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# VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE

## DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

**DATE: 19/05/2026 (TUESDAY)**

- **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 rise of nationalist politics in colonial India during the late nineteenth century:**

1. The early nationalists believed that constitutional agitation and public opinion in Britain could eventually secure political reforms for Indians.
2. The Ilbert Bill controversy strengthened racial consciousness among educated Indians and exposed the limits of British liberalism in India.

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

**Options:**

- (a) Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct, and Statement 2 explains Statement 1
- (b) Both Statement 1 and Statement 2 are correct, but Statement 2 does not explain Statement 1
- (c) Statement 1 is correct, but Statement 2 is incorrect
- (d) Statement 1 is incorrect, but Statement 2 is correct

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Detailed Explanation:**

The early moderates of the Indian National Congress adopted constitutional and peaceful methods such as petitions, resolutions, and appeals to British public opinion to achieve political reforms. They believed British liberal values would eventually ensure justice for Indians.

The Ilbert Bill controversy (1883) exposed deep racial prejudice among Europeans in India, as they strongly opposed the proposal allowing Indian judges to try European offenders. This incident increased political awareness among educated Indians and highlighted the hypocrisy of British liberalism.

However, this controversy did not directly explain why moderates initially adopted constitutional methods. Therefore, while both statements are correct, Statement 2 does not explain Statement 1.

**Question 2. With reference to biodiversity conservation in India, the concept of “biodiversity hotspots” is primarily based on:**

**Options:**

- (a) Regions having the highest forest cover irrespective of endemic species
- (b) Regions possessing high endemic species richness and experiencing significant habitat loss
- (c) Areas identified exclusively under Ramsar Convention guidelines
- (d) Regions having maximum population of endangered megafauna only

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Detailed Explanation:**

A biodiversity hotspot is a biogeographic region with exceptionally high biodiversity, especially endemic species, that is under severe threat due to habitat destruction.

The concept was introduced by Norman Myers. To qualify as a hotspot, a region must satisfy two criteria:

- It must contain a high number of endemic plant species.
- It must have lost a significant portion of its original habitat.

Forest cover alone is not sufficient, Ramsar Convention applies specifically to wetlands, and hotspot classification is not based solely on large endangered animals (megafauna).



**Question 3. Consider the following statements regarding India's economic development after liberalisation:**

1. A rise in service sector contribution to GDP necessarily implies a proportional decline in agricultural employment.
2. Economic growth without corresponding employment generation is often referred to as jobless growth.
3. Informalisation of labour can increase even during periods of high GDP growth.

How many of the above statements are correct?

**Options:**

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

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Detailed Explanation:**

Statement 1 is incorrect because structural transformation in India has been uneven. While the share of agriculture in GDP has declined, a large proportion of the workforce continues to remain in agriculture. Therefore, GDP composition changes do not necessarily lead to proportional employment shifts.

Statement 2 is correct. Jobless growth refers to a situation where economic output increases without adequate creation of employment opportunities.

Statement 3 is correct. Even during high GDP growth, firms may increasingly rely on contract labour, outsourcing, and informal employment to reduce costs, leading to informalisation.

Thus, only Statements 2 and 3 are correct.

**Question 4. Consider the following statements regarding Indian democracy and constitutional governance:**

1. The Preamble to the Constitution can be amended under Article 368.
2. Fundamental Rights are absolute and cannot be subjected to reasonable restrictions.
3. Directive Principles of State Policy are enforceable by courts in the same manner as Fundamental Rights.
4. The doctrine of Basic Structure limits the amending power of Parliament.

How many of the above statements are correct?

**Options:**

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

**Correct Answer: (b)**



**Detailed Explanation:**

Statement 1 is correct. In the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973), the Supreme Court held that the Preamble is a part of the Constitution and can be amended under Article 368, provided the amendment does not alter the Basic Structure.

Statement 2 is incorrect because Fundamental Rights are not absolute. The Constitution permits reasonable restrictions on several rights in the interest of public order, morality, security, etc.

Statement 3 is incorrect because Directive Principles of State Policy are non-justiciable, meaning courts cannot enforce them directly.

