

## Drawing the line: On information and risks underlying infrastructure development in Uttarakhand

Information **aids** public safety, it is not a **trigger** for panic

The year began on a **calamitous** note with reports that **the temple town** of Joshimath in the Chamoli district of Uttarakhand **was** ‘sinking’ and that cracks had appeared on residential and commercial structures. This **prompted** a **humanitarian** crisis with people **fleeing** and **taking refuge** in tents and open spaces, fearing that their homes would **crumble**. A **proximate reason** for the **acceleration** in the **fissures** and cracks **was attributed** to **tunnelling** activities from the Tapovan Vishnugad power project being developed by the National Thermal Power Corporation. There were also concerns on whether groundwater **depletion**, or increased urbanisation that encouraged faulty construction, **had** reached a point from which disasters had become **inevitable**. To **address** all these, the Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority had **commissioned** eight reputed institutions to study the **land-subsidence phenomenon** from multiple **angles**. Surprisingly, it banned the public **dissemination** of information from scientists involved with the institutions on the **grounds** that satellite imagery **pictures** — from Indian and international sources — of the subsurface in Uttarakhand **were aggravating** “panic” and that information was to be shared only after it was “cleared” by the Centre. The net result of this is that despite reports of all institutions being available for months, it took a strong **rebuke** from the High Court of Uttarakhand last week for the State authorities to make this information public.

Though these reports are technical, they **reiterate** what has been known about the risks underlying infrastructure development in Uttarakhand. The Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee, **for instance, pointed out** that **99% of construction** in the region **did** not **comply** with the mandatory building **codes**. The National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee, in its report, said that the **network** of springs, **drainage systems** and areas of subsidence **may** influence land subsidence and there was a need to **monitor** them. Overall, the **tenuous** geology made city-like infrastructure projects risky and strict town-planning and construction measures were necessary to minimise the risk from accidents and a loss of lives. While there is a **legitimate** case for ensuring that citizens in the hill States are not denied basic **amenities** and the opportunities for material advancement, it is **incumbent** upon governments to take hard decisions that are **sustainable** as against those that are aimed to **score** in the next election. A necessary step is in ensuring that information on the risks is widely **disseminated** and communicated in a way that it becomes **a part and parcel** of public life. Independent scientific **counsel** must form the backbone of policymaking and clear lines must be drawn around the limits to development in the region.

[Practice Exercise]

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

## Vocabulary

1. **Draw the line** (phrase) – set a limit on what one is willing to do or accept. सीमा निर्धारित करना
2. **Underlying** (adjective) – Inherent, fundamental, basic, primary, integral आधारभूत
3. **Infrastructure** (noun) – Framework, structure, base, foundation, system संरचना
4. **Aid** (verb) – Assist, help, support, facilitate, boost सहायता देना
5. **Trigger** (noun) – Catalyst, stimulant, spark, impulse, stimulus प्रेरक
6. **Calamitous** (adjective) – Disastrous, catastrophic, tragic, devastating विनाशकारी
7. **Prompt** (verb) – Induce, motivate, inspire, spur, provoke प्रेरित करना
8. **Humanitarian** (adjective) – Compassionate, charitable, altruistic, benevolent मानवतावादी
9. **Fleeing** (noun) – Escape, flight, exodus, departure, evacuation भागना
10. **Take refuge** (phrase) – Seek shelter, find sanctuary, take shelter, seek protection शरण में जाना
11. **Crumble** (verb) – Collapse, break down, disintegrate, fall apart टूटना
12. **Proximate** (adjective) – Immediate, closest, nearest, adjacent समीपवर्ती
13. **Acceleration** (noun) – Increase, hastening, speeding up, boost तेज़ी, गतिवृद्धि
14. **Fissure** (noun) – Crack, crevice, fracture, rift दरार
15. **Attributed** (to) (adjective) – Ascribed, assigned, credited, associated जिम्मेदार ठहराना
16. **Tunnelling** (noun) – The process of making a tunnel, which is an underground or underwater passage. टनल बनाने की प्रक्रिया
17. **Depletion** (noun) – Reduction, decrease, lowering, diminution घटाव
18. **Inevitable** (adjective) – Unavoidable, certain, sure, inescapable अपरिहार्य
19. **Address** (verb) – Tackle, deal with, manage, handle, confront सुलझाना, निपटाना
20. **Commission** (verb) – Appoint, hire, engage नियुक्त करना, शामिल करना
21. **Land-subsidence** (noun) – The process in which the ground's surface lowers or sinks due to various natural or human activities. भूमि की सतह का निचला या डूबना
22. **Phenomenon** (noun) – Occurrence, event, happening, fact घटना

