

A fresh opportunity: On the rollback of the Personal Data Protection Bill

The Personal Data Protection Bill's **withdrawal** is a chance to **address lacunae**, but a data protection law **brooks** no delay

The **stated reason** for the Government's withdrawal of the Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019, **was** that it will come up with a "**comprehensive legal framework**" on data privacy and Internet regulation. The Government has **averred** that **a new draft will** be **in sync with** the principles of privacy, **in line with** Supreme Court guidelines based on the **landmark** judgment on privacy, i.e., Justice K.S. Puttaswamy vs Union of India, and **would** consider the Joint Committee of Parliament's recommendations on the framework to regulate the digital **ecosystem**. The 2019 Bill had been rightly criticised by **stakeholders**, including Justice B.N. Srikrishna — he chaired a committee of experts that had authored a draft bill in 2018 — for **overemphasising** the national security **angle**, among other reasons. The 2019 Bill **diverged** from the Srikrishna Committee Draft in the selection of the chairperson and members of the Data Protection Authority (DPA) that shall protect the interests of data principals, and in the **leeway** given to the Union government to **exempt** its agencies from the **application** of the Act. The 2018 draft Bill allowed for judicial **oversight** in the selection process for the DPA, while the 2019 Bill limited the **composition** to **the executive**. The 2018 Bill allowed for **exemptions** to be granted to **state** institutions from acquiring informed **consent** from data principals or to process data in the case of matters relating only to the "security of the state"; it also **called for** a law to provide for "parliamentary oversight and judicial approval of **non-consensual** access to personal data". **In contrast**, the 2019 Bill added "**public order**" as a reason to exempt a government agency from the Act, besides only providing for these reasons to be recorded in writing.

By choosing to withdraw the Bill, it is unclear whether the Government would address the demand for a **realignment** of the legislation with the 2018 draft Bill that **came about** after extensive consultations with civil society. Or whether this would be more in line with the JPC report, which has also been criticised by civil society for retaining **provisions** that allow the Government access to private data of citizens without sufficient **safeguards**. **Dissent notes** to the JPC report, by Congress MP Jairam Ramesh for example, **went on** to criticise the leeway granted to the Government on exemptions and how the **ground** of "public order" and not "security of the state" was liable for misuse. It is not clear if the Bill's withdrawal is linked to opposition to mandatory "**data localisation**" from multinational Internet companies. **Meanwhile**, **the lack** of a proper data protection law in the country **is** an **anomaly** when compared with major countries. If the Government is **indeed committed** to a comprehensive legal framework on data privacy and protection, it must **revert** to the **baseline** provided in the Justice Srikrishna Committee recommendations and **enact** a law within a reasonable timeline.

[Practice Exercise]

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'

Vocabulary

1. **Rollback** (noun) – A reversion to a previous state or situation. वापस लेना
2. **Withdrawal** (noun) –removal, taking away वापसी
3. **Address** (verb) – tackle, see to, deal with, confront, grapple with सुलझाना, निपटाना
4. **Lacunae** (noun) –absence, lack, deficiency, blank खामियों
5. **Brook** (verb) –tolerate, allow, stand, bear, abide बर्दाश्त करना
6. **Stated** (adjective) – claimed, supposed, professed कथित
7. **Comprehensive** (adjective) –inclusive, all-inclusive, complete विस्तृत
8. **Framework** (noun) –system, organization, construction ढांचा, तंत्र
9. **Aver** (verb) – declare, maintain, claim, assert, state दृढ़ता से कहना
10. **In sync** (with) (phrase) – Working well together; in agreement. के साथ समन्वयित
11. **In line with** (phrase) – In alignment or accordance with. के अनुसार
12. **Landmark** (adjective) – Milestone, breakthrough, radical, pioneering, historic, significant ऐतिहासिक
13. **Ecosystem** (noun) – (in general use) a complex network or interconnected system. पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र
14. **Stakeholder** (noun) – A person with an interest or concern in something हितधारक
15. **Overemphasize** (verb) – overstress, exaggerate, attach too much importance to, अधिक महत्व देना
16. **Angle** (verb) – perspective, way of looking at something, point of view, दृष्टिकोण
17. **Diverge** (verb) – differ, be different, be unlike, be dissimilar अलग होना
18. **Leeway** (noun) – freedom, scope, room to manoeuvre, latitude, elbow room, छूट, स्वतंत्रता
19. **Exempt** (verb) – excuse, free, release, exclude, give immunity, grant immunity, छूट देना
20. **Application** (noun) – implementation, use, exercise, employment, administration प्रयोग
21. **Oversight** (noun) – supervision, surveillance, superintendence, inspection निगरानी
22. **Composition** (noun) – formation, structure, organization, make-up संयोजन

