

Control, alter: On BJP top brass rejig

The Bharatiya Janata Party **seeks** a balance between a central command and regional leadership

The BJP has **reconstituted** its 11-member Parliamentary Board and the 15-member Central Election Committee this week and they are likely to remain in charge well into the 2024 general election. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's **grip** over party matters **is** absolute and the **reconstitution** of these **apex** bodies **hardly** alters that fact. In that sense, nothing fundamentally changes, and the changes **reinforce** the trend of Mr. Modi's expanding **footprint** in the party's **remaking**. Senior leader Nitin Gadkari, a former party president, and Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan have lost their Parliamentary Board seats, while **the new icon** of the Hindutva **camp**, U.P. CM Yogi Adityanath, **has** not found a place. **The former Karnataka CM**, B.S. Yediyurappa, who **holds sway** over the Lingayat community and is crucial in **electoral** calculations in Karnataka **has** been brought back into the power structure, a year after he was asked to resign as Chief Minister. By **inducting** him into both bodies, the central leadership has **conceded** his **indispensability**. Also **notable** is the BJP's **agility** to **redeploy** resources according to changing situations — **Sarbananda Sonowal**, a tribal face in Assam who was replaced as Chief Minister, **is** now in the Parliamentary Board. He is also a Union Minister.

BJP OBC Morcha head and Rajya Sabha MP K. Laxman from Telangana and Lok Sabha MP Sudha Yadav from Haryana are expected to be the party's links to relatively new **constituencies**. Iqbal Singh Lalpura has become the first Sikh to be inducted into the Parliamentary Board, while Shahnawaz Hussain has been dropped from the CEC. Mr. Modi is particular about staying in complete control, but he recruits and deploys a **diverse legion** in his support. The BJP under him has achieved a balance between a disciplined central command and the **autonomy** of individual leaders who are in charge of particular tasks. While only a few of them have the capacity of Mr. Yediyurappa to **bargain** with the party, they do **strengthen** the **relentless social engineering pursuits** of the BJP. The party has the capacity to be flexible and can even reverse its decisions to manage its electoral **prospects**, as Mr. Yediyurappa's **rehabilitation** shows. **The dislodging** of Mr. Gadkari, who has maintained an image of relative autonomy as Minister and a party leader, **on the other hand**, **can** be interpreted as a **stern** demand for absolute loyalty. That too is a sign of the changing relationship between Mr. Modi and the RSS, the **mother ship** of the Sangh Parivar that includes the BJP. Mr. Gadkari is said to be a favourite of the RSS, which **no longer** holds the same sway over the BJP as it used to. Mr. Gadkari's exclusion also **coincides** with the inclusion of another Brahmin from Maharashtra, Devendra Fadnavis, in the CEC. The reconstituted Parliamentary Board and CEC of the BJP signal **dynamism** and tight control at the same time.

[Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Alter** (verb) – change, amend, improve, modify, convert बदलना
2. **Brass** (noun) – People in authority or of high military rank
3. **Rejig** (noun) – a reorganization पुनर्गठन
4. **Seek** (verb) – try, attempt, endeavour, strive; try to obtain, pursue, go after, प्रयास करना
5. **Reconstitute** (verb) – Change the form and organization of (an institution) पुनर्गठित करना
6. **Reconstitution** (noun) – The action of changing the form and organization of an institution. पुनर्गठन
7. **Apex** (noun) – zenith, acme, apogee, high point सर्वोच्च
8. **Hardly** (adverb) – scarcely, barely, only just, not much मुश्किल से
9. **Reinforce** (verb) – strengthen, fortify, bolster up, shore up सुदृढ बनाना
10. **Footprint** (noun) – The area occupied or affected by something/someone पदचिह्न
11. **Remaking** (noun) – an act of making (something) again or differently
12. **Camp** (noun) – faction, wing, side, group, party गुट
13. **Hold sway** (phrasal verb) – have great power or influence over a particular person, place, or domain प्रभुत्व होना
14. **Electoral** (adjective) – Relating to elections or electors. निर्वाचन संबंधी
15. **Induct** (verb) – introduce to, initiate into, install in, instate in, appoint to प्रतिष्ठापित करना
16. **Concede** (verb) – admit, acknowledge, accept स्वीकार करना
17. **Indispensability** (noun) – the quality possessed by something that you cannot possibly do without अपरिहार्यता
18. **Notable** (adjective) – noteworthy, remarkable, outstanding, important, उल्लेखनीय
19. **Agility** (noun) – Ability to think and understand quickly. चपलता, फुर्ती
20. **Deploy** (verb) – Assign (troops, employees, or resources) to a new place or task. तैनात करना
21. **Constituency** (noun) – An area whose voters elect a representative to a legislative body. चुनाव क्षेत्र
22. **Diverse** (adjective) – various, manifold, multiple विविध

