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DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS

BEST FOR UPSC | UP PCS EXAM

DATE : **JULY 23, 2026**



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DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

1. Consider the following statements:

1. The Home Rule Movement widened political participation by combining constitutional agitation with public education.
2. The Rowlatt Act was enacted before the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms and led to widespread national protests.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Neither one nor two
- (d) Both one and two

Answer: (d) Both one and two

Explanation:

Both statements are correct. The Home Rule Movement helped spread political awareness through lectures, pamphlets, and organized campaigning. The Rowlatt Act of 1919 triggered strong opposition across India and came before the broader political acceptance of the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms.

2. Which one of the following best explains the role of decomposers in an ecosystem?

- (a) They convert solar energy into chemical energy.
- (b) They break down dead organic matter and recycle nutrients.
- (c) They maintain atmospheric oxygen balance by photosynthesis.
- (d) They regulate population size through predation.

Answer: (b) They break down dead organic matter and recycle nutrients

Explanation:

Decomposers such as bacteria and fungi act on dead plants, animals, and organic waste. They convert complex material into simpler substances and return nutrients to the environment. This keeps nutrient cycles functioning and supports ecosystem stability.

3. Consider the following statements regarding inflation in India:

1. Demand-pull inflation occurs when aggregate demand rises faster than aggregate supply.
2. Cost-push inflation may result from higher wages, raw material prices, or energy costs.
3. Core inflation includes food and fuel prices because they are the most volatile components of the consumer basket.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Demand-pull inflation occurs when demand outpaces supply, and cost-push inflation arises when production costs increase. Statement 3 is incorrect because core inflation usually excludes food and fuel due to their volatility.

4. Consider the following statements regarding the Constitution of India:

1. The President can promulgate an ordinance only when both Houses of Parliament are not in session.
2. A Money Bill can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha.
3. The Rajya Sabha has equal power with the Lok Sabha in the passage of a constitutional amendment bill.
4. A joint sitting of Parliament can be held to resolve a deadlock on a Constitutional Amendment Bill.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (c) Only three

Explanation:

Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Statement 1 is incorrect because an ordinance can be promulgated when either House is not in session, not necessarily both. Statement 4 is incorrect because a joint sitting is not provided for constitutional amendment bills.

5. Assertion (A): Temperature falls more rapidly with altitude in the troposphere than in the stratosphere.
Reason 1: The troposphere is heated mainly from the Earth's surface, while the stratosphere contains ozone that absorbs ultraviolet radiation.

Reason 2: The lapse rate is constant in all layers of the atmosphere. Choose the correct answer:

- (a) Both R1 and R2 are true, and both explain A.
- (b) R1 is true, but R2 is false.
- (c) R1 is false, but R2 is true.
- (d) Both R1 and R2 are false.

Answer: (b) R1 is true, but R2 is false

Explanation:

The assertion is correct because temperature decreases more sharply with height in the troposphere than in the stratosphere. Reason 1 is correct and explains the assertion. Reason 2 is false because the lapse rate varies across atmospheric layers and is not constant everywhere.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q.1. With reference to the Polygraph Test, consider the following statements:

1. Polygraph examination has been held by the Supreme Court to be admissible as substantive evidence in a criminal trial if conducted with the consent of the accused.
2. Even when voluntarily undertaken, the results of a polygraph test by themselves cannot be treated as conclusive proof of guilt or innocence.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Neither one nor two
- (d) Cannot be determined from the information available

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** In *Selvi v. State of Karnataka (2010)*, the Supreme Court held that involuntary administration of polygraph, narco-analysis and BEAP tests violates Article 20(3) and Article 21. Even when conducted voluntarily, the results are **not substantive evidence** and require corroboration.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Polygraph findings merely provide investigative leads and cannot independently establish guilt or innocence.

Q.2. The recently launched Medical Innovations Patent Mitra Initiative primarily seeks to:

- (a) Provide financial assistance to pharmaceutical companies for international patent litigation.
- (b) Facilitate patent filing and intellectual property support for indigenous medical innovations.
- (c) Create a common database of patented medicines for compulsory licensing.
- (d) Promote cross-border harmonisation of pharmaceutical regulations.

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The initiative aims to assist innovators, researchers, startups and institutions in protecting healthcare innovations through **patent facilitation, guidance and IP support**, thereby encouraging indigenous medical technologies.

Q.3. With reference to the I-2SEA Submarine Cable System, consider the following statements:

1. The project seeks to establish a high-capacity digital connectivity corridor linking India with West Asia and Europe through undersea fibre-optic infrastructure.
2. The system complements broader initiatives aimed at strengthening digital resilience and data connectivity across participating regions.
3. Unlike conventional submarine cable systems, I-2SEA is designed exclusively for defence communications and does not carry commercial internet traffic.