23. **The executive** (noun) – The person or branch of a government responsible for putting policies or laws into effect.
कार्यपालिका
24. **Exemption** (noun) – exclusion, freedom, release, relief, absolution, exoneration छूट
25. **State** (noun) – country, nation, land, sovereign state, nation state; government
26. **Informed consent** (noun) – permission granted in full knowledge of the possible consequences सूचित सहमति
27. **Consent** (noun) – agreement, assent, concurrence, accord सहमति
28. **Call for** (phrasal verb) – require, need, necessitate, make necessary, demand मांग करना
29. **Non-consensual** (adjective) – Not involving or relating to consent; lacking mutual consent. गैर-सहमति से
30. **In contrast** (phrase) – used when second thing very different from first. इसके विपरीत
31. **Public order** (noun) – Public Order means the state of normality and security that is needed in a society and that should be pursued by the state in order to exercise constitutional rights and to thus benefit a harmonious development of society सार्वजनिक व्यवस्था
32. **Realignment** (noun) – The action of changing or restoring something to a different or former position or state.
पुनर्निर्माण करना
33. **Come about** (phrasal verb) – arise, arrive, appear, surface, happen, occur, take place होना, आ पड़ना
34. **Provision** (noun) – term, clause, requirement, specification, stipulation प्रावधान
35. **Safeguard** (noun) – protection, defence, guard, shelter, screen रक्षा, बचाव
36. **Dissent** (noun) – difference of opinion, argument, dispute, demur मतभेद, असहमति
37. **Note** (noun) – tone, intonation, inflection, sound, hint, indication, sign, सुर
38. **Go on** (phrasal verb) – continue, carry on, run on, proceed आगे बढ़ना
39. **Ground** (noun) – reason, cause, basis, base, foundation, justification, आधार
40. **Data localization** (noun) – the practice of keeping data within the region it originated from. For example, if an organization collects data in the UK, they store it in the UK rather than transferring it to another country for processing
41. **Meanwhile** (adverb) – for now, for the moment, for the present, for the time being इस दौरान

42. **Anomaly** (noun) – oddity, peculiarity, abnormality, irregularity, inconsistency
विसंगति

43. **Indeed** (adverb) – yes, certainly, assuredly, emphatically, absolutely, वास्तव में

44. **Committed** (to) (adjective) – wholeheartedly dedicated. प्रतिबद्ध

45. **Revert** (to) (verb) – Return to (a previous state, practice, topic, etc.) लौट आना, पलटना

46. **Baseline** (noun) – A minimum or starting point used for comparisons.

47. **Enact** (verb) – make law, pass, approve, ratify, validate, sanction, क़ानून बनाना

Practice Exercise

Direction (Q1 – Q3): Select the best express synonym of the given words

[\[Editorial page\]](#)

1. **AVER**

- A. Endemic
- B. Extrovert
- C. Caustic
- D. Assert

2. **ANOMALY**

- A. Peculiarity
- B. Parody
- C. Deluge
- D. Innate

3. **LEEWAY**

- A. Charisma
- B. Propensity
- C. Freedom
- D. Metamorphosis

4. **Idioms & Phrase**

Rahul felt that this conversation was getting out of bounds

- A. Cause someone to feel strongly attached to a person or place.
- B. Combine with a substance through chemical bonding.
- C. Going or ready to go toward a specified place.
- D. Beyond what is acceptable

5. **Direction:** Six statements are given below, which are jumbled in any random order. These statements will form a coherent and meaningful paragraph, when arranged in the correct sequence. Arrange the sentences in the right order and answer the questions that follow.

