

Universal cover: On the IRDA's all-in-one insurance policy

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India's **plans** to **expand** risk protection levels **need** government **backing**

Last week, **the chief** of India's insurance sector regulator **unveiled** a fresh **blueprint** to cover a larger portion of the population against risks of **adverse** shocks, **with an eye on** insuring everyone by 2047. The **lynchpin** of this "UPI-like moment", being **pursued** by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) to **bridge** the country's "huge protection **gaps**", **is envisaged** to be a simple, all-in-one insurance policy. This bundled 'Bima Vistaar' **scheme**, being **worked out** with life and general insurers, **would** provide households with **expeditious monetary** support in case of medical emergencies, accidents, **thefts** or a death in the family. With awareness about the benefits of insurance still quite low, the regulator has **proposed** a women-led Gram Sabha-level initiative to educate every household's female head about how such a scheme could **come in handy** at times of **distress**. A new 'Bima Sugam' platform would **integrate** insurance players and distributors to give customers a one-stop shop experience **to begin with**, and **facilitate claims servicing going forward**. Linking States' digital death **registries** to the platform, the regulator believes, **could** enable life insurance claims to be settled within hours or a day at the most.

A **legislative reboot** is also **on the anvil** to **ease capital** requirement **norms** and allow a **slew** of new **players** to enter the market and serve the **untapped** needs of **niche** and specialised segments. Over two **decades** after the entry of private players into the once **moribund** public sector-led industry, India's insurance **penetration** (the ratio of premium payments to GDP) **has** risen — from 2.7% in 2001-02 to 4.2% in 2021-22. In fact, there has been a **slide** in the **metric** over the past **decade** from 5.2% in 2009-10, with non-life policies yet to **surpass** the 1% **mark**. **Given** the **sheer** size of India's population and poor **financial literacy** levels, the **imperative** to break from the **status quo is unquestionable**. The IRDAI's **move** to **rope in** State governments and **set up** bodies similar to State-level banking committees **would** help **formulate granular** district-wise strategies for raising awareness and coverage levels. Industry players also need to look beyond the top cities and the 'Bima Vistaar' scheme could **catalyse** the volumes they need to get out of comfort zones. Most of all, the Centre needs to **rethink** the 18% GST **levy** on health and life insurance **premia**. The **notion** that those who can afford to buy health cover can afford to pay so much tax **is untenable** in a country where one health **calamity** can push a household below the poverty line. **Ensuring** continuity of leadership at IRDAI **is** equally critical — **situations** such as the nine-month **vacuum at its helm** before the current chairperson's tenure **are** simply unacceptable. **[Practice Exercise]**

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'.
- **Niche** (noun) – a specialized segment of the market for a particular kind of product or service.

Vocabulary

1. **IRDA** (noun) – it is a statutory body formed under an Act of Parliament, i.e., Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999 (IRDAI Act 1999) for overall supervision and development of the Insurance sector in India.
2. **Expand** (verb) – Enlarge, increase, swell, develop, grow बढ़ाना
3. **Backing** (noun) – Support, endorsement, approval, encouragement, sponsorship समर्थन
4. **Unveil** (verb) – Reveal, disclose, expose, present, introduce अनावरण करना
5. **Blueprint** (noun) – Plan, design, outline, model, draft नक्शा
6. **Adverse** (adjective) – Unfavourable, detrimental, harmful, damaging, destructive प्रतिकूल
7. **With an eye on** (phrase) – Considering, with regard to, keeping in mind, taking into account का ध्यान रखते हुए
8. **Lynchpin** (noun) – Essential part, keystone, cornerstone, kingpin, fulcrum, मुख्य आधार
9. **Pursue** (verb) – Follow, chase, seek, strive for, work towards अनुसरण करना
10. **Bridge the gap** (phrase) – Fill the void, link, connect, reconcile, harmonize अंतर दूर करना
11. **Envisage** (verb) – Foresee, predict, anticipate, contemplate, imagine कल्पना करना
12. **Work out** (phrasal verb) – (of a situation) to happen or develop in a particular, esp. a satisfactory way, or (of a person) to be suitable for a particular situation: काम करना
13. **Monetary** (adjective) – Financial, fiscal, economic, pecuniary वित्तीय
14. **Expeditious** (adjective) – Quick, rapid, fast, swift, speedy शीघ्र
15. **Theft** (noun) – Robbery, burglary, stealing, thievery चोरी
16. **Propose** (verb) – Suggest, put forward, recommend, advocate प्रस्तावित करना
17. **Come in handy** (phrase) – Be useful, be helpful, be beneficial, be advantageous काम आना
18. **Distress** (noun) – Suffering, pain, agony, anguish दुःख
19. **Integrate** (verb) – Combine, merge, unite, blend एकीकृत करना
20. **To begin with** (phrase) – Initially, at first, to start with, as a start सबसे पहले
21. **Facilitate** (verb) – Enable, make possible, aid, assist सुगम बनाना

