Gone girls: On crimes against women

A zero tolerance approach to violence against women is the only acceptable course

Reported violence against women is the **proverbial tip of the iceberg**; it **conceals** more than it **reveals**. But what it reveals can sometimes shock the collective **conscience** of a nation, especially a **heinous** crime that **plays out in broad daylight** as an **assault** on a young woman. Last week's **incident** of violence in Chennai, where college student Sathyapriya was **decapitated** as a young man **pursuing** her romantically pushed her in the path of an oncoming train did no less **tug at the heartstrings** of the public. The **incidents** of violence against women in train stations in Chennai **are** following a nearly **copycat** pattern after Swathi, a young **techie** was murdered in 2016, in broad daylight by a man, who was again **stalking** her, in a railway station. In 2021, **Swetha**, a young college goer was murdered near a **suburban** train station by a man in a 'troubled relationship' with her. In each of these cases, the **inability** of the **stalker** to accept the fact that his **overtures** were **turned down** by the girl directly **led** to the violence. Earlier this month, an eight-year-old girl in Delhi was kidnapped, sexually **assaulted** and murdered. In September, the **bodies** of two teenaged girls **were** found in Lakhimpur Kheri in Uttar Pradesh. Police said they had been **strangled** with a scarf and **hung** from a tree after they were raped. Only a few cases **hit the headlines** or make an impact on social media. Many more go unreported, the massive unseen **underbelly** of the **iceberg**.

In the **chequered** history of handling the many forms of violence against women in India, the **horrific** Nirbhaya rape of 2012 is a **definitive milestone**. It **rocked** the nation with such force that lawmakers **rushed** to **strengthen** laws, and **put in place** systems and infrastructure that were meant to **ensure** such **dreadful** incidents are never repeated. However, according to National Crime Records Bureau statistics, a **whopping** 4,28,278 lakh crimes against women happened in 2021. These included rape, rape and murder, **dowry harassment**, kidnapping, forced marriage, **trafficking**, and online harassment. At this **juncture**, a **decade** later, it is **pertinent** to ask if the Government has **rolled out** all the strategies **conceived** of and **fuelled** by the Nirbhaya Fund. **Speedy process** of **trial** and **resolution resulting in conviction** of **the accused is** a **casualty** in courts that are **flooded** with pending cases. The **Sustainable Development Goals underline** the importance of building safe, **resilient** and inclusive cities from a gender **lens**. No **slackening** on the part of authorities **is** acceptable when it comes to **dealing with** violence against women; zero tolerance alone is acceptable. [Practice Exercise]

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

Vocabulary

- Zero tolerance (noun) the act of following the law very strictly so that people are punished even when what they have done wrong is not very serious
- 2. Violence (verb) incite/provoke violence
- 3. **Course** (noun) A mode of action; path, way मार्ग
- 4. **Reported** (adjective) formally mentioned to someone in authority, for example the police प्रतिवेदित
- 5. **Proverbial** (adjective) as used in a proverb or other phrase लोकोक्तीय
- Tip of the iceberg (phrase) the small noticeable part of a much larger situation or problem that remains hidden.
- 7. **Conceal** (verb) hide, disguise, mask, cover up, cover छिपाना
- 8. **Reveal** (verb) disclose, divulge, show, expose, uncover प्रकट करना
- 9. **Conscience** (noun) sense of right and wrong, integrity, morality अन्तश्चेतना
- 10. Heinous (adjective) odious, wicked, evil, atrocious, monstrous, disgraceful, जघन्य
- 11. **Play out** (phrasal verb) happen; take place घटित होना/ करना