New Zealand Cricket striking a deal to remunerate its women cricketers the same as their male counterparts is a major landmark in the fight to close the gender pay gap in sports.

P. It's a massive step forward and will be a huge drawcard for young women and girls."

Q. This comes four months after the United States' women's national footballers won the six-year-long battle with their federation to secure equal compensation.

R. The agreements are expected to be game changers, encouraging more girls to take up the sports.

S. But victories in equal pay struggles have not come easy.

T. From August, New Zealand's men and women players will be entitled to the same match fees, both at the international and domestic levels.

U. As New Zealand captain Sophie Devine said, "It's great to be recognised in the same agreement, alongside the men.

Which among the following will be the **Fourth** sentence of the paragraph after the rearrangement?

A. P B.T C.U D.Q E.R

Direction (Q6 – Q9): Read the given sentences to find out whether there is any grammatical error in them

6. A. Raghav was worried about telling his parents that he wanted to move out and live independently.
 B. Radha and I will go to the market in the evening.
 C. As the clock struck twelve, we heard the big bang of the fire crackers and see all the guests screaming, shouting and wishing each other with joy.
 D. Krishnakali, an early riser and nature-lover goes to morning walk at Rabindra Sarovar lake before dawn.
 E. All are correct
7. A. As a boy Dhritiman is very obedient, polite and hard-working but as a student he is always attentive to study.
 B. When I fail to solve the problem myself I unhesitatingly call for his help.
 C. There would have been a disaster but for your prompt action.
 D. Both A & B are incorrect
 E. All are correct
8. One of the oldest clubs in the city (A)/ it has, once again, proved that when it comes to (B)/ celebrations, nothing can beat the arrangements (C)/ that greet guests for the venue. (D)/ No Error. (E)
9. The university has ordered (A)/ an inquiry into the leak and formed (B)/ an inquiry committee who will have to (C)/ submit its primary report within 48 hours. (D)/ No Error. (E)
- 10. Find out the misspelt word**
- A. Calendar
 B. Embarrass
 C. Exhilarate
 D. Guage

Direction: Read the passage given below and answer the following questions.

(The Hindu Editorial: Death by Hooch – July 29, 2022)

A hooch tragedy that claimed over 40 lives in Gujarat's Botad district brings to the fore, yet again, the _____**11**_____ question of prohibition. Gujarat is one of the four States in India that prohibits alcohol. The victims consumed poisonous methyl alcohol sold in plastic pouches by bootleggers. Twenty-four people have been named as accused in the FIRs and 14 have been arrested. Police action that follows every such tragedy barely inspires public confidence; indeed, it conceals the _____**12**_____ of the administration in protecting the black market for alcohol, wherever prohibition exists. It is difficult to assume that vast networks of illegal manufacturing and sale of liquor could exist without the _____**13**_____ of the police and politicians. Reports suggest that in this case, specific complaints were made to the police, who continued to look the other way. Prohibition makes liquor illegal, but it hides in the black market. By driving sales and production _____**14**_____, the State loses tax revenues while consumers are exposed to huge health risks.

____ **19** _____ prohibition is listed among the Directive Principles of state policy in the Constitution, no State has been able to achieve it with any enduring effectiveness. Globally, it is a similar experience.

Prohibition has, however, remained a potency slogan **(A)**/ for some politicians. Alcohol damages health, family finances, and human relationships, **(B)**/ and the call to ban it altogether has a certain moral, **(C)**/ even if not practical, appeal. But using the sledgehammer of the law to stop alcohol use can be counterproductive, as experience shows **(D)**.