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.** I-2SEA aims to improve digital connectivity between India, West Asia and Europe.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** It supports secure and resilient international digital infrastructure.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** It is intended primarily as a **commercial telecommunications infrastructure**, not an exclusive military communication system.

Q.4. With reference to Battery Management System (BMS), consider the following statements:

1. A Battery Management System continuously monitors parameters such as voltage, current and temperature of battery cells.
2. Cell balancing performed by a BMS helps improve battery life and operational safety.
3. A Battery Management System can eliminate thermal runaway under all operating conditions.

How many of the above statements are NOT correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Monitoring battery health is the primary function of BMS.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Cell balancing improves efficiency, lifespan and safety.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** BMS can significantly reduce the risk of thermal runaway but **cannot completely eliminate it** under every circumstance.

Q.5. With reference to Matcha Tea, consider the following statements:

1. Matcha is prepared from specially shade-grown tea leaves before harvesting.
2. Unlike conventional green tea, Matcha involves consumption of the entire powdered leaf.
3. Matcha naturally contains both caffeine and L-theanine.
4. Matcha is produced from fermented tea leaves, giving it characteristics similar to black tea.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Shade cultivation enhances chlorophyll and amino acid content.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The powdered leaf is whisked into water and consumed entirely.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Matcha contains caffeine along with L-theanine.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect.** Matcha is made from **unfermented green tea leaves**, not fermented leaves.

Q.6. The Azov Sea, recently seen in international developments, is directly connected to which one of the following water bodies through the Kerch Strait?

- (a) Baltic Sea
- (b) Adriatic Sea
- (c) Caspian Sea
- (d) Black Sea

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- The **Sea of Azov** is a shallow inland sea located northeast of the Black Sea.
- It is connected to the **Black Sea through the Kerch Strait.**
- The sea is bordered by **Russia and Ukraine.**

- Major rivers flowing into it include the **Don** and the **Kuban**.
- Owing to its strategic location and access to important ports such as Mariupol and Berdyansk, the Sea of Azov has acquired considerable geopolitical significance in recent years.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS PAPER – I

NCERT Base: Themes in Indian History – Part III (Class XII), Chapter 9 – Colonialism and the Countryside

Q1. "British land revenue policies transformed not only India's agrarian economy but also its social and political structure." Examine the statement in the context of nineteenth-century India. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

Sample Answer

Introduction

The British introduced Permanent Settlement, Ryotwari and Mahalwari systems primarily to maximize colonial revenue. Although these policies differed in their administrative arrangements, they collectively restructured agrarian relations, altered traditional rural institutions and laid the foundation for widespread agrarian distress and political awakening.

Answer

Colonial land revenue policies fundamentally altered India's agrarian economy by replacing customary rights with legally enforceable property relations. The Permanent Settlement created a class of zamindars who were recognised as proprietors, whereas the Ryotwari and Mahalwari systems established direct or collective revenue settlements with cultivators. Despite these differences, all three systems imposed high revenue demands irrespective of agricultural conditions, compelling cultivators to shift towards commercial crops such as indigo, cotton, opium and jute. Consequently, Indian agriculture became increasingly dependent on global markets while food crop cultivation declined in several regions.

The heavy burden of taxation encouraged rural indebtedness as peasants borrowed extensively from moneylenders to meet revenue obligations. Frequent defaults resulted in land alienation, concentration of land ownership and the emergence of absentee landlordism. At the same time, colonial authorities invested little in irrigation or agricultural modernization, contributing to declining productivity and recurring famines.

These policies also transformed rural society by weakening traditional village institutions and creating new social classes comprising zamindars, tenants, sharecroppers, moneylenders and landless labourers. The

growing inequality intensified conflicts over land and tenancy rights. The colonial legal system further replaced customary dispute resolution mechanisms, reducing village autonomy.

Politically, agrarian exploitation generated widespread peasant resistance. Movements such as the Indigo Revolt, Pabna Agrarian Movement and Deccan Riots challenged colonial authority and exposed the exploitative nature of British rule. Nationalist economists like Dadabhai Naoroji and R.C. Dutt argued that excessive land revenue contributed significantly to the economic drain from India, thereby linking agrarian issues with the broader freedom struggle.

Conclusion

British land revenue policies were not merely fiscal reforms but instruments of colonial extraction that reshaped India's economic, social and political landscape. While they strengthened colonial administration, they also generated rural poverty, social inequality and nationalist consciousness, the effects of which continued to influence post-independence agrarian reforms.

