

No holds barred: On the Chinese obstacle to designate terrorists

India must continue to try to designate terrorists and not lose faith in the process

By choosing to **place** a “technical hold” on the joint India-U.S. proposal to designate Jaish-e-Mohammad deputy chief Rauf Asghar a global terrorist on the United Nations Security Council **1267 Committee** listing, China has **swung** another **blow** to its **ties** with India, which are already at a **fragile** point. Despite 16 rounds of military commander talks at the Line of Actual Control, India and China have failed to resolve the **standoff** that began with the **PLA amassing** troops, and **transgressions** along the LAC in April 2020. The two sides **sparred** in the **maritime sphere** this week, after India **made** its concerns over the **proposed docking** of a Chinese satellite tracking ship at Sri Lanka’s Hambantota port **clear** to the Sri Lankan government. And while **bilateral** trade has recovered from the COVID-19 **downturn**, Chinese technology majors in India are being raided by the Enforcement Directorate and Income Tax authorities under suspicion of a range of financial crimes. At a time when bilateral trust is already in such **deficit** comes China’s decision to stop an important terror listing, just two months after Beijing similarly stopped the designation of Lashkar-e-Taiba deputy chief Abdul Rahman Makki. To take such measures on an issue that it knows India has always been extremely serious about, **given** the number of major attacks **perpetrated** on Indians by the LeT and JeM, right from the 1990s, is **insensitive at the least**, but part of an unfortunate pattern by China, which has **held up** several such listings in the past. Asghar is **wanted** for his role in freeing his brother Masood Azhar in the most **dastardly** way, by organising the hijack of Indian Airlines flight IC-814, and **holding** nearly 200 civilians **hostage** on the Kandahar tarmac, and other attacks. He is now **reportedly** in Pakistani prison, **convicted** on terror-related charges, and is on both the U.S.’s and India’s domestic ‘most wanted terrorist’ lists.

It is important, however, for India to **persevere** with attempts to designate both Makki and Asghar, as well as other terrorists responsible for attacks on Indians, without losing faith in the process. One option is to **keep** the international pressure **up**, and **garner** more co-**sponsors** for the listing, which was reportedly approved by 14 of 15 UNSC members. Another would be to work on changing 1267 Committee procedures, so that they don’t allow one country to hold back such important terror listings without **due cause**. A third may even be to open **dialogues** with both China and Pakistan bilaterally on the issue, **leveraging** Pakistan’s need to be removed from the **FATF** grey list later this year as well as China’s interest in Pakistan’s economic recovery, to ensure the listings are **accomplished**. **Eventually**, if the goal behind the UNSC listings is to ensure that **perpetrators** of terrorist acts are held **accountable**, the **emphasis** must be on working through all **avenues**.

[Practice Exercise]

Vocabulary

1. **No holds barred** (phrase) – used to convey that no rules or restrictions apply in a conflict or dispute.
2. **Obstacle** (noun) – barrier, hurdle, stumbling block, bar, बाधा, रोड़ा
3. **Designate** (verb) – classify, class, pronounce, label, tag नामोद्दिष्ट करना
4. **Place** (verb) – put, set, assign लगाना
5. **1267 Committee** (noun) – The Committee was henceforth known as the Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee, mandated to oversee implementation of the measures against individuals and entities associated with Al-Qaida
6. **Swing** (verb) – To make (something) happen or come to pass
7. **Blow** (noun) – knock, bang, hit, punch, thump, झटका
8. **Ties** (noun) – bond, connection, link, liaison, attachment संबंध
9. **Fragile** (adjective) – weak, delicate, frail, debilitated, tottery, shaky नाजुक
10. **Standoff** (noun) – deadlock, stalemate, impasse, standstill, dead end, गतिरोध
11. **PLA** (noun) – The People's Liberation Army (PLA) is the principal military force of the People's Republic of China and the armed wing of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).
12. **Amass** (verb) – gather, collect, assemble इकट्ठा करना
13. **Transgression** (noun) – infringement, breach, contravention, violation, defiance, उल्लंघन
14. **Spar** (verb) – quarrel, argue, have a fight, have a row, row झगड़ा करना
15. **Maritime** (adjective) – coastal, seaside, littoral समुद्री
16. **Sphere** (noun) – domain, realm, province, field, area, region क्षेत्र
17. **Make clear** (phrase) – explain, elucidate, spell out, clarify स्पष्ट करना
18. **Proposed** (adjective) – Planned, projected, anticipated प्रस्तावित
19. **Dock**(verb) – Bring (a ship or boat) into a dock.
20. **Bilateral** (adjective) – Involving two parties, especially countries. द्विपक्षीय
21. **Downturn** (noun) – A decline in economic, business, or other activity. मंदी
22. **Deficit** (noun) – shortfall, deficiency, shortage अभाव
23. **Given** (preposition) – considering, taking into consideration, taking into account, in view of, देखते हुए

