

Managing sports

Administrators seem **reluctant** to accept the National Sports **Code**

When sports administrators **make news**, it is **often** not for the right reasons. These past few months, India's sports administrators have been in the news far too frequently. Rarely does a day end before one of them is **pulled up** by the court, another is forced to resign or yet another **stakes claim to** a post. In the latest **instance**, the sports official to **hit the headlines** has been Anil Khanna, who resigned on Wednesday as the acting-president of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA). He had **assumed** charge after Narinder Batra was forced to quit in July. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has **made it clear** that it would not recognise any **acting/interim** president of the IOA. The IOC is not **pleased** that the long-pending **elections** to the IOA **have** not been held and has even threatened India with serious consequences. The IOC could ban India if the elections are not held by December. Then, Indian athletes would not be able to represent the country in events, including the Olympic Games, and India would not be able to receive funds from the IOC. Only a month ago, the Gokulam Kerala football team **found out** what happens when such a ban is **enforced**. The players had to return from Uzbekistan, where they had gone to take part in the AFC Women's Club Championship. That was because the world football **governing** body FIFA had banned the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

The ban has since been **lifted** and the AIFF has conducted its elections. But there are other sports, such as hockey and table tennis, that continue to be run by the court-appointed committees of administrators. **The main reason** behind the **messy state of affairs** in India's sports administration at the moment **is** the **reluctance** of the officials, across sports bodies, to accept the National Sports Development Code of India, introduced by the central government in 2011. Its intention was **noble**. By putting a limit to the tenure and age of an administrator, it had the **potential** to stop sports federations from remaining as the personal **fiefdoms** of a few, many of them politicians. **At a time** when Indian sport is showing more promise than it ever did before — the Tokyo Olympics, the Birmingham Commonwealth Games, the Thomas Cup and the Chess Olympiad have shown that the country has more to offer than just cricket — the administration needs to **get its act together**. The **incumbents** should gracefully **make way** for new administrators with fresh ideas and also allow more **former** international sportspersons in **key** administrative posts. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

1. **Reluctant** (adjective) –unwilling, disinclined, unenthusiastic, grudging
अनिच्छुक
2. **Code** (noun) – laws, body of law, rules, regulations, constitution संहिता
3. **Make news** (phrase) – To garner attention and be the topic of conversation.
4. **Often** (adverb) – frequently, in many instances, repeatedly, again and again
अक्सर
5. **Pull up** (phrasal verb) –reprimand, rebuke, scold, chide, chastise डांटना, फटकारना
6. **Stake claim to something** (phrase) – to declare that something belongs to you
7. **Instance** (noun) – example, illustration, case उदाहरण
8. **Hit the headlines** (phrase) – to appear in the news suddenly or receive a lot of attention in news reports
9. **Assume** (verb) – accept, shoulder, bear, take on, take up (charge/position) ग्रहण करना
10. **Make clear** (phrase) – explain, elucidate, spell out, clarify स्पष्ट करना
11. **Acting** (adjective) – substitute, deputy; temporary, short-term, provisional
कार्यवाहक
12. **Interim** (adjective) – provisional, temporary, pro tem, stopgap, short-term
अंतरिम
13. **Pleased** (adjective) – happy, glad, delighted, gratified, grateful प्रसन्न/ खुश
14. **Find out** (phrasal verb) – to get information about something
15. **Enforce** (verb) – impose, apply, carry out, administer, implement लागू करना
16. **Governing** (adjective) – ruling, controlling
17. **Lift** (verb) – revoke, cancel, rescind, end, repeal हटाना
18. **Messy** (adjective) –a situation that is unpleasant: complex, tangled, confused
खराब /अव्यवस्थित
19. **State of affairs** (phrase) – situation at particular time. स्थिति
20. **Reluctance** (noun) – hesitation, unwillingness, disinclination अनिच्छा
21. **Noble** (adjective) – grand, dignified, virtuous, worthy, honorable नेक
22. **Potential** (noun) – capability, capacity, ability, power क्षमता
23. **Fiefdom** (noun) – domain, realm; an area or type of activity that is controlled by someone जागीर

