

## Check, do not cross: On the government's attack on the judiciary

Government should work towards systemic reform, and not attack the judiciary

There is something **rude** and **unpleasant** in the way the **Government is going about** the task of demanding a big **say** in the appointment of judges in constitutional courts. The latest **salvo** is from Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju, who has written to the Chief Justice of India to request that the **executive** be given a role in the appointment process, which now is being **handled** by a **Collegium** of judges. Reports say that the Minister wants the formation of a search-and-evaluation committee, with Government **representatives**, to suggest names to the collegiums in the High Courts and the Supreme Court for appointments. He is also understood to have asked for a representative of the Union government in the Supreme Court collegium, and a State government's representative in the High Court collegiums. The letter comes as the latest in a series of official **fulminations** against the judiciary. Mr. Rijiju has been **at the forefront** of this attack, frequently **questioning** the collegium system by rightly **highlighting** some of its **acknowledged flaws**. There is little doubt that the Government's **anger** is towards the 2015 judgment of a Constitution Bench **striking down** the formation of a National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC). While few would disagree that the Collegium system needs reform, the Government's  **motive** in **carrying on** a campaign against the judiciary **in the name of seeking** reform in the appointments process **is questionable**.

The **answers** to some of the issues raised by the Government **are** quite simple, and **has** been repeatedly **pointed out** by the Court, as well as the political opposition. It can **address** the need for a more **transparent** and **independent** process by making a fresh **legislative** effort to **establish** a **neutral mechanism** that does not **impinge on** the independence of the judiciary. Until such an exercise to **amend** the Constitution achieves **fruition**, it has to **abide** by **the law of the land**, that is, the present system of appointments through the Collegium. It is difficult to avoid the **impression** that the Government's **tactics** are **bordering** on **veiled** warnings: **deliberately** delaying action on recommendations; ignoring **reiterated** names even after multiple **reconsiderations**; and carrying on a campaign to **delegitimise** the institution. It is surprising that it seeks to **rein in** a judiciary that has been quite **accommodative** of the Government's **concerns** on the judicial side in recent years. The only conclusion is that the current **regime** wants absolute control over who gets to be a judge in this country. A **system** of **checks and balances** that prevents any one branch gaining the **upper hand is essential** for democratic **functioning**. [Practice Exercise]

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Check** (noun) – a restraint, stopping, barrier अवरोध
2. **Rude** (adjective) – Impolite, discourteous, bad-mannered, insolent, uncouth, offensive अशिष्ट
3. **Unpleasant** (adjective) – Not pleasant; displeasing अप्रिय
4. **Go about** (phrasal verb) – begin or carry on with an activity. कार्य आरम्भ करना
5. **Say** (noun) – authority, esp to influence a decision अधिकार
6. **Salvo** (noun) – A forceful verbal or written assault/attack. हमला
7. **Executive** (noun) – The executive branch of the government, including the president, the cabinet, and several departments, manages the duties of government and its laws.
8. **Handle** (verb) – control, run, manage, deal with, carry संभालना, नियंत्रण करना
9. **Collegium** (noun) – The collegium system is the one in which the Chief Justice of India and a forum of four senior most judges of the Supreme Court recommend appointments & transfers of judges. There is no mention of the collegium in the Constitution of India.
10. **Representative** (noun) – Delegate, spokesperson, agent प्रतिनिधि
11. **Fulmination** (noun) – Protest, objection, complaint, rant, denunciation, condemnation, criticism, censure, attack निंदा, तिरस्कार
12. **Be at the forefront** (phrase) – in a leading position
13. **Question** (verb) – To raise question over or on something सवाल उठाना
14. **Highlight** (verb) – underline, underscore, call attention to, focus attention on, stress, emphasize प्रमुखता से दिखाना
15. **Acknowledged** (adjective) – recognized or made known or admitted स्वीकार किया
16. **Flaw** (noun) – fault, defect, blemish, imperfection, shortcoming खामियां, दोष
17. **Anger** (noun) – Annoyance, irritation, fury, rage, antagonism, resentment गुस्सा
18. **Strike down** (phrasal verb) – to make null and void; abolish a law रद्द करना
19. **Carry on** (phrasal verb) – continue, keep on, persist, go on, keep going जारी रखना

