

A matter of trust: On the uncertainty in Jharkhand

The Governor must end the uncertainty over the **unseating** of Hemant Soren

The Hemant Soren government in Jharkhand has proved its majority **amid** the continuing uncertainty over the Chief Minister's membership of the State Legislative Assembly. Mr. Soren is **accused** of allotting a **mining lease** to himself, an act that can potentially **cost** him his Assembly seat. In the 81-member strong Assembly, **the ruling alliance** of Mr. Soren's Jharkhand Mukti Morcha, the Congress, NCP, RJD and CPI(M-L) **had** 48 votes in Tuesday's vote of confidence, a comfortable majority. With 26 seats, the BJP has been left far behind but it has continued **nurturing** hope of **seizing** power that it had not won in the **polls**. The JMM-led alliance has been **wobbly** despite its numerical **dominance in the face of** the BJP's constant threats of **sabotage**. **Whispers** regarding an ongoing **scheme** to **upend** the State government, as in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, **came to the fore** with the arrest of three Congress MLAs in neighbouring West Bengal on July 30 with cash that they **allegedly** received for **defecting**. With the sword of **disqualification** hanging over the head of the CM, the ruling alliance **managed** to keep its MLAs together and initiated a **confidence motion**. The BJP appears to have developed **second thoughts**, and is unsure of its strategy to **deal with** Mr. Soren. The last word has not been said, but for now, **the Soren government** — and the alliance — **has** survived.

Governor Ramesh Bais's **silence** regarding Mr. Soren's disqualification as MLA **is confounding** — or **perhaps** too **transparent** — for it **mirrors** the **ambiguity** of the BJP. Mr. Bais is expected to announce whether Mr. Soren stands disqualified, **taking into consideration** the opinion of the Election Commission of India (ECI) that he had received in August. There is no official word from the Governor on the ECI's letter, but State BJP leaders are confident that the disqualification has been recommended. The process was **triggered** in February 2022 when the BJP complained to the Governor that Mr. Soren had got a mining lease from the State, and hence was in violation of Section 9(A) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. There are several questions that will naturally follow if he were to be disqualified, the most important of them being whether he would be able to continue as Chief Minister. A Chief Minister can be in office without being a member of the **legislature** for up to six months. However, it would not be proper for a person who is disqualified as MLA for violating the law to continue as Chief Minister using a technical **fig leaf**. A more immediate **question** of **impropriety** **is** the Governor's **refusal** to announce his decision and end the uncertainty, at least on one question. A Governor has no reason to try to **tilt the scales** in favour of or against any political party, through **acts of omission or commission**. Mr. Bais should take a decision and announce it at once.

[Practice Exercise]

- Seize (verb) – to take forcibly and quickly हथियाना
- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'

Vocabulary

1. **Uncertainty** (noun) – doubt, doubtfulness, incertitude, dubiety, hesitation
अनिश्चितता
2. **Unseating** (noun) – overthrow, ousting, removal, toppling हटाना
3. **Amid** (preposition) – among, between, amidst, midst, during के बीच
4. **Accuse** (of) (verb) – blame, incriminate, denounce, impeach आरोप लगाना
5. **Mining lease** (noun) – a lease granted for the purpose of undertaking mining operations
6. **Cost** (verb) – to make you lose something हानि उठाना
7. **Ruling** (adjective) – Governing, Reigning, Administrating, Leading सत्तारूढ़
8. **Alliance** (noun) – union, association, league, coalition, federation गठबंधन
9. **Nurture** (verb) – Help develop, help grow; foster, nourish, raise, rear, cultivate बढ़ाना; पोषित करना
10. **Poll** (noun) – Election चुनाव
11. **Wobbly** (adjective) – shaky, unsteady, rickety, unstable लड़खड़ाहट
12. **Dominance** (noun) – supremacy, authority, ascendancy प्रभाव, प्रधानता
13. **In the face of** (phrase) – despite, in spite of, notwithstanding के बावजूद
14. **Sabotage** (noun) – Disruption, Damage, Interruption, Interference तोड़-फोड़
15. **Whisper** (noun) – Murmur, Rumor कानाफूसी
16. **Scheme** (noun) – An elaborate and systematic plan of action योजना
17. **Upend** (verb) – to set on end; invert, overturn पलटना
18. **Come to the fore** (phrase) – make oneself visible; take action सामने आ जाना
19. **Allegedly** (adverb) – supposedly, reportedly, ostensibly, apparently, seemingly कथित तौर पर
20. **Defect** (verb) – Desert, Abscond, Decamp, Change sides, Turn traitor दल-बदली करना
21. **Disqualification** (noun) – Ineligibility, Banning, Barring, Disentitlement, Debarment अपात्रता
22. **Manage** (to) (verb) – Be successful; achieve a goal सफल होना
23. **Confidence motion** (noun) – a formal process in which people (such as the members of a legislature) vote in order to indicate whether or not they support a leader, government, etc विश्वास प्रस्ताव

