Digital India" and "Atmanirbhar Bharat" by promoting domestic manufacturing.

- **Innovation ecosystem:** Encourages start-ups in AI, IoT, and embedded systems.

- **Employment creation:** Chip design and fabrication industry creates high-skilled jobs.

Challenges:

- **Fabrication gap:** India lacks advanced fabrication plants (fabs) for large-scale production.

- **High capital cost:** Semiconductor fabs require billions of dollars and sustained subsidies.

- **Global competition:** India lags behind giants like Intel, TSMC, and Samsung.

- **Skill shortages:** Need for highly trained engineers in chip design, lithography, and material sciences.

- **Supply chain constraints:** Dependency on rare earths and critical minerals.

Way forward:

1. **Robust policy push:** PLI schemes, Semicon India Programme, and foreign collaborations (with TSMC, Micron).

2. **R&D focus:** Strengthen academic-industry linkages and invest in advanced chip architecture research.

3. **Public-private partnerships:** Encourage start-ups in semiconductor design through venture capital and incubation support.

4. **Skill development:** Establish chip design centers of excellence in IITs, IIITs, and NITs.

5. **Sustainability:** Promote energy-efficient fabrication methods to minimize carbon footprint.

Conclusion:
The Vikram-32 processor is more than a technological milestone; it symbolizes India's aspiration to move from being a digital consumer to a digital producer. Addressing ecosystem gaps will determine whether India can emerge as a global semiconductor hub.

GS-4:

Q4. "Ethical governance is not merely about adherence to rules, but about nurturing trust between state and society." Discuss with suitable examples.

Answer:
Ethical governance goes beyond legal compliance; it embodies values such as transparency, accountability, and fairness. Rules may provide a framework, but true legitimacy of governance lies in **public trust**.

Why rules are not enough:

- Rules can be misused (e.g., colonial-era sedition law).

- Strict legalism without empathy leads to alienation (bureaucratic red tape).

- Corruption often thrives despite elaborate procedures due to lack of integrity.

Building trust through ethical governance:

1. **Transparency:** Open data initiatives (RTI Act, digital governance portals) foster accountability.

2. **Integrity:** Civil servants like **E. Sreedharan** (Metro Man) showed how integrity inspires confidence in public projects.

3. **Empathy in administration:** IAS officer Armstrong Pame, who mobilized resources for road building in Manipur, earned public trust by going beyond rules.

4. **Participatory decision-making:** Gram Sabhas in Kerala or tribal consultations in FRA implementation enhance democratic legitimacy.

5. **Consistency with constitutional morality:** Upholding equality, justice, and dignity ensures governance reflects public values.

Ethical dilemmas:

- Balancing secrecy in national security with citizens' right to information.

- Reconciling efficiency with procedural fairness in welfare schemes.

Conclusion:
Ethical governance is about aligning state actions with societal values, not merely enforcing compliance. Trust, once broken, is difficult to restore; hence ethical leadership, moral courage, and people-centric policies are vital for sustainable governance.

Current Affairs:

Q5. "India is simultaneously the world's third-largest emitter of greenhouse gases and a leader in renewable energy expansion. This paradox reflects the complexity of its development trajectory." Critically analyze.

Answer:
India faces the dual challenge of meeting developmental needs while addressing climate change. This creates a paradox: on one hand, it is among the top global emitters; on the other, it is a renewable energy pioneer.

The paradox explained:

- **High emissions:**

    o 3rd largest GHG emitter due to coal-based energy dependence (70% of electricity).

    o Rapid industrialization, urbanization, and vehicular growth.

    o Agriculture contributes methane emissions.

- **Green leadership:**

    o World's 4th largest renewable energy installed capacity (~180 GW).

    o Ambitious targets: 500 GW of renewables by 2030, net-zero by 2070.

    o Leadership in **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** and "One Sun One World One Grid."

Complexities:

- **Energy security vs. sustainability:** Coal remains affordable and reliable compared to intermittent renewables.

- **Equity principle:** India's per capita emissions remain far below developed nations.

- **Financing gap:** Energy transition requires trillions of dollars in green investments.

- **Social cost:** Coal phase-out impacts jobs in coal-rich states like Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh.

Balancing the paradox:

1. **Diversified energy mix:** Gradual coal phase-down, not abrupt exit.

2. **Technology adoption:** Green hydrogen, carbon capture, and energy storage.

3. **Just transition:** Reskilling coal workers, alternative livelihoods.

4. **Global cooperation:** Climate finance and technology transfer from developed countries.

5. **Domestic reforms:** Rationalizing subsidies, promoting EVs, improving grid integration.

Conclusion:

India's "green paradox" is not a contradiction but a reflection of developmental realities. Its path illustrates that climate action must accommodate energy equity, economic growth, and global justice. A calibrated, just, and innovation-driven transition can turn the paradox into an opportunity.