

## Uncertain showers: On monsoon information and the Indian farmer

Farmers need to be given timely, accurate information on rainfall

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) earlier this week updated its monsoon **outlook** from April. The latest **analysis** from the weather models that the IMD **relies on** **suggests** near-certainty of the development of an **El Niño**, a **cyclical phenomenon** of warming in the Central Pacific that six in 10 years is linked to **diminished** rainfall in **the west**, northwest and western parts of central India, especially between July and August. However, despite the certainty of an El Niño, the IMD has chosen to **retain** its outlook of a 'normal' monsoon, at 96% of the 50-year **long-term average** of 87 cm. Anything below 96% would have been categorised as 'below normal'. **Underlying** its **assessment** is a calculation that another **phenomenon**, called the **Indian Ocean Dipole** (IOD) — a temperature **swing** between the western and eastern Indian Ocean — **would** favour rain development and **offset** the loss in rains from an El Niño. It is important to note that IODs are not as strongly linked to **bountiful** rains as the El Niño is to **depressed** rains. In 1997, India had a strong El Niño but received 2% excess rain because of a positive IOD. However, both have not appeared at the same time since that year, and this is the first time since then that both factors are expected to **play out** in the same monsoon season. **The years** India last reported a greater than 10% **deficit** in monsoon rainfall **were** 2014 and 2015 — both El Niño years.

The IMD update also **underlines** that **rainfed-agriculture** zones of the country would be between 92%-104% of the average. While this technically qualifies as 'normal', it is also a very large **variation** and could mean long, **dry spells followed** by a period of **incessant downpours**. This might help **meet** the region's rainfall 'numbers' but will not be helpful for agriculture. While every monsoon has its own **peculiarities** whatever the models might say, it would be **crucial** to **watch out** for the monsoon's distribution, both **spatially** and temporally. **Sharp deficits** during July and August, particularly in central India, **are** likely to influence agricultural output. More accurate **assessments** of rain during this month **are** available through the IMD's **extended** range **forecasts** that give a **fortnightly prognosis**; and these can be quite **dynamic**. The monsoon is forecast to reach Kerala by June 4, and whether it **sticks** to this date or arrives a **tad** early or late **has little bearing on** the quantity of rain during the **core** monsoon months. This year, States and the Centre must **redouble** efforts to **convey** accurate, timely information to farmers, using all available information channels, down to the block level.

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

[Practice Exercise]

## Vocabulary

1. **Uncertain** (adjective) – Indeterminate, inexact, indefinite, tentative, changeable  
अनिश्चित
2. **Shower** (noun) – Rainfall, sprinkle, drizzle, squall, cloudburst झरी/बूदाबांदी
3. **India Meteorological Department (IMD)** (noun) – the principal department responsible for meteorological observations and weather forecasting under Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India . भारतीय मौसम विभाग
4. **Outlook** (noun) – Perspective, viewpoint, forecast, expectation, prognosis दृष्टिकोण
5. **Rely** (on) (verb) – Depend (on), lean (on), count (on), trust (on), bank (on) निर्भर होना
6. **Certainty** (noun) – Sureness, confidence, conviction, assurance, guarantee निश्चितता
7. **El Nino** (noun) – It refers to a warming of the ocean surface, or above-average sea surface temperatures, in the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.
8. **Cyclical** (adjective) – Recurrent, recurring, repetitive, periodical, rotational चक्रीय
9. **Phenomenon** (noun) – Event, occurrence, happening, situation, incident घटना
10. **Diminished** (adjective) – Decreased, lessened, reduced, lowered, contracted घटाया हुआ
11. **Retain** (verb) – Preserve, maintain, keep, hold, conserve बनाए रखना
12. **Long-term average** (noun) – LPA of rainfall is the rainfall recorded over a particular region for a given interval (like month or season) average over a long period like 30years, 50-years etc.
13. **Underlie** (verb) – be a significant cause or basis of (something) कायम करना, नींव रखना
14. **Assessment** (noun) – Evaluation, appraisal, estimation, judgment, analysis मूल्यांकन
15. **Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)** (noun) – The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is defined by the difference in sea surface temperature between two areas (or poles, hence a dipole) – a western pole in the Arabian Sea (western Indian Ocean) and an eastern pole in the eastern Indian Ocean south of Indonesia.
16. **Swing** (noun) – Shift, change, alteration, fluctuation, oscillation परिवर्तन
17. **Offset** (verb) – Counterbalance, neutralize, cancel out, counteract, compensate भरपाई करना