20. **In the name of** (phrase) – for the sake of. के नाम पर
21. **Seek** (verb) – Ask for, call on , solicit on मांग करना
22. **Questionable** (adjective) – controversial, contentious, open to question संदिग्ध
23. **Point out** (phrasal verb) – indicate, mention, note, highlight, emphasize इशारा करना
24. **Address** (verb) – tackle, see to, deal with, confront, grapple with सुलझाना, निपटाना
25. **Transparent** (adjective) – obvious, explicit, unambiguous, unmistakable, apparent पारदर्शी/ स्पष्ट
26. **Independent** (adjective) – Self-governing, sovereign, autonomous, self-regulating, free, liberated स्वतंत्र
27. **Legislative** (adjective) – Lawmaking, Governmental, Parliamentary वैधानिक
28. **Establish** (verb) – set up, determine, create, institute स्थापित करना
29. **Neutral** (adjective) – Unbiased, impartial, nonaligned, unprejudiced निष्पक्ष
30. **Mechanism** (noun) – procedure, process, system, operation, method तंत्र
31. **Impinge** (on) (verb) – affect, have an effect on, have a bearing on, touch, influence प्रभावित करना
32. **Amend** (verb) – revise, alter, change, modify, qualify संशोधन करना
33. **Fruition** (noun) – an occasion when a plan or an idea begins to happen, exist, or be successful: सफलता
34. **Abide** (by) (verb) – comply with, obey, observe, follow, keep to, hold to का पालन करना
35. **The law of the land** (noun) – It refers to all of the laws in force within a country or region
36. **Impression** (noun) – feeling, notion, idea, perception, opinion धारणा
37. **Tactics** (noun) –A plan for attaining a particular goal रणनीति
38. **Border on** (phrasal verb) – To be very similar to something without being identical; to nearly be something. से बहुत मिलता जुलता होना
39. **Veiled** (adjective) – Indirect, oblique, obscure, covert, roundabout, implied छिपी हुई, अप्रत्यक्ष
40. **Deliberately** (adverb) – Purposely, intentionally, consciously, knowingly, purposefully जानबूझकर

41. **Reiterate** (verb) – repeat, say again, restate, retell, recapitulate दोहराना
42. **Reconsideration** (noun) – review, revision, rethink, afterthought, re-examination पुनर्विचार
43. **Delegitimise** (verb) – withdraw legitimate status or authority from अवैध ठहराना
44. **Rein** (in) (verb) – Keep under control; restrain. पर लगाम लगाना
45. **Accommodative** (adjective) – willing to give someone what they want or need, or to change in order to suit them; supportive उदार, अनुग्राही
46. **Concern** (noun) – Anxiety, worry, apprehension fear चिंता
47. **Regime** (noun) – system, arrangement, scheme, code व्यवस्था
48. **Checks and balances** (noun) – rules intended to prevent one person or group from having too much power within an organization
49. **Upper hand** (noun) – Advantage, ascendancy, edge, control, superiority, dominance प्रभुत्व
50. **Essential** (adjective) – Vital, indispensable, important, crucial, critical, necessary आवश्यक
51. **Functioning** (noun) – Performance, execution, performing, operation, running, working कामकाज

## Practice Exercise

**Direction: (Q1-Q5):** In the following passage some words have been deleted. Fill in the blanks with the help of the alternatives given. Select the most appropriate option for each number.

With the power crisis worsening, the Union Government is \_\_\_\_\_**1**\_\_\_\_\_ desperate measures which might turn \_\_\_\_\_**2**\_\_\_\_\_ to be counter-productive in the long run. Discussions are being held with power firms on reviving non-operational coal-based plants and the ones that are under liquidation. This is not only a short-term solution at best but also a step backward, considering India's \_\_\_\_\_**3**\_\_\_\_\_ climate action targets — set for 2030 — of sourcing 50 per cent energy requirement from renewables and installing 500 GW of non-fossil fuel electricity capacity. The surge in power demand, triggered by the scorching heatwave, has led to \_\_\_\_\_**4**\_\_\_\_\_ attempts to arrange adequate coal supplies. However, overdependence on this highly polluting fossil fuel is \_\_\_\_\_**5**\_\_\_\_\_ India's efforts to shift to renewable sources of energy.