23. **Angle** (noun) – Perspective, viewpoint, standpoint, position दृष्टिकोण
24. **Dissemination** (noun) – Spread, distribution, circulation, propagation प्रसारण
25. **Ground** (noun) – Basis, foundation, premise, reason आधार
26. **Aggravate** (verb) – Exacerbate, intensify, worsen, amplify, magnify बिगाड़ देना
27. **Rebuke** (noun) – Reprimand, reproach, admonition, censure, scold फटकारना
28. **Reiterate** (verb) – Repeat, restate, echo, reaffirm, underscore पुनः कहना
29. **For instance** (phrase) – For example, as an example, to illustrate, e.g., namely उदाहरण स्वरूप
30. **Point out** (phrasal verb) – Indicate, mention, highlight, note, specify सूचित करना
31. **Comply** (with) (verb) – Adhere, conform, follow, abide by, observe अनुपालन करना
32. **Code** (noun) – Rule, guideline, standard, regulation, principle नियम
33. **Drainage system** (noun) – Definition: A system designed to carry away excess water or waste liquids. नाली प्रणाली
34. **Monitor** (verb) – Observe, track, supervise, oversee, watch निगरानी करना
35. **Tenuous** (adjective) – Weak, flimsy, fragile, insubstantial, delicate कमजोर
36. **Legitimate** (adjective) – Valid, lawful, legal, proper, authentic वैध
37. **Amenity** (noun) – Facility, service, convenience, feature, benefit सुविधा
38. **Incumbent** (on) (adjective) – Obligatory, mandatory, binding, required, necessary अनिवार्य
39. **Sustainable** (adjective) – Maintainable, viable, green, eco-friendly, renewable सतत
40. **Score** (verb) – Achieve, obtain, secure, gain, win प्राप्त करना
41. **Disseminate** (verb) – Distribute, spread, circulate, publicize, broadcast प्रसारित करना
42. **A part and parcel** (phrase) – Integral, essential, inherent, intrinsic, fundamental अभिन्न हिस्सा
43. **Counsel** (noun) – Advice, guidance, direction, recommendation, suggestion सलाह

## Summary of the Editorial

1. **Calamitous Start:** The year began with reports of Joshimath in Uttarakhand 'sinking' due to cracks appearing on structures, leading to a humanitarian crisis.
2. **Tunnelling Activities:** The fissures were attributed to tunnelling activities from the Tapovan Vishnugad power project by NTPC, raising concerns about infrastructure development.
3. **Groundwater & Urbanisation:** Concerns included groundwater depletion and increased urbanisation encouraging faulty construction leading to inevitable disasters.
4. **Study Commissioned:** The Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority commissioned studies to understand the land-subsidence phenomenon.
5. **Information Ban:** Public dissemination of information from scientists was banned to prevent "panic," awaiting clearance from the Centre.
6. **High Court Intervention:** The ban resulted in delayed public access to crucial information, until the High Court of Uttarakhand intervened.
7. **Technical Reports:** These reports, though technical, highlighted known risks associated with infrastructure development in the region.
8. **Building Code Violations:** 99% of the construction didn't comply with mandatory building codes, as per the Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee.
9. **Geological Concerns:** The National Institute of Hydrology indicated the influence of springs, drainage systems, and areas of subsidence on land subsidence, calling for monitoring.
10. **Risk Mitigation:** Strict town-planning and construction measures are deemed necessary to minimise risks and potential loss of lives due to the region's tenuous geology.
11. **Balancing Development and Safety:** There's a need to balance providing basic amenities and opportunities for material advancement with sustainable decision-making.
12. **Information Dissemination:** The editorial emphasizes the importance of communicating risks widely to the public as a vital part of life in the region.
13. **Scientific Counsel:** Independent scientific advice should be central to policymaking to ensure informed decisions regarding development limits.
14. **Sustainable Decisions:** Governments should prioritize sustainable decisions over populist measures aimed at electoral gains to ensure long-term safety.
15. **Development Limits:** Clear lines around the limits to development in the sensitive region of Uttarakhand must be established to mitigate risks associated with infrastructure projects.

## Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

[Editorial Page]

1. **What is the tone of the first paragraph?**
  - A. Optimistic
  - B. Informative
  - C. Alarming
  - D. Indifferent
2. **Which of the following titles best fits the passage?**
  - A. The Hidden Beauty of Uttarakhand
  - B. Infrastructure Woes: A Crisis Unfolding in Uttarakhand
  - C. The Promising Future of Tapovan Vishnugad Power Project
  - D. Uttarakhand's Blossoming Real Estate
3. **What is the most appropriate theme of the passage?**
  - A. The resilience of the people of Uttarakhand
  - B. The beauty and tourism in Uttarakhand
  - C. The challenges and risks of infrastructure development in Uttarakhand
  - D. The successful management of natural disasters in Uttarakhand
4. **Which of the following statements is correct based on the passage?**
  - A. The Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority openly shared all information regarding the land-subsidence phenomenon.
  - B. The Tapovan Vishnugad power project is being developed by a private corporation.
  - C. The High Court of Uttarakhand rebuked the State authorities for not making information public.
  - D. The Central Building Research Institute reported that the majority of constructions in the region complied with mandatory building codes.
5. **Which of the following statements is NOT correct based on the passage?**
  - A. Groundwater depletion and increased urbanisation are considered as potential reasons for the land subsidence in Joshimath.
  - B. The reports on the land-subsidence phenomenon were made public immediately after they were prepared.
  - C. The National Institute of Hydrology highlighted the need to monitor springs, drainage systems, and areas of subsidence.
  - D. City-like infrastructure projects are risky in Uttarakhand due to its tenuous geology.
6. **Which of the following words is a synonym for "calamitous" as used in the passage?**
  - A. Trivial
  - B. Beneficial
  - C. Disastrous
  - D. Pleasing
7. **Which of the following words is a synonym for "fissures" as mentioned in the passage?**
  - A. Closures
  - B. Cracks
  - C. Bridges

- D. Connections
8. Which of the following words is an antonym for "acceleration" in the context of the passage?
- A. Increase
  - B. Speeding
  - C. Slowing
  - D. Advancement
9. Parts of a sentence are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the parts in the correct order to form a meaningful sentence.
- Particularly agitations that restrict traffic movement/ cannot be sustained on emotions alone /prolonged protests,/ on a large scale and for days together,**
- A. Prolonged protests on a large scale and for days together, particularly agitations that restrict traffic movement prolonged protests, cannot be sustained on emotions alone
  - B. Particularly agitations that restrict traffic movement on a large scale and for days together, cannot be sustained on emotions alone prolonged protests,
  - C. Prolonged protests, on a large scale and for days together, cannot be sustained on emotions alone particularly agitations that restrict traffic movement.
  - D. Prolonged protests, particularly agitations that restrict traffic movement on a large scale and for days together, cannot be sustained on emotions alone.
10. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom
- The promotion ***cuts both ways*** because though I'll make more money, I'll have to be away from my family more often
- A. Hold something tightly or carefully
  - B. Be able to understand or solve something
  - C. To pay attention to a situation carefully
  - D. To have both advantages and disadvantages
11. Some sentences are given below. While the first and the last sentences (1 and 2) are in the correct order, the sentences in between are jumbled up. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph
- 1. The Indian Navy pioneered indigenisation decades ago.
  - A. The Navy says nearly 40 ships and submarines are being built in Indian shipyards. Named after the historic Goan port, INS Mormugao undertook her first sea sortie on December 19 last year when Goa celebrated 60 years of liberation from Portuguese rule.
  - B. The commissioning of INS Mormugao is a reassuring step forward in the self-reliance programme, providing a boost to the country's maritime capability.
  - C. There has been a renewed focus in recent years on ramping up development of equipment and systems.
  - D. Designed by the in-house Warship Design Bureau and constructed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, over 75 per cent of its components are indigenous.
  - 2. Second of the four Visakhapatnam-class warships, the stealth-guided missile destroyer is packed with sensors, radar and weapon systems. It's an occasion to savour.