Statement 4 is correct. The Basic Structure doctrine ensures that Parliament cannot amend the Constitution in a way that destroys its essential features.

Hence, only two statements are correct.

**Question 5. Consider the following:**

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

**Reasons:**

1. Tropical cyclones derive much of their energy from latent heat released by condensation over warm ocean waters.
2. Surface friction and absence of continuous moisture supply over land reduce the intensity of cyclonic systems.

Which of the following is correct?

**Options:**

- (a) Both Reason 1 and Reason 2 are correct, and both explain Assertion (A)
- (b) Reason 1 is correct, but Reason 2 is incorrect
- (c) Reason 1 is incorrect, but Reason 2 is correct
- (d) Both Reason 1 and Reason 2 are correct, but only Reason 1 explains Assertion (A)

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Detailed Explanation:**

Tropical cyclones intensify over warm tropical oceans because warm seawater causes evaporation, and the condensation of water vapour releases latent heat energy, which powers the cyclone.

After making landfall, the cyclone loses access to this continuous moisture source. Additionally, rough land surfaces increase friction, disrupting the cyclone's circulation and reducing wind speeds.

Thus, both reasons are correct and together fully explain why tropical cyclones weaken after landfall.



## DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

**Question 6.** Consider the following statements regarding the recently discussed “Padma Doree” initiative:

1. It is associated with the revival and promotion of traditional handloom-based cultural products linked to lotus fibre extraction.
2. It has been launched under the Ministry of Textiles with the objective of integrating women-led self-help groups into export-oriented handicraft clusters.

How many of the above statements are correct?

**Options:**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Both
- (c) Neither
- (d) Statement 1 only and Statement 2 partially

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Detailed Explanation:**

“Padma Doree” has been discussed in the context of innovative textile and craft-linked initiatives involving lotus fibre-based products and traditional artisanal activity.

Statement 1 is correct because the initiative is linked with the revival and promotion of traditional products based on lotus fibre extraction.

Statement 2 is incorrect because it was not formally launched as a centrally notified Ministry of Textiles scheme specifically aimed at integrating women-led self-help groups into export-oriented handicraft clusters.

Therefore, only one statement is correct.

**Question 7.** With reference to the Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2026, consider the following:

The Rules primarily operationalise the process of granting Indian citizenship to specified categories of migrants belonging to certain religious communities from neighbouring countries.

Which of the following countries is/are covered under the framework associated with these Rules?

**Options:**

- (a) Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh only
- (b) Afghanistan, Myanmar and Sri Lanka only
- (c) Pakistan, Nepal and Bhutan only
- (d) Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Sri Lanka only

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Detailed Explanation:**

The Citizenship (Amendment) framework applies to specified minority communities belonging to certain neighbouring countries.

These countries are:

- Afghanistan



- Pakistan
- Bangladesh

The notified framework does **not** include Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Nepal, or Bhutan.

Hence, option (a) is correct.

**Question 8. Consider the following statements regarding the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB):**

1. The AERB derives its regulatory authority directly from the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 through executive notification.
2. The Chairman of AERB is appointed by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
3. AERB is responsible for ensuring radiological safety in nuclear and radiation facilities in India.

How many of the above statements are correct?

**Options:**

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

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Detailed Explanation:**

Statement 1 is correct. The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board was constituted by the Government of India under powers derived from the Atomic Energy Act, 1962.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Chairman of AERB is not appointed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The board functions within the Department of Atomic Energy framework.

Statement 3 is correct. AERB is responsible for regulating nuclear safety, radiation protection, and radiological safety standards across nuclear and radiation facilities.

Therefore, only two statements are correct.

**Question 9. Consider the following statements regarding the Advanced Stealth Frigate “Mahendragiri”:**

1. Mahendragiri is part of Project 17A stealth frigates of the Indian Navy.
2. The vessel has been constructed with integrated platform management systems and enhanced stealth features.
3. Project 17A frigates are being built exclusively at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai.

How many of the above statements are correct?

**Options:**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two



- (c) All three  
(d) None

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Detailed Explanation:**

Statement 1 is correct. INS Mahendragiri is the seventh and final ship under Project 17A stealth frigate programme.

