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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 21/10/2026 (WEDNESDAY)

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



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DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

1. With reference to the constitutional developments and political negotiations in India during the late colonial period, consider the following statements:

1. The Cabinet Mission Plan proposed a three-tier federal structure with compulsory grouping of provinces.
2. The Constituent Assembly was to be elected on the basis of universal adult franchise under the Cabinet Mission Plan.

How many of the above statements are correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Both
(c) None
(d) Cannot be determined

2. Which one of the following best explains the concept of "ecological succession" in the context of environmental stability?

(a) It refers to the gradual replacement of one community by another until a stable climax community is reached.
(b) It refers to the immediate establishment of a stable ecosystem after a disturbance.
(c) It refers to the loss of biodiversity due to anthropogenic pressures.
(d) It refers to the artificial introduction of species into an ecosystem.

3. Consider the following statements regarding inflation targeting in India:

1. The inflation targeting framework in India is mandated through an amendment to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
2. The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is legally bound to achieve only the upper tolerance limit of inflation.
3. The Government of India has the power to override the decisions of the MPC in exceptional circumstances.

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How many of the above statements are correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

4. Consider the following statements:

1. The Preamble of the Constitution is enforceable in a court of law.
2. The Supreme Court has held that the Preamble is a part of the Constitution.
3. The Preamble can be amended under Article 368.
4. The ideals in the Preamble are borrowed entirely from the Objective Resolution.

How many of the above statements are correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

5. Assertion (A): The phenomenon of temperature inversion is more common in valleys during winter nights.
Reason 1 (R1): Cold air being denser flows down the slopes and accumulates in low-lying areas.
Reason 2 (R2): Longwave radiation loss from the Earth's surface is higher under clear sky conditions.

(a) A is correct, and both R1 and R2 are correct and explain A.
(b) A is correct, but only R1 is correct.
(c) A is correct, but only R2 is correct.
(d) A is incorrect, but both R1 and R2 are correct.

Answers

1. (a)
2. (a)
3. (a)
4. (c)
5. (a)

Detailed Explanations

1.
Statement 1 is correct: The Cabinet Mission Plan (1946) proposed a three-tier structure—Union, Groups of Provinces, and Provinces—with compulsory grouping (though later contested).
Statement 2 is incorrect: The Constituent Assembly was elected indirectly by provincial legislatures, not through universal adult franchise.

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2.
Ecological succession is a gradual and orderly process where one biological community replaces another, culminating in a stable climax community. The other options either describe incorrect or incomplete ecological processes.

3.
Statement 1 is correct: Inflation targeting was formalized through the RBI Act amendment in 2016.
Statement 2 is incorrect: MPC targets a fixed inflation rate (4% ± 2%), not just the upper limit.
Statement 3 is incorrect: MPC decisions are binding; the government cannot directly override them.

4.
Statement 1 is incorrect: The Preamble is not enforceable in court.
Statement 2 is correct: The Supreme Court (Kesavananda Bharati case) held it is part of the Constitution.

Statement 3 is correct: It can be amended under Article 368.
Statement 4 is correct: It is largely based on the Objective Resolution (though not "entirely" in strict sense, but UPSC treats it as derived).

5.
Assertion is correct: Temperature inversion commonly occurs in valleys during winter nights.
R1 is correct: Cold air flows downward and accumulates in valleys.
R2 is correct: Clear skies enhance radiational cooling, leading to inversion.
Both reasons together explain the assertion comprehensively.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. With reference to the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), consider the following statements:

1. The IPU provides a platform for parliamentary diplomacy, but its institutional character is distinct from that of an intergovernmental organisation composed of national executives.
2. Membership in the IPU automatically confers upon its member parliaments the authority to make binding international law on behalf of their respective countries.