18. **Bountiful** (adjective) – Abundant, plentiful, ample, rich, generous प्रचुर
19. **Depressed** (adjective) – Low, reduced, diminished, lessened, lowered घटा हुआ
20. **Play out** (phrasal verb) – Unfold, occur, take place, happen, transpire होना/घटित होना
21. **Deficit** (noun) – Shortfall, lack, shortage, deficiency, inadequacy कमी
22. **Underline** (verb) – Emphasize, stress, underscore, highlight, accentuate बल देना
23. **Rainfed-agriculture** (adjective) – Irrigated, water-dependent, pluvial, precipitation-based, hydrating वर्षा से सिंचाई युक्त कृषि
24. **Variation** (noun) – Change, difference, deviation, divergence, discrepancy विविधता
25. **Dry spell** (noun) – Drought, aridity, dryness, desiccation, water scarcity सूखा
26. **Follow** (verb) – Happen after के बाद होना
27. **Incessant** (adjective) – Continuous, non-stop, unending, uninterrupted, unceasing लगातार
28. **Downpour** (noun) – Rainstorm, rainfall, cloudburst, deluge, torrential rain मूसलधार वर्षा
29. **Meet** (verb) – Fulfil, satisfy, comply with, adhere to, accomplish पूरा करना
30. **Peculiarity** (noun) – Oddity, uniqueness, strangeness, uniqueness, eccentricity, idiosyncrasy खासियत
31. **Crucial** (adjective) – Important, significant, vital, essential, necessary महत्वपूर्ण
32. **Watch out** (phrasal verb) – Be careful, be cautious, be on guard, be vigilant, be wary सतर्क रहना
33. **Spatially** (adverb) – Geometrically, dimensionally, structurally, physically, materially स्थानिक रूप से
34. **Assessment** (noun) – Evaluation, appraisal, analysis, examination, review मूल्यांकन
35. **Extended** (adjective) – Prolonged, lengthened, protracted, elongated, drawn-out विस्तारित
36. **Forecast** (noun) – Prediction, projection, outlook, anticipation, estimate पूर्वानुमान
37. **Fortnightly** (adjective) – happening or produced every two weeks.
38. **Prognosis** (noun) – Forecast, prediction, prognostication, prophecy, augury भविष्यवाणी
39. **Dynamic** (adjective) – Active, lively, energetic, vigorous, vital गतिशील

40. **Stick** (to) (verb) – Adhere, hold, cleave, cling, abide by डटे रहना

41. **Tad** (noun) – Bit, little, slightly, small amount, touch थोड़ा

42. **Have a bearing on** (phrase) – Influence, affect, have an impact on, determine प्रभाव डालना

43. **Core** (adjective) – Essential, vital, key, central, fundamental मुख्य

44. **Redouble** (verb) – Increase, intensify, step up, amplify, magnify दोगुना करना

45. **Convey** (verb) – Communicate, transmit, relay, deliver, impart कहना

## Summary of the Editorial

1. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) recently updated its monsoon forecast, predicting a 'normal' monsoon despite a high likelihood of an El Niño event.
2. El Niño, a warming phenomenon in the Central Pacific, typically results in diminished rainfall in parts of India six times out of ten.
3. The prediction of a normal monsoon is based on the expectation that the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) will offset the impact of El Niño.
4. The IOD, a temperature swing in the Indian Ocean, is not as closely tied to ample rains as El Niño is to decreased rains.
5. In 1997, despite a strong El Niño, India received excess rain due to a positive IOD. However, both these events have not occurred simultaneously since then.
6. This year is expected to be the first since 1997 where both El Niño and the IOD will influence the same monsoon season.
7. IMD's update indicates that rainfed-agriculture zones should receive 92%-104% of average rainfall.
8. While this range technically counts as 'normal', it could involve significant dry spells followed by heavy downpours, which is not conducive for farming.
9. There's a likelihood of sharp deficits in rainfall during July and August, particularly in central India, which can potentially affect agricultural output.
10. More accurate assessments of rainfall are available via IMD's extended range forecasts, which provide a fortnightly outlook.
11. The monsoon is expected to reach Kerala by June 4, but this date does not significantly impact the total rainfall during the core monsoon months.
12. Both the central and state governments need to increase efforts to provide accurate, timely monsoon information to farmers.
13. This information should be disseminated using all possible channels, reaching down to the block level.
14. The monsoon's spatial and temporal distribution should be closely monitored due to its potential impact on agriculture.
15. There's a critical need for farmers to receive reliable and timely information regarding rainfall to allow for adequate planning and mitigation strategies.

### Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern based

1. **What factors might contribute to the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) prediction of a 'normal' monsoon season, despite the likelihood of an El Niño event?** [Editorial Page]
  - A. They predict an increase in global warming that will offset the effects of the El Niño.
  - B. They expect that the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) phenomenon could counterbalance the loss in rainfall caused by the El Niño.
  - C. They believe that the El Niño will not impact India this year due to changes in wind patterns.
  - D. They anticipate that the El Niño will increase rainfall in the eastern and southern regions of India
2. **According to the passage, which of the following is/ are not true about the Indian Meteorological Department's (IMD) recent monsoon outlook?**
  - i. IMD has updated its monsoon outlook from April with near-certainty of the development of an El Niño.
  - ii. IMD has retained its outlook of a 'normal' monsoon, at 96% of the 50-year long-term average of 87 cm.
  - iii. The last times India reported a greater than 10% deficit in monsoon rainfall were in 2014 and 2015, both El Niño years.
  - iv. The IMD predicts the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) will have a stronger impact on rains than the El Niño.
    - A. Only ii
    - B. Only iii
    - C. Only iv
    - D. Both I and ii
3. **Which of the following conclusions can be drawn from the passage above?**
  - A. The amount of rain during the monsoon season is the sole factor that influences agricultural output in India.
  - B. The distribution of rainfall over time and space during the monsoon season has no bearing on agriculture in India.
  - C. The timing of the monsoon's arrival in Kerala significantly influences the quantity of rain during the core monsoon months.
  - D. Timely and accurate information on the distribution of rainfall during monsoon months is critical for farmers in India.
4. **Based on the passage, which of the following is NOT true about the monsoon information provided to Indian farmers?**
  - A. Rainfall predictions can range between 92% to 104% of the average for rainfed-agriculture zones.
  - B. The IMD provides fortnightly prognosis for more accurate rainfall assessments.
  - C. The exact arrival date of monsoon in Kerala significantly influences the quantity of rain during the core monsoon months.

- D. Timely and accurate rainfall information is important for farmers, and efforts need to be intensified to convey this information.
5. **What is the tone of the passage "Uncertain showers: On monsoon information and the Indian farmer"?**
- A. Indifferent
  - B. Alarmist
  - C. Pessimistic
  - D. Analytical
6. **What is the main theme of the passage "Uncertain showers: On monsoon information and the Indian farmer"?**
- A. The economic impact of farming in India
  - B. The effect of climate change on global weather patterns
  - C. The importance of accurate and timely monsoon information for Indian farmers
  - D. The history of the India Meteorological Department
7. Choose the best synonym for the term "**diminished**" based on its usage in the passage?
- A. Amplified
  - B. Minimized
  - C. Enhanced
  - D. Magnified
8. Choose the best antonym for the term "**bountiful**" based on its usage in the passage?
- A. Scarce
  - B. Exuberant
  - C. Plentiful
  - D. Ample
9. Select the option that can be used as a **one-word substitute** for the given group of words.  
**One who does a thing for pleasure and not as a profession.**
- A. Amateur
  - B. Performer
  - C. Professional
  - D. Ascetic
10. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph**
- P. A report in TOI, for example, said that in Hyderabad even some pharmacies and hospitals were unwilling to accept these notes.
  - Q. RBI on Monday issued a notification reiterating that the ₹2000 notes will continue as legal tender.
  - R. It was meant to reassure people that these notes are guaranteed by RBI and can be used to settle payments.
  - S. Last Friday's notification, which had made the point about legal tender, had left many unconvinced.
- A.QRSP                      B.PSRQ                      C.QSRP                      D.PQSR

### Comprehension

December 2021 and December 2022 \_\_\_1\_\_\_ not have been more contrasting for India's pharmaceutical industry. Last year, it was hailed \_\_\_2\_\_\_ developing vaccines that inoculated billions against the coronavirus and underlined its moniker as the 'pharmacy of the world'. This year, two Indian drug-manufacturing firms stand accused by two countries of producing toxic cough syrup linked to the deaths of children — at least 66 in The Gambia and 18 in Uzbekistan. While The Gambia case was highlighted by the World Health Organization (WHO), the second case has been \_\_\_3\_\_\_ by the Uzbek Health Ministry. In both cases, it is not \_\_\_4\_\_\_ established that consuming the syrup directly led to the deaths. What is of concern is that in both countries, batches were spiked with ethylene glycol or diethylene glycol, i.e., industrial chemicals that have no business being inside bottles of cough syrup. The Indian government adopted a \_\_\_5\_\_\_ stance after the scandal in The Gambia.