22. **Claim Servicing** (verb) – a formal request by a policyholder to an insurance company for coverage or compensation for a covered loss or policy event.
23. **Going forward** (phrase) – In the future, from now on, henceforth भविष्य में
24. **Legislative** (adjective) – Legal, statutory, lawmaking, regulative कानूनी
25. **Reboot** (noun) – Restart, Reset, Revamp, Refresh, Reorganize नवीनीकरण
26. **On the anvil** (phrase) – Under consideration, in preparation, in progress, being planned, in the pipeline विचाराधीन होना
27. **Ease** (verb) – Simplify, Facilitate, Alleviate, Mitigate, Lessen सरल करना
28. **Capital** (noun) – Funds, Assets, Wealth, Money, Finances पूंजी
29. **Norm** (noun) – Standard, Rule, Principle, Criterion, Guideline मानदंड
30. **Slew** (noun) – Plenty, a large number, abundance, multitude, a lot ढेर सारे
31. **Player** (noun) – Participant, Competitor, Contender, Operator सहभागी
32. **Untapped** (adjective) – Unused, Unexploited, Unutilized, Unharnessed अप्रयुक्त
33. **Decade** (noun) – period of ten Years दशक
34. **Moribund** (adjective) – Declining, Dying, Fading, Stagnant, Waning मरणासन्न
35. **Insurance penetration** (noun) – Insurance penetration measures the contribution of insurance premium to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of a country in percentage terms
36. **Slide** (noun) – Decrease, Decline, Downturn, Fall, Drop गिरावट
37. **Metric** (noun) – Measure, Parameter, Criterion, Gauge, Standard मापदंड
38. **Surpass** (verb) – Exceed, Outdo, Outstrip, Eclipse, Transcend पार करना
39. **Mark** (noun) – level, stage, point स्तर
40. **Given** (preposition) – Considering, Taking into account, Bearing in mind, Keeping in mind, Given that देखते हुए
41. **Sheer** (adjective) – Utter, Complete, Absolute, Total, Pure वास्तविक, परिपूर्ण
42. **Financial literacy** (noun) – The ability to understand and use various financial skills, including personal financial management, budgeting and investing.
43. **Imperative** (noun) – Necessity, Requirement, Demand, Essential, Need अनिवार्यता
44. **Status quo** (noun) – Existing state, Current situation, Present circumstances वर्तमान स्थिति

45. **Unquestionable** (adjective) – Undeniable, Indisputable, Incontrovertible, Unarguable, Certain निस्संदेह
46. **Rope in** (phrasal verb) – Involve, Engage, Enlist, Recruit, Incorporate शामिल करना
47. **Set up** (phrasal verb) – Establish, Start, Found, Create, Institute स्थापित करना
48. **Formulate** (verb) – Devise, Develop, Create, Design, Construct तैयार करना
49. **Granular** (adjective) – Detailed, specific, particular, fine-grained, precise विस्तृत
50. **Catalyse** (verb) – Accelerate, expedite, facilitate, stimulate, spur प्रेरित करना
51. **Rethink** (verb) – Reconsider, review, reassess, re-evaluate, revisit पुनर्विचार करना
52. **Levy** (on) (noun) – Tax, tariff, duty, charge, toll कर
53. **Premia** (noun) – Payments, installments, contributions, dues, charges प्रीमियम
54. **Notion** (noun) – Idea, belief, concept, thought, perception धारणा
55. **Untenable** (adjective) – Unsustainable, indefensible, inexcusable, unjustifiable, unwarrantable असमर्थनीय
56. **Calamity** (noun) – Disaster, catastrophe, tragedy, mishap आपदा
57. **Ensure** (verb) – Guarantee, confirm, ascertain, ensure, secure सुनिश्चित करना
58. **Vacuum** (noun) – Emptiness, void, gap, absence रिक्तता
59. **At one's helm** (phrase) – In control, in charge, in command, at the head; at the top position of the organization.

