

Floods and foes: On Pakistan floods and Indian response

India and Pakistan are best placed to help each other during natural disasters

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's **message**, in a tweet on Monday evening, expressing **condolences** to the **victims** of the flooding in Pakistan, **is** a welcome **gesture**, especially after weeks of silence over what has been one of the worst natural disasters in the **neighbourhood** in recent times. More than 1,100 people have died, and over 33 million people have been affected, as officials say **one-third** of the country **is** under water, and estimate about \$10 billion in damage to homes, roads and **infrastructure**. The floods have also affected standing crops, and as the waters **recede**, fears of disease as well as food shortages are expected to rise. **In addition**, **the worry** that the **devastating** floods have been caused due to climate change **is** a worry for all of South Asia, one of the world's regions most **vulnerable** to **global warming**. On Tuesday, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres launched a global appeal for **aid** to Pakistan, that he said had been hit by a "monsoon on **steroids**", indicating unnatural climate patterns. **Countries** such as the U.K., the U.S., China, the UAE, Qatar and Turkey **have** already **dispatched** aid to Pakistan, and many others have promised help, while the IMF announced a \$1.1 billion **bailout tranche** on Tuesday, as part of ongoing **negotiations** with the country that **is already steeped in** an economic crisis. **Given** that the crisis will only deepen at this point, Pakistan Finance Minister Miftah Ismail also said on Monday that he may propose **lifting** the trade ban **imposed** on India after the Jammu-Kashmir reorganisation in 2019, **so as to** import Indian vegetables and essential commodities. Thus far, Islamabad has only made exceptions for **pharmaceutical** imports from India during the COVID-19 pandemic, and India's **humanitarian** aid to Afghanistan.

Despite the poor **state** of India-Pakistan **ties**, both New Delhi and Islamabad must **put aside** their domestic **considerations**, and **seize the moment** to help those **stranded** in the flooding as best they can. India cannot pride itself as being the "first responder" in the neighbourhood — as it has been for Nepal, Sri Lanka, the Maldives and Afghanistan — if it fails to see the **suffering** right at its land boundary with Pakistan. It would be **churlish** and **short-sighted** of Pakistan to reject an opportunity to lift the trade ban with India that has only hurt its own interests, and to **give up** a source of **affordable** supplies at a time of such calamity. And it would be both tragic and **ridiculous** if the **enmity** between the two countries **would** not allow them to work together at a time such as this, even as their governments allow their cricket teams to play each other for financial considerations. Significantly, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif are **due** to travel to Uzbekistan in September for the SCO summit. While a more **lasting dialogue**, that has been **suspended** between the two countries for nearly a **decade** over the terrorism issue, **is unlikely**, the leaders must find the time to discuss ways to **mitigate** the **catastrophe at hand**. **[Practice Exercise]**

- **Calamity** (noun) – Disaster , Catastrophe , Mishap , Misfortune विपत्ति
- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.

Vocabulary

1. **Foe** (noun) – opponent, antagonist, enemy, competitor, adversary शत्रु
2. **Condolence** (noun) – sympathy, pity, compassion, solace संवेदना
3. **Victim** (noun) – An unfortunate person who suffers from some adverse circumstance पीड़ित
4. **Gesture** (noun) – motion, signal, sign, gesticulation, wave इशारा
5. **Neighbourhood** (noun) – A surrounding or nearby region पड़ोस
6. **Infrastructure** (noun) – The stock of basic facilities and capital equipment needed for the functioning of a country or area आधारभूत संरचना
7. **Recede** (verb) – gradually diminish; Ebb कम होना
8. **In addition** (phrase) – moreover, furthermore, additionally, further, besides इसके अलावा
9. **Devastating** (adjective) – destructive, ruinous, disastrous, withering, calamitous भयानक
10. **Vulnerable** (adjective) – exposed, unprotected, susceptible, defenseless, weak कमजोर
11. **Global warming** (noun) – An increase in the average temperature of the earth's atmosphere (especially a sustained increase that causes climatic changes)
12. **Aid** (noun) – help, support, assistance मदद
13. **On steroids** (phrase) – In a bigger or more intense form than normal. प्रचंड
14. **Dispatch** (verb) – send, forward, transmit, ship भेजना
15. **Bailout** (noun) – an act of giving financial assistance to a failing business or economy to save it from collapse. खैरात
16. **Tranche** (noun) – A portion of something (especially money) वित्तांश
17. **Negotiation** (noun) – talks, bargain, discussion, bargaining, dialogue बातचीत
18. **Steep** (verb) – submerge, plunge, soak, engulf, absorb में डुबा होना, डुबना
19. **Given** (preposition) – provided, granted, specified, considering, disposed देखते हुए
20. **Lift** (verb) – Revoke, Cancel, Repeal, End हटाना
21. **Impose** (verb) – enforce, inflict, levy, force, foist थोपना
22. **So as to do something** (phrase) – with the aim of, in order that ताकि