24. **At a time** (phrase) – on each occasion हर बार
25. **Get one's act together** (phrase) – to start to organize yourself so that you do things in an effective way
26. **Incumbent** (noun) – occupant, officeholder, obligatory, compulsory, current पदधारी
27. **Make way** (phrase) – to provide a space or an opportunity for something else
28. **Former** (adjective) – previous, earlier, prior, ex पूर्व
29. **Key** (adjective) – crucial, essential, prime, chief, important, significant प्रमुख

Practice Exercise

1. **What are the consequences of banning India team by IOC if the elections are not held by December?** [Editorial page]
- (i) India would no longer receive funds from the IOC
 - (ii) Other sports, such as hockey and table tennis are likely to feel the pinch.
 - (iii) Indian athletes would not be able to represent the country in events, including the Olympic Games.
- A. (i), (ii)
 - B. (ii), (iii)
 - C. (i), (iii)
 - D. All of the above
2. **Why the officials are reluctant to accept the National Sports Development Code of India?**
- A. Because many of them officials are politicians and do not want any interference in the system.
 - B. Because of putting a limit to the tenure and age of an administrator.
 - C. Because officials do not want to indulge former international sportspersons in key administrative posts
 - D. Because officials believe that sports federations would no longer their personal fiefdoms
3. **What is the intention behind the introduction of the National Sports Development Code of India, introduced by the central government in 2011?**
- A. To induct former international sportspersons in key administrative posts rather than politicians.
 - B. To make sport federation more responsive and efficient so as to outshine cricket.
 - C. To stop sports federations from remaining as the personal fiefdoms of a few
 - D. To receive funds from the IOC.
4. **Why Anil Khanna forced to resign from the post of the acting-president of IOA?**
- A. Because the tenure has been elapsed.
 - B. Because the Supreme Court found that Mr. Khanna hold the post without authorization.
 - C. Because Narinder Batra deemed fit to be a acting president of IOA instead of Anil Khanna.
 - D. Because IOC it would not recognise any acting/interim president of the IOA.
5. **In the following question, out of the four alternatives, choose the word which best expresses the meaning of the given word.**
- FIEDOM**
- A. Temerity
 - B. Domain
 - C. Malfeasance
 - D. Accost

Direction (Q6 – Q10): Read the given sentences to find out whether there is any grammatical error in them

6. A. Mohini was so tired that she could not hardly talk to the guests for a few minutes.
B. Neither of the two children said his prayer before going to bed.

- C. I sat down opposite him and offered him the packet of cigarettes.
D. This happened exactly five years ago.
E. All are correct
7. A. Toni smiled when he remembered his hard early years and his long road to success
B. Good heavens! How she has grown!
C. He goes to office by foot.
D. The doctor advised MR. Prakash that, because of his severe cramps, he should lie in bed for a few days.
E. All are correct
8. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate idiom.**
The LAC comment predictably led to China's Foreign Ministry accusing the U.S. of _____
A. Taking a stand
B. Putting to rest
C. Adding fuel to the fire
D. In the making
9. **Fill in the blank with the most appropriate Phrasal verb**
Bitcoin, the most popular cryptocurrency, has lost over two-thirds of its value since its peak in November last year and has _____ many retail investors
A. Looked for
B. Wiped out
C. Leave aside
D. Band together
10. **Find out the misspelt word**
A. Acreage
B. Caribbean
C. Cemetary
D. Plagiarize
11. **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.
By speaking out last week on the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), two top American officials have sent a clear message that Washington views the on-going India-China border tensions as part of the broader geopolitical contest underway in the region.
P. He underlined that the Biden administration saw the Indo-Pacific as its "priority theatre of operations" and at the "heart of American grand strategy".
Q. The LAC comment predictably led to China's Foreign Ministry accusing the U.S. of "adding fuel to the fire".
R. On a visit to New Delhi, General Charles A. Flynn, Commander of the U.S. Army Pacific, described the level of Chinese activity in Eastern Ladakh as "eye-opening" and questioned its intentions.

S. He drew a connection between China's fishing activities in the East China Sea, the placing of advanced weaponry on man-made islands in the South China Sea,

T. Then, at the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, the region's most high-profile security event, U.S. Secretary of Defence Lloyd J. Austin said Beijing was continuing to "harden its position" along the border.