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words

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

- A. Can
- B. Could
- C. Would
- D. Should

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

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

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

- A. Flagged
- B. Threaten
- C. Malign
- D. Address

14. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 4.**

- A. Cautiously
- B. Conclusively
- C. Defray
- D. Comprehensively

15. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 5.**

- A. Penchant
- B. Transparent
- C. Proponent
- D. Truculent

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

- P. But Tesla is nowhere close to being the most important factor – Gol's next EV policy is.
- Q. Tesla, a marquee brand in electric vehicles, keeps saying it's interested in investing in India.



- R. True, if Elon Musk's company firms up its plans to invest here, it will be good for the Indian EV ecosystem.
- S. The reason is the unique nature of India's EV market.
- A.QRSP                      B.QRPS                      C.QPRS                      D.QSRP
17. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**  
Call it a day
- A. Call it as a bad day
- B. Call it as a good and productive day
- C. Stop thinking in daytime
- D. Stop working on something
18. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph**
- P. Women have bagged the top four spots in the Civil Services Exam 2022, the second year in a row.
- Q. Even more significantly, women candidates recommended for appointment to various elite government services like IAS and IPS have overall risen from 24% to 34% since 2018.
- R. However, if we zoom out to look at the larger picture, women in India remain far from reaching equal employment across all levels, sectors and positions in government – especially its highest offices
- S. The improvement in gender equality in public administration this suggests is very welcome, as it has globally been found to be an important metric for a government more responsive and accountable to diverse public interests.
- A.RSQP                      B.PQSR                      C.RSPQ                      D.PRQS
19. Select the most appropriate **ANTONYM** of the underlined word in the given sentence.  
China expects to welcome back Indian students to resume their studies in the country.
- A. usher
- B. presume
- C. announce
- D. cease
20. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph**
- P. They serve as touchpoints for multiple needs.
- Q. One such example is to get customers to share their phone number to bill retail purchases.
- R. Consequently, attempts to get people to part with their phone number, often through dubious means, are common.
- S. Mobile phones in India are ubiquitous – over a billion subscribers.
- A.SRPQ                      B.QRSP                      C.SRQP                      D.SPRQ

## Answers

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

## Explanations

- 1. B) They expect that the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) phenomenon could counterbalance the loss in rainfall caused by the El Niño.**  
The passage mentions that IMD's assessment that a 'normal' monsoon is likely is based on the calculation that the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) — a temperature swing between the western and eastern Indian Ocean — would favor rain development and offset the loss in rains from an El Niño. This suggests that IMD believes the IOD could counteract the effects of the El Niño. The other options do not correspond to any information given in the passage.
- 2. C) The IMD predicts the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) will have a stronger impact on rains than the El Niño.**  
The passage mentions that the IMD predicts the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) will offset the loss in rains from an El Niño, but it doesn't say the IOD will have a stronger impact on rains than the El Niño. In fact, it specifically states that "IODs are not as strongly linked to bountiful rains as the El Niño is to depressed rains." So, this option is not true according to the passage, while the other three options can be directly confirmed from the text.
- 3. D.) The passage emphasizes the importance of timely and accurate information on rainfall for farmers in India, particularly with regards to the spatial and temporal distribution of monsoon rain. While the passage acknowledges the influence of rainfall quantity on agriculture, it points out that long, dry spells followed by heavy downpours may still meet rainfall 'numbers' but be detrimental to farming. Additionally, the passage explicitly states that the timing of monsoon's arrival in Kerala has little bearing on the quantity of rain during the core monsoon months. Thus, options A, B, and C are not correct.**
- 4. C) The exact arrival date of monsoon in Kerala significantly influences the quantity of rain during the core monsoon months.**  
The passage indicates that the exact arrival date of the monsoon in Kerala, whether it is early, on time, or late, has little bearing on the quantity of rain during the core monsoon months. Hence, option C is not true as per the passage.
- 5. D) Analytical**  
The passage thoroughly examines the information regarding monsoon patterns and their impacts on Indian farming. It is based on data and logic rather than emotions, hence the tone can be described as analytical.
- 6. C) The importance of accurate and timely monsoon information for Indian farmers**  
The main theme of the passage revolves around the need for accurate and timely monsoon information for Indian farmers. This is highlighted through the discussion of the IMD's monsoon outlook, the effect of El Niño and the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) on rainfall, and the potential impacts of monsoon patterns on agricultural output. The passage also emphasizes the need for the State and the Centre to provide accurate, timely information to farmers.