23. **Legion** (noun) – brigade, regiment, battalion, company, troop, division सेना
24. **Autonomy** (noun) – self-government, independence, self-rule स्वायत्तता
25. **Bargain** (verb) – negotiate, discuss terms, hold talks सौदा करना
26. **Strengthen** (verb) – reinforce, make stronger, buttress को मज़बूत बनाना
27. **Relentless** (adjective) – persistent, continuing, constant, continual सतत
28. **Social engineering** (noun) – the act of exploiting human weaknesses to gain access to personal information and protected systems
29. **Pursuit** (noun) – chasing, pursuing, stalking, tracking; aim of, goal of, तलाश, लक्ष्य
30. **Prospect** (noun) – possibilities, potential, promise, expectations, outlook संभावना
31. **Rehabilitation** (noun) – The action of restoring something that has been damaged to its former condition. पुनर्वास
32. **Dislodging** (noun) – an act of removing person from a position of power or authority. हटाना
33. **On the other hand** (phrase) – Used to introduce a contrasting point of view, fact, or situation. वहीं दूसरी ओर
34. **Stern** (adjective) – strict, severe, stringent, harsh, कड़ा, दृढ़
35. **Mother ship** (noun) – A place regarded as a base, source, or headquarters.
36. **No longer** (phrase) – Not now as formerly. अब और नहीं
37. **Coincide** (verb) – occur simultaneously, happen together साथ होना
38. **Dynamism** (noun) – energy, spirit, liveliness, zestfulness, vitality गतिशीलता

[Click here to download all such PDFs](#)

Practice Exercise

Direction (Q1 – Q3): Select the best express synonym of the given words [Editorial page]

1. Also notable is the BJP's agility to redeploy resources according to changing situations — Sarbananda Sonowal, a tribal face in Assam who was replaced as Chief Minister, is now in the Parliamentary Board.
 - A. Catholic
 - B. Nimbleness
 - C. Affinity
 - D. Apocalypse
2. The BJP under him has achieved a balance between a disciplined central command and the autonomy of individual leaders who are in charge of particular tasks.
 - A. Leeway
 - B. Clique
 - C. Cadence
 - D. Peccadillo
3. The changes reinforce the trend of Mr. Modi's expanding footprint in the party's remaking
 - A. Aptitude
 - B. Mellifluous
 - C. Impugn
 - D. Strengthen
4. **Idioms & Phrase**
 a sharp-tongued critic who doesn't pull his punches
 - A. To have a very positive effect on someone or something
 - B. A situation in which everyone has the same advantages and disadvantages; a situation that is fair
 - C. To hold back in one's criticism
 - D. To a greater extent or degree
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.**
Some circumspection is in order over the recent claims by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank researchers that India saw a sharp lowering of poverty numbers in recent decades.
 - P. with a dollar being equal to Rs 20.65 PPP—fell from 22.5% in 2011 to 10.2% in 2019, with the reduction more pronounced in rural areas.
 - Q. Even the pandemic couldn't move it up from 0.8% reached by 2019 because of the Centre's extensive support programme for the poor
 - R. This report was preceded by an IMF working paper which said that
 - S. including in-kind support such as free and highly subsidised foodgrains, the report claimed.

