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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 22/04/2026 (WEDNESDAY)

- **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 the 'Salt Satyagraha' and the 'Civil Disobedience Movement' as chronicled in the context of the nationalist struggle:

Statement-I: Mahatma Gandhi's choice of salt as a symbol of protest was primarily driven by its unique status as a commodity that transcended the divide between rural and urban populations and religious identities.

Statement-II: The colonial government's decision to monopolize salt production was legally justified under the pretext of preventing the sale of adulterated salt to the public, rather than as a primary revenue-generating mechanism.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Answer: (c)

Explanation: Statement-I is correct. Salt was a universal necessity, and its taxation affected every household, making it a powerful unifying symbol across caste, class, and religion. Statement-II is incorrect because the salt monopoly was explicitly a revenue measure. The colonial state claimed a monopoly on the manufacture and sale of salt to ensure a steady stream of tax revenue, and it was one of the most hated laws because it criminalized a natural activity (collecting salt) for the sake of the imperial treasury.

Q2. In the context of "Ecological Succession" within a climax community, which of the following best describes the relationship between 'Gross Primary Productivity' (GPP) and 'Total Community Respiration' (R)?

- (a) GPP is significantly higher than R, allowing for rapid biomass accumulation.
- (b) The ratio of GPP to R tends to be less than one, leading to a gradual decline in total organic matter.
- (c) GPP and R reach a state of dynamic equilibrium where the P/R ratio approaches unity.
- (d) Respiration (R) becomes negligible as the community reaches a state of maximum thermodynamic efficiency.

Answer: (c)

Explanation: In a climax community (the final, stable stage of succession), the ecosystem reaches a steady state. The energy fixed through photosynthesis (GPP) is almost entirely consumed by the respiration of the community members (R). Therefore, the P/R ratio (Production/Respiration) equals 1, and the net community productivity is near zero, unlike earlier stages where GPP exceeds R to build biomass.



Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Determination of Income and Employment' in a closed economy with no government intervention:

1. The 'Ex-ante' investment is always identically equal to 'Ex-ante' savings in the national income accounting identity.
2. In the Keynesian framework, if the Marginal Propensity to Save (MPS) increases, the equilibrium level of income in the economy will fall.
3. The 'Investment Multiplier' is directly proportional to the Marginal Propensity to Consume (MPC).

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. While 'Ex-post' (actual) savings and investment are always equal in an accounting sense, 'Ex-ante' (planned) savings and investment are only equal at the equilibrium level of income. Statement 2 is correct; an increase in MPS means a decrease in MPC, which reduces the multiplier effect and lowers the equilibrium income (The Paradox of Thrift). Statement 3 is correct; the formula for the multiplier is $K = 1 / (1 - MPC)$, so as MPC increases, the multiplier K also increases.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Executive' and 'Legislative' relations under the Indian Constitution:

1. A Minister who is not a member of either House of Parliament for six consecutive months automatically ceases to be a Minister.
2. The President can exercise his 'discretionary power' to appoint a Prime Minister only when no single party or coalition has a clear majority in the Lok Sabha.
3. The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Parliament, including the Rajya Sabha.
4. The salaries and allowances of Ministers are determined by the President of India from time to time.

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 correct (Article 75(5)). Statement 2 is correct; it is a situational discretion of the President. Statement 3 is incorrect; according to Article 75(3), the Council of Ministers is collectively responsible specifically to the *House of the People* (Lok Sabha), not the entire Parliament. Statement 4 is incorrect; salaries and allowances are determined by *Parliament* by law, not the President.



Q5. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The 'Primary Sector' in developing economies often exhibits 'Disguised Unemployment', particularly in the agricultural domain.

Statement-II: The Marginal Productivity of labor in such scenarios is zero or negative.

Statement-III: High population pressure on land and lack of alternative employment opportunities lead to the crowding of labor in agriculture.

In light of the above statements, which one of the following is correct?

- (a) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct reasons for Statement-I
- (b) Only Statement-II is the correct reason for Statement-I
- (c) Only Statement-III is the correct reason for Statement-I
- (d) Neither Statement-II nor Statement-III is the correct reason for Statement-I

Answer: (a)

Explanation: Statement-I describes a phenomenon where more people are employed than necessary. Statement-II is a correct technical reason (marginal productivity is zero, meaning removing a worker doesn't reduce total output). Statement-III is the correct structural reason (lack of other jobs forces people to stay on family farms). Thus, both serve as valid explanations/reasons for the existence of disguised unemployment.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026:

1. The Bill mandates that any NGO receiving foreign funds must utilize at least 50% of the contribution for administrative expenses to ensure professional compliance.
2. It introduces a "Suspension-on-Inquiry" clause, allowing the Central Government to suspend an organization's FCRA registration for up to 360 days pending investigation.

