

Checks without balance: On China's lock to prevent listing of terrorists

India must look at all its options with China to **ensure** listing of terrorists

China's **decision** to block two proposals by India and the United States to list Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) commanders on the United Nations Security Council's 1267 terror list **is** part of a **well-worn** pattern now. Since June, New Delhi and Washington have made five such proposals, with China **placing a hold on** each. This includes Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar's brother Rauf Asghar and LeT leaders Abdur Rahman Makki (Hafiz Saeed's brother-in-law), 26/11 handler Sajid Mir and the latest listing requests for Talha Saeed (Hafiz Saeed's son) and Shahid Mehmood, who is charged with recruitment and collection of funds for the terror group. **Each** of these men **has** been listed as **designated** terrorists in India's Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act terror list as well as on the Federal Bureau of Investigation or U.S. Treasury lists. Each of them has a record of charges over the past two **decades** of involvement in the attacks by the LeT and JeM, organisations that are banned by the UN, and responsible for targeted **strikes** in India — from the IC-814 hijack, Parliament attack and Mumbai 26/11, to Pathankot, Uri and Pulwama. Even so, China's **response** to the requests **has** been **consistently recalcitrant**, placing hold upon hold on the proposals made, **regardless of the figure it cuts** in the global **counter-terrorism space**, using what New Delhi has forcefully **criticised** as a "political **bias**" towards Pakistan to **stymie** the process.

Given the situation, India has three clear choices: the Government can **abandon** the effort until China can be **persuaded** to change its **stance**, or it can continue to bring terror listing proposals to the UN knowing they will be blocked by China, but showing that China is **indeed** misusing its power as a permanent member of the Security Council. Neither route will, however, ensure India's goal of listing the remaining leadership of the terror groups. A third option is to open a **diplomatic channel** with China that focuses on the issue of global cooperation on terrorism, separate from other **fractious bilateral** issues, and to **induce** Beijing to **reconsider** its **untenable** position. While the last option **seems** the most difficult, if not impossible, it must be remembered that China was persuaded to "**grey list**" Pakistan at the **Financial Action Task Force** (FATF) from 2012-2015, and from 2018 to the present, and remove its hold and allow the terror listing of Masood Azhar at the UNSC in 2019, after blocking such attempts since 2009. As Pakistan **moves off** the FATF grey list — as it is expected to on Friday — it is time for India to consider all its options with China to ensure justice for all the **victims** of the cross-border terrorism that has **exacted** a deep and **lasting toll** on the country. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Checks and balances** (noun) – counterbalancing influences by which an organization or system is regulated, typically those ensuring that political power is not concentrated in the hands of individuals or groups. नियंत्रण और संतुलन
2. **Lock** (noun) – Hold
3. **List** (verb) – To make a list of
4. **Ensure** (verb) – make sure, make certain, see to it सुनिश्चित करना
5. **Well-worn** (adjective) – (of a phrase, story, etc.) heard so often that it does not sound interesting anymore; Hackneyed घिसा-पिटा
6. **Place a hold on** (phrasal verb) – To delay or postpone some state, activity, event, etc.
7. **Designated** (adjective) – chosen, selected, deputed, delegated निर्दिष्ट
8. **Decade** (noun) – A period of 10 years दशक
9. **Strike** (noun) – Attack, raid, foray, incursion हमला
10. **Consistently** (adverb) – Constantly, always, time after time, time and again
11. **Recalcitrant** (adjective) – unruly, intractable, refractory, disobedient, headstrong, obstinate, stubborn हठी
12. **Regardless of** (phrase) – in spite of, despite, notwithstanding, without regard to, irrespective of भले ही
13. **Cut a figure** (phrase) – to have a particular appearance
14. **Counter-terrorism** (noun) – anti-terrorism आतंकवाद के खिलाफ़
15. **Space** (noun) – Area, sphere, domain क्षेत्र
16. **Criticise** (verb) – Censure, condemn, carp, slate, roast, slam, disapprove of आलोचना करना
17. **Bias** (noun) – prejudice, partiality, partisanship, favouritism, unfairness पक्षपात
18. **Stymie** (verb) – impede, interfere with, hamper, hinder, obstruct, inhibit, बाधा डालना, रोकना
19. **Given** (preposition) – considering, taking into account, bearing in mind देखते हुए
20. **Abandon** (verb) – to stop doing something, especially before it is finished छोड़ देना, त्याग देना
21. **Persuade** (verb) – convince, influence, induce, coax, sway मनाना

