

Making disability count: On why NFHS will yield more robust data on the disability sector

Including disability in the NFHS-6 will **serve** the government well

The **significance** of data in **influencing** policy **constructs** and **thereon**, decisions, **is non-contestable**. The country **takes periodic stock of** various parameters just to inform welfare policies better. In **context**, the recent **decision** of the Union government to **drop** the disability-specific question from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-6 **seems churlish** and **sends out** wrong signals. After years of campaigning for the same, **activists rejoiced** when the government added one question on disability in the NFHS-5, and were hopeful that this would be **built upon** in **subsequent** versions of the nation-wide survey. The **deletion**, and **reluctance to map** the **minutiae** that will help understand their lives and needs better, **leaves** the question: is the government serious about its **commitment** to the disabled in the country, who number, as per the 2011 Census, about 2.68 crore? The Ministry of Health and Family responded that **questions** about disability **were** already asked as part of the Sample Registration Survey (SRS) 76th round, conducted between July and December 2018, and that any specific information can be **tabulated** from **the raw data**, which is also available **in the public domain**. It has also gone on record **stating** that disability data will 'not change fast'. That might be an **erroneous supposition**.

While **gross** data on disabilities will change **marginally** (but still be **substantial given** the numbers), **the count** of 6.1 lakh sample households that the NFHS **relies on will** make the data set truly **representative**. The **elaborate questions** asked by the NFHS **will** provide valuable **specifics** on the lives of the disabled; something on that scale **hitherto conspicuous** by its absence. While the SRS does a good job with **marking** the **prevalence** and **incidence** of disability, education level, living arrangements, **care-givers**, certificate of disability, **accessibility** and unemployment rate, among others, the NFHS asks more **comprehensive** questions. It **seeks** answers on health and **nutrition** status, access to health schemes, insurance, sexual behaviour, availability of family planning, use of **contraception**, domestic violence, household **amenities** and **possessions**, lifestyle indicators, and access to drinking water and toilets. There is no doubt that **the latter** will yield better, more robust, data on the disability sector. While Health Ministry officials claim that the **sole** NFHS question on disability too **resulted in** under-reporting, that might actually be a function of training for field staff who ask the questions. The state must **employ** these efforts — adding questions on disabilities, training field staff, because nothing really **justifies** any attempt to **keep a significant section out of** a **massive scale** count of the Indian population. **[Practice Exercise]**

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

Vocabulary

1. **Make count** (phrase) – To ensure that some action has the most beneficial or effective result possible.
2. **Yield** (verb) – give, provide, produce, generate, contribute देना
3. **Robust** (adjective) – sturdy, strong, resilient, durable मजबूत
4. **Serve** (verb) – to be useful or suitable for a particular purpose उद्देश्य-विशेष के लिए उपयोगी या उपयुक्त होना
5. **Significance** (noun) – importance, relevance, impact, substance, worth महत्व
6. **Influence** (verb) – affect, guide, control ; have an influence on. प्रभावित करना
7. **Construct** (noun) – an idea or theory containing various conceptual elements
8. **Thereon** (adverb) – on or following from the thing just mentioned. उस पर
9. **Non-contestable** (adjective) – indisputable, undeniable, unchallengeable, unquestionable, irrefutable अविवादित
10. **Take stock of** (phrase) – assess, evaluate, review, appraise, examine समीक्षा करना
11. **Periodic** (adjective) – regular, repeated, recurrent, cyclic, interval अवधिक
12. **Context** (noun) – circumstance, situation, background, setting, scenario प्रसंग
13. **Drop** (verb) – discard, abandon, eliminate, omit, exclude छोड़ देना
14. **Churlish** (adjective) – rude, ill-mannered, ungracious, uncivil, disrespectful अभद्र
15. **Send out** (phrasal verb) – give out, produce something प्रकट करना, फैलाना
16. **Activist** (noun) – a person who campaigns to bring about political or social change कार्यकर्ता
17. **Rejoice** (verb) – celebrate, be joyous, be delighted, be pleased, be happy खुश होना
18. **Built upon** (phrasal verb) – develop, enhance, expand, extend, amplify निर्माण करना
19. **Subsequent** (adjective) – following, succeeding, later, next, ensuing आगामी
20. **Reluctance** (adjective) – unwillingness, disinclination, hesitancy, lack of enthusiasm अनिच्छा
21. **Map** (verb) – record in detail the spatial distribution of (something). पंजीकृत करना
22. **Minutiae** (noun) – details, particulars, specifics, fine points, nuances छोटी छोटी जानकारी
23. **Commitment** (noun) – Obligation, duty, responsibility, liability प्रतिबद्धता

