

Meeting India's aspirations: On Modi's ninth I-Day speech

India needs better **governance** for the **sake** of its own people, not global **approbation**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi rightly described independent India's 75-year journey as one of “**ups and downs**” in his ninth speech from the **stately** Red Fort on Monday. Praising those who fought for India's freedom, the Prime Minister **pointed to** the country's achievements even as he **acknowledged** the challenges of fulfilling the **pressing** needs of an ever-**aspirational** society, **tugging at the seams** of government. National pride and self-**esteem** were dominant themes as he urged the country to **rid** itself of the need to **look for approval** from abroad. Asking the question about how long India could go on living on “certificates” from abroad, the Prime Minister **wondered** why India could not develop its own “**markers**”. Though Mr. Modi provided no context to these **remarks**, his comments could indicate his unhappiness with international criticism **directed** at his government on governance and human rights' issues. **Successive** Prime Ministers have used their Independence Day speeches as a **stock-taking** of their government's **record** and as an **insight** to what the nation might face. With two years left for the general election, the Prime Minister was in an **expansive** mood, taking up issues of women's safety, energy self-**reliance**, celebrating the **diversity** of India, the need to respect all languages, and promising an all-out war against corruption and “parivarvad”, or the **pernicious** influence of dynasty. The Prime Minister asked the people to give him their “blessings” as **the battle** against corruption **enters** a **decisive** phase where even the **big fish** will not be **spared**. Even as he **dwelt on** governance issues, Mr. Modi **laced** his speech with a political appeal.

Mr. Modi was silent about his promises made in 2016 to double the income of farmers by the time the country celebrated its 75th Independence Day. However, he did **lay out** his vision for an “amrit kaal”, or developed age, in the next 25 years, the 100th year of India's independence, in 2047. **Details** of how the country would reach the objective **were scanty**, **apparently** kept for another day. **In keeping with** the Bharatiya Janata Party's new status as the natural party of governance, the Prime Minister **underlined** that India had got a **stable** government after many **decades**, **resulting in** speedy decision-making. There was little in his 82-minute speech about the strategic challenges before the country **in the wake of** tensions at the borders and **turbulence** in the international order **following** the Russian **invasion** of Ukraine. To achieve its full **potential**, India must not only be able to **overcome** many obstacles that **hold it back** but also **sail** with the rest of the world in meeting the **benchmarks** of democratic rights, equitable distribution of wealth and access to health and education. India might not need approval from other countries, but it needs to do better on rights and freedoms, welfare and justice, growth and development, and in building a more **egalitarian** society. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Meet** (verb) – fulfil, satisfy, fill, measure up to, पूरा करना
2. **Governance** (noun) – The action or manner of governing a state, organization, etc. शासन
3. **Sake** (noun) – cause, purpose, reason, aim, end, objective, खातिर
4. **Approbation** (noun) – approval, acceptance, assent, endorsement; praise, acclamation, adulation प्रशंसा, समर्थन
5. **Ups and downs** (phrase) – vicissitudes, uncertainties, inconstancy, instability उतार चढ़ाव
6. **Stately** (adverb) – dignified, majestic, ceremonious, courtly, imposing, impressive आलीशान, भव्य
7. **Point to** (phrasal verb) – indicate, suggest, be evidence of, evidence, signal, signify, इंगित करना
8. **Acknowledge** (verb) – admit, accept, grant, allow, concede, confess स्वीकार करना
9. **Pressing** (adjective) – urgent, critical, crucial, acute, desperate, serious अत्यावश्यक
10. **Aspirational** (adjective) – Having or characterized by aspirations to achieve social prestige and material success. महत्वाकांक्षी
11. **Tug at the seams** (phrase) – Be in a very bad condition and near to failure or collapse.
12. **Esteem** (noun) – respect, admiration, regard, high regard, opinion आदर, मान
13. **Rid** (of) (verb) – Make someone or something free of (a troublesome or unwanted person or thing) छुटकारा पाना
14. **Look for** (phrasal verb) – search for, hunt for, seek, look about for, look round for, तलाश करना
15. **Approval** (noun) – approbation, appreciation, favour, liking, encouragement प्रशंसा, अनुमोदन
16. **Wonder** (verb) – be surprised, express surprise, find it surprising आश्चर्य चकित होना
17. **Marker** (noun) – A thing serving as a standard of comparison.
18. **Remark** (noun) – comment, say, observe, mention, reflect टिप्पणी
19. **Direct** (at) (verb) – aim, point, level लक्ष्य साधना
20. **Successive** (adjective) – consecutive, in a row, straight, sequential, उत्तरोत्तर, क्रमिक
21. **Stock-taking** (noun) – The action of reviewing and assessing one's situation and options.