22. **Stance** (noun) – attitude, stand, point of view, viewpoint, opinion, way of thinking रुख
23. **Indeed** (adverb) – as expected, to be sure, in fact, in point of fact वास्तव में
24. **Diplomatic** (adjective) – connected with managing relations between countries कूटनीतिक
25. **Channel** (noun) – a method or system; medium प्रणाली
26. **Fractious** (adjective) – making trouble and complaining झगड़ालू
27. **Bilateral** (adjective) – Involving two parties, especially countries. द्विपक्षीय
28. **Induce** (verb) – Persuade, encourage, convince, prompt मनाना
29. **Reconsider** (verb) – Reassess, review, reexamine, reevaluate, think again पुनर्विचार करना
30. **Untenable** (adjective) – indefensible, unsustainable, weak, unsound, shaky, flawed अस्थिर, असमर्थनीय
31. **Seem** (verb) – appear, look, sound, feel, appear to be प्रतीत होना
32. **Grey list** (noun) – FATF has placed a country under increased monitoring to check its progress on measures against money laundering and terrorism financing
33. **Financial Action Task Force (FATF)** (noun) – The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog
34. **Move off** (phrasal verb) – to leave छूटना
35. **Victim** (noun) – An unfortunate person who suffers from some adverse circumstance पीड़ित
36. **Exact** (verb) – to make something bad happen to someone
37. **Lasting** (adjective) – continuing to exist for a long time or forever स्थायी
38. **Toll** (noun) – The number of deaths, casualties, or injuries arising from particular circumstances, such as a natural disaster, conflict, or accident (घायलों की) संख्या

Practice Exercise

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

1. the Government can abandon the effort until China can be persuaded to change its stance
 - A. Tacit
 - B. Expatriate
 - C. Inveterate
 - D. Forsake

2. A third option is to open a diplomatic channel with China that focuses on the issue of global cooperation on terrorism, separate from other fractious bilateral issues
 - A. Specious
 - B. Complaining
 - C. Utilitarian
 - D. Disdain

3. Using what New Delhi has forcefully criticised as a “political bias” towards Pakistan to stymie the process.
 - A. Flaunt
 - B. Vitriolic
 - C. Hinder
 - D. Parody

4. **Idioms & Phrase**
 These blood test results are a good sign, but you're not out of the woods just yet.
 - A. To not be involved in something
 - B. To provide information about something
 - C. Something that is very important
 - D. To no longer be in danger or difficulty

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.**
On September 22, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) arrested over 100 leaders and activists of the radical Islamist outfit, the Popular Front of India (PFI), after raids in 15 States.
 - P. Extremely provocative slogans and speeches formed part of the protest.
 - Q. The PFI continuously invokes the Constitution, democratic values and rule of law, but all that cannot camouflage the violence in its action and speech as unleashed in Kerala last week.
 - R. Kerala is its cradle and launch pad.
 - S. The PFI claims to be a ‘neo-social movement’, but its rhetoric and activities have left little doubt about its true nature.
 - T. The PFI and the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI) which acts as its political front, often deny their association, as unconvincingly as their claims of being on the right side of the law and democracy.

U. The latest demonstration of its violent, and threatening, character was seen the next day after the raids, when it called for a hartal.

Which among the following will be the **Fourth** 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

6. The two sisters shouted (A)/ at one another (B)/ in public. (C)/ No Error. (D)
7. With a good line and length, (A)/ the spinners were able (B)/ to peg the batsmen down. (C)/ No Error. (D)

Directions (8-9): 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.

8.

Column (1)	Column (2)
A. Nuclear waste will still being radioactive even after twenty thousand years,	D. which has been converted into a flat
B. My friend lived at the top of an old house	E. hopes to draw attention of pedestrians crossing the road
C. A public safety advertising campaign in Russia	F. so it must be disposed of very carefully.

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

9.