24. **Tabulate** (verb) – arrange, order, organize, classify. सारणीबद्ध करना
25. **The raw data** (noun) – data that has not been processed for use
26. **In the public domain** (phrase) – able to be discussed and examined freely by the general public
27. **State** (verb) – express, declare, announce, voice, proclaim कहना
28. **Erroneous** (adjective) – incorrect, wrong, false, inaccurate, mistaken ग़लत
29. **Supposition** (noun) – assumption, conjecture, speculation, hypothesis, presumption अनुमान, कल्पना
30. **Gross** (adjective) – total, whole, entire, full, complete कुल
31. **Marginally** (adverb) – slightly, a little, to a small extent, insignificantly मामूली
32. **Substantial** (adjective) – significant, considerable, large, sizeable, major पर्याप्त
33. **Given** (preposition) – considering, taking into account, keeping in mind, देखते हुए
34. **Rely** (on) (verb) – depend (on), count (on), trust (in), bank (on) पर निर्भर होना
35. **Representative** (adjective) – prototypical, characteristic, illustrative, indicative सूचक
36. **Elaborate** (adjective) – very complicated; done or made very carefully विस्तृत, जटिल
37. **Specifics** (noun) – details, particulars, facts, information विवरण, बारीकियों
38. **Hitherto** (adverb) – until now, so far, till date, to this point अब तक
39. **Conspicuous** (adjective) – noticeable, discernible, prominent, visible विशिष्ट, सुस्पष्ट
40. **Mark** (verb) – indicate, denote, signal, signify संकेत करना
41. **Prevalence** (noun) – the fact or condition of being prevalent; commonness. फैलाव, प्रसार
42. **Incidence** (noun) – occurrence, rate, frequency, extent पैमाना, व्यापकता
43. **Care-giver** (noun) – person who gives help and protection, nurse, attendant, caretaker देखभाल करने वाला
44. **Accessibility** (noun) – availability, approachability, reachability पहुंच
45. **Comprehensive** (adjective) – complete, all-inclusive, broad, wide-ranging व्यापक/विस्तृत
46. **Seek** (verb) – to ask somebody for something माँगना

47. **Nutrition** (noun) – the food that you eat and the way that it affects your health
पोषाहार
48. **Contraception** (noun) – (the use of) any of various methods intended to prevent a woman becoming pregnant गर्भनिरोधक
49. **Amenity** (noun) – facility, service, resource, convenience सुविधा
50. **Possession** (noun) – ownership, proprietorship, holding, custody मालिकाना
51. **The latter** (noun) – Here it refers to NHFS
52. **Sole** (adjective) – only, single, exclusive, lone, solitary एकमात्र, अकेला
53. **Result in** (phrasal verb) – lead to, bring about, cause, provoke, give rise to परिणाम होना
54. **Employ** (verb) – use, utilize, apply, make use of, exploit उपयोग करना
55. **Justify** (verb) – validate, vindicate, substantiate, ratify, confirm न्यायोचित ठहराना
56. **Keep someone out** (phrasal verb) – exclude, bar, omit, leave out, block बाहर रखना
57. **Massive-scale** (adjective) – happening over a large area or affecting a lot of people बड़े पैमाने पर