Summary of the Editorial

1. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has unveiled a blueprint to increase risk protection coverage with a target to insure everyone in India by 2047.
2. The core strategy is to implement a simple, all-in-one insurance policy known as the 'Bima Vistaar' scheme.
3. This scheme will cover various risks including medical emergencies, accidents, thefts, and family deaths, providing households with quick financial aid.
4. The IRDAI also proposed a women-led Gram Sabha initiative to educate household heads about the benefits of the insurance scheme.
5. A new platform 'Bima Sugam' is being developed to integrate insurance providers and distributors for a seamless customer experience and claims servicing.
6. IRDAI plans to link state digital death registries to this platform to expedite life insurance claims settlement.
7. Proposed legislative changes aim to ease capital requirement norms, opening the door to more market players and serving niche segments.
8. Despite private players' entry over two decades ago, India's insurance penetration (premium payments to GDP ratio) has increased only marginally and even experienced a decline over the past decade.
9. The need to break from the status quo is crucial considering India's large population and low financial literacy levels.
10. To raise awareness and coverage levels, IRDAI plans to collaborate with state governments and set up bodies akin to state-level banking committees.
11. Industry players are encouraged to expand beyond top cities; the 'Bima Vistaar' scheme could help boost their volumes and stimulate such expansion.
12. The central government is urged to reconsider the 18% GST levy on health and life insurance premiums.
13. The tax burden on those who can afford health coverage is unsustainable, as a single health crisis could force a household into poverty.
14. It is also critical to ensure the continuity of leadership at IRDAI to avoid leadership gaps that previously occurred.
15. The all-in-one insurance policy, if effectively implemented, could bridge the protection gap in India and bring about significant socio-economic improvements.

Practice Exercise: Based on SSC Pattern

1. **Which of the following best describes the purpose of the 'Bima Vistaar' scheme proposed by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. To provide a single insurance policy for all types of risks including medical emergencies, accidents, thefts, and death in the family.
 - B. To increase the insurance premiums of the existing policyholders.
 - C. To limit the role of life and general insurers in the insurance industry.
 - D. To reduce the number of insurance policies available in the market
2. **According to the passage, which of the following statements is true about the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India's (IRDAI) new insurance scheme?**
 - A. The new scheme aims to provide coverage only for medical emergencies and accidents.
 - B. The new scheme, 'Bima Vistaar', will provide monetary support in case of thefts and family deaths, alongside medical emergencies and accidents.
 - C. 'Bima Sugam' is a standalone insurance policy specifically designed for women.
 - D. The new scheme will allow life insurance claims to be settled within a week or more.
3. **Based on the passage, which among the following is a challenge or issue currently faced by India's insurance sector?**
 - A. The absence of private players in the industry.
 - B. The high insurance penetration ratio in India.
 - C. The 18% GST levy on health and life insurance premia.
 - D. The overreach of the IRDAI in state-level matters.
4. **What is the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Optimistic
 - B. Pessimistic
 - C. Sarcastic
 - D. Indifferent
5. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The low level of literacy in India
 - B. The proposed changes in India's insurance sector
 - C. The taxation system in India
 - D. Digital death registries in India
6. **Which of the following statements most closely aligns with the author's perspective, as inferred from the passage?**
 - A. The decrease in insurance penetration over the past decade suggests that private players have failed to significantly impact the insurance market.
 - B. The Indian insurance industry is thriving, and no significant changes are necessary.
 - C. The primary factor hindering the growth of the insurance sector in India is poor financial literacy among the population.
 - D. The reform of existing legislative norms and reconsideration of the tax levy on insurance premia are crucial for widening insurance coverage in India.