- 12. **In broad daylight** (phrase) during the day, when everyone can see. दिन के उजाले में
- 13. Assault (noun) attack, strike, onslaught, offensive हमला
- 14. **Decapitate** (verb) behead, guillotine, decollate, execute सिर काटना
- 15. **Pursue** (verb) strive for, push towards पीछा करना
- 16. Tug at the heartstrings (phrase) to cause someone to feel a great deal of pity or sadness for someone
- 17. **Copycat** (noun as modifier) denoting an action, typically a crime, carried out in imitation of another. नकल
- 18. **Techie** (noun) a person who is expert in or enthusiastic about technology, especially computing तकनीकी विशेषज्ञ
- 19. Stalk (verb) follow, pursue पीछा करना
- 20. **Suburban** (adjective) metropolitan, town, city, municipal उपनगरीय
- 21. **Stalker** (noun) a person who follows or watches somebody for a long period of time, often in a frightening, threatening or annoying way पीछा करने वाला
- 22. Overture (noun) proposal प्रस्ताव

- 23. **Turn down** (phrasal verb) refuse, reject ठुकराना
- 24. **Lead** (to) (verb) cause, give rise to, result in, bring about वजह बनना
- 25. **Assault** (verb) Attack someone physically or emotionally उत्पीड़न करना
- 26. **Strangle** (with) (verb) –stifle, choke, throttle, suppress, repress गला घोंटना
- 27. Hang (verb) Kill by hanging लटकाना
- 28. **Hit the headline** (phrase) to appear in the news suddenly or receive a lot of attention in news reports सूर्खियों में आना
- 29. **Underbelly** (noun) the weakest or most unpleasant part of something
- 30. **Iceberg** (noun) Something, esp a problem or difficulty, that is much larger
- 31. **Chequered** (adjective) marked by periods of varied fortune or discreditable incidents. विविध, विचित्र
- 32. Horrific (adjective) dreadful, awful, horrendous, horrible, terrible दहला देनेवाला
- 33. **Definitive** (adjective) conclusive, definite, final, unequivocal, absolute निर्णायक, स्पष्ट
- 34. **Milestone** (noun) turning point, historic event, major achievement मील का पत्थर
- 35. **Rock** (verb) Astound, shock, shake, stun, disturb, upset को झकझोर कर देना

- 36. **Rush** (verb) act with great haste. हड़बड़ी करना
- 37. **Strengthen** (verb) reinforce, enhance, increase, intensify, fortify मजबूत करना
- 38. **Put in place** (phrase) to establish. स्थापित करना
- 39. **Ensure** (verb) make sure, make certain, see to it सुनिश्चित करना
- 40. **Dreadful** (adjective) awful, terrible, horrible, appalling, abominable भयानक
- 41. **Whopping** (adjective) huge, enormous, massive, colossal चौंकाने वाला; भारी
- 42. **Dowry Harassment** (noun) an attempt to obtain more money or goods from a wife's family after the marriage. दहेज उत्पीड़न
- 43. Trafficking (noun) smuggling तस्करी
- 44. **Juncture** (noun) point, point in time, time, moment, moment in time समय
- 45. Decade (noun) A period of 10 years दशक
- 46. **Pertinent** (to) (adjective) relevant, to the point, apposite, appropriate, suitable उचित/ म्नासिब
- 47. **Roll out** (phrasal verb) Officially launch or introduce a new product or schem
- 48. **Conceive** (of) (verb) Imagine, envisage, visualize, envision, picture, conjure up कल्पना करना

- 49. Fuel (verb) incite, stimulate, encourage, energize, promote उत्तेजित करना
- 50. **Trial** (noun) court case, case, lawsuit, suit, hearing म्कदमा
- 51. **Resolution** (noun) the act of solving or ending a problem or difficulty: समाधान
- 52. **Result in** (phrasal verb) To be the cause of: परिणाम होना
- 53. **Conviction** (noun) declaration of guilt, pronouncement of guilt, sentence दोषसिदधि
- 54. **The accused** (noun) A person or group of people who are charged with or on trial for a crime. आरोपी
- 55. **Casualty** (noun) a person or thing that suffers as a result of something else हताहत
- 56. **Flood** (with) (verb) arrive in great numbers