7. B. Minimized

**Diminish** (verb) – reduce, lessen, decrease, dwindle, decline कम होना

"Diminished" is used in the passage to denote reduced or lessened rainfall due to the El Niño phenomenon.

8. A. Scarce

**Bountiful** (adjective) – generous, liberal, lavish, abundant, plentiful भरपूर, प्रचुर

In the passage, "**bountiful**" describes the strong link of IODs to abundant or plentiful rains. Therefore, the opposite of this would be "scarce," which implies a lack or shortage of rain.

9. A) **Amateur** – One who does a thing for pleasure and not as a profession शौकिया

**Ascetic** – a person who follows an ascetic life. तपस्वी

10. A) **QRSP**

**Q:** This sentence is likely the beginning of the passage as it introduces a new piece of information: the RBI's notification about the ₹2000 notes.

**R:** This sentence logically follows Q. It explains the intention behind RBI's notification, providing context and further explanation.

**S:** This sentence refers to a previous notification that was less convincing to the public, thereby causing some doubts about the validity of the ₹2000 notes. It provides context to why RBI's new notification (Q) was necessary

**P:** This sentence offers evidence of the impact of the previous notification (S), showing the real-life consequences of the situation, namely, pharmacies and hospitals refusing to accept ₹2000 notes. It brings closure to the paragraph, reinforcing the need for RBI's intervention (Q) and the hope for a changed situation due to the reassurance (R).

11. B) "December 2021 and December 2022 **could** not have been more contrasting" makes the most sense because "**could**" here is used to express the possibility in past circumstances, indicating that the two periods were possibly extremely different. The other options do not fit grammatically or contextually. For example, "**can**" would be used to describe a present or future possibility, not a past situation, while "**should**" implies an obligation or expectation which doesn't fit the context. "**Would**" is used for hypothetical situations or to indicate a habit in the past, neither of which applies here.

12. B) "**for**" is used to indicate the reason or because of something. The pharmaceutical industry was **praised** because of their development of vaccines.

**Hail** (verb) – to proclaim that somebody/something is very good or very special व्यक्ति या वस्तु की सार्वजनिक रूप से प्रशंसा करना/ सराहना

13. A) **Flag** (verb) – Indicate, signal, highlight, mark, signal संकेत करना

"**Flagged**" means to signal or identify as important or relevant. In this case, the Uzbek Health Ministry flagged, or brought attention to, the second case

- **Threaten** (verb) – endanger, jeopardize, menace, intimidate, imperil खतरे में डालना

- **Malign** (verb) – defame, criticize, denigrate, derogate खराब करना
  - **Address** (verb) – tackle, see to, deal with, confront, grapple with सुलझाना, निपटाना
14. **B) Conclusively** (adverb) – Decisively, finally, convincingly निर्णायक रूप से
- "conclusively" means in a decisive way that leaves no doubt. Hence, "it is not conclusively established that consuming the syrup directly led to the deaths" means there is not definitive proof linking the consumption of the syrup to the deaths.
- **Cautiously** (adverb) – Carefully, with care, warily, vigilantly सतर्कता से
  - **Defray** (verb) – Pay, cover, foot the bill, bear the cost, fund हिसाब चुकाना, भुगतान करना
  - **Comprehensively** (adverb) – Thoroughly, completely, fully, extensively व्यापक रूप से
15. **D) Truculent** (adjective) – Defiant, aggressive, belligerent, fractious कठोर/ आक्रामक
- "Truculent" refers to someone being quick or eager to argue or fight; aggressively defiant. This would imply the Indian government took a hostile or confrontational position after the scandal in The Gambia.
- **Penchant** (noun) – Liking, Fondness, Preference, Taste, Affinity झुकाव
  - **Proponent** (noun) – Advocate, supporter, upholder, protagonist, fan, follower अनुयायी
  - **Transparent** (adjective) – Clear, see-through, translucent, lucid पारदर्शी
16. **B) QRPS**
- Q:** This sentence sets the context for the discussion and is logically the first sentence. It introduces Tesla's interest in investing in India.
- R:** This sentence follows up on the idea introduced in the previous sentence, acknowledging that Tesla's investment would be beneficial for India's electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem
- P:** This sentence takes a contrasting turn, saying that Tesla's investment isn't the most crucial factor for the Indian EV market, but rather, the Government of India's next EV policy is.
- S:** This sentence logically concludes the passage, providing the rationale for the importance of the Govt's EV policy over Tesla's investment because of the unique nature of India's EV market
17. **D) Call it a day** (phrase) – Stop working on something अंत करना, खातमा करना
18. **B) PQSR**
- P:** The paragraph starts with the sentence "Women have bagged the top four spots in the Civil Services Exam 2022, the second year in a row," which serves as the main topic sentence. This sentence presents a specific piece of information about the accomplishment of women in the Civil Services Exam
- Q:** The next sentence, "Even more significantly, women candidates recommended for appointment to various elite government services like IAS and IPS have overall risen from 24% to 34% since 2018," builds on the first by providing additional data that supports the progress made by women in civil service examinations and their appointments.