Statement 2 is correct. These frigates feature advanced stealth design, integrated platform management systems, and upgraded combat systems.

Statement 3 is incorrect because Project 17A ships are being constructed at:

- Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai
- Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata

Hence, only two statements are correct.

**Question 10. Consider the following statements regarding Canine Distemper Virus (CDV):**

1. CDV belongs to the Paramyxoviridae family of viruses.
2. The disease affects only domestic dogs and has no known impact on wild carnivores.
3. Transmission primarily occurs through direct contact and aerosol exposure.
4. Vaccination remains one of the major preventive measures against the disease.

How many of the above statements are correct?

**Options:**

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

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Detailed Explanation:**

Statement 1 is correct. Canine Distemper Virus belongs to the Paramyxoviridae family.

Statement 2 is incorrect because the disease affects several wild carnivores including:

- Tigers
- Lions
- Leopards
- Foxes
- Other carnivorous mammals

Statement 3 is correct. Transmission occurs through aerosol droplets, respiratory secretions, and close physical contact.



Statement 4 is correct. Vaccination remains one of the most effective preventive strategies, especially for domestic dogs.

Thus, three statements are correct.

**Question 11. Consider the following statements regarding Bargi Dam:**

1. Bargi Dam is constructed on the Narmada River.
2. It is located in Madhya Pradesh near Jabalpur.
3. The reservoir formed by the dam is known as **Rani Avanti Bai Sagar**.

How many of the above statements are correct?

**Options:**

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

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Detailed Explanation:**

Bargi Dam is an important multipurpose river valley project constructed on the Narmada River in Madhya Pradesh.

Statement 1 is correct because the dam is built across the Narmada River.

Statement 2 is correct because it is located near Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh.

Statement 3 is also correct because the reservoir formed by the dam is officially known as **Rani Avanti Bai Sagar**.

Therefore, all three statements are correct.

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## **DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE**

### **GS Paper – I**

**1. “Discuss the factors responsible for the growth of regional cultural identities in India. How have these identities contributed both to national integration and regional assertion?”**

**Sample Answer**

India’s social structure is characterized by immense cultural plurality. Regional cultural identities have evolved through historical, linguistic, geographical, ethnic, and economic processes. These identities have become stronger in the post-independence period due to democratization, regional political mobilization, and greater awareness among communities.

One major factor behind the growth of regional identities is **linguistic diversity**. Language became a powerful basis of political mobilization after independence. The States Reorganisation Act, 1956



institutionalized linguistic identities within the federal framework. Tamil identity in Tamil Nadu, Marathi identity in Maharashtra, and Assamese identity in Assam are examples of language-based regional consciousness.

Second, **historical experiences** shaped regional identities. Regions with distinct political histories such as Punjab, Kashmir, and the North-East developed unique socio-political aspirations. Historical memories of kingdoms, colonial experiences, and local heroes strengthened regional pride.

Third, **geographical isolation** also contributed. Mountainous terrain in the North-East, desert ecology in Rajasthan, and coastal cultures in Kerala created distinct lifestyles and cultural practices. Tribal communities especially retained unique customs due to relative isolation.

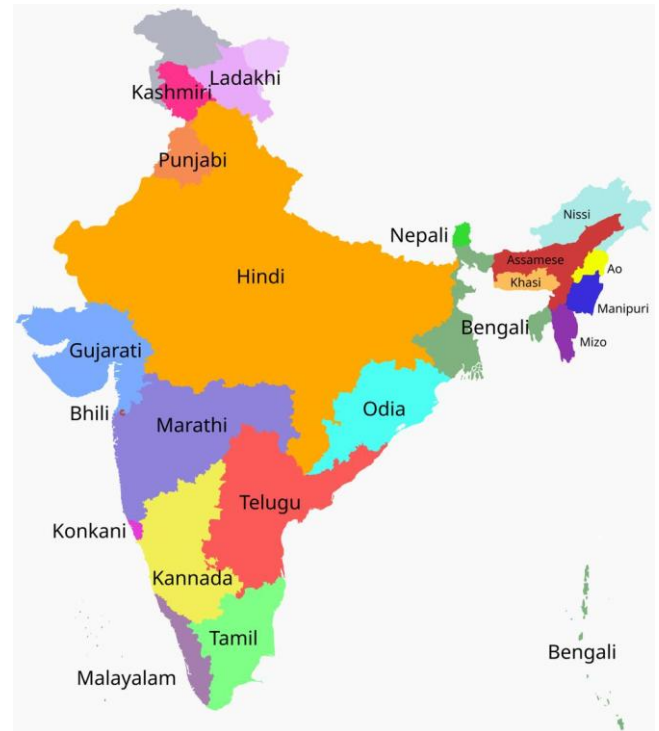
Fourth, **economic disparities** between regions intensified regionalism. Perceived neglect by the Centre often generated regional political assertions. Movements demanding special category status or separate states emerged from developmental imbalances.