- 57. **Sustainable Development Goal** (SDG) (noun) – The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to transform our world. They are a call to action to end poverty and inequality, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy health, justice and prosperity.
- 58. **Underline** (verb) emphasize, stress on, highlight, accentuate, accent, call attention to ज़ोर देना
- 59. **Resilient** (adjective) Strong, robust, buoyant, durable मजबूत
- 60. Lens (noun) Perspective परिप्रेक्ष्य
- 61. **Slackening** (noun) loosening, relaxation सुस्ती
- 62. **Deal with** (phrasal verb) cope with, handle, manage, attend to, see to संभालना, निपटना

Practice Exercise

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

- It is <u>pertinent</u> to ask if the Government has rolled out all the strategies conceived of and fuelled by the Nirbhaya Fund.
 - A. Condone
 - B. Efface
 - C. Relevant
 - D. Impotent
- 2. A *heinous* crime that plays out in broad daylight as an assault on a young woman.
 - A. Insipid
 - B. Anachronism
 - C. Specious
 - D. Dreadful
- 3. However, according to National Crime Records Bureau statistics, a *whopping* 4,28,278 lakh crimes against women happened in 2021.
 - A. Enormous
 - B. Hierarchy
 - C. Vindictive
 - D. Morose

4. Idioms & Phrase

Though my grandfather was the breadwinner, it was my grandmother who truly *held the reins* in their house.

- A. To provide information about something
- B. To return quickly to a normal condition after a difficult situation or event
- C. To not be involved in something
- D. To have or be in control
- 5. Direction: Five 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 shooting down of a Chinese drone by Taiwan's military on September 1 has marked a new phase in the already simmering tensions across the Taiwan Strait, highlighting the growing risks of escalation, even if unintended.

P. Taiwan soberly chose not to engage the PLA vessels.

Q. In the wake of the drills, the Chinese military has subsequently sought to continue asserting Beijing's territorial claims by sending drones into Taiwan's airspace.

R. Photographs taken up close of Taiwan military personnel were subsequently shared on social media, apparently to demonstrate Beijing's capabilities, but in the process raising pressure on Taipei to show a response.

S. Over recent weeks, China's military has carried out unprecedented military drills surrounding Taiwan, following the visit last month of U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

T. Taiwan's military said it took the decision to shoot down what it called an unidentified civilian drone over its airspace in Shiyu Island after delivering several warnings.

U. Some manoeuvres crossed the median of the Taiwan Strait and were declared by China's military to have also taken place in territorial waters claimed by Taiwan.

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

A. P B.S C.T D.Q E.R Direction (Q6 – Q7): Read the given sentences to find out whether there is any grammatical error in them

- As our country is (A)/experiencing a recession, banks (B)/ have became very cautious(C)/ about giving loans. (D)/ No Error. (E)
- 7. Raman puts in a lot (A)/ of efforts to ensure (B)/ that the scheme was (C)/ launched in March(D)/ No Error. (E)

Directions (Q8-Q9): In each of the questions given below, a word is given followed by 3 sentences, each with a blank. Find out which of the sentences the given word or any form of it would fit the blank and mark your answer.

8. Bulwark

- (i) My savings were to be a _____ against unemployment.
- (ii) Their special contribution was to act as an ideological ______, not only against outsiders but against the fifth-columnists within.
- (iii) Their works extolled the middleclass consumer as sensible, independent-minded, and the of the nation's democracy.
 - A. only i
 - B. only ii
 - C. ii and iii
 - D. i and ii
 - E. I, ii and iii

9. Wreak havoc

- (i) The virus _____on my compute
- (ii) On the other hand, because the parliamentary majorities of the coalitions have not been large, small regional parties can______.
- (iii) I argue that, given an infinite number of possible persons, the probability that everyone is transworld ______ is exceedingly low.
 - A. only i
 - B. only ii
 - C. ii and iii
 - D. i and ii
 - E. I, ii and iii

10. Find out the misspelt word

- A. Recommend
- B. Upholstery

- C. Supersede
- D. Bouyant

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

(The Hindu Editorial: A Dangerous Moment – Oct 22, 2022)