22. **Record** (noun) – previous performance, track record, previous accomplishments
23. **Insight** (noun) – awareness, discernment, understanding, comprehension, अंतर्दृष्टि
24. **Expansive** (adjective) – (of a person or their manner) open, demonstrative, and communicative. मिलनसार
25. **Reliance** (noun) – dependence, dependency निर्भरता
26. **Diversity** (noun) – variety, miscellany, assortment, mixture, विविधता
27. **Pernicious** (adjective) – harmful, damaging, destructive, injurious हानिकारक, घातक
28. **Decisive** (adjective) – deciding, conclusive, determining, final, निर्णायक
29. **Big fish** (noun) – an important or influential person.
30. **Spare** (verb) – Make free or available. क्षमा करना
31. **Dwell on** (phrasal verb) – think about, spend time thinking about, be preoccupied by विचार करना, सोचना
32. **Lace** (verb) – Give (something) a large amount or degree of a feature or quality. से सजाना
33. **Lay out** (phrasal verb) – Explain something clearly and carefully. बताना
34. **Scanty** (adjective) – meagre, scant, minimal, limited, modest अल्प, कम
35. **Apparently** (adverb) – seemingly, evidently, it seems, it seems that जाहिर तौर पर
36. **In keeping with** (phrase) – in accordance with, in agreement with, in line with को ध्यान में रखते हुए
37. **Underline** (verb) – underscore, mark, pick out, emphasize बल देना
38. **Stable** (adjective) – steady, secure, fixed, strong स्थिर
39. **Decade** (noun) – A period of ten years. दशक
40. **Result in** (phrasal verb) – to make something happen परिणाम होना
41. **In the wake of** (phrase) – aftermath परिणामस्वरूप
42. **Turbulence** (noun) – turmoil, instability, conflict, upheaval, tumult, अशांति
43. **Following** (preposition) – after के बाद
44. **Invasion** (noun) – attack, incursion, offensive, assailing आक्रमण
45. **Potential** (noun) – capability, capacity, ability, power क्षमता

46. **Overcome** (verb) – Succeed in dealing with (a problem or difficulty) दूर करना
47. **Hold back** (phrasal verb) –hinder, hamper, inhibit, impede, obstruct, रोकना
48. **Sail** (verb) – travel चलना
49. **Benchmark** (noun) – standard, point of reference, basis, gauge मानक, मापदंड
50. **Egalitarian** (adjective) – fair, just समानाधिकारवादी

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Practice Exercise

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

[Editorial page]

1. **PRESSING**

- A. Apathy
- B. Onerous
- C. Urgent
- D. Soporific

2. **APPROVAL**

- A. Approbation
- B. Tangential
- C. Robust
- D. incantation

3. **PERNICIOUS**

- A. Harmful
- B. Pathology
- C. Clique
- D. Flagrant

4. **Idioms & Phrase**

As the dust settles now, it is difficult to see what all three parties – the U.S., Taiwan and China – will ultimately gain from a visit that appears to have been driven more by Ms. Pelosi’s political inclinations than any well-considered long-term strategic objectives..

- A. More difficult to do than to talk about
- B. Things quieten down
- C. To move or happen at a slower pace than someone or something else
- D. Draw attention to

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.

The resignation of lawmaker Idit Silman from Israel’s diverse ruling coalition has taken the Jewish country’s politics back to crisis and instability.

P. In her resignation letter, she said she could not support “harming the Jewish identity of the state of Israel”.

Q. Elected to the Knesset from Mr. Bennett’s right-religious Yamina party, Ms. Silman had earlier clashed with

R. But the real political crisis in Israel is deeper than the hametz controversy.

S. Ever since the coalition government was formed in June last year, Likud has been in constant campaign mode, attacking Yamina for “stealing right-wing votes” and using them to form “a dangerous left-wing government”.

T. With Ms. Silman defecting to the opposition Likud, Prime Minister Naftali Bennett's government, which had the razor-thin majority of 61 lawmakers in the 120-member Knesset, lacks the numbers.