The law is being questioned for its alleged arbitrariness as it allows tourists from outside the State to consume alcohol in the State **(1)**/ The Gujarat High Court is considering five petitions that **(2)**/ The prohibition laws give sweeping and intrusive powers to the police, who, at least in one case in the recent past in Gujarat, used them against political protesters **(3)**/ challenge the constitutional validity of the Gujarat Prohibition Act, 1949 on grounds that it violates fundamental rights including privacy **(4)**.

On the one hand, prohibition offers the opportunity for rent collection and on the other it lets the police free to selectively apply the law. There is a moral burden that several political parties in India try to carry on their shoulders to discourage or bar alcohol consumption — several parties **bar** members from consuming alcohol — but in practice this turns out to be comical hypocrisy. With Gujarat already in **campaign (A)** mode for the Assembly election that is only months away, the **guns (B)** has prompted the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party to **train (C)** their **Tragedy (D)** on the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party. Rather than clinging on to dogmas and impossible goals of social reform through coercive law, there must be a more honest discussion on prohibition.

Fill in the blank with the most appropriate word given in the option (From Q11 – Q14)

11. A hooch tragedy that claimed over 40 lives in Gujarat's Botad district brings to the fore, yet again, the _____ **11** _____ question of prohibition
 - A. Contentious
 - B. Vapid
 - C. Pertinent
 - D. Egocentric
12. Police action that follows every such tragedy barely inspires public confidence; indeed, it conceals the _____ **12** _____ of the administration in protecting the black market for alcohol, wherever prohibition exists
 - A. Poignant
 - B. Chicanery
 - C. Conjecture
 - D. Complicity
13. It is difficult to assume that vast networks of illegal manufacturing and sale of liquor could exist without the _____ **13** _____ of the police and politicians.
 - A. Insular
 - B. Laconic
 - C. Patronage

- D. Altruism
14. Prohibition makes liquor illegal, but it hides in the black market. By driving sales and production _____ **14** _____, the State loses tax revenues while consumers are exposed to huge health risks.
- A. Consecrate
B. Underground
C. Ironic
D. Protract
15. **The following sentence may or may not contain an error in one of its parts. Identify the part containing the error. If the sentence is correct, select 'No error' as your answers.**
- Prohibition has, however, remained a potency slogan **(A)**/ for some politicians. Alcohol damages health, family finances, and human relationships, **(B)**/ and the call to ban it altogether has a certain moral, **(C)**/ even if not practical, appeal. But using the sledgehammer of the law to stop alcohol use can be counterproductive, as experience shows **(D)**
- A. (A)
B. (B)
C. (C)
D. (D)
E. No Error
16. **Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.**
- The law is being questioned for its alleged arbitrariness as it allows tourists from outside the State to consume alcohol in the State **(1)**/ The Gujarat High Court is considering five petitions that **(2)**/ The prohibition laws give sweeping and intrusive powers to the police, who, at least in one case in the recent past in Gujarat, used them against political protesters **(3)**/ challenge the constitutional validity of the Gujarat Prohibition Act, 1949 on grounds that it violates fundamental rights including privacy.**(4)**
- A. 2134
B. 2413
C. 1432
D. 2143
E. 2341
17. Given below is a word, followed by three sentence that consist of that word. Identify the sentence (S) that best express (es) the meaning of the word. Choose option 5 'None of the above' if the word is not suitable in any of the sentence
- BAR**
- (i) All the doors were locked and **barred**
(ii) She is **barred** from leaving the country
(iii) The lid was put into position and **barred** down
- A. Only (i)
B. Only (ii)
C. Only (iii)

- D. (i), (ii)
- E. (ii), (iii)

18. In the following question, a sentence is given with four words marked as (A), (B), (C), and (D). These words may or may not be placed in the correct order. Four options with different arrangements of these have been provided. Mark the option with the correct arrangement as the answer. If no rearrangement is required, mark option (5) as your answer.