A. ABCD

B. CBDA

C. CBAD

D. DABC

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

- P. The notion of immanence circumscribes the Ishavasya Upanishad in all of its eighteen verses,
- Q. Just as Spinoza postulated that God is not prior to or transcendent to creation but fully immanent within it,
- R. the Ishavasya Upanishad is seen to exemplify the deification of the world, in proposing the indivisibility of the impersonal Brahmn and the dynamic Shakti.
- S. postulating a life-affirming theory of creation, in contrast to the Advaitic notion of the world as a framework of illusion.

A. PSQR

B. PSRQ

C. SQPR

D. PRQS

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

- P. This century has seen the addition of another species, black swan, to represent rare catastrophic events that engulf all financial markets.
- Q. American journalist Scott Patterson teases out the obscure world of traders and hedge funds who profit from doomsday scenarios such as the 2008 global financial crisis in Chaos Kings: How Wall Street Traders Make Billions In The New Age Of Crisis.
- R. Not everyone loses when black swans land.
- S. Stock market trends have long been associated with animal metaphors: bulls and bears.

A. RPQS

B. RSPQ

C. SRQP

D. SPRQ

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

- P. Understandably, there's a lot of excitement about Tesla opening discussions with GOI for setting up a factory in the country with an annual capacity of 5 lakh electric vehicles – at a relatively lower price band.
- Q. But as Western manufacturers look to de-risk from Beijing, India is one of the options. New Delhi should grab the opportunities coming its way.
- R. Note that Tesla has a significant presence in China.
- S. Should the project happen, it will change the profile of local EV manufacturing and exports from India.

A. QSPR

B. PSRQ

C. QSRP

D. PQSR

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

- P. It would be an error of judgement to proclaim it as a vindication of safe practices being followed in drug manufacturing units and maintenance of standards.
- Q. It's not a question of India's image as the pharma hub being tarnished. Any medicine being allowed to enter the market despite falling short of standards is a crime against humanity.
- R. The clean chit to Sonapat-based Maiden Pharmaceuticals over the deaths of 66 children in the Gambia will come as a relief for India's flourishing pharma industry.
- S. The pharmaceutical sector and India's drug regulators would do themselves and the country a favour by viewing it as a moment to introspect. Both have been found wanting. Both need to draw urgent lessons and tighten controls.

A. RPSQ

B. PSRQ

C. QSRP

D. PQSR

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

- P. The emphasis on millets led to 27 per cent growth in their production in 2021-22 in India compared to 16 million metric tonnes produced the previous year.
- Q. Being the granary of millets, with an estimated share of around 41 per cent in global production, it is but natural that India should be taking the lead in promoting worldwide the use of millets in 2023 — that has been declared the International Year of Millets (IYoM) by the United Nations General Assembly.
- R. With the aim of alleviating malnutrition and micronutrient deficiency among the poor, the Government of India had introduced millets in its Poshan Abhiyan after notifying them as nutri-cereals in 2018.
- S. In fact, after having harvested success in 2018, its national year of millets, it was India that proposed the IYoM to the UN.
- A. QSPR      B. PSRQ      C. QSRP      D. PQSR

### Comprehension

An Israeli raid in Jenin with combat helicopters that killed seven Palestinians; a gun attack by two Palestinians at an Israeli settlement in Eli that killed four; and a \_\_\_\_\_1\_\_\_\_\_ of an Arab village by Israeli settlers in which one Palestinian was killed and several others injured — the occupied West Bank witnessed a sharp \_\_\_\_\_2\_\_\_\_\_ in violence this week that is reminiscent \_\_\_\_\_3\_\_\_\_\_ the waves of attacks and counter-attacks during the second Intifada. As Israel tightens its grip over the West Bank, where Jewish settlements have gradually \_\_\_\_\_4\_\_\_\_\_, new, local Palestinian resistance groups such as the Jenin Brigade have emerged, carrying out attacks on Israeli soldiers and settlers using home-made weapons and low-tech bombs.