T. The World Bank working paper, released on Sunday, said the share of poor in India's population—as measured by a daily earning of less than \$1.9 in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms,

U. India has nearly eliminated extreme poverty.

Which among the following will be the **Third** 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. Hassan plays both cricket and billiards at the national level.
B. My father gave me a pair of binoculars on my birthday.
C. The teacher and his students all left for the trip.
D. More you think of it, the worse it becomes.
E. All are correct
7. A. Each one of you must make up his mind as I did.
B. Sudoku was first designed in the 1970s by a retired architect and freelance puzzle designer.
C. This stamp is the only one of the designs ever printed.
D. During the last few years the company has worked hard to modernise its image.
E. All are correct
8. The reporter (A)/ was unable (B)/ to illicit information from the police (C)/ No Error. (D)
9. Each of these boys (A)/ play (B)/ games. (C)/ No Error(D)

10. Find out the misspelt word

- A. Concurrence
B. Descretion
C. Contentious
D. Exoneration

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

(The sop or welfare debate: The Hindu– Aug 05, 2022)

A general concern over 'freebies' **pushing (A)** the economy to ruin or **reasonable (B)** pre-election promises **adversely (B)** affecting informed decision-making by voters seems **unviable (D)**.

However, few will disagree that what constitutes 'freebies' and **(A)/** what are legitimate welfare measures to protect the vulnerably sections **(B)/** are essentially political questions for which a court **(C)/** of law may have no answer **(D)**.

In this backdrop, the Supreme Court's decision to form a body of stakeholders to examine the issue raises the question whether the legislature can be bypassed on such a far-reaching exercise. The Chief Justice of India, N.V. Ramana, heading a Bench hearing a petition filed in public interest against the distribution or promise of 'freebies' ahead of elections, has made it clear that the Court is not going to issue guidelines, but only ensure that suggestions are taken from stakeholders such as the NITI Aayog, Finance Commission, Law Commission, RBI and political parties. A suggestion that Parliament could

discuss this issue was met with scepticism by the Bench, which felt that no party would want a debate on this, as all of them support such sops. **(1)**/ The Bench also disfavoured the ECI preparing a 'model manifesto' as it would be an empty formality. **(2)**/ The Court's concern over populist measures seems to **resonate** with the Government too, as the Solicitor-General submitted that these distorted the voter's informed decision-making; and that unregulated populism may lead to an economic disaster. **(3)**/ All these institutions, he has said, can submit a report to the Election Commission of India (ECI) and Government. **(4)**/ The Supreme Court, in *S. Subramaniam Balaji vs Government of Tamil Nadu* (2013) addressed these questions and took the position that these concerned law and policy. Further, it upheld the distribution of television sets or consumer goods on the ground that schemes targeted at women, farmers and the poorer sections were in furtherance of Directive Principles; and as long as public funds were spent based on _____**11**_____ cleared by the legislature, they could neither be declared illegal, nor the promise of such items be termed a 'corrupt practice'. It had, however, directed the ECI to frame guidelines to regulate the content of manifestos. The ECI subsequently included in its Model Code of Conduct a _____**12**_____ that parties should avoid promises "that vitiate the purity of the election process or _____**13**_____ undue influence on the voters". It added that only promises which were possible to be fulfilled should be made and that manifestos should contain the rationale for a promised welfare measure and indicate the means of funding it. Any further step, such as distinguishing welfare measures from populist sops and pre-election _____**14**_____, or adding to the obligations of fiscal responsibility and fiscal prudence ought to come from the legislature. That politicians invariably back 'freebies' should be no reason to bypass Parliament.

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

11. As long as public funds were spent based on _____**11**_____ cleared by the legislature, they could neither be declared illegal, nor the promise of such items be termed a 'corrupt practice'.
 - A. Placating
 - B. Malaise
 - C. Appropriations
 - D. Fatalist
12. The ECI subsequently included in its Model Code of Conduct a _____**12**_____ that parties should avoid promises.
 - A. Stipulation
 - B. Nefarious
 - C. Derogatory
 - D. Oblique
13. "That vitiate the purity of the election process or _____**13**_____ undue influence on the voters".
 - A. Euphemism
 - B. Rudimentary
 - C. Forsaken
 - D. Exert

14. Any further step, such as distinguishing welfare measures from populist sops and pre-election _____¹⁴_____, or adding to the obligations of fiscal responsibility and fiscal prudence ought to come from the legislature.