7. Select the most appropriate option that can substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence.

I enjoy to be laugh at my little brother.

- A. enjoy laughed at
- B. enjoy laughing at
- C. have enjoy laughing at
- D. am enjoy to laughing at

8. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the given word.

Asperity

- A. Civility
- B. Acridity
- C. Curiosity
- D. Volatility

9. Select the most appropriate idiom from the following options that can substitute the underlined part of the given sentence.

He is the most successful businessman. One of his traits is to take risk.

- A. Fill somebody's shoes
- B. Talk through his hat
- C. Throw caution to the wind
- D. Tighten his belt

10. Select the most appropriate **synonym** to replace the **italicised** word.

Colossal granite obelisks were erected by only a few kings.

- A. Minute
- B. Minuscule
- C. Gigantic
- D. Lilliputian

11. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**

- P. To reap the benefit of demographic advantage, it is imperative to equip our working population with employable skills and knowledge that meet the requirements of the globalized labour market.
 - Q. India surpasses China as the world's most populous country in demographic composition, with a staggering 65 per cent working-age population having an average age of 28 years old.
 - R. This population has the potential to propel the nation towards remarkable socio-economic progress and has the ability for transformative global impact.
 - S. Skill development in educational institutions is the critical enabler for improving employment outcomes and higher productivity leading to faster and more sustainable economic growth.
- A. QRSP B. QRPS C. SQPR D. PRQS

12. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**

- P. This will give us a better understanding of the dietary behaviour of different segments of the Indian population.

- Q. This study has employed the Consumer Pyramids Household Survey (CPHS) data from CMIE from January to June 2022 to evaluate the well-being of households in India
- R. The way we eat and what we eat plays a crucial role in shaping our economy.
- S. In this context, this article examines the food consumption patterns of Indians and how they differ across various occupations and states.
- A. RSQP B.QPSR C.RSPQ D.SPRQ

13. Select the **INCORRECTLY** spelt word.

- A. Vocifirous
B. Episcopal
C. Innocuous
D. Affliction

Comprehension

The collective _____ 1 _____ of Indian economic commentators, seeking to decode the fallout from Russia's invasion of Ukraine, has predictably converged on the Brent oil index as heightened energy prices and a future inflationary spiral become reality. But the finance ministry in Delhi has another index in its sights: the Vix or volatility index. Market uncertainty caused by the conflict has prompted the government to rethink the launch schedule for the initial public offering (IPO) of public-sector Life Insurance Corp (LIC), India's largest life insurer by market share. A delay in this IPO—the regulator's approval is valid only till mid-May—will upset the Centre's fiscal math. There are _____ 2 _____ hopes riding _____ 3 _____ the IPO: a significant revenue bonanza for the Centre, a substantial reduction in its fiscal deficit, a triumph against all odds in dragging LIC to the market, and above all, keeping the flame of disinvestment burning. The Centre's repeated _____ 4 _____ in meeting ambitious asset-offloading targets had sowed cynicism and despair. A smooth LIC sale would have helped allay some of that. Whatever the final outcome, uncertainty _____ 5 _____ the IPO holds out two big lessons.

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words

14. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 1.**

- A. Emphasize
B. Intrinsic
C. Gaze
D. Dignity

15. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 2.**

- A. Flawed
B. Marked
C. Renowned
D. Myriad

16. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 3.**

- A. By
B. In
C. On
D. Into

17. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 4.

- A. Conflict
- B. Lapses
- C. Accuse
- D. Uphold

18. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 5.

- A. Over
- B. In
- C. Of
- D. On

19. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.

- P. The recently concluded T20I series between India and South Africa fits into this template even if the climax under whimsical Bengaluru skies ensured a stalemate at 2-2.
 - Q. Bilateral Twenty20 Internationals (T20Is) are often deemed an after-thought, added as an appendage to Tests and ODIs
 - R. The hype and the arc lights are reserved for glamorous domestic T20 championships like the Indian Premier League (IPL) or the Big Bash.
 - S. But since this is a year that features the ICC Twenty20 World Cup later in Australia, teams need matches under their belt as part of the build-up.
- A. QRSP B.PSRQ C.QSRP D.PQSR

20. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.