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

Q2. With reference to the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), consider the following statements:

1. It is the only Cabinet Committee chaired by the Union Home Minister to ensure internal security synergy.
2. All capital acquisitions for defense purposes exceeding a specific financial threshold require the final approval of the CCS.



3. The Minister of External Affairs and the Minister of Finance are ex-officio members of the committee.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the legendary artist Raja Ravi Varma:

1. He is credited with the "democratization of Indian art" through the establishment of the Lonavala lithographic press.
2. His style is often described as a fusion of Indian iconography with the techniques of European Academic Realism.
3. He was the first Indian artist to be awarded the Kaiser-i-Hind Gold Medal by the British Colonial Government.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Q4. Which of the following best describes the primary mechanism of GLP-1 (Glucagon-like peptide-1) receptor agonists, recently in the news for metabolic health?

- (a) They act as synthetic insulin analogues that bypass the pancreatic beta-cell response entirely.
- (b) They mimic an intestinal hormone that stimulates insulin secretion and slows gastric emptying.
- (c) They inhibit the SGLT2 protein in the kidneys to promote glucose excretion through urine.
- (d) They primarily target the pituitary gland to suppress the production of growth hormones.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Survey Vessel 'Sanshodhak':

1. It is the fourth and final ship of the Survey Vessels (Large) project built for the Indian Navy.
2. The vessel is designed to carry out full-scale coastal and deep-water hydrographic surveys of ports and navigational channels.
3. It has a displacement of over 5,000 tonnes and is powered by a nuclear-integrated propulsion system.
4. The ship can carry four Survey Motor Boats and an integral helicopter for search and rescue operations.



How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Q6. Mapping Question: Mount Aconcagua

Assertion (A): Mount Aconcagua is the highest peak in the Southern and Western Hemispheres.

Reason (R1): It is located in the Andes Mountain range within the territory of Chile.

Reason (R2): Its formation is a result of the subduction of the Nazca Plate beneath the South American Plate.

In the light of the above statements, choose the correct answer:

- (a) Both A and R2 are correct, and R2 is the correct explanation for the geological origin of A.
- (b) Both A and R1 are correct, and R1 is the correct location of A.
- (c) A is correct, but R1 is incorrect.
- (d) A is incorrect, but R2 is correct.

Answers and Explanations

Q1. (b) 2 only

- **Analysis:** Statement 1 is **incorrect**. The 2020/2026 amendments actually **decreased** the limit for administrative expenses from 50% to 20% to ensure more funds reach the actual social cause. Statement 2 is **correct**; the government has extended suspension periods to allow for deeper audits.

Q2. (b) Only two

- **Analysis:** Statement 1 is **incorrect**; the CCS is chaired by the **Prime Minister**. Statements 2 and 3 are **correct**. The CCS includes the PM, Home Minister, Finance Minister, Defence Minister, and External Affairs Minister. It handles all major defense acquisitions and security policy.

Q3. (c) All three

- **Analysis:** All statements are **correct**. Varma's use of oil paints and lithography (Statement 1 & 2) allowed common people to afford depictions of gods. Statement 3 is a factual detail often missed; he was indeed awarded the Kaiser-i-Hind in 1904.

Q4. (b)

- **Analysis:** GLP-1 drugs (like Semaglutide/Ozempic) work by mimicking the incretin hormone. They stimulate insulin when blood sugar is high and increase "satiety" (feeling full), which is why they are used for weight loss and Type 2 diabetes.

**Q5. (c) Only three**

- **Analysis:** Statements 1, 2, and 4 are **correct**. Statement 3 is **incorrect** because *Sanshodhak* is **not** nuclear-powered; it uses diesel propulsion. These vessels are crucial for maritime security and the "Blue Economy."

Q6. (c) A is correct, but R1 is incorrect.