23. **Pharmaceutical** (adjective) – medication, drug, medicament, pharmaceutical, medicine औषध
24. **Humanitarian** (adjective) – charitable, benevolent, humane, philanthropic, generous मानवीय
25. **State** (noun) – condition, situation स्थिति
26. **Ties** (noun) – , bonds, binds, connection संबंधों
27. **Put aside** (phrasal verb) – Disregard, ignore, Forget, Waive एक तरफ रखना
28. **Consideration** (noun) – Factor, issue, point, concern, matter, element
29. **Seize the moment** (phrase) – take the opportunity मौके का फायदा उठाना
30. **Stranded** (adjective) – Cut off or left behind; deserted, isolated फंसे, असहाय, फँसा हुआ
31. **Suffering** (noun) – pain, misery, agony, distress, anguish पीड़ा, कष्ट
32. **Churlish** (adjective) – rude, cross, impolite, surly, discourteous अकखड़, अशिष्ट
33. **Short-sighted** (adjective) – myopic, near-sighted, thoughtless, rash, reckless अदूरदर्शी, कमबीन
34. **Give up** (phrasal verb) – quit, abandon, surrender, relinquish, renounce छोड़ना
35. **Affordable** (adjective) – low-cost, inexpensive, cheap, low-priced, reasonable सस्ती
36. **Ridiculous** (adjective) – absurd, silly, ludicrous, preposterous, stupid हास्यास्पद
37. **Enmity** (noun) – hostility, animosity, antagonism, antipathy, hatred दुश्मनी
38. **Due** (adjective) – expected at or planned for at a certain time. अपेक्षित
39. **Lasting** (adjective) – enduring, persistent, durable, stable स्थायी, टिकाऊ
40. **Dialogue** (noun) – discussion, talk, chat, conversation, talks बातचीत
41. **Suspend** (verb) – discontinue, interrupt, delay, hang, stop लटकाना
42. **Decade** (noun) – A period of 10 years दशक
43. **Unlikely** (adjective) – improbable, implausible, doubtful, unbelievable, incredible संभावना नहीं
44. **Mitigate** (verb) – alleviate, reduce, ease, lessen, relieve कम करना
45. **Catastrophe** (noun) – disaster, calamity, misfortune, tragedy, cataclysm तबाही
46. **At hand** (phrase) – nearby, imminent, near, available आसन्न

Practice Exercise

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

1. The floods have also affected standing crops, and as the waters recede, fears of disease as well as food shortages are expected to rise
 - A. Stymie
 - B. Ebb
 - C. Dearth
 - D. Marshal

2. And it would be both tragic and ridiculous if the enmity between the two countries would not allow them to work together at a time such as this
 - A. Complicity
 - B. Zealous
 - C. Ludicrous
 - D. Specious

3. Despite the poor state of India-Pakistan ties, both New Delhi and Islamabad must put aside their domestic considerations, and seize the moment to help those stranded in the flooding as best they can.
 - A. Covet
 - B. Provisional
 - C. Sycophant
 - D. Abandoned

4. **Idioms & Phrase**
 You always run the risk of upsetting your most loyal fans if you try to do something too innovative with subsequent films.
 - A. To do something although something bad might happen because of it
 - B. Be eager to do what someone wants
 - C. To be successful in one's attempt to punch someone
 - D. Attempt to escape someone or something by running away.

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.**
India has been in the grip of what seems like an eternity of heatwaves.
 - P. April temperatures over north-west and central India are the highest in 122 years.
 - Q. During April 1 to 28, the average monthly maximum temperature over northwest India was 35.9° Celsius and the same over central India was 37.78° C.
 - R. These averages belie measurements at the district and sub-divisional level.
 - S. where several parts of Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, and Maharashtra have seen temperatures inch towards the mid-40s and breach normal.
 - T. There is little respite expected in May, which is anyway the hottest month,

U. though the India Meteorological Department (IMD) says that while north and west India will continue to sizzle on expected lines, and must likely brace for more heatwaves, the rest of the country is unlikely to see the levels of March and April.

