

Playtime

Gujarat did well to organise the National Games in a short time

In an initiative to use the power of sports to **reach out** to people of a **poll-bound** State, the Gujarat government **volunteered** to **host** the 36th National Games across six cities — Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Vadodara, Surat, Bhavnagar and Rajkot — in a short time. The **fact** that other States took years to prepare and the Goa edition was cancelled after several postponements **revealed** the **enormous** challenge that Gujarat had to **deal with** in organising this large-scale event. Odisha had set a new **benchmark** by organising the 2017 Asian Athletics Championships in three months and Gujarat **equalled** the **feat** by **staging** a multi-sport event in a similar **time frame**. With the same party — the Bharatiya Janata Party — ruling in the State and the Centre, the cooperation was smooth **in the run-up to** the event, which was last held in Kerala seven years ago. **The Narendra Modi Stadium** — the biggest cricket venue seating over a lakh — **staged** the Games' **spectacular** opening ceremony at Ahmedabad. A show of light and sound, it **showcased** Gujarat's rich cultural heritage and **blended** with it the country's technological **advancement**. It was **reflected** in the use of **eye-catching augmented reality** technology by Doordarshan during the live coverage of the **inaugural extravaganza**.

For the Games, involving 8,000-plus athletes from 36 teams in 35 sporting categories, Gujarat used its **existing infrastructure** instead of building new venues that **often turn out** to be **white elephants**. It converted some international standard **expo centres** into indoor sports facilities. Instead of building a Games Village, it used hotels to provide **accommodation** to the athletes and **ensured business** to the State's hotel industry. The **Games**, which began as the Indian Olympic Games in Lahore in 1924 before being **rechristened** as the National Games after Independence, **stays** relevant in its 98th year by providing young athletes an opportunity to get a feel of a **multi-discipline** Games and compete with world-class athletes such as Mirabai Chanu, Shiva Thapa and Avinash Sable before they step on to the international platform. For Gujarat, organising the Games was **in sync with** the State's **ambition** to host the Olympics in future. The **efforts** to **set up** the Swarnim Gujarat Sports University in Vadodara, encouraging the use of technology in sports and promoting skill development through sports **are** steps in this direction. **Inaugurating** the 2022 Gujarat edition, Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared his Government's intention to use the **soft power** of sports for the country's overall development while for the athletes, the National Games offers a **stepping stone** to greater progress.

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

Vocabulary

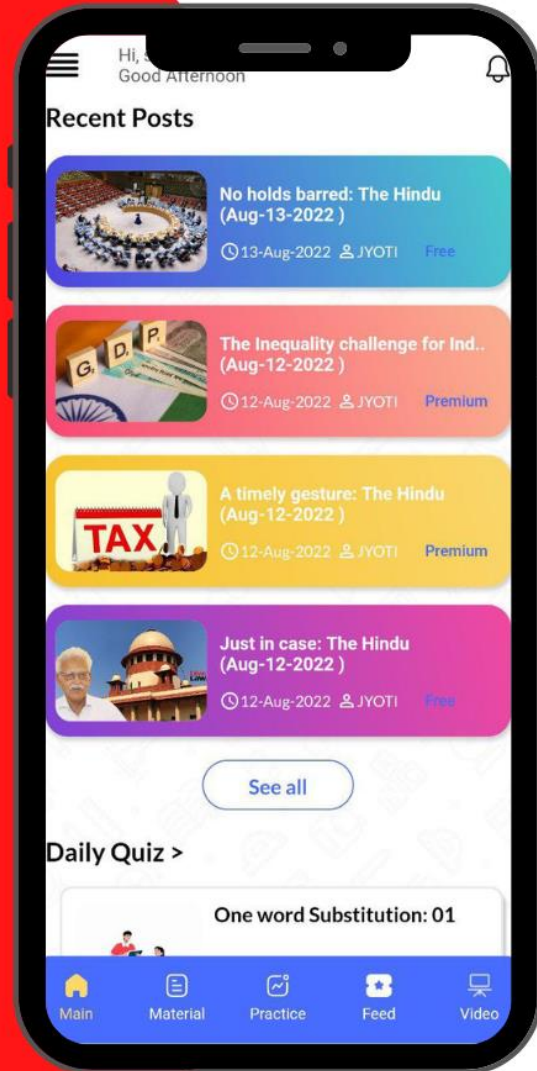
1. **Reach out** (phrasal verb) – try to communicate with a person or a group of people, usually in order to help or involve them तक पहुँचना
2. **Poll-bound** (adjective) – Of or relating to state where election is going to happen. चुनावी (राज्य)
3. **Volunteer** (verb) – offer, agree, undertake, come forward, step up स्वेच्छा से आगे आना
4. **Host** (verb) – to provide the space and other things necessary for a special event मेज़बानी करना, का आयोजन करना
5. **Reveal** (verb) – disclose, divulge, show, expose, uncover प्रकट होना
6. **Enormous** (adjective) – huge, immense, gigantic, tremendous, colossal विशाल, बहुत बड़ा
7. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) – Cope with, manage, tackle, handle, contend with से निपटना
8. **Benchmark** (noun) – Standard, yardstick, level, target मानक
9. **Equal** (verb) – to be as good as somebody/something किसी व्यक्ति या स्थिति की बराबरी करना
10. **Feat** (noun) – achievement, accomplishment, deed, exploit, act उपलब्धि
11. **Stage** (verb) – Act, perform, present, show, do आयोजित करना
12. **Time frame** (noun) – A time period during which something occurs or is expected to occur समय सीमा
13. **In the run-up to** (phrase) – period of time just before important event. के ठीक पहले की अवधि
14. **Spectacular** (adjective) – splendid, breathtaking, sensational, striking, impressive शानदार, भव्य
15. **Showcase** (verb) – display, exhibit, present, demonstrate दिखाना
16. **Blend** (with) (verb) – to combine with something in an attractive or suitable way उचित या आकर्षक ढंग से (किसी के साथ) मिलना
17. **Advancement** (noun) – Progress, development, improvement, expansion, innovation उन्नति, वृद्धि
18. **Reflect** (verb) – Reveal, expose, suggest, signal, indicate, show, display, manifest, exhibit, signify दर्शाना