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: (a) 1 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct. The IPU is an international organisation of national parliaments that facilitates dialogue, parliamentary diplomacy and democratic cooperation. Unlike intergovernmental bodies where national executives represent states, the IPU primarily connects legislative institutions and parliamentarians.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The IPU does not confer treaty-making powers on national parliaments or independently create binding international law. The authority to enter into international agreements and the domestic procedures for their approval depend on the applicable constitutional and legal frameworks.
- UPSC trap: International cooperation through a parliamentary platform should not be confused with the exercise of sovereign legislative or treaty-making authority.

Q2. The architectural significance of the Ramappa Temple is best captured by which one of the following combinations?

(a) Chola temple architecture, granite monolithic vimana and construction under Rajaraja I

(b) Kakatiya architecture, lightweight porous bricks in the vimana and a distinctive sand-based foundation

(c) Hoysala architecture, soapstone star-shaped plan and construction under Vishnuvardhana

(d) Vijayanagara architecture, extensive use of Dravidian gopurams and construction under Krishnadevaraya

Answer: (b) Kakatiya architecture, lightweight porous bricks in the vimana and a distinctive sand-based foundation

Explanation:

- The Ramappa Temple is a 13th-century Shiva temple associated with the Kakatiya dynasty. It was constructed in 1213 CE under the patronage of Ganapati Deva, with Recharla Rudra playing a key role in its construction.
- The temple is noted for its distinctive foundation engineering, intricate stone carvings and lightweight porous bricks used in its superstructure.
- Its architectural importance lies not merely in ornamentation but also in the integration of structural design, material selection and the surrounding cultural landscape.
- The temple was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2021 under the name Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple.
- UPSC trap: Lightweight bricks and the sand-based foundation are separate architectural features; neither should be confused with the soapstone construction associated with Hoysala temples.

Q3. Consider the following Assertion and two Reasons regarding India's demonstration of a free-space Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) link.

Assertion (A): Free-space QKD can provide a secure method of distributing cryptographic keys without requiring a physical optical-fibre connection between the communicating endpoints.

Reason I (R1): Attempts to measure quantum states used in appropriate QKD protocols can introduce detectable disturbances, helping communicating parties identify potential eavesdropping.

Reason II (R2): Quantum Key Distribution makes every subsequent encrypted communication unconditionally secure, irrespective of the encryption algorithm, endpoint security or key-management practices.

Which one of the following is correct?

(a) Both R1 and R2 are correct, and both explain A.

(b) Both R1 and R2 are correct, but only R1 explains A.

(c) R1 is correct, but R2 is incorrect.

(d) R1 is incorrect, but R2 is correct.

Answer: (c) R1 is correct, but R2 is incorrect.

Explanation:

- Assertion is correct. Free-space QKD transmits quantum states through an unguided optical channel, such as an atmospheric line-of-sight link, rather than through an optical fibre. The reported Indian demonstration involved a 5.56-km free-space link.
- Reason I is correct. In suitable QKD protocols, measurements by an eavesdropper can disturb quantum states and increase the observed error rate. The communicating parties can use this information to assess whether the key exchange remains secure.
- Reason II is incorrect. QKD is a method of distributing cryptographic keys, not a universal replacement for encryption or endpoint security. The security of the overall system also depends on protocol implementation, authentication, device security, key management and the encryption scheme used.
- The reported demonstration involved QNu Labs, BISAG-N and IIT Gandhinagar, illustrating collaboration between a private technology developer, a government-linked technical institution and an academic institution.
- UPSC trap: Quantum key distribution and post-quantum cryptography are not synonymous. QKD uses quantum communication principles, whereas post-quantum cryptography relies on cryptographic algorithms designed to resist attacks by quantum computers.

Q4. With reference to the recognition of classical languages in India and the establishment of Centres of Excellence, consider the following statements:

1. Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Assamese and Bengali were among the five languages granted classical-language status in October 2024.

2. The establishment of a Centre of Excellence for a classical language automatically makes that language an official language of every State in which it is historically spoken.

3. The proposed institutional framework for the five Centres of Excellence includes research, preservation, digitisation and interdisciplinary study of linguistic and cultural heritage.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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(a) Only one

(b) Only two

(c) All three

(d) None

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct. The five languages recognised as classical languages in October 2024 were Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Assamese and Bengali. This brought the total number of recognised classical languages to eleven.