Summary of the Editorial

1. The editorial emphasizes the importance of data in shaping public policies and decision making.
2. The Union government's recent decision to remove disability-specific questions from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-6 is viewed as a setback.
3. Activists had celebrated the addition of a disability question to NFHS-5 and had expected this to be expanded in future surveys.
4. The removal of these questions questions the government's commitment to addressing the needs of disabled people, who numbered around 2.68 crore according to the 2011 Census.
5. The Ministry of Health and Family stated that disability-related questions were included in the Sample Registration Survey (SRS) 76th round.
6. The Ministry also indicated that disability data would not change quickly, a statement the editorial argues might be inaccurate.
7. The NFHS's sample size of 6.1 lakh households could provide a more comprehensive and representative dataset.
8. NFHS asks detailed questions providing specifics about the lives of disabled people, unlike the SRS.
9. The editorial argues that the NFHS's more comprehensive approach can yield robust data on the disability sector.
10. The NFHS addresses topics such as health and nutrition status, access to health schemes, insurance, sexual behavior, domestic violence, household amenities and possessions, lifestyle indicators, and access to drinking water and toilets.
11. Health Ministry officials suggest that the single NFHS question on disability resulted in under-reporting.
12. The editorial counters that this under-reporting could be a result of inadequate training for field staff conducting the survey.
13. The state must add more questions on disabilities to the NFHS and improve training for field staff to ensure accurate representation.
14. The editorial strongly argues against any attempts to exclude a significant section of the population from the comprehensive survey.
15. Inclusion of disability-specific questions in the NFHS-6 is deemed crucial for informing welfare policies better.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Based on the passage, why is it important to include disability-specific questions in the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)?** [Editorial Page]
 - A. It is required by the Ministry of Health and Family.
 - B. It will help to map the minutiae of the lives and needs of the disabled population.
 - C. It fulfills the requirement of the Sample Registration Survey (SRS) 76th round.
 - D. The data about disability doesn't change fast.
2. **Based on the passage, which of the following best describes the key difference between the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) and the Sample Registration System (SRS) in terms of their approaches to collecting data on disability?**
 - A. The SRS collects data on more diverse aspects of disability than the NFHS does.
 - B. The NFHS relies on a smaller sample size than the SRS does.
 - C. The NFHS asks more comprehensive questions than the SRS does.
 - D. The SRS employs better trained field staff than the NFHS does.
3. **Which of the following statements best summarizes the main issue discussed in the passage?**
 - A. The government of India has chosen to include more questions about disability in the NFHS-6.
 - B. The government of India has removed a question about disability from the NFHS-6.
 - C. The disability sector is not important for the country's welfare policies.
 - D. The government is planning to collect more data on the disabled population through the Sample Registration Survey (SRS).
4. **Which of the following best describes the tone of the passage?**
 - A. Praise
 - B. Critical
 - C. Indifferent
 - D. Comedic
5. **What is the main criticism regarding the Union government's decision related to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-6?**
 - A. The government's reluctance to map the minutiae of the lives of the disabled.
 - B. The reduction in the count of sample households that the NFHS relies on.
 - C. The decrease in the comprehensiveness of the questions asked in the NFHS.
 - D. The lack of accessibility and unemployment rate data in the NFHS.
6. **Which of the following words is a synonym of "churlish" as used in the passage?**
 - A. Cheerful
 - B. Caring
 - C. Rude
 - D. Generous
7. **Which of the following words is an antonym for "rejoiced" as used in the passage?**
 - A. Celebrated
 - B. Mourned
 - C. Exulted

