

Keep up the pressure: On the conviction of a Mumbai attacks handler in Pakistan

India must **seek** the **extradition** of Sajid Mir for his role in the Mumbai attacks

Reports in Pakistan's newspapers, that a Pakistani court has **convicted** Sajid Majeed Mir, one of the men who planned the Mumbai 26/11 attacks, on terror financing **charges**, **are** welcome proof that **the search** for each of the **masterminds must** never be **given up on**. In the case of Mir, Pakistan's security agencies had gone **so far as** to falsely declare him "dead". He was **reportedly sentenced** to more than 15 years in jail and is **serving** his **term** in a Lahore jail. **Mir**, the LeT's former deputy chief of "international operations", **has** been wanted for his role in recruitment for the 26/11 attacks, being the handler for David Headley, who **carried out** the **reconnaissance** for the LeT during several visits to India, and for being in the Karachi "control room" during the Mumbai **siege**. Headley named Mir in his **deposition** to a U.S. court, after he was given a "**plea bargain**" by the U.S. government, as well as in depositions via video link for the 26/11 **trial** in India. Mir is also wanted for LeT **conspiracies** to attack a Danish newspaper accused of publishing **blasphemous** cartoons and bomb a nuclear installation in Australia. He was also convicted by a French court for recruiting LeT **operatives**, and is believed to have also recruited terror-**volunteers** in the "Virginia **Paintball Jihad**" case in the U.S. **The timing** of Mir's conviction **appears** to be linked to the final stages of Pakistan's **grey listing** at the **FATF** this June, that voted to allow **on-site** visits in Pakistan **with a view to de-listing** it in the next few months. While Mir is not actually on the UN Security Council's 1267 list of terror-**designated** individuals that the FATF is **mandated to pursue**, **the West** has frequently **brought** his name **up** at **FATF proceedings** in demanding that Pakistan successfully convict leaders of terrorist groups.

If Mir is in fact **behind bars**, New Delhi must move quickly to demand his extradition to **stand for trial** in India. **Admittedly**, this is a **virtually** impossible task, **given** the poor **state** of bilateral **ties**. **New Delhi** must also **rectify** the error in not pursuing Mir's addition to the UNSC list **thus far**, and **launch** a **concerted** international effort for Mir to be **prosecuted** for the number of terror attacks he has been involved in — not just for terror financing. **As with** Hafiz Saeed, Zaki-ur-Rahman Lakhvi and other LeT members, it is necessary to **keep the spotlight on** Mir, given the **predilection** of Pakistan's legal **authorities** for **reversing** convictions and reducing the sentencing of terrorists once **the heat** from international agencies **reduces**. This will be particularly important, especially as Pakistan is expected to receive a full **reprieve** at the FATF in October, and it must be **made clear** that the Government will continue to pursue the legal process against each of the men behind the Mumbai attacks, until they are **brought to justice**.

[Practice Exercise]

- **State** (noun) – Condition, situation स्थिति
- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'

Vocabulary

1. **Keep up** (phrasal verb) – continue, persist with, persevere with, maintain बनाए रखना
2. **Conviction** (noun) – declaration of guilt, sentence, judgement दोषसिद्धि
3. **Handler** (noun) – undercover agent, enemy agent संचालक
4. **Seek** (verb) – Ask, call for, solicit on मांगना
5. **Extradition** (noun) – deportation, handover, repatriation, refoulement, expulsion अपराधी का प्रत्यर्पण
6. **Convict** (verb) – declare guilty, find guilty, pronounce guilty दोषी ठहराना
7. **Charge** (noun) – accusation, allegation, indictment आरोप
8. **Mastermind** (noun) – planner, organizer
9. **Give up on** (phrasal verb) – Stop having faith or belief in someone or something. छोड़ देना
10. **So far as** (phrase) – To the extent that. यहां तक कि
11. **Reportedly** (adverb) – supposedly, seemingly, apparently, allegedly कथित तौर पर
12. **Sentence** (verb) – pronounce sentence on, mete out punishment to, punish, convict मुजरिम ठहराना
13. **Serve** (verb) – spend, go through बिताना
14. **Term** (noun) – period of time, time, length of time, spell अवधि, काल
15. **Carry out** (phrasal verb) – Perform a task. कार्यान्वित करना
16. **Reconnaissance** (noun) – preliminary survey, survey, exploration, observation, investigation पूर्व-परीक्षण
17. **Siege** (noun) – blockade, beleaguerment, encirclement घेराबंदी
18. **Deposition** (noun) – statement, sworn statement, affidavit, attestation बयान
19. **Plea bargain** (noun) – An arrangement between prosecutor and defendant whereby the defendant pleads guilty to a lesser charge in exchange for a more lenient sentence or an agreement to drop other charges.
20. **Trial** (noun) – court case, case, lawsuit, suit, hearing मुकदमा
21. **Conspiracy** (noun) – plot, scheme, stratagem, plan, machination साजिश
22. **Blasphemous** (adjective) – irreligious, irreverent, impious, ungodly, godless तिरस्कारी