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words

17. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 1.**
- A. Linkage  
B. Rampage  
C. Aggravate  
D. Embrace
18. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 2.**
- A. Escalation  
B. Implication  
C. Ramification  
D. Fluctuation
19. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 3.**
- A. Of  
B. In  
C. Towards  
D. For
20. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 4.**
- A. Mushroom



- B. Mushrooms
- C. Mushrooming
- D. Mushroomed

## Answers

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

[Practice Exercise]

## Explanations

1. C) The first paragraph discusses a calamitous event where a town is 'sinking', cracks appearing on structures, and people fleeing their homes. It mentions a humanitarian crisis, which typically involves a situation that is dangerous and critical. The tone is therefore alarming as it seeks to alert the reader to a severe and urgent problem.
2. B) The passage deals with the calamity facing Joshimath due to cracks and fissures appearing on structures attributed to various factors, including the Tapovan Vishnugad power project. It also touches on the issues of construction not complying with building codes and the risks of infrastructure development in the region. Option B is the most appropriate title as it captures the essence of the problems described in the passage.
3. C) The passage is centered around the challenges posed by infrastructure development in Uttarakhand, especially in the context of natural disasters and geological risks. It underscores the non-compliance with building codes, the risks associated with the Tapovan Vishnugad power project, and the need for strict town planning and construction measures to mitigate risks. Therefore, option C captures the central theme of the passage.
4. C) Statement A is incorrect because the passage mentions that the Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority banned the public dissemination of information. Statement B is incorrect because the National Thermal Power Corporation, a public sector enterprise, is developing the project. Statement D is incorrect as the passage states that 99% of construction did not comply with the mandatory building codes. Statement C is correct as the passage notes that the High Court rebuked State authorities for not releasing information to the public.
5. B) Statement A is correct as the passage discusses concerns over groundwater depletion and increased urbanisation leading to disasters. Statement C is correct as the National Institute of Hydrology indeed pointed out the need to monitor various natural elements that may influence land subsidence. Statement D is also correct because the passage describes the risks associated with city-like infrastructure projects in Uttarakhand. Statement B is incorrect because the information was not made public immediately; it was withheld and only released after a rebuke from the High Court of Uttarakhand.
6. C) "Calamitous" means involving a calamity, which is a disastrous event causing great and often sudden damage or distress. Option C, "disastrous," is synonymous with "calamitous" as it also means causing great damage or harm. The other options are not synonyms; they have positive or neutral connotations and do not imply any form of disaster or damage.
7. B) "Fissures" refers to long, narrow openings or lines of breakage made by cracking or splitting, especially in rock or earth. Therefore, option B, "cracks," is the synonym of "fissures" as it carries the same meaning of openings or breakage caused by splitting or cracking. The other options do not carry the same meaning.
8. C) In the passage, "acceleration" is used to describe the increase in the pace at which fissures and cracks are appearing. The antonym of "acceleration" would be "slowing" (option C),

meaning a decrease in speed or pace. Options A, B, and D are synonyms or related concepts, not antonyms, as they all imply an increase or advancement in pace or development.

9. **D)** Prolonged protests, particularly agitations that restrict traffic movement on a large scale and for days together, cannot be sustained on emotions alone
10. **D) Cut both ways** (Phrase) – to have both advantages and disadvantages: फायदे और नुकसान दोनों

11. **C) CBAD**

**1: This sentence provides a general introduction to the Indian Navy's self-reliance program, and it sets the context. It is, thus, the starting sentence.**

**C:** This sentence follows the first one because it refers to an advancement in the indigenisation process mentioned earlier. This shows a time sequence of the indigenisation process, which has been renewed in recent years.

**B:** This sentence naturally follows the previous one (sentence C), as it gives a specific example (INS Mormugao) of the recent developments in the self-reliance program.

**A:** This sentence provides further details about INS Mormugao, which was mentioned in the previous sentence (sentence B). It also follows the Time Sequence rule, providing a specific date when INS Mormugao undertook her first sea sortie.

**D:** This sentence provides additional information about INS Mormugao and its indigenisation, thus following sentence A

**2:** The final sentence wraps up the information and talks about the ship's capabilities and importance.

12. **A) PSQR**

**P:** introduces the Ishavasya Upanishad and the notion of immanence, but it doesn't provide any specific details yet, making it a good starting point.

**S:** S provides additional context on what exactly is postulated by the Ishavasya Upanishad, namely a "life-affirming theory of creation" that contrasts with the Advaitic notion of the world as illusion.

**Q:** Q introduces a comparison using the connector "Just as" which refers back to the notion of immanence and the theory of creation postulated by the Ishavasya Upanishad that has been established in PS. Here, Q is referencing the content from PS and is based on the idea of immanence, making it the continuation of the previously discussed topic.