- D. Applauded
8. **Which of the following statements is NOT true based on the given passage?**
- A. The NFHS gathers more comprehensive data than the SRS.
 - B. The Health Ministry claims that the sole NFHS question on disability leads to under-reporting.
 - C. The NFHS only focuses on disabilities and doesn't collect data on other areas like health and nutrition status or domestic violence.
 - D. The state needs to improve training for field staff who ask questions.
9. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. Structural flaws are among a host of critical red flags raised in a study conducted by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), in collaboration with Bharat Krishak Samaj, on loan waivers by the governments of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra.
 - Q. A large section of the deprived and distressed whose loans should have been waived was unable to benefit, it claims.
 - R. Diversion of funds for debt relief, the data reveals, has meant reduced allocations to the sectors of power, water resources, public works, health and family welfare, impacting, ironically, those very people at the bottom of the rung for whom the scheme was designed.
 - S. The acute agrarian distress demanded a firm response, ensuring the continuity of future credit was crucial, and farm loan waivers got ready political acceptance as a quick-fix solution.
- A. RQSP B.SPQR C.RSPQ D.SPRQ
10. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**
- Spill the beans**
- A. To literally drop beans on the floor.
 - B. To reveal a secret or information that was supposed to be kept confidential.
 - C. To cook and serve beans for a meal.
 - D. To express one's love for someone.
11. **Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. India has been the biggest producer and second largest exporter of sugar in the current year.
 - Q. Amid the global supply volatilities caused by the Russia-Ukraine conflict, pragmatic protectionism appears a safe bet in the short run.
 - R. The record global sales have prompted restrictions for the first time in six years to ensure there is no shortage that could lead to the government ending up buying expensive sugar in future to meet the demand at home. Exports will be limited to 10 million tonnes till the end of the season in October.
 - S. After the ban on wheat exports, the cap on sugar exports comes on the back of a series of measures, including the cut in duties on fuel to arrest the shooting inflation and safeguard stocks for domestic consumption.
- A. SPQR B.PSRQ C.SQPR D.PRQS

12. Select the most appropriate synonym of the underlined word.

The protagonist of the novel was known for his perspicacity in solving complex problems

- A. Insolence
- B. Clumsiness
- C. Intelligence
- D. Timidity

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

- P. The notification by the Bengaluru office of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), which manages Aadhaar, had also cautioned against using a public computer to download electronic versions, saying details should be shared only with entities having a 'user licence'.
 - Q. Unlicensed private entities like hotels or film halls, it added, were not permitted to collect or keep copies of Aadhaar cards, leading to a panic reaction as users took to social media to list the numerous instances when they had handed over the details.
 - R. The advisory asking citizens to avoid sharing photocopies of their Aadhaar cards over possible misuse, though withdrawn two days later on the pretext that it could be misinterpreted, has sent confusing signals.
 - S. It has led to questions being raised about whether critical information concerning data privacy is being held back.
- A. RPQS B.RSPQ C.SRQP D.SPRQ

14. Select the most appropriate homonym to fill in the blank.

I have a _____ of bananas on my kitchen counter.

- A. bunch
- B. punch
- C. brunch
- D. bench

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

- P. Rapid industrialisation has made sand the most mined material on the planet, and its plunder is a messy business all across the globe, not just India.
 - Q. The challenge is universal, too: monitoring and managing the industry in a way that discourages miners from becoming criminals. Sand that is ideal for construction comes from shorelines and the beds of rivers and lakes, and the unregulated and wanton extraction has huge ecological consequences.
 - R. Only a very few can claim to have achieved success to an extent; many are not even invested in the idea of acting tough despite regular interventions by the courts and the National Green Tribunal.
 - S. Since they have legal and administrative controls, state governments have different rules for awarding, regulating and administering sand mining.
- A. QSPR B.PSRQ C.QSRP D.PQSR

16. Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word

- A. Magnamonious
- B. Disseminate

- C. Quixotic
- D. Tenacious

Comprehension

DATA is a great explainer, reasons green _____1_____ Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), because what we can measure, we can fix. Quantifying the problems and indicating where they are, the CSE's report on India's environmental performance throws ____2____ statistics that are _____3_____. Though waste treatment and monitoring have improved in India, only 32 per cent of the over 1,60,000 tonnes of municipal solid waste generated daily in 2020-21 was accounted for. The rest usually ends up _____4_____ drains or is burnt illegally. Air pollution in 2020 is likely to have shortened average life expectancy by four years and 11 months. Last year, the country experienced extreme weather events on 314 days. Globally, the climate crisis was responsible for 54% of the total internal displacement of people in 2022. For India, the figure was nearly 100%.

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words

17. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 1.

- A. Cultivator
- B. Reorient
- C. Think tank
- D. Volunteer

18. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 2.

- A. Down
- B. Into
- C. Out
- D. Up

19. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 3.