- |                    |                  |               |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1. A. Consecrating | B. Appreciating  | C. Spawning   | D. Contemplating |
| 2. A. Over         | B. Out           | C. Down       | D. Up            |
| 3. A. Amorphous    | B. Lofty         | C. Profound   | D. Prosaic       |
| 4. A. Frantic      | B. Diffident     | C. Exhaustive | D. Subtle        |
| 5. A. Paltry       | B. Grandiloquent | C. Impeding   | D. Indignant     |

**Directions (Q6):** In the following questions, four words are given in each question, out of which only one word is rightly spelt. Find the correctly spelt word.

6. A. Indipandent  
B. Independent  
C. Independant  
D. Independint

**Directions (Q7):** Rearrange the parts of the sentence in correct order.

- 7 Genome-wide  
P with metabolites that influence  
Q. traits like flavour, disease resistance and texture  
R. analysis of each apple enabled  
S. identification of genetic markers associated  
A. PQRS    B. QRPS    C. RSPQ    D. QRSP

**Directions (Q8- Q10):** In the following questions, a sentence has been given in Active/Passive Voice. Out of the four alternatives suggested, select the one which best expresses the same sentence in Passive/Active Voice.

8. **I named the child Ritesh**  
A. The child was named Ritesh.  
B. The child Ritesh is named.  
C. The child is named Ritesh.  
D. The child Ritesh was named.
9. **Where was this pen found by him?**  
A. Where do he find this pen?  
B. Where does he find this pen?

- C. Where did he found this pen?
- D. Where did he find this pen?

10. **Sudha was writing a letter to her husband**

- A. A letter were been written by Sudha to her husband.
- B. A letter were being written by Sudha to her husband.
- C. A letter was been written by Sudha to her husband.
- D. A letter was being written by Sudha to her husband

**Directions (Q11- Q13): In the following questions, a sentence has been given in Direct/Indirect Speech. Out of the four alternatives suggested, select the one which best expresses the same sentence in Indirect/Direct Speech.**

11. **Meena said that her parents were getting divorced.**

- A. Meena said, "My parents get divorced."
- B. Meena said, "My parents are getting divorced."
- C. Meena said, "My parents will be getting divorced."
- D. Meena said, "My parents were getting divorced."

12. **Shravan said that the prisoner had slept throughout the journey.**

- A. Shravan said, "The prisoner sleeps throughout the journey."
- B. Shravan said, "The prisoner had been sleeping throughout the journey."
- C. Shravan says, "The prisoner has slept throughout the journey."
- D. Shravan said, "The prisoner had slept throughout the journey."

13. **My teacher forbids to trust one's relatives.**

- A. My teacher says, "Never trust your relatives."
- B. My teacher says, "Never trust my relatives."
- C. My teacher says, "Never trusted your relatives."
- D. My teacher said "Never trust your relatives."

**Directions (Q14 – Q15): In the following questions, out of the four alternatives, choose the one which can be substituted for the given words/sentence.**

14. **Something that is very small/little**

- A. Few
- B. Tiny
- C. Thin
- D. Slender

15. **Making of a false document with a false signature**

- A. Ruse
- B. Forgery
- C. Insincerity
- D. Deception

**Directions (Q16 – Q17): Choose the alternative which best expresses the meaning of the Idiom/Phrase.**

16. **Aladdin's cave**

- A. hollow out or undermine something

- B. (of a roof or similar structure) subside or collapse
- C. a place containing a vast collection of unusual objects
- D. Smooth surface

17. **The ins and outs**

- A. Elaborate theories
- B. Detailed description
- C. Prior conditions
- D. Stern regulations

**Directions (Q18 – Q19): choose the word opposite in meaning to the given word.**

18. **Neutral**

- A. Concealment
- B. Reveal
- C. Biased
- D. Hidden

19. **Veiled**

- A. Superfluous
- B. Relentless
- C. Exposed
- D. Unprecedented

**Direction: (Q20): In the following question, out of the four alternatives, choose the word which best expresses the meaning of the given word.**

20. Several factors impinge on market efficiency.

- A. Influence
- B. Indirect
- C. Repetitive
- D. Occasional

**Directions (Q21-Q22): In the following questions, some part of the sentence is underlined.**

**Which of the options given below the sentence should replace the part underlined to make the sentence grammatically correct. If the sentence is correct as it is given then choose option D 'No Correction required' as the answer.**

21. I did not get many sleep last night as my sister was running a high fever.

- A. some sleep
- B. much sleep
- C. most sleep
- D. No Correction required

22. The famous actor, along with his close family members, were attending the annual day function at his son's school

- A. was attending
- B. am attending
- C. are attending
- D. No Correction required

