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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 10/09/2026 (THURSDAY)

- **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 about Sikh Reform Movements during British India:

1. The Nirankari movement stressed returning to the original teachings of Sikhism, rejecting idol worship and ritualistic practices.
2. The Singh Sabha movement promoted Christian missionary education among Sikhs in Punjab.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a) Only 1

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Founded by Baba Dayal in the mid-19th century, the Nirankari movement focused on purifying Sikhism by opposing ritualism, idol worship, and emphasizing monotheism.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. The Singh Sabha movement (established 1873) aimed to revive Sikh identity, propagate Sikh religious teachings, and counter Christian missionary influence, not to promote Christian education.

Q2. Consider the following statements regarding components of an ecosystem:

1. Soil pH and temperature are examples of non-living (abiotic) factors.
2. Decomposers such as fungi and bacteria are abiotic components.
3. Living organisms play a role in energy flow and nutrient cycling within ecosystems.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Abiotic components are non-living environmental factors like temperature, soil, pH, water, and sunlight.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. Decomposers are living organisms and form part of the biotic components of ecosystems.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Producers, consumers, and decomposers (biotic components) influence energy transfer and nutrient recycling in ecosystems.

Q3. Consider the following statements about financial regulators in India:

1. SEBI oversees stock exchanges, mutual funds, and credit rating agencies.



2. IRDA regulates pension funds and stock brokers.
3. SEBI has quasi-judicial authority to penalize entities for insider trading and unfair practices.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

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

Answer: (b) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) supervises stock exchanges, mutual funds, portfolio managers, and credit rating agencies.
- **Statement 2:** Incorrect. IRDAI regulates insurance companies, not pension funds or stock brokers. Pension funds come under PFRDA, while stock brokers are under SEBI.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. SEBI has quasi-legislative, quasi-executive, and quasi-judicial powers, including the ability to penalize insider trading and other market malpractices.

Q4. With reference to South Indian miniature painting, consider the following statements:

1. Miniature painting flourished in Tamil Nadu during the Nayaka period.
2. The Mysore school is characterized by fine lines, subtle hues, and predominantly Vaishnava themes.
3. Tanjore paintings, though popular in South India, are not considered part of the miniature painting tradition.
4. Lepakshi murals in Andhra Pradesh follow the miniature painting style of the Vijayanagara period.

Which statements are correct?

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

Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- **Statement 1:** Correct. Nayaka rulers (successors of the Vijayanagara empire) supported the development of local painting traditions in temples and courts of Tamil Nadu.
- **Statement 2:** Correct. Mysore paintings evolved from Vijayanagara styles, noted for subtle color schemes, intricate lines, and devotional Vaishnava themes.
- **Statement 3:** Correct. Tanjore paintings are not considered miniatures because of their large dimensions and elaborate embellishments.
- **Statement 4:** Incorrect. Lepakshi murals are frescoes painted on walls, not miniatures, though they reflect Vijayanagara artistic influence.



Q5. Assertion-Reason Type:

Assertion (A): Xenotransplantation offers a potential solution to the shortage of human organs.

Reason (R): Genetically modified pigs are being used to minimize organ rejection in humans.

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Answer: (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A

Explanation:

- **Assertion:** Correct. Xenotransplantation involves transplanting organs or tissues between species (e.g., pig to human) and is considered to address the shortage of human donor organs.
- **Reason:** Correct. Genetically modifying pigs reduces immune rejection and improves compatibility with human recipients.
- The reason directly explains the assertion, making R the correct justification for A.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. With reference to the Diving Support Vessel (DSV) Nipun, consider the following statements:

1. Its significance for submarine rescue arises not merely from its own diving capability, but also from its ability to function as a support platform for a Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV).
2. The use of dynamic positioning on the vessel is particularly relevant to underwater operations because maintaining a precise position can reduce the operational difficulty of launching, recovering and supporting underwater systems in adverse sea conditions.

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) Both 1 and 2

Explanation:

Both statements are correct.

Statement 1 is correct. INS Nipun is the **second Diving Support Vessel of the Nistar class**, indigenously designed and constructed by Hindustan Shipyard Limited at Visakhapatnam. It is not merely a vessel for conventional diving. It has been designed as an integrated multi-mission platform capable of supporting **deep-sea saturation diving, underwater intervention, salvage and submarine rescue operations**. Importantly, it can serve as a support platform for a **Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV)**, which can be used to reach personnel trapped in a disabled submarine.