U. the Health Minister over allowing leavened grain products (hametz) in hospitals during the Passover holidays.

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. She told the children not to stop the work.
 B. The only bit of relief for the victims has been the increase in compensation.
 C. I am not saying that you should hunt-out people to pursue your policies
 D. He succeeded by dint of hard work
 E. All are correct
7. A. It has been two years since I saw him last.
 B. I wish I could sing as well as you do.
 C. Everybody who has finished writing can go home.
 D. His flute recitation was highly appreciated.
 E. All are correct
8. My father says (A)/ that one should always be sincere (B)/ to his duties (C)/ No Error(D)
9. There has been (A)/ a number of railway accidents (B)/during the last month. (C)/ No Error(D)

10. Find out the misspelt word

- A. Unassociated
 B. Noodledom
 C. Plagiarize
 D. Laison

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

(The Hindu Editorial: Unpacking a conundrum – Aug 02, 2022)

A fortnight after India confirmed its first case of monkeypox, **(A)**/ it has reported its first casualty. A 22-year-old man, from Thrissur in Kerala, **(B)**/ died due to suspected monkeypox symptoms, a day after which Kerala's Health Minister Veena George said he had tested positive in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). **(C)**/ The patient was underwent treatment in a private hospital for severe fatigue and brain fever, six days after his arrival in the State on July 21. **(D)**

His **vary (A)** samples have been sent to the ICMR-National Institute of Virology (NIV) centre in Alappuzha for confirmation. Death from the virus is reportedly **rare (B)**, though as the experience of COVID-19 shows, it could **swab (C)** depending on the population at **hand (D)**. According to the World Health Organization, the case fatality ratio of monkeypox has historically ranged from 0% to 11% in the general population and has been higher among young children.

In recent times, the case fatality ratio has been around 3%-6%. While the disease has been around in Africa since the 1970s, it has also been reported in the U.S., the U.K. and Israel. **(1)**/ In 2017, Nigeria experienced a large outbreak, with a case fatality ratio of approximately 3%; cases continue to be reported. **(2)**/ It is the surge outside Africa, in 78 countries, that has elevated the risk profile of the disease along with the realisation that there are considerable gaps in knowledge on whether the disease **poses** a greater risk to specific population groups, just as it was eventually determined for COVID-19.**(3)**/ In monkeypox deaths in Brazil and Spain, the patients were reported to have had serious associated syndromes such as encephalitis and lymphoma, though it is unclear what role the virus played in their disease outcome. **(4)**/That monkeypox spreads mainly through sexual transmission and close contact — it is not an airborne disease — should not be of comfort to health authorities. The death in Thrissur highlights the need for a thorough probe as well as a public disclosure on the case _____ **11** _____. For instance, Kerala's health authorities say the person was admitted not after being confirmed to be monkeypox-positive but due to a fever and experiencing _____ **12** _____. It was only later that the rashes and _____ **13** _____ showed up. Intriguingly, that he had tested positive for monkeypox was disclosed to the health authorities a day before he died. It is to rule out a misdiagnosis of monkeypox (by the UAE) that the NIV has undertaken a re-test. India has announced a task force to monitor the disease spread. The Indian Council of Medical Research has isolated the strain of the virus and invited vaccine makers to develop a vaccine. It has also invited proposals to develop diagnostic kits. While it is fortunate that the disease so far appears to be self-limiting, the Government must not be _____ **14** _____ in transparently communicating the potential severity of the disease.

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

11. The death in Thrissur highlights the need for a thorough probe as well as a public disclosure on the case _____ **11** _____.
 - A. Acerbic
 - B. Diffident
 - C. Progression
 - D. Agenda
12. For instance, Kerala's health authorities say the person was admitted not after being confirmed to be monkeypox-positive but due to a fever and experiencing _____ **12** _____.
 - A. Concise
 - B. Fatigue
 - C. Pivotal
 - D. Manifesto
13. It was only later that the rashes and _____ **13** _____ showed up.
 - A. Blisters
 - B. Partisan
 - C. Denizen
 - D. Placate

14. While it is fortunate that the disease so far appears to be self-limiting, the Government must not be _____**14**_____ in transparently communicating the potential severity of the disease.