U. and its LAC actions as part of a "coercive and aggressive approach" to territorial claims.

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 (Q12 – Q15): Cloze test based on Editorial

June 15, 2022, will mark the second anniversary of the violent Galwan Valley clash, which also marked the lowest point in bilateral relations in many decades. Leaving aside the _____**12**_____ detail that American officials have recently had more to say publicly than their Indian counterparts about the as-yet-unresolved crisis, there appears to be little prospect of an imminent resolution after two years and 15 rounds of talks. At the Shangri-La Dialogue, to which New Delhi _____**13**_____ did not send high-level political representation, the Chinese Defence Minister, Gen. Wei Fenghe, alleged it was India that "sent people to the Chinese side of the territory". He did add that both sides were working on maintaining good relations, but with India and China continuing to fortify forward areas, a full de-escalation remains increasingly unlikely. By highlighting the border, the U.S. appears to be making its case to the region that its allies and partners need to band together to _____**14**_____ China's behaviour. New Delhi, for its part, will likely face ever greater expectations to take a stand on China's actions, beyond the bilateral domain. India, so far, is the only one among the four Quad countries to refrain from taking public positions on issues such as Taiwan and Hong Kong. Beijing, meanwhile, is pointing to the U.S. and the Quad as destabilising forces, viewing the Quad as a _____**15**_____ "Asian NATO", a label that its members reject.

12. A. Denizen

B. Curious

C. Rapacious

D. Ardent

13. A. Eminent

B. Consecrate

C. Puzzlingly

D. Aristocratic

14. A. Restrain

B. Augment

C. Paucity

D. Perennial

15. A. Esoteric

B. Autonomous

C. Nascent

D. Parsimonious

Answers

1. C 2.B 3.C 4. D 5. B 6. A 7. C 8. C 9. B 10. C 11.B 12.B
 13. C 14.A 15.C [Practice Exercise] [Cloze test]

Explanations

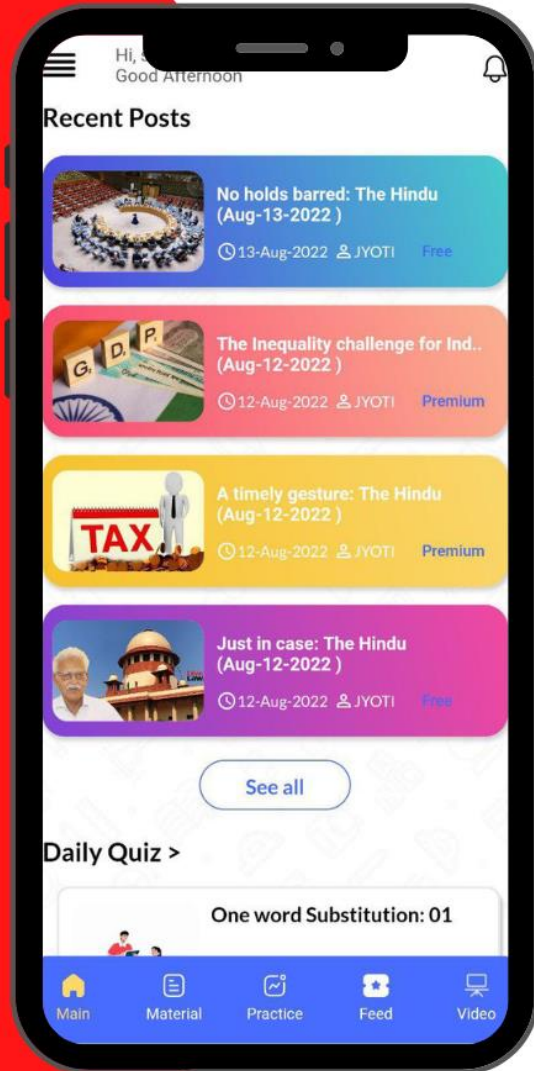
6. 'not' या 'hardly' में से किसी एक का ही प्रयोग कर वाक्य को Negative बनाया जाता है क्योंकि 'not' का अर्थ है 'नहीं' और 'hardly' का अर्थ है 'न के बराबर' जैसे-
- He will not do it.
 - He will hardly do it.
- Using only one of 'not' or 'hardly' the sentence is made negative because 'not' means 'not' and 'hardly' means 'negligible' like-
- He will not do it.
 - He will hardly do it.
7. 'by foot' के बदले 'on foot' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'on foot' idiomatic use है जिसका अर्थ है 'walking' अर्थात् 'पैदल, टहलते हुए'; जैसे-
- Are you going by bicycle or on foot?
- 'on foot' will be used instead of 'by foot' because 'on foot' is idiomatic use which means 'walking' ; As-
- Are you going by bicycle or on foot?
6. **Add fuel to the fire** (phrase) – Cause a conflict or difficult situation to worsen or intensify आग में ईंधन डालना
- **Take a stand** (phrase) – to take a position in opposition to someone or something; to oppose or resist someone or something.
 - **Put to rest** (phrase) – To stop or finish discussing, thinking about, or focusing on something
 - **In the making** (phrase) – In the process of developing or being made.
7. **Wipe out** (phrasal verb) – Ruin someone financially. बर्बाद करना
- **Look for** (phrasal verb) – search for, hunt for, seek तलाश करना
 - **Leave aside** (phrasal verb) – ignore, dismiss, push aside एक तरफ छोड़ दो
 - **Band together** (phrasal verb) – to form a group in order to do or achieve something
8. **Cemetery** (noun) – graveyard, churchyard, burial ground, burial place, burying place कब्रिस्तान
11. **RTSUPQ**
- By speaking out last week on the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), two top American officials have sent a clear message that Washington views the on-going India-China border tensions as part of the broader geopolitical contest underway in the region. On a visit to New Delhi, General Charles A. Flynn, Commander of the U.S. Army Pacific, described the level of Chinese activity in Eastern Ladakh as “eye-opening” and questioned its intentions. Then, at the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, the region’s most high-profile security event,