This distinction is important: a **DSV and a DSRV are not the same thing**. The DSV provides the mother-ship/support infrastructure, while the DSRV performs the specialised deep-submergence rescue function.

Statement 2 is also correct. Nipun incorporates **dynamic positioning and station-keeping capabilities**, enabling the vessel to maintain its position despite currents, winds and waves. This is particularly valuable during precision-intensive underwater activities, including diving operations, deployment/recovery of underwater systems and submarine-rescue support.

The vessel also incorporates diving complexes, diving bells, mixed-gas systems, hyperbaric facilities and remotely operated vehicles.

A further important point is that Nipun represents India's effort to build an **indigenous end-to-end underwater intervention ecosystem**, reducing dependence on foreign assistance for specialised underwater operations. The vessel has nearly **75% indigenous content**.

UPSC Trap: Do not confuse **DSV, DSRV and DSC**. A Diving Support Vessel is a specialised mother/support platform; a Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle is an underwater rescue vehicle; a Diving Support Craft is a different and smaller category of naval platform.

Q2. Carbosulfan, recently proposed to be prohibited in India, belongs to which one of the following categories?

- (a) Organophosphate insecticide that irreversibly inhibits acetylcholinesterase
- (b) Carbamate pesticide whose toxicity is associated with reversible inhibition of acetylcholinesterase and whose metabolism can produce carbofuran
- (c) Organochlorine pesticide whose principal toxicity arises through disruption of calcium metabolism
- (d) Pyrethroid insecticide whose principal action is irreversible inhibition of acetylcholinesterase

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Carbosulfan is a **broad-spectrum carbamate pesticide**. It has insecticidal, acaricidal and nematocidal applications. Its toxic action involves inhibition of **acetylcholinesterase (AChE)**, resulting in accumulation of acetylcholine and disruption of normal nerve transmission.

The crucial distinction in this question is between **carbamate and organophosphate pesticides**.

Carbamate compounds generally inhibit AChE through **carbamylation**, and the inhibition is generally **reversible**, whereas many organophosphates produce much more persistent/irreversible inhibition through phosphorylation of the enzyme.

Carbosulfan is particularly significant because it is a **pro-pesticide** and can metabolise into **carbofuran**, which is highly toxic. This metabolic pathway is one of the major concerns associated with its continued use.

The Government's 2026 draft order proposed a complete prohibition covering manufacture, import, transport, distribution, sale and use. The Registration Committee had identified severe hazards to humans and non-target organisms, including birds, pollinators and aquatic organisms.

Therefore:

- **(a) Incorrect** — Carbosulfan is not an organophosphate and its inhibition is not characterised in the same manner as irreversible organophosphate inhibition.



- (b) Correct.
- (c) Incorrect — it is not an organochlorine pesticide.
- (d) Incorrect — it is neither a pyrethroid nor an irreversible AChE inhibitor in the manner stated.

Conceptual takeaway: In pesticide questions, UPSC can test the relationship between **chemical class** → **biochemical target** → **reversibility** → **metabolite** → **ecological consequence**.

Q3. With reference to Mission Samriddh Gaon, consider the following statements:

1. It adopts a household-level saturation approach, under which the identification of beneficiaries is intended to precede the convergence of relevant welfare and livelihood interventions.
2. Its integrated farming component treats diversification as an objective in itself, allowing activities such as horticulture, livestock, fisheries, poultry and beekeeping to be combined with crop cultivation.
3. The mission is primarily a centrally funded agricultural subsidy programme under which individual farmers receive direct financial assistance for adopting integrated farming systems.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

Statements **1 and 2 are correct**, while Statement 3 is incorrect.

Statement 1 is correct.

Mission Samriddh Gaon is conceived as an **integrated rural transformation and livelihood-saturation framework**, rather than as a single-sector agricultural scheme. It seeks to map household-level eligibility and prepare plans at the **family, Gram Panchayat and block levels**, thereby allowing multiple government programmes to converge around identified rural households.

This represents a shift from a **scheme-centric approach** towards a **household-centric saturation approach**.

Statement 2 is correct.

