

# PRABHA IAS IPS COACHING ACADEMY



## **DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS (01/07/2026)**

Q1. "Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a critical tool for balancing economic development with environmental sustainability. However, concerns regarding its implementation continue to undermine its effectiveness." Critically examine the EIA framework in India. Suggest measures to strengthen the environmental clearance process. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

Q2. "Volcanoes are both destructive and constructive geomorphic agents that significantly influence the Earth's physical environment." Explain the types of volcanoes and discuss their impacts on human life and the environment. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

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## Model Answer

### Introduction

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a systematic process for identifying, predicting and evaluating the environmental consequences of proposed developmental projects before decision-making. It promotes sustainable development by integrating environmental concerns into planning.

### Significance of EIA

- Facilitates informed decision-making.
- Minimises adverse environmental impacts.
- Promotes sustainable development.
- Encourages public participation and transparency.
- Protects biodiversity and ecological balance.
- Ensures compliance with environmental laws.

### Challenges

- Poor quality EIA reports and conflict of interest.
- Weak public consultation in several projects.
- Delays and inadequate post-clearance monitoring.
- Limited technical and institutional capacity.
- Concerns over exemptions and diluted appraisal procedures.
- Inadequate cumulative impact assessment.

### Way Forward

- Strengthen independent accreditation of EIA consultants.

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- Improve scientific data collection and cumulative impact studies.
- Enhance transparency through digital disclosure.
- Ensure meaningful public participation.
- Strengthen compliance monitoring using GIS, remote sensing and AI.
- Integrate climate resilience and ecosystem-based approaches into project appraisal.

## Conclusion

EIA should function as a scientific and participatory decision-making tool rather than a procedural formality. A transparent, technology-driven and accountable EIA framework is essential for achieving sustainable development while safeguarding environmental and community interests.

## Model Answer

### Introduction

A volcano is an opening in the Earth's crust through which magma, gases and volcanic ash are expelled. Volcanic activity is closely associated with plate tectonics and plays an important role in shaping the Earth's surface.

### Types of Volcanoes

Active volcanoes: Erupting currently or have erupted in historical times.

Dormant volcanoes: Inactive for long periods but capable of future eruptions.

Extinct volcanoes: No longer expected to erupt due to loss of magma supply.

### Impacts

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Cause loss of life, property and infrastructure during eruptions.

Trigger secondary hazards such as tsunamis, landslides and lahars.

Release ash and gases affecting climate, agriculture and air travel.

Create fertile soils, geothermal energy resources and mineral deposits.

Promote tourism and scientific research in volcanic regions.

## **Conclusion**

Although volcanic eruptions can be catastrophic, scientific monitoring, early warning systems and disaster preparedness can reduce risks while enabling societies to benefit from volcanic resources.

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