Tread carefully: On the power to remove online content

Power to remove online content must be used sparingly, responsibly

The Government's **order** asking YouTube to remove 45 videos from 10 channels **can** be seen as a **justified** response to growing concern over the **propagation** of hate and **communally** sensitive material over the free video sharing website, but the frequent **exercise** of such a power **is** not without concerns. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B) has asked for the removal of the content in these videos based on **intelligence inputs** and the **ostensible** reasons are not **limited** to **dissemination** of hate against religious communities. They also relate to issues the Government considers "sensitive": references to Kashmir, the Agnipath scheme, and what it says are false claims about the rights of religious minorities being taken away and dissemination of material **portending civil war**. If these claims are true, and if the content **transgresses** the boundaries of free speech or **threatens** public order and security, such **take-down** orders may be justified. However, the manner of their **passing** remains an **unrevealed** process, as it is not known if the **originators** of the content were given an opportunity to explain their **stand** before the blocking orders were issued. **Section 69A** of the IT Act, which **empowers** the Government to block content, **was upheld** by the Supreme Court only after it noted that the rules provided procedural **safeguards**, including the need to issue notice to the originators or the **intermediary**, before a blocking order.

The latest order **invokes** the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. It has a procedure by which an inter-departmental committee considers complaints on content and makes recommendations. The Authorised Officer has to take the approval of the Secretary, I&B, before **directing** the publisher or intermediary to block the relevant content. There is an emergency **provision** under which the Secretary may order content blocking as an **interim** measure, and thereafter confirm it after getting the committee's views. **All** such blocking orders are meant to be **examined** by a review committee, which **ought to** meet once in two months, but it is not known whether the panel meets regularly. The **Government**, which discloses how many videos it has got removed, **must** also reveal the **outcome** of such reviews, if any. India ranks quite high in the list of countries that make regular requests for removal of online content. There is no doubt that **offensive content**, as hate speech, **incitement** to violence and child pornography — **posing** a challenge to the **dignified** use of online space — <u>ought to</u> be removed. However, the **power** to block online content **must** be used sparingly and with sensitivity towards key freedoms and **due process**. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

- 1. Tread (verb) to take step क़दन रखना
- 2. **Sparingly** (adverb) in small amounts, or without wasting any संयम से
- Justified (adjective) justifiable, warranted, right, legitimate, befitting न्यायोचित
- 4. **Propagation** (noun) Spread, broadcast, circulation, dissemination, transmission प्रचार
- Communally (adverb) together with other people rather than on your own सामुदायिक रूप से
- 6. **Exercise** (noun) Implementation, use, application प्रयोग
- 7. **Intelligence** (noun) a government department or other group that gathers information about other countries or enemies, or the information that is gathered.
- 8. Input (noun) information सूचना
- 9. **Ostensible** (adjective) apparent, seeming, supposed, alleged, superficial प्रकट, प्रत्यक्ष
- 10. **Limited** (adjective) restricted, circumscribed सीमित
- 11. **Dissemination** (noun) Distribution, broadcasting, diffusion, propagation, spreading সমাर

- 12. **Portend** (verb) Foretell, signify, herald, indicate, presage संकेत मिलना
- 13. **Civil war** (noun) a war fought by different groups of people living in the same country गृहयुद्ध
- 14. **Transgress** (verb) violate, trespass, offend, infringe तोड़ना, उल्लंघन करना
- 15. **Threaten** (verb) Pose a threat to; present a danger to के लिए खतरा पैदा करना
- 16. **Take-down** (noun) the removal of a website, web page, or file from the internet, typically in response to a formal request. हटाना
- 17. **Passing** (noun) (order) Ratifying, approving, permitting पारित करना
- 18. **Unrevealed** (adjective) undisclosed, hidden, secret, unknown, concealed अज्ञात
- 19. **Originator** (noun) (In IT Act, 2000) a person who sends, generates, stores or transmits any electronic message; for example;- User.
- 20. **Stand** (noun) opinion, stance, viewpoint, standpoint, view, outlook दृष्टिकोण/ राय
- 21. **Empower** (verb) authorize, enable, permit, entitle, allow अधिकार देना
- 22. **Uphold** (verb) support, endorse, sustain, defend, espouse बरकरार रखना