Integrated Farming Systems are an important component. The objective is to diversify rural livelihoods by combining activities such as:

- horticulture,
- livestock,
- fisheries,
- poultry,



- beekeeping,

alongside crop cultivation. Such diversification can reduce dependence on a single source of farm income and improve resilience to production and price shocks.

Statement 3 is incorrect.

This is the principal trap. Mission Samridh Gaon is **not merely a direct-benefit agricultural subsidy programme**. Its architecture involves convergence of agriculture, health, education, skilling, infrastructure, social protection and livelihood interventions. It also promotes rural infrastructure such as warehouses, cold chains and village-level processing facilities.

The initial pilot is being undertaken in **Budni block of Sehore district and Khategaon block of Dewas district in Madhya Pradesh**, under the Ministry of Rural Development.

UPSC Trap: Whenever a question describes a multi-sector convergence mission as an "**agricultural subsidy scheme**", examine whether the intervention actually targets the farm alone or the **entire rural household/village livelihood ecosystem**.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding waterspouts:

1. A fair-weather waterspout is generally non-mesocyclonic and typically develops upward from the water surface towards a developing cumulus cloud.
2. A tornadic waterspout is fundamentally different from a tornado only because it forms over water; its dynamical association with severe convective storms can be substantially similar to that of a tornado over land.
3. The visible funnel of a waterspout consists predominantly of bulk seawater or freshwater lifted mechanically from the underlying water body.
4. A waterspout necessarily dissipates immediately upon reaching land because the underlying water surface is indispensable for maintaining the vortex.

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:

Statements **1 and 2 are correct**, while Statements **3 and 4 are incorrect**.

Statement 1 is correct.

Fair-weather waterspouts are generally **non-mesocyclonic**. They tend to develop under relatively calm conditions beneath developing cumulus clouds. Their development is commonly described as beginning near the **water surface and building upward** toward the cloud base.

This makes them fundamentally different from the classic tornadic mechanism.



Statement 2 is correct.

A **tornadic waterspout is essentially a tornado occurring over water**, or a tornado that moves from land to water. It is associated with severe convective thunderstorms and mesocyclonic circulation. Hence, its dynamical relationship with severe convection can be substantially similar to a land tornado.

This distinction is extremely important:

Fair-weather waterspout $\neq$ tornadic waterspout.

Statement 3 is incorrect.

The visible funnel is **not primarily a column of bulk water sucked upward from the river or sea**. It is largely a visible condensation funnel consisting of condensed water droplets formed as pressure falls and moist air rises. Water spray at the surface may accompany it, but the entire visible column should not be interpreted as physically lifted bulk water.

Statement 4 is incorrect.

The word "**necessarily**" makes the statement problematic. Waterspouts can weaken after reaching land because of changes in surface friction, moisture supply and thermodynamic conditions, but the underlying water surface is not a simple mechanical requirement that causes an instantaneous collapse.

The recent Brahmaputra observation is also a useful reminder that a waterspout need not be associated exclusively with an ocean; such phenomena can occur over **lakes and large rivers** as well.

UPSC Trap: The distinction between **fair-weather and tornadic waterspouts** is more important than simply remembering that "waterspouts occur over water."

Q5. With reference to SEBI's IT Resilience Index (ITRI), consider the following statements:

1. It attempts to convert aspects of technological and cyber resilience of critical market infrastructure into a quantitative regulatory measure rather than relying exclusively on conventional periodic compliance assessments.
2. It is applicable to Market Infrastructure Institutions such as stock exchanges, clearing corporations and depositories because failure in their technological infrastructure can have systemic implications for capital markets.
3. A high ITRI score implies that the concerned institution is expected to be immune to technological failures, since resilience under the framework is measured primarily by the absence of disruptions.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

Statements **1 and 2 are correct**, while Statement 3 is incorrect.



Statement 1 is correct.

SEBI's IT Resilience Index represents a shift towards **quantification of technological resilience**. Instead of assessing IT systems merely through static compliance requirements or periodic audits, the index seeks to evaluate the ability of market infrastructure to **withstand, absorb and recover from technological shocks**.

The index has a **nine-parameter architecture**, with parameters weighted according to their systemic importance. Availability and cybersecurity are among the prominent components, while business continuity, reliability and scalability also feature in the framework.