23. **Operative** (noun) – agent, secret agent, undercover agent, spy गुर्गा
24. **Volunteer** (noun) – A person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task. स्वयंसेवी
25. **Paintball** (noun) – A game in which participants simulate military combat using air guns to shoot capsules of paint at each other.
26. **Grey listing** (noun) – FATF has placed a country under increased monitoring to check its progress on measures against money laundering and terrorism financing
27. **FATF** (noun) – The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog
28. **On-site** (adjective) – Taking place or situated at a particular place or site.
29. **With a view to** (phrase) – with the hope, aim, or intention of. के विचार से
30. **De-list** (verb) – to remove from the list सूची से निकाल देना
31. **Designated** (adjective) – chosen, selected, deputed, delegated निर्दिष्ट
32. **Mandate** (verb) – Require (something) to be done; make mandatory.
33. **Pursue** (verb) – engage in, follow, prosecute, conduct
34. **The West** (noun) – It include U.S and other European countries.
35. **Bring up** (phrasal verb) – suggest, propose, advance, moot, put forward, bring forward उठाना
36. **Proceeding** (noun) – course of action, action, step, measure, move कार्यवाही
37. **Behind bar** (phrase) – In prison. सलाखों के पीछे
38. **Stand trial** (phrase) – To be brought before a judge for a crime or misdeed
39. **Admittedly** (adverb) – definitely, undoubtedly, without a doubt निश्चय ही; निस्सन्देह
40. **Virtually** (adverb) – in effect, effectively, all but, more or less, practically वास्तव में
41. **Given** (preposition) – considering, taking into consideration, taking into account देखते हुए
42. **Ties** (noun) – connection, link, liaison, attachment, association संबंध
43. **Thus far** (phrase) – so far, until now, until then, up until now अब तक
44. **Concerted** (adjective) – strenuous, vigorous; collective, combined, ठोस

45. **Prosecute** (verb) – take to court, bring legal proceedings against, पर मुकदमा चलाना
46. **As with** (phrase) – the same thing applies to के साथ भी
47. **Keep the spotlight on** (phrase) – To focus on or bring attention to someone or something. पर ध्यान देना
48. **Predilection** (noun) – liking, fondness, preference, partiality झुकाव
49. **Authorities** (noun) – officials, officialdom, the people in charge प्राधिकारी
50. **Reverse** (verb) – withdraw, repeal, cancel, rescind, annul, nullify उलटना
51. **Heat** (noun) – Passion, fervor, ardor, intensity, excitement गर्मी
52. **Reprieve** (noun) – cancellation of punishment, postponement of punishment, remission, दण्डविराम
53. **Make clear** (phrase) – explain, elucidate, spell out, clarify स्पष्ट करना
54. **Bring to justice** (phrase) – Arrest someone for a crime and ensure that they are tried/suited in court.