**R:** R concludes the argument by drawing a connection between the Spinoza's postulated God (introduced in Q) and the Ishavasya Upanishad's impersonal Brahmn and dynamic Shakti, stating that the Upanishad is seen to exemplify the deification of the world.

13. **D) SPRQ**

**S:** This sentence works as a good introduction to the topic, setting up the theme of stock market metaphors.

P: This sentence naturally follows S, as it continues the animal metaphor theme by introducing the "black swan" event as a new metaphor. The use of the word "another" is a hint that it follows the sentence where other animals metaphors are already mentioned.

R: This sentence logically continues from P, discussing the outcomes (some of them positive) when a "black swan" event occurs.

Q: This sentence follows R well, offering an example (Scott Patterson's book) of people who profit from these "black swan" events. The detail about the 2008 financial crisis provides a specific instance of a "black swan" event, creating a connection with sentence R that talks about profiting from these events.

14. B) PSRQ

P: The pronoun "it" in S refers to the situation described in P, which is Tesla's plan to open a factory in India. So, S logically follows P

S: The pronoun "it" in S refers to the situation described in P, which is Tesla's plan to open a factory in India. So, S logically follows P

R: After discussing the potential impacts of Tesla's plans in India (S), it naturally follows to discuss the existing situation or precedent (R), which is Tesla's significant presence in China.

Q: 'One of the options' in Q refers to 'China' in R. Since Western manufacturers, including Tesla, are looking to de-risk from China, India comes up as an alternative. Therefore, Q logically follows R.

15. A) RPSQ

R: The paragraph starts with the most significant recent event, that Sonepat-based Maiden Pharmaceuticals has been given a clean chit over the deaths of 66 children. The location (India) and the industry (pharma) are introduced, providing a basis for the rest of the discussion

P: The 'it' in this sentence is referring to the clean chit given to Maiden Pharmaceuticals. This sentence links to the first one through the noun-pronoun relationship, with 'it' being the pronoun referring to the event in the first sentence.

S: This sentence further elaborates on the introspection and lessons that need to be learned from the incident.

Q: This sentence sums up the essence of the argument. It highlights that the problem is not just about the image of India's pharma industry, but about a broader ethical concern of the potential for crimes against humanity.

16. C) QSRP

Q: The first statement, Q, sets the context by talking about India's significant contribution to global millet production and its leadership role in promoting millets worldwide, specifically in 2023 when the United Nations General Assembly has declared the year as the International Year of Millets (IYoM).

S: Statement S follows this by providing additional information on India's history with promoting millets. In sentence S, it's mentioned that India had a successful millet year in 2018.

R: In sentence R, millets are introduced as nutri-cereals, and a program (Poshan Abhiyan)

related to their usage is introduced.

P: Then in sentence P, the "their" used refers to the millets mentioned in R. It speaks about the growth in production of these millets in a particular year (2021-22), which logically follows the initiatives to promote millets mentioned in the prior sentences.

17. **B) Rampage** (noun) – havoc, turmoil, frenzy, uproar, pandemonium; a period of violent and uncontrollable behaviour by a group of people. हंगामा, हिंसात्मक व्यवहार

In this context, the term 'rampage' correctly denotes an act of violent or uncontrollable behavior, suggesting that the Israeli settlers violently attacked the Arab village. The other options don't fit grammatically or contextually. 'Linkage' means connection, 'aggravate' is a verb and it means to make worse, and 'embrace' means acceptance or support, none of which fit into the sentence meaningfully.

- इस context में, 'rampage' सही ढंग से violent या uncontrollable behavior के एक कार्य को दर्शाता है, जो बताता है कि Israeli settlers ने Arab village पर हिंसक हमला किया था। अन्य विकल्प grammatically or contextually फिट नहीं बैठते। 'Linkage' का मतलब है जोड़ना, 'aggravate' एक verb है और इसका मतलब है बदतर बनाना, और 'embrace' का मतलब है स्वीकृति या समर्थन, इनमें से कोई भी meaningfully वाक्य में फिट नहीं बैठता है।

18. **A) Escalation** (noun) – intensification, increase, surge, amplification, augmentation तीव्रता

The term 'escalation' denotes an increase or a surge, which fits perfectly in the context as it refers to the rise in violence. The other options don't fit well in the context. 'Implication' refers to a conclusion drawn indirectly, 'ramification' refers to a consequence, and 'fluctuation' refers to an irregular rising and falling in number or amount, none of which correctly represent the increase in violence.