**Directions (Q23 – Q25): Find out the error, if any –**

23. None of the (A)/ twins (B)/ offered to help me. (C)/ No Error(D)

24. My teacher (A)/ did not object (B)/ to me using the calculator (C)/ No Error. (D)

25. The river (A)/ has overflown (B)/ its banks. (C)/ No Error (D)



## Answers

1. D 2. B 3. B 4. A 5. C 6. B 7. C 8. A 9. D 10. D 11. B 12. D 13. A 14. B  
15. B 16. C 17. B 18. C 19. C 20. A 21. B 22. A 23. A 24. C 25. D

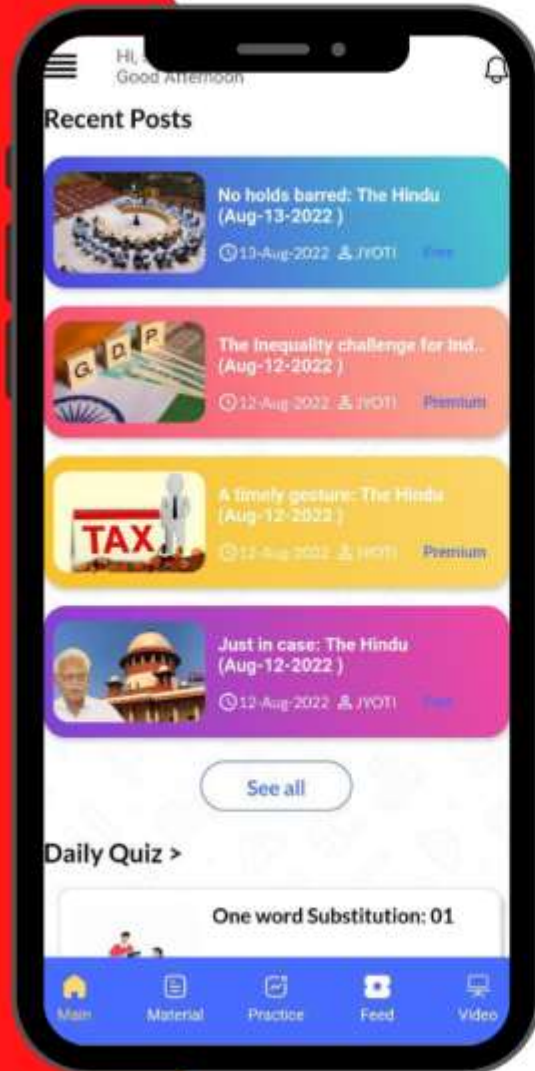
## Explanation

1. **Contemplate** (verb) – think about, meditate on, meditate over, consider, ponder, विचार करना
  - **Consecrate** (verb) – To make or declare sacred पवित्र, प्रतिष्ठित
  - **Appreciate** (verb) – To increase in value सराहना
  - **Spawn** (verb) – To bring forth; to produce a large number प्रकट करना
2. **Turn out** (phrasal verb) – transpire, prove to be the case, emerge निकलना, प्रकट होना
3. **Lofty** (adjective) – tall, high, giant ऊंचा, उच्च
  - **Amorphous** (adjective) – Shapeless; without a regular or stable shape; blob like अनाकार, आकारहीन
  - **Profound** (adjective) – Deep (in several cases) गहन
  - **Prosaic** (adjective) – Dull; unimaginative; like prose (as opposed to poetry) नीरस
4. **Frantic** (adjective) – panic-stricken, panic-struck, panicky, उत्तेजित, घबराया हुआ
  - **Diffident** (adjective) – Timid; lacking in self-confidence संकोची, शंकायुक्त, शर्मीला
  - **Exhaustive** (adjective) – Thorough; rigorous; complete; painstaking संपूर्ण, विस्तृत, मेहनती
  - **Subtle** (adjective) – Not obvious; able to make fine distinction; ingenious; crafty सूक्ष्म
5. **Impending** (adjective) – imminent, at hand, close, close at hand, near, nearing निकटस्थ
  - **Paltry** (adjective) – Insignificant; worthless तुच्छ
  - **Grandiloquent** (adjective) – Pompous; using a lot of big, fancy words in an attempt to sound impressive. आडंबरपूर्ण, शब्दाडंबरपूर्ण
  - **Indignant** (adjective) – Angry; especially as a result of something unjust or unworthy; insulted. क्रोधित
6. **Independent** (adjective) – Self-governing, sovereign, autonomous, self-regulating, free, liberated स्वतंत्र
7. **RSPQ**

Genome-wide analysis of each apple enabled identification of genetic markers associated with metabolites that influence traits like flavour, disease resistance and texture.
8. The child was named Ritesh.
9. Where did he find this pen?
10. A letter was being written by Sudha to her husband.