- Statement 2 is incorrect. Classical-language recognition is a designation granted by the Government of India. It does not automatically confer official-language status within every State where the language is spoken. Official-language arrangements are governed by separate constitutional and statutory provisions.
- Statement 3 is correct. The five Centres of Excellence are intended to support research, manuscript preservation, digitisation, translation and interdisciplinary scholarship, including work connected with epigraphy, archaeology and traditional knowledge.
- The institutional allocations reported for these centres include Tezpur University for Assamese, Visva-Bharati for Bengali, Deccan College for Marathi, the Central University of Odisha for Pali and the Central University of Gujarat for Prakrit.
- UPSC trap: Classical-language status, official-language status and the Eighth Schedule are distinct concepts. They must not be treated as interchangeable legal categories.

Q5. With reference to Andhra Pradesh's proposed pilot of 3D-printed rural houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana–Gramin (PMAY-G), consider the following statements:

1. Three-dimensional concrete printing uses digitally guided material deposition to construct building components layer by layer, potentially reducing dependence on conventional formwork.
2. PMAY-G is a rural housing programme under which technological innovation can be adopted without changing the scheme's fundamental objective of assisting eligible rural households in obtaining pucca houses.
3. The use of 3D concrete printing automatically exempts a rural housing project from applicable building standards, structural-safety requirements and disaster-resilience considerations.
4. Because 3D printing can accelerate construction, its adoption by itself guarantees lower total housing costs and eliminates the need for skilled labour and quality-control procedures.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one

(b) Only two

(c) Only three

(d) All four

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Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct. Three-dimensional concrete printing is an additive manufacturing technique in which a computer-controlled nozzle deposits a specialised concrete mixture along a programmed path. It can reduce formwork requirements and accelerate certain construction stages.
- Statement 2 is correct. PMAY-G aims to provide pucca houses to eligible rural households. A pilot using new construction technology can support this objective without changing the programme's core purpose.

- Statement 3 is incorrect. Innovative construction technology does not remove the need to comply with applicable structural, building, safety and disaster-resilience requirements. Printed structures must still meet relevant engineering and regulatory standards.
- Statement 4 is incorrect. Faster construction does not automatically mean lower total costs. Equipment, specialised materials, transportation, maintenance, site preparation and regulatory compliance can affect the final cost. Skilled supervision and quality control remain necessary.
- The proposed Andhra Pradesh pilot is significant because it explores whether automation and additive manufacturing can improve the speed and efficiency of rural housing delivery.
- UPSC trap: A technology's potential benefits should not be confused with guaranteed outcomes. Cost-effectiveness, durability and scalability depend on site conditions, material performance, labour requirements and implementation quality.

Map-Based Question — Desert National Park

Q6. Consider the following geographical description:

A protected area situated in the western part of the Thar Desert, close to the India–Pakistan international border, is an important habitat for the Great Indian Bustard. It extends across the districts of Jaisalmer and Barmer in Rajasthan.

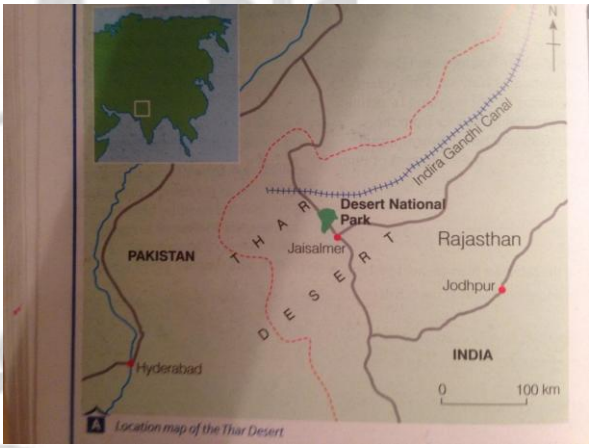
Which one of the following protected areas is being described?