- P. Not being allowed to raise prices has made oil companies hesitant to sell fuel at a loss in the domestic market, causing shortages in some states.
 - Q. Since April 6, retail prices of petrol and diesel haven't gone up.
 - R. During these nearly three months, Brent crude prices have risen by about \$15 per barrel and the rupee weakened from 75.9 to 78.9 to the dollar.
 - S. Rather, they have been slashed once, on May 22, following excise duty cuts by the Centre.
- A. QSPR B.QSRP C.PSQR D.PRQS

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

- A) To provide a single insurance policy for all types of risks including medical emergencies, accidents, thefts, and death in the family.**

The passage describes the 'Bima Vistaar' scheme as being a simple, all-in-one insurance policy. It is being planned by the IRDAI in collaboration with life and general insurers with the aim of providing households with expeditious monetary support in case of various emergencies like medical situations, accidents, thefts or a death in the family. Thus, the scheme is designed to cover a broad range of risks under a single policy, making option A the correct answer.
- B) The new scheme, 'Bima Vistaar', will provide monetary support in case of thefts and family deaths, alongside medical emergencies and accidents.**

The passage describes the new insurance scheme called 'Bima Vistaar' proposed by the IRDAI. The scheme aims to provide a comprehensive coverage which includes medical emergencies, accidents, thefts, and a death in the family, making option B the correct answer. **Option A is incorrect** as it does not include all the coverage provided by the scheme. **Option C is incorrect** as 'Bima Sugam' is a platform for integrating insurance players and distributors, not a specific policy for women. **Option D is false** as the passage suggests that the new system aims to settle life insurance claims within hours or a day at most, not within a week or more.
- Option C is the correct answer.** The passage discusses the challenge of the high GST levy on health and life insurance premia. The author argues that it is untenable to assume those who can afford health cover can also afford to pay so much tax.

 - **Option A is incorrect.** The passage mentions that private players entered the insurance industry more than two decades ago. So, the absence of private players is not a current issue.
 - **Option B is also incorrect.** The passage indicates that insurance penetration has risen, but it is still not at an ideal level, with non-life policies not surpassing the 1% mark.
 - **Option D is incorrect.** The passage mentions that IRDAI is involved in formulating district-wise strategies for raising awareness and coverage levels with the help of State governments, which is a positive measure and not an issue or challenge. The real issue related to IRDAI mentioned in the passage is the continuity of leadership.
- A) Optimistic**

The passage has an optimistic tone as it talks about future initiatives and plans made by the chief of India's insurance sector regulator for covering more of the population against risks. The writer speaks positively about a new insurance policy scheme, legislative improvements, and a platform that will help in the easy settlement of claims.
- B) The proposed changes in India's insurance sector**

The main theme of the passage revolves around the changes proposed in the insurance sector of India. The chief of the insurance sector regulator has unveiled a new plan to increase

insurance coverage, bridging the protection gap, enhancing awareness about insurance benefits, and making legislative changes to allow more players in the market. While it discusses other elements like literacy levels and taxation, the core focus is the changes in the insurance sector.

6. **D) The reform of existing legislative norms and reconsideration of the tax levy on insurance premia are crucial for widening insurance coverage in India.**

The passage discusses multiple issues related to the Indian insurance sector and the author appears to advocate for a range of measures to tackle them. These include easing capital requirement norms to allow new players to enter the market, raising awareness and coverage levels through state-level initiatives, encouraging industry players to look beyond top cities, and rethinking the 18% GST levy on health and life insurance premia. Therefore, option D most closely aligns with the author's perspective. The other options either oversimplify the issues (A and C) or contradict the author's viewpoint (B).

7. B) 'enjoy to be laugh at' के बदले 'enjoy laughing at' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि निचे दिए गए verbs/expressions के बाद यदि कोई अन्य verb आता है तो वह verb V4 (gerund) रूप में होगा!