24. **Second thoughts** (noun) – a change of mind or opinion about something; doubts that you have when you are not sure if you have made the right decision किए गए निर्णय के सही होने में संदेह
25. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) – handle, cope with, treat, manage, contend with निपटना
26. **Confound** (verb) – to confuse and surprise somebody उलझन में डालना
27. **Perhaps** (adverb) – possibly, maybe, probably, perchance शायद
28. **Transparent** (adjective) – clear, obvious, sheer, lucid, plain पारदर्शी
29. **Mirror** (verb) – Represent, Illustrate, Symbolize, Signify, Embody प्रतिबिंबित करना
30. **Ambiguity** (noun) – uncertainty, equivocation, vagueness, obscurity, equivocalness अस्पष्टता
31. **Take into consideration** (phrase) – take into account, consider, bear in mind, reflect, include ध्यान में रखना
32. **Trigger** (verb) – provoke, activate, cause, spark off, set off चालू करना
33. **Legislature** (noun) – parliament, council, legislative assembly, assembly विधानमंडल
34. **Fig leaf** (noun) – a thing intended to conceal a difficulty or embarrassment
35. **Impropriety** (noun) – Misdemeanor, Irregularity, Illegality, Misconduct, Misconduct, Mishap अनौचित्य, अनीति
36. **Refusal** (noun) – denial, rejection, rebuff, repudiation, negation इनकार
37. **Tilt the scale** (phrase) – To change the balance of a situation, such that one side or element is favored or gains advantage किसी के पक्ष में झुकना
38. **Act of omission or commission** (noun) – things you have failed to do, and things you have done

Practice Exercise

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

1. The Governor must end the uncertainty over the unseating of Hemant Soren
 - A. Metamorphosis
 - B. Replenish
 - C. Assiduous
 - D. Overthrow
2. Governor Ramesh Bais's silence regarding Mr. Soren's disqualification as MLA is confounding — or perhaps too transparent — for it mirrors the ambiguity of the BJP
 - A. Prudent
 - B. Fetter
 - C. Uncertainty
 - D. Circumscribe
3. A more immediate question of impropriety is the Governor's refusal to announce his decision and end the uncertainty, at least on one question
 - A. Degenerate
 - B. Prodigal
 - C. Infamous
 - D. Misdemeanor
4. **Idioms & Phrase**
 The board was prepared to fire him over the offense, but they stayed their hand and opted to suspend him from his role instead.
 - A. To take decision on
 - B. To make sure that a process does not stop
 - C. Restrain someone from acting
 - D. Appear promising but ultimately disappoint
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.**
In a substantial blow in favour of free speech, the Supreme Court has effectively suspended the operation of the sedition provision in the country's penal law.
 - P. The Court has recorded its hope and expectation that governments at the Centre and
 - Q. it has decided to re-examine and reconsider the provision as part of the Prime Minister's efforts to scrap outdated laws and compliance burdens.
 - R. the States will refrain from registering any fresh case of sedition under Section 124A of the IPC, or continuing with any investigation or taking any coercive measure under it.
 - S. The hope and the expectation arise from the Union government's own submission that
 - T. "All pending trials, appeals and proceedings with respect to the charge framed under Section 124A be kept in abeyance",

U. it has said in an order that will bring some welcome relief to those calling for the abrogation of Section 124A of the IPC, which criminalises any speech, writing or representation that “excites disaffection against the government”.