- A. Staggering
- B. Unnerving
- C. Prescribed
- D. Wandering

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

- A. Choking
- B. Pursue
- C. Envisage
- D. Endorse

Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. **B) It will help to map the minutiae of the lives and needs of the disabled population.**

The passage emphasizes the need for a disability-specific question in the NFHS, as the government's decision to remove this question has caused concerns. It indicates that such data could help understand the lives and needs of the disabled population in the country better, thereby serving to inform welfare policies. Therefore, option B is the correct answer. Although the passage mentions the Ministry of Health and Family and the Sample Registration Survey (SRS), they do not provide reasons for why disability-specific questions should be included in the NFHS (options A and C). Also, the assertion that disability data won't change fast is identified in the passage as a potentially erroneous assumption, making option D incorrect.

2. **C) The NFHS asks more comprehensive questions than the SRS does.**

The passage discusses the different approaches used by the NFHS and the SRS in data collection regarding disability. According to the passage, while the SRS does cover important aspects such as prevalence and incidence of disability, education level, living arrangements, care-givers, certificate of disability, accessibility, and unemployment rate, the NFHS asks more comprehensive questions. It collects data not only about health status and accessibility but also on lifestyle indicators, family planning, domestic violence, household amenities, and access to basic needs such as drinking water and toilets. Therefore, it can be inferred that the NFHS's approach is more comprehensive. The passage does not provide any information suggesting that the SRS collects more diverse data (Option A), that the NFHS has a smaller sample size (Option B), or that the SRS has better-trained field staff (Option D).

3. **B) The government of India has removed a question about disability from the NFHS-6.** The passage clearly states that the Union government decided to drop the disability-specific question from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-6, which is a cause of concern and signals that the government may not be serious about its commitment to the disabled in the country. Options A, C, and D are incorrect as they contradict the information provided in the passage.

4. **B) Critical**

The passage takes a critical tone as it examines and criticizes the Union government's decision to remove a disability-specific question from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-6. It challenges the government's commitment to understanding and meeting the needs of the disabled population in the country. The passage critiques the official responses about already having sufficient data from other surveys and the assumption that disability data will 'not change fast'. Furthermore, the author highlights the significant value that NFHS data could bring, which the current methods of data collection are missing. The author asserts that the

state should make more efforts in this regard rather than excluding a substantial part of the population from a large-scale count.

5. **A. The government's reluctance to map the minutiae of the lives of the disabled.**

The main criticism that is brought up in the passage regarding the Union government's decision related to the NFHS-6 is their decision to drop the disability-specific question. This is seen as a step backward, particularly after the government had added a question on disability in the previous version of the survey, the NFHS-5. The criticism points towards the government's reluctance to map the minute details that could help understand the lives and needs of the disabled better. While options B, C, and D might have some relevance, the core critique is based on the omission of disability-specific questions, which aligns with option A.

6. **C) Rude**

Churlish (adjective) – rude, ill-mannered, ungracious, uncivil, disrespectful अभद्र

The term "churlish" is used in the passage to describe the government's decision to drop the disability-specific question from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-6.

7. **B) Mourned**

Rejoice (verb) – celebrate, be joyous, be delighted, be pleased, be happy खुश होना

"Rejoiced" means to feel or show great joy or delight. The term is used in the passage to describe the reaction of activists to the inclusion of a disability-specific question in the NFHS-5. Its antonym would be "mourned," which means to feel or express sorrow or grief.

8. **C.) The NFHS collects data on a wide range of issues. As stated in the passage, it gathers information on health and nutrition status, access to health schemes, insurance, sexual behaviour, availability of family planning, use of contraception, domestic violence, household amenities and possessions, lifestyle indicators, and access to drinking water and toilets, among others. Thus, it's incorrect to say that the NFHS only focuses on disabilities. The other options A, B, and D are all supported by the passage.**

9. **B) SPQR**

S: This sentence gives a general context about the agrarian distress and the political acceptance of farm loan waivers as a quick-fix solution. It is like a good starting point.