September 28, 2022 JOIN TELEGRAM CHANNEL: ENGLISH MADHYAM

- 23. **Safeguard** (noun) protection, precaution, safety measure, safety net स्रक्षा/ बचाव
- 24. **Intermediary** (noun) any person, who on behalf of another person receives, stores or transmits that record or provides any service with respect to. For example;- You tube.
- 25. **Invoke** (verb) to mention or use a law, rule etc. as a reason for doing something नियम, क़ानून आदि प्रयोग करना
- 26. **Direct** (verb) Order, instruct, command, dictate, give order आदेश देना
- 27. **Provision** (noun) A stipulated condition ਸ਼ਾਰधान
- 28. **Interim** (adjective) temporary, provisional, short-term अस्थायी
- 29. **Examine** (verb) investigate, review, scrutinize, inspect जांच करना

- 30. **Ought to** (modal verb) must, should, need to करना चाहिए
- 31. **Outcome** (noun) result, consequence, conclusion परिणाम
- 32. **Incitement** (noun) provocation, inducement, spur, encouragement, agitation भड़कावा
- 33. **Pose** (verb) Present, cause, create खड़ा करना (च्नौती)
- 34. **Dignified** (adjective) Distinguished, proper, venerated, honored, respectable प्रतिष्ठित, गरिमापूर्ण
- 35. **Due process** (noun) fair treatment through the normal judicial system, especially a citizen's entitlement to notice of a charge and a hearing before an impartial judge. उचित प्रक्रिया

Practice Exercise

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

- 1. The ostensible reasons are not limited to **dissemination** of hate against religious communities
 - A. Misanthropic
 - B. Inept
 - C. Enormity
 - D. Propagation
- 2. what it says are false claims about the rights of religious minorities being taken away and dissemination of material *portending* civil war
 - A. Urbane
 - B. Presage
 - C. Martial
 - D. Oblivion
- 3. There is no doubt that offensive content, as hate speech, incitement to violence and child pornography ought to be removed
 - A. Mercurial
 - B. Judicious
 - C. Provocation
 - D. Sagacious
- 4. Idioms & Phrase

The CEO has been in the cross hairs of politicians and businesspeople alike for his recent comments on immigration.

- A. In a position in which other people are eager to criticize or attack.
- B. Believe that someone is responsible for something.
- C. To decide not to do anything about a situation or project until a later date
- D. To make less effort and start to relax
- 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 greatest challenge faced by the Government during the three phases of COVID-19 was how to strengthen the immunity system of its citizens.
 - P. The organisation was established to promote distance learning,
 - Q. use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) and strengthening cooperation in education among the member States.
 - R. to create awareness and help improve the immunity of people through practising yoga, especially in rural areas.
 - S. The Ministry of AYUSH in collaboration with the Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA) ran a campaign through Community Radio Stations (CRS) across India
 - T. The Commonwealth of Learning (COL) was created by the Commonwealth Heads of Government in Vancouver, Canada, in 1987.

A. T B.U C. P D. S E. Q

Directions (Q6-Q77): In the following questions two columns are given containing three Sentences/phrases each. In first column, sentences/phrases are A, B and C and in the second column the sentences/phrases are D, E and F. A sentence/phrase from the first column may or may not connect with another sentence/phrase from the second column to make a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. Each question has five options, four of which display the sequence(s) in which the sentences/phrases can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. If none of the options given forms a correct sentence after combination, mark option (E), i.e. "None of these" as your answer

Column (1) Column (2) Scarcely had it stopped raining the opening ceremony by allegations of corruption, Α shoddy workmanship and delays in handling over venues. The games scheduled to be Ε An assistant is required. held in the state have been plunged into crisis just two months prior to Either an officer or F When I started for my college.

A. A-F **B.** B – F, A – E, C – D **C.** A-E, C-D **D.** A-F, C-E **E.** None of these

7.

6.

	Column (1)		Column (2)
A	The sole idea behind conducting such programmes	D	we didn't go out
В	It being a rainy day,	E	is to create awareness among young minds for our culture.
С	You should avoid travelling	F	In the rush hour

A. A-F **B.** B – F, A – E, C – D **C.** A-E, C-D **D.** B-D, C-F **E.** None of these

Direction (Q8 – Q9): Read the given sentences to find out whether there is any grammatical error in them

- 8. The Indian team cannot win the series (A)/ and ever pulling off a draw could (B)/ be a tough proposition with (C)/ its main bowlers not playing. (D)/ No error(E)
- 9. With this initiative, the corporation (A)/ hopes to assure the public that (B)/ it is confident of providing good service (C)/ and renewing their in with the public transport system. (D)/ No error(E)
- 10. Find out the misspelt word
 - A. Indispensable
 - B. Relevent
 - C. Vicious
 - D. Fierv

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

(The Hindu Editorial: No compromise—Sep 07, 2022)