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

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

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

6. A. I cannot do this work as it is under my dignity.
B. We refused them admission.
C. A majority of the shareholders want the merger.
D. It has been raining since the morning.
E. All are correct
7. A. Grief disguised is almost potent than grief expressed.
B. Despite the merger the airline has reported sizeable losses and is unable to pay its employees.
C. We have recently begun the process of recruiting insurance agents for our North-Eastern branches.
D. The company’s decision to issue bonus shares clearly indicates the management’s confidence about the future.
E. All are correct
8. He asked her that (A)/ whether she knew (B)/ what had happened the previous week (C) / when she was on leave. (D)/ No Error(E)
9. Until you do not go (A)/ to the station (B)/ to receive him (C)/ I can hardly feel at ease. (D)/ No Error. (E)
10. **Find out the misspelt word**
 - A. Segregation
 - B. Promiencence
 - C. Generous
 - D. Inception

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

(The Hindu Editorial: Remission without reform – Aug 17, 2022)

The release of 11 convicts sentenced to life for the heinous murder of seven people and the gang-rape of three women during the Gujarat _____ **11** _____ pogrom of 2002 is a questionable decision by the State. On the face of it, it also appears to be illegal, as their terms seem to have been remitted without the required consultation with the Union government. It defies logic that those convicted for direct involvement in the rape of three women, the murder of a three-year-old and six others can be considered candidates for premature release under any remission policy.

Further, a Constitution Bench, in 2015, held that ‘consultation’ meant ‘concurrence’ in this provision. **(1)/** One of the convicts had obtained an order from the Supreme Court in May, under which Gujarat,

the State in which the crime occurred, was held to be the appropriate government to consider his premature release. **(2)**/ However, it is difficult to treat this as a waiver of the requirement under Section 435 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which makes consultation with the Centre mandatory. **(3)**/The Court had asked the State to decide the application under its 1992 remission policy, as it was the relevant one on the date of conviction in 2008. **(4)**/ The remission also runs contrary to the spirit of contemporary thinking on treating crimes against women and children, especially rape combined with murder, as so _____**12**_____ that the perpetrators should not be considered for remission. It is not clear if the committee that recommended remission had considered the _____**13**_____ effect the release of these prisoners might have on the survivors and other members of the affected community. A life sentence normally means that a convict has to spend the natural life in prison. The Cr.P.C. does permit premature release in the form of remission or commutation, but it should be based on a legal and constitutional scheme, and not on a ruler's _____**14**_____. The power of remission has been conferred on the Union and State governments — apart from the sovereign power of **clémency** enjoyed by the President and Governors — so that it can be used to temper the law's rigours with an element of grace.

While the benefit of remission ought not to be denied to anyone without (A)/ a ray of hope that they will be free one day, (B)/ it is a power to be exercised with discretion and wisdom. Farther, any decision on remission (C)/ should be linked to the convict's expression of regret and some promise of reform. (D)

It would be unjustified if given for political considerations merely because of elapse of the minimum number of years they have to serve. With an Assembly election due in Gujarat at the end of the year, it is difficult not to read political significance into this decision. The **conscience (A)** of the released convicts being **greeted (B)** and **feted (C)** on their release will not sit easy on the country's **sight (D)**.