GS PAPER – II

NCERT Base: Politics in India Since Independence (Class XII), Chapter 16 – Regional Aspirations

Q2. "India's federal structure has demonstrated remarkable resilience in accommodating regional aspirations without undermining national unity." Critically examine. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

Sample Answer

Introduction

India's diversity has produced multiple regional aspirations based on language, ethnicity, culture and economic development. Rather than suppressing these demands, the Constitution adopted a flexible federal framework that enables democratic accommodation while safeguarding national integrity.

Answer

Regional aspirations are a natural outcome of India's pluralistic society. The linguistic reorganization of states through the States Reorganisation Act, 1956, demonstrated that democratic accommodation of regional identities could strengthen rather than weaken national unity. Similar constitutional responses led to the creation of states such as Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Telangana, reflecting the adaptability of Indian federalism.

The Constitution provides several mechanisms for managing regional diversity. The Seventh Schedule distributes legislative powers, while Articles 3 and 371 allow Parliament to reorganize states and provide special arrangements for particular regions. Institutions such as the Inter-State Council, Finance Commission and GST Council encourage cooperative decision-making and reduce inter-governmental conflicts. Democratic decentralization through the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments has further enabled local participation in governance.

Nevertheless, regional aspirations sometimes evolve into demands for greater autonomy or secession due to perceived political exclusion, uneven economic development or identity-based grievances. Insurgencies in parts of the North-East, earlier militancy in Punjab and continuing demands for greater autonomy in certain regions illustrate these challenges. Excessive centralization, frequent use of Article 356 in earlier decades and fiscal imbalances have occasionally strained Centre-State relations.

Recent initiatives such as competitive and cooperative federalism, increased tax devolution and greater consultation through NITI Aayog have strengthened collaborative governance. Judicial interventions, particularly in cases concerning federal balance, have also reinforced constitutional principles.

Conclusion

India's experience demonstrates that democratic accommodation is more effective than coercive centralization in addressing regional aspirations. Strengthening cooperative federalism, ensuring equitable development and respecting constitutional autonomy will remain essential for preserving both regional identities and national unity.

GS PAPER – III

NCERT Base: Fundamentals of Human Geography (Class XII), Chapter 20 – Transport and Communication

Q3. "Efficient transport and communication networks have become critical determinants of economic growth, national security and regional integration in the twenty-first century." Analyse. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

Sample Answer

Introduction

Transport and communication constitute the backbone of modern economic systems by facilitating the movement of people, goods, services and information. In an increasingly interconnected world, robust infrastructure has become indispensable for sustainable development, strategic security and balanced regional growth.

Answer

Efficient transport infrastructure significantly reduces logistics costs, enhances market accessibility and promotes industrial competitiveness. Highways, railways, ports, inland waterways and airports enable seamless connectivity between production centres and consumer markets, thereby strengthening domestic and international trade. Initiatives such as PM Gati Shakti, Bharatmala Pariyojana, Sagarmala and Dedicated Freight Corridors reflect India's emphasis on integrated infrastructure planning to improve economic efficiency.

Communication networks have acquired equal importance in the digital economy. Expansion of broadband connectivity, 5G technology, BharatNet and digital public infrastructure has accelerated e-governance, financial inclusion, telemedicine, online education and digital commerce. Improved communication systems have also strengthened disaster management and administrative responsiveness.

From the perspective of national security, transport and communication infrastructure facilitate rapid military mobilisation, border management and emergency logistics. Strategic roads, tunnels, bridges and advanced communication systems in border regions enhance operational readiness. Undersea cable networks, satellite communication and secure digital infrastructure have become equally important in safeguarding cyber and information security.

However, regional disparities continue to limit the developmental benefits of infrastructure. Remote, hilly and tribal regions often suffer from inadequate connectivity, increasing socio-economic inequalities.

Environmental concerns associated with large infrastructure projects, including habitat fragmentation and carbon emissions, also require careful planning and sustainable construction practices.

India's National Logistics Policy, multimodal transport initiatives and emphasis on green mobility seek to balance economic growth with environmental sustainability while improving global competitiveness.

Conclusion

Transport and communication are no longer merely physical infrastructure but strategic assets influencing economic resilience, national security and inclusive development. A technology-driven, sustainable and integrated infrastructure ecosystem will be crucial for achieving India's long-term developmental aspirations and strengthening its position in the global economy.