The incident, on August 31, wherein two BJP Members of Parliament, Nishikant Dubey and Mano
Tiwari, and their11 are alleged to have 'forcibly obtained take-off clearance' close to
sunset, from the Air Traffic Control (ATC) at Deogarh airport in Jharkhand for their flight is a case o
$\it `tail-scraping' established air safety norms. The politicians they were in the State to meet the family and the state of the st$
members of a minor girl in Dumka who had been set12 by a stalker on August 23 — are
reported to have reached the airport at around 5.25 p.m. to fly back to Delhi on a chartered twin
engine business jet. Based on complaints by the airport security-in charge and the Deput
Commissioner of Deogarh, the allegation is that the ATC was13 into allowing the fligh
to depart, resulting in the Jharkhand police registering an FIR against the MPs and the others. Variou
sections of the Indian Penal Code such as 'endangering life or personal safety' have been applied. Mr
Dubey in turn filed an FIR in Delhi against the Deputy Commissioner and the Jharkhand police which
includes, bizarrely, their being booked under Section 124A (sedition). It is at this point, air safet
experts concur, that the14must be swept aside and the core issue of flight safety brough
firmly into focus.

Further, point 3 under 'En-Route-1.2 Visual Flight Rules' states that "VFR flights shall not be operated between 20 minutes after sunset to 20 minutes before sunrise, except when exempted by air traffic control for local flights....", the principle being that the airfield should be available in the event of an emergency after take-off under VFR conditions. (1)/ It must be noted that sunset at Deogarh was at 6.03 p.m. and the flight left at 6.17 p.m. (2)/ The difficulties the crew could have faced at such an airport in the event of an emergency, such as a bird hit or engine failure, do not have to be elaborated — avian life is active at twilight and Jharkhand is known to be a bird-rich spot. (3)/ Deogarh, according to data available in the Aeronautical Information Publication, is still a Visual Flight Rules (VFR) airport, and night operations are not permitted. (4)/

Other airports in the region available for a diversion (A)/ are not close either. Additionally, to have one of the politician who is part (B)/ of a committee constituted by (C)/ the Ministry of Civil Aviation attempting to push the boundaries of safety is unacceptable. (D)

September 28, 2022 JOIN TELEGRAM CHANNEL: ENGLISH MADHYAM

The episode also highlights the pressures faced by air traffic controllers and officials, especially in small airports in India. As a member of the International Civil Aviation Organization and fenced (A) by its stringent (B) rules, India must ensure that directives are followed and that there is a thorough and fair (C) probe, with penalties, by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The politics should be **bound (D)** off.

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

11. The incident, on August 31, wherein two BJP Members of Parliament, Nishikant Dubey and							
Manoj Tiwari, and their11 are alleged to have 'forcibly obtained take-off							
clearance' close to sunset							
A. Proponent							
B. Candor							
C. Entourage							
D. Placating							
12. The politicians — they were in the State to meet the family members of a minor girl in Dumka							
who had been set12 by a stalker on August 23							
A. Amnesty							
B. Bereft							
C. Ablaze							
D. Implemented							
13. The allegation is that the ATC was13 into allowing the flight to depart.							
A. Docile							
B. Coerced							
C. Eccentric							
D. Permeating							
14. The14must be swept aside and the core issue of flight safety brought firmly into							
focus.							
A. Proponent							
B. Clutter							
C. Dialectical							
D. Theology							
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.							
Other airports in the region available for a diversion (A)/ are not close either. Additionally, to							
have one of the politician who is part (B)/ of a committee constituted by (C)/ the Ministry of							
Civil Aviation attempting to push the boundaries of safety is unacceptable. (D)							
A. (A)							
B. (B)							
C. (C)							
D. (D)							
E. No Error							

16. Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.

Further, point 3 under 'En-Route-1.2 Visual Flight Rules' states that "VFR flights shall not be operated between 20 minutes after sunset to 20 minutes before sunrise, except when exempted by air traffic control for local flights....", the principle being that the airfield should be available in the event of an emergency after take-off under VFR conditions. (1)/ It must be noted that sunset at Deogarh was at 6.03 p.m. and the flight left at 6.17 p.m. (2)/ The difficulties the crew could have faced at such an airport in the event of an emergency, such as a bird hit or engine failure, do not have to be elaborated — avian life is active at twilight and Jharkhand is known to be a bird-rich spot. (3)/ Deogarh, according to data available in the Aeronautical Information Publication, is still a Visual Flight Rules (VFR) airport, and night operations are not permitted. (4)/

- A. 1234
- B. 3214
- C. 4321
- D. 4123
- E. 3241
- 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

CONCUR

- (i) The new report **concurs** with previous findings.
- (ii) He would never do anything to **concur** the lives of his children.
- (iii) The board concurred that the editor should have full control over editorial matters.
 - 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.