His original plan was to meet his military objectives through a limited war.(1)/ He had mobilised more than 1,50,000 troops and ordered a sharp thrust into Ukraine from multiple fronts on February 24, but this plan did not quite work as Ukrainian forces, backed militarily and economically by the U.S. and Europe, slowed down the enemy's advances and made the invasion costly for the Russians. (2)/ Russian President Vladimir Putin's announcement of a partial troop mobilisation marks an acknowledgement of the limits of his "special military operation" in Ukraine and a readiness to escalate the conflict in response to setbacks. (3)/ Earlier, Mr. Putin had to withdraw troops from around Kyiv and Kharkiv and focus on Ukraine's east and south where the Russians made territorial gains. (4)/

But Russia suffered its first major battlefield defeats earlier this month in Kharkiv Oblast in the northeast where its troops had to retreat in the face of a _____11_____ Ukrainian counter-offensive. This setback seemed to have quickened Kremlin's move to ______12_____ its positions in captured Ukrainian territories. Pro-Russia separatists in Luhansk, Donetsk in the east and Kherson and Zaporizhzhya in the south are now planning to hold referendums on joining the Russian Federation. As the results are known even before the first ballot is cast, the door is now shutting on the possibility of a negotiated settlement of the conflict based on the pre-war borders. For Mr. Putin, the escalation comes with added risks. He went into Ukraine with limited forces in the first place because he knew that a general mobilisation, which would need nationwide conscription, could be ______13____. But almost eight months later, his war has not only failed to meet its declared objectives, which includes Ukraine's "demilitarisation", but has also seen a ______14_____NATO throwing its collective weight behind</u> Ukraine and expanding itself further into the Russian borders by taking in Finland and Sweden as its members. Mr. Putin and his Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu acknowledged the challenges on Wednesday.

If Mr. Putin, who dialled up the nuclear threat, said his troops (A)/ are facing the best of "the Western military machine" in Ukraine, (B)/ Mr. Shoigu, whose Ministry till now avoided to call the military operation a war, (C)/ said Russia today "is at war with the collective West". (D)

Faced with battlefield setbacks, sanctions and geopolitical challenges, Mr. Putin believes escalation is the way forward. But there is no certainty that a partial **mobilization(A)** would produce quick results and it could well **trigger(B)** a cycle of **escalation(C)**. All this means that the war is entering a far more dangerous **phase(D)**.

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

- 11. Russia suffered its first major battlefield defeats earlier this month in Kharkiv Oblast in the northeast where its troops had to retreat in the face of a ______ Ukrainian counter-offensive.
 - A. Respite

- B. Martyr
- C. Lightning
- D. Preeminent
- 12. This setback seemed to have quickened Kremlin's move to ______ its positions in captured Ukrainian territories.
 - A. Loquacious
 - B. Consolidate
 - C. Fecund
 - D. Indulgent
- 13. For Mr. Putin, the escalation comes with added risks. He went into Ukraine with limited forces in the first place because he knew that a general mobilisation, which would need nationwide conscription, could be _____.
 - A. Patronized
 - B. Effusion
 - C. Unpopular
 - D. Indigent
- 14. Almost eight months later, his war has not only failed to meet its declared objectives, which includes Ukraine's "demilitarisation", but has also seen a ______NATO throwing its collective weight behind Ukraine and expanding itself further into the Russian borders by taking in Finland and Sweden as its members
 - A. Ambivalent
 - B. Reinvigorated
 - C. Corollary
 - D. Impartial
- 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.

If Mr. Putin, who dialled up the nuclear threat, said his troops **(A)/** are facing the best of "the Western military machine" in Ukraine, **(B)/** Mr. Shoigu, whose Ministry till now avoided to call the military operation a war, **(C)/** said Russia today "is at war with the collective West". **(D)**

- A. (A)
- B. (B)
- C. (C)
- D. (D)
- E. No Error

16. Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.