**S:** Following Q, the sentence "The improvement in gender equality in public administration this suggests is very welcome, as it has globally been found to be an important metric for a government more responsive and accountable to diverse public interests" forms a logical continuation. It interprets the data from sentence Q and explains its significance, indicating that the rise in female representation may lead to more responsive and accountable government

**R:** Finally, the sentence "However, if we zoom out to look at the larger picture, women in India remain far from reaching equal employment across all levels, sectors and positions in government – especially its highest offices" introduces a contrasting perspective. Despite the positive trends indicated in the previous sentences, this sentence reminds us that there's still a long way to go for complete gender equality in India's government employment

19. **D) Resume** (verb) – Recommence, restart, continue, start again पुनरारंभ करना

**Antonym: Cease** – Stop, finish, end, conclude, terminate ठहरना

- **Usher** – cause or mark the start of something new.
- **Presume** – Believe, assume, guess, deduce, imagine, suppose, postulate, posit मान लेना
- **Announce** – Proclaim, publicize, broadcast, declare घोषणा करना

20. **D) SPRQ**

**S:** Mobile phones in India are ubiquitous – over a billion subscribers.

This sentence gives an overview of the context and sets the stage for the discussion, hence it should be the starting sentence

**P:** They serve as touchpoints for multiple needs.

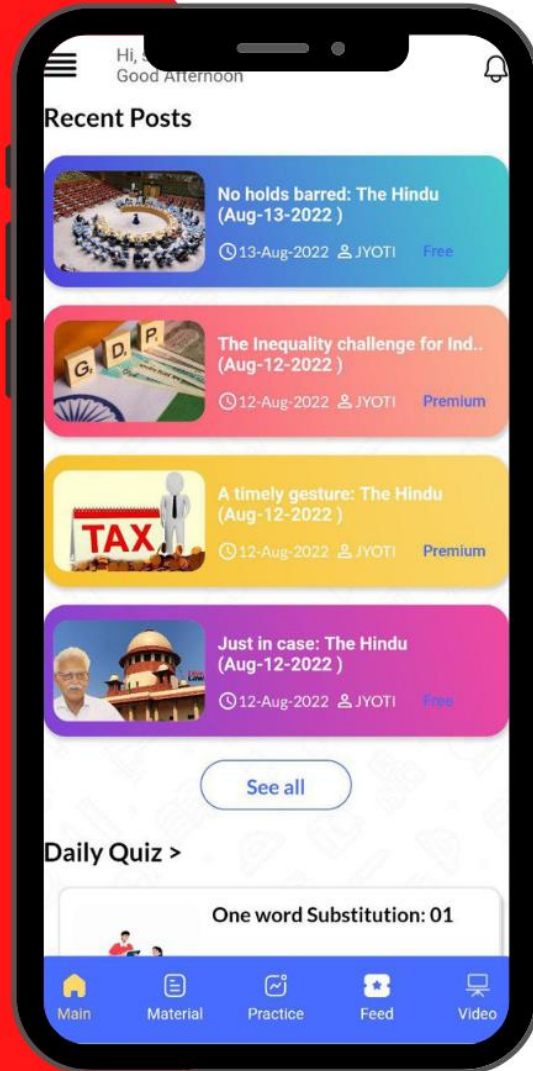
This sentence seems to refer to the mobile phones mentioned in the previous sentence, elaborating on their importance and use

**R:** Consequently, attempts to get people to part with their phone number, often through dubious means, are common.

The word "consequently" indicates that this sentence follows from the previous one, suggesting the negative consequences of the widespread use of mobile phones

**Q:** One such example is to get customers to share their phone number to bill retail purchases.

This sentence provides a specific example of the previous sentence, and therefore should follow it



# Learn Vocabulary Through Reading Articles

English Madhyam