(a) Tal Chhapar Wildlife Sanctuary

(b) Desert National Park

(c) Keoladeo National Park

(d) Mukundra Hills National Park



Answer: (b) Desert National Park

Explanation:

- The Desert National Park is located in western Rajasthan, within the Thar Desert, and extends across Jaisalmer and Barmer districts.
- It is a major landscape for conservation of the critically endangered Great Indian Bustard, locally known as the Godawan.
- The landscape includes sand dunes, gravel plains, rocky terrain and arid grasslands. These habitats support desert-adapted wildlife and specialised vegetation.
- Why the other options are incorrect:
    - (a) Tal Chhapar Wildlife Sanctuary is in Churu district, Rajasthan, and is particularly known for blackbuck and grassland birds.
    - (c) Keoladeo National Park is in Bharatpur, eastern Rajasthan, and is renowned for its wetland ecosystem and birds.

- (d) Mukundra Hills National Park is in southeastern Rajasthan and is associated with the Aravalli–Vindhyan hill landscape.

- Map-based elimination: Remember the broad spatial pattern: Desert National Park—western Rajasthan; Keoladeo—eastern Rajasthan; Tal Chhapar—northern Rajasthan.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

All Questions

1. Examine the significance of peasant movements in shaping the nationalist struggle in India. How did these movements transform both colonial policies and the nature of Indian nationalism?

2. Discuss the role of pressure groups and informal institutions in strengthening or weakening Indian democracy. Illustrate with contemporary examples.

3. "Infrastructure development is both a driver and a constraint for India's economic growth." Critically analyze this statement with special reference to recent policy initiatives.

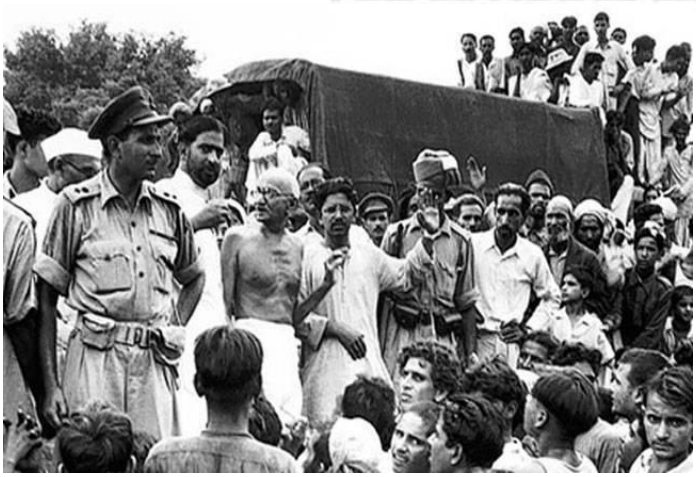
4. "Ethics in public administration is not merely about compliance but about cultivating moral responsibility." Elaborate with suitable examples.

5. India has submitted its 7th National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Analyze its significance in the context of global biodiversity governance and India's environmental commitments.

All Answers & Explanations

1. Peasant movements played a crucial role in shaping the trajectory of India's nationalist struggle, especially during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These movements were not merely agrarian protests but evolved into powerful expressions of anti-colonial resistance.

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Initially, peasant uprisings such as the Indigo Revolt and Deccan Riots were localized and focused on economic grievances like oppressive taxation, forced cultivation, and exploitative zamindari practices. However, with the advent of leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, these movements gained political direction. The Champaran and Kheda Satyagrahas marked a turning point where peasant issues were integrated into the broader nationalist agenda.

These movements transformed colonial policies by compelling the British to reconsider exploitative agrarian systems. For instance, the abolition of tinkathia system in Champaran and tax relief in Kheda demonstrated the effectiveness of organized resistance.

Moreover, peasant participation democratized the nationalist movement. It expanded the social base beyond urban elites, making it a mass movement. Organizations like the All India Kisan Sabha further institutionalized agrarian demands.

However, tensions existed. Congress often balanced peasant radicalism with broader political goals, sometimes limiting the revolutionary potential of these movements.