Column (1)	Column (2)
A. A cash prize was awarded to	D. the most successful salesman of the year by the President of the company
B. Several guests noticed Mr. Sharma	E. speak about their plan of action for implementing the Act
C. On the second day of the workshop, participants does a situational analysis	F. collapsing in his chair and gasping for a breath.

of the state and	
------------------	--

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

10. Find out the misspelt word

- A. Occurrence
B. Susceptible
C. Distinctness
D. Exaggerated

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

(The Hindu Editorial: Over the top – Sep 26 , 2022)

This means the likes of WhatsApp, Zoom, and Netflix will be considered telecommunication services. **(1)/** It seeks to do this by bringing them under the **ambit** of telecommunication services, the operation of which would require a licence — that is if the draft provisions do go through. **(2)/** The draft telecommunication Bill, put out last week for public comments, hints at a disturbing governmental pursuit, for more control over a range of digital applications and over-the-top streaming services that millions of Indians use daily. **(3)/** And so would a whole range of digital services that are anyway regulated by the IT Act. **(4)/** This, the Government wants to do, by a wide expansion of the definition of what constitutes a telecom service. The new definition includes everything from broadcasting services to electronic mail, from voice mail to voice, video and data communication services, from Internet and broadband services to over-the-top communication services, including those that the Government may notify separately.

It is all well to **framework(A)**, as the Government has done, that the country requires a new legal **state(B)**, and not the existing one that is based on the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, to **deal(C)** with the **realities(D)** of the 21st century. But, it is not just technology that has evolved in over a century but also a democratic society's understanding and expectations of user rights, privacy and transparency. Not long ago, the highest court in the country acknowledged a citizen's right to privacy as a fundamental right. This draft, however, disappoints on the above counts. According to it, for instance, the Government has the powers to prevent a message from being transmitted "on the occurrence of any public emergency or in the interest of the public safety". Another clause in the draft Bill requires an entity that has been granted a licence to "unequivocally identify the person to whom it provides services".

A similar clause under the IT rules **(A)/** brought in last year — requiring messaging apps to "enable the identification **(B)/** of the first originator of the information on **(C)/** its computer resource" — have been challenged in the Court. **(D)**

There are enough valid reasons to doubt whether this is even technically possible without breaking encryption and making all communications **11** . While this is not to underplay the **12** challenges for ensuring security, the repeated attempts by the Government to be able to tap **13** all kinds of communication, without making sure the common man has a legal armour in the form of a data protection law, is extremely problematic. The Government needs to

upgrade its thinking on users and privacy. This draft needs to go back to the ____14____ board.

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

11. There are enough valid reasons to doubt whether this is even technically possible without breaking encryption and making all communications _____.
- A. Convivial
 - B. Pervading
 - C. Vulnerable
 - D. Consummate
12. While this is not to underplay the _____ challenges for ensuring security
- A. Mounting
 - B. Extricating
 - C. Conventional
 - D. Anguish
13. The repeated attempts by the Government to be able to tap _____ all kinds of communication, without making sure the common man has a legal armour in the form of a data protection law
- A. On
 - B. Into
 - C. Across
 - D. With
14. This draft needs to go back to the _____ board.
- A. Machination
 - B. Visionary
 - C. Drawing
 - D. Hackneyed
- 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.**
- A similar clause under the IT rules (A)/ brought in last year — requiring messaging apps to “enable the identification (B)/ of the first originator of the information on (C)/ its computer resource” — have been challenged in the Court. (D)
- A. (A)
 - B. (B)
 - C. (C)
 - D. (D)
 - E. No Error

16. Rearrange the sentence to form a meaningful sentence.

This means the likes of WhatsApp, Zoom, and Netflix will be considered telecommunication services. (1)/ It seeks to do this by bringing them under the ambit of telecommunication services, the operation of which would require a licence — that is if the draft provisions do go through. (2)/ The draft telecommunication Bill, put out last week for public comments, hints at

a disturbing governmental pursuit, for more control over a range of digital applications and over-the-top streaming services that millions of Indians use daily. **(3)**/ And so would a whole range of digital services that are anyway regulated by the IT Act. **(4)**/

- A. 3214
- B. 3124
- C. 1234
- D. 2143
- E. 2134

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

AMBIT

- (i) They believe that all the outstanding issues should fall within the **ambit** of the talks.
 - (ii) It transcended the realm of 'politics' by bringing religious symbols into its **ambit**.
 - (iii) What was intended, indeed, was the approval of discoveries made within its **ambit** in which its members had an interest.
- A. Only (i)
 - B. Only (ii)
 - C. Only (iii)
 - D. (i), (ii),(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.

