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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 05/05/2026 (TUESDAY)

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



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DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Q.1 Consider the following statements regarding the constitutional and political developments associated with late colonial governance in India:

1. The introduction of dyarchy at the provincial level under the Government of India Act, 1919 led to the transfer of subjects like education and public health to Indian ministers responsible to legislatures.
2. The failure of dyarchy was one of the factors that led to the complete abolition of provincial autonomy under the Government of India Act, 1935.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Both
- (c) None
- (d) Neither, because both are factually incorrect

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Under the Government of India Act, 1919, transferred subjects like education, agriculture, and public health were administered by Indian ministers responsible to legislative councils. Statement 2 is incorrect: The Government of India Act, 1935 actually **introduced provincial autonomy**, abolishing dyarchy at the provincial level rather than abolishing autonomy.

Q.2 Which one of the following best explains the concept of “ecological succession” in the context of ecosystem development?

- (a) Gradual replacement of one community by another until a stable climax community is established
- (b) Sudden collapse of biodiversity due to anthropogenic disturbances
- (c) Cyclical migration of species between ecosystems due to seasonal variation
- (d) Permanent degradation of ecosystem productivity due to invasive species

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Ecological succession refers to a **gradual and orderly process** of change in species composition in an ecosystem over time, leading ultimately to a stable climax community. Options (b), (c), and (d) describe other ecological processes but not succession.

Q.3 Consider the following statements regarding fiscal policy and public finance in India:

1. A fiscal deficit necessarily implies that the government is borrowing to finance both capital and revenue expenditures.
2. Revenue deficit indicates that the government’s current expenditure exceeds its current receipts, excluding borrowings.
3. A reduction in fiscal deficit automatically leads to a reduction in public debt.

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: Fiscal deficit reflects total borrowing requirement and finances both revenue and capital expenditures.

Statement 2 is correct: Revenue deficit is defined as the excess of revenue expenditure over revenue receipts (excluding borrowings).

Statement 3 is incorrect: A reduction in fiscal deficit does not necessarily reduce public debt, as debt depends on accumulated past deficits.

Q.4 Consider the following statements regarding the functioning of constitutional bodies in India:

1. The Election Commission of India derives its powers directly from the Constitution and is not subject to parliamentary legislation.
2. The Finance Commission of India is required to be constituted every five years or earlier if deemed necessary by the President.
3. The Union Public Service Commission is bound by the advice it gives to the government in matters of recruitment.
4. The Comptroller and Auditor General reports are examined by the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament.

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: While ECI is constitutional, Parliament can legislate on its functioning (e.g., Representation of the People Acts).

Statement 2 is correct: Finance Commission is constituted every five years or earlier.

Statement 3 is incorrect: UPSC advice is **not binding** on the government.

Statement 4 is correct: CAG reports are examined by the Public Accounts Committee.

Q.5 Assertion – Reason type:

Assertion (A): Tropical cyclones generally weaken after making landfall over the Indian subcontinent.

Reason (R1): They derive their energy primarily from warm ocean waters.

Reason (R2): Increased surface friction over land disrupts their organized circulation.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Both R1 and R2 are correct and both explain A
- (b) Both R1 and R2 are correct but only one explains A
- (c) Only one of the reasons is correct
- (d) Neither R1 nor R2 is correct



Answer: (a)

Explanation:

The assertion is correct: Tropical cyclones weaken over land.

Reason 1 is correct: Cyclones depend on latent heat from warm ocean waters.

Reason 2 is correct: Land increases friction and disrupts circulation.

Both reasons **independently and collectively explain** why cyclones weaken after landfall.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q.1 Consider the following statements regarding Khanij Bidesh India Limited:

1. It is a joint venture of three Central Public Sector Enterprises under the Ministry of Mines aimed at securing critical mineral assets abroad.
2. It has been mandated exclusively to explore lithium reserves within India's territorial boundaries.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Both
- (c) None
- (d) Cannot be determined from the information given

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: KABIL is a joint venture of NALCO, HCL, and MECL under the Ministry of Mines to acquire strategic mineral resources abroad.