'escalation' शब्द वृद्धि या उछाल को दर्शाता है, जो इस संदर्भ में बिल्कुल फिट बैठता है क्योंकि यह हिंसा में वृद्धि को संदर्भित करता है। अन्य विकल्प संदर्भ में ठीक से फिट नहीं बैठते। 'Implication' indirectly निकाले गए निष्कर्ष को संदर्भित करता है, 'ramification' एक परिणाम को संदर्भित करता है, और 'fluctuation' संख्या या मात्रा में irregular rising और falling को संदर्भित करता है, जिनमें से कोई भी हिंसा में वृद्धि का सही प्रतिनिधित्व नहीं करता है।

19. **A) (be) Reminiscent** (of) (adjective) – evocative, suggestive, reminiscent, reminding, recalling याद दिलाने वाला

'Of' should be used because 'of' is always used with the word 'reminiscent'. 'Reminiscent' means "reminding of something," and 'of' refers to the thing being reminded of. In contrast, the other options ('in', 'towards', 'for') do not maintain the correct grammatical coherence with 'reminiscent'.

- 'Of' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'reminiscent' word के साथ हमेशा 'of' का प्रयोग होता है।

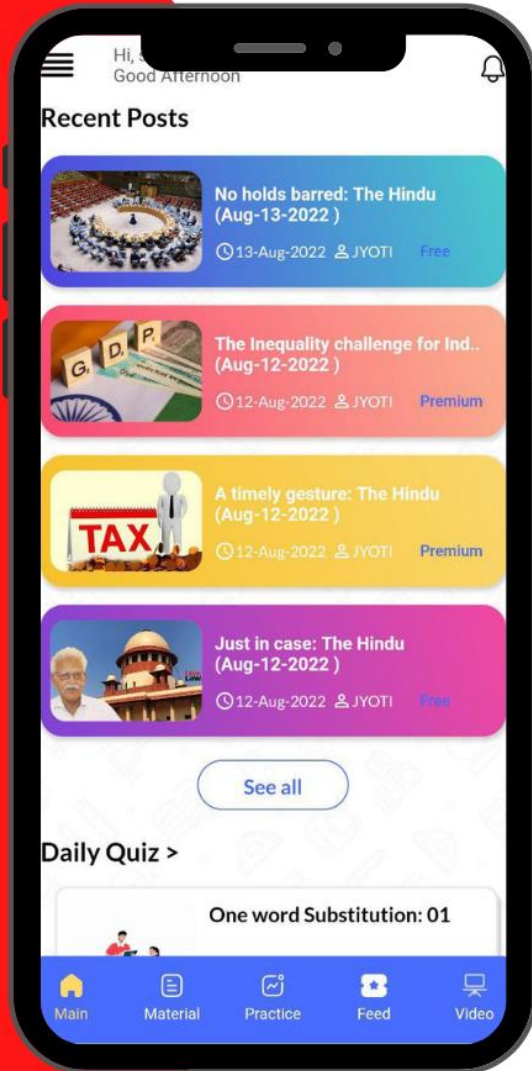
'Reminiscent' शब्द का अर्थ होता है "किसी चीज़ की याद दिलाने वाला", और 'of' शब्द उस चीज़ को

संदर्भित करता है जो याद दिलाई जा रही है। इसके विपरीत, अन्य options ('in', 'towards', 'for') 'reminiscent' के साथ सही grammatical की coherence नहीं रखते हैं।

20. **D) Mushroom** (verb) – proliferate, burgeon, multiply, boom, expand तेजी से बढ़ना

The term 'mushroomed' in this context means rapidly increased or expanded, which correctly represents the rapid growth of Jewish settlements in the West Bank. 'Mushroom' and 'mushrooms' are nouns referring to a type of fungus, and 'mushrooming' is the present participle of the verb 'mushroom', which would not fit grammatically in this context.

- इस context में 'mushroomed' term का अर्थ तेजी से बढ़ा हुआ या expanded है, जो West Bank में Jewish settlements के rapid growth को सही ढंग से दर्शाता है। 'Mushroom' और 'mushrooms' एक प्रकार के fungus को संदर्भित करने वाली nouns हैं, और 'mushrooming' verb 'mushroom' का present participle है, जो इस संदर्भ में grammatically फिट नहीं होगा।



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