With Gujarat already in **campaign (A)** mode for the Assembly election that is only months away, the **guns (B)** has prompted the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party to **train (C)** their **Tragedy (D)** on the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party

- A. A – B
- B. B – C
- C. C – D
- D. D – B
- E. No arrangement

19. Select the connector from the given options which can be used to form a single sentence from the two sentences given below, implying the same as expressed in the statement sentence.

- (i) No State has been able to achieve it with any enduring effectiveness.
 - (ii) Prohibition is listed among the Directive Principles of state policy in the Constitution
- A. Irrespective of
 - B. Though
 - C. Due to
 - D. Unless
 - E. Moreover

20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks

They took recourse _____ wrong means for success

- A. Of
- B. Into
- C. On
- D. To
- E. None of the above

Answers

1. D 2. A 3. C 4. D 5. C 6. C 7. E 8. B 9. C 10. D 11. A 12. D 13. C 14. B
15. A 16. B 17. B 18. D 19. B 20. D

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

1. **Out of bounds** (phrase) – Beyond what is acceptable. सीमा के बाहर

2. **TQRUPS**

New Zealand Cricket striking a deal to remunerate its women cricketers the same as their male counterparts is a major landmark in the fight to close the gender pay gap in sports. From August, New Zealand's men and women players will be entitled to the same match fees, both at the international and domestic levels. This comes four months after the United States' women's national footballers won the six-year-long battle with their federation to secure equal compensation. The agreements are expected to be game changers, encouraging more girls to take up the sports. As New Zealand captain Sophie Devine said, "It's great to be recognised in the same agreement, alongside the men. It's a massive step forward and will be a huge drawcard for young women and girls." But victories in equal pay struggles have not come easy.

6. 'see' के बदले 'saw' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'struck' तथा 'heard' का प्रयोग simple past में जिनसे पता चलता है कि सारी घटनाएँ past की हैं।

➤ 'saw' will be used instead of 'see' because 'struck' and 'heard' used in simple past which shows that all events are past.

7. All are correct

8. 'Verb 'has' के पहले subject के रूप में 'it' का प्रयोग superfluous है क्योंकि verb 'has' का subject 'one' है।

➤ 'The use of 'it' as a subject before a Verb 'has' is superfluous because the subject part of the verb 'has' is 'one'.

9. 'who' के बदले 'which' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'committee' एक collective noun है, और किसी भी collective noun के लिए Relative Pronoun 'which' होता है, नकि 'who' का वास्तव में एक collective noun (जैसे-committee, team, crowd, class etc) को एक वस्तु के बराबर माना जाता है जिसके चलते इसके साथ singular verb, singular pronoun (it, its, itself) तथा Relative Pronoun आवश्यकतानुसार 'which' या 'that' का प्रयोग किया जाता है। प्रश्न में 'committee' के लिए possessive 'its' का प्रयोग इसी कारण से किया गया है।

➤ 'who' will be replaced with 'which' because 'committee' is a collective noun, and 'which' is a Relative Pronoun for any collective noun, not 'who' is actually a collective Noun (eg-committee, team, crowd, class etc.) is considered equivalent to an object, due to which singular verb, singular pronoun (it, its, itself) and Relative Pronoun use 'which' or 'that' as

required is done. The possessive 'its' is used for 'committee' in the question for the same reason.