Despite challenges, regional identities have significantly contributed to **national integration**. Indian federalism accommodates diversity through constitutional mechanisms. Regional languages, festivals, dance forms, and cuisines enrich Indian nationalism instead of weakening it. Democratic participation by regional parties has deepened political representation.

At the same time, excessive regionalism occasionally generated separatist tendencies, inter-state disputes, and identity conflicts. Demands for autonomy in certain regions reflected tensions between national integration and local aspirations.

However, India's strength lies in its capacity to harmonize diversity within constitutional democracy. Cooperative federalism, cultural respect, and balanced development remain essential for transforming regional identities into instruments of national unity rather than division.

Thus, regional identities are not inherently anti-national; they become constructive when integrated within democratic and constitutional frameworks.



## 2. GS Paper – II

**“Examine the significance of decentralization in strengthening Indian democracy. Why do local self-governments continue to face structural challenges despite constitutional backing?”**

### Sample Answer

Decentralization refers to the transfer of authority, responsibility, and financial powers from higher levels of government to local institutions. In India, democratic decentralization gained constitutional status through the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments, which institutionalized Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).



The significance of decentralization lies in its ability to deepen democracy. First, it promotes **grassroots participation**. Local citizens directly participate in governance through Gram Sabhas and municipal processes. This strengthens democratic culture and accountability.

Second, decentralization improves **administrative efficiency**. Local governments possess better awareness of local needs related to water supply, sanitation, health, and education. Hence, policies become more responsive and context-specific.

Third, it promotes **social justice and inclusion**. Constitutional reservations for women, Scheduled Castes, and Scheduled Tribes have widened political participation. Women's leadership in Panchayats has transformed local governance in many states.

Fourth, decentralization strengthens **federalism** by distributing power across multiple levels rather than concentrating authority in the Union or State governments.

Despite constitutional backing, local self-governments continue to face major structural constraints.

The foremost issue is **financial dependence**. Many Panchayats and municipalities lack adequate revenue-generating capacity and depend heavily on state transfers. Limited fiscal autonomy restricts developmental activities.

Second, there is inadequate **administrative devolution**. In several states, bureaucratic control dominates local institutions. Functions listed in the Eleventh and Twelfth Schedules are often not fully transferred.

Third, **capacity constraints** affect governance quality. Many elected representatives lack technical expertise, administrative training, and institutional support.

Fourth, political interference from state governments weakens local autonomy. State governments frequently dissolve local bodies, delay elections, or control funds and appointments.

Corruption, elite capture, and weak planning mechanisms further reduce effectiveness in some regions.

To strengthen decentralization, India requires genuine fiscal federalism at the local level, capacity-building programs, digital transparency, and regular State Finance Commission reforms.

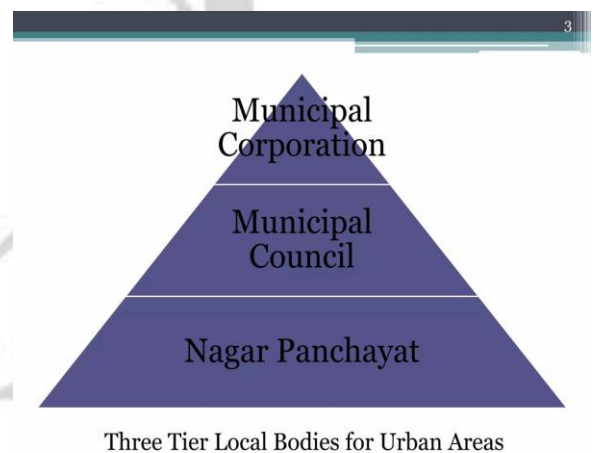
Ultimately, decentralization is not merely an administrative arrangement but a democratic necessity. Strong local governments are essential for participatory governance, inclusive development, and realization of constitutional democracy.