U.S. Secretary of Defence Lloyd J. Austin said Beijing was continuing to “harden its position” along the border. He drew a connection between China’s fishing activities in the East China Sea, the placing of advanced weaponry on man-made islands in the South China Sea, and its LAC actions as part of a “coercive and aggressive approach” to territorial claims. He underlined that the Biden administration saw the Indo-Pacific as its “priority theatre of operations” and at the “heart of American grand strategy”. The LAC comment predictably led to China’s Foreign Ministry accusing the U.S. of “adding fuel to the fire”.

12. **Curious** (adjective) – strange, odd, peculiar, funny, unusual, bizarre अजीब
13. **Puzzlingly** (adverb) – perplexingly, bewilderingly, mystifyingly उलझन पैदा करते हुए
14. **Restrain** (verb) – control, curb, suppress, repress, contain, keep within bounds नियंत्रित करना, रोकना
15. **Nascent** (adjective) – just beginning, budding, developing, growing उत्पन्न होने वाला

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings	
Q5	Proselytize	verb	To convert from one religion or doctrine to another; to recruit converts to a religion or doctrine.	फुसलाना
	Temerity	noun	Boldness; recklessness; audacity	उतावलापन
	Malfeasance	noun	An illegal act, especially by a public official	दुराचार
	Accost	verb	To approach and speak to someone	संभाषण करना, बोलना
Q12	Denizen	noun	Inhabitant	निवासी
	Rapacious	adjective	Greedy; plundering; avaricious	लालची
	Ardent	adjective	Passionate	उत्साही
Q13	Eminent	adjective	Well known and respected; standing out from all others in quality or accomplishment; outstanding.	विख्यात, प्रसिद्ध
	Consecrate	verb	To make or declare sacred	पवित्र, प्रतिष्ठित
	Aristocratic	adjective	Of noble birth; snobbish	भव्य, कुलीनतंत्रीय,
Q14	Augment	verb	To make bigger; to add to; to increase	बढ़ाना,
	Paucity	noun	Scarcity	कमी
	Perennial	adjective	Continual; happening again and again or year after year	चिरस्थायी
Q15	Esoteric	adjective	Hard to understand; understood by only a selected few; peculiar	गुप्त, अजीब, गूढ़
	Autonomous	adjective	Acting independently	स्वायत्त, स्वशासी
	Parsimonious	adjective	Stingy	किफ़ायती



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