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

11. The release of 11 convicts sentenced to life for the heinous murder of seven people and the gang-rape of three women during the Gujarat _____**11**_____ pogrom of 2002 is a questionable decision by the State.
 - A. Rhetoric
 - B. Communal
 - C. Sublime
 - D. Hiatus
12. The remission also runs contrary to the spirit of contemporary thinking on treating crimes against women and children, especially rape combined with murder, as so _____**12**_____ that the perpetrators should not be considered for remission.
 - A. Heinous
 - B. Categorical
 - C. Digressing
 - D. Relinquishing

13. It is not clear if the committee that recommended remission had considered the _____¹³ effect the release of these prisoners might have on the survivors and other members of the affected community.
- A. Debacle
 - B. Adulation
 - C. Disquieting
 - D. Acrid
14. The Cr.P.C. does permit premature release in the form of remission or commutation, but it should be based on a legal and constitutional scheme, and not on a ruler's _____¹⁴.
- A. Charlatan
 - B. Whimsy
 - C. Stringent
 - D. Ponderous
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.**
- While the benefit of remission ought not to be denied to anyone without **(A)**/ a ray of hope that they will be free one day, **(B)**/ it is a power to be exercised with discretion and wisdom. Farther, any decision on remission **(C)**/ should be linked to the convict's expression of regret and some promise of reform. **(D)**
- A. (A)
 - B. (B)
 - C. (C)
 - D. (D)
 - E. No Error
16. **Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.**
- Further, a Constitution Bench, in 2015, held that 'consultation' meant 'concurrence' in this provision. **(1)**/ One of the convicts had obtained an order from the Supreme Court in May, under which Gujarat, the State in which the crime occurred, was held to be the appropriate government to consider his premature release. **(2)**/ However, it is difficult to treat this as a waiver of the requirement under Section 435 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which makes consultation with the Centre mandatory. **(3)**/The Court had asked the State to decide the application under its 1992 remission policy, as it was the relevant one on the date of conviction in 2008.**(4)**
- A. 1234
 - B. 3214
 - C. 2431
 - D. 2143
 - E. 4321
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

CLEMENCY

- (i) Voters gave their **clemency** on the government's economic record last night by voting overwhelmingly for the opposition.
- (ii) We have made repeated calls for **clemency** on humanitarian grounds.
- (iii) These murders have provoked **clemency** across the country.
- A. Only (i)
- B. Only (ii)
- C. Only (iii)
- D. (i), (ii)
- E. (ii), (iii)
18. In the following question, a sentence is given with four words marked as (A), (B), (C), and (D). These words may or may not be placed in the correct order. Four options with different arrangements of these have been provided. Mark the option with the correct arrangement as the answer. If no rearrangement is required, mark option (5) as your answer.
- The **conscience** (A) of the released convicts being **greeted** (B) and **feted** (C) on their release will not sit easy on the country's **sight** (D).
- 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) John always studied for his mathematics exams
- (ii) He always scored full marks.
- A. Whereas
- B. While
- C. Therefore
- D. Unless
- E. As
20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks
- He was indignant _____ being the object of suspicion.
- A. At
- B. On
- C. Of
- D. To
- E. None of the above

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

4. **Stay one's hand** (phrase) – restrain someone from acting.
 5. **TUPRSQ**

In a substantial blow in favour of free speech, the Supreme Court has effectively suspended the operation of the sedition provision in the country's penal law. "All pending trials, appeals and proceedings with respect to the charge framed under Section 124A be kept in abeyance", it has said in an order that will bring some welcome relief to those calling for the abrogation of Section 124A of the IPC, which criminalises any speech, writing or representation that "excites disaffection against the government". The Court has recorded its hope and expectation that governments at the Centre and the States will refrain from registering any fresh case of sedition under Section 124A of the IPC, or continuing with any investigation or taking any coercive measure under it. The hope and the expectation arise from the Union government's own submission that it has decided to re-examine and reconsider the provision as part of the Prime Minister's efforts to scrap outdated laws and compliance burdens.