As a member of the International Civil Aviation Organization and fenced (A) by its stringent (B) rules, India must ensure that directives are followed and that there is a thorough and fair (C) probe, with penalties, by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The politics should be **bound (D)** off.

- 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) It is not possible that they have not come at the memorial service of the President.
 - They were very close to him during his lifetime. (ii)
 - A. Whereas
 - B. Although
 - C. Since
 - D. When
- 20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks

He has fondness classical music.

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

Answers

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

Explanations

- 4. In the cross-hairs (phrase)—In a position in which other people are eager to criticize or attack

The greatest challenge faced by the Government during the three phases of COVID-19 was how to strengthen the immunity system of its citizens. The Ministry of AYUSH in collaboration with the Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA) ran a campaign through Community Radio Stations (CRS) across India to create awareness and help improve the immunity of people through practising yoga, especially in rural areas. The Commonwealth of Learning (COL) was created by the Commonwealth Heads of Government in Vancouver, Canada, in 1987. The organisation was established to promote distance learning, use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) and strengthening cooperation in education among the member States. In 1994, the COL established CEMCA to cater to the needs of the Commonwealth countries in the Asian region for more effective utilisation of information communication technologies.

6. Correct Option: D

Scarcely had it stopped raining when I started for my college.

Fragment A of column 1 is matched with fragment F of column 2 to make the sentence contextually and grammatically correct

Either an officer or an assistant is required.

Fragment C of column 1 is matched with fragment E of column 2 to make the sentence contextually and grammatically correct

The games scheduled to be held in the state have been plunged into crisis just two months prior to the opening ceremony by allegations of corruption, shoddy workmanship and delays in handling over venues

Fragment B of column 1 is matched with fragment D of column 2 to make the sentence contextually correct but grammatically it wrong. The correct sentence would be: The games scheduled to be held in the state have plunged into crisis just two months prior to the opening ceremony by allegations of corruption, shoddy workmanship and delays in handling over venues

- 🕨 'been' का प्रयोग अनावश्यक है क्योंकि 'the games' active subject है जिसके लिए present perfect में active verb ['have/has + v³] का प्रयोग होता है जबकि passive verb ['have\has been + v³] का;जैसे
 - i. He has written five books.
 - ii. Five books have been written by him

- The use of 'been' is unnecessary because 'the games' is the active subject for which the active verb ['have/has + v3] is used in the present perfect while the passive verb ['have\has been + v3] Of; like
 - i. He has written five books.
 - ii. Five books have been written by him
- 7. Correct Option: D

It being a rainy day, we didn't go out

Fragment B of column 1 is matched with fragment D of column 2 to make the sentence contextually and grammatically correct

You should avoid traveling in the rush hour

Fragment C of column 1 is matched with fragment F of column 2 to make the sentence contextually and grammatically correct

The sole idea behind conducting such programmes is to create awareness among young minds for our culture.

Fragment A of column 1 is matched with fragment E of column 2 to make the sentence contextually correct but grammatically it wrong. The correct sentence would be: The sole idea behind conducting such programmes is to create awareness among young minds OF our culture.

- 🕨 'for' के बदले 'of' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'aware' या 'awareness' के लिए preposition 'of' का प्रयोग होता है: जैसे
 - i. I was aware of his laziness.
 - ii. Her awareness of Indian culture is praiseworthy.

of' will be used instead of 'for' because the preposition 'of' is used for 'aware' or 'awareness'; like-

- i. I was aware of his laziness.
- ii. Her awareness of Indian culture is praiseworthy.
- 8. 'could' के बदले 'can' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि part(a) में 'cannot' का प्रयोग present time का बोध कराता है और part(b) में वर्णित स्थित भी present time का बोध कराएगा।

'can' will be used instead of 'could' because the use of 'cannot' in part (a) gives the sense of present time and the situation described in part (b) will also give sense of present time.