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Practice Exercise

Direction (Q1 – Q3): Select the best express synonym of the given words

[Editorial page]

1. Mir is also wanted for LeT conspiracies to attack a Danish newspaper accused of publishing **blasphemous** cartoons and bomb a nuclear installation in Australia
 - A. Sardonic
 - B. Decimate
 - C. Profane
 - D. Innate
2. India must seek the **extradition** of Sajid Mir for his role in the Mumbai attacks
 - A. Capitalism
 - B. Repatriation
 - C. Sacrosanct
 - D. Aberration
3. New Delhi must also rectify the error in not pursuing Mir's addition to the UNSC list thus far, and launch a **concerted** international effort for Mir to be prosecuted for the number of terror attacks he has been involved in — not just for terror financing.
 - A. Serendipity
 - B. Burgeon
 - C. Aristocratic
 - D. Strenuous

Direction (Q4 – Q5): select the appropriate antonym of the given words

4. **REPRIEVE**
 - A. Alloy
 - B. Conviction
 - C. Capitalism
 - D. Maverick
5. **PREDILECTION**
 - A. Acquiesce
 - B. Labyrinth
 - C. Confluence
 - D. Aversion

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

6.
 - A. There has been a fall from the profits of our company recently.
 - B. There was a huge crowd in front of the actor's house on his birthday.
 - C. Reena came early on Lambda Monday because she had to plan out the team's schedule for the whole week.
 - D. Rupali wanted to get a clear picture about the incident so she spoke to the victims.
 - E. All are correct
7.
 - A. They were very disciplined and quiet when the new teacher entered the classroom.
 - B. He has refused not to take the promotion although he is eligible.

- C. The door was open but no one was there at home last night.
- D. Both A & B are incorrect
- E. All are correct

8. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate idiom.

In Colombia, where a decades-long civil war between the state and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) had had a devastating impact on the public psyche, even mainstream leftist politicians had struggled to win popular support. But FARC's decision to _____ and join the political mainstream as part of the 2016 peace agreement widened the scope for leftist politics in the country

- A. Lay down arms
- B. Steal a march on
- C. Serve the purpose
- D. Cause for alarm

9. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate Phrasal verb

Even when a wave of leftist victories was sweeping across South America in the early 2000s, it remained a fort of centrist and conservative politics. But Mr. Petro, armed with his promises of overhauling the country's economy and governance, _____ this fort and captured power.

- A. Came across
- B. Pointed out
- C. Broke into
- D. Turned out

10. Find out the misspelt word

- A. Plagiarize
- B. Pronunciation
- C. Personnel
- D. Perceive

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.

All non-officer appointments to the three wings of the Indian armed forces will be through the Agnipath (literally, the path of fire), the Centre announced on June 14.

(Playing with fire – The Hindu: 20 June, 2022)

P. Almost on cue, a section of experts has jumped in praising the move as transformative for the country's defence.

Q. The Government has enumerated its reasons for the move that fundamentally disrupts not only the process of recruitment but also the character of the soldier.

R. Youth aspiring to join the forces are on the streets in protest in several States, and are even turning violent in many places.

S. With no recruitment in the last two years due to COVID-19, these youngsters were already frustrated.

T. With modest education and skills, they fear the new process stalls an accessible escape route from poverty.

U. But many in the defence community and also political observers have not shied away from expressing their reservations and shock.

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 (Q12 – Q15): Cloze test based on Editorial (Playing with fire – The Hindu: 20 June, 2022)

The Government claims the new scheme will help build a younger, fitter defence force, with personnel more trainable in the changing technological environment. It says it will also _____**12**_____ military discipline, _____**13**_____ and skilling as a value addition, improving the prospects for those who return to civil society. To start with, there will be no permanent recruitment in the armed forces for the next four years. Critics who include many fellow travellers of the ruling BJP have raised concerns such as potential damage to operational preparedness given the crises on the borders, with personnel hired for the short term, trained in a rush and lacking the _____**14**_____ that professional forces possess. If a soldier's job is now turned into a contractual employment, it might not motivate aspirants who hope for job security, pension and honour. The argument that defence should not be treated as an employment guarantee scheme is _____**15**_____ impressive, but the fact is that from the manufacturing of arms to the employment of soldiers, the sector plays a critical role in the economy.