P: This paragraph talks about a study conducted by NABARD and Bharat Krishak Samaj on the topic of loan waivers. The study is obviously a response to the issue introduced in paragraph S, which makes it logical for this paragraph to come next. Furthermore, the mention of "structural flaws" is a hint of some of the issues the study found, which will be elaborated on in the following paragraphs.

Q: Q is clearly connected to P as it continues the discussion of the results of the study mentioned in P. The pronoun "it" refers back to the study mentioned in paragraph P.

R: Finally, paragraph R continues from Q and provides further details on the flaws found in the loan waiver scheme. The phrase "the data reveals" connects back to the study mentioned in P and discussed in Q. It also concludes the discussion by highlighting the irony of the situation.

10. **B) Spill the beans** (phrase) – To reveal a secret or information that was supposed to be kept confidential भेद खोलना

11. **C) SQPR**

S: Paragraph S introduces a cap on sugar exports

Q: Q elaborates on why this might be a good move in the face of global supply volatilities

P: Paragraph P, which mentions that "India has been the biggest producer and second largest exporter of sugar in the current year", is logically connected to the state of affairs mentioned in Q

R: R provides additional information about what India's record global sales of sugar have led to (i.e., the implementation of restrictions to prevent future shortages). Thus, R extends the information presented in P, which connects these two paragraphs.

12. **C) Perspicacity** (noun) – Intelligence, acuity, sharpness, कुशाग्र, बुद्धिसंपन्नता

- **Insolence** (noun) – Rudeness, Impertinence, Disrespect, Arrogance, Impudence अहंकार
- **Clumsiness** (noun) – Awkwardness, Ineptness, Maladroitness, Ungracefulness, Klutziness पागलपन
- **Timidity** (noun) – Shyness, Timorousness, Cowardice, Tentativeness, Fearfulness कायरता

13. **B) RSPQ**

R: This sentence sets up the context of the paragraph by introducing the advisory notice. It mentions an action (advisory notice) and its consequence (confusion).

S: The pronoun "it" in sentence S connects to the advisory notice mentioned in sentence R, indicating that sentence S follows R. Here, "it" refers to the confusion caused by the advisory, leading to certain questions about data privacy.

P: Sentence P further elaborates on the advisory mentioned in R and S, by providing specific details about the recommendations issued by the UIDAI. The noun-pronoun relationship between UIDAI (the organization that manages Aadhaar) and 'their' (in R) strengthens this connection.

Q: Finally, sentence Q seems to fit last as it refers to the reaction from the public to the advice given in the previous sentences, making it a logical conclusion. The pronoun "it" refers back to the notification mentioned in sentence P, thereby providing the needed connection. This sentence adds the detail about the panic caused among users, which logically follows the details about the advisory given by the UIDAI.

14. **A) Bunch**

- **Bunch** (noun) – a group of things that are tied or gathered together, such as a bunch of bananas. गुच्छा
- **Punch** (noun) – a hit with a closed fist, मुक्का
- **Brunch** (noun) – a meal that combines breakfast and lunch नाश्ता

- **Bench** (noun) – a piece of furniture used for sitting or as a work surface **बेंच**

15. D) **PQSR**

P: Sentence P provides the context of the entire passage. It introduces the topic of the paragraph: sand mining due to rapid industrialisation, which is a global issue.

Q: Sentence Q follows P well. It expands on the issues brought about by the unregulated sand mining mentioned in P. The pronoun "**the industry**" in Q refers back to the sand mining industry introduced in P, establishing a noun-pronoun relationship.

S: Sentence S comes after Q. The "**they**" in S refers back to governments, inferred from the context of Q, where it mentions the challenge of managing the mining industry.

R: Sentence R is the conclusion. It refers to the limited success some have had in managing the sand mining industry, which ties back to the monitoring and management challenge mentioned in Q and the different rules by state governments mentioned in S. The term "**National Green Tribunal**" in R indicates the regulatory bodies which are inferred from the state governments in S, serving as an acronym hint.