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. The closer I approached the valley, the more dense the vegetation became.
B. He had not even registered her presence in the same room.
C. He is on the brink of financial ruin.
D. Although we reached his house in time, he was left for the airport.
E. All are correct
7. A. The last two chapters of the book are very interesting.
B. I saw that film last year but I do not remember its story.
C. The old man was overwhelmed for joy at the success of his only son.
D. Mahatma Gandhi remained a man of principle all through his life.
E. All are correct
8. The hockey match (A)/ between India and Pakistan (B)/ was much exciting. (C)/ No Error(D)
9. His composition (A)/ is inferior (B)/ than mine (C)/ No Error (D)
10. **Find out the misspelt word**
A. Seethe
B. Exculpate
C. Emancipate
D. Disenthrall

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

(The Hindu Editorial: Just in case– Aug 12, 2022)

The grant of bail to the 82-year-old Telugu poet and activist, Varavara Rao, on medical grounds is a welcome relief to at least one of those **arraigned** in the controversial Bhima-Koregaon case under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

The Supreme Court has right ignored the arguments **(A)/** on behalf of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) that age **(B)/** is not a factor in considering grant of bail for one involved in an attempt to overthrow the democratically elected government **(C)/** and that his medical condition is not serious enough. **(D)**

It cannot be forgotten that tribal rights activist Father Stan Swamy, another octogenarian who was arrested in the same case, died of poor health even while his petition for bail on health grounds was being heard. In Mr. Rao's case, he was taken into custody in August 2018 and granted interim bail for six months on health grounds in February 2021.

Having regard to his age, the Supreme Court has now removed the time limit and given him regular bail, albeit with the conditions that he stay in Mumbai and not to get in touch with witnesses. **(1)/** Further, there is no claim that he misused the interim bail in any way. **(2)/** The Bombay High Court had set a date for him to return to custody after treatment, but it has been extended from time to time. **(3)/** The Court has also taken note of the fact that the charge sheet has been filed in the case, but the trial court is yet to frame charges. **(4)/** The options of an accused to get bail under UAPA are largely limited to health grounds, because bail on merits is nearly impossible to get. Under this law, the accused have to demonstrate that the allegations made against them in the police version is, prima facie, not true. This **onerous (A)** condition is not easy to **fulfil (B)**, especially after the Supreme Court in NIA vs Zahoor Ahmad Shah **Wataliruled (C)** that while considering bail, the court should not go deep into the material against a person and must decide whether the **prosecution (D)** case was true “based on the broad probabilities” of the case. However, the Supreme Court has indeed got around this limitation by treating any long delay in holding the trial and violation of fundamental rights as grounds to grant bail even in UAPA cases. The Bhima Koregaon case is an off-shoot of disturbances that took place during a _____ **11** _____ event on December 31, 2017, in Pune. It was used to rope in lawyers and activists and build a case of an alleged Maoist plot to overthrow the government. There are credible reports that electronic evidence in the case could have been planted using spyware to _____ **12** _____ the accused. It is time the courts examined the core question whether the case itself is _____ **13** _____ or one fabricated to corner some activists. The judiciary should not _____ **14** _____ the prolonged incarceration of anyone in a case of doubtful validity.

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

11. The Bhima Koregaon case is an off-shoot of disturbances that took place during a _____ **11** _____ event on December 31, 2017, in Pune.
 - A. Introspective
 - B. Acrid
 - C. Commemorative
 - D. Gravity
12. There are credible reports that electronic evidence in the case could have been planted using spyware to _____ **12** _____ the accused.
 - A. Fabrication
 - B. Implicate
 - C. Reproach
 - D. Impugn
13. It is time the courts examined the core question whether the case itself is _____ **13** _____ or one fabricated to corner some activists.
 - A. Tenable
 - B. Anecdote
 - C. Parody
 - D. Appeasing

14. The judiciary should not _____ 14 _____ the prolonged incarceration of anyone in a case of doubtful validity
- Genre
 - Countenance
 - Vestige
 - Ingenuous
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.**
- The Supreme Court has right ignored the arguments **(A)/** on behalf of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) that age **(B)/** is not a factor in considering grant of bail for one involved in an attempt to overthrow the democratically elected government **(C)/** and that his medical condition is not serious enough. **(D)**
- (A)
 - (B)
 - (C)
 - (D)
 - No Error
16. **Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.**
- Having regard to his age, the Supreme Court has now removed the time limit and given him regular bail, albeit with the conditions that he stay in Mumbai and not to get in touch with witnesses. **(1)/** Further, there is no claim that he misused the interim bail in any way. **(2)/** The Bombay High Court had set a date for him to return to custody after treatment, but it has been extended from time to time. **(3)/** The Court has also taken note of the fact that the charge sheet has been filed in the case, but the trial court is yet to frame charges. **(4)/**
- 1234
 - 3142
 - 3421
 - 2143
 - 2431
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
- ARRAIGN**
- They will **arraign** the suspect in the morning
 - He was **arraigned** for criminally abetting a traitor.
 - He was **arraigned** of disorderly behaviour by magistrates.
- Only (i)
 - Only (ii)
 - Only (iii)
 - (i), (ii)
 - (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.