- **Analysis:** **Assertion (A)** is correct (6,961m). **Reason (R1)** is **incorrect** because Mount Aconcagua is located entirely in **Argentina**, not Chile (though it is near the border). **Reason (R2)** is a correct geological fact, but since R1 is a location error, option (c) is the most accurate choice under the "Assertion-Reason" logic.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS-1 (History): Through the Eyes of Travellers

Q1. "The accounts of foreign travellers in medieval India provide a 'stranger's perspective' that often challenges or complements indigenous narratives." Critically analyze this statement with reference to the writings of Al-Biruni and François Bernier. (300 Words)

Sample Answer:

Foreign accounts serve as a vital "alternative lens." Unlike court chroniclers who wrote to glorify their patrons, travellers like Al-Biruni (11th Century) and François Bernier (17th Century) observed social granularities that locals took for granted.

- **Al-Biruni's Intellectual Rigour:** In *Kitab-ul-Hind*, Al-Biruni adopted a "comparative" approach. He translated Sanskrit texts and explained the caste system not as a divine hierarchy, but as a social structure, comparing it to the four classes in ancient Persia. His "stranger's perspective" highlighted the intellectual insularity he felt Indian scholars possessed, providing a critique of contemporary scholarly attitudes that local sources rarely mentioned.
- **Bernier's Comparative Realism:** Bernier, a physician in the Mughal court, often compared India unfavourably with Europe. His "Travels in the Mughal Empire" focused on the lack of private property in land (the "Crown Ownership" theory). He argued this led to a lack of incentive for improvement, creating a "bleak landscape" of miserable peasantry. While modern historians argue Bernier's views were biased by European models, his detailed descriptions of the "Karkhanas" (imperial workshops) provide invaluable data on industrial organization.
- **Complementing Indigenous Narratives:** While local texts focused on political genealogy, travellers documented "unusual" practices like the Sati system, the prevalence of slavery, and the intricate postal system. Ibn Battuta's amazement at the coconut and paan leaves shows how the "stranger's gaze" captures the essence of everyday material culture.

Conclusion: Thus, while their accounts are sometimes marred by personal prejudices or misunderstandings, they act as a bridge, filling the gaps left by the official historiography of the time.



GS-2 (Polity): Challenges to and Restoration of the Congress System

Q2. The 1967 General Elections are often described as a 'Political Earthquake' in Indian democracy. Examine how the emergence of non-Congressism and the subsequent split in the Congress party redefined the federal and democratic landscape of India. (300 Words)

Sample Answer:

The "Congress System," a term coined by Rajni Kothari, referred to a period of one-party dominance where the Congress acted as both the ruling party and the internal opposition. The 1967 elections shattered this consensus.

- **The Rise of Non-Congressism:** Rammanohar Lohia's strategy of "Non-Congressism" aimed at uniting disparate opposition parties (Socialists, Swatantra, Jan Sangh) to prevent the division of the anti-Congress vote. This led to the formation of SVD (Samyukta Vidhayak Dal) governments in nine states, signaling the first real shift toward a multi-party federal system.
- **The Split of 1969:** The internal friction between the "Syndicate" (old guard) and Indira Gandhi led to a formal split into Congress (O) and Congress (R). This was not merely a power struggle but an ideological shift. Indira Gandhi adopted a populist, left-leaning "Garibi Hatao" agenda to bypass the traditional organizational machinery and connect directly with the masses.
- **Impact on Federalism:** The "Aaya Ram, Gaya Ram" culture of defections began in this era, leading to frequent use of Article 356 (President's Rule). Federalism became more confrontational as the Centre sought to destabilize non-Congress state governments.
- **Restoration or Transformation?** While Indira Gandhi restored the party to dominance in 1971, the "Restored Congress" was different. It was highly centralized, lacking the internal democratic debates and the "consensus-building" nature of the Nehruvian era.

Conclusion: The post-1967 period transitioned India from a "Consensus-based Democracy" to a "Majoritarian/Populist Democracy," setting the stage for the centralization of power that eventually led to the Emergency.

GS-3 (Economics): Government Budget and the Economy

Q3. "A high Fiscal Deficit is not necessarily detrimental if it is utilized for capital formation rather than revenue expenditure." Evaluate this statement in the context of India's current budgetary priorities and the FRBM Act. (300 Words)

Sample Answer:

Fiscal deficit represents the total borrowing requirements of the government. While traditionally viewed with skepticism, modern economic thought distinguishes between the *quantum* of the deficit and the *quality* of the deficit.

- **Capital vs. Revenue Expenditure:** If a deficit is driven by "Revenue Expenditure" (salaries, subsidies, interest payments), it is considered "dissaving" and can lead to inflation and a debt trap. However, if the deficit is used for "Capital Expenditure" (building roads, ports, digital infrastructure), it creates assets that generate future revenue and improve the economy's productive capacity.