6. 'under' के बदले 'below' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'under' 'के नीचे' के अर्थ में vertical position जबकि 'below' 'के नीचे' के अर्थ में level बताता है; जैसे-

- i. There is a box under the table.
- ii. This type of work is below my dignity

➤ 'below' will be used instead of 'under' because 'under' means vertical position while 'below' indicates level; As-

- i. There is a box under the table.
- ii. This type of work is below my dignity

7. 'almost potent' के बदले 'more potent' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि तुलना Comparative Degree में 'Grief disguised' तथा 'grief expressed' के बीच है और potent के बाद 'than' का प्रयोग है, जो Comparative Degree के बाद प्रयुक्त होता है।

➤ 'almost potent' will be replaced with 'more potent' because the comparison is between 'Grief disguised' and 'grief expressed' in Comparative Degree and 'than' is used after potent, which is equivalent to Comparative Degree is used later.

8. Part (A) में 'that' का प्रयोग नहीं होगा क्योंकि Indirect Question के Reported Speech में 'if/whether' का प्रयोग होता है यदि Reported Speech में Yes/NO-Question हो अर्थात् Reported Speech में कोई Interrogative word नहीं हो बल्कि केवल Auxiliary Verb हो।

➤ 'that' will not be used in Part (A) because 'if/whether' is used in Reported Speech of Indirect Question if there is Yes/NO-Question in Reported Speech i.e. no Interrogative word in Reported Speech, but only Auxiliary Verb.

9. 'until you do not go' के बदले 'until you go' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'until, unless' में 'not' का भाव मौजूद होता है। अतः इनसे शुरू वाले Clause में 'not' जोड़कर इन्हें Double Negative नहीं बनाया जाता है; जैसे-

- i. Unless you work hard, you will not succeed.
- ii. If you do not work hard, you will not succeed.

➤ 'until you do not go' will be replaced with 'until you go' because 'until, unless' has the meaning of 'not'. Therefore, by adding 'not' to the clauses starting with them, they are not made Double Negative; As-

- i. Unless you work hard, you will not succeed.
- ii. If you do not work hard, you will not succeed.

10. **Prominence** (noun) –pre-eminence, importance, distinction, greatness प्रसिद्धि, विशिष्टता

11. **Communal** (adjective) – collective, cooperative, community, communalist सांप्रदायिक

12. **Heinous** (adjective) – odious, wicked, evil, atrocious, monstrous, disgraceful, जघन्य

13. **Disquieting** (adjective) – appalling, horrifying, horrific, dreadful, awful, frightful बेचैन करनेवाला

14. **Whimsy** (noun) – capriciousness, caprice, volatility, fickleness, idiosyncrasy, eccentricity सनक

15. Replace 'Further' with 'Farther', As 'Farther' refers to actual distances between objects while 'further' refers to figurative distances or something that is additional or more

16. (C) **2431**

One of the convicts had obtained an order from the Supreme Court in May, under which Gujarat, the State in which the crime occurred, was held to be the appropriate government to consider his premature release. The Court had asked the State to decide the application under its 1992 remission policy, as it was the relevant one on the date of conviction in 2008. However, it is difficult to treat this as a waiver of the requirement under Section 435 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which makes consultation with the Centre mandatory. Further, a Constitution Bench, in 2015, held that 'consultation' meant 'concurrence' in this provision.

17. **Clemency** (noun) – mercy, mercifulness, leniency, lenience, mildness क्षमा, रहम

According to the given options only (ii) is contextually correct.

Because the (i) and (iii) sentences are not giving any meaning and correct sentences should be like

Voters gave their verdict on the government's economic record last night by voting overwhelmingly for the opposition.