Statement 2 is correct.

The ITRI applies to **Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs)**—entities such as stock exchanges, clearing corporations and depositories. Their technological failure can have consequences extending well beyond a single institution because trading, clearing, settlement and custody systems are deeply interconnected.

This makes IT resilience a matter of **financial stability**, rather than merely an internal IT-management issue.

Statement 3 is incorrect.

This is the core conceptual trap.

Resilience does not mean zero failure.

The philosophy behind the index is closer to:

Absorb → withstand → recover → restore

rather than:

Never fail.

The framework therefore focuses on the ability of systems to cope with operational shocks, cyberattacks, software failures and sudden transaction-volume surges and to recover rapidly.

An institution could therefore experience an incident and still demonstrate strong resilience if its detection, containment, failover and recovery mechanisms function effectively.

The framework also envisages an **Early Warning System**, intended to detect degradation, latency spikes or hardware stress before these develop into major outages.

UPSC Trap: This question tests the conceptual difference between **robustness** and **resilience**. Robustness emphasises resistance to failure; resilience additionally emphasises **recovery after disruption**.

Q6. With reference to Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary, recently in the news, consider the following geographical statements:

1. It lies in Assam's Brahmaputra floodplain and forms part of the Laokhowa-Burhachapori ecosystem.
2. It is situated on the southern bank of the Brahmaputra and forms an important ecological link between major protected areas of central Assam.
3. Its ecological character is shaped partly by seasonal inundation, wetlands and alluvial processes associated with the Brahmaputra system.

Which one of the following is the correct location of **Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary**?

(a) Assam



- (b) Arunachal Pradesh
- (c) Meghalaya
- (d) West Bengal

Answer: (a) Assam

Explanation:

Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary is located in **central Assam**, in the Nagaon district, on the **southern bank of the Brahmaputra**. It forms part of the contiguous **Laokhowa-Burhachapori ecosystem** and occupies an important position within the Brahmaputra floodplain landscape.

Its ecological importance is closely linked to the river's dynamic floodplain processes, including:

- seasonal inundation,
- alluvial deposition,
- riverine islands and sandbars,
- wetlands and oxbow lakes,
- grassland and riparian habitats.

The sanctuary also functions as an ecological corridor linking important wildlife landscapes in central Assam, particularly between **Kaziranga and Orang** landscapes.

It has recently attracted attention after the reported sighting of the migratory **Smew (Mergellus albellus)** during the Kaziranga Waterbird Count 2026, along with sightings of the critically endangered **Bengal Florican**.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS Paper 1

Q1. “Napoleon Bonaparte established order in France, but at the cost of liberty.” Critically analyse the impact of Napoleon’s rule on the ideals of the French Revolution.

Answer:

The French Revolution (1789) championed liberty, equality, and fraternity. By 1799, France was politically unstable, and Napoleon Bonaparte rose to power. While he brought stability, his rule presents a complex picture in terms of revolutionary ideals.

Positive contributions:

- **Legal reforms:** The Napoleonic Code (1804) guaranteed equality before the law, abolished feudal privileges, and promoted merit-based employment.
- **Administrative efficiency:** Napoleon centralized governance, streamlined bureaucracy, and instituted rational taxation systems.



- **Religious reconciliation:** The Concordat with the Catholic Church ensured religious tolerance while stabilizing state-church relations.

Limitations on liberty:

- **Autocratic power:** By crowning himself Emperor in 1804, Napoleon reinstated monarchical authority.
- **Suppression of dissent:** Press censorship, secret police, and curbs on political opposition curtailed freedom of expression.
- **Foreign policy:** His military campaigns focused on territorial dominance rather than promoting revolutionary principles abroad.

Critical evaluation:

Napoleon preserved certain egalitarian and administrative aspects of the Revolution but sacrificed political freedoms for centralized authority.

Conclusion:

Napoleon's rule institutionalized key achievements of the Revolution but curtailed its democratic essence. His legacy is both progressive in reform and regressive in liberty.

GS Paper 2

Q2. The Preamble of the Indian Constitution is not merely a decorative preface but a guiding light in interpreting constitutional provisions. Discuss with reference to judicial pronouncements.

Answer:

The Preamble encapsulates the Constitution's vision, reflecting justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity. Though not legally enforceable, it guides judicial interpretation.