11. Meena said, "My parents are getting divorced."
12. Shravan said, "The prisoner had slept throughout the journey."
13. My teacher says, "Never trust your relatives."
14. **Tiny** – Something that is very small/little बहुत छोटा
- **Slender** – gracefully and attractively thin पतला
15. **Forgery** – Making of a false document with a false signature जालसाजी(कपटपूर्ण नकल)
- **Ruse** – a trick intended to deceive someone: चाल
  - **Insincerity** – the quality of not expressing genuine feelings. निष्ठाहीनता
  - **Deception** – the action of deceiving someone. धोखा
16. **Aladdin's cave** (phrase)– a place containing a vast collection of unusual objects
17. **The ins and outs** (phrase) – the detailed or complicated description of something
18. **Neutral** (adjective) – Unbiased, impartial, nonaligned, unprejudiced निष्पक्ष
- Antonym:** Biased (adjective): an unreasoned and unfair distortion of judgment in favor of or against a person or thing.
- **Concealment** – Disguise, camouflage, suppression छिपाव
19. **Veiled** (adjective) – Indirect, oblique, obscure, covert, roundabout, implied छिपी हुई, अप्रत्यक्ष
- Antonym:** Expose (verb): to show something that is usually hidden
- **Relentless** – Persistent, unyielding, unremitting, inexorable, insistent सतत
  - **Vigilant** – Watchful, attentive, alert, wary, cautious, observant सतर्क
  - **Unprecedented** – Unparalleled, extraordinary, record, first-time अभूतपूर्व
20. **Impinge (on) (verb)** – affect, have an effect on, have a bearing on, touch, influence प्रभावित करना
21. **Much sleep** का प्रयोग होगा !
- हम plural (countable) noun से पहले 'Many' और Uncountable noun से पहले 'Much' प्रयोग करते हैं। हम इनका प्रयोग negative वाक्यों और प्रश्नों में करते हैं। हम आम तौर पर उन्हें affirmative वाक्यों में प्रयोग नहीं करते हैं !
- There isn't much coffee in the jar.
  - Were there many people in the party?
- हम some का प्रयोग countable noun और Uncountable noun दोनों के साथ करते हैं लेकिन वाक्य affirmative होना चाहिए ! Negative वाक्य और questions के लिए 'any' का प्रयोग करते हैं !

22. 'were attending' के बदले 'was attending' का प्रयोग होगा, क्योंकि जब दो nouns as well as, with, together with, along with, besides, in addition to- इनमें से किसी से भी जुड़े हों तो verb इनके पहले आनेवाले noun के अनुसार होता !
23. (A) 'None' के बदले 'Neither' का प्रयोग होगा, क्योंकि 'None' का प्रयोग दो से अधिक के लिए होता है जबकि 'Neither' का 'दो के लिए' और Part (B) में 'twins' का प्रयोग है जिसका अर्थ है 'जुड़वाँ'; जैसे-
- i. None of the five candidates is competent.
  - ii. Neither of the two candidates is competent.
  - iii. Neither of the twins is competent.
- 'neither' will be used instead of 'none', because 'None' is used for more than two whereas 'Neither' means 'two' and in Part (B) 'twins' is used which means 'twin'; As-
    - i. None of the five candidates is competent.
    - ii. Neither of the two candidates is competent.
    - iii. Neither of the twins is competent.
24. (C) 'me using' के बदले 'my using' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि Preposition का Object 'me' नहीं है बल्कि 'using' है, जो एक Gerund है और Gerund के पहले Possessive Case का प्रयोग होता है, न कि Objective Case का; जैसे-
- i. I objected to his plan
  - ii. I objected to his teasing a girl.
- 'my using' will be used instead of 'me using' because the object of the preposition is not 'me' but 'using' which is a Gerund and the Possessive Case is used before the Gerund and not of objective case; As-
    - i. I objected to his plan
    - ii. I objected to his teasing a girl.
25. (D) No error.



# Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

English Madhyam