- A. Languishing
- B. Inducements
- C. Volitions
- D. Vicissitudes

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.

However, few will disagree that what constitutes 'freebies' and (A)/ what are legitimate welfare measures to protect the vulnerably sections (B)/ are essentially political questions for which a court (C)/ of law may have no answer (D).

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

16. Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.

A suggestion that Parliament could discuss this issue was met with scepticism by the Bench, which felt that no party would want a debate on this, as all of them support such sops. (1)/ The Bench also disfavoured the ECI preparing a 'model manifesto' as it would be an empty formality. (2)/ The Court's concern over populist measures seems to resonate with the Government too, as the Solicitor-General submitted that these distorted the voter's informed decision-making; and that unregulated populism may lead to an economic disaster. (3)/ All these institutions, he has said, can submit a report to the Election Commission of India (ECI) and Government. (4)/

- A. 4123
- B. 1234
- C. 4132
- D. 2341
- E. 1243

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

RESONATE

- (i) The beat of the drums emulates the beating of the heart - the sound **resonates** within your body, as if it originated there.
- (ii) Suddenly, sounds of evil laughter **resonated** through the air.
- (iii) The deep thud of boots **resonated** throughout the long passageway.

- A. Only (i)

- B. Only (ii)
- C. (i), (ii)
- D. (ii), (iii)
- E. All are correct

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.

A general concern over 'freebies' **pushing (A)** the economy to ruin or **reasonable (B)** pre-election promises **adversely (B)** affecting informed decision-making by voters seems **unviable (D)**.

- A. C – A
- B. A – D
- C. B – D
- 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 rupee suffered a drastic loss of about 20% in just a few months.
 - (ii) The fall in value of Rupee has raised fears of a repeat of the currency crisis of 2013.
- A. When
 - B. Unlike
 - C. Since
 - D. Whereas
 - E. As opposed to

20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks

Don't strive _____ the rich and the powerful.

- A. On
- B. From
- C. With
- D. For

Answers

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

Explanations

4. **Pull one's punches** (phrase) – to hold back in one's criticism; to attenuate the intensity of one's remarks. किसी की आलोचना में पीछे हटना
5. **TPRUQS**
 Some circumspection is in order over the recent claims by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank researchers that India saw a sharp lowering of poverty numbers in recent decades. The World Bank working paper, released on Sunday, said the share of poor in India's population—as measured by a daily earning of less than \$1.9 in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms, with a dollar being equal to Rs 20.65 PPP—fell from 22.5% in 2011 to 10.2% in 2019, with the reduction more pronounced in rural areas. This report was preceded by an IMF working paper which said that India has nearly eliminated extreme poverty. Even the pandemic couldn't move it up from 0.8% reached by 2019 because of the Centre's extensive support programme for the poor, including in-kind support such as free and highly subsidised foodgrains, the report claimed.
6. 'More you' के पहले 'The' का प्रयोग होगा; अर्थात् 'The more you' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि दो चीजों में समान रूप से वृद्धि या हास दर्शाने के लिए बनावट 'The + Comparative+ Subject+ Verb, the+ Comparative + Subject + Verb' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे-
- The higher we go, the cooler we feel.
- 'The' shall be used before 'More you'; That is, 'The more you' will be used because the construct 'The + Comparative + Subject + Verb, the + Comparative + Subject + Verb' is used to show equal increase or decrease in two things; As-
- The higher we go, the cooler we feel.
8. 'illicit' के बदले 'elicit' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'illicit' एक Adjective है जिसका अर्थ है 'unlawful; forbidden' अर्थात् 'अवैध ; विधिनिषिद्ध' जबकि 'elicit' एक Verb है जिसका अर्थ है 'draw out' अर्थात् 'किसी भेद को निकलवाना'; जैसे-
- He sells illicit drugs.
 - I could elicit no information from her.
- 'elicit' shall be used instead of 'illicit' because 'illicit' is an Adjective which means 'unlawful'; forbidden' means 'illegal; 'prohibited' while 'elicit' is a Verb meaning 'draw out'; As-
- He sells illegal drugs.
 - I could elicit no information from her.