Judicial recognition:

- **Berubari Union case (1960):** Initially, the Supreme Court stated the Preamble was not part of the Constitution.
- **Kesavananda Bharati case (1973):** The Court held the Preamble forms part of the Constitution and embodies the basic structure, which is beyond amendment.
- **LIC of India case (1995):** Reaffirmed that the Preamble reflects the Constitution's ideological orientation.

Use in interpretation:

- Ambiguous constitutional provisions are clarified using the Preamble's values.
- **Indira Sawhney case (1992):** The concept of "social justice" guided reservation policy.
- **SR Bommai case (1994):** Secularism as enshrined in the Preamble prevented misuse of presidential powers under Article 356.

Conclusion:

The Preamble functions as both a moral compass and interpretative tool. While it does not confer rights, it provides guidance for courts in upholding constitutional principles.



GS Paper 3

Q3. Nuclear energy offers a clean energy alternative but brings along serious concerns. Evaluate the prospects and challenges of expanding nuclear power in India.

Answer:

India's growing energy demand, coupled with the need for low-carbon solutions, makes nuclear power a strategic option.

Prospects:

- **Clean energy:** Low emissions align with India's Net Zero 2070 commitment.
- **Energy security:** Vast thorium reserves and the three-stage nuclear program aim for self-reliance.
- **Base-load supply:** Unlike renewables, nuclear provides constant power critical for industrial growth.

Challenges:

- **Safety risks:** Incidents like Fukushima and protests at Kudankulam raise public concerns.
- **Waste management:** Radioactive waste disposal poses long-term environmental hazards.
- **High cost and delays:** Nuclear projects often face budget overruns and long construction timelines.
- **Fuel dependency:** Limited domestic uranium requires imports.

Way forward:

- Development of thorium reactors and small modular reactors.
- Strengthening regulatory frameworks and public engagement.
- Promotion of indigenous technologies through BARC and related institutions.

Conclusion:

While not a standalone solution, nuclear energy can be a crucial pillar of India's energy strategy if environmental, safety, and societal concerns are addressed.

GS Paper 4

Q4. "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely." Discuss the ethical safeguards necessary in public administration to prevent abuse of power.

Answer:

Lord Acton's statement highlights the inherent risks of unchecked authority. In governance, where decisions impact millions, ethical safeguards are vital.

Sources of power misuse:

- Discretion without oversight
- Political favoritism and lack of transparency
- Conflicts of interest and collusion

Ethical safeguards:

1. **Code of Conduct:** Ensures integrity and public-centered decision-making.



2. **Accountability mechanisms:** Vigilance commissions, CAG audits, RTI Act, Lokpal.
3. **Whistleblower protection:** Encourages reporting of misconduct.
4. **Ethics training:** Civil servants receive value-based education.
5. **Citizen-centric mechanisms:** Charters and e-governance reduce discretionary powers.
6. **Strong institutions:** Judiciary, media, and civil society provide checks.

Example:

Implementation of platforms like GeM reduces corruption by minimizing human interface in procurement.

Conclusion:

Ethical safeguards are necessary to ensure power serves public interest rather than personal gain, fostering transparency, accountability, and integrity.

Current Affairs

Q5. Labour reforms are seen as pivotal for building a ‘Viksit Bharat’ by 2047. Critically analyse the potential and pitfalls of India’s labour reform strategy.

Answer:

Labour reforms intersect with productivity, job creation, and ease of doing business—key pillars for a developed India.

Recent reforms:

- Consolidation of 29 central labour laws into four Labour Codes (Wages, Industrial Relations, Social Security, Occupational Safety).
- Focus on formalization, digitized labour data (e-Shram portal), and portable social security benefits.

Potential benefits:

- Simplification reduces compliance burden and attracts investment.
- Promotes labour mobility and social security for gig workers.
- Supports MSMEs by easing thresholds for retrenchment.

Challenges:

- Concerns over weakening job security and collective bargaining.
- Implementation delays as several states have not notified the codes.
- Informal sector (over 90% workforce) may remain largely outside regulatory coverage.

Conclusion:

Labour reforms can drive economic growth but must be inclusive and rights-based. A successful strategy for a ‘Viksit Bharat’ requires equity, social justice, and transparent implementation.