- A. Cryptic
- B. Imperial
- C. Perfidy
- D. Slack

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.**

A fortnight after India confirmed its first case of monkeypox, **(A)**/ it has reported its first casualty. A 22-year-old man, from Thrissur in Kerala, **(B)**/ died due to suspected monkeypox symptoms, a day after which Kerala's Health Minister Veena George said he had tested positive in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). **(C)**/ The patient was underwent treatment in a private hospital for severe fatigue and brain fever, six days after his arrival in the State on July 21. **(D)**

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

16. **Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.**

In recent times, the case fatality ratio has been around 3%-6%. While the disease has been around in Africa since the 1970s, it has also been reported in the U.S., the U.K. and Israel. **(1)**/ In 2017, Nigeria experienced a large outbreak, with a case fatality ratio of approximately 3%; cases continue to be reported. **(2)**/ It is the surge outside Africa, in 78 countries, that has elevated the risk profile of the disease along with the realisation that there are considerable gaps in knowledge on whether the disease poses a greater risk to specific population groups, just as it was eventually determined for COVID-19.**(3)**/ In monkeypox deaths in Brazil and Spain, the patients were reported to have had serious associated syndromes such as encephalitis and lymphoma, though it is unclear what role the virus played in their disease outcome. **(4)**/

- A. 4321
- B. 3241
- C. 3214
- D. 2143
- E. 1234

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

POSE

- (i) Even if Swann and White still can rush the passer, their presence **poses** some problems.
 - (ii) He probably typifies the early skeptic who then **poses** a conversion experience.
 - (iii) Concerns about the nuisance and danger **posed** by fireworks could lead to new laws laying down major restrictions on their sale and use.
- A. Only (i)
 - B. Only (ii)
 - C. Only (iii)
 - D. (i), (iii)
 - 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.

His **vary (A)** samples have been sent to the ICMR-National Institute of Virology (NIV) centre in Alappuzha for confirmation. Death from the virus is reportedly **rare (B)**, though as the experience of COVID-19 shows, it could **swab (C)** depending on the population at **hand (D)**.

- A. A – C
- B. A – 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) The delegates were delighted.
 - (ii) Better protection of rhino reserves will help protect other rare species
- A. Notwithstanding
 - B. Although
 - C. Since
 - D. While
 - E. As

20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks

I have greatly antipathy _____ wine.

- A. Of
- B. For
- C. With
- D. To

Answers

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

Explanations

4. **The dust settle** (phrase) – Things quieten down. चीजें शांत हो जाना

5. **TQUPRS**

The resignation of lawmaker Idit Silman from Israel's diverse ruling coalition has taken the Jewish country's politics back to crisis and instability. With Ms. Silman defecting to the opposition Likud, Prime Minister Naftali Bennett's government, which had the razor-thin majority of 61 lawmakers in the 120-member Knesset, lacks the numbers. Elected to the Knesset from Mr. Bennett's right-religious Yamina party, Ms. Silman had earlier clashed with the Health Minister over allowing leavened grain products (hametz) in hospitals during the Passover holidays. In her resignation letter, she said she could not support "harming the Jewish identity of the state of Israel". But the real political crisis in Israel is deeper than the hametz controversy. Ever since the coalition government was formed in June last year, Likud has been in constant campaign mode, attacking Yamina for "stealing right-wing votes" and using them to form "a dangerous left-wing government".

7. 'Flute recitation' के बदले 'Flute recital' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'recitation' का अर्थ है 'वर्णन, सस्वर पाठ, वाचन', पुस्तक देखे बिना लोगो समक्ष गद्य या पदम कुछ अवतरण सुनाना' जबकि recital का अर्थ है 'संगीत अथवा स्वरचना का गायन; प्रस्तुति': जैसे-

- i. His recitations from Shakespeare's Macbeth were excellent.
- ii. He gave a memorable piano recital

➤ 'Flute recital' will be used instead of 'Flute recitation' because 'recitation' means 'narration, recitation, reading', reciting some passage of prose or Padma in front of people without looking at the book' whereas recital means is 'singing of music or composition; Presentation': Like-

- i. His recitations from Shakespeare's Macbeth were excellent.
- ii. He gave a memorable piano recital.

8. 'his' के बदले 'one's' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'one' का प्रयोग यदि 'anybody' के अर्थ में हो, तो इसका Nominative form 'one', Objective form 'one' Possessive form 'one's' होता है, न कि 'he, him, his' या 'you, your'; जैसे-

- i. One should do one's duty.
- ii. If one works hard.
- iii. one is sure to succeed.

➤ 'one's' will be used instead of 'his' because if 'one' is used in the sense of 'anybody', then its Nominative form 'one', Objective form 'one' Possessive form 'one's', not 'he, him, his' or 'you, your'; As-

- i. One should do one's duty.
- ii. If one works hard.
- iii. one is sure to succeed.