Admit, Avoid, Delay, Deny, Detest, Enjoy, Excuse, Finish, Forgive, Mind, Prevent, Resent, Can't stand, Can't help, it is no use/good, worth.

- I always enjoy to talk to strangers. (talking)

8. **A) Asperity** – Harshness, roughness, severity कर्कशता / तीक्ष्णता

Antonym: Civility सभ्यता

- **Acridity** – Bitterness or acerbity कटुता, चरपरापन
- **Curiosity** – a desire to know or learn जिज्ञासा, कुतूहल, उत्सुकता
- **Volatility** – Unpredictability, changeability, instability, variability अस्थिरता

9. **C) Throw caution to the wind** (phrase) – To take risk जोखिम उठाना

- **Fill somebody's shoes** (phrase) – to do someone's job or accept someone's responsibilities
- **Talk through his hat** (phrase) – to talk about something without understanding what you are talking about
- **Tighten his belt** (phrase) – to spend less money than you did before because you have less money:

10. **C) Colossal** (adjective) – Huge, massive, gigantic, oversize, immense, enormous, vast प्रचंड

- **Minute** – Miniature, tiny, minuscule, microscopic, infinitesimal लघु
- **Minuscule** – Tiny, minute, microscopic, infinitesimal मामूली
- **Lilliputian** – trivial or very small. अतिलघु

11. **B) QRPS**

Q: This sentence tells us that India has become the world's most populous country, with a lot of young, working-age people. This sentence gives us the main topic about India's population.

R: After knowing about the population details, this sentence tells us that this young and large population can make India a better place and even impact the world positively. It's the next step because it expands on the point made in Q about India's large population.

P: Next, this sentence tells us what we need to do to make sure this potential becomes a reality - by equipping our population with skills and knowledge. This should follow R because it offers a solution to the potential problem outlined in R.

S: Lastly, this sentence tells us how we can equip our population with skills and knowledge - through skill development in educational institutions. It's the final step because it presents the solution to the challenge mentioned in P

12. **C) RSPQ**

R: This is a good starting sentence because it introduces the main idea of the paragraph: how what we eat affects the economy (or how our country makes and uses money).

S: This sentence follows nicely from sentence R because it explains that the article will look at what people in India eat and how it's different depending on their jobs and where they live

P: This sentence explains why the study from sentence S is being done - to understand more about how different groups of people in India eat.

Q: This is a good ending sentence because it gives us specific information about the study mentioned in the previous sentences - it uses data from a survey done in 2022

13. **A) Vociferous** – Vocal, loud, clamorous, outspoken मुखर

- **Episcopal** – of or relating to a bishop or a Church that is directed by bishops धर्माध्यक्षीय
- **Innocuous** – harmless, inoffensive, innocent, safe, unobjectionable अहानिकर
- **Affliction** – trouble, misery, suffering, misfortune, distress यातना/ कष्ट

14. **C) Gaze** (noun) – Stare, look, observation, gawk टकटकी, ताक

The word "gaze" here means to look steadily and intently, especially in admiration, surprise, or thought. So the collective gaze of Indian economic commentators suggests they're all looking at and thinking deeply about the same thing, which is the fallout from Russia's invasion of Ukraine

- **Emphasize** (verb) – Highlight, stress, accentuate, underscore जोर देना
- **Intrinsic** (adjective) – Inherent, innate, natural, built-in, ingrained, आंतरिक
- **Dignity** (noun) – Self-respect, honour, self-esteem, prestige, status, गरिमा

15. **D) Myriad** (adjective) – innumerable, countless, infinite, numberless, unlimited असंख्य

Myriad means a countless or extremely great number, which fits perfectly in this context because it's referring to the many hopes riding on the IPO.