- 9. 'their' के बदले 'its' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'the corporation' third person, singular number में है जिसके लिए part(b) में singular verb 'hopes' और part(c) में इसके लिए singular pronoun 'it' तथा singular verb 'is' का प्रयोग है। अतः, इसके लिए possessive भी singular 'its' होगा।
 - its' will be used instead of 'their' because 'the corporation' is the third person, in the singular number for which the singular verb 'hopes' in part(b) and the singular pronoun for it in part(c) The use of 'it' and the singular verb 'is' is. So, the possessive for it would also be singular 'its'
- 10. **Relevant** (adjective) appropriate, applicable, pertinent, germane प्रासंगिक

- 11. Entourage (noun) The group following and attending to some important person घेरा, म्हासिरा
- 12. **Set ablaze** (phrase) Set fire to; cause to start burning आग लगा देना
- 13. Coerce (verb) force, compel, pressure, constrain, oblige मजबूर करना
- 14. Clutter (noun) mess, muddle, disarray, disorder अव्यवस्था, हलचल
- 15. 'Politician' के बदले 'Politicians' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'One of + Plural noun + singular verb' का प्रयोग होता है

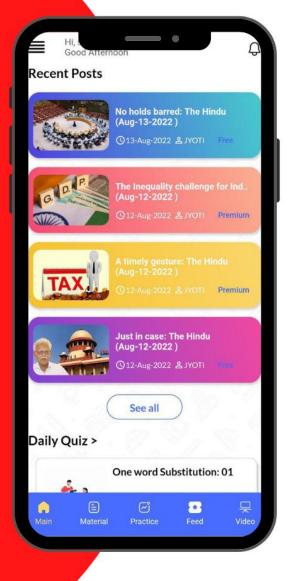
16. (D) **4123**

Deogarh, according to data available in the Aeronautical Information Publication, is still a Visual Flight Rules (VFR) airport, and night operations are not permitted. Further, point 3 under 'En-Route–1.2 Visual Flight Rules' states that "VFR flights shall not be operated between 20 minutes after sunset to 20 minutes before sunrise, except when exempted by air traffic control for local flights....", the principle being that the airfield should be available in the event of an emergency after take-off under VFR conditions. It must be noted that sunset at Deogarh was at 6.03 p.m. and the flight left at 6.17 p.m. The difficulties the crew could have faced at such an airport in the event of an emergency, such as a bird hit or engine failure, do not have to be elaborated — avian life is active at twilight and Jharkhand is known to be a bird-rich spot.

- 17. **Concur** (verb) agree, coincide, accord, correspond, assent सहमत होना
 According to the given options only (i) is contextually correct. Because the (ii) and (iii) sentences are not giving any meaning and correct sentences should be like
 - He would never do anything to endanger the lives of his children.
- 18. As a member of the International Civil Aviation Organization and bound by its stringent rules, India must ensure that directives are followed and that there is a thorough and fair probe, with penalties, by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The politics should be fenced off.
- 19. It is not possible that they have not come at the Memorial service of the President **since** they were very close to him during his lifetime.

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings				
Q1	Misanthropic	adjective	Hating mankind	मानवद्वेषिपूर्ण			
	Inept	adjective	Clumsy; incompetent; gauche.	अयोग्य			
	Enormity	noun	Extreme evil, a hideous offense; immensity.	दुष्टता			
Q2	Urbane	adjective	Poised; sophisticated; refined	परिष्कृत			
	Martial	adjective	Warlike; having to do with combat	सामरिक			
	Oblivion	noun	Total forgetfulness; the state of being forgotten	भुलक्कड़पन			
Q3	Mercurial	adjective	Emotionally unpredictable; rapidly changing in mood	अस्थिर			
	Judicious	adjective	Exercising sound judgment	उचित			
	Sagacious	adjective	Discerning; shrewd; keen in judgment; wise	मेधावी			
Q11	Proponent	noun	An advocate; a support of a position	समर्थक			
	Candor	noun	Truthfulness; sincere honesty	स्पष्टवादिता			
	Placate	verb	To pacify; to appease; to soothe	शांत करने के लिए			
Q12	Amnesty	noun	An official pardon for a group of People who have violated a law or policy	सर्वक्षमा, राजक्षमा, क्षमाधान			
	Bereft	adjective	Deprived or left desolate, especially through death	वंचित			
	Implement	verb	To carry out	कार्यान्वित करना			
Q13	Docile	adjective	Easily taught; obedient; easy to handle	विनम्र, सीधा			
	Eccentric	adjective	Not conventional; a little kooky; irregular	सनकी, उत्केन्द्र			
	Permeate	verb	To spread or seep through; to penetrate	छेदों में होकर जाना			
Q14	Proponent	noun	An advocate; a support of a position	समर्थक			
	Dialectical	adjective	Relating to discussion; relating to the rules and method of reasoning; approaching truth in the middle of opposing extremes.	द्वंद्वात्मक			
	Theology	noun	The study of god or religion	धर्मशास्र			



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