In conclusion, peasant movements were instrumental in transforming Indian nationalism from an elite discourse into a mass-based struggle, while simultaneously forcing colonial policy adjustments.

2. Pressure groups and informal institutions play a vital role in shaping democratic processes in India. They act as intermediaries between the state and citizens, influencing policy decisions and governance outcomes.

Pressure groups such as trade unions, business associations, farmers' organizations, and NGOs articulate specific interests. For example, farmers' protests have influenced agricultural policy debates, while industry bodies shape economic reforms.



These groups strengthen democracy by enhancing participation, promoting accountability, and ensuring representation of diverse interests. Civil society movements like RTI activism have deepened transparency and governance.

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However, they can also weaken democracy. Some pressure groups resort to disruptive tactics or represent narrow interests, leading to policy paralysis. Corporate lobbying may skew policies in favor of elite interests, undermining equity.

Informal institutions, such as caste networks and community organizations, also influence democratic outcomes. While they provide social support and mobilization, they may reinforce identity politics and exclusion.

Thus, pressure groups are double-edged swords. Their impact depends on their methods, inclusivity, and alignment with democratic values.

In conclusion, while pressure groups are essential for participatory democracy, their functioning must be regulated to ensure transparency and accountability.

3. Infrastructure is a critical determinant of economic growth, acting both as an enabler and a constraint in India's development trajectory.



On one hand, robust infrastructure enhances productivity, reduces transaction costs, and attracts investment. Initiatives like Bharatmala, Sagarmala, and the National Infrastructure Pipeline aim to boost connectivity and logistics efficiency.

Improved infrastructure supports industrialization, urbanization, and regional development. For example, better road networks facilitate market access for farmers and industries alike.

On the other hand, inadequate infrastructure remains a major constraint. Issues such as power shortages, congested transport networks, and urban infrastructure deficits hinder growth. Delays in project implementation, land acquisition challenges, and regulatory bottlenecks exacerbate the problem.

Moreover, infrastructure development raises concerns about environmental sustainability and displacement.

Recent policy initiatives emphasize public-private partnerships, digital infrastructure, and green energy transitions. However, effective implementation remains key.

In conclusion, while infrastructure is a powerful growth driver, addressing structural and governance challenges is essential to unlock its full potential.

4. Ethics in public administration extends beyond rule-following to embody moral responsibility and integrity in governance.

Compliance with laws ensures minimum standards of conduct, but ethical governance requires going beyond legality to uphold values like fairness, empathy, and accountability.

For instance, a civil servant ensuring timely delivery of welfare schemes demonstrates not just efficiency but moral commitment to public service. Ethical decision-making involves balancing competing interests and prioritizing public good.

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Challenges include political pressure, corruption, and bureaucratic inertia. In such contexts, moral courage becomes crucial.

Institutional mechanisms like codes of conduct, transparency laws, and citizen charters promote ethical behavior. However, personal integrity and value-based training are equally important.

Ethics also enhances trust in government, which is essential for effective governance.

In conclusion, ethics in public administration is about internalizing values and exercising moral judgment, thereby transforming governance from mere administration to public service.

5. India's submission of its 7th National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) reflects its commitment to global biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.



The report assesses progress towards national biodiversity targets aligned with global frameworks like the Aichi Targets and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

India has made notable progress in expanding protected areas, conserving flagship species, and promoting community participation. Initiatives like Project Tiger and afforestation programs highlight conservation efforts.

However, challenges persist. Habitat loss, climate change, invasive species, and human-wildlife conflict threaten biodiversity. The report underscores the need for integrated approaches combining conservation with livelihoods.

Globally, the report contributes to collective monitoring and accountability under the CBD framework. It also highlights India's role as a biodiversity-rich country with significant ecological responsibility.

The report emphasizes sustainable use, ecosystem restoration, and mainstreaming biodiversity into development planning.

In conclusion, India's 7th National Report is both a reflection of achievements and a roadmap for future action, reinforcing its commitment to balancing development with ecological sustainability.

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