## GS Paper – III

**3. “Discuss the relationship between industrialization and environmental degradation in India. Suggest measures for achieving sustainable industrial growth.”**

### Sample Answer

Industrialization has been one of the major drivers of economic growth in India. It contributes to employment generation, infrastructure development, technological advancement, and export expansion.





However, rapid industrial growth without ecological safeguards has also intensified environmental degradation.

One major consequence is **air pollution**. Thermal power plants, cement industries, refineries, and chemical industries release harmful pollutants such as sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter. Industrial clusters in Delhi-NCR, Gujarat, and Maharashtra often experience severe air quality deterioration.

Second, industrialization contributes to **water pollution**. Untreated industrial effluents contaminate rivers and groundwater. Textile, leather, pharmaceutical, and chemical industries discharge toxic substances affecting aquatic ecosystems and public health.

Third, industries accelerate **land degradation and deforestation**. Mining activities and industrial corridors often lead to habitat destruction, biodiversity loss, and displacement of tribal communities.

Fourth, industrialization increases **carbon emissions**, thereby contributing to climate change. Fossil fuel dependence remains a major concern in India's manufacturing sector.

At the same time, industrialization cannot be halted because it is essential for economic transformation and employment. Therefore, the challenge is to achieve **sustainable industrial growth**.

One important measure is adoption of **clean technologies**. Industries must shift toward energy-efficient machinery, renewable energy, and low-carbon production systems.

Second, stricter implementation of **environmental regulations** is necessary. Pollution Control Boards should enhance monitoring through digital compliance systems and real-time emission tracking.

Third, India should promote the **circular economy model**, emphasizing recycling, waste minimization, and resource efficiency.

Fourth, industries must integrate **Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA)** and ecological restoration into project planning.

Fifth, promotion of **green financing** and carbon markets can incentivize environmentally responsible industrial practices.

Public participation and corporate environmental responsibility are equally important for balancing development and sustainability.

India's developmental future depends on harmonizing economic growth with ecological security. Sustainable industrialization is not an obstacle to growth; rather, it ensures long-term economic resilience, public health protection, and intergenerational equity.

## GS Paper – IV

**4. “Ethical governance requires balancing administrative efficiency with compassion and accountability. Discuss with suitable examples.”**

### Sample Answer

Ethical governance refers to administration guided by integrity, transparency, accountability, empathy, and commitment to public welfare. In a democratic system, governance cannot be judged solely by efficiency; it must also uphold human dignity and justice.



Administrative efficiency is essential because governments handle large populations and complex developmental responsibilities. Efficient governance ensures timely implementation of schemes, better public service delivery, and optimal use of resources. However, excessive focus on targets and procedures without compassion may create insensitive governance.

Compassion is particularly important in welfare administration. Civil servants frequently deal with vulnerable groups such as the poor, elderly, migrants, and disaster victims. Ethical governance demands sensitivity toward human suffering.

For example, during the COVID-19 pandemic, several district administrations arranged food distribution, migrant transport, and medical support beyond formal duties. Such actions reflected compassionate governance combined with administrative efficiency.

Similarly, accountability ensures that public officials remain answerable for their decisions. Transparency mechanisms like RTI, social audits, and e-governance reduce arbitrariness and corruption. Accountability strengthens public trust in institutions.

Balancing these dimensions is often challenging. Strict procedural adherence may delay urgent humanitarian assistance, whereas excessive discretionary compassion without accountability can encourage misuse and favoritism.