12. A. Insatiable

B. Inculcate

C. Sacrilege

D. Disdain

13. A. Belying

B. Proletariats

C. Sacrosanct

D. Ethos

14. A. Camaraderie

B. Inexorable

C. Arduous

D. Attrition

15. A. Supercilious

B. Epitome

C. Rhetorically

D. Ruminare

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

6. 'from' के बदले 'in' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'fall from something' का अर्थ है 'किसी चीज से गिरना' जबकि 'fall in something' का अर्थ है 'किसी चीज में गिरावट होना'; जैसे-

- i. His fall from the running train caused his death.
- ii. There is no scope of fall in the profits of this company.

➤ 'In' will be used instead of 'from'. like-

- i. His fall from the running train caused his death.
- ii. There is no scope of fall in the profits of this company.

7. 'not' का प्रयोग अनावश्यक है क्योंकि 'refuse, deny, forbid, prohibit, prevent' कुछ ऐसी क्रियाएँ हैं जिनमें 'not'(न) का भाव मौजूद होता है और इसलिए इनके साथ या बाद में 'not' का प्रयोग नहीं होता है; जैसे-

- i. He forbade me to go there.

➤ Use of 'not' is unnecessary because 'refuse, deny, forbid, prohibit, prevent' are some of the verbs in which the sense of 'not' is present and hence 'not' is followed by or after them. is not used; like-

- i. He forbade me to go there.

8. **Lay down one's arms** (phrase) – Cease/stop fighting. हथियार डाल देना

- **Steal a march on** (phrase) – Gain an advantage over (someone) by acting before they do. आगे बढ़ जाना
- **Serve the purpose** (phrase) – to have a particular use
- **Cause for alarm** (phrase) – A reason to be worried or concerned about something

9. **Break into** (phrasal verb) – To enter some place forcibly ज़बरदस्ती घुस आना

- **Come across** (phrasal verb) – seem, appear, look; be clear, be understood प्रतीत होना
- **Point out** (phrasal verb) – indicate, call attention to, draw attention to, direct attention to इशारा करना
- **Turn out** (phrasal verb) – transpire, prove to be the case, emerge, निकलना; प्रकट होना

10. **Pronunciation** (noun) – The way in which a word is pronounced. उच्चारण

11. **QPURST**

All non-officer appointments to the three wings of the Indian armed forces will be through the Agnipath (literally, the path of fire), the Centre announced on June 14. The Government has enumerated its reasons for the move that fundamentally disrupts not only the process of

recruitment but also the character of the soldier. Almost on cue, a section of experts has jumped in praising the move as transformative for the country's defence. But many in the defence community and also political observers have not shied away from expressing their reservations and shock. Youth aspiring to join the forces are on the streets in protest in several States, and are even turning violent in many places. With no recruitment in the last two years due to COVID-19, these youngsters were already frustrated. With modest education and skills, they fear the new process stalls an accessible escape route from poverty.