16. A) In this question, the test-taker is asked to identify the word that is spelled incorrectly "Magnamionious" is the incorrectly spelt word. The correct spelling of this word is "**Magnanimous – महानुभाव**"

17. C) **Think tank** (noun) – a group of experts brought together to provide advice, suggestions and ideas on specific social, political and economic problems or issues **विशेषज्ञ समूह**
"Think tank". In the context of the sentence, it's clear that "Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)" is being described. A think tank is a group or organization dedicated to problem-solving and research, which fits the context well.

- **Reorient** (verb) – Redirect, alter, change, adjust, modify **नयी दिशा देना**
- **Cultivator** (noun) – Farmer, Grower, Planter, Husbandman, Tiller **किसान**
- **Volunteer** (noun) – Enthusiast, contributor, participant, helper, **स्वयंसेवक**

18. D) **Throw up** (phrasal verb) – Reveal, present, disclose, exhibit, show **खोलना, प्रकट करना**
"Up" is the most suitable choice. The sentence is talking about the environmental performance report of India, and how it "throws up" certain statistics. It suggests that the process of preparing the report has resulted in some potentially surprising or unexpected statistical information.

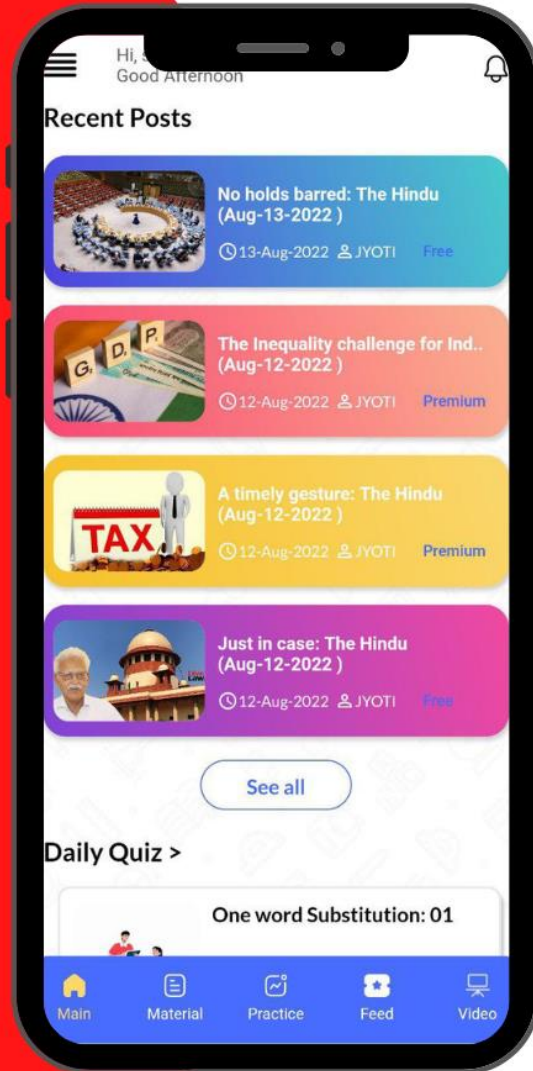
19. B) **Unnerving** (adjective) – Disconcerting, unsettling, disturbing, alarming, troubling **चिंताजनक**
Unnerving". In the context of the sentence, it's clear that the report is providing troubling or disconcerting information about India's environmental performance. Thus, "unnerving", which means causing anxiety or restlessness, fits well.

- **Staggering** (adjective) – Astonishing, astounding, amazing, **चौंका देने वाला**
- **Prescribed** (adjective) – Set, specified, established, fixed, **निर्धारित**
- **Wandering** (adjective) – Roaming, rambling, straying, meandering, nomadic, **भटकनेवाला**

20. A) **Choke** (verb) – Block, obstruct, clog, jam, congest अवरुद्ध करना

In this context, the sentence is discussing how the unaccounted waste ends up blocking drains or is burnt illegally. "Choking" is appropriate because it refers to something being blocked or filled up, which matches the context of waste blocking drains.

- **Pursue** (verb) – Chase, follow, seek, quest, strive for, पाने की कोशिश करना
- **Endorse** (verb) – support, approve, sanction, back, ratify समर्थन करना
- **Envisage** (verb) – Foresee, predict, anticipate, contemplate, imagine कल्पना करना



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