GS PAPER – IV (Ethics, Integrity & Aptitude)

Q4. "Integrity is the foundation of ethical governance, but integrity without accountability may fail to achieve public trust." Discuss with suitable examples. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

Sample Answer

Introduction

Integrity is one of the cardinal values of public administration, reflecting consistency between an individual's values, words and actions. However, in a democratic polity, integrity alone is insufficient unless it is accompanied by transparency, accountability and institutional oversight. Ethical governance is ultimately judged not only by personal honesty but also by the ability of institutions to ensure responsibility towards citizens.

Answer

Integrity enables public servants to resist corruption, favouritism and abuse of authority while upholding constitutional morality. An officer possessing integrity is expected to act impartially, safeguard public resources and prioritize public interest over personal or political considerations. Such conduct strengthens administrative efficiency and enhances citizens' confidence in government institutions.

However, integrity largely remains a personal virtue, whereas accountability is an institutional mechanism that ensures actions are subject to scrutiny and consequences. Even an honest public servant may make arbitrary or poorly informed decisions if institutional checks are weak. Therefore, democratic governance requires systems that continuously monitor, evaluate and review administrative actions.

The Right to Information Act, social audits under MGNREGA, parliamentary oversight, judicial review, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), vigilance institutions and digital governance platforms collectively strengthen accountability by making public administration more transparent and answerable. These mechanisms reduce discretion, improve decision-making and enhance public confidence.

Several examples demonstrate the complementary relationship between integrity and accountability. The successful implementation of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) combines honest administrative intent with technology-based verification and audit mechanisms. Conversely, instances where public officials enjoyed unchecked discretionary powers despite possessing a reputation for personal honesty have sometimes resulted in procedural lapses or allegations of arbitrariness. Thus, institutional accountability protects both citizens and honest officials.

Ethical governance also requires cultivating values such as empathy, impartiality, objectivity and commitment to public service. Continuous ethics training, protection for whistle-blowers, transparent recruitment and performance evaluation systems further reinforce integrity within public institutions.

Conclusion

Integrity forms the moral foundation of public administration, while accountability provides its democratic legitimacy. Sustainable ethical governance emerges only when personal honesty is supported by transparent institutions, legal safeguards and active citizen participation. Together, they create an administration that is efficient, trustworthy and committed to constitutional values.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Topic: Pashujanya Yudh Abhyas (PYA)

Q5. "The Pashujanya Yudh Abhyas (PYA) reflects India's evolving approach towards strengthening animal health preparedness as an integral component of national biosecurity. Analyse its significance in the context of the One Health approach. (15 Marks, 250 Words)"

Sample Answer

Introduction

The growing incidence of zoonotic diseases has highlighted the close interdependence between human, animal and environmental health. Against this backdrop, **Pashujanya Yudh Abhyas (PYA)** represents an important initiative to strengthen India's preparedness for animal disease outbreaks through coordinated surveillance, emergency response and institutional collaboration, consistent with the **One Health** approach.

Answer

Animal diseases have significant implications not only for livestock productivity but also for food security, public health and economic stability. A large proportion of emerging infectious diseases affecting humans originate in animals, making effective veterinary preparedness an essential component of national biosecurity. PYA seeks to improve institutional readiness through simulation exercises, rapid response mechanisms and coordination among veterinary, public health and disaster management agencies.

The exercise promotes early disease detection, laboratory coordination, field surveillance and standardized response protocols. By enhancing interoperability among multiple stakeholders, it reduces response time during outbreaks and minimizes economic losses resulting from livestock mortality and trade disruptions. Such preparedness also strengthens India's capacity to prevent transboundary animal diseases that may affect agricultural exports and rural livelihoods.

PYA complements the **One Health** framework, which recognizes that the health of humans, animals and ecosystems is interconnected. Effective disease surveillance requires collaboration between veterinary services, medical professionals, environmental agencies, research institutions and local administrations. This integrated approach improves risk assessment, strengthens antimicrobial resistance surveillance and enhances national pandemic preparedness.

Despite these advantages, India continues to face challenges such as inadequate veterinary infrastructure, shortage of trained professionals, fragmented disease reporting systems and uneven laboratory capacity across states. Strengthening digital disease surveillance, expanding veterinary extension services and

investing in modern diagnostic infrastructure remain essential for maximizing the effectiveness of initiatives like PYA.

The exercise also aligns with India's broader objectives of ensuring food security, protecting rural livelihoods and enhancing resilience against biological threats. As climate change and globalization increase the risk of disease emergence, institutional preparedness becomes increasingly important.

Conclusion

Pashujanya Yudh Abhyas represents a proactive shift from reactive disease control to preventive biosecurity management. By integrating veterinary preparedness with the One Health approach, it strengthens India's capacity to safeguard public health, livestock resources and economic stability. Sustained investment in surveillance, institutional coordination and scientific research will be critical for realizing its long-term objectives.