19. **Eye-catching** (adjective) – Striking, noticeable, attention-grabbing, conspicuous, stunning आकर्षक
20. **Augmented reality** (noun) – an interactive experience that combines the real world and computer-generated content.
21. **Inaugural** (adjective) – Opening, initial, first, introductory, maiden उद्घाटन संबंधी
22. **Extravaganza** (noun) – a large, exciting and impressive entertainment or event शानदार मनोरंजन
23. **Existing** (adjective) – Current, present, prevailing मौजूदा
24. **Infrastructure** (noun) – the basic systems and services that are necessary for a country or an organization, for example buildings, transport, and water and power supplies आधारभूत संरचना
25. **Often** (adverb) – frequently, much, many times, repeatedly, अक्सर
26. **Turn out** (phrasal verb) – prove to be the case; transpire, emerge, come to light, उभरना, निकलना
27. **White elephants** (plural noun) – something that you no longer need and that is not useful any more, although it cost a lot of money बहुत खर्चीला पर अब बेकार वस्तु
28. **Expo center** (noun) – a place for large exhibitions, particularly of a commercial nature where products are displayed to promote trade, or a place for large conventions
29. **Accommodation** (noun) – a room, group of rooms, or building in which someone may live or stay. निवास स्थान
30. **Ensure** (verb) – make sure, make certain, certify, confirm सुनिश्चित करना
31. **Business** (noun) – commercial activity. व्यापार
32. **Rechristen** (verb) – give a new name to. नया नाम देना
33. **Multi-discipline** (adjective) – Involving multi-games in an event; multi-sport
34. **In sync with** (phrase) – Happening, functioning, or moving at the same time and pace as someone or something; simultaneously के साथ तालमेल बिठाना
35. **Ambition** (noun) – Goal, aim, objective, aspiration, dream, hope, desire महत्वाकांक्षा
36. **Set up** (phrasal verb) – Establish, inaugurate, found, institute, launch, organize स्थापित करना
37. **Inaugurate** (verb) – Launch, initiate, institute, introduce उद्घाटन करना
38. **Soft power** (phrase) – the ability of a country to persuade others to do what it wants without resorting to force or coercion

39. **Stepping stone** (noun) – something that allows you to make progress or helps you

to achieve something प्रगति या लक्ष्य-प्राप्ति
में सहायक वस्तु या बात

- **Practice exercise has not been appended to this editorial PDF due to poor health. Sorry for the inconvenience.**



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