24. **Perpetrate** (verb) – commit, carry out, perform, execute, do (अपराध) अंजाम देना
25. **Insensitive** (adjective) – heartless, unfeeling, inconsiderate, thoughtless, thick-skinned असंवेदनशील
26. **At the least** (phrase) – Taking the most pessimistic or unfavorable view. कम से कम
27. **Hold up** (phrasal verb) – obstruct, impede, hinder, hamper, inhibit, balk, thwart, रोकना, बाधा डालना
28. **Wanted** (adjective) – being searched for by the police in connection with a crime that has been committed.
29. **Dastardly** (adjective) – wicked, evil, iniquitous, heinous, villainous, diabolical, diabolic नीचतापूर्ण
30. **Hold someone hostage** (phrase) – to keep someone as a hostage किसी को बंधक बनाना
31. **Reportedly** (adverb) – supposedly, seemingly, apparently, allegedly कथित तौर पर
32. **Convict** (verb) – declare guilty, find guilty, pronounce guilty दोषी ठहराना
33. **Persevere** (with) (verb) – persist, continue, carry on, go on, keep on दृढ़ रहना, लगा रहना
34. **Keep up** (phrasal verb) – continue, keep on with, continue with, go on with बनाए रखना
35. **Garner** (verb) – gather, collect, accumulate, amass, assemble इकट्ठा करना
36. **Sponsor** (noun) – backer, patron, promoter, supporter, friend
37. **Due cause** (phrase) – Sufficient reason उचित कारण
38. **Dialogue** (noun) – conversation, talk, communication, interchange, discourse, बातचीत, संवाद
39. **Leverage** (verb) – Use (something) to maximum advantage. फायदा उठाना
40. **FATF** (noun) – The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog
41. **Accomplish** (verb) – fulfil, achieve, succeed in, realize, attain पूरा करना
42. **Eventually** (adverb) – in the end, in due course, by and by, in time आखिरकार
43. **Perpetrator** (noun) – A person who carries out a harmful, illegal, or immoral act. अपराधी
44. **Accountable** (adjective) – responsible, liable, answerable, chargeable उत्तरदायी
45. **Emphasis** (noun) – stress, accent, accentuation, weight, force ज़ोर
46. **Avenue** (noun) – method, approach, course of action मार्ग, वीथि

Practice Exercise

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

[Editorial page]

1. The emphasis must be on working through all avenues
 - A. Hyperbole
 - B. Ideology
 - C. Path
 - D. Succinct
2. One option is to keep the international pressure up, and garner more co-sponsors for the listing, which was reportedly approved by 14 of 15 UNSC members
 - A. Gather
 - B. Prodigal
 - C. Propitious
 - D. Sordid
3. The two sides sparred in the maritime sphere this week, after India made its concerns over the proposed docking of a Chinese satellite tracking ship at Sri Lanka's Hambantota port clear to the Sri Lankan government.
 - A. Peccadillo
 - B. Idyllic
 - C. Quarrel
 - D. Pragmatic

4. Idioms & Phrase

It is the same spirit displayed by Swedish pole-vaulter Armand Duplantis, holder of every big title and world record, who found the energy and motivation to obliterate his own best mark (6.16m, outdoors) by scaling 6.21m in a glorious last act as the Championships drew to a close.