His original plan was to meet his military objectives through a limited war.(1)/ He had mobilised more than 1,50,000 troops and ordered a sharp thrust into Ukraine from multiple fronts on February 24, but this plan did not quite work as Ukrainian forces, backed militarily and economically by the U.S. and Europe, slowed down the enemy's advances and made the invasion costly for the Russians. (2)/ Russian President Vladimir Putin's announcement of a partial troop mobilisation marks an acknowledgement of the limits of his "special military

operation" in Ukraine and a readiness to escalate the conflict in response to setbacks. (3)/ Earlier, Mr. Putin had to withdraw troops from around Kyiv and Kharkiv and focus on Ukraine's east and south where the Russians made territorial gains. (4)/

- A. 1234
- B. 3241
- C. 2341
- D. 3124
- 17. Given below is a phrase, Select the best express (es) the meaning of the phrase.

Throw one's weight behind

- A. To use one's influence or power to support or promote someone or something
- B. To appear in the news suddenly or receive a lot of attention in news reports
- C. To manage or take care of something
- D. To make someone feel worried or concerned about something
- 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.

But there is no certainty that a partial **mobilization(A)** would produce quick results and it could well **trigger(B)** a cycle of **escalation(C)**. All this means that the war is entering a far more dangerous **phase(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) Shobek didn't receive a scholarship
 - (ii) He is an excellent student
 - A. Whereas
 - B. Though
 - C. Primarily
 - D. Unless
 - E. Rather

20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks

Those who are abstemious ______ food habits enjoy good health.

- A. Of
- B. In
- C. With
- D. To

Answers

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

Explanations

- 4. Hold the reins (phrase) to be in control बागडोर संभालना
- 5. SUPQRT

The shooting down of a Chinese drone by Taiwan's military on September 1 has marked a new phase in the already simmering tensions across the Taiwan Strait, highlighting the growing risks of escalation, even if unintended. Over recent weeks, China's military has carried out unprecedented military drills surrounding Taiwan, following the visit last month of U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Some manoeuvres crossed the median of the Taiwan Strait and were declared by China's military to have also taken place in territorial waters claimed by Taiwan. Taiwan soberly chose not to engage the PLA vessels. In the wake of the drills, the Chinese military has subsequently sought to continue asserting Beijing's territorial claims by sending drones into Taiwan's airspace. Photographs taken up close of Taiwan military personnel were subsequently shared on social media, apparently to demonstrate Beijing's capabilities, but in the process raising pressure on Taipei to show a response. Taiwan's military said it took the decision to shoot down what it called an unidentified civilian drone over its airspace in Shiyu Island after delivering several warnings.

 (C) 'became' के बदले 'become' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'have/has/had' के साथ V³ का होता है और 'Become' का V² रूप 'became' तथा V³ रूप 'become' होता है; अर्थात 'become' का V¹ और V³ रूप समान होता है।

 'become' will be used instead of 'became' because 'have/has/had' is accompanied by V3 and 'become' has V2 form 'became' and V3 form 'become'; That is, V1 and V3 form of 'become' is same.

- 7. (C) 'was' के बदले 'is' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'scheme' के launch होने का काम 'March' में अर्थात future में होने वाला है, और future के किसी fixed programme के लिए Simple Present का प्रयोग होता है; जैसे
 - i. The PM visits Patna on Monday next.
 - 'is' will be used instead of 'was' because the launch of 'scheme' is going to happen in 'March' i.e. in future, and Simple Present is used for any future fixed program ; likei. The PM visits Patna on Monday next.
- 8. Bulwark (noun) Safeguard, Protection, Defense, Buttress सुरक्षा, हिफ़ाज़ती बांध