9. 'has' के बदले 'have' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'There' का प्रयोग यदि Introductory Subject के रूप में होता है तो इसके साथ आनेवाला Verb इसके बाद प्रयुक्त Noun / Pronoun के Number तथा Person पर निर्भर करता है; जैसे-

- i. There are a number of books on the table.
- ii. There is a book on the table.
- iii. There are five books on the table

➤ 'have' will be used instead of 'has' because if 'there' is used as an introductory subject, then the verb that comes with it depends on the number and person of the Noun / Pronoun used after this; Eg-

- i. There are a number of books on the table.
- ii. There is a book on the table.
- iii. There are five books on the table.

10. **Liaison** (noun) – cooperation, contact, association, connection, collaboration संपर्क

11. **Progression** (noun) – development, progress, process, continuation, continuance, प्रगति

12. **Fatigue** (noun) – tiredness, weariness, exhaustion, overtiredness थकान

13. **Blister** (noun) – A small bubble on the skin filled with serum and caused by friction, burning, or other damage. फफोला

14. **Slack** (adjective) – lax, negligent, neglectful, remiss, careless, slapdash सुस्त, ढीला, असावधान

15. Replace 'Underwent' with 'Undergoing' as sentence is in active voice so 'Was/were + V⁴' should be used.

16. (E) **1234**

In recent times, the case fatality ratio has been around 3%-6%. While the disease has been around in Africa since the 1970s, it has also been reported in the U.S., the U.K. and Israel. In 2017, Nigeria experienced a large outbreak, with a case fatality ratio of approximately 3%; cases continue to be reported. It is the surge outside Africa, in 78 countries, that has elevated the risk profile of the disease along with the realisation that there are considerable gaps in knowledge on whether the disease poses a greater risk to specific population groups, just as it was eventually determined for COVID-19. In monkeypox deaths in Brazil and Spain, the patients were reported to have had serious associated syndromes such as encephalitis and lymphoma, though it is unclear what role the virus played in their disease outcome.

17. **Pose** (verb) – constitute, present, create, cause, produce, give rise to खड़ा करना (खतरा)

According to the given options only (i) & (iii) are contextually correct.

19. The delegates were delighted **since** better protection of rhino reserves will help protect other rare species

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Apathy	noun	Lack of interest; lack of feeling	उदासीनता
	Onerous	adjective	Burdensome; oppressive	कष्टदायक
	Soporific	adjective	Sleep inducing; extremely boring; very sleepy	बेहद उबाऊ
Q2	Tangential	adjective	Only superficially related to the matter at hand; not especially relevant; peripheral	स्पर्शरेखा का
	Robust	adjective	Strong and healthy; vigorous	मजबूत
	Incantation	noun	Chant; the repetition of statement or phrase in a way reminiscent of a chant	जादू के मंत्र
Q3	Pathology	noun	The science of disease	विकृति विज्ञान
	Clique	noun	An exclusive group bound together by some shared quality or interest	गुट
	Flagrant	adjective	Glaringly bad; notorious; scandalous	निन्दनीय, धोर
Q11	Acerbic	adjective	Bitter; sour; severe	कड़वा; पीड़ादायक
	Diffident	adjective	Timid; lacking in self confidence	संकोची, शंकायुक्त, शर्मीला
	Agenda	noun	Program; the thing to be done	कार्यसूची
Q12	Concise	adjective	Brief and to the point; succinct	संक्षिप्त
	Pivotal	adjective	Crucial	केंद्रीय
	Manifesto	noun	A public declaration of beliefs or principles, usually political ones	घोषणापत्र
Q13	Partisan	noun	One who support a particular person, cause, idea	पक्षपातपूर्ण

	Denizen	noun	Inhabitant	निवासी
	Placate	verb	To pacify; to appease; to soothe	शांत करने के लिए
Q14	Cryptic	adjective	Mysterious; Mystifying	गुप्त, अप्रकट
	Imperial	adjective	Like an emperor or an empire	शाही, राज्य-संबंधी
	Perfidy	noun	Treachery	नमकहरामी

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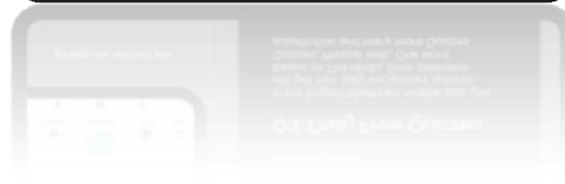
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