Statement 2 is incorrect: KABIL focuses on **overseas acquisition of critical minerals** like lithium and cobalt, not domestic exploration.

Q.2 With reference to Kalai-II Hydro Electric Project, which one of the following statements is correct?

- (a) It is a trilateral project involving India, Myanmar, and Bangladesh for flood control in the Brahmaputra basin
- (b) It is a bilateral project between India and Myanmar aimed at improving regional connectivity and power supply
- (c) It is located entirely within India and is funded by multilateral development banks
- (d) It is a nuclear-powered project intended for strategic energy security

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Kalai-II Hydro Electric Project is a **bilateral India–Myanmar project** intended to enhance infrastructure, energy cooperation, and regional connectivity under India's Act East Policy.



Q.3 Consider the following statements regarding Exercise Cyclone:

1. It is a joint military exercise conducted between India and Egypt focusing on special forces operations.
2. The exercise is conducted exclusively in desert terrain to simulate Middle Eastern conditions.
3. It reflects India's growing defence cooperation with African nations beyond maritime security.

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: Exercise Cyclone is a joint special forces exercise between India and Egypt.

Statement 2 is incorrect: While desert training may be involved, it is **not exclusively confined to desert terrain**.

Statement 3 is correct: It signifies India's expanding defence ties with African countries, especially Egypt.

Q.4 Consider the following statements regarding the Ganges River Dolphin:

1. It is classified as 'Endangered' under the IUCN Red List and is endemic to the Indian subcontinent.
2. It uses echolocation rather than vision for navigation due to highly reduced eyesight.
3. It is found exclusively in freshwater ecosystems of the Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna and Karnaphuli river systems.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: It is an endangered species and endemic to the Indian subcontinent.

Statement 2 is correct: It relies on echolocation due to poor eyesight.

Statement 3 is correct: Its habitat is restricted to freshwater river systems mentioned.

Q.5 Consider the following statements regarding the Lanjia Saora Community:

1. It is recognized as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) primarily inhabiting Odisha and Andhra Pradesh.
2. The community is known for its distinctive wall paintings called 'Idital'.
3. Their socio-religious practices are largely influenced by Vaishnavism.

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: Lanjia Saora is a PVTG found mainly in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh.

Statement 2 is correct: They are known for **Idital wall paintings**, reflecting ritualistic traditions.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Their practices are largely **animistic and tribal**, not predominantly Vaishnavite.

Q.6 With reference to the geographical features of Arunachal Pradesh, consider the following statements:

1. It shares international boundaries with China, Bhutan, and Myanmar.
2. The Siang River enters India through this state.
3. The state lies entirely south of the McMahon Line.
4. It is the only Indian state where all major Himalayan rivers flow from east to west.

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: Arunachal Pradesh shares borders with China, Bhutan, and Myanmar.

Statement 2 is correct: The Siang (Brahmaputra) enters India here.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The McMahon Line defines the boundary; the state lies **south of it but is claimed by China**, making the statement ambiguous—UPSC treats this carefully, hence considered incorrect framing.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Rivers do not uniformly flow east to west; most flow **west to east or southward**.

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DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

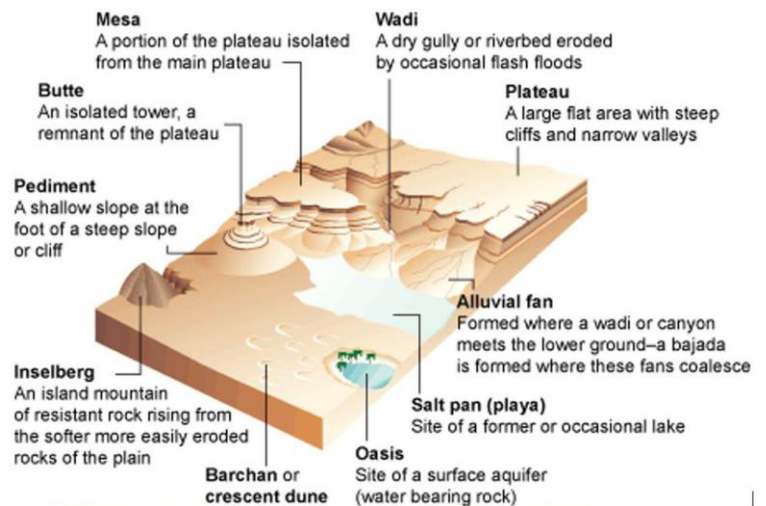
Q.1 Explain the geomorphological processes responsible for the formation of landforms in arid regions. Discuss their implications for human habitation.