It is all well to **framework(A)**, as the Government has done, that the country requires a new legal **state(B)**, and not the existing one that is based on the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, to **deal(C)** with the **realities(D)** of the 21st century.

- A. A – B
- 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) Zack has skipped school on many occasions.
 - (ii) He's failed his French test
- A. Whereas
 - B. Although
 - C. Anyway

- D. Unless
- E. As a consequence

20. Fill the appropriate preposition in the given blanks

I shall dispose _____ my old furniture and buy new one.

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

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

4. **Be out of the woods**(phrase)– to no longer be in danger or difficulty
 5. **SUQRPT**

On September 22, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) arrested over 100 leaders and activists of the radical Islamist outfit, the Popular Front of India (PFI), after raids in 15 States. The PFI claims to be a 'neo-social movement', but its rhetoric and activities have left little doubt about its true nature. The latest demonstration of its violent, and threatening, character was seen the next day after the raids, when it called for a hartal. The PFI continuously invokes the Constitution, democratic values and rule of law, but all that cannot camouflage the violence in its action and speech as unleashed in Kerala last week. Kerala is its cradle and launch pad. Extremely provocative slogans and speeches formed part of the protest. The PFI and the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI) which acts as its political front, often deny their association, as unconvincingly as their claims of being on the right side of the law and democracy.

6. (B) 'one another' के बदले 'each other' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'one another' का प्रयोग सामान्यतः 'दो से अधिक व्यक्तियों या वस्तुओं के लिए' होता है जबकि 'each other' का 'दो के लिए'; जैसे-
- The two sisters love each other
 - The three sisters love one another.

➤ 'one another' shall be substituted for 'each other' as 'one another' is commonly used 'for more than two persons or things' while 'each other' is used for 'two'; like-

- The two sisters love each other
- The three sisters love one another.

7. (C) 'down' के बदले 'back' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'peg somebody back' का अर्थ होता है 'किसी को खेल जीतने से रोकना'।

➤ 'back' will be used instead of 'down' because 'peg somebody back' means 'to prevent someone from winning the game'.

8. **Correct Option: D**

Nuclear waste will still being radioactive even after twenty thousand years, so it must be disposed of very carefully.

Fragment A of column 1 is not matched with fragment F of column 2 to make the sentence contextually and grammatically correct.

Correct is: Nuclear waste will still be radioactive even after twenty thousand years, so it must be disposed of very carefully.

➤ 'being' के बदले 'be' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'will' एक Modal Auxiliary है और किसी भी Modal Auxiliary के साथ V1 का प्रयोग होता है।

My friend lived at the top of an old house which has been converted into a flat.

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

A public safety advertising campaign in Russia hopes to draw attention of pedestrians crossing the road.

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

9. **Correct Option: C**

A cash prize was awarded to the most successful salesman of the year by the President of the company.

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

Several guests noticed Mr. Sharma collapsing in his chair and gasping for a breath.

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

On the second day of the workshop, participants does a situational analysis of the state and speak about their plan of action for implementing the Act.

Fragment C of column 1 is not matched with fragment E of column 2 to make the sentence contextually and grammatically correct

Correct is: On the second day of the workshop, participants do a situational analysis of the state and speak about their plan of action for implementing the Act.

- 'does' के बदले 'do' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Subject 'participants' Plural है और इसके लिए Plural Verb का प्रयोग होगा।

10. **Susceptible** (adjective) – easily influenced or harmed by something: अतिसंवेदनशील

11. **Vulnerable** (adjective) – exposed, unprotected, susceptible, defenseless, weak कमजोर

12. **Mounting** (adjective) – increasing बढ़ता हुआ

13. **Tap into** (phrasal verb) – use, utilize, exploit, take advantage, capitalize on लाभ उठाना

14. **Go back to the drawing board** (phrase) – to start planning something again because the first plan failed नये सिरे से बनाना

15. 'Have' के बदले 'has' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'subject' is singular i.e. Clause

16. (A) **3214**

The draft telecommunication Bill, put out last week for public comments, hints at a disturbing governmental pursuit, for more control over a range of digital applications and over-the-top streaming services that millions of Indians use daily. It seeks to do this by bringing them under the ambit of telecommunication services, the operation of which would require a licence — that is if the draft provisions do go through. This means the likes of WhatsApp, Zoom, and

Netflix will be considered telecommunication services. And so would a whole range of digital services that are anyway regulated by the IT Act.