- **Crowding In vs. Crowding Out:** Critics argue high deficits "crowd out" private investment by raising interest rates. However, in a developing economy like India, government investment in infrastructure can "crowd in" private investment by reducing logistical costs and improving ease of doing business.
- **The FRBM Framework:** The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act targets a deficit of 3% of GDP. Post-pandemic, India has adopted a "glide path" to bring the deficit below 4.5% by 2025-26. The 2026 budget focus on "Viksit Bharat" emphasizes a massive Capex outlay, justifying a slightly higher deficit as an investment in the future.
- **Sustainability:** The key is the Debt-to-GDP ratio. As long as the nominal GDP growth rate is higher than the interest rate on government debt, a moderate deficit remains sustainable.

Conclusion: India must strike a balance. While capital spending is vital for growth, excessive borrowing can risk sovereign credit ratings. Therefore, "Fiscal Consolidation" must be pursued alongside "Growth-oriented Spending."

GS-4 (Ethics): Moral Courage in Public Life

Q4. "Integrity without courage is often ineffective in public life." Discuss the role of moral courage in upholding ethical governance, especially when faced with systemic pressures. (300 Words)

Sample Answer:

Integrity is the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles; it is the "knowing" of what is right. Courage, however, is the "doing" of what is right, despite fear or risk. In public administration, integrity remains a silent virtue unless activated by moral courage.

- **The Gap between Virtue and Action:** A civil servant may have the integrity to recognize a corruption scandal (the "inner voice"), but without moral courage, they may remain a silent spectator to avoid transfers, demotions, or political backlash. This silence makes the official a passive participant in systemic failure.
- **Systemic Pressures:** In a complex political-bureaucratic nexus, a public servant faces pressures from powerful lobbyists, political masters, and even peers. Moral courage allows an officer to say "No" to an illegal order (as per the All India Service Rules) and uphold the Rule of Law.
- **Whistleblowing as an Act of Courage:** High-profile cases (e.g., Satyendra Dubey or Ashok Khemka) illustrate that moral courage often comes at a high personal cost. It involves "Fortitude"—the ability to endure hardship for the sake of a higher principle (Public Interest).
- **Institutionalizing Courage:** Ethical governance requires more than just "heroic individuals." It needs institutional safeguards like the Whistleblowers Protection Act and a culture that rewards merit and transparency, reducing the "cost" of being courageous.

Conclusion: As Gandhi famously said, "A 'No' uttered from the deepest conviction is better than a 'Yes' merely uttered to please." For a civil servant, moral courage is the bridge that turns personal integrity into public accountability.



Current Affairs: Sādhana Saptah 2026

Q5. The 'Sādhana Saptah 2026' represents a paradigm shift from 'Rule-based' to 'Role-based' capacity building. Analyze its significance in achieving the vision of 'Viksit Bharat @2047'. (300 Words)

Sample Answer:

Launched in April 2026 to mark five years of **Mission Karmayogi**, "Sādhana Saptah" (Strengthening Adaptive Development and Humane Aptitude for National Advancement) is the largest collaborative capacity-building exercise in India's administrative history.

- **From Rule-based to Role-based:** Traditional training focused on procedures and "rules." Sādhana Saptah shifts the focus to "competencies." A civil servant is no longer just a "processor of files" but a "service provider" whose skills (Data Analytics, Project Management, Emotional Intelligence) must match their specific role.
- **The Three Sutras:** The week is structured around **Technology, Tradition, and Tangible Outcomes**.
 - *Technology:* Leveraging AI (Amrit Gyaan Kosh) and the iGOT platform for real-time learning.
 - *Tradition:* Rooting administration in the ethos of "Nagrik Devo Bhava" (putting citizens first).
 - *Tangible Outcomes:* Moving from "outputs" (number of people trained) to "outcomes" (improved service delivery on the ground).
- **Citizen-Centricity:** Initiatives like the "Rashtriya Jan Sewa Programme" rolled out during the week emphasize that the end goal of capacity building is a frictionless interface between the citizen and the state.
- **Future Readiness:** By aligning over 250 training institutions and 100+ ministries, the program creates a "shared national movement." This ensures that the bureaucracy is not a hurdle but an accelerator for the vision of a developed India by 2047.

Conclusion: Sādhana Saptah is not just a training week; it is an administrative reform aimed at building a "Modern Karmayogi"—one who is technically adept, ethically grounded, and citizen-focused.