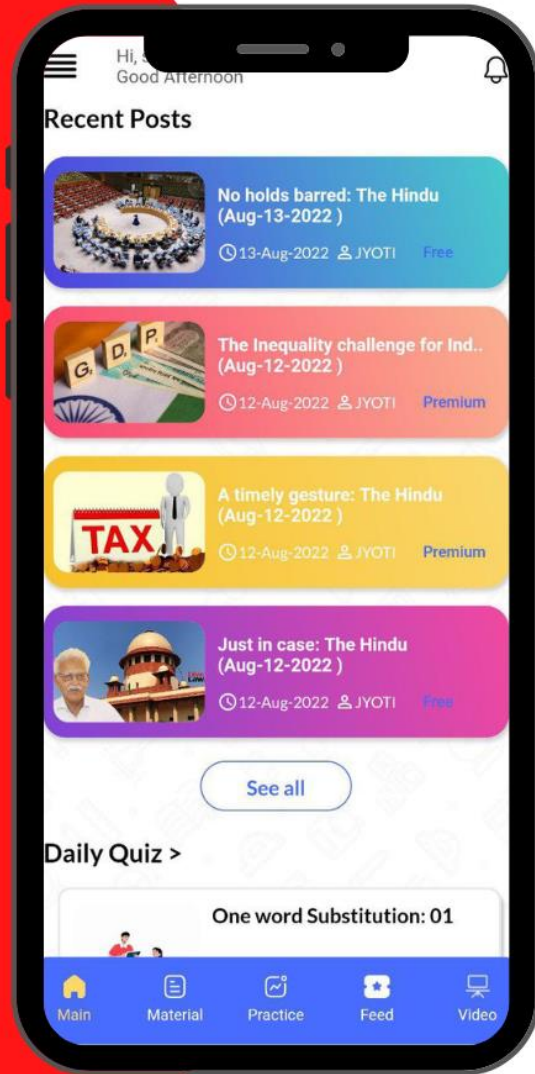
These murders have provoked outrage across the country.

18. The sight of the released convicts being greeted and feted on their release will not sit easy on the country's conscience.

19. John always studied for his mathematics exams, **therefore**, he always scored full marks.

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Metamorphosis	noun	A magical change in form; a striking or sudden change	कायापलट
	Replenish	verb	To fill again; to resupply; to restore	फिर से भरना
	Assiduous	adjective	Hardworking; busy; quite intelligent/diligent	परिश्रमी
Q2	Prudent	adjective	Careful; having foresight	विवेकी
	Fetter	verb	To restrain; to hamper	रोकना, बेड़ी डालना
	Circumscribe	verb	To draw a line around; to set limit; to define; to restrict	प्रतिबंध लगाना, शर्त लगाना, पाबंदी लगाना
Q3	Degenerate	verb	To break down; to deteriorate	पतित, नष्टधर्मी
	Prodigal	adjective	Wastefully extravagant	खर्चीला
	Infamous	adjective	Shamefully wicked, having an extremely bad reputation; disgraceful	बदनाम
Q11	Rhetoric	noun	The art of formal speaking or writing; inflated discourse	वक्रपटुता
	Sublime	adjective	Awesome; extremely exalted; lofty; majestic	अति उत्तम
	Hiatus	noun	A break or interruption, often from work	अभाव, विराम
Q12	Categorical	adjective	Unconditional; absolute	स्पष्ट, श्रेणीगत, निरपेक्ष
	Digress	verb	To stray from the main subject	पीछे हटना, विषयान्तर
	Relinquish	verb	To release or let go of; to surrender; to stop doing	त्यागना
Q13	Debacle	noun	Violent Breakdown; sudden overthrow	पराजय, शिकस्त
	Adulation	noun	Wild or excessive administration flattery	चाटुकारिता, चापलूसी
	Acrid	adjective	Harsh like acid	कटु, कड़ुवा, उग्र
Q14	Charlatan	noun	Fraud; Quack; con man	मायावी, झूठा, धोखेबाज़
	Stringent	adjective	Strict; restrictive	कठोर
	Ponderous	adjective	So large as to be clumsy; massive; dull	कष्टकारक



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