17. **Ambit** (noun) – scope, compass, range, orbit, दायरे

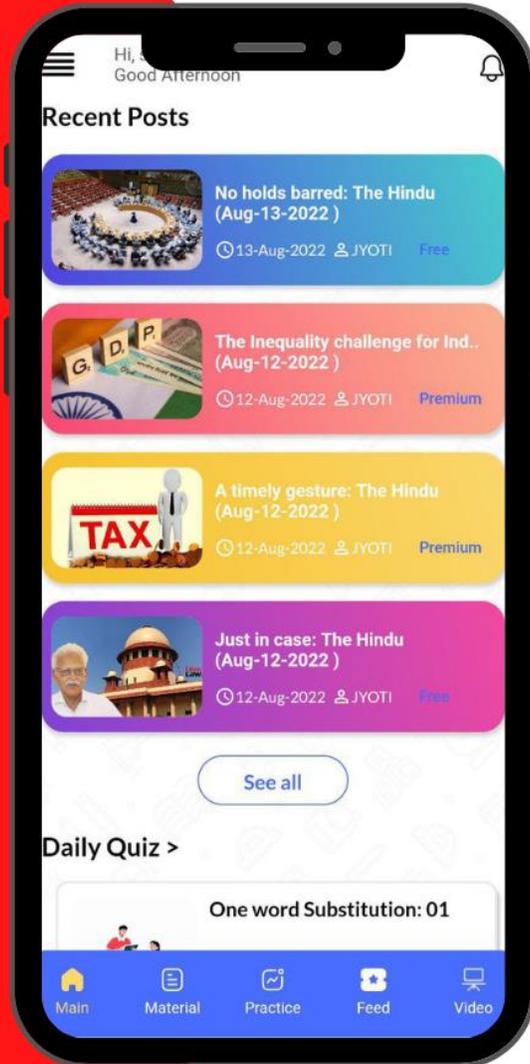
According to the given options all options are contextually correct.

18. It is all well to state, as the Government has done, that the country requires a new legal framework, and not the existing one that is based on the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, to deal with the realities of the 21st century.

19. Zack has skipped school on many occasions. **As a consequence**, he's failed his French test

Explanation of other important words

Sr.NO	Words		Meanings	
Q1	Tacit	adjective	Implied; not spoken	मौन
	Expatriate	verb	To throw out of his or her native land; to emigrate	देश-निकाला देना
	Inveterate	adjective	Habitual; firm in habit; deeply rooted.	कट्टर, आदत में दृढ़
Q2	Specious	adjective	Deceptively plausible or attractive	दिखावटी
	Utilitarian	adjective	stressing usefulness or utility above all other qualities; pragmatic	उपयोगी
	Disdain	noun	Arrogant scorn; contempt	तिरस्कार, घृणा, अवहेलना
Q3	Flaunt	verb	To show off; to display ostentiously	इठलाना, शान दिखाना
	Vitriolic	adjective	Caustic; full of bitterness	कटु
	Parody	noun	A satirical imitation	हास्यानुकृति
Q11	Convivial	adjective	Fond of Partying; Festive	खुशनुमा; उत्सव का
	Pervade	verb	To spread throughout	व्याप्त होना
	Consummate	adjective	Perfect; complete; supremacy & skillful	परिपूर्ण, पूर्ण करना
Q12	Extricate	verb	To free from a difficulty	हल करना, समाधान करना
	Conventional	adjective	Common; customary; unexceptional	पारंपरिक
	Anguish	noun	Agonizing physical or mental pain	पीड़ा, वेदना
Q14	Machination	noun	Scheming Activity for an evil purpose	चालबाज़ी
	Visionary	noun	Dreamer; someone with impractical goals or ideas about the future	काल्पनिक
	Hackneyed	adjective	Overused; trite; stale	मामूली, साधारण, घिसा-पिटा



Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

English Madhyam