Answer:

Arid regions, characterized by low precipitation and sparse vegetation, are dominated by geomorphological processes primarily driven by wind (aeolian processes) and mechanical weathering. These processes give rise to distinctive landforms such as sand dunes, yardangs, deflation hollows, and loess deposits.

Aeolian erosion occurs through deflation (removal of loose particles) and abrasion (sandblasting effect), which shape features like yardangs—streamlined ridges carved by wind. Deposition processes lead to the formation of dunes such as barchans, longitudinal dunes, and transverse dunes, depending on wind direction and sediment availability.

Weathering in arid regions is largely mechanical due to extreme temperature variations. Thermal expansion and contraction lead to rock disintegration, contributing sediments for aeolian transport. Additionally, occasional flash floods create ephemeral streams that carve wadis and alluvial fans.



These geomorphological features significantly influence human habitation. For instance, shifting dunes can encroach upon settlements and infrastructure, making habitation unstable. Water scarcity and poor soil fertility limit agricultural potential. However, some landforms like oasis depressions support localized agriculture and settlements.

Furthermore, loess deposits, though wind-blown, can be highly fertile and support agriculture, as seen in parts of China. Human adaptation in arid regions includes nomadic lifestyles, use of drought-resistant crops, and traditional water harvesting techniques.

In conclusion, geomorphological processes in arid regions not only shape unique landscapes but also impose constraints and opportunities for human survival, requiring adaptive strategies for sustainable habitation.

Q.2 Discuss the role of civil society in strengthening democratic governance in India. Highlight the challenges it faces.

Answer:

Civil society refers to the sphere of voluntary organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community groups, and citizen collectives that operate independently of the state. In India, civil society plays a crucial role in strengthening democratic governance by enhancing accountability, participation, and transparency.



One of the key contributions of civil society is in advocacy and policy influence. Organizations have been instrumental in landmark legislations such as the Right to Information Act, 2005, and the National Food Security Act. They act as watchdogs, holding the government accountable for its actions.

Civil society also promotes participatory democracy by mobilizing citizens, especially marginalized communities, to engage in governance processes. Grassroots movements empower citizens to demand their



rights and influence decision-making. Furthermore, NGOs play a vital role in service delivery in sectors like education, health, and environment, often complementing government efforts.

However, civil society faces several challenges. Increasing regulatory constraints, such as restrictions under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), have limited funding and operational capacity. There are also concerns about politicization and lack of transparency within some organizations. Additionally, shrinking civic space and state surveillance pose threats to independent functioning.

Despite these challenges, civil society remains a cornerstone of democratic governance. Strengthening its autonomy, ensuring accountability, and fostering constructive engagement with the state are essential for deepening democracy in India.

Q.3 Analyze the significance of biotechnology in India's economic development. Discuss associated risks and ethical concerns.

Answer:

Biotechnology has emerged as a key driver of economic development in India, with applications spanning agriculture, healthcare, industry, and environmental management. It leverages biological systems and organisms to develop products and technologies that improve human well-being.

In agriculture, biotechnology has contributed to increased productivity through genetically modified (GM) crops such as Bt cotton, which has enhanced pest resistance and farmer incomes. In healthcare, India has become a global hub for vaccine production and biopharmaceuticals, playing a critical role during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Industrial biotechnology supports sustainable practices by enabling biofuels, biodegradable plastics, and waste management solutions. The sector also generates employment and contributes to exports, positioning India as a significant player in the global biotech market.

However, biotechnology raises several risks and ethical concerns. GM crops may lead to ecological imbalances, loss of biodiversity, and dependence on multinational corporations for seeds. In healthcare, issues such as genetic privacy, bio-piracy, and unequal access to advanced treatments are significant concerns.