A good example is disaster management. During floods or earthquakes, officials must act quickly and compassionately while maintaining transparency in relief distribution. Efficient coordination without ethical sensitivity may ignore marginalized communities, while unregulated emotional decisions may lead to administrative chaos.

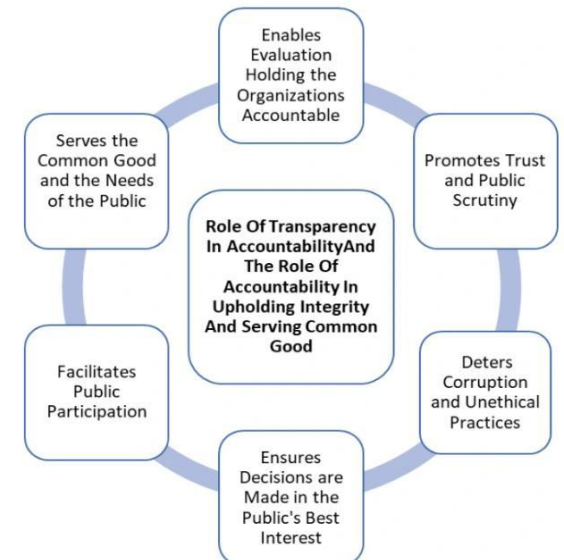
Ethical governance therefore requires:

- integrity in decision-making,
- citizen-centric administration,
- transparency,
- empathy toward vulnerable groups,
- and fairness in implementation.

Civil servants must uphold constitutional morality rather than merely follow rigid procedures. Emotional intelligence, ethical training, and public accountability mechanisms are crucial for nurturing ethical administration.

In India, initiatives such as digital governance, direct benefit transfer, and social audits have improved efficiency and accountability. Yet, ethical governance ultimately depends upon the values and conduct of public officials.

Thus, true governance excellence emerges when efficiency is guided by compassion and constrained by accountability.





## Current Affairs

5. “Operation WHITE STRIKE reflects the changing nature of modern warfare and strategic preparedness. Discuss its significance in India’s national security architecture.”

### Sample Answer

Operation WHITE STRIKE has emerged as an important development in India’s evolving defence and strategic preparedness framework. It reflects the increasing emphasis on integrated warfare capabilities, technological superiority, rapid response systems, and coordinated national security operations.

Modern warfare is no longer confined to conventional battlefield engagements. Contemporary conflicts involve cyber warfare, precision strikes, drone surveillance, electronic warfare, artificial intelligence, and network-centric operations. Operation WHITE STRIKE symbolizes India’s preparation for such multidimensional security challenges.

One major significance of the operation lies in enhancing **jointness among armed forces**. Modern military success increasingly depends upon coordination between the Army, Navy, Air Force, intelligence agencies, and cyber-security infrastructure. Integrated command structures improve operational efficiency and strategic flexibility.

Second, the operation highlights India’s focus on **precision-based warfare**. Precision strike capability minimizes collateral damage while ensuring effective neutralization of hostile targets. This reflects a transition from manpower-intensive warfare to technology-driven combat systems.

Third, Operation WHITE STRIKE demonstrates the importance of **deterrence** in national security. Strategic military preparedness discourages hostile actions by adversaries and strengthens India’s geopolitical position in South Asia and the Indo-Pacific region.

Fourth, the operation underlines the growing role of **indigenous defence manufacturing** under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. Advanced radar systems, drones, missile platforms, stealth technologies, and communication networks are increasingly being developed domestically.

The operation also indicates India’s recognition of hybrid threats such as terrorism, cross-border infiltration, and cyber-attacks. Modern national security requires both conventional military readiness and non-conventional response capabilities.

However, strategic preparedness must be complemented by diplomatic engagement, intelligence coordination, and economic resilience. National security is multidimensional and cannot rely solely on military strength.

India must continue investing in defence modernization, cyber-security infrastructure, AI-enabled surveillance systems, and integrated theatre commands. Simultaneously, adherence to international law and strategic restraint remains important for maintaining regional stability.

Operation WHITE STRIKE therefore represents more than a military exercise; it symbolizes India’s transition toward technologically advanced, integrated, and future-oriented national security architecture capable of addressing twenty-first century threats effectively.





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