- A. Obtain something from a particular source.
 - B. To come to an end
 - C. Use one's experience, talents, or skills as a resource.
 - D. Move forward
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.**
- It was certain that Imran Khan, Pakistan's Prime Minister, would be ousted in the no-trust vote.**
- P.** Pakistan will have to hold elections in three months, provided there is no judicial intervention.
- Q.** The Opposition had put up a united face. His allies had jumped ship, reducing the ruling coalition to a minority.
- R.** On Sunday, the Deputy Speaker dismissed the no-trust motion, calling it against the Constitution, which was followed by Mr. Khan's formal request to the President to dissolve the National Assembly.

- S. There were three bad options before Mr. Khan: resignation, no-trust vote or early elections.
 T. The cricketer-turned-PM's defeat was a matter of formality in a country where no Prime Minister has completed their term.
 U. His party lawmakers had revolted against him.

Which among the following will be the **Second** 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. Neither of the two candidates has paid his subscription.
 B. A well balanced diet is essential for good health.
 C. We had scarcely reached the place when it started to rain heavily.
 D. My uncle forced my friend and me to stay back.
 E. All are correct
7. A. Our new television set come with a 90-day warranty on all electrical components.
 B. They have been residing in this city for the last two decades.
 C. The newspaper report of the killing corroborated with the police findings.
 D. He, she, they and I cooked the food.
 E. All are correct
8. He is (A)/ too foolish (B)/ that he will not act. (C)/ No Error(D)
9. He is too much worried (A)/ about his friend's reaction (B)/ to his statement. (C)/ No Error (D)

10. Find out the misspelt word

- A. Cappaccino
 B. Disastrous
 C. Raspberry
 D. Dilemma

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

(The Hindu Editorial: Tumbling skeletons – July 30, 2022)

West Bengal's TMC **dispensation(A)** has sought to distance itself from Partha Chatterjee, who is caught in the **wider (B)** of multiple corruption inquires by central agencies, by **sacking (C)** him from the State cabinet and party positions, but that cuts no ice with the **vortex (D)** society. Skeletons tumbled out of his closet, as investigators seized at least Rs. 50 crore worth of cash and valuables from a close associate of Mr. Chatterjee, who has been a key power centre in the TMC. He was in charge of four portfolios in the State government and held several party posts including that of secretary general.

TMC has weathered many storms — the Narada tapes and Saradha chit fund **(A)/** scam hit the party hard, **(B)/** but it won its second term comfortably in 2016; **(C)/** there were allegations of corruption over welfare schemes, **(D)**

but it got a third term last year _____ **11** _____ back the BJP. There were a series of protests in several districts in 2020 where villagers accused TMC panchayat functionaries of taking money for availing of government benefits and disaster relief. The party managed to hold its ground as its matriarch Mamata Banerjee stayed above the fray, thanks to her reputation of _____ **12** _____ simplicity. But that is no _____ **13** _____ guarantee of popularity or public trust, and the TMC's refusal to come to Mr. Chatterjee's defence is an admission of that fact. It is unclear whether the seized cash and valuables are indeed proceeds of the crime that is currently being investigated by the CBI and the ED, but that is beside the point. The mere fact that a key functionary of the ruling party is linked to such enormous amounts of _____ **14** _____ wealth speaks to the rot that has set in the party, despite the ideals that Ms. Banerjee hopes to represent, not merely within West Bengal but across the country.

The West Bengal School Service Commission scam involves multiple cases where irregularities in the recruitments for state-run schools had come to the fore from 2016 onwards. **(1)**/ The allegations are that candidates who did well in the recruitment process held by the School Service Commission were sidelined and jobs were given for monetary and political considerations. **(2)**/ The sacking of Mr. Chatterjee may not end the **agony** of TMC. **(3)**/ In fact, it might only increase the difficulties for the party, even as the BJP designs newer strategies to plant its flag in West Bengal. **(4)**/