This **onerous (A)** condition is not easy to **fulfil (B)**, especially after the Supreme Court in NIA vs Zahoor Ahmad Shah **Wataliruled (C)** that while considering bail, the court should not go deep into the material against a person and must decide whether the **prosecution (D)** case was true “based on the broad probabilities” of the case.

- A. C – A
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) Popularly everyone called a Circle is deemed a Circle, yet among the better educated Classes
- (ii) It is known that no Circle is really a Circle, but only a Polygon with a very large number of very small sides.
- A. Whereas
B. Although
C. Due to
D. Unless
E. As opposed to
20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks
- The huge pot of stew seethed _____ bubbles as it boiled uncontrollably.
- A. Of
B. From
C. With
D. To
E. None of the above

Answers

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

Explanations

4. **Run the risk of** (phrase) – to do something although something bad might happen because of it का जोखिम उठाना
5. **PQRSTU**
 India has been in the grip of what seems like an eternity of heatwaves. April temperatures over north-west and central India are the highest in 122 years. During April 1 to 28, the average monthly maximum temperature over northwest India was 35.9° Celsius and the same over central India was 37.78° C. These averages belie measurements at the district and sub-divisional level where several parts of Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, and Maharashtra have seen temperatures inch towards the mid-40s and breach normals. There is little respite expected in May, which is anyway the hottest month, though the India Meteorological Department (IMD) says that while north and west India will continue to sizzle on expected lines, and must likely brace for more heatwaves, the rest of the country is unlikely to see the levels of March and April.
6. 'was left' के बदले 'had left' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'we' के घर पहुँचने (reach) की घटना past की है जबकि 'he' के 'airport' के लिए 'रवाना होने' (leave for) की घटना past of the past की है और past of the past की घटना के लिए Past Perfect का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे-
- i. Although she failed, she had worked very hard to pass
- 'had left' will be used instead of 'was left' because 'we' have reached home in the past while 'he' has 'leave' for 'airport' is of the past of the past and Past Perfect is used for an event of the past of past; As-
- i. Although she failed, she had worked very hard to pass
7. 'for' के बदले 'by' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Passive Voice में 'agent' के पहले सामान्यतः 'by' का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे-
- i. He was beaten by his father.
- 'by' will be used instead of 'for' because 'by' is usually used before 'agent' in Passive Voice; As-
- i. He was beaten by his father.
8. 'much' के बदले 'very' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि सामान्यतः Present Participle के पहले very का प्रयोग होता है, जबकि Past Participle के पहले 'much' का; जैसे-
- i. This film is very boring.
 ii. I have seen a much drunken man.
- 'very' will be used instead of 'much' because usually very is used before Present Participle, while 'much' before Past Participle; As-
- i. This film is very boring.

- ii. I have seen a much drunken man.
9. 'than' के बदले 'to' का प्रयोग होगा, क्योंकि senior, Junior, inferior, superior, prior, anterior, posterior' के बाद Preposition 'to' का प्रयोग होता है, न कि Conjunction 'Than' का: जैसे-

- i. Your essay is Inferior to mine.
ii. He is senior to me

➤ 'to' will be used instead of 'than', because after 'senior, junior, inferior, superior, prior, anterior, posterior' the preposition 'to' is used and not the conjunction 'than' : As-

- i. Your essay is Inferior to mine.
ii. He is senior to me.

10. **Disenthral** (verb) – set free बंधन से मुक्त करना

11. **Commemorative** (adjective) – memorial, remembrance, celebratory, celebrative स्मरणीय

12. **Implicate** (verb) – involve in, concern with, associate with, incriminate फंसाना

13. **Tenable** (adjective) – defensible, justifiable, defensible, supportable, sustainable, तर्कसंगत, मान्य

14. **Countenance** (verb) – tolerate, permit, allow, admit of, approve, सहन करना

15. (A) Replace 'Rightly' with 'Right' as adverb is used to qualify verb.