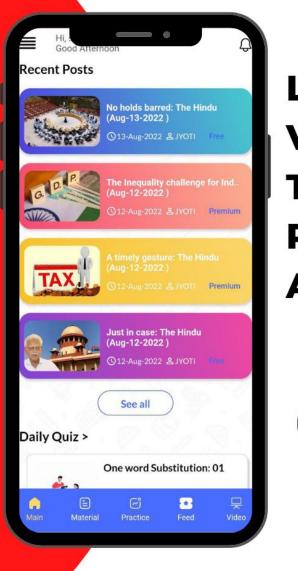
- 9. Wreck havoc (phrase) to cause great damage कहर बरपाना
 - **Correct is :** I argue that, given an infinite number of possible persons, the probability that everyone is transworld depraved is exceedingly low.
 - Deprave (verb) corrupt, lead astray, warp, subvert, pervert कल्षित करना
- 10. Buoyant (Adjective) cheerful, happy, cheery, sunny प्रसन्नचित्त
- 11. Lightning (adjective) Fast, quick, speedy, sudden, whirlwind, precipitous तेज, शीघ्र
- 12. Consolidate (verb) Strengthen, enhance, secure, firm up मजबूत करना
- 13. **Unpopular** (adjective) Disliked, hated, detested, ostracized, not liked, out of favour, not accepted अलोकप्रिय
- 14. Reinvigorated (adjective) Revived, refreshed, strengthened, bolstered पुनर्जीवित किया गया
- 15. 'To call' के बदले 'calling' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Avoid is never used with an infinitive. It is followed by a verb in the -ing form.
- 16. (D) **3124**

Russian President Vladimir Putin's announcement of a partial troop mobilisation marks an acknowledgement of the limits of his "special military operation" in Ukraine and a readiness to escalate the conflict in response to setbacks. His original plan was to meet his military objectives through a limited war. He had mobilised more than 1,50,000 troops and ordered a sharp thrust into Ukraine from multiple fronts on February 24, but this plan did not quite work as Ukrainian forces, backed militarily and economically by the U.S. and Europe, slowed down the enemy's advances and made the invasion costly for the Russians. Earlier, Mr. Putin had to withdraw troops from around Kyiv and Kharkiv and focus on Ukraine's east and south where the Russians made territorial gains.

- 17. **Throw one's weight behind** (phrase) To use one's influence or power to support or promote someone or something
- 18. But there is no certainty that a partial mobilisation would produce quick results and it could well trigger a cycle of escalation. All this means that the war is entering a far more dangerous phase.
- 19. Shobek didn't receive a scholarship **though** he is an excellent student.

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words	mportant	Meanings	
Q1	Condone	verb	To overlook; to permit to happen	माफ करना, छोड़
				देना, ध्यान न देना
	Efface	verb	To erase; to rub away the features of	मिटाना
	Impotent	adjective	Powerless; helpless; unable to perform sexual intercourse.	नपुंसक, शक्तिहीन
Q2	Anachronism	noun	Something out of place in time or history; an	तिथि व समय की
			incongruity	अशुद्धता;
				बेत्कापन
	Insipid	adjective	Dull; bland; banal	पीका पीका
	Specious	adjective	Deceptively plausible or attractive	दिखावटी
Q3	Hierarchy	noun	An organization based on rank or degree; pecking order	अनुक्रम, पदक्रम
	Vindictive	adjective	Seeking revenge	प्रतिशोधी
	Morose	adjective	Gloomy; sullen	उदास
Q11	Respite	noun	A period of rest or relief	मोहलत
	Martyr	noun	Someone who gives up his or her life in	शहीद
			pursuit of a curse, especially a religious one;	
	Preeminent	adjective	Better than anyone else; outstanding; supreme	उत्तम
Q12	Loquacious	adjective	Talking a lot or too much	बातूनी
	Fecund	adjective	Fertile; productive	उपजाऊ, फलप्रद
	Indulgent	adjective	Lenient; yielding to desire	कृपालु
Q13	Patronize	verb	To treat as an inferior; to condescend to	सहायता देना
	Effusion	noun	A pouring forth	बहाव, रिसाव
	Indigent	adjective	Poor	दरिद्र
Q14	Ambivalent	adjective	Undecided; neutral; wishy-washy	दुविधा में पड़ा हुआ, अनिर्णीत
	Corollary	noun	Something that follows; a natural consequences	स्वाभाविक परिणाम
	Impartial	adjective	Fair; not favoring one side or the other; unbiased	निष्पक्ष



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