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

11. There were allegations of corruption over welfare schemes, but it got a third term last year _____ **11** _____ back the BJP.
 - A. Exonerating
 - B. Beating
 - C. Incessant
 - D. Stratum
12. The party managed to hold its ground as its matriarch Mamata Banerjee stayed above the fray, thanks to her reputation of _____ **12** _____ simplicity.
 - A. Ostensible
 - B. Curtailing
 - C. Prepossessing
 - D. Austere
13. But that is no _____ **13** _____ guarantee of popularity or public trust, and the TMC's refusal to come to Mr. Chatterjee's defence is an admission of that fact.
 - A. Amenity
 - B. Subtle
 - C. Eternal
 - D. Exasperating
14. The mere fact that a key functionary of the ruling party is linked to such enormous amounts of _____ **14** _____ wealth speaks to the rot that has set in the party, despite the ideals that Ms. Banerjee hopes to represent, not merely within West Bengal but across the country.
 - A. Hackneyed

- B. Autocratic
- C. Abhorring
- D. Unaccounted

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.

TMC has weathered many storms — the Narada tapes and Saradha chit fund (A)/ scam hit the party hard, (B)/ but it won its second term comfortably in 2016; (C)/ there was allegations of corruption over welfare schemes, (D)

- A. (A)
- B. (B)
- C. (C)
- D. (D)
- E. No Error

16. Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.

The West Bengal School Service Commission scam involves multiple cases where irregularities in the recruitments for state-run schools had come to the fore from 2016 onwards. (1)/ The allegations are that candidates who did well in the recruitment process held by the School Service Commission were sidelined and jobs were given for monetary and political considerations. (2)/ The sacking of Mr. Chatterjee may not end the agony of TMC. (3)/ In fact, it might only increase the difficulties for the party, even as the BJP designs newer strategies to plant its flag in West Bengal.(4)/

- A. 2314
- B. 1234
- C. 4321
- D. 2143
- E. 3241

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

AGONY

- (i) What sort of world is this that predisposes roughly 20 percent of human beings to suffer mental **agonies**?
 - (ii) The divorce rate is rising so you'll see more **agonies** in their late 30s and early 40s.
 - (iii) You tend to imagine the worst, suffer **agonies** of mind today.
- A. Only (i)
 - B. Only (ii)
 - C. Only (iii)
 - D. (i), (ii)
 - E. (i), (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.

West Bengal's TMC dispensation (A) has sought to distance itself from Partha Chatterjee, who is caught in the wider (B) of multiple corruption inquiries by central agencies, by sacking (C) him from the State cabinet and party positions, but that cuts no ice with the vortex (D) society.

- A. C – A
- B. B – D
- C. B – C
- D. D – C
- 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) In India, the poverty level calculations are based on the per capita income of the population
 - (ii) The per capita income is not uniform across all the states of the country
- A. Whereas
 - B. Although
 - C. Though
 - D. Since
 - E. For

20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks

I apprised him _____ the serious food situation in the state.

- A. Of
- B. From
- C. With
- D. To
- E. None of the above

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Answers

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

[\[Practice Exercise\]](#)

Explanations

4. **Draw to a close** (phrase) – to come to an end समाप्त होना.
 5. **QUTRPS**

It was certain that Imran Khan, Pakistan's Prime Minister, would be ousted in the no-trust vote. The Opposition had put up a united face. His allies had jumped ship, reducing the ruling coalition to a minority. His party lawmakers had revolted against him. The cricketer-turned-PM's defeat was a matter of formality in a country where no Prime Minister has completed their term. On Sunday, the Deputy Speaker dismissed the no-trust motion, calling it against the Constitution, which was followed by Mr. Khan's formal request to the President to dissolve the National Assembly. Pakistan will have to hold elections in three months, provided there is no judicial intervention. There were three bad options before Mr. Khan: resignation, no-trust vote or early elections.

7. 'come' के बदले 'comes' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि वाक्य का Subject 'Our new television set' Singular है और 'come' Plural Verb है जबकि 'comes' Singular Verb.

➤ 'comes' will be used instead of 'come' because the subject of the sentence 'Our new television set' is Singular and 'come' is Plural Verb while 'comes' is Singular Verb

8. 'that he will not' के बदले 'to' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Part (B) में 'too' का प्रयोग है और 'too' के साथ 'to + V1' का प्रयोग होता है, न कि That-clause का; जैसे-

i. She is too honest to take a bribe.