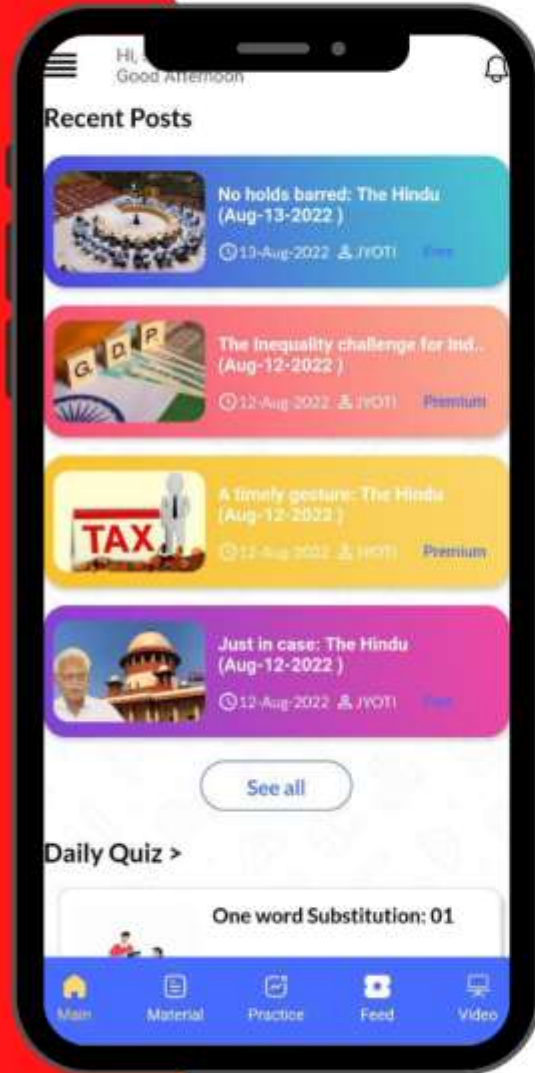
12. **Inculcate** (verb) – instil, implant, fix, ingrain, infuse, डालना
13. **Ethos** (noun) – moral code, attitudes, beliefs, principles, standard
14. **Camaraderie** (noun) – closeness, affinity, togetherness, solidarity, mutual support सौहार्द, मेल-मिलाप
15. **Rhetorically** (adverb) – in a way that relates to using language effectively आलंकारितापूर्वक

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Sardonic	adjective	Mocking; scornful	तिरस्कारपूर्ण
	Decimate	verb	To kill or destroy a large part of	बरबाद करना
	Innate	adjective	Existing since birth; inborn; inherent	जन्मजात
Q2	Capitalism	noun	Free enterprise; an economic system in which business are owned by private citizen	पूंजीतंत्र, सम्पत्तिवाद
	Sacrosanct	adjective	Sacred; held to be inviolable	पवित्र
	Aberration	noun	Something not typical; a deviation from the standard	सामान्य से विचलन
Q3	Serendipity	noun	Accidental good fortune; discovering good thing without looking for them	नसीब
	Burgeon	verb	To expand; to flourish	विकास पाना, सफल होना
	Aristocratic	adjective	Of noble birth; snobbish	भव्य, कुलीनतंत्रीय,
Q4	Alloy	noun	A combination of two or more things, usually metals	मिश्र धातु
	Capitalism	noun	Free enterprise; an economic system in which business are owned by private citizen	पूंजीतंत्र, सम्पत्तिवाद
	Maverick	noun	A nonconformist; a rebel	आवारा
Q5	Acquiesce	verb	To comply passively; to accept; to assent; to agree	संतुष्ट होना, चुपचाप स्वीकार कर लेना
	Labyrinth	noun	A maze; something like a maze.	भूलभुलैया
	Confluence	noun	Flowing together, especially of rivers; the place where they begin to flow together.	संगम, मिलाप, संप्रवाह
Q12	Insatiable	adjective	Hard or impossible to satisfy; greedy; avaricious	लालची
	Sacrilege	noun	A violation of something sacred; blasphemy	अपवित्रीकरण
	Disdain	noun	Arrogant scorn; contempt	तिरस्कार, घृणा, अवहेलना

Q13	Belie	verb	To give a false impression of; to contradict	झुठलाना
	Proletariat	noun	The industrial working class	सर्वहारा
	Sacrosanct	adjective	Sacred; held to be inviolable	पवित्र
Q14	Inexorable	adjective	Relentless; inevitable; unavoidable	निष्ठुर
	Arduous	adjective	Hard; Difficult	कठिन
	Attrition	noun	Gradual wearing away, weakening or loss; a natural or expected decrease in number or size.	संघर्षण
Q15	Supercilious	adjective	Haughty; patronizing	घमंडी, अधीन होना
	Epitome	noun	A brief summary that captures the meaning of the whole; the perfect example of something; a paradigm.	प्रतिमान
	Ruminate	verb	To contemplate; to ponder; to mull over	मनन करना; विचार करना

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