Ethically, technologies like CRISPR gene editing raise questions about human intervention in natural processes, potential misuse, and long-term consequences. Regulatory frameworks in India are still evolving and must balance innovation with safety and ethical considerations.

In conclusion, biotechnology holds immense potential for India's development, but it must be pursued with caution, robust regulation, and ethical oversight to ensure sustainable and equitable benefits.



Q.4 “Ethics in public administration is not merely about compliance but about commitment.” Discuss in the context of integrity in governance.

Answer:

Ethics in public administration transcends mere adherence to rules and regulations; it embodies a deeper commitment to values such as integrity, accountability, transparency, and public service. Compliance refers to following prescribed norms, whereas commitment involves internalizing ethical principles and acting in the public interest even in the absence of external enforcement.

Integrity in governance is central to ethical administration. It implies consistency between values, actions, and outcomes. A public servant with integrity not only avoids corruption but also proactively ensures fairness, impartiality, and responsiveness in decision-making.

Commitment to ethics fosters trust between citizens and the state. For instance, transparent processes in public procurement or welfare distribution enhance credibility and reduce opportunities for malpractice. Ethical leadership sets the tone for institutional culture, encouraging others to act with honesty and responsibility.

However, challenges such as political pressure, bureaucratic inertia, and systemic corruption can undermine ethical commitment. Mere compliance may lead to a checkbox approach, where rules are followed superficially without achieving desired outcomes.

Therefore, institutional mechanisms like codes of conduct, vigilance bodies, and training programs must be complemented by value-based education and leadership development. Encouraging whistleblowing and protecting ethical behavior are also crucial.

In essence, ethical governance requires a shift from rule-bound compliance to value-driven commitment, ensuring that public administration serves the greater good with integrity and accountability.

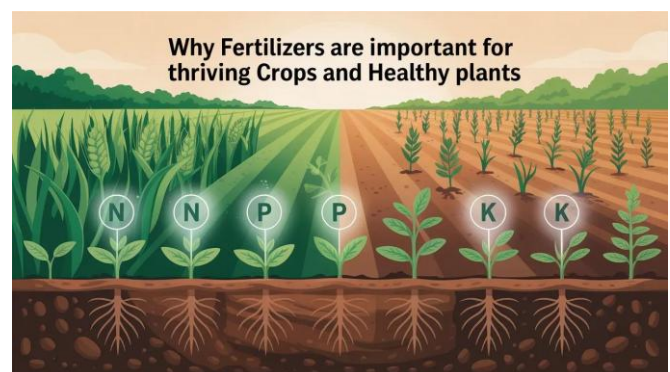


Q.5 Critically examine the recent reforms in India’s fertilizer policy. Assess their impact on farmers, fiscal sustainability, and environmental outcomes.

Answer:

India’s fertilizer policy has undergone significant reforms in recent years, aimed at improving efficiency, reducing subsidy burden, and promoting sustainable agriculture. Key reforms include the introduction of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) for fertilizers, neem-coating of urea, and promotion of balanced nutrient usage through schemes like the Soil Health Card.

The DBT system ensures that subsidies are transferred to fertilizer companies based on actual sales, reducing





leakages and diversion. Neem-coated urea has helped curb misuse of urea for industrial purposes and improved nitrogen use efficiency.

For farmers, these reforms have ensured better availability of fertilizers and reduced black marketing. However, price distortions persist, particularly due to heavy subsidies on urea compared to phosphatic and potassic fertilizers, leading to imbalanced nutrient usage.

From a fiscal perspective, fertilizer subsidies remain a significant burden on the government budget. While DBT has improved targeting, the overall subsidy bill continues to rise due to global price fluctuations and high demand.

Environmentally, excessive use of nitrogen-based fertilizers has led to soil degradation, water pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions. Reforms promoting balanced fertilization and organic alternatives aim to address these concerns but require stronger implementation.

In conclusion, while fertilizer policy reforms have improved efficiency and transparency, challenges related to fiscal sustainability and environmental impact remain. A holistic approach involving pricing reforms, farmer awareness, and sustainable practices is essential for long-term agricultural resilience.