➤ 'to' is used instead of 'that he will not' because 'too' is used in Part (B) and 'too' is used with 'to + V1', not 'that'-clause; As-

i. She is too honest to take a bribe.

9. 'too much' के बदले 'much too' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'too much + Noun' का प्रयोग होता है जबकि 'much too + Adjective/Adverb' का;

i. My wound gives me too much pain. ['pain' Noun]

ii. The process of growing up is much too painful. ['painful-Adjective]

iii. She drives the car much too fast. ['fast' - adverb]

➤ 'much too' will be used instead of 'too much' because 'too much + Noun' is used while 'much too + Adjective/Adverb';

i. My wound gives me too much pain. ['pain' Noun]

ii. The process of growing up is much too painful. ['painful-Adjective]

iii. She drives the car much too fast. ['fast' - adverb]

10. **Cappuccino** (noun) – A type of coffee made with espresso and milk that has been frothed up with pressurized steam.
11. **Beat back** (phrasal verb) – to stop someone or something from succeeding; Force someone to retreat. किसी को पीछे हटने के लिए मजबूर करना
12. **Austere** (adjective) – plain, simple, basic, functional, modest, unadorned सीधा-सादा
13. **Eternal** (adjective) – constant, continual, continuous, perpetual, persistent, sustained शास्वत
14. **Unaccounted** (adjective) – Not included in (an account or calculation) through being lost or disregarded. बेहिसाब
15. In part (D), Replace 'Were' with 'Was' as the subject of the sentence (i.e. Allegations) is plural. So 'Were' should be used.
16. (B) **1234**
The West Bengal School Service Commission scam involves multiple cases where irregularities in the recruitments for state-run schools had come to the fore from 2016 onwards. The allegations are that candidates who did well in the recruitment process held by the School Service Commission were sidelined and jobs were given for monetary and political considerations. The sacking of Mr. Chatterjee may not end the agony of TMC. In fact, it might only increase the difficulties for the party, even as the BJP designs newer strategies to plant its flag in West Bengal.
17. **Agony** (noun) –pain, hurt, suffering, torture, torment, anguish पीड़ा
According to the given options only (i) & (iii) are contextually correct.
19. In India, the poverty level calculations are based on the per capita income of the population **though** the per capita income is not uniform across all the states of the country.

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Hyperbole	noun	An exaggeration used as a figure of speech; exaggeration	अतिशयोक्ति
	Ideology	noun	A system of social or political ideas	विचारधारा
	Succinct	adjective	Brief and to the point; concise	संक्षिप्त
Q2	Prodigal	adjective	Wastefully extravagant	खर्चीला
	Propitious	adjective	Marked by favorable signs or conditions	अनुकूल
	Sordid	adjective	Vile; filthy; squalid	घिनौना
Q3	Peccadillo	noun	A minor offense	अवगुण
	Idyllic	adjective	Charming in a rustic way; naturally peaceful	सुखद जीवन का
	Pragmatic	adjective	Practical; down to earth; based on experience rather than theory	व्यावहारिक
Q11	Exonerate	verb	To free completely from blame; to exculpate	दोषमुक्त करना
	Incessant	adjective	Unceasing	निरंतर
	Stratum	noun	A layer; a level	परत
Q12	Ostensible	adjective	Apparent; professed	दृश्यमान
	Curtail	verb	To shorten; to cut short	घटाना, संक्षिप्त करना
	Prepossess	verb	To preoccupy; to influence beforehand or prejudice; to make a good impression on beforehand	पूर्वपद
Q13	Amenity	adjective	Pleasantness; attractive or comfortable feature	सुख सुविधा
	Subtle	adjective	Not obvious; able to make fine distinction; ingenious; crafty	सूक्ष्म
	Exasperate	verb	To annoy thoroughly; to make very angry; to try the patience of	गुस्से में लाना, चिढ़ाना, खिजलाना
Q14	Hackneyed	adjective	Overused; trite; stale	मामूली, साधारण, घिसा-पिटा

Autocratic	adjective	Ruling with absolute authority; extremely bossy	निरंकुश, एकतंत्र
Abhor	verb	To hate very, very much; to detest	घृणा करना

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