- **Renowned** (adjective) – Famous, celebrated, distinguished, notable, esteemed, प्रसिद्ध

- **Marked** (adjective) – Noteworthy, Pronounced, Significant, Conspicuous, Evident स्पष्ट
- **Flawed** (adjective) – Faulty, defective, damaged, blemished, imperfect त्रुटिपूर्ण

16. **C) Ride** (on) (verb) – Depend, rely निर्भर होना

In this context, "on" is used to indicate reliance or dependency. The myriad hopes are riding "on" the IPO, meaning they depend on the success of the IPO

17. **B) Lapse** (noun) – Failure, mistake, blunder, error, चूक

- **Accuse** (verb) – to say that someone has done something wrong आरोप लगाना
- **Uphold** (verb) – Support, endorse, back up, stand by, sustain, समर्थन करना
- **Conflict** (noun) – Dispute, disagreement, discord, argument, संघर्ष

18. **A)** The word "over" in this context means "**concerning**" or "**regarding**". The uncertainty "over" the IPO suggests that there is uncertainty concerning or about the IPO.

19. **A) QRSP**

Q: This is the first sentence because it introduces the subject of the paragraph: T20I cricket matches. It explains that these matches are usually not given much importance, being seen as an add-on to more important games

R: This sentence naturally follows Q, as it further explains why T20Is are seen as less important: because the excitement and attention are often focused on major domestic championships, like the IPL or the Big Bash.

S: This sentence makes sense after R because it provides a contrast. Even though T20Is are often overlooked, in a year with the Twenty20 World Cup, these matches become important for teams to practice and prepare.

P: This sentence follows S because it gives a specific example of the point made in S: the T20I series between India and South Africa. It shows how this series fits into the "template" or pattern discussed in the previous sentences

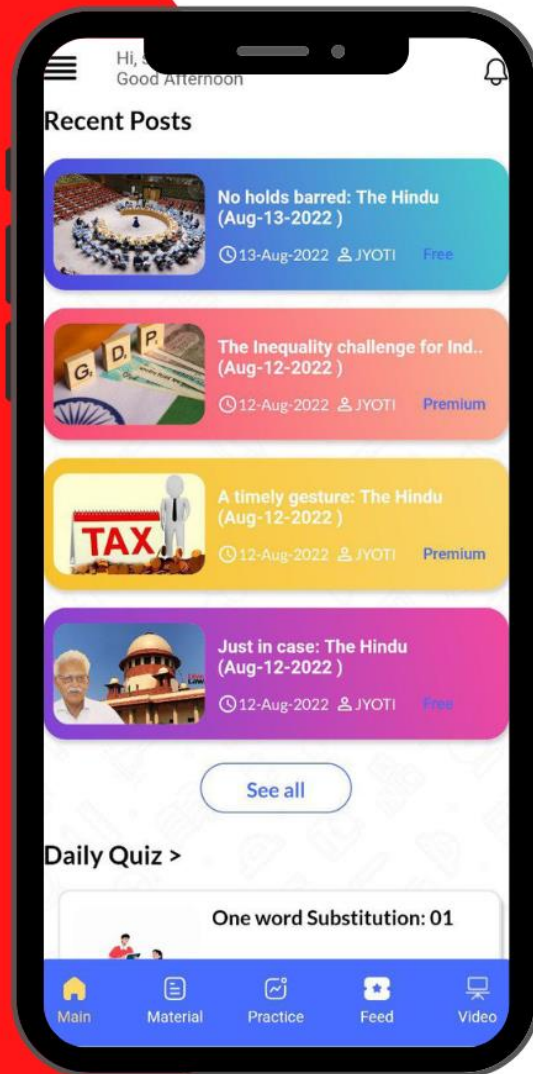
20. **B) QSRP**

Q: This sentence should be the starting point because it sets the scene by providing information about the stable fuel prices since April 6. This is the context for the rest of the paragraph

S: This sentence is connected to Q because it further explains the situation of fuel prices. It tells us that not only have the prices not gone up, they have even been cut once. So, it continues the story started in Q.

R: R follows S because it introduces a change in the scenario. Even though the fuel prices didn't increase or were cut, it informs us that the cost of crude oil (which is used to make petrol and diesel) actually increased and the value of rupee (Indian currency) dropped during the same time period. So, it adds more information to what has happened after S.

P: Finally, P should come last because it shows the outcome of the situation described in the previous sentences. It tells us that because of all the factors described earlier, oil companies are not willing to sell fuel at a loss, which is causing shortages



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