9. 'play' के बदले 'plays' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'Each of/Either of /Neither of/ One of/ Every one of/Any one of' के बाद Plural Noun या Plural Pronoun का प्रयोग होता है; किन्तु Singular Verb का; जैसे-

- i. Each of the pens is red.
- ii. Each of them is very laborious.

➤ 'plays' shall be used instead of 'play' because 'Each of/Either of /Neither of/ One of/ Every one of/Any one of' is followed by Plural Noun or Plural Pronoun; But of Singular Verb; As-

- i. Each of the pens is red.
- ii. Each of them is very laborious.

10. **Discretion** (noun) – circumspection, care, carefulness, caution, wariness, विवेक

11. **Appropriation** (noun) – A sum of money or total of assets devoted to a special purpose.
विनियोग

12. **Stipulation** (noun) – condition, precondition, proviso, provision, prerequisite शर्त, नियम

13. **Exert** (verb) – apply, bring into play, exercise, employ, use डालना (दबाव)

14. **Inducement** (noun) – incentive, attraction, encouragement, temptation, incitement प्रलोभन

15. Replace 'Vulnerably' with 'Vulnerable' as adjective (i.e. Vulnerable) is used to modify noun (i.e. Section).

16. (A) **4123**

All these institutions, he has said, can submit a report to the Election Commission of India (ECI) and Government. A suggestion that Parliament could discuss this issue was met with scepticism by the Bench, which felt that no party would want a debate on this, as all of them support such sops. The Bench also disfavoured the ECI preparing a 'model manifesto' as it would be an empty formality. The Court's concern over populist measures seems to resonate with the Government too, as the Solicitor-General submitted that these distorted the voter's informed decision-making; and that unregulated populism may lead to an economic disaster.

17. **Resonate** (verb) – reverberate, vibrate, resound, echo, boom गूँजना

According to the given options all options are contextually correct.

18. A general concern over 'freebies' pushing the economy to ruin or unviable pre-election promises adversely affecting informed decision-making by voters seems reasonable.

19. The fall in value of Rupee has raised fears of a repeat of the currency crisis of 2013 **when** the rupee suffered a drastic loss of about 20% in just a few months.

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Catholic	adjective	Universal; embracing everything	उंदार, दुनिया भर का
	Affinity	noun	Sympathy, attraction; kinship; similarity	आत्मीयता, लगाव
	Apocalypse	noun	A prophetic revelation, especially one concerning the end of the world.	क्यामत
Q2	Clique	noun	An exclusive group bound together by some shared quality or interest	गुट
	Cadence	noun	Rhythm; the rise and fall of sounds	ताल, स्वर का घटाना
	Peccadillo	noun	A minor offense	अवगुण
Q3	Aptitude	noun	Capacity for learning; natural ability	योग्यता, कौशल
	Mellifluous	adjective	Sweetly flowing	मधुर
	Impugn	verb	To attack, especially to attack the truth or integrity of something.	बहस करना, जगड़ा करना
Q11	Placate	verb	To pacify; to appease; to soothe	शांत करने के लिए
	Malaise	noun	Feeling uneasy or queasy	असहजता
	Fatalist	noun	Someone who believes that future events are already determined and that human are powerless to change them.	भाग्यवादी
Q12	Nefarious	adjective	Evil; flagrantly wicked	कुटिल
	Derogatory	adjective	Disapproving; Degrading	अपमानजनक
	Oblique	adjective	Indirect; at an angle	अप्रत्यक्ष
Q13	Euphemism	noun	Pleasant or inoffensive expression used in place of unpleasant or offensive one	प्रेयोक्ति, व्यंजना
	Rudimentary	adjective	Basic; crude; unreformed or undeveloped	मौलिक
	Forsake	verb	To abandon; to renounce; to relinquish	त्यागना
Q14	Languish	verb	To become weak, listless, or depressed	दुर्बल
	Volition	noun	Will; conscious choice	इच्छाशक्ति
	Vicissitude	noun	Upheaval; natural change; change in fortune	भाग्य-परिवर्तन