10. **Gauge** (verb) – Measure, weigh, estimate, test, determine **मापना**
11. **Contentious** (adjective) – controversial, disputable, debatable, argumentative, combative **विवादास्पद**
12. **Complicity** (noun) – Involvement, connivance, conspiracy, collusion **मिलीभगत**
13. **Patronage** (noun) – support, backing **सहायता, संरक्षण**
14. **Underground** (adjective) –clandestine, secret, surreptitious, covert, undercover, concealed **गुप्त**
15. Replace 'Potency' with 'Potent' because 'slogan' is a noun so adjective (i.e. Potent) should be used to qualify noun instead of noun (i.e. potency).
16. **2413**
The Gujarat High Court is considering five petitions that challenge the constitutional validity of the Gujarat Prohibition Act, 1949 on grounds that it violates fundamental rights including privacy. The law is being questioned for its alleged arbitrariness as it allows tourists from outside the State to consume alcohol in the State. The prohibition laws give sweeping and intrusive powers to the police, who, at least in one case in the recent past in Gujarat, used them against political protesters.
17. **Bar** (verb) – Prevent or prohibit (someone) from doing something or from going somewhere. According to the given options, only statement (ii) seems correct.
19. **Though** prohibition is listed among the Directive Principles of state policy in the Constitution, no State has been able to achieve it with any enduring effectiveness. Globally, it is a similar experience.
20. **Recourse** (to) (noun) – The use of someone or something as a source of help in a difficult situation. **सहारा**

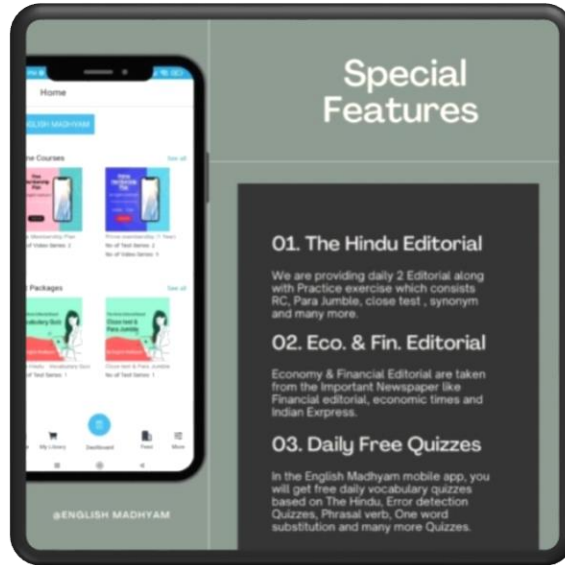
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Explanation of other important words

Sr. NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Endemic	adjective	Native; restricted to a particular region or era; indigenous	स्थानिक
	Extrovert	noun	An open, outgoing person; a person whose attention is focused on other rather than on himself or herself	बहिर्मुखी, बहिर्मुख
	Caustic	adjective	Like acid; corrosive	काटू, दाहक, कटू
Q2	Parody	noun	A satirical imitation	हास्यानुकृति
	Deluge	noun	a flood; an inundation	बाढ़
	Innate	adjective	Existing since birth; inborn; inherent	जन्मजात
Q3	Charisma	noun	A magical seeming ability to attract followers or inspire loyalty	प्रतिभा
	Propensity	noun	Natural inclination or tendency; a predilection	झुकाव
	Metamorphosis	noun	A magical change in form; a striking or sudden change	कायापलट
Q11	Vapid	adjective	Without liveliness; dull; spiritless	नीरस
	Pertinent	adjective	Relevant; dealing with the matter at hand	उचित
	Egocentric	adjective	Selfish; believing that one is the center of everything	अहंकारपूर्ण
Q12	Poignant	adjective	Painfully emotional; extremely moving; sharp or astute	मार्मिक
	Chicanery	noun	Trickery; deceitfulness; artifice, especially legal or political	झूठा इलज़ाम
	Conjecture	verb	To guess; to deduce or infer on slight evidence	अनुमान करना, अनुमान से निर्णय करना
Q13	Insular	adjective	Like an island; isolated	द्वीपीय
	Laconic	adjective	Using few words, especially to the point of seeming rude.	संक्षिप्त

	Altruism	noun	Selflessness; generosity; devotion to the interest of other	परोपकारिता, परहितवाद
Q14	Consecrate	verb	To make or declare sacred	पवित्र, प्रतिष्ठित
	Ironic	adjective	Meaning the opposite of what you seem to say; using word to mean something other than what they seem to mean.	ताने के तौर पर
	Protract	verb	To prolong	विलंब करना

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