16. (D) **3142**

The Bombay High Court had set a date for him to return to custody after treatment, but it has been extended from time to time. Having regard to his age, the Supreme Court has now removed the time limit and given him regular bail, albeit with the conditions that he stay in Mumbai and not to get in touch with witnesses. The Court has also taken note of the fact that the charge sheet has been filed in the case, but the trial court is yet to frame charges. Further, there is no claim that he misused the interim bail in any way.

17. **Arraign** (verb) – indict, prosecute, put on trial, bring to trial अपराधी ठहराना

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

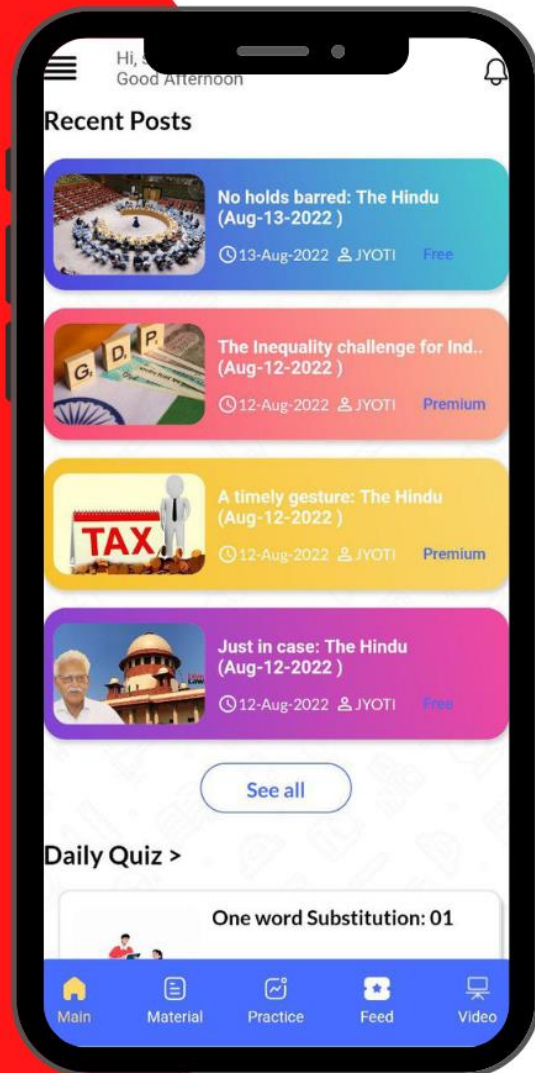
Because the (iii) sentence is not giving any meaning and correct sentence should be like

He was acquitted of disorderly behaviour by magistrates.

19. **Although** popularly everyone called a Circle is deemed a Circle, yet among the better educated Classes it is known that no Circle is really a Circle, but only a Polygon with a very large number of very small sides.

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Stymie	verb	To thwart; to get in the way of; to hinder	गतिरोध
	Dearth	noun	Lack; scarcity	कमी, अकाल
Q2	Marshal	verb	To Arrange in order; to gather together for the purpose of doing something	सुव्यवस्थित करना
	Complicity	noun	Participation in wrongdoing; the act of being an accomplice	सहापराध, सहभागिता
	Zealous	adjective	Enthusiastically devoted to something fervent.	उत्साही
	Specious	adjective	Deceptively plausible or attractive	दिखावटी
Q3	Covet	verb	To wish for enviously	लालच करना, ललचाना
	Provisional	adjective	Conditional; temporary; tentative	अस्थायी
	Sycophant	noun	One who sucks up to other	चापलूस
Q11	Introspective	adjective	Tending to think about oneself; examining one's feeling	आत्मविश्लेषी
	Acrid	adjective	Harsh like acid	कटु, कड़वा, उग्र
	Gravity	noun	Seriousness	गंभीरता
Q12	Fabrication	noun	A lie; something made up	छलरचना
	Reproach	verb	To scold, usually in disappointment; to blame; to disgrace	तिरस्कार
	Impugn	verb	To attack, especially to attack the truth or integrity of something.	बहस करना, जगड़ा करना
Q13	Anecdote	noun	A short account of a humorous or revealing incident	छोटी सी कहानी, घटना
	Parody	noun	A satirical imitation	हास्यानुकृति
	Appease	verb	To soothe; to pacify by giving in to	मनाना, शांत करना,
Q14	Genre	noun	Type or category, especially of art or writing	शैली, अंग
	Vestige	noun	Remaining bit of something; a last trace	शेष
	Ingenuous	adjective	Frank; without deception; simple; artless; charmingly naïve	सरल



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